Manchester Tops University Popularity League
The University of Manchester is the UK’s most popular university, according to new figures from the Universities Central Admissions Service, having received almost 57,000 home and overseas applications for undergraduate courses since October 2004.

The University has launched a new office on Southampton Street in London, which can be used by members of staff visiting the capital on University-related business.

The secrets of a 2,500 year old mummy are being unlocked at the Centre for Biomedical Egyptology.

Next week sees the launch of a new bus service between Piccadilly train station and the University campus – which should ease the journey to work for many members of staff.

A group of schoolchildren from Saddleworth paid a visit to the School of Chemistry to find out more about University life.
Delyth Chambers, Director of Student Recruitment and Admissions, said:

“The University has an excellent reputation for teaching and research and offers a wider range of subjects than any other single-site British university. Students are aware of its great reputation and want to come here to take part in the Manchester experience.”

One of the most dramatic increases in applications was in Electrical Engineering, which saw a 21% increase in interest despite a fall nationally of 8%.

The figures also show applications to nursing and social work have increased dramatically at the University, mirroring a national trend.
Lord Sainsbury Visit

The Incubator Building and Core Technology Facility (CTF) construction site on Grafton Street received some notable visitors last month.

Brian Gray, Chairman of the North West Development Agency, visited the Incubator for a guided tour and meeting with representatives from tenants Renovo, Epistem and DXS Ltd. He was able to see how the CTF will provide grow-on space for current tenants of the Incubator, as well as freeing up accommodation for new tenants.

Mr Gray also met Professors Larry Gifford and Ken Douglas from the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and discussed their plans for a Medicines Institute and Medicinal Chemistry Steering group for the region. Vice Chancellor and President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert joined them in the latter part of discussions.

The group was then joined by Lord Sainsbury, who originally opened the Incubator Building, Sir Tom McKillop (Chief Executive of Astra Zeneca) and Professor Richard Lambert of Cambridge University, during a break from the Conference 'Competing in a Global Economy' at the Manchester Conference Centre.

The group was updated on progress being made towards a CTF completion date of October 2005, with fit-out of the new facility scheduled to be completed by January 2006.

University to Host Networkshop 33

Networkshop is an annual event organised by UKERNA, the UK Education and Research Networking Association which manages and develops high-speed education and research network JANET. It is aimed at network managers and technical staff from the JANET community, and provides the primary forum for discussion of the latest developments in Higher Education (HE) data networks.

The conference brings together expertise from all the fields of networking, and is held at a different HE institution each year. On the 22 - 24 March, the 33rd Networkshop will be hosted here at the University, underlining Manchester’s role at the heart of UK networking developments and the rise of the University as a venue of choice for major national conferences.

The conference will be attended by more than 300 delegates, allowing IT staff facing similar challenges to compare approaches and solutions. It will also provide opportunities to discuss collaborative endeavours, meet suppliers and – when the technical sessions are over – relax among peers. The focus of this year’s social activities will be a conference dinner on the famous Orient Express, as it travels through the Welsh countryside.

As part of the conference programme, staff from Manchester Computing will be speaking on location-independent networking (LIN), Manchester having been a proof-of-concept site in trials of the forthcoming LIN service. Other topics discussed will include SuperJANET 5 (the next incarnation of the national backbone network), wireless networking, and network security.

For more information about the conference please visit the addresses below.

http://www.ja.net/conferences/networkshop/ http://www.mc.manchester.ac.uk/
Everyone is welcome to enter, whether you’re a scientist, artist, student or photographer. All you have to do is produce a photographic image that stops people in their tracks, and makes them think about science or nature in a different way.

The competition features five different categories – action, close-up, people, concepts and science as art - and in each a £1,000 first prize is up for grabs. Entries will be assessed by a panel of judges including Bob Bodman, the Picture Editor of The Daily Telegraph and TV science presenter Dr Adam Hart-Davis.

For further details and to get hold of an entry form please contact the award organisers on 020 7613 5577, or e-mail at visions-of-science@ksaevents.com. The closing date for entries is 6 May 2005.

The Materials Performance Centre (MPC) hosted the second meeting of its ‘PERFECT’ project at the Manchester Conference Centre in January.

PERFECT is a four-year European Commission Framework Six project, investigating the prediction of irradiation damage effects in nuclear reactor components using new materials data and mechanistic models.

The project aims to disseminate these new tools across the industry in Europe to complement previous and current international projects, and use them to perform the first ‘European collective’ component analysis exercise. It also aims to educate young researchers about the degradation mechanisms of materials.

The meeting was attended by over 100 leading materials, engineering and corrosion specialists from 12 European countries. It was followed by a BNFL NSTS-sponsored dinner, which was attended by NSTS Business Manager Tom Rice, materials specialists from MPC and NSTS and over 70 PERFECT partners.

The MPC will in turn provide a contribution-in-kind to PERFECT, in the form of new experimental approaches to and multi-scale models of constraint, residual stress and irradiation effects on the cleavage fracture behaviour of ferritic materials.

For more information on the project please contact Andrew Sherry, Director of the MPC, at andrew.sherry@manchester.ac.uk.
Responding to War Through Theatre

The University’s Centre for Applied Theatre Research is to host ‘In Place of War’ - a major international seminar for global theatre practitioners. The seminar will facilitate in depth and provocative discussions about theatre practice in places of war, and takes place on 8 and 9 April in the Martin Harris Building.

The event will bring together more than 30 theatre practitioners from as far afield as Palestine, Columbia, Iraq, Kosovo, Rwanda, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the US and the UK. They will meet for two days to share examples of practice, and discuss how artists and communities affected by conflict can respond through theatre.

The seminar will incorporate practical workshops, small group discussions and short presentations from practitioners. There will also be a larger public event on Friday 8 April, with formal presentations from international guests and a performance by refugee artists based in Manchester.

James Thompson, Professor of Applied and Social Theatre, commented: “We’re in the process of making contact with practitioners across the world to try to map performance projects that have taken place in war or post-war settings since 1990, including artist, community and social agency-led initiatives.

“The seminar, the first of its kind, will allow people who generally work in isolation to come together to discuss practical ideas for performance, as well as giving them an opportunity to perform. It’s hoped that the seminar will help to generate detailed evidence of how performance is responding to war.”

University Pioneers Targeted Tumour Treatment

The University’s technology exploitation company UMIP (The University of Manchester Intellectual Property Ltd.) has awarded proof of concept funding to Professor Nicola Tirelli of the School of Pharmacy. The funds will enable a project to develop his innovative ‘drug carrier’ concept, which aims to provide a new form of targeted tumour therapy to cancer sufferers.

Professor Tirelli has used his expertise in the development of novel biomaterials to prepare nanoparticles (objects smaller than 1 micron and composed of organic polymers), which accumulate in solid tumours and generate powerful chemotherapeutic agents. His approach is thought to greatly enhance the selectivity of chemotherapeutic treatments and dramatically reduce their side effects on healthy tissue - one of the greatest problems associated with current chemotherapeutic techniques.

An agreement to commercialise Professor Tirelli’s work is already in place with Medipol, a Swiss start-up company which develops applications of biopolymers for the Life Sciences industry, and this will shortly be renewed.

