

# UniLife

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Volume 3 Issue 7



Minister's praise for  
'world-leading' Manchester



## Features



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## Letter from the President



At the February Board of Governors Conference a syndicate group was asked as part of a broader strategic planning exercise to consider the relative priority of e-learning among the many things that needed to be done on the road to *Manchester 2015*. The exercise was repeated at the Faculties and Schools Conference in March. In both cases the syndicate groups were also asked to evaluate the risk to the *2015 Agenda* of failure to achieve our twin objectives of (i) embedding e-learning as a major enriching element in the learning experiences of all campus-based students, and (ii) delivering a range of wholly on-line, fee-based programmes to students around the world, probably through various forms of partnership with the Open University.

In each case the groups concluded that these e-learning objectives were strategically important. Arrestingly, however, they rated as only “medium” the risk to the *Manchester 2015 Agenda* of failing to deliver on e-learning.

Is there still too much complacency about the e-learning imperative? My own view is that within a few short years, 18-21 year-olds brought up since early childhood in pervasively digital environments will be increasingly intolerant of pedagogies of learning and modalities of knowledge acquisition, analysis and presentation familiar to teachers socialised into the learning environments of the 1970s, '80s and '90s. The digital revolution is not leaving teaching and learning unscathed. Risks associated with a business-as-usual approach are high, and the only way to avoid them is to give the development of e-learning appropriately high priority.

Given the increasing dependence of the University on growing fee-based revenues as a vital part of our strategy for underwriting an ambitious “good” to “great” transition, the same kind of urgency applies to the wider development of high-demand on-line programmes for external students.

Such thinking explains the recent decision to allocate £2.5 million in 2006-07 to seed-fund e-learning developments. A pool of £2 million will be reserved for major projects in areas where e-learning capability is already well-developed, essentially to fund specific plans for the early offering of external on-line programmes. A second pool will provide for £0.5 million to be invested in the first year to support academic teachers who want to develop *learning objects* to enrich campus-based courses or otherwise enhance their technological and/or pedagogical skills in relation to e-learning.

May such scarce funds be wisely spent.

Professor Alan Gilbert  
President and Vice-Chancellor.

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Energy Minister Malcolm Wicks  
with Professor John Perkins,  
Vice-President and Dean of the  
Faculty of Engineering and  
Physical Sciences

Photo by Ed Swinden



## Energy Minister's praise for Manchester

**Energy Minister Malcolm Wicks described The University of Manchester as 'world-leading' when he met with senior academics last month to discuss Manchester's nuclear and renewable energy research capability.**

The Minister met with Professor John Perkins, Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, and other senior academics as part of a series of regional visits in line with the Government's Energy Review.

Following the meeting held in the Sackville Street Building Council Chamber, Malcolm Wicks said: "The University of Manchester is a leading United Kingdom university when it comes to expertise in all aspects of energy provision.

"But it is undoubtedly one of the world's leading universities when it comes to nuclear energy and wider energy efficiency issues. From what I've seen of the University, I've been incredible impressed and encouraged."

The meeting focused heavily on nuclear power and the research capabilities of Manchester's Dalton Nuclear Institute.

Richard Clegg, Director of the Institute, used the opportunity to reinforce Dalton's mission, saying: "The Energy Review needs to be the opportunity for modern nuclear power to demonstrate its credentials as being safe, affordable and clean. The Dalton Nuclear Institute will provide authoritative and independent input to the energy debate covering all important issues associated with the science of the nuclear option."

On Dalton, Malcolm Wicks said: "Here at The University of Manchester's Dalton Institute, we see pioneering research vital to nuclear clean-up and future reactor technologies."

Professor Nick Jenkins, Director of the Joule Centre for Energy Research and Dr Frank Allison, who is leading the commercial development of the University's Manchester Bobber wave device for UMIP, also met with the Minister.

Malcolm Wicks, Labour MP for Croydon North, is leading the Government's Energy Review. The consultation's aim is to consider all aspects of the UK's energy system, including both energy supply and demand. It sets out to find what should be done to secure clean, affordable energy for the long term. The public phase of the Review lasts until 14 April 2006.



### In brief

#### New Director appointed for The Whitworth Art Gallery

Following an international search, the Appointment Panel of the Whitworth, chaired by the University's Chancellor, Anna Ford, has appointed Maria Balshaw as Director of The Whitworth Art Gallery.

Maria is currently the Director of Creative Partnerships in Birmingham. Whilst there, she has developed the organisation into a nationally recognised beacon of good practice in creative arts education. Under her leadership, this flagship DCMS (Department of Culture, Media and Sport) creative education programme was set up and launched in 2002 to work with 26 schools, 20 major arts and cultural organisations and 85 individual artists across Birmingham.



Previously, Maria was a research fellow and lecturer in American Visual Culture at the University of Birmingham and is currently a participant in the Clore Leadership Programme.

Professor Paul Layzell, Vice-President for University Development, said: "The University is delighted that Maria has accepted the post of Director and her appointment adds tremendous value to a strong curatorial and support team at the Whitworth Art Gallery. I know that Maria is determined to ensure that the Whitworth plays its full role in the life of The University of Manchester and beyond."

Maria will take up her formal responsibilities in early July 2006. She said: "Although I am officially in post by July, prior to that, I anticipate visiting the Whitworth to meet with staff, engage with Faculties and Schools and take a lead in the strategic planning and budget discussions currently underway in the University. I am looking forward to taking up the challenge such a role will present."





## News in brief

### Professor Gilbert speaks at Institute of Financial Services (IFS)

The annual Institute of Financial Services (IFS) President's Dinner was held at Guildhall in London on 8 February 2006. Professor Gilbert was one of two speakers on the night, where he focused upon the existing relationship between the University, the IFS and the current economic climate in relation to the world of finance.

The annual dinner was established in 1959 to "promote and maintain the prestige of the finance industry." Professor Gilbert's attendance coincided with the tenth anniversary of the collaborative relationship, which awards the BSc in Financial Services/ACIB.

### Service with a smile!

School of Dentistry graduates Sarah-Jane Johnston and Kay Shepard have won Prizes for Professionalism from the General Dental Council. The Prizes are awarded annually for student professionalism in areas such as patient care, clinical governance, team-working, communication skills, reliability, integrity and knowledge.

### University staff and students tread the boards at the RNCM

Staff and students from The University of Manchester are to perform a production of *My Fair Lady* at the Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM), as members of the South Manchester Amateur Operatic Society (SMAOS).

Members of SMAOS come from across the University, with musical direction from Ian Christensen, a former Senior Lecturer from the Department of Psychology. SMAOS, which recently celebrated its golden anniversary, usually performs two musical productions a year. *My Fair Lady* is at the RNCM from 25 - 29 April 2006, with ticket prices ranging from £8-12. Tickets are available from the RNCM box office or directly from the society at the web address below.

[www.smaos.org.uk/](http://www.smaos.org.uk/)

# Foundation year 'opens wide' access to Medicine and Dentistry



Mr Rammell meets students from the college

**Bill Rammell MP, the Minister for Lifelong Learning, Further and Higher Education, officially launched the University's Foundation Year in Medicine and Dentistry at Xaverian College in Rusholme in March 2006.**

In September 2006, Xaverian will welcome Medicine and Dentistry undergraduates from the University who don't have the traditional qualifications for entry to its standard five-year degree

course. They will attend classes at both locations to prepare for the first year of the degree, to which entry is automatic on satisfactory completion of the year.

The foundation year will include course units covering the core syllabus, using 'problem-based learning' concepts, teaching sessions covering the relevant basic sciences, special study modules with a clinical orientation and guest lectures by clinicians.

There are only six similar courses in Schools of Medicine and four in Schools of Dentistry in the country. The University's course is the first to be in partnership with an FE college with the aim of widening participation.

