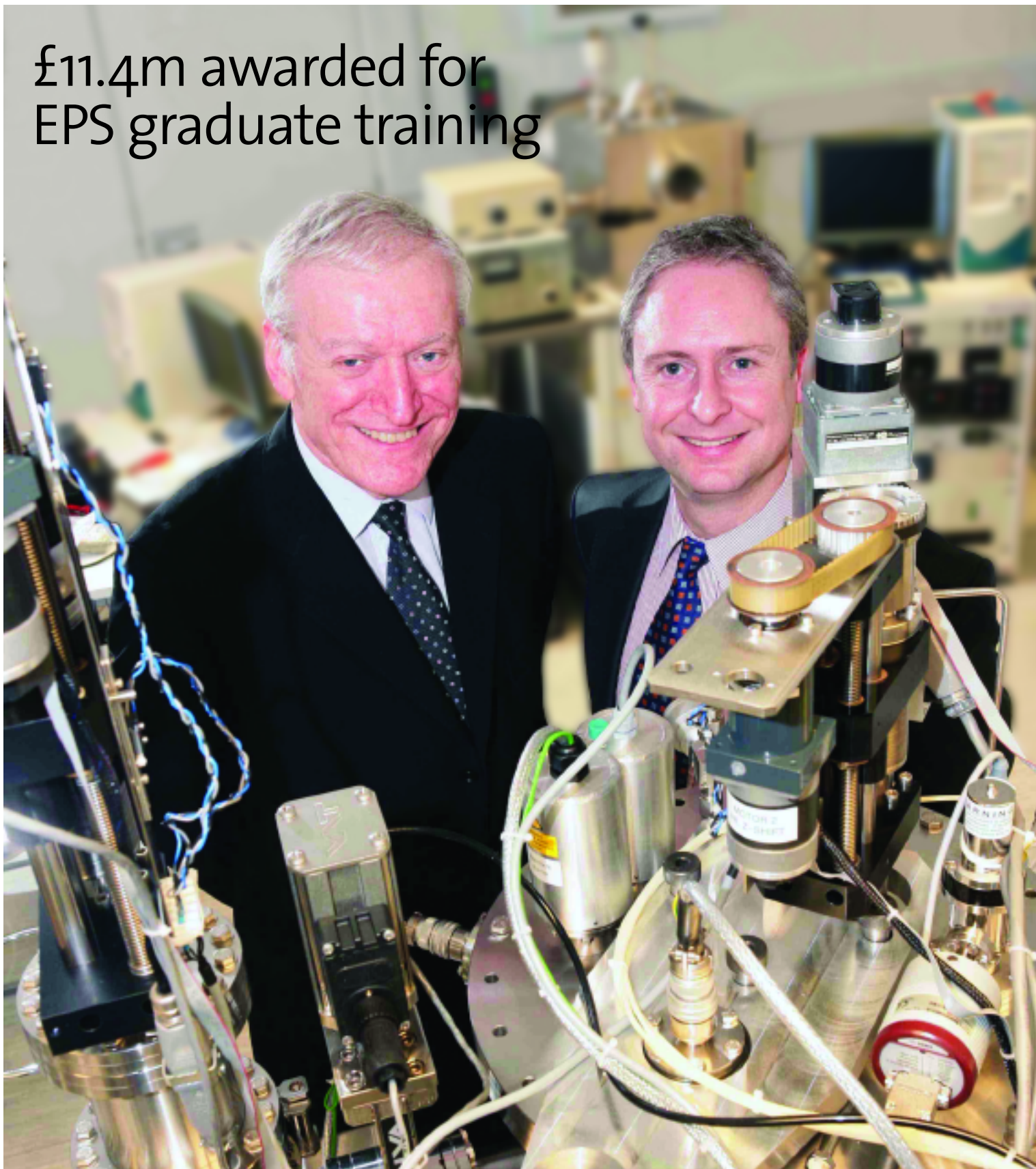


UniLife

£11.4m awarded for EPS graduate training



NewsDigest

Contents

- 3** £11.4 million Awarded for EPS Graduate Training
- 4** News
- 8** Research
- 10** Students
- 11** Staff Survey
- 15** People
- 16** In The Community
- 18** What's On
- 20** Seminars/Noticeboard
- 22** Classified Ads
- 24** Just the Job

*Front cover: Professor John Perkins and Professor Andrew Ball.
Photo by Craig Strong*

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



3

The University has been awarded £11.4m for postgraduate training under the EPSRC's Collaborative Training Account (CTA). The award will fund science and engineering programmes including Doctorates, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships, RA Industrial Secondments and CASE awards.



5

The £50m Michael Smith Building, to be part of one of the largest biomedical complexes in Europe, officially opens on 8 March. It will be home to 800 staff drawn largely from the Faculty of Life Sciences.



6

The Field Archaeology Centre and Manchester City Council's 'Dig Manchester' project has received £500,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to expand its work, which involves schools, businesses and community groups in local digs.



9

Scientists from across the University took part in a 'Speed Collaborating' exercise on Valentine's Day, to find the research partner of their dreams.



16

The University recently held an exclusive event for its 'Family of Companies', organised by the Business, Careers & Community Division (BCCD). Nearly 70 delegates came along to enjoy an evening of networking opportunities, presentations and lively business discussions.

£11.4m Awarded for EPS Graduate Training



The University has secured its first major Research Council funding success as a combined institution, following an EPSRC award of £11.4m for postgraduate training from October 2005.

The award was made under the EPSRC's Collaborative Training Account (CTA) scheme. It will provide the core funding for Manchester Engineering Doctorate programmes, which include a significant element of business and management training, for the next four cohorts of Research Engineers. The award will also provide financial support over this period for innovative Masters-level programmes, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs), Research Associate Industrial Secondments (RAIS) and Industrial CASE awards.

Although awarded by the EPSRC, the funding is not restricted to programmes within the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences; being designed to promote collaboration across disciplines to produce the highest-quality graduates. The funding will be deployed by the University in a flexible fashion, in support of programmes and initiatives which align with the EPSRC's strategic priorities, meet regional/industrial demand and support the University's own aspirations for the quality and skills of its postgraduate output.

Professor John Perkins, Vice-President and Dean of the University's Faculty of Engineering and Physical Science and CTA Manager (EPS), said: "This award, which is one of the largest of its kind in the UK, is a tremendous tribute to the excellence of the University's track record in postgraduate education. We are delighted to be afforded the flexibility in support of future postgraduate education and training that this award will give us."

In an intensive collaborative effort from July to September 2004, the business case was successfully compiled and drafted by a team of academic and administrative staff across UMIST and the Victoria University. It involved setting out the (then future-) University's strategic intentions for postgraduate education, in the context of providing training in transferable and life skills and the high-quality academic content required by UK industry.

Professor Andrew Ball, Associate Dean for Graduate Education in EPS who led the bid preparation on behalf of the University, said: "Despite the tight

timescale, the completion of the bid and its successful outcome are testimony to the depth and breadth of co-operation which took place between academic staff and administrators at all levels."

Out of 44 business cases received in this, the second, call for bids, 28 awards were made - of which Manchester's was the highest.

Dr Alan Thomas, CTA Implementation Manager at EPSRC, said: "EPSRC recognises that The University of Manchester has a very significant role in the provision of high quality education and training within the UK - as reflected in the size of the award made. Consequently, we will be working in partnership with the University to ensure that the aim underpinning the implementation of Collaborative Training Accounts - to put collaborative postgraduate education and research on a more strategic footing, reflecting both the EPSRC's priorities and those of the University itself - is achieved".

News



A senior academic from the School of Materials is to receive an engineering 'Oscar' for his contribution to the field of Corrosion.

Corrosion 'Oscar' Honour

Dr Bob Cottis, Reader in Corrosion Science and Engineering at the Corrosion and Protection Centre, will be presented with the prestigious T.J. Hull Award at The National Association of Corrosion Engineers' (NACE) 2005 conference in Houston, Texas.

The April conference is the largest corrosion event in the world, attracting more than 6,000 professionals internationally. Each year the T.J. Hull Award recognises outstanding contributions to NACE, in terms of publications or furthering the Association's aims and objectives.

Dr Cottis will be honoured for the contribution he has made to the field using the World Wide Web, having founded CORROS-L – the first international electronic mailing list for corrosion academics.

"I am very pleased to be receiving this award. CORROS-L seems a long time ago, but it is nice to be recognised for this work which has led us to many other developments in this area," he said.

Dr Cottis is now in the process of developing an online degree programme, and also recently launched a web-based multi-lingual corrosion dictionary.



<http://www.cp.umist.ac.uk/CPC/>



Anne Milligan, NWBA Manager, with Barbara Hastings-Asatourian, MD of Contraceptive Education Ltd.

Network North West

Businesses from across the region came together recently at The Manchester Museum to hear about what the new University has to offer them. Organised by North West Business Access (NWBA), a small business support agency managed by the Business, Careers & Community Division (BCCD), the event provided an opportunity for staff from BCCD's Regional Business Team and the MBS Incubator to welcome businesses to the new institution.