Dr. Carsten Laue, CEO of Medipol said: “It was very exciting to hear about the proof of concept funding as this is exactly what is required to move good patented ideas along the development process. We are pleased to have also been able to contribute to the overall costs of the programme, alongside the University’s funding.”
Higher Education
Minister Visits Campus

The Minister of State for Lifelong Learning, Further and Higher Education, Dr Kim Howells MP, visited the University on 10 February to meet Professor Alan Gilbert. During an intensive session, the University’s scholarship proposals, widening participation initiatives, research and learning agenda were discussed, including the University’s plans to invest heavily in its teaching and research infrastructure.

 Whilst at the University he also visited the Manchester Museum to see some of the work being undertaken on the Government’s Aimhigher project in Greater Manchester. Co-ordinator Wendy Gallagher of the Whitworth Art Gallery has implemented outreach projects in collaboration with Gallery Oldham, The Turnpike Gallery, Leigh and the Hat Works in Stockport, allowing students to work alongside practising artists and raise their awareness of career opportunities in the creative industries.

 Staff invited the minister to take part in a printmaking workshop funded by the project, ‘Sketchbooks into Print’, with printmaker Alan Birch and art and design students from South Trafford College. As a former Minister of the Arts and painter Dr Howells enthusiastically joined the students, in creating experimental print pieces from drawings done in the Gallery, commending the activity as an ideal way for the University to encourage educational and cultural engagement by 16-19 year-olds.

 At the end of his visit, Dr Howells’ praised the University’s 2015 strategy, its bold vision for the future and its valuable work encouraging students from local colleges to visit and use the University’s facilities.

Lunch Hour Diet

Health and Safety Services, Human Resources and the Directorate of Sport have come together to launch Switch, a new programme of ‘at work’ meetings from Weight Watchers.

The meetings will be held in The Well-Being Room at St. Peter’s House on Oxford Road, and will begin on Friday 1 April. Weighings will take place from 12.00 — 12.30, followed by the meeting itself until 12.50.

The programme will last for six weeks (one session per week lasting one hour) and will cost just £15, as over half the cost has been covered by a subsidy from Human Resources. Attendees must be full-time members of staff of the University, at least 10lbs overweight and able to commit to attending the full six-week programme. Membership is limited to 36 places.

For more details and to book your place please call Gail Heathcote-Milner on 55985 or e-mail gail.heathcote-milner@manchester.ac.uk

www.weightwatchers.co.uk
The event, which took place in the Simon Building, was held for the Tsinghua University Alumni Association formed in December 2003. Over 40 graduates of the prestigious Beijing University are currently based at The University of Manchester, as postgraduate students, researchers and members of staff.

Strong ties exist between Manchester and Tsinghua, not least in the field of Engineering. Professor Derek Jackson holds an appointment as Guest Professor in Thermal Engineering at Tsinghua University, and a collaborative agreement has been in place for several years to carry out research on heat transfer. The project is funded by a Royal Society grant, with back up funding provided by the Chinese National Science Foundation.

In a demonstration of the close relationship between the two Universities, the agreement has recently been extended to cover nuclear energy technology. Tsinghua University is a world leader in the field and enjoys a works closely with the Nuclear Graphite Research Group at this University, headed by Professor Barry Marsden.

The University has just launched a new piece of software which will help local councils measure future demand for housing and other services.

The software, which is called POPGROUP, has been developed by the Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research. “Forecasting the future is not an exact science,” said Ludi Simpson, Reader in Social Statistics who designed the software, “but it helps to have the technical evidence clearly organised, which is what POPGROUP does.

“The software gets its name from its ability to forecast population, housing and the labour force for any social group, including ethnic groups and small geographical areas. These are both priorities for local and central government,” added Ludi.

The use of census and other data to estimate fertility, mortality and migration rates for each group is a major area of demographic research, in which the University plays a leading role.

POPGROUP is sponsored by Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Derbyshire, Buckinghamshire, Shropshire and Bradford Councils, and more than 40 organisations across the country use the software.
The University has just launched a new office in London which can be used by members of staff visiting the capital on business.

The office is on Southampton St, which links Covent Garden market to The Strand, and can be used by any employee who is looking for a base in London while carrying out University related work. The office is about 400 metres from the Covent Garden tube station on the Piccadilly Line.

Facilities available to staff include hot-desking where staff members may check their emails, make phone calls and print-off documents. There are also three meeting rooms, one for executive meetings of 8 or less, a second room of similar size for meeting of 8 or less but also suited to the training of staff members. Finally there is the conference suite, with a large conference room suitable for round table meeting of up to 20 people, presentations of up to 50 people and receptions of over 60 people. This comes with an adjoining break-out room.

The purpose of a London Office is to facilitate meetings of University staff in London, to allow staff to have a place with office support while in London and to proactively promote The University of Manchester in London.

For more details contact 0207 395 1910 or London-office@manchester.ac.uk

www.london-office@manchester.ac.uk

Leonardo da Vinci Funds European Staff Mobility

The North West Universities Association (NWUA), the association of the 15 North West Higher Education Institutions, is to bid for another round of funding from the Leonardo da Vinci Staff Mobility Programme on behalf of the University. The programme is the European Commission’s vocational training initiative, which aims to encourage and facilitate staff mobility between European Union member states. It provides funding for academic staff to visit European HE institutions and companies to exchange competencies and knowledge, innovative methods and best practice in vocational training.

Funding is available for visits of seven days to six weeks, and can typically include up to £300 for the cost of a return flight, a daily allowance of £90 and insurance costs of £10 per week. Please note that only staff who have not previously participated in the programme are eligible to apply.

Stephanie Jones, Leonardo da Vinci Programme Manager at the NWUA, would be pleased to hear from anybody interested in being included in the programme. Call 234 0435 or email sjones@nwua.ac.uk for further details, or visit the web address below.

www.nwua.ac.uk/leonardo
The University’s Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) has launched its first Internet-based course. The undergraduate certificate in Egyptology, the only course of its kind in the world, will now be open to students from across the globe.

The certificate began life more than 30 years ago as a taught course, before becoming a correspondence course ten years later. The idea to offer an online version was reached after careful consideration and planning, and feedback from previous participants.

The programme offers a serious, academic consideration of Egyptology, with students learning about the history and civilisation of Ancient Egypt from 3100 BC to the Arab Conquest. Subjects of study include art, religion, funerary beliefs, literature, and the interpretation of hieroglyphs, with the programme being spread over four years.

Students on the course, who enrolled for the first time in October 2004, are given access to a host of learning materials on the Egyptology website. As well as accessing course literature they have the opportunity to build their own homepages, open and join discussion groups, participate in online tutorials and share information and experiences. Currently the course is teaching students from Australia, Egypt, the US, Mexico, Finland, Greece, Ireland, and even a naval officer who is currently at sea.

Professor Rosalie David, the course leader, commented: “It has been a challenging and interesting exercise to develop this innovative course, but since Egyptology is a strongly visual subject which has a wide international appeal it lends itself well to Internet-based teaching and learning.”

Female students of Science, Engineering and Technology at the University look set to benefit from a new initiative to support their studies.

WISE (Women in Science, Engineering and Technology) is due to be launched in April, and will help women studying these subjects through a programme of peer mentoring, guest lectures and skills training. Students taking part will also be involved in a pilot scheme of research projects which they will complete during the summer.

WISE has been made possible thanks to a grant of £25,000 which was awarded to the University by the UK Resource Centre for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET).