Principal of the College, Tony Andrews, welcomed Mr Rammell and senior attendees from both institutions to the launch, before Director of Admissions for the School of Medicine, Professor David Yates, spoke about the significance of the foundation year. He said: "The University is determined to make its internationally-renowned medical and dental courses accessible to all students with academic potential. We recognise the merits of diversity and the importance of opening up our courses to a wider group of applicants, and we already offer a successful in-house preparatory year for those with non-standard qualifications.

"This new link with Xaverian College will broaden its appeal and enrich the learning experience of under-represented groups who aspire to become doctors and dentists."

## Gallery unveils 1,000 year-old clothing collection

**An exhibition displaying rare clothing from Egypt opens at The Whitworth Art Gallery on 18 May 2006, using 21st Century science and technology to bring to life clothes that are over 1,000 years old. Forensic science and computer-generated animation – as used in films such as *Toy Story* and *The Incredibles* – both play a significant part in this unique exhibition, to be shown only in Manchester.**

Most of the well preserved linen and wool clothes were donated in 1897 by the Victorian archaeologist, W.M Flinders Petrie, who discovered the clothes in cemeteries in the Fayum area of Egypt. The dry desert conditions in which they were buried saved the clothes from disintegration. Many of them remain nearly complete and are surprisingly colourful.

Due to the delicate nature of the clothes, this is the first time in almost 100 years that the public can see so much of this collection.

Modern science and technology played no small part in bringing the clothes to exhibition. Artist Jane Harris has been commissioned to enable visitors to gain a greater understanding of some of the garments on display. A 3D computer-generated animation literally resurrects one particular garment – a fragmented, 4th Century linen tunic – from the grave.

Visitors to the exhibition will enter a specially constructed room to 'see' a life-size woman performing her morning routine, dressing in and then moving around in the tunic. Harris used motion capture technology – more commonly used in animated movies, such as for the Gollum character in *Lord of the Rings* – to create a life-like 3D model of the tunic, and reveal how it would have looked on a moving, human form. The resulting visual is ethereal, yet eerily 'real'.

Clothing Culture: Dress in Egypt in the First Millennium AD  
18 May – 10 September 2006



President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert and Professor Brenda Gowley, Vice-Chancellor of the Open University

# Manchester and OU sign partnership agreement

**The University of Manchester and The Open University (OU) have agreed a new partnership to develop and offer combined degree programmes, focussed initially on overseas student markets.**

The partnership will allow the UK's two largest universities to access each other's curriculum and draw on their complementary strengths in serving both part-time and full-time students.

The President and Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Alan Gilbert, and Professor Brenda Gourley, Vice-Chancellor of the OU, signed a Memorandum of Understanding last month in London (pictured above).

Professor Alan Gilbert said: "The OU is undoubtedly the world leader in modern distance and open learning, in the development of multimedia-based learning materials and in the excellence of its student support systems. These competitive advantages, coupled with the OU's growing strength and sophistication in on-line delivery, make it an ideal partner for The University of Manchester as we seek to enrich the learning experience of our campus-based students and embark on our ambitious international plans."

Professor Brenda Gourley said: "The OU has 30,000 international students all around the world and has much experience in delivering learning outside of the UK. The curriculum and research experience that Manchester brings to the partnership will allow us to jointly explore new learning and teaching opportunities in order to serve new markets overseas. Our joint commitment to global social justice will also be supported by this initiative helping us provide access to higher education to people in developing countries around

the world, including those in Africa and thus contributing to the poverty agenda that Manchester has recently announced."

The two universities have already identified several potential areas for collaboration, which will provide a range of flexible options for overseas students to combine study in the UK with distance learning in their home country. Initial offerings will be targeted in key markets in China, India and other parts of Asia, as well as smaller but just as important markets in Africa and Latin America.



## News in brief

### Prestigious British Academy lecture held at Manchester

The British Academy's prestigious Isaiah Berlin lecture was held this year for the first time at The University of Manchester. Hosted by Social Anthropology, it was delivered by Professor Dame Marilyn Strathern of the University of Cambridge, one of the world's leading and most respected anthropologists.

The Isaiah Berlin lecture forms part of the British Academy's established lecture series. It was funded this year by both the British Academy and The University of Manchester and was co-organised by Andrea Blower of the Careers and Employability Division.

Professor Strathern has close associations with the University, having formally been chair of The Victoria University of Manchester's Social Anthropology department. Professor Wade, Head of Social Anthropology, said: "This was an important event for The University of Manchester – and a very successful one. Professor Strathern is not only one of our friends, but also one of the foremost and most innovative anthropologists in the world. We were delighted to welcome her back to Manchester for such a prestigious occasion."

### Manchester defend their title at Salford Quays

**The 2006 Two Cities Boat Race between The University of Manchester and the University of Salford will take place on Saturday 6 May 2006.**

The 35th Annual Boat Race sponsored by Henri Lloyd, will see crews from both institutions battle it out over seven events at Salford Quays.

The University of Manchester will be hoping to retain the title, having won the 2005 Regatta, after clawing back an early lead by the University of Salford. But Salford, with a strengthened side and home advantage, are quietly confident they can snatch the title back from their local rivals.

For more details visit the Two Cities Boat Race at the website below.



[www.twocitiesboatrace.co.uk](http://www.twocitiesboatrace.co.uk)



## In brief

### Fairs for aspiring TV Presenters and Police Officers

Students seeking alternatives to corporate careers recently flocked to Manchester Academy to attend two fairs run by the Careers and Employability Division. Creative City focused on how best to enter and succeed in the creative industries, while Kaleidoscope highlighted the broad range of opportunities available in the public and not-for-profit sectors.

Project Manager, Anna Lomas, said: "Since competition for graduate career opportunities is fierce within the creative sector, work experience and networking are crucial. Creative City enabled students and graduates to create their own opportunities by meeting with many key players in the North West's thriving creative sector."

Kaleidoscope, which was sponsored by The Independent, attracted over 1,300 students and graduates, who met with representatives from 81 organisations, including Greater Manchester Police, Barnardo's, the British Council, Teach First and Raleigh International.

The Careers and Employability Division organises several careers fairs throughout the year. The next is the summer Graduate Recruitment Fair on 14 and 15 June.

[www.manchester.ac.uk/careers/fairs](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/careers/fairs)

### Manchester student's voluntary work hits the nation's screens

Final year Neuroscience undergraduate Claire Sexton was one of a select few outstanding student volunteers to feature in the Community Channel's recent 'University of Life' documentary, which was broadcast on Sky Digital, Telewest, Freeview and ntl channels.

Twenty-two-year-old Claire, who received the Student Volunteering England Gold Award for her voluntary work at Stockport Day Centre, with adults with severe and enduring mental illnesses, has become quite a celebrity on the student volunteering circuit.

She spoke to senior managers within universities at the Higher Education Community Engagement Conference, held at the Manchester Conference Centre, about the value of student volunteering in enhancing teaching and learning. She was also recently asked to present at the National Student Volunteering Conference in Coventry.

Volunteering at Stockport Day Centre has encouraged Claire to apply for a PhD in Psychiatry.

## VP's View



This month's UniLife contains details of the agreement recently signed by The University of Manchester and the Open University (OU). The two institutions will seek to work together as strategic partners to develop a range of e-learning materials for use at home and overseas.

Although each partner has traditionally taken different approaches to delivering high quality teaching and learning, from campus-learning to distance-learning, the demands and needs of all our students are changing.

Only this week, it was reported that on average we now browse the internet more than we watch television. Other developments such as podcasting and video on-demand are changing the way we acquire knowledge and learn.

The University of Manchester and the OU recognise that these developments will underpin radical changes in the way we will deliver teaching and learning in the future, with a convergence in campus-based and distance-learning to provide

highly-flexible, individualised learning for students, irrespective of their physical environment.