In her key note address Jane Ratchford, Director of the BCCD, explained the new University's ambitions both to be a global academic powerhouse and stay strongly committed its roots in the city and region.

Barbara Hastings-Asatourian, Managing Director of Contraceptive Education Ltd

and an NWBA client said: "This event really demonstrated how a world-class university is contributing to the community and business environment in Manchester and the North West."

The event provided an opportunity for delegates to learn more about each other and explore collaborative opportunities, highlighted by a presentation from Contraception Education Ltd. and Capture One Digital Productions.

The two companies met through a previous NWBA networking event and have partnered to produce an interactive educational resource for teenagers, promoting the message of safer sex. There are now plans to translate the material for the international market.



www.businessaccess.ac.uk

News

£50m Biomedical Research Centre Opens

The first of three state-of-the-art facilities which will eventually form one of the largest biomedical complexes in Europe will officially open on 8 March. The £50m Michael Smith Building, named in honour of the late Nobel Laureate, will be home to 800 staff drawn largely from the Faculty of Life Sciences.



"The complex is sited at a central location off Oxford Road, in the University's biomedical corridor," said Professor Martin Humphries, Associate Dean for Research within Life Sciences. "A major benefit of the design of the new building has been to cluster core facilities and provide easily accessible resources for researchers."

The facility will house more than 100 research groups, including a number of

externally-funded centres such as The Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell-Matrix Research, The North of England Structural Biology Centre and The UK Centre for Tissue Engineering.

Dr Michael Smith was an alumnus of The University of Manchester, graduating in Chemistry in 1953 before studying for his PhD in the same department. In 1956 he moved to Vancouver, Canada, and was

appointed Professor of Biochemistry by the University of British Columbia in 1966. He received the Nobel Prize for his work on site-directed mutagenesis in 1993, and died in 2000 aged 68.

Dr Smith's son, Tom Smith, is flying in from Vancouver especially for the ceremony, where he will officially open the new facility.

<http://www.ls.manchester.ac.uk/about/buildings/>

New Network To Boost Radiotherapy Research in UK

A new network to help modernise radiotherapy research across the UK has just been launched at the Christie Hospital.

It is hoped that the network, which is called the Academic Clinical Oncology and Radiobiology Research Network - or ACORRN for short, will bring great benefits to cancer patients by revitalising radiotherapy and radiobiology research which has been in decline over recent years.

The £351,000 network is a National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) initiative and will be based within the University's Department of Radiation Oncology at The Christie Hospital.

Jointly funded by Cancer Research UK, the Medical Research Council and the Department of Health, this is the first time a long-term radiotherapy research strategy has been developed for the UK.

The University of Manchester was chosen as the location for the network due to the high concentration of expertise in academic radiotherapy and radiation biology - an area which has been earmarked for growth within the University. The close proximity of a major radiotherapy research facility at the Christie Hospital also influenced the decision.

ACORRN will also support independent radiotherapy researchers and research groups throughout the UK and raise the profile of radiotherapy research.

Over the last ten years, a sharp decline in the number of clinical academics and radiation biologists has left insufficient numbers to respond to the Department of Health's agenda; to develop and

capitalise on the rapid technological advances that allow more accurate radiotherapy delivery.

Professor Pat Price, Chair of ACORRN said: "Over the last ten years radiotherapy has seen one of the most rapid advances in technology and computerisation in any field of medicine. This, combined with advances in cell and molecular biology, means that now radiotherapy research has the potential to be one of the most dynamic and clinically relevant fields."

For further information about ACCORN contact Dr Jo Cresswell, Acting Network Manager at Jo.Cresswell@manchester.ac.uk

News

Staff from the University's Field Archaeology Centre have been working with Manchester City Council on the 'Dig Moston' project since 2003, and have now received £500,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to expand the project across the city.

'Dig Manchester' began with an excavation of Moston Old Hall, and brought the University together with the city, schools, businesses, community groups and 'local champion' Councillor Paul Murphy. Robina McNeil, director of the Greater Manchester Archaeology Unit commented: "The idea was to involve members of the community - from school children to senior citizens - in a local dig, not only to uncover some history, but to bring about a sense of community and pride.

"The results were far more positive than we could have imagined. Businesses gave goods in kind, including lunches for people on the dig, tools and electronic equipment to download images. The whole community became involved and saw the benefits of archaeological inquiry.

"Moreover a sense of community pride emerged that was perhaps not there before - in fact, the crime rate for the area dropped by 45% whilst the dig was

Dig Manchester!



underway! We'd like to think that what Manchester does today, the world will follow tomorrow."

Thanks to the success of the scheme the Heritage Lottery Fund has now funded a three year programme, incorporating

similar projects in Northenden and Wythenshawe. The funding will provide for two new members of staff to coordinate the project; community and education archaeologists who will be based at the University.



www.art.man.ac.uk/FieldArchaeologyCentre/



Calling all Inventors

There's still time for budding Trevor Baylises to enter The University of Manchester Incubator Company (UMIC)'s Innovation Competition, which aims to find the most pioneering new inventors and companies in the region.

As well as prizes including cash pay-outs and a Master of Enterprise scholarship, the competition offers the opportunity to access a wealth of support and expertise and develop ideas into sustainable businesses. It closes on 28 February, with the prize-giving and announcement of the winner taking place in May.

UMIC manages biotechnology facilities the Manchester Incubator Building and the Core Technology Facility (due for completion in October), and ICT facilities

on the North Campus and at One Central Park (due for completion in September). The company also collaborates with regional partners, including The University of Manchester Intellectual Property Ltd., Manchester Science Enterprise Centre, B2B Interactive Ltd. and North West Business Access, to provide business mentoring services to SMEs and start-ups.

Dr. Martino Picardo, General Manager of UMIC, explained: "UMIC and its partners

are keen to assist the business community in all sectors and at all stages of their creation in a coordinated way. With the wealth of business and academic expertise available to us, the competition provides an ideal opportunity to do this."

Application forms and further details are available on UMIC's website at the address below. For more information please contact Alison Warren on 0161 606 7239 or at alison.warren@umic.co.uk



www.umic.co.uk/competition

News

Framework Fellowship



Professor Bob Munn, Vice President for Teaching and Learning, has been awarded a Fellowship by the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education. Launched in March 2004, the Foundation supports both existing staff development programmes and newly-commissioned projects to develop world-class leadership, governance and management processes across the HE sector.

In this case, the funding will support the development and embedding of the University's new Academic Quality Framework. Though effective, quality

assurance processes in the precursor Universities were sometimes seen as cumbersome and bureaucratic, and Project Unity provided an ideal opportunity to develop a new, 'lighter touch' process which makes more efficient use of staff time.

The Fellowship will allow a project officer to be appointed who will visit all Schools and Faculties, to discuss how the Framework will work on the ground. Dissemination of their work, both internally and to the wider Higher Education sector, will be through a report to the Leadership Foundation.

"The Quality Framework will be based on a conversational approach, in the spirit of collegiality, and this project is an opportunity for us to exemplify that approach," said Professor Munn. "We very much want to hear the views of our academic and administrative colleagues, to optimise the new framework and promote the idea that an organisation for learning should also be a learning organisation."

For more information, please contact s.a.morgan@manchester.ac.uk.

www.leadership-he.com

Next Generation Scanner Launched



The world's first 'next generation' MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) 3-T scanner will be launched at Hope Hospital later this week.

The Achieva 3T MR Scanner has been purchased by the University and will be used by researchers in the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences to further their studies in a wide range of areas. A special launch event is being held on Friday 18 February at Hope Hospital.

The state-of-the-art technology involved will revolutionise the way scanning takes place and means that higher quality scans can be carried out at a much faster speed than ever before. The scanner will enable researchers to create images of structures in the body such as individual vessels in the brain, nerves and cartilage.

Researchers working in the fields of cancer, stroke and mental illness will be among the first to benefit from the scanner. By studying patients, they will be able to look at the way brain tumours and cancers grow and develop and how different kinds of

treatment might work. It will also help researchers looking into strokes to understand the way the brain recovers in stroke patients.

The scanner will also play a major role in the University's research into schizophrenia. It will help to unravel the mysteries of how the brain works and reveal how different parts of the brain communicate with each other.

Researchers working on abnormalities in the kidneys will also benefit from the improved scanning – research being currently underway at the University to investigate vascular abnormalities to the kidneys in patients with renal disease.

The scanner, which has been produced by Philips Medical Systems and features a 5.5 tonne magnet, will be launched by Professor Colin Blakemore, Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council and Professor Alan Gilbert,

President and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Manchester.

Professor Colin Sibley, Associate Dean for Research in the University's Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences said: "This piece of equipment will help us to unravel some of the mysteries of the brain and how it works. For the first time we will be able to see how different parts of the brain communicate with each other and this will be invaluable to many different areas of our research."

