

UniLife

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Volume 3 Issue 8

Further funding for campus improvements



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SCAN building at The University
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Letter from the President



I am sure that people outside university communities listen to discussions about collegiality without really understanding what academics are talking about – and suspecting, no doubt, that they are listening to a rudimentary nostalgia for ancient collegiate traditions that are at best of marginal contemporary relevance.

But collegiality has been at the very heart of the University's concerns in seeking to respond to the national industrial dispute called by the AUT and NATFHE. In handling this dispute, as I emphasised to colleagues in my message to all staff sent on 4th April 2006, both sides need to beware of the kind of adversarial divisions that so easily develop during industrial confrontations. The acrimony and loss of mutual respect that accompany such divisions would threaten the deep sense of common purpose and shared commitment to the best interests of the University that we have inherited from the two legacy universities, and valued since October 2004 as perhaps the greatest of all our competitive advantages. To compromise the strength of that powerful collegial culture would be to abandon any hope of achieving our Manchester 2015 goals.

In a collegial institution you either carry people with you or you get nowhere. Collegiality means that unless the institutional community as a whole is respected, informed, listened to, given an opportunity to participate in decision-making, and broadly supportive of the values and direction of the institution, no amount of planning, priority setting, rhetoric and conferencing will make much difference.

That doesn't require total consensus about everything, or everyone being involved equally in every decision. The University is too big, too diverse, too complex and too loosely-coupled for that. Nor does collegiality give individuals vetoes over decisions properly taken. Indeed, it often requires us to respect differences of opinion, and conscience, and to value as colleagues those who interpret their responsibilities and order their priorities in ways that we do not. Above all, however, collegiality involves a common sense of shared "ownership" of the institution, and responsibility for its future.

Over the past few weeks, the University has taken action to protect the interests of students, but without questioning the conscientious decisions of those staff taking "action short of a strike". We must profoundly hope that mutual respect and common commitment to each other as colleagues is sufficiently strong to survive such strains. For whatever crises come along, and industrial disputation will be merely one of the more dangerous varieties, it is imperative for us to emerge from them all as a strong – and, if possible, a stronger - collegial community.

Professor Alan Gilbert
President and Vice-Chancellor.

£150m for campus improvements

The University of Manchester has allocated a further £150m to spend on creating new buildings and improving existing facilities. It brings the total spending programme up to 2010-11 to around £600m, easily the largest ever seen in higher education in this country.

The money will be spent over the next five years under the University's capital development programme.

At a series of meetings chaired by the President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert, the Vice-Presidents and Deans outlined their priorities for the four Faculties. The Estates Strategy will now match those aims and ambitions.

A significant proportion of the plan will be funded by disposing of some of the University's most outdated and underused facilities, as well as using money from the University's Strategic Incentive Reserve Fund.

Director of Estates Diana Hampson said: "These are very exciting times for The University of Manchester. Many of these state-of-the-art projects which we are bringing to the campus over the next five years will help the University to secure its place as one of the top 25 research institutions in the world.

"Our facilities will also prove hugely attractive, not only to potential students, but also to the research stars whom the President is aiming to appoint over the next few years."

The projects include:

- Extension of the Materials Building on Upper Brook Street
- Refurbishment of Faraday for the School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science
- Refurbishment of Coupland III for the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures

- Refurbishment of the south wing of Humanities Lime Grove for the relocation of the School of Law
- Part fit-out of the Smith Building A/D hub
- Refurbishment of the Dover Street Building for the School of Psychological Sciences
- Refurbishment of the Stopford and Simon Buildings
- New space for Faculty Administration Offices of Humanities and Medical and Human Sciences
- Additional space for the School of Dentistry
- Relocation of the School of Arts, History and Cultures
- Fit out of the visitors centre in the SCAN Building

The University's aim is to create the kind of environment, which will attract the best international scholars and students, as well as providing state of the art facilities for research and high quality learning environments.

Diana Hampson said: "We have already made significant progress with the Estates Plan, but these new projects will take us onto the next level in reshaping our campus. There will clearly be some inevitable disruption to staff and students, we will do everything we can to minimise its impact, and there will be some very exciting changes right across the campus in the near future."



The Michael Smith Building

Honours

In brief

Cavallaro Medal

Professor George Thompson, OBE, FEng, Corrosion and Protection Centre, School of Materials, has been awarded the Cavallaro Medal by the International Jury of the European Federation of Corrosion for very important contributions to corrosion science and technology. The medal will be presented after an invited lecture during the opening ceremony of EUROCORR 2006 in Maastricht.

