

# Institute Director's report

This year's launch of the UK's first-ever National AI Strategy is a landmark moment and an important opportunity to advance the UK's international reputation. As the national institute for data science and artificial intelligence, we are now actively supporting this ambitious agenda to help establish the UK as a global AI superpower.

One of the Strategy's key priorities is health and wellbeing, and so I was delighted that the Institute launched a **five-year strategic partnership** with global healthcare company Roche. The collaboration will enable us to develop new approaches to personalised healthcare. The Institute also welcomed the establishment of a new **Research Support Facility** funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) to help improve understanding of multiple long-term health conditions.

These new partnerships have emerged as we continue to reflect on the pandemic and think about how data science and AI can help to improve health, wellbeing and economic outcomes. Our new **strategic partnership** with the Office for National Statistics will support this by

delivering crucial, near-real-time statistics to help track changes in the UK economy.

Engaging with UK universities is an important part of our role as a national institute. In pursuit of new collaborations, universities across the UK were among the first-ever successful applicants to the **Turing Network Development Awards**. These innovative awards were made to institutions from Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England – each with its own particular area of proven research excellence.

The Institute also signed a new agreement with DSO National Laboratories in Singapore. The purpose of the strategic partnership is to advance the state-of-the-art knowledge and capability in key data science and AI challenge areas, contributing to public good and the national research interests of Singapore and the UK.

The Institute has enjoyed rapid growth and our new strategic approach to delivering impact around national strategies (Turing 2.0) will represent the next stage of the Institute's development, building on our place within the science and innovation landscape. This is a

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pivotal moment in the Institute's evolution, and it is being steered by our first Chief Scientist, Mark Girolami. Mark is already nurturing new research and innovation strategies, encouraging cross-disciplinary working, and engaging with wider academic, government, commercial, business and industrial sectors.

It is great to see the Institute adding to the national scientific output through a distinctive portfolio of world-class research projects. As you read our selection of 2021-22 highlights, you will see how our array of talented researchers are at the heart of novel projects across a range of domains, including robotic exoskeletons helping people to walk, an algorithm to reduce the shipping industry's carbon footprint, and the fascinating use of new tools for image analysis.

Finally, I would like to thank Howard Covington for his unstinting support and for being a trusted voice and ambassador for the Institute. Howard can be proud of what he has helped the Institute to achieve during a complex and challenging period.

My thanks go to the Board, the business team, the connected research community and our partners for another year of innovation and scientific excellence.

**Adrian Smith**

Institute Director and Chief Executive