Subject-Level TEF:

Getting ahead without losing your head

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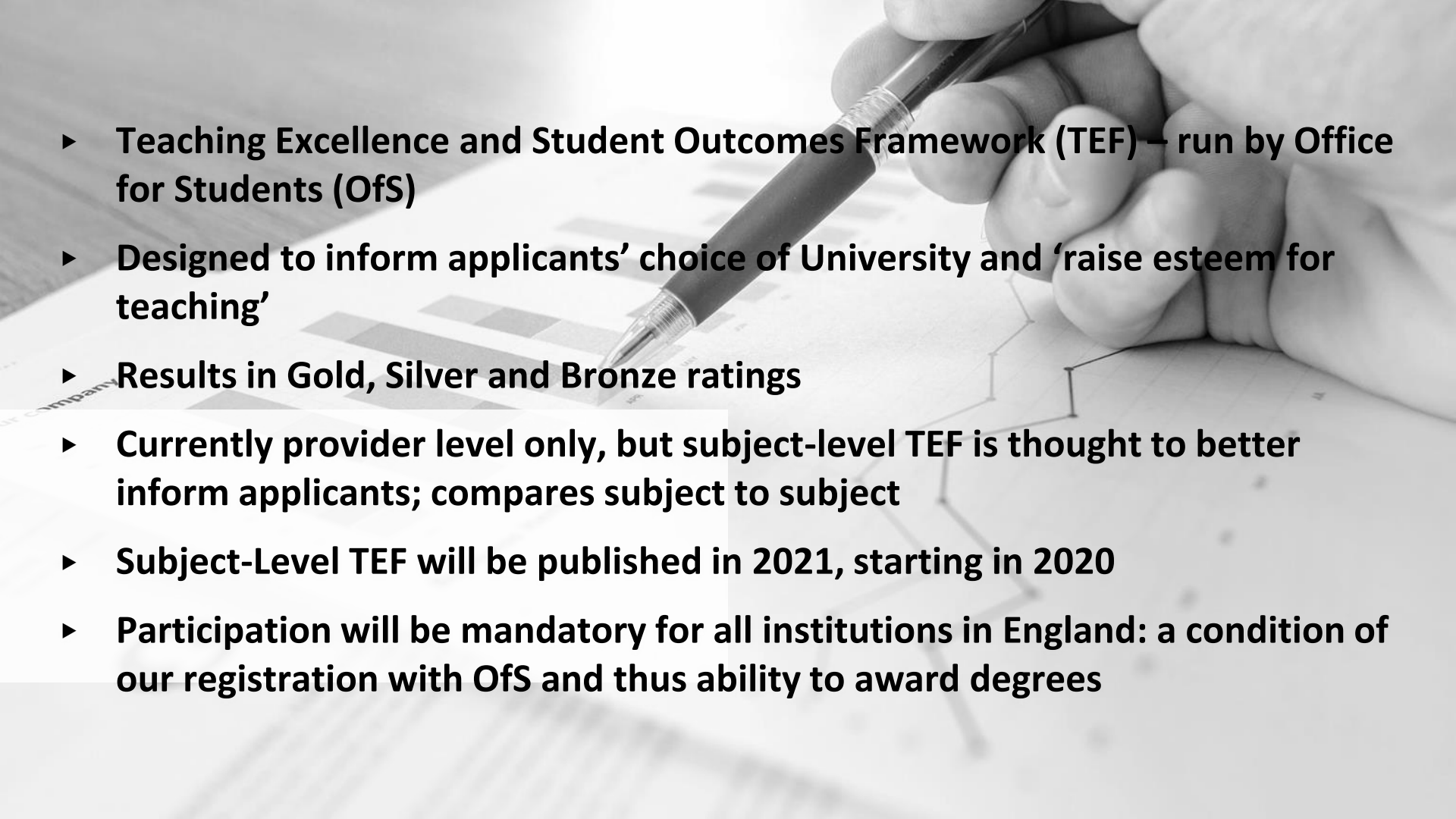
We'll come back to the cakes...