Commenting on the scheme Alice Blackmore, Head of Undergraduate Studies in the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, said: “The scheme will provide much needed, focused support for women students in this Faculty, who may sometimes feel isolated. We aim to encourage them in their studies and hopefully inspire them to follow a career in science or engineering.”

The proposal was put together through a collaboration between the Curriculum Development and Innovation team, the School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science (CEAS) and the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences.

For further information contact: alice.blackmore@manchester.ac.uk, helen.dobson@manchester.ac.uk, dixie.fortune@manchester.ac.uk or patricia.m.clift@manchester.ac.uk
Scientists Unravel Mysteries of Egyptian Mummy

Now, staff at Uplands have decided they want to learn more about their oldest pupil, and contacted Professor Rosalie David for help.

Last month, a group of sixth-formers from the school visited the University to see initial experiments being carried out on the mummy first hand, including an endoscopy, DNA testing and X-ray analysis. They were joined by children from Mossley Hollins High School in North East Manchester, which has its own forensic science club.

“The dismemberment of the mummy in the 1960s took just three hours, but our work will take several months,” said Professor David. “We will carry out various tests to add as much information about the mummy’s background as possible.”

Dr Caroline Wilkinson, of the School of Art in Medicine, will also create a facial reconstruction of the mummy’s head using the latest computer software technology.

“The information we gather will be handed to the school to establish a science project for future generations,” said Professor David. “We hope this will inspire youngsters to consider science as a possible career.”

A Real Song and Dance

The party, which includes Penn State’s President Dr Graham Spanier, will enjoy a musical tour of Manchester before meeting staff and students from the University. The Penn State visitors will then give two master classes – one in dance and the other in drama.

The finale of the visit will see the students giving a performance entitled “100 Years of Musical Theatre” in front of an audience of 350 in the Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall in the Martin Harris Building. To round off the day, a drinks reception and dinner will take place under the newly-installed Tyrannosaurus Rex in Manchester Museum.
**Research**

**Sea Salt Slows Global Warming**

Atmospheric experts Professor Tom Choularton and Dr Keith Bower from the School of Earth, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences are examining a novel idea for delaying the effects of climate change, using a combination of clouds and sea salt.

Working with a team of leading scientists around the world, they have developed a computer simulation which shows how adding sea salt to clouds could slow global warming. The idea, conceived by Professor John Latham, an Emeritus Professor at the University, is to use clouds as natural heat shields which when injected with salt reflect more sunlight and therefore protect against the greenhouse effect.

Professor Choularton’s principal role is to understand the effect artificially injecting salt will have on the clouds, in particular whether it will cause any adverse effects. This information will then be used to plan small-scale pilot projects to see how the clouds react in the field.

If the research is successful it may be possible to develop an operational system which, over a small area of the globe, would off-set global warming and reduce global temperatures.

**Mums’ Bone Health Study Seeks Volunteers**

Dr Mourad Seif, a consultant obstetrician at St Mary’s Hospital, and Dr Kate Ward of the School of Medicine’s Clinical Radiology Unit are undertaking a pilot study into the healthy bone development of teenage mothers. The Unit is a multidisciplinary centre which works closely with St. Mary’s and Manchester Royal Infirmary, and research into bone development and innovative new treatments is a major part of its activity.

The study has been funded by the National Osteoporosis Society, and is believed to be the first to be carried out into the long-term effects of early pregnancy on bone health. The findings will help inform opinion on whether calcium and other mineral supplements could be particularly beneficial to younger expectant mothers.

The female skeleton contains a greater amount of calcium than the male, believed to be necessary for the demands of pregnancy and breast-feeding. As this continues to develop until the age of about 25, the study seeks to investigate how younger mothers’ calcium levels are affected during and after pregnancy.

Around 70 expectant or new mothers aged 13 - 19 are needed for the study, with a similar number of 25 – 35 year old mothers being sought for comparative purposes. A third group, of non-pregnant 13 – 19 year olds to act as a control group, is also being recruited.

Volunteers will be asked to respond to a short questionnaire upon joining the study, and will be scanned up to three times to measure bone density and shape. To find out more about participating please contact Dr Ward on 275 5118 or kathryn.a.ward@manchester.ac.uk
Brainpower May Help Beat Dementia

Researchers in the Centre for Integrated Genomic Medical Research (CIGMR) will be asking members of the high-IQ society Mensa for DNA samples, in what will be the world’s most sophisticated study of brainpower.

The research aims to understand the link between intelligence and dementia, and will allow the team to find genes associated with intelligence and examine how they interact with each other.

“Looking at the genes in combination reduces the statistical power of the research considerably,” explained Dr Tony Payton, who is leading the research.

“Selecting individuals who represent the extreme end of the IQ distribution increases this power dramatically. For example, 200 volunteers with an IQ of 145 is equivalent to using 100,000 unselected volunteers.”

The results of the research will complement data collected from an earlier University of Manchester study of 2,500 elderly people over the last 20 years. That research has already identified two genes associated with general cognitive ability, while work elsewhere over the past eight years has uncovered ten other ‘intelligence genes’.

“Combining the earlier study with the Mensa research will take cognitive genetic research to an altogether new level,” Dr Payton commented.

The team is particularly interested in intelligence genes because high intelligence protects against the onset of dementias such as Alzheimer’s disease. A greater understanding of the role that genes play in regulating intelligence may help in the development of new diagnostic tests and more effective treatments to combat cognitive impairment in the elderly.

The study is awaiting final approval from the local research ethics committee, which meets on March 8. If approved, 2,000 swab kits will be sent out to North West Mensa members in a forthcoming issue of their monthly magazine, in the hope that at least 1,000 will respond.

A Little Help from their Friends

Anna Roby, an MSc student from the School of Psychological Sciences, is investigating the theory that children with imaginary friends are quicker to develop language skills and retain knowledge.

The theory is that by chatting to an imaginary companion a child becomes more practised at using language and constructing conversation, as he or she is carrying out both sides of the interaction. Children aged 4 – 11 both with and without imaginary friends are therefore being studied, to compare their ability to communicate meaning and the complexity of their grammar.

Researchers estimate that up to 25% of children have imaginary companions, particularly only- or first-born children. They are defined as vivid, imagined characters which might be people, animals or objects, which a child believes they are interacting with in an on-going way. The friend may be ‘invisible’ or take the form of a toy animal or doll, and is treated as if it has a personality and consciousness of its own.

Anna also works as a Research Assistant at the Max Planck Child Study Centre, and is being supervised by colleagues Dr Evan Kidd and Dr Ludovica Serratrice. Dr Kidd said: “We are very interested in the outcome of this study. If Anna’s theories are correct they will help reverse common misconceptions about children with imaginary friends, as they come to be seen as having an advantage rather than anything to worry about.”

Parents of children aged 4 – 11 with imaginary companions who are interested in being involved in the study should contact Anna Roby, on 0161 275 8588 or anna.roby@manchester.ac.uk

http://www.postgenomeconsortium.com/cigmr/
Next week sees the launch of a new bus service between Piccadilly train station and the University campus – which should make travelling to work a bit easier for some members of staff.

The launch is just the latest stage in the University’s Staff Travel Plan (STP) which was featured in the 24 January issue of UniLife. The STP aims to encourage more members of staff to use public transport – while helping them to save time and money in the process.