Honour from Government of Punjab

Professor Francis Creed, from the School of Medicine, has been honoured by the Ministry of Health in Punjab, Pakistan.

Professor Creed's work has focused on developing and testing psychosocial interventions that can help depressed Pakistani women through means other than medication.

The ceremony was attended by the Punjab Health Secretary, the Director General Health and local academics.



Professor Creed is presented with a commemorative shield by the Minister for Health.

Bodycote winner 2006

Miss Endzhe Matykina, a third year research student in the Corrosion and Protection Centre, School of Materials, was selected out of 60 worldwide applicants for the final of the 2006 Prize Paper competition, held on 20 March in Prague.

Bodycote International Plc is the world's largest supplier of testing and thermal processing services.



The winner's certificate was presented (from left to right) by Mr. John Hubbard, CEO of Bodycote, and Prof. Harold Hankins, former Vice-Chancellor and Principal of UMIST.

News in brief

Head of Co-operative Group speaks at Manchester Business School



Martin Beaumont

Martin Beaumont, group chief executive for The Co-operative Group, will be sharing his insights into Corporate Turnaround on Wednesday 10 May 2006. He has led the Group since September 2002, and under his leadership the Group has made significant progress towards its vision of being a world-class co-operative business. It is the UK's largest consumer co-operative with 70,000 employees, with activities ranging from food to financial services, and from farms to funerals.

Inaugural Chester Lecture at CPPM

The Centre for Public Policy and Management at Manchester Business School celebrates 50 years of excellence this year with the introduction of the inaugural Chester Lecture.

Professor Christopher Politt gave the first Chester lecture on Wednesday 26 April 2006, when he spoke about Academics and Practitioners - the Odd Couple? The lecture explored the benefits both believe they receive from the other, and the relationships and rules of engagement.

Professor Politt is the award-winning professor of public management at Erasmus University, Rotterdam and editor of the International Review of Administrative Sciences.

The lecture marks the life and work of Professor Teddy Chester, who founded the Health Services Management Unit at The University of Manchester in 1956. A Professor of social administration, he wanted to work with senior managers, policy makers and clinicians on leadership development, policy analysis and research. He led the Health Services Management Unit for almost 20 years, becoming an iconic figure in the field, recognised for bringing academic rigour to real life problems.

Challenge is full of hot air

The ChemEng Challenge, organised by Dr Esther Ventura-Medina as an extra-curricular activity with the aim to promote creativity and problem solving skills, is a competition for undergraduate Chemical Engineering students. The competition is not part of the formal teaching and learning or assessment of the courses but has been designed to encourage students to produce and design a solution for a problem.

This year the challenge was to "Lift a sugar cube by using tissue paper and candles". The task was open to allow opportunities for

creativity and innovation in the design of solutions.

Finally, the sugar cube had to be intact at all times. Teams registered to participate in February 2006, and had the chance to try their prototype designs before the actual competition at the end of March 2006.

The designs were assessed on the basis of creativity and performance. A group of five judges, all members of the School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science, had the task of deciding which team would win the £300 prize.

The judges, Professor Paul Sharratt, Dr Leo Leu, Dr Jhuma Sadhukhan, Dr Javi Fuentes and Ms Toks Diani, decided unanimously that since the criteria for winning were both creativity and performance, the winning team was "Full of Hot Air" formed by second year students Richard Amies, Edward Scrase, Jeremy Wong, Jonathan Moore and Paul Harrison.

The £300 prize will be presented at The Chemical Engineering Annual Dinner on the 5 May 2006.



The winning design- Photo EdScrase

Pubs study supports smoke free vote

A study of 64 North West pubs supports the House of Commons vote to make all workplaces smoke free.

The recent vote made all workplaces in England smoke-free, overturning the government's original proposals to exempt some venues such as pubs that did not serve food.

A team of researchers from The University of Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan University and Primary Care Trusts in Manchester, Bury, Burnley and Blackburn and Darwen visited 64 pubs across the North West. They measured air quality using a portable monitor for at least 30 minutes in an area of the pub where smoking was allowed. They found very poor air quality with high levels of potentially harmful particles (PM_{2.5}), particularly in pubs serving more deprived populations.

There is no UK air quality standard for PM_{2.5} particles. However, the average particle levels observed, particularly in pubs serving deprived populations, were well above levels which the US Environmental

Protection Agency labels as 'very unhealthy' and 'hazardous'. Average levels of particles in the pubs were about ten times higher than those typically found next to heavily trafficked roads in the UK and in four pubs were about 40 times higher.