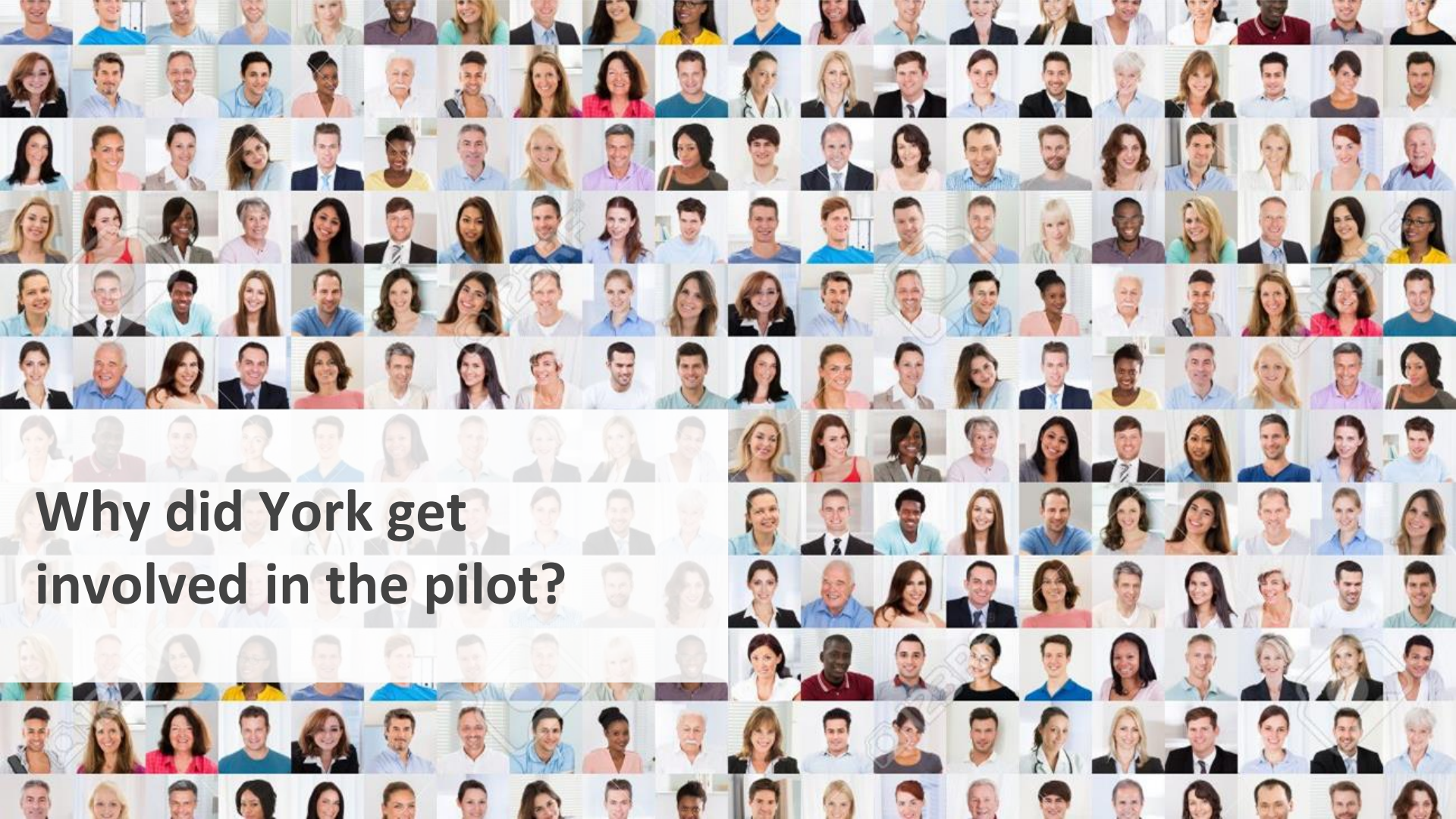
Our journey

- What is Subject-level TEF?
- Why did York get involved in the pilot?
- York’s approach
- Our role in the process as liaison librarians
- Stories for impact
- What next?

What is Subject-Level TEF?



- Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF) – run by Office for Students (OfS)
- Designed to inform applicants' choice of University and 'raise esteem for teaching'
- Results in Gold, Silver and Bronze ratings
- Currently provider level only, but subject-level TEF is thought to better inform applicants; compares subject to subject
- Subject-Level TEF will be published in 2021, starting in 2020
- Participation will be mandatory for all institutions in England: a condition of our registration with OfS and thus ability to award degrees

