



## Box shakes up collaboration at the University of Dundee

Dundee is Scotland's fourth largest city and home to about 142,000 people. The birthplace of historic children's comics *The Beano* and *The Dandy*, it boasts a lively arts and cultural scene, a leading life sciences research sector and 10 per cent of the UK's digital-entertainment industry, all of which have contributed to Dundee becoming the UK's first UNESCO City of Design. At the heart of this thriving community is the University of Dundee.

“Simple, secure access to content and a mechanism for our diverse user group to collaborate across the globe, were key drivers which Box met effortlessly.”

### Paul Saunders

The University's Chief Technology Officer and Director of Information

Recent achievements of this progressive educational institution include the facial reconstruction of Richard III, discovery of a novel antimalarial compound and development of FutureLearn e-Learning courses. Over 4,000 seats have already been taken up in the first 3 months of deployment, with 4.5 million files on the system and over 200 users added every week.

According to Paul Saunders, the University's Chief Technology Officer and Director of Information: “During evenings and weekends our community use smartphones and tablets to run their lives. But when they came to the campus on a Monday morning they stepped back 20 years, relying on a traditional VPN setup, conference calls and email to collaborate. We wanted to improve their lives by allowing them to instantly access and share content from any of their devices, at any time, in the way they do at home. This is where Box fits in.”

### The first UK higher education institute to utilise Box across the board

Saunders worked closely with partners to determine how IT and collaboration tools were being used at the University. They selected Box for content storage, collaboration and deep security capabilities that allow legal and moral responsibilities for delivering content in a secure fashion to be met. With a licence for 25,000 seats offering each user a terabyte of storage upload each month, the service is available to users for their own purposes and as a corporate resource at School and Directorate level. Over 4,000 seats have already been taken up, with 4.5 million files on the system in the first three months alone and over 200 users added every week.

### IT is working with users instead of managing systems

The University uses Microsoft's Office 365 cloud-based suite. Tight integration between Box and Microsoft means that users can work on Word, Excel and PowerPoint without leaving their file storage service. Users mostly favour the Box for Office, Box Edit and Office Online features due to the seamless experience offered while working. Since Box is cloud-based and easy to learn, IT doesn't squander valuable time on managing the service and can focus on what matters most - the users.

### Learn More

0808-189-0504  
[box.com](http://box.com)



“Box is not only set to be an evolution, but a revolution in our data interactions!”

**Wesley Rennison**

Director of Strategic Planning, University of Dundee

### Timely content sharing and reduced reliance on paper

Using Box, student magazine The Magdalen has streamlined publication processes and made sharing content between writers and editors simple. Each editor now has their own Box space to upload and work on articles, proof-read and make changes. Writers submit their content using the “email to folder” function and the team receives a Box notification upon upload into the workspace. Everyone works from centralised documents so there’s no confusion or versioning issues involved in bringing the latest edition to print. Similarly, Student Representative Council (SRC) members will soon share and edit motions, generate minutes and assign tasks before or during committee meetings from their smartphones, tablets or laptops.

### Automation at work in the Centre for Human Anatomy and Identification (CAHID)

CAHID is using Box to maximise efficiencies in research practices. Instead of relying on email attachments when compiling research grant applications, Professor Sue Black, Director of CAHID, now sets up “Grant App” folders on Box, where permitted collaborators can comment on documents, assign tasks to other team members and work with overseas contributors with the same ease and confidentiality as working with internal department staff. Professor Black says, “It’s a virtual office that follows me wherever I am... it just makes life so much easier!”

### Secure collaboration during ground-breaking research

Box offers CAHID a nexus for content upload and communications, reducing the need for face-to-face meetings. Using Box security features, including automated file encryption, the team now safely shares confidential files on projects across world by setting granular permissions, expiry periods, and other security measures. Similarly, getting research published is a lengthy process. Now, CAHID research supervisors can continue working with student and staff co-authors after they leave the University since outside collaborators can be invited securely onto Box. CAHID also aims to utilise Box as a repository for cloud-sourced and rendered radiograph/CT scan images, which will be made available to global contributors.

### Goodbye USB sticks, hello file access

Encouraging users to migrate to Box has significantly reduced the number of USB carriers campus-wide who now enjoy numerous benefits. Wesley Rennison, the University’s Director of Strategic Planning, recalls recently attending an overseas conference and not being able to locate specific statistics within his endless pile of papers. He opened Box on his laptop, checked his facts and was able to present the figures with confidence. He says: “With Box, everything is there, whenever needed, on any device.”

**Learn More**

0808-189-0504  
 box.com



## Files available even in remote locations

Students travelling abroad for research purposes are also taking advantage of Box. Nandan Mukherjee, a postgraduate researcher at the University, recently visited India to map coastlines. This generated a large number of high-resolution files, which he simply uploaded to Box, making them accessible from anywhere with connectivity.

## E-learning and lessons in forensic science

E-learning is the future, but storage capacity and the ability to share large files have been limiting factors. On September 7th 2015, with the help of Box, CAHID will launch “Identifying the Dead: Forensic Science and Human Identification”, a global, free-of-charge, Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) which teaches the basics of forensic science. Project Manager Dr. Helen Meadows was able to develop the content in secure Box folders and manage access requirements for external partners. “The collaborative features of Box are great – it’s proved an invaluable tool for the development of the course,” she says.

“People are not used to IT actually trying to help,” says Paul Saunders. “However, a heavy Dropbox user recently said ‘I am not going to renew my personal account because Box is great’. It’s good to know that we are playing our part in effecting that change.”