Dr Richard Edwards, who carried out the research while at Manchester and is now at the University of Otago, New Zealand, commented: "We found very poor air quality in these pubs. This research confirms that workers and customers in pubs are heavily exposed to pollution from passive smoking, particularly in pubs in more deprived areas. It also shows that making workplaces smoke free will help tackle the huge burden of ill health caused by smoking, particularly among deprived populations who tend to smoke more."

The report, 'Levels of second hand smoke in pubs and bars by deprivation and food-serving status: a cross-sectional study from North West England', can be seen in the online journal BMC Public Health.



Dan Ellison, an Engineering student and volunteer on the Manchester Leadership Programme, and Jo Oakley, a Linguistics student and also a volunteer on the Manchester Leadership Programme, get stuck into the fruit tree planting with pupils from Trinity Church of England High School

Students paint the town green

Two students from the Manchester Leadership Programme have helped to plant five new trees outside Trinity Church of England High School in Hulme in a project funded by The University of Manchester's Alumni Fund.

The five large fruit trees have been supplied by the Red Rose Forest under their Green Streets Project, which helps local communities in Manchester to 'green' their neighbourhoods by planting street trees or making other environmental improvements. They have also been supported by Manchester City Council's 'Wildabout Manchester' team which helps to make new and exciting spaces for nature.

Professor Bob Munn, Vice-President for Teaching and Learning at The University of Manchester, said: "This event symbolises the wish of the University and its alumni to work in partnership with the local community and pursue the goal of sustainable development.

Tony Hothersall, the Director of Red Rose Forest, said: "As Greater Manchester's Community Forest we are really pleased to be given the opportunity to plant trees in urban locations such as this and in particular to work in partnership with The University of Manchester.

For further information about Red Rose Forest, including how to Dedicate a Tree, visit the website.



www.redroseforest.co.uk

European Union helps Rylands towards its target

Mr Sajjad Karim, Liberal Democrat MEP for the North West, visited the John Rylands Library recently to see the progress of the Unlocking the Rylands Project.

Mr Karim was welcomed by the University Librarian and Director of the John Rylands Library, Bill Simpson, and given a tour of the building by John Hodgson, the Library's Keeper of Manuscripts and Archives.

Fast approaching completion, the multi-million pound project includes a new entrance wing to house a range of modern visitor facilities and to provide life access to all public areas, a programme of repairs and conservation to the original 1890s building, new exhibition galleries

and improved collections and reader facilities.

After the tour, Mr Karim commented, "It is enormously gratifying to see the benefits European funding brings. The John Rylands Library is an integral part of Manchester," he noted. "I have absolutely no doubt that when the building re-opens people will be astounded at the results."

The total cost of Unlocking the Rylands is around £16.4 million. Over £3 million has been contributed from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), with the Heritage Lottery Fund offering a grant of £8.2 million. Around £1.4 million is still needed to meet the costs of the project.

News in brief

Professor appointed Deputy Chief Medical Officer

The University of Manchester's Professor of General Practice will take up his new role as Deputy Chief Medical Officer on Monday 15 May 2006. Professor Martin Marshall will be responsible for taking forward the healthcare quality and patient safety agenda. Since 2001 he has combined his role of professor at the National Primary Care Research and Development Centre with that of part time general practitioner at the Robert Derbyshire practice, in Manchester.

Professor Marshall has undertaken a range of advisory and consultancy roles both in the UK and abroad. He has also been head of the Division of Primary Care at the University of Manchester since 2003 where he leads two research units, an undergraduate teaching scheme and an innovative postgraduate scheme.

Professor Marshall said: "I am very much looking forward to taking up this new post. At a time of significant change in the NHS it is important that quality and safety remain at the heart of policy. I hope to use my experience as a clinician, academic and manager to move this agenda forward and continue to build on and improve the quality of care patients receive."

Sir Liam Donaldson, the Chief Medical Officer, said: "I am delighted today to announce Martin's appointment as Deputy Chief Medical Officer and wish him a warm welcome to the Department of Health. Martin's principal role will be to work with me to take forward the healthcare quality and patient safety agenda with responsibility for the Healthcare Quality Directorate and professional responsibility for modernising medical careers."



In brief

Manchester scientists create cell gel

Scientists at The University of Manchester have created a new type of gel which uniquely mimics the properties of cell scaffolds which naturally occur in the body and has potential applications for wound healing and tissue engineering.