"The scanner will lead to improvements in diagnosing and treating major conditions such as stroke, cancer and mental illness. Of course, this will be of huge benefit to patients suffering from these severe medical conditions and will also ensure that The University of Manchester remains at the forefront of worldwide medical research," he added.

Research



Herbal Therapy

A research team led Dr Alex Molassiotis of the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work has discovered that a third of cancer patients across Europe are using complementary and alternative medicines (CAM).

The study of more than 1000 patients is the first to cover the whole of Europe, and shows usage-rates from just under 15% of patients in Greece to nearly 75% in Italy. Herbal therapies are the most popular treatment, with vitamins and minerals also in the top five in nine countries.


Patients are using the therapies for an average of 27 months, with users most likely to be female, young and highly educated. Those with the poorest

prognoses, such as pancreatic, liver, bone and brain cancer patients, also use CAM significantly more than other patients.

Most patients reported using CAM to increase their ability to fight the disease (50%), although only 22% saw benefits in this area. However, although only 35% initially used CAM to improve their emotional well-being, 42% reported subsequent benefits.

"Irrespective of what health professionals believe, our findings show that patients are using and will continue to use CAM," said Dr. Molassiotis. "This will necessitate work towards integrating CAM therapies into mainstream healthcare services - it is vital that healthcare professionals are able to educate their patients.

"Further, we must have appropriate legislation and regulation across Europe; the EU needs to consider broader policies, common laws and rationalised legislation."

 www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk

Devolved Power

A new study by Professor Martin Burch, Professor Simon Bulmer and Dr Ricardo Gomez from Government, International Politics and Philosophy (with colleagues from the Universities of Edinburgh and Westminster) has found that the devolved political administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have established strong bargaining positions for their interests in the development of European policy.

The ESRC-funded study found that, since devolution, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have acquired greater policy-making resources and a clearer sense of priorities with which to influence EU policy. This is already affecting how the


UK handles issues such as rural policy, fisheries, environmental policy and reform of the common agricultural policy.

Professor Burch commented: "Devolved administrations have a definite advantage in that their civil servants are still part of the informal Whitehall network, which has a key role to play in UK policy formation. The Scottish and Welsh Offices did have full access to the Whitehall network in the past, but they did not then have the resources or sense of territorial priorities to make full use of it."

The research indicates that the devolved administrations are better placed in these new arrangements than English regional

bodies, though the team identified growing interest in European issues in the Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) and Assemblies.

"This is particularly true over EU structural funds, which support regional development," Professor Burch commented, "but it is also increasingly the case with rural and trade policies. However, most English regions have far less impact in Brussels than the better-resourced offices set up by the devolved administrations. And at home they find themselves having to lobby Whitehall from a distance in order to try to influence the UK's approach to EU issues."

 <http://les1.man.ac.uk/government/>

The Biggest Spider in the World – NOT!



Research

The biggest spider to have walked the earth has been exposed as 'a fraud' by a University of Manchester scientist, who claims the creature is more crab than creepy crawly. Dr Paul Selden is one of the first to be allowed to examine a fossil of the creature since it was unearthed in Argentina 25 years ago.

The *Megarachne Servinei* has appeared in the Guinness Book of Records as the World's Largest Spider and plastercasts of the beast are exhibited in museums across the world, but the arachnid expert is in no doubt that it is not a spider.

"As soon as I saw it I knew it wasn't a spider, but an ancient aquatic creature called a sea scorpion," he said. "It has large claws and two big compound eyes whereas spiders normally have eight small eyes. It also appears to have a very robust body or shell with ridges across its back, which is not found in any spider known to man."

"This creature probably lived in a swamp and used its claws for sweeping up mud. If you had to compare it to something alive today you would probably choose a large crab or a lobster."

Megarachne, which has a massive 50cm leg span and measures more than a metre

in length, was discovered in 1980 by Argentinean archaeologist Mario Hünicken. He classified it as a spider, but mystery has always surrounded the accuracy of this as it was sealed in a bank vault following an ownership dispute.

Dr Selden is the first to be able to verify Hünicken's work. He has since written a paper with the archaeologist, who accepts his new findings.

"Even though this isn't the biggest ever spider it is clearly an amazing beast," said Dr Selden. "It means the biggest spider ever is now a living one; the Goliath Birdeater or *Theraphosa Leblondi*."

Finding the Perfect Partner



Scientists from across the University took part in an adaptation of 'Speed Dating' for an altogether different type of get-together on Valentine's Day.

The 'Speed Collaborating' exercise saw researchers attempt to find their perfect (experimental) partner.

The quirky idea was dreamt up by Dr David Barker and Dr Simon Merrywest, of the Faculty of Life Sciences, who insist there was an important purpose behind it.

"The merger of UMIST and the Victoria University has opened up lots of opportunities for researchers to pool resources and share information," said Simon. "This event was designed to be a fun way for people across the University to get to meet each other and chat about their scientific interests."

As with Speed Dating, the Speed Collaborating session gave academics just three minutes to learn about a colleague's research before moving on to the next 'collaborator'. At the end of the two-hour gathering, staff were given the chance to meet up again if they thought they had an academic future together.

"It's important that we get to know each other and about one another's science," added Simon. "This was a shot at trying to make it happen in a light-hearted and enjoyable way."

Students



L-R Back row : Phillip Staynier, Stefan Epikopou

Front row:
Marius McGinnis, Nafisa Patel, Angie Bouloukou, Soon Kiat Yee, Dr Jocelyn Mawdsley.

Although Model UN (MUN) conferences are held each year across the globe, this was the first of its kind in the North of England. The format simulated the workings of five United Nations committees; the Security Council, Political Committee, Disarmament Committee, ECoSoc and the Committee for Environment Development.

Students from the Manchester Model United Nations Society worked with the University of Leeds' branch to organise and raise funding for the event, securing complimentary facilities in the Reynolds

Region's First Model UN Conference

The University played host to the North of England Model United Nations conference from 10 – 13 February, welcoming more than 100 student-delegates from all over the world.

Building and a contribution of £2,500 from the alumni-donated Annual Opportunities Fund.

The conference offered more than three days of debate on a range of political issues and situations, with students acting as ambassadors for UN member states from Angola to Zambia. Inspired by its recent visit to the New York MUN, the Society was keen to promote a better understanding of both the workings of the United Nations and the diverse cultures of different countries.

"Delegates got the chance to be a diplomat for a few days, and to experience the difficulties of addressing international problems," said Manchester MUN's Director of Communications Angie Bouloukou. Participants were also able to develop their public speaking, team-working and organisational skills – and the social events built into the programme ensured there was a lot of fun to be had in the process.



www.manmun.org.uk



L-R: Alexis Hulme and Rachael Wickenden

Endorsed by celebrities like Jude Law and Minnie Driver and now stocked in high-street stores like Selfridges, 'Fairtrade' is the new buzz word in fashion.

Textiles students Alexis Hulme and Rachael Wickenden and Geography student Lizzie Tubbs, all members of the Students Union's Environment and Ethics Campaign Collective (EECC), are organising the event with the School of Materials' Textiles and Paper Group.

The final year students came up with the idea as part of a wider campaign by the EECC, to encourage the sale of Fairtrade

Fairtrade Fashion Show

A charity fashion show promoting Fairtrade is to be held at the University in March.

products across the University. Inspired by a fashion show they took part in as part of their course in their first year, they approached one of their former lecturers, Delia Vazquez, with the idea.

"A fashion show is a great way of getting people interested in Fairtrade, and Delia was really excited about getting her students involved," Alexis said.

More than 50 students from Textiles and Paper will model or design clothes for the show, which will be held in Academy 2 on 8 March as part of Fairtrade Fortnight. It is backed by clothing companies and

charities like Oxfam, Epona Sport and People Tree, which are donating clothes and Fairtrade fabrics.

Delia Vazquez, Lecturer in Retail Marketing Textiles Group, said: "The show is a great idea. I hope it encourages students to be more willing to experiment with recycled clothes, and makes them think more carefully about the amount of clothes they are buying."

All the money raised from the show will go to support Fairtrade charities. Tickets (£5) can be purchased in advance from Lizzie Tubbs by telephoning 07793 037792.



www.materials.manchester.ac.uk/textiles/

University Staff Survey

Staff Survey

The first ever staff survey of The University of Manchester was conducted in November last year, and despite the lengthy questionnaire (which we've been told will be shorter next time!) the survey team were pleased that more than 2000 members of staff participated. The survey team has been working hard behind the scenes to collate and analyse the wealth of information provided, and a summary of the results was presented to the Board of Governors last week.

The survey findings provide clear, forceful (though not totally unexpected) messages about the issues and concerns affecting University staff. On a positive note the majority of staff are proud to work for The University of Manchester and there is optimism that the University will become even more successful in the future. However, there are a number of areas where staff clearly believe things need to be improved. The President has given his assurance that steps will be taken to address the areas of dissatisfaction.