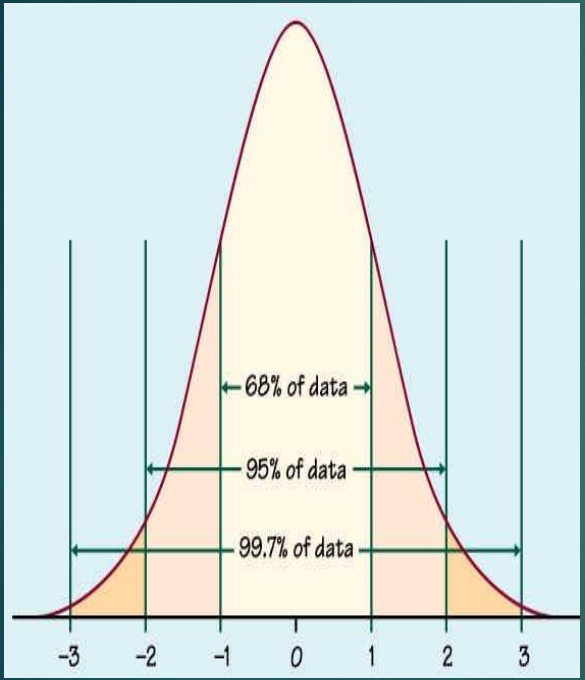


Why did York get involved in the pilot?

- The University volunteered to take part in the Office for Students' pilot of Subject-Level TEF in 2019
- Subject-level TEF will be rolled out nationally from 2020
- The aim of taking part in the pilot was to help us to:
  - Learn lessons, both departmentally and centrally, to prepare us for the real thing
  - Reflect on the metrics presented to us by OfS
  - Influence the development of Subject-Level TEF through feedback to OfS
  - Allowed us to consider what Library metrics might be needed for Subject-Level TEF: what is our impact across the institution?

York’s approach

Z Scores and Flags



- A Z-score measures the number of standard deviations a number is from the mean (benchmark)
- A Z score of 1.96 is one standard deviation. This means that we can be 95% confident the difference from the mean is not due to chance.
- - If the difference from the benchmark is 2% or greater, Z Scores of 1.96 or over are flagged (+) or (-)
- A Z score of 3 or above / below is evidence of very strong or weak performance, very unlikely to be due to chance
- - If the difference from the benchmark is 3% or greater, these are double flagged (++ or --) – they count double.

Our role

Promises, promises...

How we did it (how we coped!)

- Teamwork
- Communication
- Organisation

How we did it (how we coped!)

Teamwork

- Weekly meetings and ad hoc discussions between Clare, Tony and Vanya
- Fortnightly Faculty group meetings

How we did it (how we coped!)

Communication

- Weekly updates from Project Manager (and additional updates when needed)
- Regular emails and phonecalls from Faculty Project Leaders
- Keeping in touch with the dept

How we did it (how we coped!)

Organisation

- Google Team Drive for templates, data, submissions, OfS guidance, Careers, Library and so on…
- Fantastic Admin support to organise meetings and keep the Team Drive up to date


BRAIN RULES
More ideas
Do one thing at a time
The brain is a sequential processor, unable
two things at the same time. Businesses and
tasking, but research clearly shows that it reduces
increases mistakes. Try creating an interruption-free zone
day—turn off your email, phone, and social media sites—and
whether you get more done. If you have trouble untangling
download software that blocks your access to certain
amount of time that you specify.
Divide presentations into 10-minute
Remember my students who said they got
utes into a mediocre lecture?
6: ATTENTION
in the segment to provide a detailed description of that single
concept. The trick was to ensure that each detail could be
to the general concept with minimal intellectual effort.
pause to explicitly explain the link. This is like
between stuffings. In addition to walking
the beginning of the class, I sprinkled
throughout the hour.
from trying to multitask. If the
without telling the audience where
the presentation, the audience is
to the instructor and attempt to
of what the instructor is saying.
of trying to drive while talking on
ble to pay attention to ANY two
ers a series of millisecond delays
After 10 minutes had elapsed, I had
Why did I construct my
had only about 600 seconds to
the next hour would be useless. And I
something after the 601st second to "buy"
seconds, the audience's attention is
near zero. If something isn't done quickly,
successively losing bouts of an effort to
they need? Not more information of the same
irrelevant cue that breaks them from
thought, making the information stream seem
pointed, unorganized, and patronizing. They need something so
pelling that they
the 10-minute barrier—something
111

Stories


Working with the Sciences

Challenges for the department:

- Timescale, fitting into already heavy workload at a very busy period for academics
- Keeping it succinct - strict rules on length of submission, only 5 pages
- Focusing on historic activity rather than looking ahead
- The ‘so what’ factor - focus on **impact** rather than a report of activity (as well as telling the story)

Challenges for me!