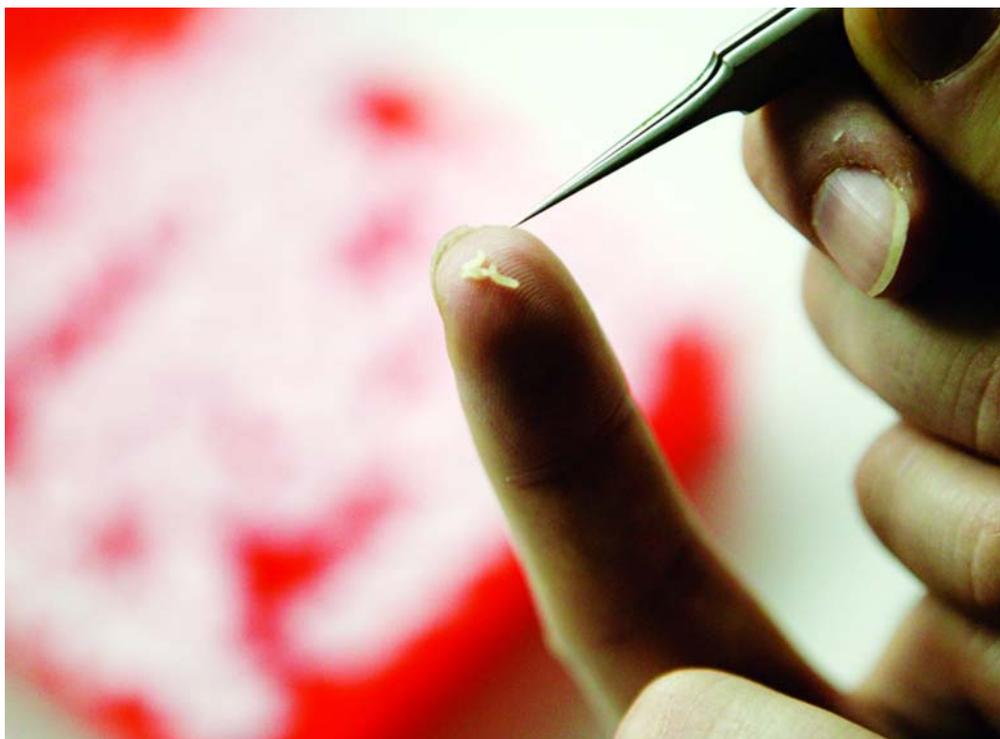
The gel is the first pH neutral material made from combinations of dipeptides (pairs of amino acids) to provide an environment in which cells can be cultured under physiological conditions.

Cell scaffolds, known as the extra cellular matrix (ECM), are naturally produced by the body to grow new cells in order to repair damaged tissue. Like the ECM, the gel acts like a scaffold in which cells can grow.

Dr Ulijn said: "We have used combinations of modified dipeptides which act like building blocks and spontaneously assemble into nanometer-sized fibres when exposed to physiological conditions, to create a fibrous gel-like structure in which cells can be cultured. Because this material is made up of 99% water and is pH neutral, it is compatible with biological systems.

"By using dipeptide building blocks instead of much larger oligo-peptides used by other researchers, we have greater control over the fibrous architecture and the physical properties of the gels. These materials offer us great potential for future applications in wound healing and regenerative medicine."

Dr Ulijn and his collaborators have successfully cultured cartilage cells using the gel. They found that both the properties of the gels formed and the cell response to the gels could be controlled by using different combinations of dipeptides. The team recently received a £630k award from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council to develop the gels further.



Scientists fly in for maggot fest

The University of Manchester recently played host to a major international conference... on maggots!

The Manchester Maggot Meeting saw delegates from across Europe, the United States, Japan and South America descend on the city to talk about their research on fruit-fly (*Drosophila*) larvae.

The three-day event was organised by Dr Matthew Cobb, a lecturer in animal behaviour in the University's Faculty of Life Sciences whose interest lies in the maggots' sense of smell.

"Holding an international conference on fruit-fly maggots might seem like a strange idea but there are major scientific benefits to be had from studying these organisms," said Dr Cobb.

"Scientists have been studying fruit flies for 100 years and they have proven a very powerful tool in our current understanding of how genetics works.

"The first genes involved in biological clocks that help us know what time of day it is were discovered in fruit flies, as were the genes involved in the biological processes of learning and how organisms grow and develop from that initial single cell.

"The same basic genes that make a fly also make a human baby - the rules involved in this won researchers the Nobel Prize in 1995 - so there are huge practical applications here for understanding how humans work.