As of 14 March the new bus service will run at regular intervals stopping at 14 locations, starting at the new entrance to Piccadilly Station on Fairfield Street and ending at Grafton Street. You’ll be able to recognise the buses which will feature an Oxford Road Link logo and will bear the number 147.

The service will run from 7:15am until 6:45pm Monday to Friday at a 10 minute frequency during peak times. At peak times (7:15am-9:30am and 4pm-6:45pm), three buses will run so you shouldn’t have long to wait for a ride. At off-peak times the buses will run at 15 minute intervals.

The bus will drop off at the existing stops indicated on the route plan opposite, with the exception of Sackville Street where it will operate as a ‘hail and ride’ service. The service is being run by Bullocks Coaches and the buses are all single deck which are fully accessible by people with disabilities and are environmentally friendly.

Using the bus won’t break the bank. A flat rate 50p single fare and a £1 day saver ticket will be available from the driver. If you think you’re going to use it on a regular basis it might be best to purchase an annual season ticket which costs £150 and can be bought from Bullocks Coaches – call 0161 428 5265 between 9am and 5pm for more information.

Concessionary and student fares will also be offered and all System One ticket types (the train tickets you buy which include free bus or tram services within Zone 1) will be accepted. Staff wishing to apply for an interest free loan to purchase a season ticket should contact Human Resources. This also applies to the Metro tickets where a new 10% discount has been agreed.

Mike Stacey from the Directorate of Estates said: “It has long been recognised that a public transport link is needed to make travelling between Piccadilly train station and the campus a lot easier. We hope that this will encourage more people to travel to work by train as at the moment, the walk from Piccadilly to the far reaches of the campus can be a bit daunting.

“The University is conscious that there are going to be many changes on the campus over the coming months that may affect people’s travelling arrangements and we are committed to making sure that we help people as much as we can during this period,” he added.

The bus route has been set up thanks to the efforts of a working group made up of representatives of the Higher Education Precinct (comprising of the University, MMU, RNCM, and the Central Manchester and Manchester Children’s University Hospitals NHS Trust); the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive and Manchester City Council.

For further information on the bus link please contact the Greater Manchester public transport information line on 0161 228 7811.
The conference aimed to satisfy accountability requirements by reviewing performance over the year to date, review and update the University’s strategic plan, and set priorities for the coming year to make the Manchester 2015 strategic agenda an operational reality.

The event was chaired by Norman Askew, Chair of the Board of Governors, who introduced the Conference by describing it as “the most important meeting of the year.” He went on to thank members of staff and the Senior Executive Team for what has been achieved so far.

He also urged the University to continue the good work carried out since its inception in October 2004, but stressed, “Incremental improvement will not suffice. And we cannot simply ask people to work harder. I have been surprised and pleased at the hours and the dedication that people have been putting in, but we have to find different and better ways of working.”

President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert addressed the Conference, a year to the day after arriving in Manchester to prepare for the establishment of the new University. He admitted that settling the new University down in an administrative sense had not been easy.

“We have had to put a lot of energy into operational management,” he said. “But at a deeper level the really pleasing thing has been the rapidity with which the loyalties, relationships and structures of the two legacy institutions have been subsumed into the new University.”

He added: “We have to reject status quo thinking and legacy models, except where they were already world class. Only comprehensive step change will make Manchester one of the best universities in the world.”

He reminded the Conference that the new University had a clear sense of what ‘step-change’ should mean. “The idea is not to emulate Oxbridge or to replicate the concentrated research virtuosity of Imperial College. Nor is it to mimic the social cachet of America’s Ivy League. It is to create a genuinely new University.”

Professor Gilbert reaffirmed his determination to make the University an innovative, exciting institution, which, in addition to being research-led, would be engaged with the economic, social and cultural life of its wider communities. He acknowledged that the Agenda that had been set out for achieving this was an ambitious one, but the gap analysis...
confirmed that while the task ahead was a hard one, it was realistic.

One of the key themes of the two-day Conference was the Manchester 2015 goal of achieving high international standing. Professor Gilbert highlighted the need to ensure that more of our 5-rated staff and research clusters were enabled to reach genuinely 5*-rated status. He also highlighted again the importance of attracting internationally-renowned staff to the University, saying: “Failure to make such appointments will, quite simply, mean the failure of the Manchester 2015 Agenda. We may have done well even if we fail in this strategy, but we will not have reached the first rank of research universities internationally.”

Another recurring theme concerned communication which, as revealed in the recent Staff Survey, remains a major concern across many areas of the University. Professor Gilbert stressed the importance of good communication between the Board of Governors and the senior management of the University and said there was “real solidity between management and governance on the ambition of our Agenda.” More broadly, he added: “The need to communicate effectively with colleagues at all levels of the University, and give them all opportunities for genuine input into decision-making, is one of the critical current challenges.”

During the course of the Conference, the Board and the SET were given presentations on a range of University activities including:

• The Staff Satisfaction Survey
• The HR agenda
• Finance
• The Estates Plan
• The University website
• Faculty Plans

There was a major discussion of and a resulting series of proposed revisions to the Manchester 2015 Agenda, with a revised version due for publication in May 2005 following discussion in Schools, Faculties and by the Senate. The first draft of the University’s Operational Plan was also discussed, and this will be finalised at the meeting of the Board of Governors at the end of April. This will be used to inform the plan-based, incentive-driven budgeting which is at the heart of the University’s approach to implementing the Manchester 2015 Agenda.
The University of Manchester, the Christie Hospital and the Paterson Institute have unveiled an ambitious plan to put Manchester at the forefront of international cancer research.

The new Manchester Cancer Research Centre (MCRC) will integrate the cancer research efforts of The University of Manchester, the Christie Hospital, The Paterson Institute for Cancer Research and Cancer Research UK, giving Manchester one of the largest cancer research and treatment centres in Europe.

Significant new investment - estimated at £30m to £50m is expected to be secured to fund world-class researchers, laboratories and patient research facilities, with the aim of doubling cancer research activity in the city over the next five years.

Formal agreements to be made between the parties will establish the basis, structure and governance for this integrated approach to cancer research. As part of these arrangements the Paterson Institute would become a research institute of the University, enabling a full integration of the world-class fundamental and clinical research activities of each.

This would ensure that the latest research findings on the causes of cancer are translated quickly into earlier detection methods and new treatments for patients. It would also enable laboratory scientists, clinical investigators and doctors to work collaboratively together, integrating current cancer research programmes and developing new strategies.

Professor Alan Gilbert, President and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Manchester said: “The University of Manchester welcomes this development as a crucial step towards the emergence of Manchester as one of the world’s largest and most significant centres of cancer research and treatment.”

Nic Jones, Director of the Paterson Institute, said: “There is a great opportunity for Manchester to be a world-leading centre in cancer research. It is essential that the Paterson Institute works closely with the University and the Christie as it develops its research activities in the future, and I welcome the opportunity for the Paterson to be at the heart of the development of the new MCRC.”

Joanna Wallace, Chief Executive of The Christie Hospital said: “This development allows cancer research in Greater Manchester to take a huge step forward. We have ambitions to provide the very best cancer services for local people and also to contribute to research of world-class standard. This partnership will allow this to happen.”