Staff will receive a fuller briefing in the near future, but in this edition of UniLife, over the next four pages, we can reveal the highlights of the survey as presented to the Board of Governors last week.

Profile of 2305 Respondents

2305 members of staff, spread across the University, completed (or partially completed) the survey – that is around 25% of the total workforce of the University. Responses indicate that all categories of staff participated in the survey.

Satisfaction with Current Job

The overall level of 61% of staff who are satisfied with their job at the University is thought to be in line with other organisations in the public sector. With regard to individual elements of their job, staff are least satisfied with opportunities for career progression (30% satisfied), feedback from management (35%), not feeling valued (39%), lack of recognition (40%) and levels of pay (44%).

Almost three quarters of staff (74%) are proud to say they work for the University and 57% would tell others that the University is a good employer.

Profile of Respondents by Faculty

2305 respondents	Number	%
Engineering & Physical Sciences	321	14
Humanities	370	16
Life Sciences	206	9
Medical & Human Sciences	346	15
Administration & Central Services	548	24
Other	17	1
Not stated	497	21

Table 1

Profile of Respondents by Role within the University

2305 respondents	Number	%
Academic	560	24
Research (only)	217	9
Teaching (only)	37	2
Administrative/Management	477	21
Secretarial/Clerical	240	10
Technical	192	8
Manual and other support staff	115	5
All other	50	2
Not stated	417	18

Table 2

Overall Satisfaction with Current Job

(Base = 2292 respondents)

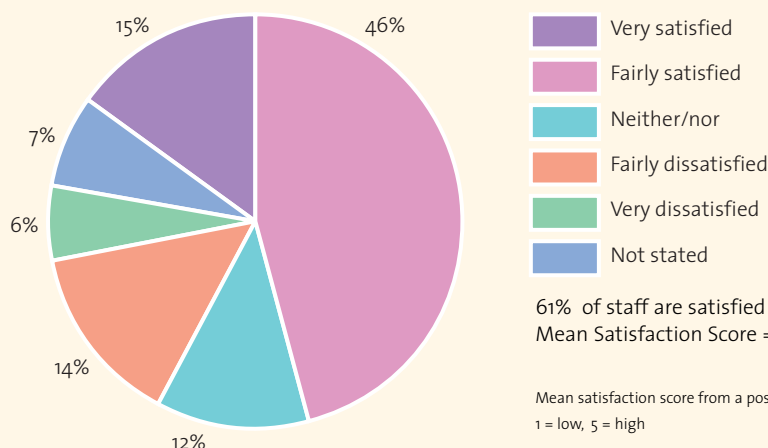
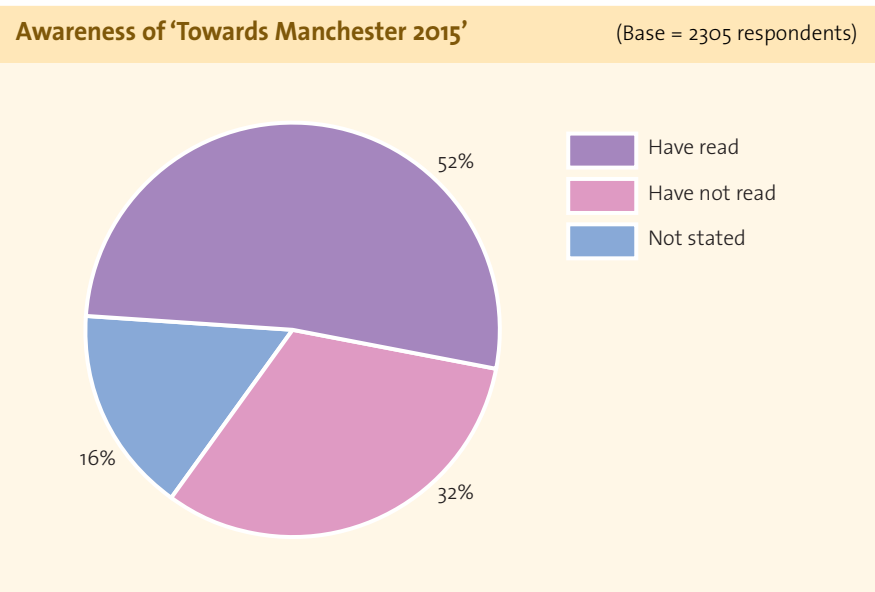


Figure 1

Staff Survey

Figure 2



% of respondents who have read 'Towards Manchester 2015' by role	
Academic (597)	73
Research (217)	38
Adminisitrative/Management (477)	76
Secretarial/Clerical (240)	38
Technical (192)	46
Manual (115)	31
Other/not stated (467)	24

Table 3

Ranking of Strategic Goals by Perceptions of Current and Future Performance		
Current Rank*	Goal	Rank by 2015
1	Goal 2: World class research	1
2	Goal 4: Excellent teaching & learning	4
3	Goal 1: High international standing	2
4	Goal 3: Exemplary knowledge and technology transfer	3
5	Goal 5: Widening participation	5
6	Goal 8: Internationally competitive resources	6
7	Goal 6: Collegial culture	8
8	Goal 9: More effective community service	7
9	Goal 7: Efficient, effective management	9

* Rank positions have been calculated using the mean scores for performance against each of the strategic goals

Awareness of 'Towards Manchester 2015'

Just over half of the staff (52%), who responded to the survey, have read the Strategic Plan 'Towards Manchester 2015'. In the case of administrative/management and academic staff the percentage who have read the document is much higher (76% of administrative staff and 73% of academic staff). The survey also went on to reveal that of those who have read 'Towards Manchester 2015', 74% have understood it and over half (57%) agree that the 'values and mission of the University are moving in a direction they support'.

Ranking of Strategic Goals by Perceptions of Current and Future Performance

The consensus is that, currently, the University's best performance against the strategic goals is in the areas of world class research and excellent teaching & learning. The worst performance is against effective and efficient management.

Staff expect the University to make significant progress towards each of the goals by 2015. Table 3 shows the ranked positions of each of the strategic goals according to how staff perceive the University's current and future performance against these goals. By 2015 staff expect high international standing and exemplary knowledge and technology transfer to move up the rankings, displacing excellent teaching and learning from its current (second) position. However, at present, there does not appear to be a sufficient level of confidence in leadership at all levels to ensure the goals are met.

Staff Survey

Figure 3

Satisfaction with Communication

Levels of satisfaction with both the quality and timeliness of communication are generally low, and particularly low for communication between Directorates, Faculties and Schools.

Of the many channels of communication available to staff, personalised (face to face) channels seem to be preferred; 74% of staff find regular workplace and team meetings useful, and 70% find communication from their immediate line manager useful.

Performance of Central Services

Staff were asked to rate their level of satisfaction with the service they had received from those parts of Central Services with which they had dealings during the course of their work at the University. Staff reported a high level of satisfaction with Library Services and the lowest level of satisfaction with Human Resources and Estates.

Line Management

Staff were also asked to rate their immediate line managers and, whilst the majority of line managers are perceived to be personable and approachable, they are seen to be failing to:

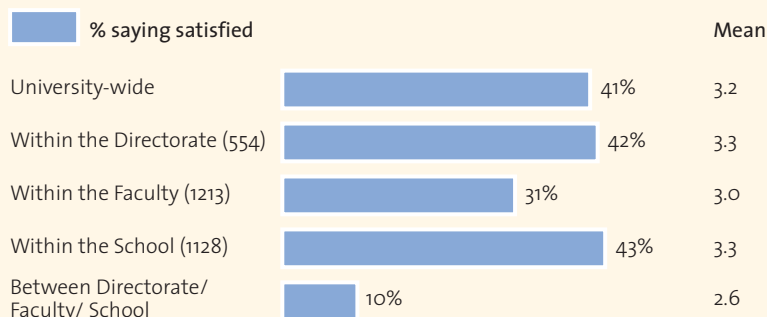
- set clear objectives for their team or for individuals (only 42% agree their line manager does this)
- keep the team and individuals focused on objectives (43%)
- delegate effectively (45%)
- manage major changes (46%).

The survey shows that managers have a vital role to play in the training and development of staff, yet they appear not to be fulfilling this role. A significant percentage of staff (62%) have had a formal appraisal with their immediate line manager. Nevertheless, while the majority of staff (83%) think it is important that their immediate line manager has an influence in identifying and setting their training and development needs, only 40% said their manager actually does this.

