

UniLife

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Meeting of Minds

Ministers Praise
University's Vision



NewsDigest

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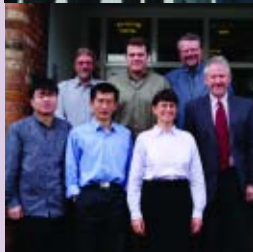
A summary of the key news in this issue of UniLife:



3 The University received three visits from members of the Cabinet this month in the shape of Chancellor Gordon Brown, Secretary of State for Education and Skills, Ruth Kelly, and Tessa Jowell, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. All three praised the ‘powerful symbol of change’ that has come from the merger.



5 The ‘Unlocking the Rylands Appeal’ to refurbish the historic library on Deansgate has reached its first fundraising milestone.



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University hailed as “world-leader”

The University was hailed as “one of the great world leaders of the future” by Chancellor Gordon Brown on a visit to the campus earlier this month.

And his was not the only high-profile praise for the University, in a week which saw three ministerial visits to separate events on campus. Along with Gordon Brown’s, visits were made by newly-appointed Secretary of State for Education and Skills, Ruth Kelly, and Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Tessa Jowell.

On 6 January, Ruth Kelly spoke at the North of England Education Conference, the sector’s major annual event, which this year was hosted by the University’s Centre for Educational Leadership. Her visit attracted particular interest as it was the Minister’s first major speech since her appointment three weeks previously.

Paying tribute to the University, she said: “You are a powerful symbol of change in our higher education system today.

As a North West MP, I know the contribution you will make to the economy of the region and to the UK.”

The following morning, Gordon Brown officially opened a new £1 million facility which will house the University’s high-tech spin-out companies - the second such facility on the campus.

He said: “The University of Manchester is going to be one of the great world leaders of the future. I have seen their plans and I am convinced that it is going to happen.”

Also visiting the campus on 12 January, was Culture Minister Tessa Jowell, who officially opened the Centre for Research into Socio Cultural Change (CRESC), which is based in Waterloo Place.

See news pages 4, 5 and 11 for full details of the visits.



Ruth Kelly speaking at the conference



Chancellor Gordon Brown with Vice-Presidents Paul Layzell and Nancy Rothwell

News



Malcolm X speaking in the Main Debating Hall at the University's Students' Union in 1964 – one of the images from the Making History calendar.

A 2005 calendar celebrating Manchester's historical relationship with key figures in black and other ethnic-minority groups has been produced by the University's Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource.

Making History

It features images of international heroes such as Malcolm X speaking at the Students' Union and Muhammed Ali at a book signing in the city, as well as more local figures such as Viraj Mendis and Manchester's first black Mayor, Yomi Mambu.

Education Outreach Co-ordinator Jackie Ould said: "We wanted to try and highlight the fact that there has been a black presence in Manchester for a number of years. There is a tendency to think that

there has only been black migration to the UK since 'Windrush' in 1948."

To illustrate this, the calendar features 19th Century campaigner Frederick Douglas, one of the foremost anti-slavery campaigners of his generation who visited Manchester and Clayton-born Len Johnson (1902-1974), a mixed-race boxer who became a Communist and between 1947 and 1962 stood for local elections six times in Manchester.

Calendars are available from the Centre in Devonshire House, priced £6.

www.racearchive.org.uk



Education Conference

Secretary of State for Education and Skills, Ruth Kelly, gave her first public speech since her appointment in December at the UK's largest and most prestigious annual education event, hosted by the University's Centre for Educational Leadership earlier this month.

The North of England Education Conference (NEEC) is now a national event, the first of which took place in Manchester in 1903. This year it was attended by more than 500 delegates and covered extensively by the media.

The conference brought together some of the UK's leading politicians and education professionals under the theme 'Leading Together', and examined how higher education institutions, schools and Local Education Authorities can collaborate to develop leadership potential, and to lead education improvement.

Opening her speech, the Minister said: "I want to first of all pay tribute to the new University of Manchester following the

successful merger of the Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST. You are a powerful symbol of change in our higher education system today. As a North West MP, I know the contribution you will make to the economy of the region and to the UK.

"I would also like to pay tribute to my predecessor Charles Clarke whose passion for education and skills was well known. When he attended the official launch of The University of Manchester, he said that the creation of the new University was an historic day for the UK and that he hoped what Manchester does today, the world does tomorrow. This University has much to be proud of and I wish it every success."

Brendan Murden, Director of the University's Centre for Educational Leadership, commented: "We were thrilled to host such a prestigious conference at the University. It was the first time a university had hosted the conference, and it was a great success."

The CEL is one of the largest providers of educational leadership programmes and

qualifications with over 4,000 clients working both regionally and nationally.

Nevertheless, Ms Kelly made it clear that her driving principle would be satisfying parents. She said she wanted them placed at the heart of decision-making and she intended to be their "champion".

She said she wanted to improve parental choice of schools by increasing the range of providers and using "competitions" to find the best organisations to open new schools.

However, she was coy about whether this meant encouraging private sector education management companies to run state schools, as they do already in one or two city academies.

Despite this, she was explicit that she did not want any more grammar schools.

She would, she said, be guided by two principles - the need to improve vocational education and the desirability of "stretching" the brightest students.

www.dfes.gov.uk

News

Library's Landmark

The 'Unlocking the Rylands Appeal' reached its first major milestone last month having raised £1 million towards the refurbishment and redevelopment of the historic building on Deansgate.

This figure represents a quarter of the amount the University Appeal is aiming to raise in addition to funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the European Regional Development Fund towards the £16 million project.

The announcement coincided with a special visit to the Library by the Lord Mayor of Manchester Councillor Tom O' Callaghan, Edward Pysden representing Eversheds LLP, and senior Library staff. It was Eversheds's cheque which took the Appeal over the £1 million mark.



Library Development Officer Alison Firth said: "Passing this formal milestone is a real boost to our campaign. There's still £3 million more to raise but the Lord Mayor congratulated us all on working so hard to make our campaign a success so far.

Pictured are Lord Mayor Councillor Tom O'Callaghan, University Librarian and Director, Bill Simpson; Deputy University Librarian, Dr Diana Leitch; Head of Special Collections, Dr Stella Butler and Alison Firth.

Chancellor Opens Incubator

The Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown has opened a new £1m incubator unit at the University.



The Sackville Street Incubator Units complete the University's portfolio of facilities, providing hi-tech offices for early-stage spin-out companies.

The units have been created by converting three disused railway arches into modern, glass-fronted offices using funding provided by the North West Development Agency and the European Regional Development Fund.

The Chancellor unveiled an official plaque outside the units before meeting representatives from the companies which occupy them.

In a brief speech, Mr Brown congratulated the University on the opening of the

incubator units and the contribution it is making to the economy.

He said: "It is a pleasure to be in Manchester to see the huge changes taking place in this great city that led the industrial revolution and is now leading the knowledge revolution of the 21st Century best symbolised by us being here today under these railway arches to open this new incubator."

The units, managed by The University of Manchester Incubator Company (UMIC), are part of a cohesive and leading strategy developed by the University to turn ideas and research conceived in its laboratories into real businesses.

Tony Walker, Sackville Street Incubation Manager, said: "This incubator will provide a full and comprehensive support for creating new companies. We will facilitate and provide access to workspace, risk capital, business management and an environment for innovation."

Companies that will occupy the units include Dmist Ltd, which has developed video technology that allows cameras to see through fog, Smart Life Technologies which has developed sensing technologies that can be woven into clothing to monitor medical conditions, and software development company Thread Creative.

News



Advice Centre Scoops Outstanding Project Award

The University of Manchester's Legal Advice Centre has scooped a Higher Education Active Community Fund (HEACF) outstanding project award for its work within the community.

The awards are intended to reward student and staff volunteers who have shown significant commitment to, or exceptional execution of, activities funded or initiated by the HEACF.

The award was presented to the Law students Jenny Steer and Nicola Bodger at a special ceremony last month by Sir Howard Newby, Chief Executive of the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). He said: "The HEACF Awards provide recognition to students and staff who have been most active in serving their communities. People engaging in volunteer work carry the positive values and experiences

throughout their lives, while making a constructive contribution to society.'

Dinah Crystal, External and Professional Liaison Officer within the University's School of Law, commented: "To give our students an advantage, we felt it was essential to give them practical clinical education as more than 70 per cent of our students go on to have a career as practitioners. To have real life experiences as well as giving back something to the community is extremely important, and the work they perform within the Centre allows them to do this"

The project to set up the Legal Advice Centre was endorsed and supported by the local Manchester Law Society and the Northern Bar Circuit, the College of Law and sponsored by City lawyers Clifford Chance.

www.law.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/lac.htm

City is Banking on Big Apple Success

The University of Manchester's Regional Business Team, based in the Business, Careers & Community Division (BCCD), together with Manchester's Inward Development Agency (MIDAS), played a key role in the Bank of New York's recent decision to locate new offices in the city of Manchester.

The promise of access to a wide pool of graduate talent and a dedicated account manager from BCCD to assist with the move, helped Manchester beat other competing world cities, including Amsterdam.

Stephen Richardson, Chief Operating Officer of The Bank of New York Europe described BCCD as a "world-class graduate resource".

He said: "The offer of a dedicated resource by the Business, Careers and Community Division of The University of Manchester was an important factor in our decision to locate in the city. The recruitment and development of high-calibre graduates is critical to our operations in Manchester."

BCCD continues to work with MIDAS to attract more businesses into the city. Neil Fountain, Chief Executive of MIDAS, said:

"The large availability of skilled graduates and the research excellence of the University are vital ingredients of the city's inward investment proposition. MIDAS values highly its strong partnership with The University of Manchester in helping to secure Manchester's place amongst the world's leading international business centres."

For more information, contact clare.hutchinson@manchester.ac.uk.

News

Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health

Health and safety at work over 200 years is the subject of a new exhibition in Manchester, organised to mark the 60th anniversary of the University's Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health (COEH).

The exhibition was initiated by the COEH which has collaborated with the People's History Museum in Manchester and colleagues from the University's Centre for the History of Science, Technology & Medicine, (CHSTM).

Professor Raymond Agius said: "Besides a number of events in 2005 for scientific, medical and other professional audiences I felt it was important to reach out and include the public.

"The effects of health on work are often under-recognised by the public, policy

makers and even by the professions. The 60th birthday of the oldest academic unit in this field in the UK is therefore a very apt opportunity to hold such an exhibition – to involve and educate the public and others.

"The city's industrial manufacturing heritage means that Manchester is a very apt centre for this area of study."

It wasn't until the 1830s that campaigners began to demand better protection for workers and the exhibition charts the history of workplace hazards including the



health of cotton workers and miners, the introduction of safety legislation and the issue of child labour, to more modern hazards in leisure industries such as loss of hearing by DJ's and new forms of ill health such as stress and back ache.

It also highlights the research which is crucial to understanding, preventing and treating occupational disease.

The Exhibition runs until July 2005.

www.coeh.man.ac.uk www.peopleshistorymuseum.org.uk

A New Dictionary

A new dictionary of British politics compiled by Research Fellow, Dr Bill Jones, has been inspired by students on the course he has taught since 1977.

Bill's latest book, part of his highly successful Politics Today Series published by Manchester University Press, is dedicated to all members of the Wednesday Current Affairs Group run by the Centre for Continuing Education.

Bill said: "The group members, like myself, are all political "junkies" obsessed with politics of all kinds and this is the ultimate reference guide for people like us. The topics we have discussed in class over the years have provided some of the inspiration

for the entries such as the Suez crisis and Westland. Many of the group members remember these events and make a really interesting contribution to the discussions.