The partnership agreement enables the two institutions to draw on each others' strengths: the breadth of the Manchester curriculum and the world-class research which refreshes and enhances its taught programmes; the considerable experience of the OU providing first class student support and high quality online course material; and both with enviable brand and reputation in their respective markets.

Working in partnership with the OU, Manchester has an opportunity to significantly enhance the experience of its students, as well as opening up new markets overseas to offer joint degrees to students who are unable to come to the UK.

The only limit to our success will be the extent of our ambition!

Professor Paul Layzell  
Vice-President, University Development

## Sports Day gives youngsters a taste of Uni life



Year 9 pupils have a go at Street Dance

Students on the University's Sports Volunteer Scheme gave youngsters from local schools in Rochdale, Tameside and Stockport a taste of university life when they visited the Armitage Sports Centre on 7 May 2006.

'Sports Day 2006', which was supported by the AimHigher Greater Manchester Student Ambassador Scheme, saw 70 Year 9 pupils gain an insight into the extra-curricular activities which many students enjoy whilst at university. The pupils had a go at Street Dance, one of the University's popular fitness classes, as well as Strength, Agility and Quickness training (SAQ), a form of training used by the Athletic Union teams. Pupils were also able to try Netball, a sport offered in the University's popular Campus Sport leagues.

In addition, pupils listened to presentations and discussions on student life led by the Student Ambassadors and received careers advice from the Careers Service.

## Honours

## In brief

### Professor Jos Arrillaga receives New Years Honour

Former UMIST student and lecturer, Emeritus Professor Jos Arrillaga, now of the University of Canterbury in New Zealand has been awarded Membership of The New Zealand Order of Merit (M.N.Z.M.), for services to electrical engineering.

Emeritus Professor Jos Arrillaga emigrated to New Zealand in 1975 and earned his award by his contribution to the electrical power industry and the education of electrical power engineers in New Zealand during his career as scholar, teacher, research leader and author. He has supervised the studies of 50 postgraduate engineers - most to doctoral level - in New Zealand. Some of the engineers trained by Professor Arrillaga have since become leaders in the New Zealand power generation and power transmission industries.

He has played a significant role in the development of high-voltage direct-current (HVdc) transmission systems worldwide. New Zealand's own HVdc system is recognised throughout the world as a significant leader in its field. Professor Arrillaga's contribution in the field was recognised by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE USA), which in 1997 awarded him the Uno Lamm Medal.

Born in Bilbao, Professor Arrillaga graduated in Electrical Engineering in Spain in 1955. He spent six years in industry, first in Spain and then in the U.K. In 1961, he joined The University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST) as a research student, and received his Masters and PhD degrees in 1963 and 1966, respectively. After a brief stint as a lecturer at the University of Salford, he returned to UMIST, where by 1970 he had become, as a Senior Lecturer, head of the Power Systems and High Voltage group. This group was, at the time, the main centre of Power System Research in Europe.



Speakers at the event

## Manchester hosts industrial research funding debate

**The University of Manchester hosted the first national event debating the climate for industrial research funding in the UK, co-sponsored by the Royal Academy of Engineering on 23 February 2006.**

The event, which was chaired by John Baxter FREng, Chief Engineer with BP, was held with the aim of influencing future Government policy on industrial funding.

Representatives from major corporations (ABB, Rolls-Royce), funding bodies (NWDA) and government agencies (DTI), spin-out companies and SME's attended the event held at the Manchester Conference Centre.

A series of talks were delivered throughout the day representing the very different standpoints of these organisations on issues such as how to access university research expertise, simplifying existing routes to funding and how to manage funding-based relationships with major corporations.

Ian Lenagan, Chairman of WorkPlace Systems plc, delivered the SME perspective focusing on the frustrations he had faced in recent years in engaging with UK universities, but also highlighted his recent success in securing a research partnership within the University's School of Computer Science.

In contrast, Alasdair Rawsthorne, founder of Transitive, one of the University's first spin-out companies, put forward a very different perspective focusing on his decision to seek overseas investment in the United States.

Professor John Perkins, Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, delivered the view from the University focusing on how the Faculty managed relationships with Rolls-Royce, AstraZeneca and ABB.

Professor Perkins said: "The University is honoured to have been chosen by the Royal Academy of Engineering to host the first in what we hope will be a series of very influential events for HE, industry and Government."

## Grants and Contracts

The Personal Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU) at The University of Manchester has been awarded a grant of CAN\$3 million from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research/Instituts de Recherche en Santé du Canada. The grant has been awarded jointly with colleagues in Toronto to develop aspects of the PSSRU programme of work relating to balance of care in Canada.

Dr Curtis Dobson, Research Fellow from the Faculty of Life Sciences, and founder of research company, Ai2 Ltd, has been awarded a BBSRC Small Business Research Initiative Grant (SBRI) grant of £195,000. Ai2 is a spin-out company which is working to commercialise applications for a range of novel anti-infective compounds.





### The offspring of eternal youth

Forget the dirty nappies, constant feeding and sleepless nights – babies are the elixir of youth, according to the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work's Dr Dawn Skelton. As she explains on the National Geographic Channel programme 'Animal Ageing Secrets', which was screened on March 12 2006, research suggests women who raise a family later in life, tend to die later.

"The baby boomers of today are doing the right thing by having children much later - because the evidence is that the later you produce children, the longer your life span will be," she says.

"After the age of 30, there is a dramatic reduction in the hormone oestrogen in women. Leaving it longer before having your first child gives you a big burst of oestrogen, which helps in many ways with muscle, bone and nervous function."

The pregnancy rate in women over 40 is rising faster than in any other age group, with 22,700 becoming pregnant in 2004 - twice the number of 1988. Recent research found that a woman who had her last child aged 35 would reduce her risk of death in each subsequent year by 28 per cent, compared to a woman who gave birth for the last time at a younger age.

Scientists also say later pregnancy might mean a later menopause and the delayed onset of age-related diseases such as Alzheimer's. But Dawn says: "The old adages to keep fit and active physically and mentally, eat well and drink in moderation still stand for a healthier and longer life."

## Gene therapy could combat the harmful effects of radiotherapy

**Researchers at the University's Paterson Institute for Cancer Research, funded by Cancer Research UK, have developed an approach which could shield cancer patients' healthy stem cells during radiotherapy - enabling stronger doses to be administered safely.**

Many of the damaging side effects of radiotherapy are due to the death of bone marrow cells, which produce the blood cells vital for life. Radiation generates highly reactive 'free radical' chemicals inside the body which damage the DNA in cells, and if the cell cannot repair the damage it dies. This makes radiation an effective way of killing cancer cells, but also a significant threat to normal, healthy cells.

However, cells have developed their own way of protecting against this sort of damage. A family of molecules called superoxide dismutases (SOD) can convert some free radicals into hydrogen peroxide, which can then be disposed of harmlessly by the cell.

In a report published in the Journal of Gene Medicine, the team described the revolutionary technique it has developed to make marrow stem cells produce more SOD<sup>2</sup>, a member of the SOD family. This reduced the effects of radiation treatment on healthy bone marrow stem cells in the lab, and the team is now looking to develop the principle further.

Dr Tom Southgate said: "The extra gene bestowed significant protection from the unwanted side effects of radiation and we hope that our work will eventually lead to a pre-treatment to protect bone marrow in this way. This would allow doctors to use higher doses of radioactive components, such as newer, more effective treatments which take radioactive substances straight to cancer cells.

"There is still a great deal of work to be done before we can start trying it in patients, but the prospects are potentially very exciting."