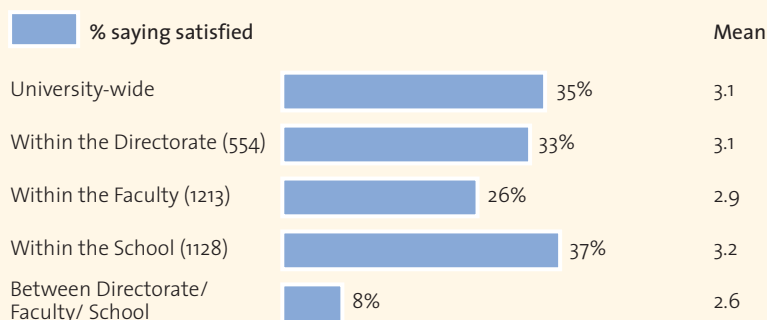
Satisfaction with Communication

(Base = 2023 respondents)

Quality



Timeliness



Dissatisfaction with Central Services

(Base = staff who have dealings with a Directorate or Service: shown in brackets)

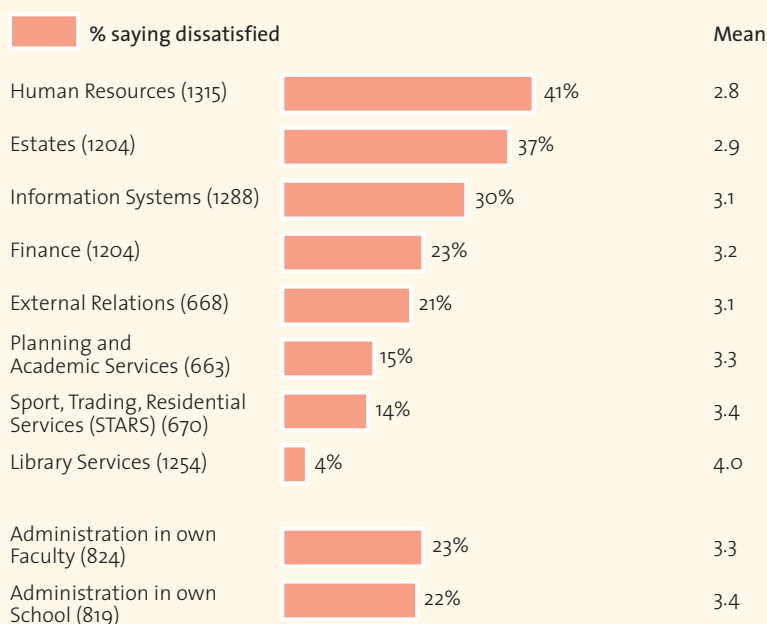
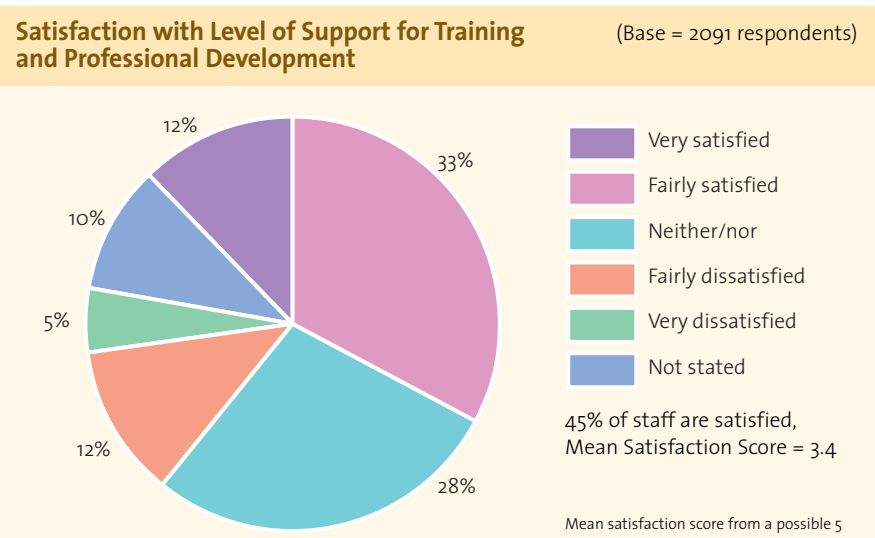


Figure 4

Staff Survey

Figure 5



Satisfaction with Level of Support for Training and Professional Development

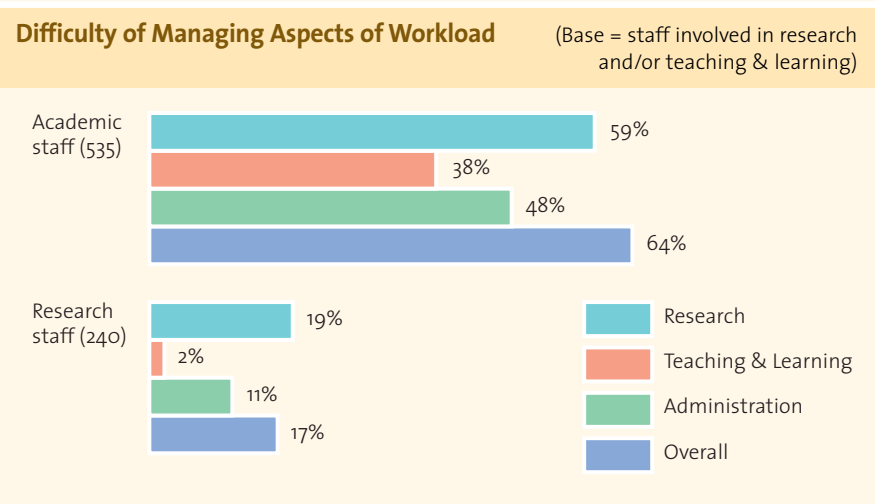
45% of all staff are satisfied overall with the level of support for training and professional development. However, only 14% felt that the University's induction processes prepared them for their role.

Staff were asked to rate courses/training they had undertaken. With 55% of participants rating it either good or very good, training for NVQs came out on top. Training in teaching and learning received the lowest rating with only 37% finding it good or very good.

Difficulty in Managing Aspects of Workload (Academic Staff)

Almost two thirds of academic staff (64%) found it difficult to manage their overall work load, compared to only 17% of research staff. Similarly, 59% of academic staff say they found it difficult to manage their research, compared to only 19% of research staff.

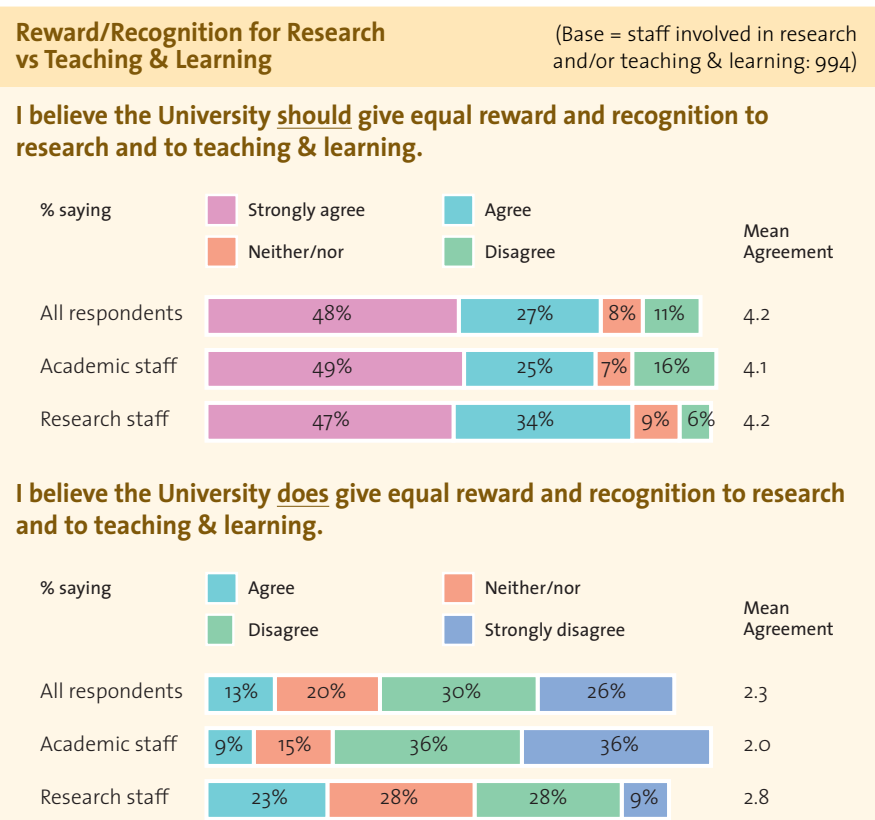
Figure 6



Reward/Recognition for Research vs Teaching & Learning

75% of academic and research staff think the University should give equal reward and recognition to research and teaching & learning, whereas only 13% agree that the University does give them equal reward. When asked about levels of support for research and teaching & learning, the results were similar for both areas, with levels of satisfaction highest for School administrative support. Lower levels of satisfaction were reported for support for knowledge and technology transfer.

Figure 7



Summary

This first survey of staff has provided clear evidence of areas of satisfaction and dissatisfaction. The President's Senior Executive Team will be considering the survey results and their response to them, in detail, over the next few weeks. They will also decide how best to communicate their response to staff. Further information will be provided in future editions of UniLife which will keep you posted with regular updates on actions taken in response to the survey results.

People

Pregnancy Research Rewarded

Professor Phil Baker from the School of Medicine is about to receive a prestigious award in recognition of his research in the field of pregnancy complications.

