

Clip:OUOH037_clip1: Steven Rose

OU Research in 1969

Steven Rose:

And so we were appointed to take up post in October 1969. I made it very clear at the start that I wouldn't go unless there were research facilities. I was primarily a researcher and Walter Perry also made it unequivocally clear that he was ... this was going to be a university like any other university so there were going to be research facilities and my next stage was to go to the Medical Research Council – this is how one did things in those joyous past days – and went to the MRC with a proposal, saw the people in the MRC's office and said there's this new university being set up, if I put in an application of this sort and it has the support of the Vice-Chancellor, would the MRC be in principle prepared to support it? They said yes, obviously going through some appropriate of scrutiny for the application and so on. And so from the very beginning, from October 1969 when I moved out of Imperial College, we'd actually sort of got research going. Temporary labs at Queen Elizabeth College in London, but we moved out – Walter ensured that one of the first buildings to go up on campus was what is now called the Course Prep Laboratories, which were built I think probably within about six months, so in about June of 1970 the research labs were going and of course the course preparation production was going. So those were the initial steps...