## Tomorrow's medical researchers

**The School of Medicine has been 'outstandingly successful' in its bid to host new Department of Health (DH) Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs), as part of a flagship scheme to train the medical researchers of the future.**

A report for the DH asserted in October 2005 that the country's future health and well being depended on providing flexible training programmes, to allow young medical and dental professionals to combine a clinical career with research. Universities and NHS trusts then submitted applications to run research programmes to support ACFs.

Funding has now been granted for 104 programmes over five years, 11 of them at this University. The quality of academic and clinical training available was the key criterion for the allocation of the programmes, which will allow the University to offer 66 Academic Clinical Fellowships - 15 of them in 2006.

Programmes will be offered in Cardiovascular Medicine, Clinical Genetics, Medical Education, Dermatology, Gastroenterology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Occupational Medicine, Ophthalmology, Psychiatry, General Practice and Rheumatology, with the Fellowships within each being advertised nationally.



Professor Phil Baker, Associate Head of the School and its Director of Research, said: "I am pleased that the University has been so outstandingly successful in its bids for the new ACFs, which we feel will substantially enhance the academic career opportunities for doctors in training. I am grateful to everyone who put so much hard work into preparing for the bids, particularly Professor David Thompson whose painstaking efforts and strategic leadership have resulted in this remarkable success."

The Fellowships will allow trainee medics wishing to combine clinical and research work to spend a quarter to a third of their time on academic training and apply for a research training fellowship, at the same time as launching their specialist clinical training. The long term

aim is to increase the NHS' research capacity, by developing an expert workforce to support all aspects of clinical research.

Phil continued: "These programmes will allow us to attract the cream of the crop to Manchester, as well as emphasising the University's role as an excellent place to train clinical doctors. We are already receiving enquiries from strong candidates, including from London hospitals, and if their current base hasn't been awarded ACFs in their area, many strong candidates will be looking to move.

"These doctors' primary activity will be treating patients, and local people could further benefit from their research through early recruitment to clinical trials."





# Nobel Laureate to speak at the University

**Nobel Laureate Dr Tim Hunt, from Cancer Research UK, will be a guest of The University of Manchester when he addresses an international gathering of young researchers in April 2006. Dr Hunt was awarded his Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2006 with colleagues Lee Hartwell and Paul Nurse, for his discovery of key regulators of the cell cycle.**

Dr Hunt will be addressing delegates at the Marie Curie Conference (MC2): Putting the Knowledge Based Society in to Practice, which will take place between 10 and 12 April 2006 at The University of Manchester, with his sideways look at scientific research 'How to win a Nobel Prize'.

This conference is dedicated to researchers from across Europe exposing them to a wide variety of multi-disciplinary lectures, seminars and workshops. The conference will not only provide delegates with a rich combination of world class speakers known for their expertise in their own research areas and their skills in communicating science to a broad audience, but will also encourage and facilitate delegates in presenting their own research work to multidisciplinary groups. In addition to this, a series of training workshops and seminars will run across the event with opportunities for delegates to learn about and discuss current

policy movements in Europe, many of which are changing the research and employment landscape for young researchers in Europe.

Conference Chair, Dr Jason Rutter from The University of Manchester, said: "This conference provides the University with another opportunity to demonstrate the value it places on producing world class research, encouraging innovation in scientific thought and supporting the research careers of young researchers across the complete range of academic disciplines. Dr Hunt is known not only for his scientific excellence but the talent he has for inspiring researchers around him. His presence at the conference will undoubtedly be a highlight for the event and its delegates."

European Commission representatives who will be speaking at MC2 include Raffaele Liberali, Director for the Human Factor, Mobility and Marie Curie Activities, DG Research and Georges Bingen, Head of Strategy and Policy Unit, the Human Factor, Mobility and Marie Curie activities, DG Research. Other invited speakers include Steve Miller, Professor of Science Communication and Planetary Science at UCL; Dr Nathalie Moncel, senior researcher at CEREC in France; Dr Vladimir Demidyuk, Marie Curie Fellow in the School of Chemistry

at the University of Manchester; Dr Curtis Dobson, Director, Aiz Ltd; Jan Misker, University Relations Manager, Phillips Electronics in the Netherlands; István Palugyai European Union of Science Journalists' Associations/Science editor Nepszabadsag in Hungary; and Dr Fabien Petitcolas, Microsoft Research.

Further information on the event, its speakers and how to register, can be found at the web address below.

Anyone wishing to attend Dr Tim Hunt's key note presentation should contact Kerry Chantrey at [Kerry.Chantrey@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Kerry.Chantrey@manchester.ac.uk) for information on availability. Any remaining spaces in the theatre will be released following the close of the official registration period.



Dr Tim Hunt

## Research in brief



Professor Westerhoff delivers the lecture

### Hans receives warm welcome

**The inaugural lecture of Professor Hans Westerhoff, AstraZeneca Chair in Systems Biology, was held at The University of Manchester in February.**

Professor Westerhoff delivered his lecture, "Dancing the Molecules: Bringing Molecular Biology to Life and Systems Biology to Practice," to a packed lecture theatre in the Renold Building.

The lecture, which opened with music from Swan Lake, focused on the study of living cells and how information can be obtained from them through 'dance'.

In the lecture Professor Westerhoff described how in many ways cells function like society and that by playing molecular 'music' they can be made to respond in a way which enables them to be better understood.

After the lecture Dr John Stageman, Vice President at AstraZeneca, thanked Hans for his visionary lecture reiterating the importance of such work to the pharmaceutical industry in their quest to bring effective treatments to the population. He also emphasised the need for multi-disciplinary approaches to help understand complex biological systems at all levels, underpinned by the necessity to invest in leading measurement science and analysis.

Professor Richard Snook, who attended the lecture, said: "This was a truly inspirational lecture that demonstrates that Systems Biology is here to stay and which will re-define the way we carry out quantitative molecular and cellular studies in biology and medicine."

## Research in the News

- Research by Dr Dawn Skelton from the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work suggests that women who raise a family later in life tend to die later. Dr Skelton, who appeared in a television documentary, 'Animal Ageing Secrets' on the National Geographic Channel this month, said: 'By leaving it longer before having our first child, we're giving ourselves a big burst of oestrogen, which helps in many ways – muscle, bone and nervous function.' Dr Skelton's research appeared in the Daily Telegraph, the Daily Mail, the Daily Express and the Manchester Evening News, and she was also interviewed by BBC Radio GMR.
- The red tape burden on business has soared to more than £50billion since 1998, a report by Manchester and London business schools has found. Most of the additional burden derives from regulations passed during Tony Blair's first two terms, according to Professor Francis Chittenden from Manchester Business School. This story appeared in the Financial Times and The Times and was also covered by regional press.
- Scientists from the Paterson Institute for Cancer Research have developed a method which could protect the healthy cells of patients having radiotherapy. Research funded by Cancer Research UK suggests that gene therapy could be used to shield important, healthy cells, allowing doctors to use stronger doses of radiation safely. The research featured in articles in the Daily Mirror and the Manchester Evening News, and was also reported by Sky News online, BBC 1 North West Today and BBC Radio GMR.
- Astronomers from Jodrell Bank Observatory have discovered a new kind of star that sends out isolated fleeting flashes of radio waves. They now plan to aim more sensitive equipment at these new stars to better understand their true nature. The discovery was published in the journal 'Nature', and was also featured by the Daily Telegraph, Manchester Evening News and Manchester Metro News.
- Sticking to a familiar route can make it seem longer than it actually is, according to research carried out by Andrew Crompton from the School of Environment and Development. He asked 140 architecture students at the University to estimate the distance from the Students' Union building to familiar destinations along a straight road. Whereas first-year students estimated a mile-long path to be around 1.24 miles on average, jaded third year students stretched it to 1.45 miles. This story was reported by The Guardian and The Scotsman.