Professor Baker, who is the School's Director of Research, has been awarded the President's Achievement Award of the Society for Gynecologic Investigation based in the USA. The award is given annually to a member of the Society whose record in scientific investigation is outstanding, and this is the first time it has ever left North America.

Professor Baker heads up the Maternal and Fetal Health Research Centre based

at St Mary's Hospital, which carries out research into common pregnancy problems including still birth, miscarriage and pre-eclampsia. The Centre has been up and running for three and a half years and is one of the biggest pregnancy research centres in Europe.

Professor Baker will receive the award at the 2005 annual meeting of the Society in Los Angeles on 25 March.



Eclipsing the Rest

Eclipsing, a major new 30-minute orchestral piece by Professor Philip Grange of the Department of Music, was given its world premiere last month at the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester. It was commissioned by the BBC to be premiered by the BBC Philharmonic, and was conducted by Vassily Sinaisky.

Many of Philip's works are based on pieces of literature, and Eclipsing was inspired by Robert Louis Stevenson's short story 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'. Philip explains: "I have wanted to write a piece based on the novel for many years, because I

was interested in exploring musical analogies for the conflict between the two sides of the main character's personality. It was a terrific experience to have the work performed by some of the world's greatest players, including Jamie Prophet who performed the substantial solo flugelhorn part."

The inaugural performance took place on 29 January, and subsequent reviews were glowing. The Guardian called it "a beautiful, troubling work...virtuosically written," and remarked that it "...demands repeated hearings."

www.arts.manchester.ac.uk/subjectareas/music/

State of Fear

It's not very often that an academic can claim to have inspired a best-selling novelist, but Professor of Geography Roger Braithwaite can now count author Michael Crichton amongst his fans.

The writer of the TV series 'ER' and novels 'Jurassic Park', 'The Andromeda Strain' and 'Congo' refers to Professor Braithwaite in his new thriller 'State of Fear'. The book tells of environmentalists' search for a new cause to inspire the imagination of activists, settling on global warming and climate change.

Professor Rogers' paper 'Glacier mass balance: the first 50 years of international monitoring' reported his analysis of 246 glaciers across the world formed between 1946 and 1995. The results showed that although some of the glaciers were melting, several others were not - challenging popular assumptions of a global trend.

In the Community



L-R Richard Young, Iain Stewart, Dr. Mike Bowes and Professor Rod Coombs

Organised by the Business, Careers & Community Division (BCCD), the aim of the evening was for Family members to gain valuable contacts and information. Professor Rod Coombs, Vice-President for Innovation and Economic Development, warmly welcomed nearly 70 delegates to the event, which involved presentations and lively discussions on issues relevant to start-up companies.

Richard Young, MD of the University's award-winning seed capital fund the Manchester Technology Fund, delivered a

Keeping it in the Family

As part of its continuing support of innovation and knowledge transfer, the University recently hosted an exclusive event for its 'Family of Companies'. These include 180 companies formed by University staff (spin-outs) as well as close collaborators with the University (spin-ins).

presentation on how start-ups can tap into available funding streams and gain investors' backing. Dr. Mike Bowes, Chairman of Imorphics Ltd., shared his experiences of successfully managing a series of technology start-up companies, and Iain Stewart, Tax Partner at KPMG, spoke on R&D Tax Credits.

Following the presentations, delegates took the opportunity to network with fellow members and University representatives.

Professor Coombs said: "It is very encouraging to see that start-up companies linked to the University have a real appetite to maintain strong links with us. We think we have things to offer them and we certainly believe we can benefit from their experiences and use them to help our next generation of spin-outs."

For further information on the Family of Companies, please contact Dr. Phil Galvin, Head of Innovation, BCCD at Phil.Galvin@manchester.ac.uk.

<http://www.manchester.ac.uk/businessenterprise/>



The 'Woodbug' blanket

Northern Comfort

A graduate of the University's MEnt programme in Textiles has set up an innovative design business, which uses pre-school children's artwork in designs for textiles.

Jo Ashburner, originally from Swansea, has set up the Noonoo Design Company in Ramsbottom near Bury. It produces textile products based on her finding that child-led art is more easily recognised by small children than designs by adults, and is therefore more comforting to them.

Jo has exhibited her inventive designs at several eminent galleries in South Wales, and at the 2004 New Designers Exhibition at the Business Design Centre in London. "My focus is on designing and producing products which combine child-art imagery with

ergonomic, traditional and tactile textiles," she said.

The first to hit the market is the Noonoo Comfort Blanket, and Jo plans to add bed linen and other accessories to her range in the near future. The designs have attracted interest from as far away as the US, and she is already in the process of establishing a second company office in Wales.

For further information please contact Jo on 01706 283 926 or at joashburner@noonoodesign.co.uk.

www.noonoodesign.co.uk

Students Roll Up their Sleeves

Students from the University will grab the opportunity to put something back into the community on 14 February, as they join forces with Manchester City Council and students from Manchester Metropolitan University to undertake a massive street clean. The event is being organised by the Council's Environment Department as part of the 'Challenge Manchester' initiative, and Manchester Student Volunteers, managed by the Business, Careers & Community Division (BCCD), is coordinating the University's involvement.

Launched by the Lord Mayor of Manchester, the giant litter pick will cover the whole of Oxford Road, Wilmslow Road and parts of Fallowfield as part of a week-long programme of activity to celebrate Student Volunteer Week. Projects such as

these are a major part of the University's commitment to work with and within the local community and forge stronger partnerships with the City Council and community groups.

Complementing this event, a careers fair with a difference will held at the Academy on 23 February. Kaleidoscope is an opportunity for students to discover ethical career options, opportunities in the public sector and a range of voluntary positions both near and far.

Jane Ratchford, Director of BCCD, said: "Increasing numbers of students are looking for alternative options to traditional graduate jobs, or want to do some voluntary work before they commit themselves to a career. We are also

In the Community



finding that many employers, particularly those with defined corporate social responsibility agendas, are seeking graduates with an awareness of ethical and community issues. The BCCD is committed to creating volunteering opportunities and bringing a range of organisations to campus to enrich students' experience and help them pursue their career objectives, as well supporting the University's community ambitions at home and abroad."

For further information on the litter pick, please contact Andrea Rannard at andrea.rannard@manchester.ac.uk. For information on Kaleidoscope contact Caroline Hutchinson at caroline.hutchinson@manchester.ac.uk

Innovation in Action



The Business, Careers & Community Division (BCCD) and colleagues across the University have produced four Faculty-specific publications entitled 'Innovation in Action', to promote strategic alliances between the University and prospective partners from the commercial world and public and voluntary sectors.

Commissioned by the President and Vice-Chancellor, the publications profile the University's main research themes and capabilities, its interdisciplinary Centres of Excellence and examples of successful commercialisation. While the emphasis is on promoting research, the publications

also highlight other parts of the University's offer to potential collaborators; namely continuing professional development, graduate recruitment and community engagement.

Dr Phil Galvin, Head of Innovation at the BCCD, said: "Several targeted strategic R&D partners have been extremely impressed with our research competence as showcased in Innovation in Action. The publications provide tangible evidence of our professional approach to engagement."

Electronic versions of "Innovation in Action" will be available shortly from the University's Business website.

Stroke Awareness Day

The School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work is working with the Manchester Rotary Club to support Stroke Awareness Day on Saturday 9 April. The School will provide equipment and volunteers for the event, which aims to raise public awareness of stroke and associated problems.

Members of staff trained to take the blood pressures are being sought to take readings from members of the public, and advise those with raised results to visit their GP for a check-up.

The event will take place in the Arndale Centre in Manchester from 10.00 - 4.30, but anyone who can spare an hour or two during the day will be very welcome. If you are able to help, please contact anne.kerr@manchester.ac.uk by 28 February.

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 21 January - 10 April
New 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.

The Wages of Sin Curator's Tour
Sat 19 Feb, 2 pm, FREE

Beauty and the Beast Curator's Tour
Sat 5 March, 2 pm, FREE

CONCERTS

Grime Quintet: programme will include Brahms, Sun 27 Feb, 3pm, FREE

Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road, 0161 275 7450 www.whitworth@manchester.ac.uk
Opening hours Mon to Sat 10am - 5pm, Sun 2pm - 5 pm 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

Mon 21 Feb
The Wedding Present
Tues 22 Feb
The Bravery
Tom Hingley and the Lovers
Thurs 24 Feb
Simple Plan
Fri 25 Feb
The Ordinary Boys
Roots Manuva
Sat 26 Feb
Electric Six
Stuck Mojo

Sun 27 Feb
Muduayne
Mon 28 Feb
The Haunted
Tues 1 Mar
Fiest
Thurs 3 Mar
KT Tunstall
Alterbridge
Fri 4 Mar
Soundtrack of our Lives

Sat 5 Mar
Nearly Dan (Steely Dan tribute)
The Saints
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
Hanky Park

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

Frantic Assembly

HYMNS

Frantic Assembly celebrates its 10th anniversary with a revival of the hugely popular and spectacularly physical 'Hymns,' once again teaming up with Chris O'Connell (script) Natasha Chivers (lighting) and celebrated director Liam Steel.