Hilda Turner, a retired teacher, now 88, and Sheila Gardner, were among the first members of the group, and have been attending for 28 years earning them a special mention in the book's dedication. Hilda said: "I really enjoy the classes, they are terrifically stimulating and part of my life. They attract a real mix of people,



mostly retired professionals, which makes the classes so interesting."

Bill added: "There are a huge number of older people in the community with a very bright intellect who want to keep that active. These classes are an important part of the service provided by the University."

The book is aimed at students, teachers and anyone with an interest in British politics. It covers the personalities, policies and institutions that have shaped British politics, focusing on the early 20th century onwards.

www.manchesteruniversitypress.co.uk

News



Now Hear This....

History has been made in the world of audiology – thanks to the help of The University of Manchester which played a major role in organising the inaugural meeting of the newly founded British Academy of Audiology (BAA).

Around 700 delegates from the field attended the event last November – the largest ever UK audiology conference - entitled 'Audiology United!'

The BAA is a newly formed professional body for UK healthcare workers and professionals from as far afield as North America and Australasia gathered in the city for the event.

One of the keynote speakers was Kevin Munro, Senior Lecturer in Audiology in the School of Psychological Sciences at the University, who said: "The School is at the forefront of many national developments within audiology. The involvement and

participation of staff and students in the conference consolidates The University of Manchester as a major player in audiological science and we can be justifiably proud of its overwhelming success."

NHS audiologists are responsible for the assessment, diagnosis and management of adults and children with hearing problems. This University was one of the first places to offer a BSc in Audiology, two years ago.

Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami

In response to the tsunami disaster, the University can offer a number of sources of support and advice to staff and students who have been affected by the tragedy. These are listed below:

Staff should contact their Head of School or Human Resources Manager in the first instance to discuss any concerns.

Occupational Health and Student Occupational Health tel 0161 275 2858

University Counselling Service
tel 0161 275 2864
email counsel.service@manchester.ac.uk
Confidential, individual counselling to students and staff

International Society

tel 0161 275 4959
email Int.Soc@man.ac.uk
A social, cultural, and welfare centre for all overseas students in Manchester

Students Union Advice & Information Centre

tel 0161 275 2930, Welfare Officer 0161 275 2945
email welfare@umsu.man.ac.uk

Avila House (Roman Catholic Chaplaincy)

tel 0161 273 1456

St Peter's Chaplaincy

tel 0161 275 2894
email sph.reception@man.ac.uk

The team of chaplains, including a chaplain for overseas students, has

contacts with Christian Churches and with other faith communities.

Student Services Centre

0161 275 5000 or email ssc@manchester.ac.uk
Advice and assistance to students on matters concerning financial difficulties and concerns about forthcoming examinations.

Tutors and Supervisors

Students concerned about academic commitments or about their studies should contact their tutor or supervisor.

Student Accommodation Office

0161 275 2883 or email accommodation@manchester.ac.uk

Great Gatsby Grant

The University of Manchester Intellectual Property Ltd (UMIP) has been selected to receive a Gatsby grant of £375,000 to support its goal of bridging the funding gap between the laboratory project and the early stage commercial process.

The Gatsby Charitable Foundation is an endowed grant-making Trust for general charitable objectives.

The Fund is available only to inter-disciplinary project proposals involving

two or more separate disciplines and will be managed by UMIP.

UMIP plans to make awards in the £30K-£50K range per project, the intention is to seek further funding to complement the award and to make UMIP's early-stage fund an enduring, self-sustaining source of support for the commercialisation of academics' business ideas and inventions.

University President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Gilbert, says that most

university projects with commercial potential face a big hurdle early on, which is to demonstrate proof-of-principle satisfactorily. "To have our own dedicated very early-stage fund is vital", says Professor Gilbert. "I am very grateful to The Gatsby Charitable Foundation for this prestigious award which will help us more readily overcome a major obstacle in the intellectual property transfer process".

News

Noble Launch for MACE



More than two hundred staff, students and VIP's came together for the official launch of the School of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering (MACE) last month.

The special launch event was held to mark the creation of the UK's largest school of engineering (in terms of student numbers) with over 1200 students and 250 staff.

Guests heard a lecture by world land speed record holder Richard Noble who delivered a humorous, 'loud' and informative talk on how he broke the sound barrier with the Thrust SSC car.

Event organiser, Senior Lecturer Andrew Starr, said: "Almost 300 people attended, and feedback indicated that the audience was on the edge of its seats as the sonic boom filled the room."

The event, attended by industry leaders from Rolls-Royce, BAE Systems and Pilkington, marked the opening of one of

the UK's few Engineering schools to have received a top '5' rating for research excellence.

A £20m budget will fund the School's world-leading research into areas such as environment, energy, medical, aerospace and nuclear engineering. The School's facilities include The Goldstein Laboratory, the Tyndall Centre and the Laser Processing Research Centre.

Professor Graham Thompson, Head of MACE, said: "Our mission is to advance knowledge and practice of engineering by means of high quality research and teaching in order to provide a stimulating environment and an excellent learning experience for students and staff."

Tsunami Concert

Manchester's two great symphony orchestras, the Hallé and the BBC Philharmonic, in association with The Bridgewater Hall, are joining forces to mount a major fundraising concert in support of the Disasters Emergency Committee Tsunami Earthquake Appeal this Thursday, 27 January at 7.30pm.



The concert will see both Orchestras appear on the same stage, together and separately, for the first time ever in The Bridgewater Hall, with Mark Elder, Sir Edward Downes, Hallé Choir and Youth Choir and the outstanding young Ukrainian pianist Igor Tchetuev, a recent prizewinner at the Leeds International Piano competition.

All of those involved, including both conductors and soloist are giving their services free and all money raised will be passed on to the Disasters Emergency Committee Tsunami Earthquake Appeal.

Tickets priced £10, £20 and £30 are available from the Bridgewater Hall Box Office on 0161 907 9000 or via the website.

Research



Pioneering research that could lead to a breakthrough in understanding the causes of cleft palate in newborn babies has begun in Manchester.

Dr Jill Dixon, in the University's School of Dentistry, has been awarded a three-year £200,000 New Investigator Award by the Medical Research Council to look into the distressing birth defect by investigating the role of a DNA-binding protein – p63 – during the development of the palate in unborn babies.

"During a baby's development the palate forms from two distinct halves that fuse together to form a complete structure separating the oral and nasal cavities," explained Dr Dixon.

Cleft Palate Research Receives £200,000 Award

"The underlying developmental mechanisms are poorly understood but recent genetic studies have provided important insights into this complex process."

Helen Moore, a PhD student working with Dr Dixon, has already shown that a reduction in the level of p63 precedes palatal fusion. Dr Dixon's research aims to reveal how the p63 protein works during normal palatal development and how it is disrupted in cleft palate.

In the first part of the project, Dr Dixon will analyse whether cleft palate results if p63 levels are maintained.

In addition, she will introduce a mutation in p63 that has been shown to underlie

cleft palate using gene-targeting technology. This strategy will allow her to investigate the downstream effects of this mutation on other proteins involved in palatal development.

In the short term, the results of this research will help to dissect the role of p63 in normal and abnormal development of the palate. In the longer term, this information may help in the design of therapies to improve the way in which clinicians manage patients affected by cleft palate.



Web Boost for Patients

Bone-disorder experts from across Europe have turned to the web in a unique alliance that will improve patient care. The European Skeletal Dysplasia Network (ESDN), which was developed by The University of Manchester, links eight institutions in six different countries by means of a secure web portal.

The hi-tech referral system means a patient, say, in Italy could have their case referred to a bone specialist in Belgium and a genetics expert in Manchester, while a laboratory in Switzerland confirms the diagnosis.

The network allows a doctor to submit a description and x-ray images of their patient to the portal, which are then referred to a group of specialists connected through an electronic discussion forum who can consider the case.

"There is no one centre with all the necessary experience or facilities to cope with the diagnosis of so many types of bone disorders," said project administrator Jacky Taylor, who is based at the National Genetics Reference Laboratory in Manchester.

"There are more than 200 different kinds of complaints ranging from mild to life-threatening, so clinicians face significant problems identifying which condition

their patient has. This web-based, case-management system overcomes geographical barriers and brings together the scarce clinical resources for these rare conditions."

The technology behind the system was provided by Certus Technology, a young IT company with engineering and consulting experience.

Dr Mike Briggs, of the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Matrix Research in Manchester, heads the eight partner centres, which in the UK also include The University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and the Central Manchester and Manchester Children's University Hospitals NHS Trust.

He said: "Now ESDN has a system that works, the trick is to broaden its reach. There are significant barriers to its adoption; the general uptake of IT in medicine is a problem."



Research

Ministerial Launch for Research Centre

Tessa Jowell, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, has officially launched the University's new Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change (CRESC).

The Centre, which has a budget of £3.8 million over five years, brings together researchers from The University of Manchester and the Open University in a series of interdisciplinary inquiries. Their research programme will examine different aspects of socio-cultural change, such as exploring the significance of cultural production and consumption inside and outside the media industries. The Centre will also look at the impact of changing cultural values, especially those related to diversity, inclusion and cultural citizenship.

The new Centre's output will be diverse and include agenda-setting work on business-related issues, like the role of new corporate elites in an era of mega pay for chief executives and the future of public-service broadcasting in a digital age. It will also cover a broad range of political issues through work on new forms of governance, changing identities and participation in old and new political processes.

Professor Mike Savage, Director of the Centre, said: "The presence of Tessa Jowell at our launch indicates the importance of this new Centre."

"The funding gives us a fantastic opportunity to harness the research



strengths of numerous academics across two universities to develop a world-class research centre exploring exciting issues at the forefront of contemporary change."

Following the launch event, CRESC held a public debate where distinguished keynote speakers looked back at the work of Raymond Williams, who 50 years ago, pioneered a new kind of cultural studies.

Essential Oils Could Stamp Out Spread of MRSA

Essential oils usually used in aromatherapy have been found to kill the deadly MRSA bacteria, according to research carried out at the University.

Tests have revealed that three essential oils killed MRSA and E. coli as well as many other bacteria and fungi within just two minutes of contact. The oils can easily be blended and made into soaps and shampoos which could be used by hospital staff, doctors and patients in a bid to eradicate the spread of these deadly 'super bugs'.

Following extensive media coverage, which highlighted the problem of obtaining funding for the research, former DJ Sir Jimmy Savile has stepped in with a donation of £40,000 which will now enable a clinical trial to go ahead allowing researchers to test their work. They then hope to be able to reveal the three oils which are most effective. Peter

Warn from the University's Faculty of Medicine who worked on the research said: "We believe that our discovery could revolutionise the fight to combat MRSA and other 'super bugs'."

Essential oils are chemical compounds found within aromatic plants, which the plants use to fight off infections.

