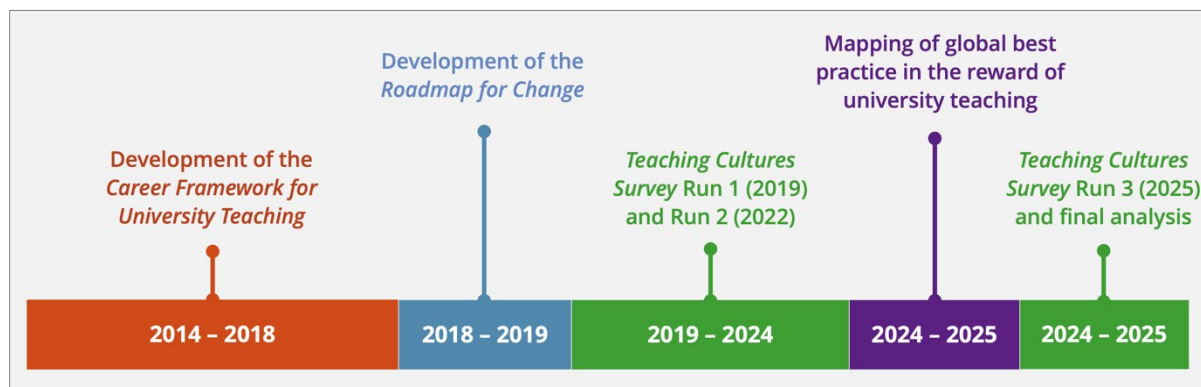




Outline of the Advancing Teaching initiative

Advancing Teaching is a global collaboration of university leaders and pedagogical experts with a shared mission to improve the reward and recognition of [university teaching](#) in academic careers. Outlined below is a timeline of our activities from the launch of *Advancing Teaching* in 2014 up to and including the most recent project, the 2025 *Teaching Cultures Survey*.



The catalyst for the *Advancing Teaching* initiative was a [UK study](#) that highlighted a widespread perception amongst the academic community that university teaching played only a marginal role in academic career advancement. The study also identified two structural barriers to redesigning academic career pathways and improving how university teaching is rewarded: (i) the absence of a clear definition of university teaching achievement at each stage of the career ladder; and (ii) the limitations of the forms of evidence used to evaluate academics' impact in university teaching.

These findings were the springboard for the development of the [Career Framework for University Teaching](#), a tool to structure and guide the career advancement of academics on the basis of their contribution to university teaching. Following four years of development and piloting at universities across the *Advancing Teaching* network, the Framework was published in 2018 and has since been used to shape the design of career pathways at over 60 universities worldwide.

Since the Framework's publication, Advancing Teaching has supported institutional change across its global university community by responding to key questions these universities raise, including:

- **what strategies are associated with successful change?** Drawing on the experiences of universities that have already reformed their systems for rewarding university teaching – both successfully and unsuccessfully – the [Roadmap for Change](#) distilled the strategies associated with successful and sustainable reform.
- **are changes to institutional policies having the desired impact in practice?** The [Teaching Cultures Survey](#) captures faculty views and experiences on the status of university teaching and how it is rewarded at their institution. It is built on three cross-sectional surveys in 2019, 2022, and 2025. In all, 28 universities from 13 countries have participated, all of which are planning or implementing systemic changes to how they reward university teaching.
- **where does the community look to for best practices?** A [global review](#) was commissioned to map the evolving landscape of how university teaching is supported, evaluated and rewarded in academic careers across the higher education sector. This report identifies and explores examples of highly regarded practice from universities worldwide.

Since 2016, the *Advancing Teaching* network has also come together for annual face-to-face meetings which have served as a launchpad for these and other cross-institutional activities.