## Research Spotlight

# Sweet smell of success for electronic nose

**Have you ever stopped to think about your sense of smell? The ability of the nose, with its array of sensors, to pick up odours, good and bad, provides patterns of information for the brain to interpret and, in turn, produce appropriate reactions, from pleasure to revulsion, appetite to nausea.**

It is a remarkable thing – and it is the focus of research for Krishna Persaud, Professor of Chemoreception in the School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science (SCEAS). But his specialty is the electronic technology which mimics the way a biological nose works. The electronic nose provides a new automated method of detecting smells and interpreting them. It has an ever-increasing range of applications, from wound monitoring to landfill sites, quickly alerting us to problems that need to be dealt with, benefiting, in just these two examples, health care and the environment.

"We have been working on this for a long time, but there are a huge number of applications - and the work goes on and on," he says. "We have developed a number of monitoring devices to cope with different situations."

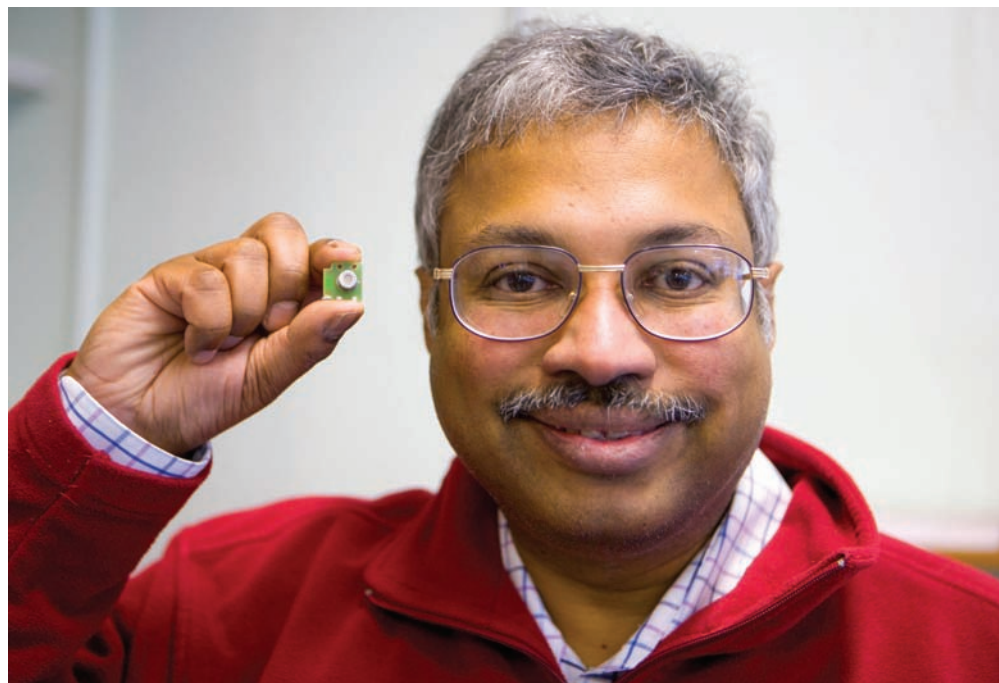
Professor Persaud is leading a €2.2 million research project, funded largely by the European Community for three years, involving researchers in the UK, Germany, Italy and Lithuania. Under the title WOUNDMONITOR, the project applies gas sensor array technology to help diagnose the onset and type of bacterial infections in critically ill patients suffering from serious wounds or burns. It provides an intelligent, mobile, non-invasive system of wound state monitoring. As bacteria emit smells as part of their metabolism, the electronic nose can

pick them up – and interpret them in half an hour, whereas microbiological testing of swabs can take typically three days. And if a patient has a bacterial infection, it may develop rapidly during the time normally taken for analysis.

"Our aim is to produce a non-invasive system device which can monitor the state of a patient's wound by detecting bad bacteria emitted into the air," say the researchers. "Using state-of-the-art sensors, we will be able to detect and diagnose the presence of an infection almost instantaneously." The Department of Burns and Plastic Surgery at South Manchester University Hospitals Trust is one of the partners, with SCEAS, in this project.

Landfill site monitoring is another major area of advance. "For the last two years, we have provided perimeter monitoring devices, that can pick up bad smells, detect greenhouse gases like methane, and provide a great deal of useful information on the effects on the neighbourhood and the environment," says Professor Persaud.

"Having a nose for it," as the saying goes, is quite an attribute. There are those who make a living out of it – from smelling sewage to smelling (and tasting) coffee and other foodstuffs. The new technology can replicate and automate these activities – and the electronic nose can penetrate places the biological nose would rather not go.







## Associate Vice-President for Graduate Education

Professor Nigel Vincent, Mont Follick Professor of Comparative Philology at The University of Manchester, has been appointed to the position of Associate Vice-President for Graduate Education. He will take up this post on 1 September 2006 from the current holder, Professor Gerald Hammond, who retires at the end of that month.

Professor Vincent completed his undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of Cambridge and has held lecturing posts at the Universities of London (Birkbeck College), Lancaster, Hull and Cambridge. He came to Manchester in 1987 and was the first Research and Graduate Dean in the Faculty of Arts at the former Victoria University of Manchester, and is currently the Associate Dean for Postgraduate Research in the Faculty of Humanities. He has supervised 24 PhD students to date.

In his new role, Professor Vincent will have responsibility for overseeing the University's policy for both taught and research postgraduates. Current items on that agenda are the relationship between taught and doctoral postgraduate programmes, the development of postgraduate skills training and the improvement across the board of PhD submission and completion rates.

Professor Vincent is the Chair of Main Panel M (Modern Languages, Linguistics and English) for the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise.

## Institutional Audit commends The University of Manchester

**The University of Manchester has been commended following its first external scrutiny in an Institutional Audit carried out by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA).**

The team of auditors visited the University at the end of October 2005 and spoke to members of staff and current students throughout the University, as well as reviewing a wide range of documentation relating to the ways in which the University manages its programmes of study.

The Institutional Audit is carried out nationally on behalf of HEFCE and checks the effectiveness of a university's procedures for establishing and maintaining academic standards and for ensuring the quality of the student experience.

A feature of the Institutional Audit is the inclusion of Discipline Audit Trails which are used to explore how university systems and procedures are working at the discipline level. The University had six such trails: Biology, Geography, Law, Linguistics, Physics and Psychology.

The audit resulted in the best possible outcome for the University, namely that the auditors agreed that "broad confidence can be placed in the soundness of the University's current and likely future management of the quality of its academic programmes and the academic standards of its awards."

The auditors commended the high level of resources made available to support student learning, the overall institutional pastoral support provided for students, the high quality Careers Service, the information and support provided for

pre-entry students and the support and environment for postgraduate research students, particularly at the local level.

The auditors noted that the University was still in its infancy at the time of their visit and therefore made some recommendations for the University to take forward. These recommendations relate to assessment policies and the institutional oversight of quality and standards. These areas are already part of a planned programme of work that is being undertaken by the Vice-President and Associate Deans for Teaching and Learning and the Teaching, Learning and Assessment Office.

Professor Bob Munn, Vice-President for Teaching and Learning, said: "The Institutional Audit is one of the first public appraisals of the new University and I am very pleased that the report was positive. Since we were anxious to shield students from any disruption in forming the new University, it is particularly gratifying that the auditors identified features of good practice relating to support for students. It is also reassuring that the report endorses our quality arrangements despite the rapid change we have been going through. With the follow-up actions already in hand, the report provides a sound basis for the future, not least for our Collaborative Provision Audit in the autumn."

The QAA is currently finalising its report of the audit ahead of publication at the web address below.



# Joseph's Journey

As firebrands go, Professor Joseph E Stiglitz cuts an unlikely figure with his slow, deliberate Midwestern style. The 2001 Nobel Prize winner is nonetheless one of the most influential economists of our time and an iconic appointment to the University.