Jacqui Stringer, Clinical Lead of Complementary Therapies at the Christie Hospital, who instigated the research, said: "The reason essential oils are so effective is because they are made up of a complex mixture of chemical compounds which the MRSA and other super bug bacteria finds difficult to resist. The problem with current treatments is that

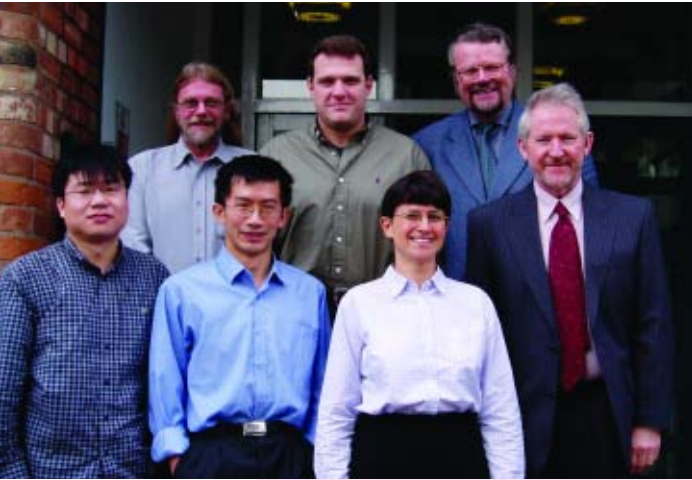


they are made of single compounds which MRSA relatively quickly becomes resistant to, so treatment is only successful in around 50% of cases.

"While a wide range of products currently exist to help prevent the spread of MRSA these are often unpleasant for patients as their application can cause skin irritation. MRSA is often carried inside the nose which means that patients often have to insert treatments up their nostrils, whereas these essential oils can simply be inhaled to prevent the patient being at risk."

The National Audit Office estimates that infections such as MRSA kill 5,000 people each year and hospital-acquired infections cost the NHS around £1 billion a year.

Research



Process Success

A University research group is proving that good things do come in small packages after securing five new research contracts in the latest round of FP6 European funding.

The Centre for Process Integration, now part of the School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science, has only eight members of academic staff. Nevertheless, the research group has secured more FP6 contracts than any other research group at the University. The EU funding secured last year is over €800,000.

Senior Project Officer, Dr Jiri Klemes, who oversaw the group's bids for the funding, said: "The process of securing funding is not easy and the usual success rate is only about 10%. But we have achieved more than 60% success rate, which makes it an incredibly good year for us, especially when you consider how small our group is.

This reflects our experience accumulated over many years with EU projects and the development of a wide network of collaborative organisations across the EU."

FP6 is the current EU Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development. The aim of the framework is to encourage collaborative research across Europe between individual research groups and institutions, and it is this aspect which makes securing funding so difficult.

The group's research projects include:

AITEKIN - Developing a system that uses artificial intelligence software to improve efficiency and reduce costs in the chemical industry.

SHERHPA - Developing heat pumps that are cost-energy efficient and in compliance with the future environmental regulations.

INSERT - Developing novel technologies that will improve product yield and product quality, energy consumption, waste generation, environmental impact and capital investment in a range of industries such as pharmaceutical, biochemical and petrochemical.

For full details of the group's work visit their website.



www.cpi.umist.ac.uk

Bomb Book Wins Top Honour

A University of Manchester academic has been awarded a prestigious international prize for his book about the history of science.

Dr Jeff Hughes received the History of Science Society's 2004 Watson Davis and Helen Miles Davis Prize at a ceremony in Austin, Texas.

His book, entitled 'The Manhattan Project: Big Science and the Atom Bomb', was unanimously chosen as 'most outstanding book directed to wide public audiences'.

Dr Hughes, who is senior lecturer in the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, joins an illustrious list of former winners that includes Dan Kevles, Nancy Tomes, Peter Dear, Richard Rhodes and John Heilbron.

The last British winner of the award was John Brooke, now of The University of Oxford, in 1992.

The book, Dr Hughes's first, charts the rapid growth in the scale of scientific projects during the course of the 20th Century but questions the widely held belief that this expansion began during World War II with work on the atom bomb.

At its height, the Manhattan Project, as it became known, employed 130,000 people and cost \$2 billion, equivalent in size to the entire American automobile industry.

However, Dr Hughes argues that 'Big Science' existed well before the Manhattan Project, citing the growth of interest in astronomy in the late 18th and 19th centuries as just one example.

Of the award, Dr Hughes said: "I was utterly amazed when I found out I had won; many of my heroes in the field are past recipients.

"Hopefully, winning this prize will help get the message across that by critically

re-examining the history of science we can illuminate present-day thinking and inform public understanding of science and science policy."

Larry Owens, Chair of the Prize committee, said: "This slender volume deftly summarises the bomb project while embedding it within a larger narrative that traces the trajectory of Big Science from the early 1900s through the collapse of the Superconducting Supercollider in 1993.

"Reminding his readers that the Manhattan Project and the scientific style it represents were as much a European as an American phenomenon, Hughes forces students to grapple with the pros and cons of a style of science that dominated the post-war years."

Research

Mother and Baby Study Hopes to Reveal Health Trends



Researchers at the University are seeking volunteers to help them carry out a major study looking at why certain ethnic groups are more likely to suffer from heart disease than others.

South Asian people living in the UK are 50% more likely to die from a heart attack than white Europeans and are also more likely to suffer from diabetes, while people of Africano-Caribbean descent are less likely to suffer from heart disease, but are more likely to have a stroke.

The study will look at mothers and their babies in the hope of finding out whether these health trends start in infancy.

Those babies involved in the project will have a comprehensive health check annually from birth to 4 years of age where their height, weight and blood pressure will be tested. Researchers are particularly interested in differences in growth in the children and whether this growth varies between children from different ethnic backgrounds.

The study is being run by a team of researchers from the University's Clinical

Epidemiology Group, led by Dr John Oldroyd who said: "This is the first time research has been done involving such young children and the ethnic aspect to the research is unique too. This work will help us to understand the link between the mother's blood sugar in pregnancy and growth in children as well as the difference in risk of disease between different ethnic groups. This will help mothers and babies in the future."

Researchers are now looking for pregnant women from across Greater Manchester to take part in the project. To be eligible, women should be due to give birth in St Mary's Hospital and will need to take a simple sugary drink test at 28 weeks into their pregnancy to check their blood sugar levels. Anyone interested in taking part should contact the research team on 0161 906 7503 or 0161 275 7506.

Six Million Dollar Plan

The Centre for Formative Assessment Studies (CFAS) has been contracted by The World Bank and the UK government's Department for International Development (DfID) to initiate a potential \$6 million programme to improve the quality of primary education through upgrading the national primary teacher training programme in Vietnam.

The University's involvement in the project will have immediate implications for the upgrading of primary education in ten provinces of Vietnam, with a prospective roll out to all the country's 64 provinces in the short-term future.

The project has the aim of developing primary teachers' professional standards by introducing new regulations and procedures to ensure quality assurance of training providers, and to regulate teacher training standards.

Through the work of the CFAS team, in conjunction with the Vietnam Ministry of Education primary teacher training providers will ensure that they comply with the Ministry regulations on quality accreditation. They will also ensure that

internal and independent external moderation procedures are in place to assure the reliability and accuracy of assessments, as well as monitor and evaluate all aspects of provision to improve its quality. This will ensure that it complies with the quality accreditation standards for primary teacher training.

Bill Boyle, Director of The University's Centre for Formative Assessment Studies, commented: "This project is groundbreaking as it lays the foundations for a nationwide programme to upgrade the teacher training institutions in Vietnam and their training programmes for primary teachers. It aims to sustain the initial teacher training reform impetus through a planned and focused programme of continuous professional development."

Feature

“ It doesn't help having a smoking habit that supports the families of six Colombian tobacco farmers and keeps Philip Morris in the manner to which he's accustomed. ”

Healthy Conscience



Aeron Haworth, from the University's media relations office, overcomes his fear of gyms to visit the newly extended Sugden Sports Centre.

The last time I made a New Year's resolution was in 2001 when I resolved to stop making resolutions.

This wasn't, you understand, because there was little in my life to improve, far from it; when it comes to 'vice' I'm there in Miami.

No, the reason I put paid to this annual ritual is that, come New Year's Day, my good intentions had invariably been used to pave the Devil's driveway and I would spend the rest of January riddled with guilt as well as the obligatory cold.

But having honoured my 'no resolution' pledge for four years, I felt the time was right to attempt that most difficult of January promises – and get fit.

It's a resolution I have tried before but when you have enough vices for a Don Johnson comeback, it's a little harder than you might imagine.

It doesn't help that I have a smoking habit that supports the families of six Colombian tobacco farmers and keeps Philip Morris in the manner to which he's accustomed.

Then there's my appreciation of fine wine – 'appreciated', that is, in the same way a fish appreciates water.

But, for me, perhaps the most daunting task of embarking on a fitness regime is the thought of joining a gym.

I have always found gyms and sports centres to be intimidating places, full of uber-healthy people and machinery you need a degree in electronics to operate.

And so, when UniLife was asked to check out the new extension and refurbishment at the Sugden Sports Centre, my colleagues thought it an excellent opportunity for me to overcome my coyness and, for once, keep my resolution.

The site originally opened in 1985 as the former UMIST sports centre, complete with six squash courts, a free-weights room and outdoor five-a-side and tennis courts.

In 1998, in a joint venture between UMIST and Manchester Metropolitan University, a large sports hall was added. The latest, £2.25 million development by The University of Manchester sees the complex nearly double in size to include another sports hall equivalent to eight badminton courts and a state-of-the-art fitness facility comprising a 200-piece suite.

When I arrived, the centre was playing host to a national students frisby competition, an example of the wide range of sporting and fitness activities that are catered for at the Grosvenor Street site.

From martial arts to table tennis, volleyball to fencing, there is something to get even the most reluctant fitness enthusiast, well, enthused.

And while I haven't yet managed to kick the dreaded weed or stopped quaffing my way through the equivalent of a European Union wine lake, at least by attending the gym, I feel far less guilty about the vices I have yet to conquer. After all, there's always next New Year.

For more information about the Sugden Sports Centre and the current membership offers available, call 0161 306 4026.



Teaching

Personal Development for Successful Learning

Curriculum Development and Innovation (CDI), part of the Teaching, Learning and Assessment Office (TLAO), designs and delivers a variety of student development opportunities across the University.



The Personal Development for Successful Learning (PDSL) course is a voluntary student development course run over five weeks. Initially developed at UMIST it ran for the first time in spring 2003.

Since the merger students from the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences and the Faculty of Humanities have engaged in the course as a pilot project for its expansion. More than 250 students have benefited from the core course with many others attending specialist, tailored sessions in their schools. Students who complete the core course receive a Certificate of Achievement from Student Enterprise, presented at the Annual Student Team Working Awards evening.

The course is designed to:

- Provide an enhanced opportunity for academic and social interaction
- Promote active student involvement and provide students with information on areas that they might not cover in their degree programmes

- Provide an opportunity to attend a course that enhances their CVs and demonstrates participation in co-curricula activities and personal development

- Enhance the student experience

Substantial student feedback is incorporated into the design of the course and because the sessions are highly interactive and based around group-work; students engage with their learning in a lively and active way. The delivery of the course has brought staff together from faculty, CDI and the Careers Service ensuring students benefit from a mixture of approaches to training and skills development.

The Student Perspective

“The PDSL course has helped a great deal with a number of aspects of my university career. One of the largest effects that I have noticed recently as a direct consequence of the course is the way that I revise. Before I did the course I tended to just read my notes and do

questions, now I’ve started to re-write my notes using colour and various techniques I learned during the Learning Styles part of the course.

“PDSL was also a good opportunity to meet new people and it was an interesting experience learning about their courses and the way they were run.

“Although not all the skills covered by the PDSL course were new to me (because of the nature of my course structure), many were. It’s also extremely good to show some proof on my CV that I have endeavoured to improve myself outside my degree programme and that I value key transferable skills.”