Four men reunite to mourn the loss of a close friend but time and events have had a corrosive effect on this once tight-knit bunch. From beneath the surface bravura, a brooding animosity emerges. Their struggle to deal with grief and guilt brings them to breaking point where the truth lies waiting....

Suitable for ages 15+

Aftershow chat Weds 23 Feb & Thurs 24 Feb (Afternoon Performance) FREE

Tue 22 Feb 2005 - Sat 26 Feb 2005, £9/£6

M6 Theatre Company

CROSSING BOUNDARIES

'Crossing Boundaries' is a freshly devised, dynamic and energetic piece of theatre taking an interesting look at the term 'Diversity'. The piece has been created and will be performed by members of Oldham Theatre Workshop, M6 Youth Theatre (Rochdale) and The Phoenix Youth theatre (Bolton). Employing a range of different performing styles, 'Crossing Boundaries' will be an engaging and thought provoking performance suitable for all.

Thu 24 Feb 2005, FREE

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.

International Society

THEATRE AND MUSIC

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

TRIPS

Sat 26 Feb
Oxford

Sat 26/Sun 27 Feb
Bath and Stonehenge

Sat 5 March
Coniston and Windermere

Sat 5/Sun 6 March
Edinburgh

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

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 2,000 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

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 - 12 pm
Magic Carpet
Storytelling and story making for the under fives.
PREBOOKED FAMILY EVENTS
(0161 275 2648)

Saturday 26 February, 1.30-3.30pm
The Cheshire Beast FREE
Join experts from The University of Manchester's The School of Earth Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences and unearth a mystery. Help to reconstruct a prehistoric beast and the environment it lived in, from just the footprints that it left behind.

Saturday 5 March, 1.30-3.30pm
Forensic Science Workshop FREE
A scandalous crime has taken place in the village of Pickwick Green and its up to you to find out what's happened. Become a forensic investigator for the afternoon. Discover how fingerprints and DNA are used when solving crime (for ages 12 and above).

DROP-IN FAMILY EVENTS

Saturday 12 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 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 exploring the earth and our place in it, to be shown from 16 April.

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.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

7.30 pm 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

CHORAL AND ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS

7.30pm in The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall
Saturday 26 February
The University of Manchester Brass Ensemble
Verdi Overture to La Forza del Destino

Saturday 5 March
The University of Manchester Symphony Orchestra
Clark Rundell *Conductor*
David Fanning *Piano*
Beethoven Egmont *Overture*
Tippett Piano *Concerto*
Stravinsky *Firebird Suite*

Saturday 12 March
7.30pm in the Whitworth Hall, Oxford Road
The University of Manchester Chorus and Symphony Orchestra
Stephen Williams *Conductor*
Britten *Paul Bunyan*

THE WALTER CARROLL LUNCHTIME CONCERTS AND RECITALS

1.10pm Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall
Thursday 24 February
The Lindsays
Schubert Quartet in E flat D.87
Schnittke Quartet No.3

Thursday 3 March
Student Showcase Concert

Thursday 10 March
Neil Heyde Cello

SCHOOL CONCERTS

Free Admission
7.30pm, Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall
Friday 25 February
MANTIS (Manchester Theatre in Sound)
David Berezan Director
The UK premiere of Kevin Malone's Count Me In and the work of French Canadian composer Francis Dhomont.

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



Seminars

Monday 21 February

Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science:

"Genetic modifications: ancient and modern". Prof Joseph Hulse (Manchester). 12pm, Room JC63/64 C Floor, The Mill.

Institute of Innovation Research:

"Consuming counterfeits: intellectual property theft as everyday leisure". Jason Rutter (Manchester). 4pm, Room 10.05, Harold Hankins Building, Precinct Centre. Tea and coffee available from 3.45pm

Tuesday 22 February

CCSR: "Confidentiality, privacy and the grid". Mark Elliot. 4pm, 2nd Floor Crawford House, (entrance from Booth St East).

CHSTM: "Across the Himalayas: The introduction of biomedicine to Tibet". Alex McKay (UCL). 4pm, Room 2.57, Simon Bldg. All welcome.

Manchester Medical Society IMAGING Mini Symposium:

"Computer assisted diagnosis". Dr M E Roddie (Hammersmith) and Dr P M Taylor (Manchester). 6pm, Postgraduate Health Sciences Centre, MRI. (Buffet from 7.45pm £5 payable in advance).

School of Materials: "Realising the potential of nanodimensional materials". Prof Paul O'Brien (Manchester). 6.45pm, Room D13, Manchester Materials Science Centre. All welcome.

NPCRDC: "Social Inclusion, the new policy agenda and the role of primary care". David Morris, Public Health and Professional Liaison (Dept of Health). 2pm, Seminar Room 2, 5th Floor, Williamson Bldg.

Planning and Landscape: "Green future: research into the management of multifunctional urban greenspace in England". Alan Barber (Manchester). 4pm, Hanson Room, Humanities Bridgeford Street.

Wednesday 23 February

Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science:

"Sustainable development of industrial biotechnologies". Prof Joseph Hulse (Manchester). 12pm, Room JC63/64, Floor C, The Mill.

Manchester Medical Society PSYCHIATRY Symposium:

"Neurological/biological disorders of psychiatry". Speakers: Prof D Neary (Salford), Dr M Dolan (Salford), Prof J T O'Brien (Newcastle), and Prof A Jackson (Manchester). Presidential address by Dr P L Strickland (Manchester). 2pm, Lecture Theatre 1, Education and Research Centre, Wythenshawe Hospital.

Sociology: "Modernising colonialism: The British Labour Movement and Africa". Paul Kelemen. 4pm, Room 4.9, Roscoe Bldg.

Life Sciences AstraZeneca Seminar: "Small molecule and genetically encoded reporters of protein trafficking and protein-protein interactions". Alice Ting (MIT, USA). 12pm, LT1, Stopford Bldg.

Theoretical Physics: Title to be announced. Eddie Cohen (Rockerfeller). 2.30pm, Neils Bohr Room, Schuster Laboratory.

Thursday 24 February

Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science:

"Proteins separation from waste food by ion exchange". Prof Mario Daiz Fernandez (University of Oviedo, Spain). 12pm, Room JC63/64, Floor C, The Mill.

Manchester Medical Society PUBLIC HEALTH FORUM:

Festival of Public Health Work. Joint meeting with the Public Health Grand Rounds of the Evidence for Population Health Unit. 2pm, Jubilee Room, The University Refectory, Burlington St.

Monday 28 February

Institute of Innovation Research: "Why do firms lose patent races? Evidence from the high-end computer industry". Jonathan Aylen (Manchester). 4pm, Room 10.05, Harold Hankins Building, Precinct Centre. Tea and coffee available from 3.45pm.

Manchester Medical Society ODONTOLOGY Symposium:

"Professions complimentary to dentistry". 2pm, MANDEC.

Tuesday 1 March

School of Education Inaugural Lecture: "More Leadership? Challenging Current Orthodoxies". Prof Helen Gunter (Manchester). 5.30-7.30pm, CEL Training Room, Ground Floor, Humanities Building Devas Street.

CCSR: "Mapping Muslims in Britain". Serena Hussain (Bristol). 4pm, 2nd Floor, Crawford House (entrance via Booth St East).

School of Nursing Midwifery & Social Work Research Forum:

"Learning research methods can be fun! An evaluation of a problem-based learning approach to research methods teaching". Caroline Carlisle. 12.30pm, COPE Room, Coupland 3 Bldg.

NPCRDC: "Health policy initiatives equity and uptake: Can the concepts of social comparison and social capital help us?" Anne Rogers (Manchester). 2pm, Seminar Room 2, 5th Floor, Williamson Bldg.

Planning and Landscape: "Making water work: intermediaries, regional strategies and local practices". Will Medd (Salford & Lancaster) Simon Marvin (Salford). 4pm, Hanson Room, Humanities Bridgeford Street.

Wednesday 2 March

School of Materials: "Aerospace review - challenge for the future". Prof Andrew Walker (NATEC). 2.15pm, Room D13, Manchester Materials Science Centre.

Manchester Medical Society MEDICINE Symposium:

"Medical Emergencies". Speakers: Dr J R Crampton (South Manchester), Dr F W Ballardie (Manchester), Dr N M Craven (East Lancashire), and Prof J Radford (Christies). 2pm, MANDEC.

Theoretical Physics: "Dynamics of filament/motor mixtures". Tannie Liverpool (Leeds). 2.30pm, Neils Bohr Room, Schuster Laboratory.

Transport Seminar: "The Community's Viewpoint". Speaker from Friends of the Earth. 5.30pm, Cordingley Lecture Theatre, Humanities Bridgeford Street.