Alex Markham, Chief Executive of Cancer Research UK, said: “As the largest funding partner of the proposed MCRC Cancer Research UK is extremely excited about these developments in Manchester. As long term supporters of the Christie, The Paterson Institute, and the University it is terrific to see the Manchester cancer research community taking its rightful place as an international leader.”
Generous University staff and students have raised £571.11 for the Tsunami Disaster appeal by taking part in a raffle organised by employees in the Refectory.

David Collister from Vending Services was the lucky winner of the first prize - a mountain bike which was donated by Coca Cola. Two further prizes of £50 worth of shopping vouchers were won by Leanne Duffy from the Architecture and Planning Building and Internal Communications Manager Lisa McCarthy.

Ian Bernie from the Directorate of Sports Trading and Residential Services, who helped to organise the raffle said: “Thank you to everyone who took part in the raffle and donated money so generously. We had some big donations people were giving £10 and £20 notes.”

Pictured are David Collister and Graham Bates, Area Account Executive for Coca Cola.

People

On Your Bike!

University employees Laura Hardman and Dr Abigail Woods are busy training for the London Marathon.

Student Services Adviser Laura and Abigail, who works at the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, will be pounding the streets of the capital on Sunday 17 April.

Both are raising money for charity – Laura hopes to raise £1,500 for the Samaritans, while Abigail is looking to reach a target of £2,000 for Breakthrough Breast Cancer.

It’s the first time either have run a marathon, but both are confident they will complete the course. Said Laura: “I’m not aiming for any particular time - I just want to finish it! I work as a volunteer at the Samaritans at their Oxford Road branch and all the money I raise will go towards that branch.”

If you would like to make a donation please e-mail Laura at laura.hardman-2@manchester.ac.uk or Abigail.woods@manchester.ac.uk or visit their fundraising webpage at the addresses below.

www.justgiving.com/laurahardman    www.justgiving.com/abigailwoods
On 1 March a group of Year 8 pupils from the ‘Gifted and Talented’ cohort at Saddleworth School, Oldham visited the School of Chemistry to interview Head of School Professor Paul O’Brien. The interview was part of a project the group is undertaking as part of the ‘Science Across the World’ initiative, run by the Association for Science Education.

One of the project’s requirements is that pupils interview somebody in a key role in a field of science, and the school’s existing relationship with the University prompted the pupils to get in touch.

Thousands of schools around the world are taking part in the scheme, which allows pupils to exchange information, opinions and ideas on a wide variety of science topics and access free resources in several languages.

“The visit has been a great success,” said teacher Margaret Hughes. “Not only have the children learnt a lot about Professor O’Brien and the work of the School of Chemistry, but they’ve had a taste of daily life in a University which we hope will whet their appetite for higher education.”

BCCD’s Andrea Rannard, who co-ordinated the University’s participation in the event said: “The beach clean was devised as a way for all HEIs in the North West to work together on a large volunteering event, as well as raise awareness of the positive impact that students make through volunteering.”

The BCCD manages Manchester Student Volunteers, a group which offers a wealth of volunteering opportunities and information to students and has been participating in a number of events as part of National Student Volunteering Week. Other activities have included the Oxford Road Litter Pick (part of the Manchester City Council’s Challenge Manchester initiative) and a panel session featuring staff from the Co-op, community action groups and BCCD staff who have volunteered in their spare time.

For more information on student volunteering opportunities please email andrea.rannard@manchester.ac.uk or visit the website below.

http://www.scienceacross.org
http://www.careers.manchester.ac.uk/making/volunteering/
Team Working Awards

Entries are now due for the seventh annual Enterprise Student Team Working Awards.

The awards, which are sponsored by PriceWaterhouse Coopers, are an opportunity to recognise and reward the importance of student team work at the University.

Students who have completed a group project (involving three or more students) as part of their undergraduate or postgraduate study during the academic year 2004-05 are eligible to enter. The winners will receive cash prizes of up to £500. There is also an extra curricular category with the same cash prizes for both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Applications need to be submitted before Thursday 12 April and forms can be downloaded from the website below.

For further information contact Marcia Ody, Senior Students as Partners Officer, on 275 3299.

Knickers to Tradition

Forget bowls of nuts or packets of crisps, fashion students from the Textiles and Paper group in the School of Materials have up with an alternative accompaniment to the traditional pint of beer – frilly knickers.

The eight students, known as the Bonita Girls, are all studying Textile Design and Design Management at the University, and have set up underwear company Bonita Knickers as part of their final year project.

In a bid to publicise their range the Girls have come up with the idea of targeting pubs and bars – offering customers the chance to buy custom-designed knickers to accompany their drinks.

On 16 February they set up shop in the ‘IF’ bar in the trendy Deansgate Locks area. Examples of the range were strung across the ceiling on a washing line, and posters brandishing the company’s slogan ‘You’ll want to hang out your washing’ were displayed.

The Girls have also hit Browsers Coffee Shop in the Sackville Street Building and other University sites, using similar tactics to promote their vintage-style underwear.

Bonita Managing Director Megan Sanders, said: “There seems to be something about people once they’ve had a drink. We have tried to sell the knickers in other places and guys especially won’t come near the stall because they are embarrassed, but give them a beer and they are straight over – it’s great for business!”
What's On

The Whitworth Art Gallery

DISPLAYS/COLLECTIONS
Truce New Sculpture & Drawings by Shirley Diamond, to 10 April
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 hazy 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, to 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 Eye-Opener Tour.
Shirley Diamond - Curator's Tour, Sat 12 March, 2pm, FREE

CONCERTS
Kaja Aadne / cello, Programme will include Ligeti and Schubert; Thu 9 Mar, 2pm, FREE

Martindale Quartet, Programme will include Mozart, Sunday, 20 March, 3pm, FREE

SPECIAL EVENTS
Made in Manchester Saturday 9 April, 2.00 pm
A series of three talks by Manchester-trained designers Claire Norcross, Design Manager (Lighting) at Habitat. Tickets for each lecture £3. Contact the Gallery for further details and tickets. Further speakers and dates to be confirmed.

Design Unwrapped Saturday, 23 April, 12 noon
Developed in partnership with the Liverpool and Manchester Design Initiative, this an event for those who want to learn more about contemporary trends in interior and 3D design. There will be a tour of the exhibition with the curator of Beauty and the Beast and author of several books on 20th century post-war design, Lesley Jackson. Another speaker (tbc) will offer valuable insights into commissioning work from contemporary design-makers. All participants will receive a map locating contemporary work, to visit that weekend or at a later date. Tickets £5 from the Gallery: 0161-275 7450.

Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL www.whitworth@manchester.ac.uk
Opening hours Mon to Sat 10am - 5pm, Sun 2pm - 5 pm FREE Admission
Gallery Cafe 0161 275 7497 The cafe sells a selection of drinks and light meals.
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.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth

Gig Guide
Manchester Academy 1, 2 & 3

Mon 7 Mar
The Donnas
Wed 9 Mar
Hatebreed
Thurs 10 Mar
Ray LaMontagne
Fri 11 Mar
The Spin Doctors
Sat 12 Mar
Bright Eyes

Sun 13 Mar
The Raveonettes + Dogs + Boher
Rebellion
Mon 14 Mar
Le Tigre
Tue 15 Mar
LCD Soundystem
Wed 16 Mar
Dirty Sanchez
Fri 18 Mar
ASIA + Barclay James
Harvest + Dare

Sat 19 Mar
Whole Lotta LED
Sun 20 March
Mull Historical Society
Mon 21 March
The Blood Brothers
Tue 22 March
Eighteen Visions
Wed 23 March
The Dwarves

Mon 4 April
The Money Suzuhi
Wed 6 April
Porcupine Tree

Thurs 7 April
36 Crazy Fists
Fri 15 April
Atreyu
Sat 16 April
Durutti Column

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
Manchester Academy
PALAVER FESTIVAL - MANCHESTER BABEL
Twenty plus young people, twenty plus languages, twenty plus experiences. Students of Manchester Academy tell their stories in theatre, music and dance. Wed 9 Mar 2005, FREE

Quarantine and Manchester University Drama Department
PALAVER FESTIVAL - EVERYWHERE
Designed by Simon Banham
Everywhere is a new piece of theatre devised by Quarantine with students from the University of Manchester Drama Department. It investigates the relationship between the individual and the crowd, and plays with the language of theatre as both an intimate, personal encounter and as a shared experience, en masse. The piece uses live music, choreography and text based upon the personal histories of the performers.
NB Everywhere will be performed at the John Thaw Theatre, Manchester University Wed 16 Mar 2005 - Fri 18 Mar 2005, £8.50

Manchester University German Department
PALAVER FESTIVAL - Frühlings Erwachen
(Spring Awakening)
Sex, death, parents, teenage pregnancy, peer pressure and examination success. Wedekind's extraordinary tragedy of adolescence – written in 1891 – tells the stories of a group of young people on the cusp of childhood and adulthood as they struggle with their first sexual feelings and experiences in a hypocritical and repressive adult world. (Performed in the original German).
Thu 17 Mar 2005 - Sat 19 Mar 2005, £6.40

The David Glass Ensemble
PALAVER FESTIVAL - Disembodied
David Glass returns to Contact celebrating 25 years of innovative theatre with his new show, Disembodied. David performs accompanied by Jonathan Cooper in a surreal vaudeville. Savagely poignant, this is the battle between time and the body Watch a master at work as the performance moves from the manically comic to deeply mournful and creates its own devastating and disturbing theatrical world.
Thu 17 Mar 2005 - Sat 19 Mar 2005, £19/£16

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 £14 on the day from the Ticket Office between 11am - 4pm daily.

International Society

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

TRIPS
Sat 12 March
Betws-y-coed and Portmeirion Village
Sun 13 March
Whitby and Robin Hood's Bay
Sat 19 March
Warwick Castle and Warwick
Sat 26 March
Alton Towers Theme Park
Fri 25/Sun 27 March
London

International Society, 327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)
0161 275 4959
www.internationalsociety.org.uk
Open: Monday-Friday 9.30am - 5pm
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 - 5pm 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

Tabley House
The University of Manchester’s Stately Home. Small conference and meeting rooms available year-round. Licensed for weddings and baby-naming ceremonies. The house is now closed to the public until 25 March 2005.

Tabley House
Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0HB
Tel: 01565 750151 www.tableyhouse.co.uk
email inquiries@tableyhouse.co.uk

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

Manchester Museum
Fridays (during term time), 11am - 12pm
Magic Carpet
Storytelling and story making for the under fives.

PREBOOKED FAMILY EVENTS
(0161 275 2648)
Wednesday 23 March 12.30-1.30 pm
The Importance of Creepy-Crawlies: FREE
Not everybody likes them, but insects are essential to our existence. Find out why the Earth cannot sustain human life without them. Suitable for ages 13 and over.
Wednesday 30 March 12.30-1.30 pm
Stupendous Spiders: FREE
Find out why spiders are such intriguing creatures with highly individual life styles. Discover more about their habits and be surprised by their beauty and variety! Suitable for ages 13 and over.
Saturday 23 April 11.30-3.30 pm
A Dip in the Mersey (£1 per person)
Explore the River Mersey with the Mersey Basin Trust. Discover what eats what in the river and create your own incredible creatures.

DROP-IN FAMILY EVENTS
(£1 per child, unless otherwise stated. For group bookings please call 0161 275 2648.
Children must be accompanied by an adult).
Saturday 12 March, 11-3.00 pm
Make Sense of Your Brain: FREE
What is your brain doing inside your head? Why do we have two eyes? Celebrate Brain Awareness Week and National Science Week with scientists from the University of Manchester. Take part in hands-on activities, quizzes and experiments. Talk to young researchers about the brain and behaviour.
Saturday 19 March, 12-4pm
From Lab to Layman: FREE
A chance for you to find out about the exciting work that the University’s scientists do and to tell the academics what you think. There will be awards for the most interesting, fun and educational presentation. Play your part and pick a winner.
Monday 21 March to Friday 2 April, 11am-4pm
Life Through Time: FREE
A series of art and craft sessions giving you the opportunity to develop a new exhibition looking the earth and our place in it, to be shown from 16 April.
Sunday 20 March 2.30 pm
The Grand Tour: FREE
Join Graeme Pye, our ‘Victorian’ gentleman guide, on this special tour of the Museum. Meet at reception
Tuesday 22 March 2pm-4pm
Meet the Curator: FREE
Saturday 2 April 11.30-3.30 pm
The Natural World: FREE
Find out about the range of precious materials that come from animals. What have people used them for? How can you recognise and distinguish them? Please bring along any items of your own to find out what they are made from. With expert advice from a museum Conservator.
All drop-in events cost £1 per child, unless otherwise stated. For group bookings please call 0161 275 2648. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Manchester Museum
Oxford Rd, Manchester
0161 275 2630, www.museum.manchester.ac.uk
Open: Mon-Sat 10 - 5pm, Sun 11-4 pm.
FREE Admission. www.manchester.ac.uk/museum

Music at Manchester
THE LINDSAY EVENING CONCERTS
7.30pm in The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall
Friday 18 March
Mozart: Quartet in C, K.465 ‘Dissonance’
Tippett: Quartet No.5
Schubert: Quartet in G, D.887
Friday 22 April
Haydn: Quartet in D, Op.76 No.5
Bartok: Quartet No.2
Beethoven: Quartet in F, Op.135

CHORAL AND ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS
All concerts begin at 7.30 pm in The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall, unless otherwise stated.
Saturday 12 March
2.30pm in The Whitworth Hall, Oxford Road
The University of Manchester Chorus
The University of Manchester Symphony Orchestra
Stephen Williams Conducts
Britten: Paul Bunyan
A concert performance of Britten’s entertaining opera based on W.H. Auden’s fantasy-myth about the lumberjacks of North America and the struggle between Man and Nature.
This concert is part of The Manchester Choral Festival.
Wednesday 16 March
Ad Solem
Marcus Farnsworth Conducts
Soloists: tbc
Bach: St John Passion
Saturday 19 March
The University of Manchester Wind Orchestra
Philip Robinson, Gareth Parry Conductors
David Thornton: Euphonium
Christopher Marshall: Tuba
Eric Whitacre: Sleep
Percy Grainger: Irish Tune from County and Shepherds Hey
Pete Meenchen: Three Stories - Three Worlds
Concerto for Euphonium and Band
Sainte-Saens: Orient et Occident Op.25
Frank Ticheli: Sun Dance
Philip Sparke: Dance Movements
Saturday 16 April
The University of Manchester String Orchestra
Simon Lloyd: Conductor
Lulu: Le bourgeois gentilhomme: Menuet
Hindemith: Five Pieces, Transfigurings
Tippett: Concerto for Double String Orchestra

THE WALTER CARROLL LUNCHEONTIME CONCERTS AND RECITALS
11.00am Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Thursday 1 March
Neil Heyde: Cello
MANTIS (Manchester Theatre in Sound) presents a programme of mixed electroacoustic works for Cello.