As befits the chair of the Advisory Board for the University's new Brooks World Poverty Institute, Stiglitz is also one of the world's most radical thinkers, gaining a wide public audience with his 2002 book *Globalisation and Its Discontents*, criticising the International Monetary Fund, which he felt was more interested in squeezing repayments from poor countries than getting them back on their feet.

At his inaugural speech for the University in February 2006, he showed that he has lost none of his outrage at the West's indifference as he accused the US of wholesale killing by withholding the patents on lifesaving drugs.

"In signing those patent agreements we were condemning hundreds of thousands of people to death. AIDS and other medicines will no longer be affordable to hundreds of thousands of Africans," he said.

And he showed his famously acid sense of humour as he sketched out an aspect of America's trade policy in terms that were almost Pythonesque. "The US recently accused Poland of 'dumping' golf carts, illegally selling below cost. They did this by comparing production prices with the vastly more expensive Canada – a country which does not even produce golf carts," he said.





His readiness to fight the underdog's corner comes from his upbringing in the steel producing town of Gary, Indiana. The son of an insurance agent and a school teacher, he was always sensitive to the way in which his friends' parents in the factories would periodically be laid off, the victims of what economists coolly call 'cyclical unemployment.'

It was this urge to fight for the interests of the poorest in society, which led to his Nobel Prize winning research. In the 1970s he witnessed the wrenching poverty in the slums of Nairobi and was puzzled at how farmers still used inefficient techniques to harvest crops. Out of this was born his theory of 'asymmetric information', the fact that a lack of information by some agents can make markets inefficient in ways that can damage whole economies.

Stiglitz still focuses on how trade policy can deal a blow to individuals thousands of miles from the rooms in which such decisions are reached. "Between three and four billion dollars in cotton subsidies go to 25,000 farmers in the US. The damage it does is to lower the price across the world. Ten million farmers in Africa are punished by this self interest," he said.

This, in part, is why he decided to accept an appointment with the Brooks World Poverty Institute. "The problem of poverty in the Third World and across the world is complex and we need to understand the cause of it in order to get rid of it, but there is no one answer," he said.

The other reason is simple awe at Manchester as the crucible of modern economics and the quality of research it has produced. "Manchester has a long tradition in terms of trade and economic development research. Arthur Lewis, the great development economist taught here in the mid 1950s, and this has been the home of free trade since the anti-corn law protests of the 1800s," he said.

Professor Alan Gilbert is unequivocal about why Manchester needs him: "In Stiglitz, we have appointed one of the most eminent professors in the world and established Manchester as a global force in research into poverty.

"We are battling cancer, researching renewable energy and tackling poverty. By building those teams we can influence the thinking of governments around the world."

High praise and a huge task for the mild-mannered man from Indiana.

## Education

1963: Graduate of Amherst College

1967: PhD from Massachusetts Institute of Technology

1970: Professor at Yale

30 honorary doctorates to date

## Career

2005: The University of Manchester – Chair of the Brooks World Poverty Institute

2001: Columbia University, New York - Professor of Economics

2001: Awarded the Nobel Prize for Economics for his work on asymmetric information

1997-2000: World Bank - Senior Vice President and Chief Economist

1995-1997: Chair, Council of Economic Advisers to President Clinton

1993-1995: Member, Council of Economic Advisers to President Clinton

1988- 2001: Professor of Economics, Stanford University

1979 – 1988: Professor of Economics, Princeton University

1976 – 1979: Drummond Professor of Political Economy and Fellow of All Soul's College, Oxford

1974-76: Professor of Economics, Stanford University

1970-74: Professor of Economics, Yale University



Image courtesy of David Bennett

## Inquiring Minds

A class of curious 12 and 13-year-olds from The Barlow RC High School in South Manchester recently put their inquisitiveness to good use with special visits to The Manchester Museum to find out what goes on behind the scenes, as well as to learn a variety of new science skills.

'Inquiring Minds' is a Creative Partnerships Manchester Salford action research project, developed by science communicator, Dr Erinma Ochu in partnership with The Manchester Museum.

Creative Partnerships works to give school children throughout England the opportunity to develop their potential, their ambition, their creativity and imagination through sustainable partnerships with creative and cultural organisations, businesses and individuals.

The project explores creative ways to capture the imaginations of Year 8 pupils whilst developing their interest in science. Museum visits are supplemented with a programme of after-school workshops in design, filmmaking and weblogging, so that children can learn science, in addition to acquiring a host of transferable skills.

'Inquiring Minds' allows students to experience new learning environments, putting their science studies into a different context. Working with artists and museum staff, the young people have examined items from the Museum's collections and investigated aspects of conservation. A recent visit provided the opportunity to work with a conservator to clean a walrus skull.

Nancy Barrett, Creative Director of Creative Partnerships Manchester Salford, said: "Our goal is to get young people excited about science. We want them to enjoy the subject, feel like they've made a positive contribution and to feel that they have really achieved something through their science studies. The research at The Manchester Museum will help schools teach science more creatively in the future so young people are engaged."

[www.creative-partnerships.com](http://www.creative-partnerships.com)

## Drug-agreement boost for Manchester

**The University of Manchester has signed a deal with one of the UK's leading biotech-investment companies to help turn drug-related research into commercial reality.**

Modern Biosciences – the life sciences arm of intellectual property commercialisation company IP2IPO – will work with the University to identify investment opportunities leading to the creation of spin-out companies.

The University, which has already helped to establish a number of spin-outs such as Neutec Pharma, Renovo, Gentrionix, Al2 and Medeval, hopes the agreement will further enhance its commercial reputation.

Clive Rowland, Chief Executive of UMIP – the University's intellectual property commercialisation company, said: "This agreement further strengthens

our dynamic entrepreneurial activities and we look forward to working with Modern Biosciences in commercialising drug-related research."

Under the terms of the agreement, Modern Biosciences will provide investment capital and assist the commercialisation of relevant intellectual property.

Dr Alex Stevenson, Chief Operating Officer at Modern Biosciences, said: "Having reviewed a number of opportunities already in the pipeline we are confident of being able to add value to the outstanding research in drug discovery that is being carried out in Manchester.

"This is a good example of the way in which Modern Biosciences can work with research institutions to provide an alternative channel from the lab to industry for drug-related intellectual property."



North West Student Beach Clean, Fleetwood, Blackpool

## National Student Volunteering Week 2006

**National Student Volunteering Week 2006 was recently launched at an event held at the House of Commons. The University of Manchester's Manager of Manchester Student Volunteers (MSV), Andrea Rannard, attended the event, where she had the opportunity to discuss the subject of student volunteering with representatives from various political parties, including MPs Boris Johnson and Nick Clegg.**

The event kick-started National Student Volunteering Week 2006, which saw many

University of Manchester students take part in MSV's comprehensive programme of voluntary activities.

University students from across the region combined forces at Fleetwood, Blackpool (pictured above), for the annual North West Student Beach Clean. Over 140 students spent the day litter-picking and making a visible difference to the local environment.

Twenty-five student volunteers cleared litter and dug a pond for local residents in Princes' Spinney, Wythenshawe - an event run in collaboration with Manchester

City Council, Student Action Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University.

Andrea said: "Volunteering is a valuable experience for University of Manchester students, enabling them to make a significant contribution to the local community, whilst enhancing their employability."

MSV is part of the Careers and Employability Division. The project has been short-listed for a Big Difference Award in the Public Sector category for the second year running. Awards take place in April 2006.