Ben Clement, Third year student, Aerospace Engineering

Students are now being recruited for the PDSL courses taking place this semester. For further information on PDSL, personal development planning or skills development, contact Patricia Clift, Curriculum Development and Innovation (patricia.clift@manchester.ac.uk x 57286)

Fitness timetable launched

The Directorate of Sport in partnership with the Student Counselling Service have now released their new timetable to kick-start the second Semester of 2005.

Fitness classes and enrolment courses are being held at the Well-Being Room on Oxford Road in the Main Campus and the Armitage Sports Centre in the Fallowfield campus. All classes commence 31 January 2005.

The fitness classes offer a wide range of activities and a varied programme including aerobics, body conditioning, circuit training, jogging club, step aerobics, stretch and tone and fit ball.

Enrolment Courses, which run for seven weeks and must be booked in advance at the respective centres, also provide a diverse service.

This term’s courses include Kick Boxing, Hatha Yoga, Ashtanga Yoga, Body Balance and Tai Chi Yang Style. There are also several free sessions.

For more information on the centre, contact 0161 224 0404 and for information on activities at the Well-Being Room contact Gail Heathcote-Milner on 0161 275 5985.

Feature

Plan Pushes Public Transport

The comfort of driving to work with the radio set to Terry Wogan and your feet warming nicely under the dashboard isn't a luxury many of us are prepared to sacrifice, but the launch of a new scheme promoting public transport through cut-price travel and interest-free loans might just be enough to tempt even the most die-hard drivers out of their cars and on to the buses.

The Staff Travel Plan (STP) is a comprehensive plan which not only aims to encourage staff to use public transport, but also aims to help staff save time and money.

The scheme offers interest-free loans for annual tickets, discounted bus tickets, free inter-campus buses, a rail-link bus service to Piccadilly Train Station (March), discounts at bicycle shops throughout the city, and sees the introduction of a new car share scheme.

The plan has been organised by the Higher Education Precinct Travel Group, of which The University of Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan University and the Central Manchester and Manchester Children's University Hospitals NHS Trust are members.

Ian Goodwin, Higher Education Precinct Travel Co-ordinator, who has overseen the

project, says: "Many staff find it difficult to travel to work. On all of our sites, car parking is restricted and driving to work is becoming increasingly difficult and time-consuming. With the merger the shortage in car parking has become acute, as buildings are erected on what was once surface car parking."

"It has therefore been critical to produce a Staff Travel Plan, with the aim of redressing the balance by providing more assistance to staff who are considering sharing car journeys, switching to public transport or, if they live close enough, using bicycles or walking. In this way it is hoped that staff will be able to choose the most suitable means of travel, with car parking remaining available for those who have no reasonable alternative."



The Staff Travel Plan offers:

Interest Free Loans

Interest-free loans are now available to staff for the purchase of public transport annual season tickets. These tickets offer a considerable saving on the cost of regular annual travel over the year, and also save time and effort on the purchase of daily, weekly or monthly tickets.

Loans are normally limited to 5% of your annual salary, and the amount is then recovered from your monthly salary over the next eleven months, interest-free.

For further information and an application form contact your local Human Resources office:

Sackville Street: x 64058

Oxford Road: x 66186

Discounted Megarider Tickets

Discounted Stagecoach Megarider weekly vouchers and monthly tickets are available to staff at the Income Office (First Floor, John Owens Building) and now from the Cashiers Office (B10, Sackville Street Building) on presentation of valid ID.

The cost of a weekly voucher is £7.20 and a monthly ticket is £26.70. Any member of staff should contact the Cashiers Office B10 in person or telephone x630430r x63044 for further information.



Feature

Rail Link Bus Service

Funding has been agreed between Higher Education Precinct partner organisations and a tender has been submitted to create a high frequency shuttle bus to link Piccadilly Railway station with all of the institutions in the Higher Education Precinct. The service will also link the North Campus with the South Campus. The service will be operational in March 2005 and will be open to staff, students, visitors and members of the public.

It is envisaged that the route will be set as follows and will pick up and drop off at existing bus stops.

Grafton St
Oxford Rd
Charles St
Sackville St
Whitworth St
Fairfield St
Piccadilly Station

Piccadilly Station
Fairfield St
Whitworth St
Sackville St
Charles St
Oxford Rd
Brunswick St
Upper Brook St
Grafton St

The service is expected to run from 7.15am – 6.45pm Mon-Fri and would operate at a 10 minute frequency during peak periods and at a 15 minute frequency during the off peak.

The buses would be state of the art low floor single-deckers that would be fully branded with the service's logo and livery. There would be a flat 50p single fare, a £1 day saver ticket and a discounted £150 annual season ticket.

Inter Campus minibuses

To overcome the problems of inter-campus travel for students and staff a free private mini-bus service has been set up. The service operates on a 10 min frequency from 7.30am - 9.30pm Mon-Fri. The route taken is shown below:

Refectory (Bridgford Street)
Roscoe Building
Security Lodge (Sackville Street)

Security Lodge
Math and Social Sciences Building
Materials Science Building
Refectory

Car Sharing

A private members area has been created for staff on a national car sharing scheme website at: www.2scompany.org.uk. The website allows you to register your details and the journey you normally make by car with a view to matching you with members of staff who make similar journeys and would be prepared to give or receive a lift to work.

How Do I Car Share?

- 1 Go to www.2scompany.org.uk
- 2 Click on 'GROUP DIRECTORY'.
- 3 Click on 'SORT IT' With 2scompany private group.
- 4 Click on 'Please Register' in the New Users section.
- 5 Enter the details as requested and click on 'Submit'
- 6 Check your email – here you will receive your password.

How to enter your details and find a car share partner

- 1 Repeat steps 1, 2 and 3 from above.
- 2 Type in your email address and password in the Member Sign In section and click on 'Sign Me In'.
- 3 Click on 'add a new journey' and enter the required details of your journey to work.
- 4 Once the various steps have been completed, click on 'Search For Journeys'.
- 5 The website will then look to see if there are any similar journeys that you could be matched with. If so 2scompany will list them for you.
- 6 Select your preferred journey and 2scompany will send an email to the sharer on your behalf.
- 7 At this point the only details revealed will be your preferred name, email address and journey details
- 8 If the other person agrees to share, your e-mail addresses are exchanged and you are then free to start car sharing as soon as you like.

N.B if you don't have internet access and would like to join the car share database by telephone or are having difficulties joining via the internet please call 08700 11199.

Cycling

Two new fully-secure cycle compounds have been created underneath the railway arches opposite the Renold Building. The compounds can hold 100+ cycles and are covered by CCTV and can only be accessed via a programmed swipe card. To access these facilities you will need to contact the security lodge on Sackville St who will program your staff or student ID card.

If you would like information regarding cycle facilities at your organisation please contact Damian Oatway for further information on telephone: 275 2277

Cycle shop discounts and loans

Withington Cycles

26 Burton Road
Withington
Manchester
M20 3EB

tel 0161 445 3492

0161 446 2102

email info@withingtoncycles.co.uk

www.withingtoncycles.co.uk

Withington Cycles is offering all staff a 5-10% discount on bikes and accessories on presentation of a staff ID card.

The Bicycle Doctor

60-70 Dickenson Road
Rusholme
Manchester
M14 5HF

tel 0161 224 1303

email sales@bicycledoctor.co.uk

www.bicycledoctor.co.uk

Bicycle Doctor is offering staff interest-free credit up to £1000 and the opportunity to pay back from £50 per month. All new bikes over £150 are entitled to 3 free services in the first 12 months.



Profile

“ Coming back after nearly ten years, I can see what terrific progress has been made. ”

Boyd's Belief

“If I did not genuinely believe that Manchester now has a special opportunity in research and development, I would not have taken on this job. We can demonstrate to the country and beyond that money spent here is more effective than in other places. We can also demonstrate that we are doing a good job for UK plc. It is a real privilege for me to play a part in helping to seize the opportunity.”



So says Professor Sir Robert Boyd, who, having “retired” from being Principal of St George’s Hospital Medical School, London, has been drawn back to the place where previously he spent 16 years as Professor of Paediatrics and Dean of the Medical School. He has agreed to take up the newly-established NHS post, supported by the University, of NHS Director of Research and Development for Greater Manchester. He is also a Member of the University’s Board of Governors.

He will work crucially at the interface between the five NHS Trusts and their hospitals, and the University. “Research carried out in the NHS in Greater Manchester and the North West gave the world hip replacements and IVF babies, which have brought a better quality of life and much happiness to literally millions of people,” he says. “The task is to build on this tradition to benefit the next generation, through drawing even closer together the excellence of research in Manchester’s NHS, and the quality of care which goes with it, and the research strengths of the new University. Importantly, this also means demonstrating successfully to government and other funders that Manchester is increasingly the best place to invest for long-term NHS quality across the country.”

It is nearly ten years since Sir Robert went off to London, following an outstanding career here. At St George’s, he established a reputation for innovation, such as the first programme to enable graduates from any discipline to do medicine – a model that has been taken up now by other institutions. He also introduced a foundation course, bringing together medics, physiologists and radiologists. He is a great believer in inter-disciplinary collaboration and inter-professional synergy. He also served as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Medicine of London University and as Chair of the Council of Medical Schools. All this, and much else besides in the service of medicine, earned him his knighthood.

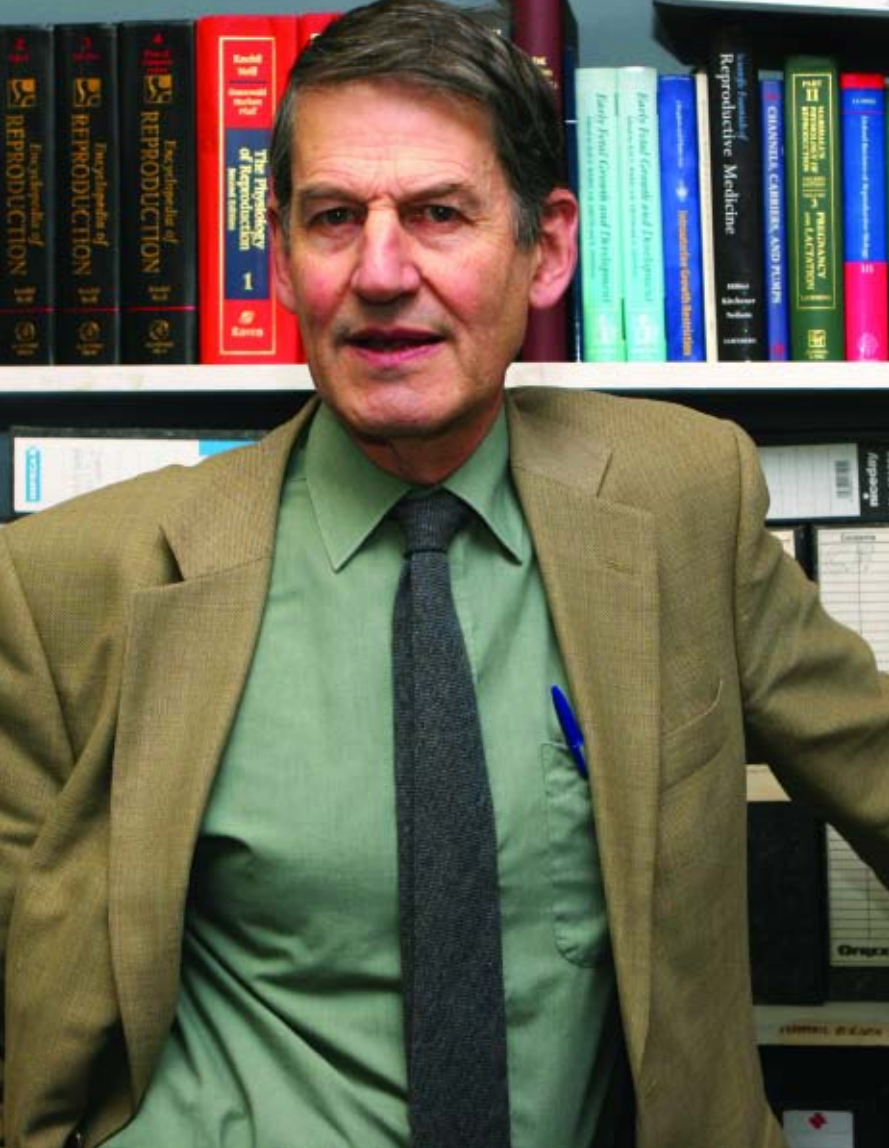
For anyone who knows him, Robert, a lean and youthful-looking 66-year-old, is engaging, amusing and famously courteous. He comes from a clinico-academic family, the second of four sons who have all enjoyed distinguished careers. One is a former British Ambassador to Japan, another is Master of Churchill College, Cambridge (their home city). He brings energy and enthusiasm to everything he takes on. That is certainly true of his new, albeit part-time, job.