Life Sciences AstraZeneca Seminar: "DNA replication stalling, recombination and chromosomal rearrangements". Tony Carr (Sussex). 12pm, LT1, Stopford Bldg.

Thursday 3 March

Manchester Medical Society SOCIETY:

"Ulcers, veins and silk". Prof R Moots (Aintree). "Scar Wars". Prof M W J Ferguson CBE (Manchester). 6pm, MANDEC.

Imaging Science and Biomedical Engineering:

"Primary tumours of the liver". Dr M B Taylor (Christies). 5.15pm, LT3, Stopford Bldg.

Monday 7 March

Institute of Innovation Research: "Terrorism and counter-terrorism: science and technology policy issues". Andrew James (Manchester). 4pm, Room 10.05, Harold Hankins Building, Precinct Centre. Tea and coffee available from 3.45pm.

Tuesday 8 March

CCSR: "Census-taking 2011 - a local authority view". Sheila Ritchie (Manchester City Council). 4pm, 2nd Floor Crawford House, (entrance via Booth St East).

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, Williamson Bldg.

CHSTM Seminar: Title to be announced. Ian Fairlie (CERRIE). 4pm, Room 2.57, Simon Building.

Planning and Landscape: "Planning and climate change". Elizabeth Wilson (Oxford Brookes University). 4pm, Hanson Room, Humanities Bridgeford Street.

Noticeboard

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: Amgen Trainees' Prize Evening. 5.30pm, LT2, Stopford Bldg.

Theoretical Physics: "Low temperature decoherence of qubit by environment". Igor Lerner (Birmingham). 2pm, Room J9, Sackville Bldg.

Thursday 10 March

Imaging Science and Biomedical Engineering: "What's the point of myocardial perfusion imaging?" Dr R A R Coudren (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.Trowler@whnt.nhs.uk.

British Computer Society: "Legal Risk Management". Rachel Burnett. 6.15pm buffet, 6.45pm Lecture. Renold Bldg, off Sackville Street. Further details: www.bcsmanchester.org.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. Tea and coffee available from 3.45pm

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-U Laasch. 6pm, Postgraduate Health Sciences Centre, MRI (buffet from 7.45pm £5 payable in advance).

NPCRD: "A sustainable leader network". Tara Catalano (Griffith University). 2pm, Seminar Room 2, 5th Floor, Williamson Bldg.

CHSTM Seminar: "The many deaths of Lord Salisbury's gardener: historical cultures of electricity and risk". Graeme Gooday (Leeds). 4pm, Room 2.57, Simon Building. All welcome.

Wednesday 16 March

School of Law European Matrix Seminar: Title tbc. Prof Michael Dougan (Liverpool). 2.15pm, Room 3.07, Williamson 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: Inaugural 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.

Life Sciences AstraZeneca Seminar: "EGF receptor mutations in human lung cancer". Jeffrey Settleman (Massachusetts General Hospital). 12pm, LT1 Stopford Bldg.

Thursday 17 March

Manchester Medical Society PAEDIATRICS: "Child health old and new: an exploration of current practice in managing acute and chronic childhood disease and problems". 12.30pm Lunch, 1.30pm Meeting. Education Centre, Royal Bolton Hospital.

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 JC63/64, C Floor, The Mill (refreshments served).

Tuesday 22 March

NPCRD: "Beyond self interest: Financial incentives and internal motivation". Prof Martin Marshall (Manchester). 2pm, Seminar Room 2, 5th Floor, Williamson Bldg

British Computer Society: "The Ferranti Sirius". John Fiest. 5pm for 5.30pm, Museum of Science and Industry, Liverpool Road.

2nd Manchester Lecture on Environment and Development

The University of Manchester
Wednesday 9 March
Immigrants and Citizens - A New Architecture for Political Membership
by Prof Saskia Sassen, University of Chicago
3.30pm, Crawford House Lecture Theatre 1

Protection of the Citizen

RSA North West Region jointly with The British Association for the Advancement of Science
8 March 2005, 6.00pm for 6.30pm
Panel Discussion: "Protection of the Citizen"
The Manchester Museum
The University of Manchester,
Oxford Road, Manchester
Chairman: Peter Fell, Director Strategic Corporate Relations, UoM
Panellists: Prof Steve Reid (Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering, UoM)
Dr Tim Cootes (Imaging Science and Biomedical Engineering, UoM)
Chris Yates (Airport Security Consultant)

What are the challenges of violence on our streets, terrorism and personal identification? How can barriers and structures be designed to withstand high velocity impact? Will advanced imaging science perfect facial recognition techniques and combat deception? What needs to be done to ensure a safe environment for the air-traveller? These are but some of the questions that will be addressed by the panellists. An open forum for questions and discussion will follow.

For further details or to book a place contact Geraint Jones, 0161 980 5077 or email: dgjones@iee.org

Sherman Lectures 2005

"Rethinking the Jewish World for the 21st Century". Speaker: Prof Barry A Kosmin
5.15pm, Humanities Lime Grove Lecture Theatre.

Mon 7 March
Lecture 1: "Zachor (Remember): From Antisemitism to Judeophobia".

Tuesday 8 March
Lecture 2: "Kehilla (Community): Jewish Identity and Continuity".

Wednesday 9 March
Lecture 3: Kibbutz Galuyot (Return of the Exiles): Israel as a Multicultural Society".

Thursday 10 March
Lecture 4: Masoret (Tradition, Chinuch (Education), Tarbut (Culture): The Jewish Cultural Renaissance".

These lectures will be preceded by the Community Sherman Lecture on Sunday 6 March on "Triumph, tragedy and transformation: the Jewish experience 1905-2005", 8pm, Marnock House (ring 0161 720 8721 for confirmation).

Classifieds

HOUSE FOR SALE

Audenshaw. 1 bedrm, 1 kit, 1 bathrm, hall, stairs & landing. Dble glazed throughout, GCH, cooker & w/machine. Close to M60 ring rd, train station & bus services. Great loc for city centre & surrounding areas. Would suit single person or couple. £69,950. 0161-306 3196 or email: l.hurd@manchester.ac.uk

ACCOMMODATION TO LET

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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 mths 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.

Spacious 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

Cholton. Rm avail in shared hse. £49pw. 07887 775 556 after 3.30pm.

Bramhall. 3 bed hse. Nr village & shops. Quiet loc, exc interior. Small f & b gdn, driveway, patio & large brick garage. Staff only. £700pcm on 6 mnth lease. 0161-432 4435 or 07869 295 747.

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City Centre. Luxury f/f apart to let. 2 bed, 2 bath, parking. Avail March. £800pcm. 07966 038 692 or email: hemal.ranjani@ukbiobank.ac.uk

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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

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Shoprider electric buggy, 4-wheeler £400. Locomotor bath-lift chair, battery driven £300. Wheelchair, black & chrome £100. Beechwood commode chair £50. Cantilever bedside table adjustable height £20. 0161-980 7004 or 07747 577 052 or email: r.f.griffiths@manchester.ac.uk

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Just The Job

Dr David Barker

Head of Faculty Administration, Life Sciences

The job of Head of Faculty Administration within Life Sciences is a demanding role, but one that Dr David Barker clearly relishes.



It is also a position that was evidently made for him combining as it does the management expertise he gained at North West Water with a biological environment (gained a PhD studying marine phytoplankton at Birmingham University).

"I enjoy being around biologists and being in a university environment," says David, who grew up in Macclesfield. "But during my degree I realised it was the things I did outside of my studies that I took most pleasure in, like being on committees and interacting with people.

"That's how I came to work for North West Water, but after six years I was beginning to miss my biology and was ready for a change."

So when David saw a job at the University as Development Officer in the School of Biological Sciences, he jumped at the chance.

"Emotionally I considered myself a biologist so it seemed ideal, as the post combined my experience in management with my biological training."

In 2002 David took up the newly-created post of School Manager, effectively the Dean's right-hand-man or "Sir Humphrey to the Minister", as he affectionately refers to it.

The merger of UMIST and The Victoria University of Manchester led to the creation of the new post of Head of Faculty Administration, and David was direct transferred to the position.

"I'm responsible for all administrative activities in Life Sciences and represent the Administration, on the Faculty Management Team," explains David.

"The job entails anything and everything, from dealing with staff problems to defining the Estates requirement for the Faculty."

Every day is different, he says, which - considering he readily admits to becoming bored easily - is probably not a bad thing.

"While the role is constant, the environment within which I operate isn't. It's a great job made better by the people I work with.

"I have a great team of extremely able, conscientious and helpful staff, and we work in a genuine partnership with academic colleagues.

"There's very much a 'can do' attitude within the Faculty, and I don't think there is anywhere better to work in the new University than within Life Sciences."

When not at work, David likes nothing better than to get into the outdoors, where he is a keen skier, walker and, capitalising on his scientific training, a PADI-trained Rescue Diver.

Next Issue is 7 Mar

News Contact

News and story ideas

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Jo Nightingale (Weds pm - Fri)

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Deadline 24 Feb

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