Four times world champion swimmer James Hickman

## Hickman dives in to support Commonwealth Day

Champion swimmer James Hickman paid a visit to The Manchester Museum on 13 March 2006 to support Commonwealth Day and its theme 'Health and Vitality'. SPORT, part of Sport, Trading and Residential Services (STARS) organised a jam-packed schedule of activities for staff and students over lunchtime. Over 100 staff paid a visit to the Museum to take part in yoga, relaxation and power walking classes.

Commonwealth Day is a celebration of the beliefs, principles and diversity of people from across the Commonwealth. This year's theme highlighted the relevance of health, as illustrated in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDG's).

This is particularly relevant to the Commonwealth as two-thirds of the 40 million people living with HIV/AIDS live in the Commonwealth.

Four times world-champion swimmer, James Hickman, was on hand to offer health advice and encouragement. James has been at the top of his sport for the past ten years, becoming a three time Olympian in 2004 and winning over 30 international medals, including 12 gold, during his career.

The theme's reference to vitality captured the spirit of the XVIII Commonwealth Games, held in Melbourne. James Hickman, competed in the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester.

## 1,000 years of missing history

The University's Faculty of Life Sciences, in partnership with The Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester, the Muslim Youth Foundation and the Foundation for Science, Technology and Civilisation has developed a unique exhibition called '1001 inventions'.

Saf Gafoor, Access and Schools Liaison Officer, explains: "1001 Inventions: Discover the Muslim Heritage In Our World reveals some of the best kept secrets and scientific contributions made by ancient scholars that much of Western civilisation and the world now relies on. The exhibition uses advanced engineering principles, historical manuscripts and state of the art multi-media technology to bring to life an overlooked golden age of scientific innovation, pioneered by Muslims over one thousand years ago."

The exhibition is split into seven main zones: home, school, market, hospital, town, world and universe. The exhibition aims to encourage, inspire and motivate British youth – in particular young people from ethnic

communities – to pursue careers in science, engineering and technology. It uses a range of multimedia, including graphical simulations, 3D animations and interactive replicas to bring to life, amongst other discoveries on display, ingenious mechanical devices and automatic machines invented by Muslims.

The University as a whole is providing support for this exhibition and the Faculty of Life Sciences is running a series of Science Master Classes that echo the themes explored in the exhibition such as Optometry and Pharmacology. The Master Classes are hands-on interactive workshops for 14-18 year-olds, and organisers hope to attract over five hundred pupils to attend the workshops during the course of the exhibition.

The exhibition will run until 4 June 2006 at the Museum of Science and Industry, during which time an estimated 160,000 people will visit the Museum.

For further information on the exhibition contact: [sarfraz.gafoor@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:sarfraz.gafoor@manchester.ac.uk)

## Patients' Rights: Meaning and Action in Different Contexts

Delegates from Uganda, South Africa, Sierra Leone and the UK met in February 2006 at The University of Manchester to begin a programme of work around Patients' Rights. The one day workshop in the School of Environment and Development, attended by policy, provider and patient representatives, marked the start of an international collaboration to identify common international messages and foster mutual learning.

The idea of patients' rights is popular internationally to facilitate both concrete changes in the demand and provision of health care, and shift power between those involved - patients, health workers and policy making bodies.

However whilst increased participation and the establishment of a health rights dialogue could be instrumental in engaging communities as subjects of their own development, the processes through which this could and does occur are far from distinct and unproblematic. Although the intricacies of participation and patients rights agendas are locally specific, comparative lessons can be drawn on how individuals and communities might be empowered to be agents in their own health and development.

This international workshop aimed to facilitate the opening up of such a comparative learning process.



Some of the participants: Natalya Dinat, Jonathan Smith, Briony Smith, Sara MacKian, Frederick Kinteh, Robinah Kaitiritimba, Geraldine Murphy, Jennifer O'Brien, Loveday Penn-Kekana

# What's On



## The Whitworth Art Gallery

### DISPLAYS/COLLECTIONS

**The Object of Encounter: - Resonance and Wonder to February 2007**

**Now You See It – The Trevor Dannatt Collection to 7 May**

**Now, Voyager to 21 May**

**The Textile Gallery now open**

The new displays are arranged thematically around subjects such as Rites of Passage, Inspiration for Design and Recycling, with each highlighting the wide geographical and historical range of the collection.

### TOURS AND EVENTS

**Every Saturday at 2pm there is either an Exhibition Tour or an Eye-Opener Tour.**

**Whitworth Art Gallery,**  
Oxford Road, 0161 275 7450  
Gallery Café 0161 275 7497  
Gallery Shop 0161 275 7498

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

[www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth)

## Chaplaincies

### St Peter's House Chaplaincy SUNDAY WORSHIP

10.00am 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. Chaplains also available Monday to Friday Floor B, Room B25, Renold Building 0161 200 2522  
Precinct Centre 0161 275 2894 email: [sph.reception@manchester.ac.uk](mailto: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

### The Jewish Student Centre and Synagogue

Hillel House, Greenheys Lane.  
0161 226 1139  
[rabbiiy@hotmail.com](mailto:rabbiiy@hotmail.com)  
[www.rabbiiy.com](http://www.rabbiiy.com)

**Ambrose Mosque:** Tuer Street

**Mosque:** Sackville Street Building

**Prayer Room:** Renold Building

## Tabley House

Small conference and meeting rooms available year-round. Licensed for weddings and baby-naming ceremonies.

**Tabley House,**  
Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0HB 01565 750151  
[email.inquiries@tableyhouse.co.uk](mailto:email.inquiries@tableyhouse.co.uk)

[www.tableyhouse.co.uk](http://www.tableyhouse.co.uk)

## Contact Theatre

**Sat 22 April – Sat 29 April**

### Club Piranha

The London based Anglo-Brazilian theatre company Dende Collective will be working with Contact Young Actors Company during a residency at Contact. The results promises to be an intriguing show where the audience will enter a bizarre and magical world populated by the characters of surreal stories. Enter the lounge at your own risk and let your senses guide you!

**Fri 28 April – Sat 13 May**

### Skid 180

Manchester-based performance about Life, Friendship and a shared love of BMX riding. Written by Louise Wallwein

**Contact, Oxford Road, Manchester**

Tickets/Info: 0161 274 0600

For information on other events please visit our website

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

[www.contact-theatre.org](http://www.contact-theatre.org)

## Courses for the Public

The Centre of Continuing Education (CCE) runs a large and varied programme of courses designed for adults studying part-time, whether for pleasure or personal/professional development. Most are open to beginners and no prior knowledge is assumed, unless stated. Concessions are available to staff and graduates of The University of Manchester. Brochures/application forms available.

**CCE, 1st Floor, Humanities Devas Street**

0161 275 3275

[www.manchester.ac.uk/continuingeducation](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/continuingeducation)

## The Manchester Museum

### SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

**Due South to 29 May**

Stunning images from the last great wilderness by John Kelly, selected artist with the British Antarctic, not simply a visual record, but an account of the emotions and fleeting thoughts of life in the "freezer". John Kelly.

**African Ceramics: Transforming Traditions to 2 July**  
See how the rich and varied ceramic traditions of Africa have been adapted to new situations and new markets.

### FAMILY EVENTS

**Saturday 8 and 22 April 1.00 pm – 4pm**

### The Drawing Den

Create your own piece of artwork. FREE all ages

**Monday 10, Tues 11, Thurs 13, Tues 18, Thurs 20, and Fri 21 April 1 pm – 2.30 pm**

**Craft workshop designing and decorating African pots.** £1 all ages

**Wednesday 12 and 19 April 1pm, 2.30pm**

**Smashing Pots!** A practical workshop. FREE 5+

**Saturday 29 April 1-4pm**

**Focus on African Ceramics.** Learn how pottery was made in Ancient Egypt and Sudan. FREE 5+

**2-3pm**

**Marvellous Mammals!** Handle exhibits and discover fascinating facts about animals for National Pet Week. FREE 5+

**Sunday 30 April 1pm-2.30 pm**

**Shadowy Puppets.** £1 5+

**Sunday 30 April 11pm – 4pm**

**Museum and Galleries Month Launch.**

FREE all ages

Acclaimed theatre company, Horse and Bamboo perform two 15 minutes shows.