Thursday 17 March
The Lindsays
Smetana: Quartet No.2 in D minor
Ravel: Quartet in F

Thursday 14 April
Geoffrey Duke: Piano
Beethoven: Sonata in G, Op.31 No.1
John Casken: The Houting Bough
Liszt: Transcriptions

DEPARTMENT CONCERTS
7.30pm in The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall
Friday 22 April
Composers’ Concert
New works by student composers from the Department of Music.

School of Music and Drama
Bridgeford Street, 0161 275 9501
www.manchester.ac.uk/music
Seminars

Monday 7 March
Social Anthropology: “The power of powder: multiplicity and motion in the divinatory cosmology of Cuban Ifá”. Martin Holbraad (UCL). 4.15pm Room 4.7 Roscoe Bldg. (Refreshments in Room 5.1 at 4pm).

Tuesday 8 March
Manchester Medical Society SURGERY: AstraZeneca Trainees’ Prize Papers. 6.30pm, Chancellors Conference Centre.
NPCRDC: “The Sharing Healthcare Project in Australia”. Prof Elizabeth Kendall (Griffith University). 2pm, Seminar Room 2, 5th Floor, Williamsson Bldg.
CHSTM Seminar: Title to be announced. Ian Fairlie (CERRIE). 4pm, Room 2.57, Simon Building. All welcome.
Planning and Landscape: “Planning and climate change”. Elizabeth Wilson (Oxford Brookes University). 4pm, Hanson Room, Humanities Bridgeford Street.

Wednesday 9 March
School of Mathematics: “How to pick up an object”. Elmer Rees (Edinburgh). 2pm, Room C019, Maths and Social Building, Sackville Street.
Life Sciences AstraZeneca Seminar: “Use of proteomics to study chromosome structure and segregation”. Bill Earnshaw (Edinburgh). 12pm, LT1, Stopford Bldg.
Sociology Seminar: “The changing face of law and why it matters to us all”. Helena Kennedy. 4pm, Room 3.51, Williamson Bldg.
Manchester Medical Society PATHOLOGY: Thoughts on myocardial perfusion imaging”. Dr R A R Coulden (Addenbrooke’s and Papworth Hospitals). 5.15pm, LT3 Stopford Bldg.
Manchester Medical Society ANAESTHESIA (joint meeting with the Liverpool Society of Anaesthetists). Speakers: Dr P Cartwright, Dr D Saunders and Mr R Halls. 2pm (Buffet lunch), The Hanover Hotel, Warrington. To attend please register with Margaret Frowler@whirr.nhs.uk.

Monday 14th March
Institute of Innovation Research: “Moving public engagement in S&T upstream: deliberative mapping, participatory technology assessment of xenotransplantation and addressing the kidney gap”. Malcolm Eames, (Policy Studies Institute). 4pm, Room 10.05, Harold Hankins Building, Precinct Centre (refreshments from 3.45pm).
Social Anthropology: “Thinking through Kings: custom and constitutionalism in contemporary Swaziland”. Sari Wastell (Goldsmiths). 4.15pm Room 4.7 Roscoe Bldg. (Refreshments in Room 5.1 at 4pm).

Tuesday 15 March
CCSR: “The need for timely, complex health intelligence”. Iain Buchan (Manchester). 4pm, 2nd Floor Crawford House, (entrance via Booth St East).
School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work Research Forum: “Rapture, rancour and a modicum of redemption: a brief history of the symphysiotomy operation from 1777 to the present time”. Janette Allotey 12.30pm, COPE Room, Coupland 3 Bldg.
Manchester Medical Society IMAGING Mini-Symposium: “Team work in radiology”. Speakers: Dr T Cleveland and Dr H-Ü Laasch. 6pm, Postgraduate Health Sciences Centre, NR (buffet from 7.45pm £5 payable in advance).
NPCRDC: “A sustainable leader network”. Tara Catalano (Griffith University). 2pm, Seminar Room 2, 5th Floor, Williamsson Bldg.
Cultural Theory Institute: “Culture and spectacle”. T Clarke (University of California at Berkeley). 9pm, Ground Floor Lecture Theatre, Humanities Lime Grove Bldg. Reception to follow. For further details or to book a place please call 58997 or email cti@man.ac.uk

Wednesday 16 March
School of Law European Matrix Seminar: Title tbc. Prof Michael Dougan (Liverpool). 2.15pm, Room 3.07, Williamsson Bldg.
Sociology Seminar: Chris Perriam in conversation with Monica Pearl: “Queer Spanish Cultures (Gender, Sexuality and Culture New Exchanges)”. 4.30pm, Room 3.51 Williamson Bldg.

School of Physics and Astronomy Schuster Colloquium: Inaugral Lecture. Prof Albert Zijlstra (Manchester). 2.30pm, Bragg Lecture Theatre, Schuster Laboratory.
School of Materials: “Anti-inflammatory approaches to tissue engineering”. Prof John Haycock (Sheffield). 2.15pm, Room D13, Manchester Materials Science Centre.

Thursday 17 March
Manchester Medical Society PUBLIC HEALTH FORUM: “Women, transport and health”. Prof K Hamilton (East London). 6pm, LT4, Stopford Bldg
School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science: “Waiting”. Dr Dominic Rhodes (BNFL). 12pm, Room IC63/64, C Floor, The Mill (refreshments served).

Tuesday 22 March

Tuesday 5 April
NPCRDC: “Doctoring as dirty work: an alternative view of the workforce crisis in UK General Practice”. Mike Gavin (Rusholme Academic Unit). 2pm, Seminar Room2, 5th Floor, Williamsson Bldg.

Wednesday 6 April
World Universities Network Horizons in Earth Systems Video Seminar: Speakers: Richard Freely and Chris Sabine (Washington and NOAA). 5.6pm (London, Video Suite, Ground Floor, Kilburn Bldg. To book a place email: dee.gilmore-stewart@manchester.ac.uk
Monday 11 April
Social Anthropology: "Embodied histories: palate processions masking and memory in the Cameron Grassfields." Nicolas Arigenti (Brunei). 4.15pm Room 4.7 Roscoe Bldg. (Refreshments in Room 5.1 at 4pm).

Tuesday 12 April
CCSR: ""Lebenslagen" and social change: a multidimensional and micro perspective in social reporting." Christian Brand. 4pm, 2nd Floor, Crawford House (entrance from Booth St East). All welcome.

CHSTM: "Not just naughty: 50 years of stimulant drug advertising." Ilina Singh (LSE). 4pm, Room 2.57, 2nd Floor, Simon Bldg.

NPRCJD: "Where does somatisation happen? In the psyche or the surgery?" Prof Peter Salmon (Liverpool). 2pm. Seminar Room 2, 5th Floor Williamson Bldg.