“We have so much to build on now,” he says. “Coming back after nearly ten years, I can see what terrific progress has been made. There is better collaboration between the University and the NHS. Our research groups are stronger and more coherent – arguably, the most coherent in the UK. The University’s 2015 agenda to be a world-class enterprise gives a clear focus. We have a terrific clinical base, caring for sick people and maintaining health in a region which traditionally has a health record worse than in other parts of the UK.”

His experience in London has made him able to judge that the components – primary health care, district hospitals, teaching hospitals, NHS and University research groups – fit together much better in Manchester.

“To make the most of that, a key task is to try to lever more resources out of government agencies, NHS R & D and other players,” he says. “We have to demonstrate a really good product and to show that every pound invested in Manchester is better value than one spent anywhere else.”

His appointment signals a serious intent to balance the current geographical inequality in the amount of medical



research money allocated between the north and the south of the country.

Not that there isn't huge investment in the North-west already. In 2005/6, the NHS will give £28.2 million to NHS Trusts here for Research & Development. In addition, the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences attracts more than £37 million in research grants from other organisations, such as the Medical Research Council, medical charities and the pharmaceutical industry. Despite this success story, London's share of NHS funding in 2004/5 is £308 million, nearly 68% of the total amount across the country. This imbalance needs to be addressed, he says

Sir Robert's willingness to take on this task has been warmly welcomed. Professor David Gordon, Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty, says: "This is an important step, firstly to raise the profile of research within the teaching hospitals and the University and, secondly, to secure additional investment for healthcare research in Greater Manchester."

Laura Roberts, Chief Executive of Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust, says: "This is great news for staff and patients of the NHS Trusts

across Greater Manchester. Sir Robert will help to strengthen the research performance within the Trusts and the University, which in turn will improve healthcare services delivered to our community."

In addition to this task, he is set to continue with his charitable work. He is Chairman of the Lloyds TSB Foundation, a charity dealing with marginalisation, which disburses £25 million annually to give non-medical help to people in need.

He has also recently taken on the chairmanship of the Council for Assisting Refugee Academics, which dates back to the 1930s.

Then, there are his private and family concerns, foremost among them his four grandchildren. And he is learning to play the flute – a retirement present from the family, which reflects his keen interest in music, especially opera, one of his favourite works being, naturally, The Magic Flute.

Right now, his priority is to work his own bit of magic on those sources of funding which will help to develop Greater Manchester's medical prowess to new heights.

CV

Name

Robert David Hugh Boyd MB, Hon DSc, FRCP, FRCPC, FFPH, FMedSci

Currently

Professionally retired

Chair, Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales 2003-

Chair, Council for assisting refugee academics 2004-

Previous employment

Main post: Principal (and Professor of Paediatrics), St George's Hospital Medical School, London, 1996-2003

Board Member (and Honorary Consultant Paediatrician), St George's Healthcare NHS Trust, 1997-2003

Pro Vice-Chancellor for Medicine, University of London, 2000-03

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of London, 2002-03

Chair, Council of Heads of UK Medical Schools, 2001-03

Other recent memberships include

Board of Governors, Kingston University

Council, Royal Veterinary College

Steering Group, London Higher Education Consortium (representative body of all London's 40 universities and colleges)

Health Committee, Universities UK (the committee of all UK universities in health matter)

People

New Year's Honours

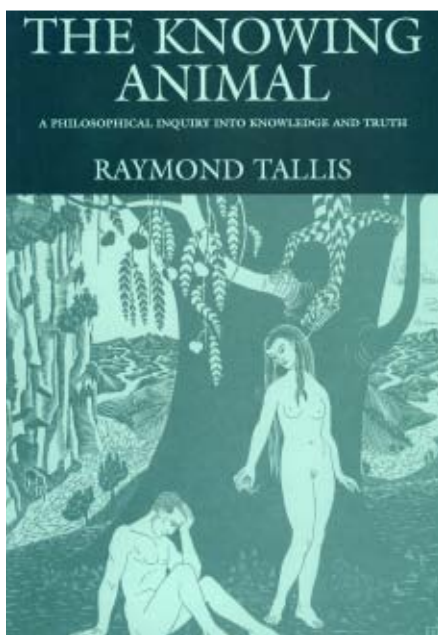
Among those recognised in this year's New Year's Honours List, were former UMIST Vice-Chancellor Professor John Garside; Professor of Medical Genetics, Dian Donnai and Lecturer in Engineering, Dr Pauleen Lane, who were all awarded OBEs.

Professor Garside was honoured for his services to education, as the last Principal and Vice-Chancellor of UMIST (2000-4), he is one of the founders of The University of Manchester. Professor Garside was at UMIST from 1982 when he was appointed Professor of Chemical Engineering. He twice served as Head of Department, as well as serving as Vice-Principal from 1985-87, and Pro Vice Chancellor with responsibility for Academic Development from 1997.

Professor of Medical Genetics and Director of the North West Genetics Service, Dian Donnai was honoured for services to Medicine. Professor Donnai trained in

paediatrics and clinical genetics and has a major interest in the study of patterns of birth defects. She is also very involved with the development of genetic services and sits on many national and international committees concerned with genetics policy and research.

Dr Pauleen Lane, a Lecturer in the University's School of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering (MACE) and a Councillor on Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council representing the Old Trafford area, was honoured for her services to local government. Dr Lane is also a graduate of the Victoria University of Manchester.



Tallis' Trilogy Completed

Professor of Geriatric Medicine and Consultant in Health Care of the Elderly at Hope Hospital, Ray Tallis, has completed the third part of his half million word trilogy which looks at the nature of differences between human beings and other animals.

Described as "controversial", the three-part work puts forward a new approach to truth, solves the problems of free will and agency, puts a new spin on knowledge and addresses logic in a new way.

Each volume addresses a single idea about the unique nature of human beings - The Hand: how human beings have

overcome the constraints of biology; I Am, selfhood and agency; and the third volume The Knowing Animal which argues that knowledge is unique to humans and sufficiently important to call man 'the knowing animal'.

The trilogy is published by Edinburgh University Press.



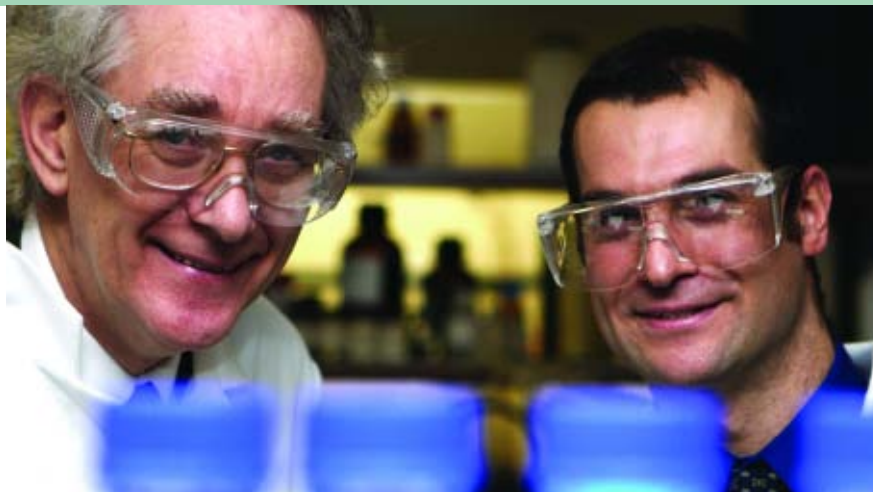
www.eup.ed.ac.uk

People

Liberating Experience

A scientist from the School of Chemistry has swapped the lab for life as a Liberal Democrat in a unique MP-scientist 'pairing' scheme.

Dr Martin Attfield, Royal Society University Research Fellow in the Centre for Microporous Materials, recently spent four days shadowing Andrew Stunnell, MP for Hazel Grove.



The aim of the scheme, run by the Royal Society, is to build bridges between MPs and some of the UK's top scientists allowing them both to gain a better understanding of science and how science policy is formed.

Martin spent four days in Westminster attending seminars and select committees before being joined by Andrew in his lab at the University for some hands-on experiments.

"I got him to make one of the materials I make and then gave him a tour around the new undergraduate labs," Martin said.

While in London Martin was given a 'behind the scenes' insight into how science policy is formed and what life is really like as an MP and also spent time shadowing Andrew at his Stockport constituency.

"I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and learnt a lot, but I am not thinking about running for office just yet," Martin said. "What it did show me is how much easier it is to get your voice heard than I'd previously thought, and how busy being an MP really is. The scheme is an experience I would definitely recommend to other people," he added.

Science Honour



Professor Nancy Rothwell, The University of Manchester's Vice President for Research, has been awarded an honorary degree by The University of Leeds.

Professor Rothwell, a Royal Society research fellow and trustee of Cancer Research UK and the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts, will receive a Doctorate of Science from Leeds Chancellor Lord Melvyn Bragg at a ceremony in July.

Also receiving honorary degrees in recognition of "cultural diversity, science

and friendship" are writer Bill Bryson, film director Gurinder Chadha, broadcaster Andy Kershaw, philanthropist Marjorie Ziff and mathematician Sir David Cox.

Professor Rothwell's "strong interest in public involvement in science" and her "commitment to increasing the popularity of science as a career choice for young women" were cited as reasons for her inclusion in the list.

"It is a great honour to be awarded this degree by my peers at Leeds and be in the

company of such distinguished people," said Professor Rothwell, who received an honorary degree from The University of Salford in 2003.

"I very much look forward to receiving my degree from another great northern university with which this University has such close ties."

People



House Manager Hits Half Century

A Jodrell Bank technician has been officially named the University's longest serving member of staff.

John Ryder, House Manager of Jodrell Bank, received the honour on January 9 after completing 50 years of service.

To mark the occasion Vice President and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, John Perkins, presented him with a cheque for £1,000.

"It is great to be recognised in this way. I was very surprised and didn't expect it at all," said John.

John joined the University in 1955 working as an Electronics Technician at the Observatory, before becoming a Safety Adviser and later entering his current role of House Manager.

John, 65, who will officially retire in the next couple of months, added: "When I first arrived, the telescope was only just being built. It was rushed to get it operational for the first Sputnik launch. Since then they have opened a visitors' centre and now, of course, the new University."