### Adult Events

**Friday 28 April 1pm-1.45pm**

**100 years of Mummies at The Manchester Museum.** FREE

**Manchester Museum,**

Oxford Road, Manchester 0161 275 2634

Open: Tues-Sat 10 - 5pm; Sun-Mon (and Bank Holidays) 11- 4 pm. FREE Admission

[www.museum.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.museum.manchester.ac.uk)





## Music and Drama at Manchester

*Fri 28 April 7.30 pm*

### Postgraduate Composers Day

A showcase for outstanding postgraduate compositions, performed by members of the University's New Music Ensemble.

*Sat 29 April, 7.30 pm*

### The University of Manchester String Orchestra

The student-run string orchestra presents a varied programme including works by Bach, Shostakovich, Mahler and Schoenberg.

### The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

The University of Manchester, Bridgeford Street, Manchester M13 9PL  
0161 275 8951/8950  
email [boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk)

[www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre)

## Burlington Society

The Society of Mature Students and Postgraduates in the Universities of Greater Manchester

### Burlington Rooms, Schunck Building,

Burlington Street (next to JRUL)  
0161 275 2392

[www.burlington.man.ac.uk](http://www.burlington.man.ac.uk)

## Seminar Listings

Seminar listings are now available online at [www.manchester.ac.uk/seminars](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/seminars), and members of University staff will be receiving a weekly email bulletin which includes a link to this page. To publicise seminars please submit details to [seminars@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:seminars@manchester.ac.uk)

## Jodrell Bank

The facilities at Jodrell Bank are going through a period of redevelopment. The Visitors Centre currently has a café, an exhibition space and a 3D theatre open, and visitors can still explore the various trails and the natural habitats of the Arboretum's 35 acres with its 2000 species of trees and shrubs and National Collections.

### Jodrell Bank Observatory

Macclesfield, Cheshire 01477 571339  
[www.jb.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.jb.manchester.ac.uk)

## John Rylands Library

The John Rylands Special Collections Library, Deansgate, will be closed 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/](http://www.rylibweb.manchester.ac.uk/spcoll/)

## International Society

*Saturday 8 April*  
North Wales visiting Anglesey

*Sunday 9 April*  
York

*Saturday 15 April*  
Castle Howard and Knaresborough

**International Society**  
327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)  
0161 275 4959  
Open: Mon-Fri 9.30am - 5pm

[www.internationalsociety.org.uk](http://www.internationalsociety.org.uk)

## Gig Guide Manchester Academy

### MANCHESTER ACADEMY 1

<i>Mon 3 April</i>	<b>3 Doors Down</b>
<i>Wed 12 April</i>	<b>Story of the Year</b>
<i>Fri 21 April</i>	<b>Calekio</b>
<i>Sat 29 April</i>	<b>Gary Numan</b>
<i>Tues 2 May</i>	<b>Dead Prez</b>
<i>Thurs 4 May</i>	<b>The Sisters of Mercy</b>

### MANCHESTER ACADEMY 2 and 3

<i>Mon 3 April</i>	<b>Hundred Reasons</b> <b>Pretty Girls make Graves</b>
<i>Tues 4 April</i>	<b>Havier Rudd</b>
<i>Wed 5 April</i>	<b>The Roches</b> <b>Mandeed</b>
<i>Thurs 6 April</i>	<b>9ft Fingers</b>
<i>Fri 7 April</i>	<b>Killing Joke</b>
<i>Sat 8 April</i>	<b>The Concretes</b> <b>The Crimea</b>
<i>Sun 9 April</i>	<b>David R Black</b> <b>UMAN 15</b>
<i>Mon 10 April</i>	<b>Hula Shaker</b>
<i>Weds 12 April</i>	<b>The Maccabees</b> <b>Blue Aeroplanes</b>
<i>Thurs 13 April</i>	<b>The Reverend Horton Heat</b>
<i>Wed 19 April</i>	<b>Hubb</b>
<i>Thurs 20 April</i>	<b>Test-icles</b>
<i>Fri 21 April</i>	<b>Danko Jones</b> <b>Seether</b>
<i>Sun 23 April</i>	<b>Fingating</b>
<i>Mon 24 April</i>	<b>Bouncing Souls</b>
<i>Tues 25 April</i>	<b>Teddy Thompson</b> <b>Delays</b>
<i>Weds 26 April</i>	<b>Saxon</b> <b>The Datsuns</b>
<i>Thurs 27 April</i>	<b>Gian Introduces</b>
<i>Fri 28 April</i>	<b>Robin Trower and Band</b> <b>Low</b>
<i>Sat 29 April</i>	<b>Ezio + Boo Hewerdine</b>
<i>Sat 29 April</i>	<b>Think Floyd</b>
<i>Sun 30 April</i>	<b>The Boy Least Likely to</b>

### Students' Union

Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL  
Tickets from:  
Piccadilly Box Office @ easy Internet Cafe  
(c/c) 0871 2200260  
Royal Court (Liverpool) 0151 709 4321 (c/c)  
Students' Union 0161 275 2930  
[www.manchesteracademy.net](http://www.manchesteracademy.net)

# Jodrell to rival Tate Modern

**Jodrell Bank's new visitor centre has been boosted by the appointment of Project Manager who will help to develop its new vision.**

Dr Teresa Anderson, an expert in science communication and policy, has been appointed Head of Public Understanding for Science and Engineering by the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences.

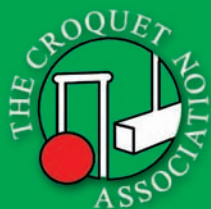
Dr Anderson will lead the strategic development of the new centre, with the aim of it becoming one of the UK's leading centres for scientific discovery and public engagement.

"Jodrell Bank is an extremely important part of the UK's science heritage which is why we are deeply committed to its future. Our aspiration is to create a centre, which for the next thirty years sits comfortably alongside The Tate

Modern or even The Eden Project as one of the UK's most valued cultural assets and visitor attractions," she says.

Dr Anderson joins the University from National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA) where she held the position of Business Development Manager. Prior to NESTA, she established the UK's Café Scientifique programme - a national forum for scientific debate. She is a graduate of The University of Manchester's School of Physics and Astronomy.

The appointment is one of the first posts of its kind in the UK. Dr Anderson's role will focus more widely on issues of engaging the public with Engineering and the Physical Sciences at The University of Manchester.



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# Looking Back



Image courtesy of The University of Manchester Archives

Could this be the Industrial North in all its glory? The sort of photo you might put in the prospectus to attract students to the Sackville Street campus, with the added value of being adjacent to the city centre? Who could resist the charm of all those soot-belching chimneys – two mighty specimens for the big mills, two lesser ones and hundreds of domestic stacks? And the photo was clearly taken on a sunny day!

The photo dates from around 1950, showing the extension of the then Municipal College of

Technology under construction. Soon after, in 1955, the Tech attained national status in response to the demands for technologists and engineers.

As the jumble of buildings shows, the area to the south of the College was made up of industrial buildings like the Jackson Street mill and cramped residential streets between Jackson Street and Russell Street. The railway is handy, the roads busy and there are few open spaces.

Whither the environmentalists then? Certainly, it is, in Blake's language, more satanic mills than green and pleasant land. But the College went from strength to strength, its Principal serving as Dean of the University's Faculty of Technology and student numbers taking off. Indeed, by the mid-1960s, the University Grants Committee was moved to declare: "A university has other objectives besides providing industry with ready-made recruits".



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