Wednesday 13 April
TRDN Seminar: "Writing to reach you. How do we communicate with students?" A seminar convened by Dr Bill Hutchins, led by a group of current students from the Faculty of Humanities on the outcomes of a pedagogic centre funded project to investigate student responses to Faculty distributed literature. 1.30pm, Room 5.3, Humanities Lime Grove.

Transport Seminar: "An academic’s viewpoint." Prof Les Lumsdon (Central Lancs). 5.30pm, Cordingley Lecture Theatre, Humanities Bridgford St.

School of Materials: "Wear of alumina/SiC nanocomposites Part II: The Matrix Reloaded?" Dr Richard Todd (Oxford). 2.15pm, Room D3, Manchester Materials Science Centre. All welcome.

Thursday 14 April
Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science: "Application of molecular modelling techniques to problems in particle and interface science." Prof Kevin Roberts (Leeds). 12pm, Room J63/64, The Mill (refreshments served).

Monday 18 April
Social Anthropology: "Separating and containing people and things in Mongolia." Rebecca Empson (Cambridge). 4.15pm, Room 4.7 Roscoe Bldg. (Refreshments in Room 5.1 at 4pm).

Tuesday 19 April
British Computer Society: "Whatever happened to virtual reality?" Prof Robert Stone (Birmingham). 6pm, Weston Bldg, Sackville Street. Further details: www.bcsmanchester.org.uk


CHSTM: Title to be announced. Rosemary Fitzgerald (SOAS). 4pm, Room 2.57. 2nd Floor, Simon Bldg.

NPRCJD: "Qualitative study to understand the reasons for poor uptake of Cardiac rehabilitation services in the South Asian population in East Lancashire." Umesh Chauhan (Manchester).

Thursday 21 April

Italian Studies: Title to be announced. Prof Paris Parry (Bristol). 4pm, Room W3.13, Humanities Lime Grove.

Monday 25 April
Social Anthropology: "Irish DNA: geographies of relatedness in geneticised genealogy". Catherine Nash (Queen Mary College, University of London). 4.15pm, Room 4.7 Roscoe Bldg. (Refreshments in Room 5.1 at 4pm).

Tuesday 26 April
CCSR: "What's the latest research idea at CCSR?" A lightning seminar. 4pm, 2nd Floor, Crawford House (entrance via Booth Street East).

CHSTM: Title to be announced. Bertrand Taith (Manchester). 4pm, Room 2.57, 2nd Floor, Simon Bldg.


Wednesday 27 April
World Universities Network Bioinformatics Video Seminar: "The proteome and the metabolome." Prof Janet Thornton (European Bioinformatics Institute). 5-6pm (London time). Video Suite, Ground Floor, Kilburn Bldg. To book a place email: dee.gilmore-stewart@manchester.ac.uk

World Universities Network Green Chemistry Video Seminar: "Selective extractions from biomass using green chemical techniques." 5-6pm (London time). Video Suite, Ground Floor, Kilburn Bldg. To book a place email: dee.gilmore-stewart@manchester.ac.uk
ACCOMMODATION TO LET

Withington. Short term solution 1 rm + box rm to let for 2 months from Sept. Rent neg. 0161-434 6199.

Bradley Fold, Holme Hale. F/f a bed Bungalow-GCH, newly dec throughout. New Combi boiler, microwave, auto washer etc. Very comfortable & cool, big, pleasant gd & f & Parking for 3/m. Extremely sought after loc. Close to bus/train to Southport/Manchester. Prof staff only 0161-845 5112.


Didsbury Village. Comfortable 2 bed Victorian Cottage in quiet cul-de-sac for rent for 6 months initially, poss longer. Suit visiting academic couple. F/f & mod with gd, dble glazed & a mod alarm. Close to shops & transport. No pets & non-smokers only. £725pcm or £777 1719.

Spac 2 bed f/f & s/c for flat in quiet residential area close to public transport. Suit staff or pg. £535pcm inc water rates. 0161-451 4897 or email: virgin.com.

Fallowfield. Dible rm in beautiful 3 st orey townhse. avail for individuals & couples. Ian Hancock, BDS, Dental Surgeon. 0161-485 3112. Email: staff rm in Uni. (27)52671 or (27)52678

For all your travel requirements. ABTA 07041 017 561 or 0845 058 7928. Email: carol.warburton@travelcounsellors.com or www.travelcounsellors.com/carl warburton

Counselling/Psychotherapy with Chartered Psychologist. UKCP accredited. FSP Psychotherapist and qualified Life Coach with 20 years consultancy experience. Psychometric Assessment. available. 0161 866 3939 or email: fokkina@onetel.net

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Painter/Decorator. Good quality work & decorating, inside/outside work undertaken, tidy work. 07987 280 075. Email: dougie@rosewood.sitex.net

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She also worked at Cardiff University for ten years, first as Research Manager and then as central Postgraduate Recruitment Manager, ultimately setting up and running the University’s Postgraduate Centre. So managing a research partnership between 16 Universities across the globe - part of the University’s internationalisation of the research agenda - should be just another entry on the CV for Dee.

After moving to Manchester in 2000 to get married she took up the post of Business Support Manager in the then Regional Affairs Office of the Victoria University, before taking responsibility for WUN-Manchester in 2004. Based in the Research Office, she deals with universities including Nanjing Zhejiang, Penn State, Washington-Seattle, UCSD, Utrecht, Oslo and Bergen, encouraging research partnerships between them and their associated partners.

Day to day, Dee’s role focuses on responding to staff queries about other centres in the Network relevant to their research, arranging meetings and virtual research seminars between WUN academics and providing mobility funds and administrative assistance. She also supports the development of eLearning programmes, and promotes the Network’s Global Exchange Scheme to staff and postgraduate students with events like the Penn State Concert ‘100 years of Musical Theatre’ on the 11 March (see page 8 for details).

“I really enjoy putting people in touch with each other and helping them to extend their research on globally significant issues, such as poverty and energy-use,” says Dee. “I also love working with the exchange students, whose work frequently results in publications and enhances the potential for partnerships between research groups.”

Her objective is to develop a portfolio of activities between the Network’s Universities, from staff and student exchanges to joint papers and internationally-funded projects. Her prior experience has proved invaluable in this, whether she’s networking, engaging in PR and marketing activity or supporting postgraduates’ research strategies. “My ten years as a home educator certainly fine-tuned my listening skills and patience, and as a former puppet-maker I’m quite adept at pulling strings too!” she jokes.

WUN successes to date include establishing partnerships in bioinformatics, eLearning research, multilingualism, weathering and globalisation, and discussions are also underway in development studies, poverty and well-being, public engagement with science and nuclear energy. She is also proud to have set up and run Café Scientifique since March 2003 with former Regional Affairs colleague Lita Denny, a role which they have just sadly relinquished as their new roles develop.

Outside work, Dee is a lover of the great outdoors; “I garden, build ponds, plant trees, walk and generally mooch about!” she says. She is a trustee of the organisation Community Forests Northwest, which is concerned with the ‘greening’ of the Liverpool and Manchester areas (http://www.redroseforest.co.uk), but even with her love of the outdoor life isn’t immune to the lure of a roaring fire and a good book.

For more information on the Worldwide Universities Network or to arrange a presentation, please contact Dee on dee.gilmore-stewart@manchester.ac.uk or 275 8261.