Presidential Appointment



Stuart Lyon, Senior Lecturer in Corrosion Science and Engineering in the School of Materials, has been appointed President of the Institute of Corrosion.

Stuart became the President Elect in June last year, but was formally adopted as the President in November 2004. The term will last two years but his appointment will see him actively involved in a senior role until 2008.

Stuart said: "I am very honoured to do this job. Corrosion is a subject that is very important economically (3% of GNP is lost

to corrosion annually in the UK) but very often ignored. My vision is to try and develop a unified voice in the area of corrosion and corrosion technology by identifying similar interests in other, smaller Institutions so that we can use our combined efforts to punch above our weight with some of the bigger Professional Institutions."

People

Encore, Encore



The colourful Violin Concerto of John Casken, Professor of Music at The University of Manchester, was broadcast live on BBC radio and television from The Barbican in London.

Professor Casken's work was performed as part of The Barbican's James MacMillan Festival on Saturday, January 15.

James, a former student of Professor Casken, conducted the concert performed by the Manchester-based BBC Philharmonic Orchestra and young British violinist Daniel Hope.

Professor Casken's concerto was chosen to feature in the 'Darkness into Light – the Music of James MacMillan' evening after being selected in a Royal Philharmonic and BBC project called 'Encore'.

"I composed the concerto in 1994 and it was first performed at The Proms in 1995," said Professor Casken. "It is being performed again after being short listed in the Encore project for work it is felt has been neglected.

"This is a work that had very favourable reaction 10 years ago and this scheme has been created to give works another chance to be heard."

The Violin Concerto will receive its next performance during a BBC Resonance Festival at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester on May 4.

Professor Maguire

Academics from across Europe converged on Manchester last month for a special event to celebrate the career of Professor Peter Maguire.

Until his recent retirement from the University, Professor Maguire was a consultant psychiatrist and director of the Cancer Research UK Psychological Medicine Group based at the Christie Hospital.

As well as offering clinical services to cancer patients and their families he led a team of researchers looking at the psychosocial impact of different cancers, and ways of detecting and treating anxiety and depression in people suffering from the disease. He also taught communication skills to doctors and nurses working in the field of oncology.

Commenting on Peter's career, Professor Francis Creed, Professor of Psychological

Medicine at the University, said: "Peter's work is seen as ground-breaking in scientific terms and immensely important in the improvement of cancer services. His work has ramifications beyond the psychological care of cancer patients, and the techniques he has developed for improving communication skills are being used widely outside of the cancer setting. Peter's impact on medical training has been considerable."

The meeting, which was held at the Christie Hospital, included a talk by Professor Maguire about his work. Invited speakers then outlined the impact his work has had on an international level.

Students

From left: Daniel Corrigan, Sam Murray, Rachel Turnbull, Hannah Mosley, Lizzie Borehma, Rachel Pritchard. Front Laura Llewellyn



MUWO win Gold!

Manchester University Wind Orchestra was awarded a Gold Award at the recent National Concert Band Festival Regional finals.

To attain such a standard requires the players reach specific, demanding targets in categories such as 'Articulation and Phrasing' and 'Style and Interpretation', criteria that are assessed by a panel of some of the most respected wind musicians in the country. This prestigious achievement means the players will participate in the National Finals at the RNCM in March.

MUWO consists of students from the various higher education institutions in Manchester, and gives many concerts around the region. It has increased in size from initially just 40 musicians to around 95 players at full strength. The orchestra is a non-profit making organisation managed by Gareth Parry and William Carey, operating with assistance from the Manchester University Music Society and the University's Music Department.

Membership is open to all wind players and percussionists in the Manchester

area, allowing its members the opportunity to make music at an extremely high level, and perform in prestigious venues all over Europe.

MUWO rehearsals take place on Tuesday evenings during term time, from 7-9pm in the new Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall in the Music Department. Anyone interested in joining is invited to come along to a rehearsal to 'try it out' before committing themselves. For further details, please contact william.carey@manchester.ac.uk

www.muwo.co.uk

Mentoring Scheme's a Bit of 'All White'



A new mentoring scheme in the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences is going from strength to strength thanks to football. EPS has set up its own football team, called the Whitesox, in a bid to introduce a more social side to mentoring.

The scheme, which replaces traditional study groups, has only been up and running since the start of the academic year, but already organisers and students are hailing it as a success.

Adam Skinner, Head of the Faculty's Mentoring Scheme, said: "Previously the mentoring scheme had a very academic focus, so what we have tried to do is concentrate on providing a service focused more on the social and welfare side."

"What we are noticing is that because it is a voluntary scheme, and it's in a more relaxed environment, students appear to be more willing to open up and discuss any problems they have."

The team, which is open to students in all years of study, has been organised by Guy Conway, a third year Aerospace and Engineering student.

"We thought it would be a good way of getting the first years more involved in the faculty," he said. "We entered the Universities Intersocieties Leagues at the start of the year and so far we're unbeaten, and lie third in the table."

Computing Success for Lee



A University of Manchester Computation student has been recognised for his "outstanding achievement and commitment" in the field at the prestigious British Computer Society IT Awards.

Lee Englestone, a final year BSc student, was nominated for the Society's Young IT Practitioner of the Year Award at the annual event held in London.

Lee was nominated for the work he completed during his placement year with AstraZeneca's Global eBusiness team. During his placement Lee worked as a web developer and web accessibility analyst.

His web development work played a part in implementing AstraZeneca's high-level e-

marketing and relationship management activities with clinicians and patients across many countries and cultures. Lee was also instrumental in initiating a web accessibility group across the company, helping AstraZeneca to comply with Disability Discrimination Act regulations on website considerations (web accessibility) for people with disabilities.

Lee said: "I've learned a great deal from AstraZeneca's Global eBusiness Group. I wouldn't have been a finalist without them, and I think a lot of businesses can learn from the successes of student interns."

Heard it through the Grapevine

Staff were treated to a tippie or two – strictly after working hours – at the latest meeting of the University Wine Club on January 20.



Members from both of the founding Universities came together at Staff House on the Oxford Road site to try some of the more unusual grape varieties available, in a session entitled 'Time to bury the Cabernets and Chardonnays'.

Participants were encouraged to sample wines that they may never before have tasted, including Picpoul de Pinet, Rosette de Savoie and Petit Verdot. Many are only produced in minute quantities, although technological advances and new growing environments have led to the revival of some of these varieties in recent years.

Presenter Louis Quesnel said: "This is a tasting to convince everyone that there are thousands of interesting grapes and wines out there, ready and able to

substitute for boring old Cabernet, Chardonnay, Shiraz and Sauvignon."

The Wine Club has been in existence as The University of Manchester and UMIST Wine Club for nearly 30 years. Members attend monthly tastings and sample a number of wines from a particular region or grape variety. Everyone from beginners to experts is catered for, with the emphasis being very much upon individual taste above expertise.

The club enjoys a celebratory buffet in mid-summer and at Christmas, and in February indulges in a gourmet restaurant meal with courses complemented by a different wine. This year the dinner will be at Smith's Restaurant in Eccles, and will be accompanied by a range of wines from Bordeaux.

"In case you were wondering," says Secretary Janet Vale, "we don't spit it out - unless you want to, of course!"

Other themes for the spring include women winemakers and New Zealand wines, but as Janet says, "The Wine Club is about meeting people and socialising, as well as about tasting wine."

Tastings begin about 5.30pm and usually cost between £5 and £9, plus an annual membership cost of £3. Members receive an advance list of the wines on offer, and may bring guests along to any of the tastings.

Staff interested in joining the club should contact Janet.Vale@manchester.ac.uk or keribrown@manchester.ac.uk for more details.

Highland Fun and Games



Members of the University of Manchester Staff Social Club will be enjoying a taste of Scottish Highlands during a weekend break to Aviemore next month.

The club, formed from the coming together of the UMIST Staff Social Club and University of Manchester Staff Association (UMSA), will make the trip north of the border on Friday, February 4, returning to Manchester on Sunday.

Staff will be staying at the Aviemore Inn Hotel situated in the foothills of the Cairngorm Mountains and just a few miles from some of the best skiing facilities in Britain.

"This will be the first trip that members of both clubs have been on together," said Pam Hyde, chair of the former UMIST Staff Social Club.

"Breaks like this are a great way for staff at the new University to get to know people they might otherwise never meet, which is what the Staff Social Club is all about."

Anyone interested in last-minute bookings for the trip should contact Pam to check availability. Similarly, anyone wishing to become a member of the club can contact her on 276 4590 or email pam.hyde@manchester.ac.uk

What's On



The Whitworth Art Gallery

DISPLAYS/COLLECTIONS

Ship Ahoy! to 6 March 2005

This exhibition of watercolours, prints, wallpapers and textiles includes depictions of galleons, fishing smacks, trading vessels, warships and freshwater boats. The exhibition also features a Ship Ahoy! Reading area providing children's books with stories about ships, pirates and the deep blue sea.

Truce - New 21 January - 10 April

Sculpture & Drawings by Shirley Diamond

Beauty and the Beast - New Swedish Design

26 February - 24 April

From wave-shaped walls of lighting and sculptural glass to rat-gnawed wallpaper and hairy ceramics, Beauty and the Beast explores the intriguing duality of contemporary Swedish design.

The Wages of Sin and Virtue's Reward - Moral Prints in the Age of Dürer

5 February - 6 November

Woodcuts, engravings, etchings and illustrated books from the collections of the University of Manchester in the Whitworth Art Gallery and the John Rylands Library. This exhibition highlights the moral messages communicated to people of the late Middle Ages and early Reformation through the medium of prints published in Northern Europe.

TOURS AND EVENTS

Every Saturday at 2pm there is either an Exhibition Tour or an Eyeopener Tour.

Shirley Diamond Curator's Tour -

Tues 1 Feb, 1.15pm, FREE

CONCERTS

Phoenix Brass Quintet: programme will include Malcolm Arnold and Bozza, Sun 30 Jan, 3pm, FREE

Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road, 0161 275 7450 www.whitworth@manchester.ac.uk

Opening hours Mon to Sat 10am - 5pm, Sun 2pm - 5pm FREE Admission

Gallery Café 0161 275 7497 The café sells a selection of drinks and light meals.

Gallery Shop 0161 275 7498 The bookshop stocks a range of art and design books, cards and gifts.

Collection Exhibitions Archive Now Online. The Whitworth's online 'Collections Catalogue' now allows you to browse and search selected exhibitions held at the Gallery over the past 10 years. Follow the link from homepage at: www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk

Gig Guide Manchester Academy 1, 2 & 3

Tues 25 Jan

Kevin Montgomery

Thurs 27 Jan

Academy Unsigned

Fri 28 & Sat 29 Jan

NME Tour 2005

Sat 29 Jan

Boo Hewerdine

Sun 30 Jan

American Music Club

Weds 2 Feb

Thin Lizzy

Cake

Fri 4 Feb

The Dears

Sat 5 Feb

Goodgrief

The Duke Spirit

Sun 6 Feb

Mylo

Mon 7 Feb

Megadeath

Students' Union Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL

Tickets from: Piccadilly Box Office, easy Internet Cafe, (c/c) 0871 2200260

Online @ www.manchesteracademy.net Royal Court (Liverpool) 0151 709 4321 (c/c)

Students' Union 0161 275 2930



Contact Theatre

The Happy Theatre Collective

BUBBYSAURUS

Directed by David Spencer

Have your glo sticks at the ready cos BUBBYSAURUS is BACK. After their sell out success at Contact Theatre Manchester last year Happy Theatre return with more Love, Friendships, Babies and Raves.