*

Absolute values (in the top or bottom 10% of the sector)

*

- Timescale (delay in OfS data being released)
- Balancing with Business as Usual activities
- Balancing with other work and being part-time- some activities had to be pended to allow for Subject-level TEF work
- **Metrics!! Very challenging for an English graduate!**

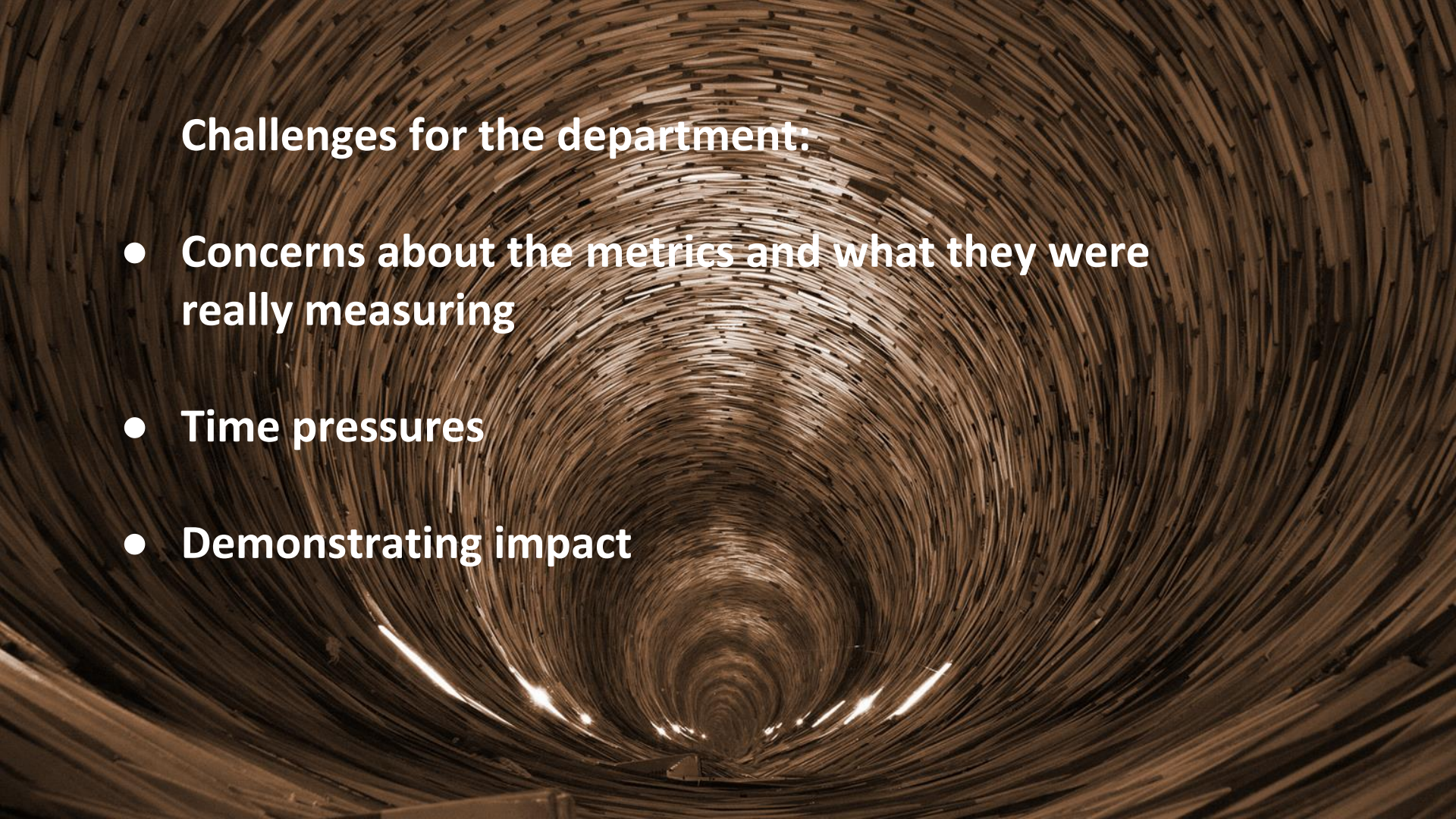
CORE and SPLIT metrics

Flags can be positive or negative

!

Flags are given if our score is 2 percentage points above or below the benchmark

Working with the Social Sciences



Challenges for the department:

- Concerns about the metrics and what they were really measuring
- Time pressures
- Demonstrating impact

Challenges and positives for me

- Lead author
- Lots of data
- Need to be concise!
- Enhanced level of support for department
- Additional knowledge about my department


Impact

Impact

- Direct Library involvement in a University project - Liaison Librarian role as key player not just consultative role

- Librarian role at the helm to steer dept to their Subject-TEF submission (leading workshops, writing submission, proof-reading)

- Recognition of our contribution by senior management in the Library and the University


Where next?

Any questions?

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