Set against the backdrop of the 90s Madchester era Bubbysaurus takes you on a rave roller coaster ride Through Langworthy Road Salford, to a world where Bassbins, ramraidin' an' livin' for the weekend are the only things that matter to The Jilted Generation.

Tue 25 Jan 2005, £8/6

FELIX DEXTER

Felix Dexter needs no introduction as he is one of the most lively and entertaining stand up comedians you are ever going to see! For this special night of comedy, he promises to perform his EMMA award winning character, 'Nathaniel' the Nigerian Accountant who has become so popular that Felix has been commissioned to do a movie about him! As seen on the BBC's Absolutely Fabulous, The Real McCoy, The Felix Dexter Show amongst others.

Sat 29 Jan 2005, £11/8

LOVE, SEX & CIDER

Love, Sex and Cider follows the lives of four hormone-ridden Geordie teenagers in a particularly eventful week. A hilarious reminder for those that can't remember and an insight for those that can't, of the trials and tribulations of youth.

Set against a backdrop of the 90's, in a typical week of these fourteen-year-old lives we see teen angst at its most ruthless. Jealousy, betrayal, self-exploration and some love, sex and cider can all be found in the local park. RECOMMENDED AGE 15+ - Contains moderate language and sexual references

Thu 3 Feb 2005 - Fri 4 Feb 2005, £8/5

Contact Theatre, Oxford Road, Manchester
Tickets/Info: 0161 274 0600

For information on other events please visit our website www.contact-theatre.org

A limited number of tickets are available from just £4 on the day from the Ticket Office between 11am - 4pm daily.

Jodrell Bank

The facilities at Jodrell Bank are going through a period of redevelopment. The Visitors Centre currently has a café, an exhibition space and a 3D theatre open, and visitors can still explore the various trails and the natural habitats of the Arboretum's 35 acres with its 2000 species of trees and shrubs and National Collections. In January 2004 Jodrell Bank completed a 180 degree observational pathway close to the base of the world famous Lovell radio telescope.

Jodrell Bank Science Centre & Arboretum
Macclesfield, Cheshire
01477 571339 www.jb.manchester.ac.uk

John Rylands Library

The John Rylands Special Collections Library, Deansgate, will be closed for a period of approximately 2 years, until 2006, for essential refurbishment and the construction of a new visitor and interpretative centre. Access to all the special collections is available through the main University Library on campus. A Special Collections Reading Room is open on Floor Purple Four, Monday to Friday 10am - 5.15pm and Saturdays 10am-1pm. Readers may find it helpful to contact us in advance on 0161 275 3764. Further information can be found on our website:

www.rylibweb.manchester.ac.uk/spcoll/



International Society

THEATRE AND MUSIC

For details about the availability of tickets for various theatre and music performances, please visit our website.

TRIPS

Sat 29 Jan
Day visit to Liverpool

Sun 30 Jan
Day visit to Manchester United Stadium

Sat 5 Feb
Day visit to Stratford-Upon-Avon

Sat 5 Feb
Day visit to Bolton Abbey And Skipton

International Society,
327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)
0161 275 4959
www.internationalsociety.org.uk
Open: Monday-Friday 9.30am 7.5pm



Manchester Museum

Fridays (during term time),
11am -12pm

Magic Carpet

Storytelling and story making for the under fives.

Thursday 27 January
(Adult), 6.30 - 8.00pm

The Contribution of Manchester's Coal miners to the Geology gallery (Dr. Fred Broadhurst) - £22 package price

Saturday 29 January
(Pre-booked), 1.30 - 2.30pm

Dinosaur Descendants

Find out about the modern descendants of the dinosaurs and meet some of the live creatures from the Museum's vivarium. FREE

Saturday 29 January
(Drop-in), 2.30 - 4.00pm

Crafty Creatures

Create a creature inspired by the animals from the Museum's vivarium. £1

Monday 31 January
(Adult), 6.30 - 8.00pm

The Generation Game

'Your Country Needs YOU!' to participate in their future. Find out how in this glimpse into the possibilities that lie ahead. See where the decisions that you make today may take us tomorrow with writer Mandy Precious, artist Elaine Bennet and with quizmaster Dr Daniel Brison of the IVF Unit, St Mary's Hospital. A collaboration with the Centre for Continuing Education, supported by the Wellcome Trust Impact Award. FREE

Saturday 5 February
(Pre-booked), 1.30pm, 2.30pm & 3.30pm

Creation Myths

Join our storyteller on the galleries and listen to traditional tales of how the world began. Our curators will also be available in the Discovery Centre with related objects from the Museum's collections. £1

Monday 7th February 2005
(Adult), 6.30 - 8.00pm

Counter-intuitive Science

(Kevin Byron National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA))
An exploration of the creative techniques that are used by scientists to complement the more formal approach to doing science. FREE

Monday 7 - Saturday 12 February
(Drop-in), 11.00am - 4.00pm

Life through Time

A series of drop-in art and craft sessions giving you the opportunity to help our resident artist create a spectacular new exhibition exploring the history of the earth, starting with the Prehistoric era. FREE

Manchester Museum Oxford Rd, Manchester
0161 275 2630, www.museum.man.ac.uk
Open: Mon-Sat 10 - 5pm; Sun 11- 4 pm.
FREE Admission
www.museum.manchester.ac.uk

Music at Manchester

THE LINDSAY EVENING CONCERTS

Friday 28 January, 7.30pm
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall
Mozart *Quartet in E flat K.428*
Tippett *Quartet No.3*
Schubert *Quartet in A minor D.804*

CHORAL AND ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS

Saturday 5 February, 7.30pm
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall
The University of Manchester Sinfonietta
Simon Lloyd and O-J Ruthven Conductors
Nick Crompton Baritone
Mahler *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen*
Schoenberg *Chamber Symphony No.2*
Berwald *Sinfonie Singulière*

THE WALTER CARROLL LUNCHTIME CONCERTS AND RECITALS

Thursday 3 February, 1.10pm
Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall
The Lindsays
Beethoven *Quartet in F Op.18 No.1*
Tippett *Quartet No.5*

School of Music and Drama
Bridgeford Street, 0161 275 8950/1
www.art.manchester.ac.uk/MUSIC

Chaplaincies

St Peter's House Chaplaincy

SUNDAY WORSHIP
10am Group Work
11.15am Morning Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship (Term-time only)
FOYER 10am-4pm. An area where students and staff can relax and meet friends. A tea/coffee machine is available.
Precinct Centre 0161 275 2894
sph.reception@manchester.ac.uk

Avila House RC Chaplaincy (next to the Holy Name Church)

Mass Times
Mon - Fri 1.05 pm (term-time only)
Oxford Road 0161 275 6999/273 1456
Chaplains also available Monday - Friday
Floor B, Room B25, Renold Building
0161 200 2522

Mosque: Sackville Street Building

Prayer Room: Renold Building B26



Seminars

Wednesday 26 January

Faculty of Life Sciences AstraZeneca

Seminar: "Segmentation and limb formation in the milkweed bug *Oncopeltus fasciatus*". Thomas Kaufman (University of Indiana). 12pm, LT6, Stopford Building.

Manchester Museum: "The end of Petra". Dr Zbigniew Fiema (Helsinki University). 5.30pm, 2nd Floor Lecture Theatre, Manchester Museum.

Manchester Medical Society - SOCIETY-

Symposium: "Violence in society". Speakers: Prof S Bailey OBE, Deputy Chief Constable A Green, Mr I W R Anderson, and Prof J Shepherd. 2pm, MANDEC.

Manchester Medical Society - SOCIETY -

Telford Memorial Lecture: "The challenges ahead". Prof A Halligan (Deputy Chief Medical Officer). 5.30pm, MANDEC.

Thursday 27 January

Manchester Medical Society - Public Health

Forum Debate: "This house believes that the Government Choice Agenda for the NHS is diametrically opposite to the reduction of inequalities in health". For the motion, Dr A J R Scott-Samuel (Liverpool). Against the motion, Prof P Corrigan (Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for Health). 6pm, LT4, Stopford Building.

Faculty of Medicine Imaging Science and

Biomedical Engineering: "Sedation for radiological procedures - what every radiologist should know". Prof D F Martin (Manchester). 5.15pm, LT3, Stopford Building.

Monday 31 January

Manchester Medical Society -

ODONTOLOGY: Alan Hilton Medal and Members' Evening. 6pm, MANDEC.

Tuesday 1 February

School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social

Work: "Gatekeeping access to community mental health teams - a critical realist perspective". 12.30pm, COPE Room, Coupland 3 Building.

Planning and Landscape: "Advertising and the metabolism of the city: urban space, commodity rhythms". Anne Cronin (Lancaster). 4pm, Hanson Room, Humanities Bridgeford Street.

Wednesday 2 February

School of Materials: "Enzyme catalysed polymer synthesis for drug delivery applications". Dr Gillian Hutcheson (Liverpool John Moores). 2.15pm, Room D13, Manchester Materials Science Centre, Grosvenor Street.

Transport Seminar: "The bus operator's viewpoint". Jim Hulme (GM Bus Operators Association). 5.30pm, Cordingley Lecture Theatre, Humanities Bldg, Bridgeford St.

Sociology: "The politics of the heart: an exploration of moral issues in recent British politics". Ralph Fevre. 4pm, Room 4.9, Roscoe Building.

Faculty of Life Sciences AstraZeneca

Seminar: "Extracellular ATP and membrane ion channels". Alan North (Manchester). 12pm, LT1, Stopford Building.

Thursday 3 February

Faculty of Medicine Imaging Science and Biomedical Engineering: "Talking to patients: how much can we say?" Dr M Flanagan (Lancaster). 5.15pm, LT3, Stopford Building.

Tuesday 8 February

Manchester Medical Society SURGERY

Michael Boyd Memorial Lecture: "The Surgeon Scientist - an endangered species or a contradiction in terms". Prof N J M Mortensen (Oxford). 8pm, Chancellors Conference Centre.

Planning and Landscape: "Site-based travel plans and sustainable transport". Richard Armitage (Richard Armitage Consulting Ltd). 4pm, Hanson Room, Humanities Bridgeford Street.

Wednesday 9 February

Sociology: "Queer intimacies and sociabilities (gender, sexuality and culture - new exchanges). Sasha Roseneil in conversation with Angelica Wilson. 4.30pm, Room 3.51, Williamson Building.

Faculty of Life Sciences AstraZeneca

Seminar: "Serum response factor - a convergence point for signalling pathways". Richard Treisman (CRUK London Research Institute). 12pm, LT1, Stopford Building.

Manchester Medical Society PATHOLOGY

AND MEDICINE: "Bioterrorism". Dr N J Beeching (Liverpool). 5.30pm, LT2, Stopford Building.

Thursday 10 February

Faculty of Medicine Imaging Science and

Biomedical Engineering: "Assessing the shoulder". Speakers: Dr L Funk (Salford), Dr J N Harris (Salford) and Dr C E Hutchinson (Salford). 5.15pm, LT3, Stopford Building.

Manchester Medical Society ANAESTHESIA

Abbott Trainees' Prize Papers. 7pm, Postgraduate Health Sciences Centre, MRI.

Tuesday 15 February

Planning and Landscape: "Development cultures". John Henneberry (Sheffield). 4pm, Hanson Room, Humanities Bridgeford Street.

Noticeboard



Postgraduate Open Day

Wednesday 2 February
10am - 5pm
Whitworth Hall

For further details please contact Amanda Mathews on 0161 275 8841, email amanda.mathews@manchester.ac.uk or visit the University's website at:

www.manchester.ac.uk/studyhere/postgraduate

Environment and Development

2nd Manchester Lecture on Environment and Development

Wednesday 2 March

Immigrants and Citizens - A New Architecture for Political Membership
by Prof Saskia Sassen, University of Chicago

3.30pm, Crawford House Lecture Theatre 1

Café Scientifique

31 January 6.30pm
Café Muse

Dr Daniel Bryson, IVF Unit, St Mary's Hospital.

Your country needs you to participate in its future. Find out how in this glimpse into the possibilities that lie ahead. Use the quiz questionnaire – with quizmaster Dr Daniel Bryson – to see where the decisions we make today may take us tomorrow.

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www.cafescientifique.manchester.ac.uk

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Bramhall/Cheadle Hulme. F/F 2 bed Bungalow, GCH, newly dec throughout. New Combi boiler, microwave, auto washer etc. Very comfortable & cosy. Small pleasant gdn f & r. Parking for 2/3 cars. Extremely sought after loc. Close to bus/train to Stockport/M/cr. Prof staff only. 0161-485 3112.

Victoria Park. Spac f/f luxury 2 bed apart. Walking distance to Univ. Open plan liv rm, laminate flrs throughout. French windows onto grounds, parking, w/dryer, d/washer ch. £650pcm. 0161-256 1173.

Didsbury Village. Comfortable 2 bed Victorian Cottage in quiet cul-de-sac for rent for 6 mnths initially, poss longer. Suit visiting academic couple. F/F& mod with gch, dble glazed & a mod alarm. Close to shops & transport. No pets & non-smokers only. £695pm + bills & dep. (27)54003 or 07717 171 779.

Wilmslow. Attractive superior 2 dble bed mews property with mod kit & bathrm. Garage, award winning communal front gdn & private rear patio. £680pm. 0161-980 7766.

Castlefield, City Centre. Brand new luxury f/f 1 bed loft style apart, exposed bricks walls & video entry. Mod dark wood flrs to all living rms with cream carpet in bedrm. Canal side loc, seconds from bars & restaurants of Deansgate locks. £550pm ono. 07970 075 874 or email: colin.mccaffery@vodafone.net

Chorlton. 2 rms to rent in lrg 5 bedrm hse while owners on sabbatical. Avail between Feb & Aug. £250pcm per rm inc most bills. 0161-861 9122 or email: g.waylen@sheffield.ac.uk

Hulme. Mod spac 2 bedrm 3rd flr flat. Walking distance from Uni. Suit staff or pg. £550pcm exc bills. Will neg for sharing. Flexible let, non-smoker prfd. Email: philip.bardzil@mbs.ac.uk

Spac 2 bed f/f s/c 1st flr flat in quiet safe residential area close to public transport. Suit staff or pg. £525pcm inc water rates. 0161-431 4897 or email: voirrey@ntlworld.com

Withington. 1 dble rm to let start 1 Febr 05 in a lrg bright & airy 2 bed flat. Sharing with friendly & tidy non-smoking acad male. Spac lrg, sep bathrm & kit. 1 min walk to Withington high street, amenities & bus stop. £260pcm + bills. 07811 138 328.

Chorlton. Housemate wanted for Jan early Feb. Lovely hse & gdn, close to all amenities, gsh. £325pcm. 07974 733 914.

Chorlton/Old Trafford. Single, f/f rm in hse with 3 other females & cat. Avail imm. 3 miles to Univ, freq buses. All mod cons & a small gdn. Quiet & clean. Lrg kit & liv rm to share. Newly renovated bathrm & hall. £260pm, no dep. 1st & last mnths rent payable in advance. Would suit pg or visiting lecturer. 6 mnth min stay. 0161-848 0068 or 07739 869 606 or email: secacc@ts.umist.ac.uk

Glossop, Padfield. 2 bed stone cottage. New kit & bathrm, dec throughout. Stone fireplace, gd carpets, exc cond. Small gdn to rear, close to train station, Longendale trail countryside. Dept & refs reqd. £495pcm. 0161-480 8583.

Whalley Range. 1 bed secure ground flr flat. F/F to a high standard. New fit kit, all mod cons. Small gdn avail for use. Close to Univ. Car parking. Would suit single prof or couple. £450pcm + bills. 07841 716 007.

Glossop Victoria St. 2 bed 1st flr flat. First let, new kit, new bathrm, neutral dec throughout, cream carpets. Galleried lrg, exc acc must be viewed. 2 mins centre & train station direct to M/Cr. £525pcm. 0161-480 8583.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

Puerto del Carmen, Lanzarote. Large stylish apart. Sleeps up to 5. Both dble bedrms en-suite. Balcony overlooks beach & sea. From £245pw. Special prices for families. www.casapalmeras.co.uk

Languedoc-Roussillon. French village hse to let in spectacular loc. Walks, mountains, rivers, wine in abundance. 30 mins from coast, sleeps 4-6. 07985 168 099 or email from www.geocities.com/roquebrun_let

Tuscany holiday cottage to let. Superb setting near mountains. Lrg gdn, air conditioning. Florence, Siena, Arezzo easily accessible. Ideal for walking, sight-seeing, museums, restaurants, wine tasting, swimming & much more. 0208 699 8883. Details and photos on website: <http://freespace.virgin.net/gp.ck/> Email: gp.ck@virgin.net

Andalucia-Gaucin. Beautiful white village, uniquely designed villa, built as 3 apart & 2 cottages with central courtyard & pool. Sleeps 2-13. Breathtaking views to Gib & N Africa. 07801 341 856 or www.thespanishvilla.com

Georgian Country house on Shropshire/Welsh border. About 1 hr from Manchester. Private gdns, lovely trees. Sleeps 16 in 8 bedrms, 6 bths. Luxury. Ideal for family gatherings. Email: george.dowswell@man.ac.uk

Great comfortable farmhouse holiday in S Brittany. Spac, attractive, comfortable, peaceful. Sleeps up to 8. Visit www.tajaouen.com or pjone+33298594883 or +33 2 98 59 45 88.

Visiting Bulgaria short or long term? For local friendly advice on apartments to rent or buy in Sofia ring 0161-449 7161 or email: info@sofiacentral.com or www.sofiacentral.com

Spain Costa Blanca. Apart sleeps 4 people. Alicante Airport Nr Quesada. Golf course & country club, restaurants, shops & bars all on site. Guardamar beach 10 mins. Aqua Park nearby. £150 - £200pw. 0161-864 1535.

Loire Valley (Somloire-49). Spac rural holiday home sleeps 5. Places of interest close by. Open all year. English owners with 14yrs experience of French living. £380pw. 00 33 02 41 55 35 86 for brochure/further information.

Roseland, Cornwall. Secluded, super comfort chalet with own woodland, between tidal creek (50yds) & sea-beach (300yds), en-suite, verandah, fab views. Sleeps 4-6. Short breaks welcome. £195 - £580pw. 0113 274 6474 or email: redragg@waitrose.com or website: www.hoadworks.com/towan.htm

Italy-Venice. Charming apart, f/f, 3 bed, 2 bathrms. Can sleep 5. £650pw. Email: tagariello@libero.it

Holiday cottage in West of Ireland. Unusual, highly scenic costal position in Country Donegal. Sleeps 6 in 3 rms. Email: b.carroll@manchester.ac.uk

CARS FOR SALE

Ford Fiesta 1.25LX 16V. 1996 P Reg. 64k miles. FSH with Kenwood CD Player & Sony speakers. Genuine reason for sale. £1,100 ono. 07763 217 329 or email: llyr.cameron@manchester.ac.uk

Honda Civic 1.6 VTI. 3 dr, V Reg, low mileage. Aqua Green, sunroof & air cond. £3,000. 0161-273 6048 or 0161-969 4986.

MISC SALES

Conservatory suite, from housing units. 2 seater settee with 2 chairs & matching glass coffee table. Only 3 yrs old, lovely design & cond. £270. 0161-442 9763 (evgs).

Home Clearance Sale inc 22in widescreen tv + freeview, digital box + Nicam stereo, vcr £150 all 3. 2 Ikea tables & 4 chairs £75. 2 mountain bikes £150 ono each. Plus much more, Email: llyr.cameron@manchester.ac.uk for a full list.

Futon 2ft 6ins. Frame Blue, medium thickness mattress. Hardly used, cost £125. Sell for £75ono. (27)58649 or 01457 832 072 or email: diana.knight@manchester.ac.uk

Schimmel Upright model 112k piano. Finished in antique cherry satin & John Austin single stool. Beautiful cond for both works & finish. Buyer to collect. Altrincham. £2,500ono. 07973 542 969.

Lean-to garage. 24ft long by standard width. Concrete panels easy to dismantle. Exc cond. Only a few years old. Doors to f & r. £500ono. (27)54094.

WANTED

Car sharing. Travelling everyday between Liverpool & Manchester Uni. Needs someone to share the driving & the petrol. (27)50728, 07917 068 408 or email: erika.setzu@manchester.ac.uk

Native speaking Italian to assist lecturer of Italian in understanding basic grammar, improving punctuation & increasing vocabulary. 1 hr pw. £12ph. 0161-848 0068 or 07739 869 606 or email: secacc@umist.ac.uk

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Just The Job

Paul White

Senior Information Technology Officer

When Senior Information Technology Officer Paul White isn't busy beaming the University's VIP events to computer screens over the Internet, you'll find him practising his high-kicks or mastering the art of Kung Fu.



Paul is responsible for media-streaming within the University the technology which allows live video footage to be broadcast on the Internet from filming to editing the footage, managing the hosting - and all the running about in between.

When the Queen came to open the new University in October last year it was Paul who was responsible for ensuring that the entire event went out live over the Internet. Unfortunately in his job, which relies heavily on technology, there are always some eventualities you can't prepare for.

"We were hoping to allow 2,500 people to be able to watch the Queen's visit over the Internet, but what we didn't expect were the eight to ten thousand that we got," Paul says.

Paul was given five days to prepare everything for the event - which included the technical set up and supporting the Media Centre's distribution of a small

army of plasma screens across campus to broadcast the event live to staff - but what he wasn't counting on were the thousands of people who logged on.

"I had the unfortunate duty of shutting off the University from viewing the event, as we couldn't deal with that sort of load. I made sure all of the other designated areas in the University (the plasma screens) were still able to see the event, but I thought it was better that the public saw something working rather than keeping it all internal," he says.

Paul joined the University as part of the Advanced Telematics Centre four and a half years ago. Before that he worked as a network consultant in South Wales, but made the move to Manchester to be with his girlfriend. What he enjoys most about the job is the number of high-profile projects he gets to work on.

"I really enjoy the large scale projects. Dealing with numerous departments at once is the best thing for me; you get to

meet a lot of people and it is very rewarding working on such high profile projects - especially when they go well."

Paul streams all of the University's graduation ceremonies and any other special events which the University is hosting. One of the most successful events he has worked on was a live video link-up between Jodrell Bank and a host of other observatories across the world for BBC 2's All Night Star Party.

Outside work Paul's interests couldn't be further removed from what he does all day. Paul became Britain's second youngest black belt at the age of 10 and aspires to eventually open his own martial arts gym.

"I have been doing marshal arts for the last 23 years. I do Kyokushin-Kai Karate, Shin-Ga Do Kung Fu and Tae Kwon-Do - that's my main passion outside of work," he says.

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