"But flies are relatively complex organisms - they can fly, they have large intricate eyes; in scientific terms they are more complicated than a star.

For this reason, says Dr Cobb, behavioural biologists have over the last 10 years started looking at maggots.

"Where humans have tens of millions of nerves in their noses, the fly has 1,200 but the maggot has just 21. Yet the principles of how the maggot is able to smell an odour are the same as for us.

"People from the world's leading labs will be coming to the meeting to discuss how the nerves detect odours and how the maggot's brain processes and acts upon this information.

"The emphasis is on behaviour - how the nerves and genes interact to influence activity and how behaviour changes over time. The only drawback to studying maggots is that you don't have long as they turn into flies in three days."

Stem-cell experts converge on Manchester

The latest advances in stem-cell research were the focus of a conference organised by The University of Manchester on 6 April 2006.

Experts from across the country attended the UK Human Embryonic Stem Cell Forum to discuss recent developments in this cutting-edge field of cell biology.

The event, attracted more than 150 delegates, just weeks after the University and St Mary's Hospital, Manchester, announced plans to open one of the most hi-tech stem-cell research centres in the country.

The North West Embryonic Stem Cell Centre, which is due to launch in June 2006, will be able to produce stem-cell lines of sufficient quality for future human transplantation.

Dr Sue Kimber, the centre's Co-director and organiser of the conference, said "The event was developed as a forum for young investigators in the field to talk about the latest techniques in human stem-cell biology," she said.

"Among the items up for discussion were the clinical requirements and prospects for stem cell-

based therapies and the ethical aspects of this type of research."

Scientists believe stem cells - master cells that have the potential to become any kind of human tissue - could be used to replace diseased cells in patients suffering from currently incurable diseases like Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, diabetes and cancer.

In Manchester, links between the North West Embryonic Stem Cell Centre and the UK Centre for Tissue Regeneration will further facilitate advances in regenerative therapies.

Malnutrition in Pakistani children: Could maternal depression be the missing link?

In spite of adequacy of food in the region, close to half of all children under five in south Asia are underweight. Research funded by the Wellcome Trust and carried out in Pakistan by The University of Manchester could provide important clues to the reasons for high rates of low birth weight and poor growth in children in this region.

Dr Atif Rahman, Wellcome Trust Research Career Development Fellow in Clinical Tropical Medicine at the University's Division of Psychiatry, and his colleagues studied a cohort of 320 pregnant mothers, half of whom were depressed, in rural Rawalpindi, Pakistan. After delivery, the mothers with infant pairs were followed up until the infants were one year old. The findings, reported in the *Archives of General Psychiatry*, reveal that children born to depressed mothers have lower birth weights and slower growth in the first year of life.

The study raised interesting questions about the mechanisms by which maternal depression might impact upon child growth. Dr Rahman and his colleagues think that breastfeeding is an important function that might be

disturbed by maternal depression. He has been awarded a Wellcome Trust Value in Person (VIP) award by the University to investigate the possibility that the duration, and quantity, of breast milk may be reduced in depressed mothers.

The findings raise particular concerns, according to Dr Rahman, because several other reports indicate that the rate of depression among expectant and new mothers in south Asia is approximately 25%. "Attention to mothers' psychological well-being could not only reduce their burden from depression but also increase the effectiveness of child-health programs in many developing societies," Dr Rahman says. Such programmes currently focus on health education where the mother plays a central role but her psychological well-being, which could be the key to the success of these programmes, is not addressed.

Dr Rahman has developed a psychosocial intervention based on the principles of cognitive behavioural therapy, delivered to mothers by local primary care health workers after a two-day training session followed by regular monthly supervision. The intervention has been integrated into the health workers usual

work so that they don't consider it an extra duty. The intervention is currently being evaluated in Rawalpindi using a cluster randomised design. Eight hundred and sixty eight expecting mothers diagnosed with depressive disorder have been enrolled into the study. Half are receiving the specially developed intervention, while the other half will receive enhanced routine care. All mothers and their infants will be assessed at six and 12 months.

Dr Rahman thinks that by keeping the focus of the intervention on the newborn, it is relatively easier to engage the whole family in looking after the mother's mental health, which is deemed crucial to the baby's development. "We are finding that this integrated approach to mother and child health is more effective than focussing on maternal depression alone," he says. The research has created much interest in the global mental health audience. *Writing for Science* (January 2006, p. 461), Greg Miller has described it as an example of how basic mental health care can be linked to general development goals and does not have to be viewed as an expendable luxury in the developing world.



The research is being carried out in rural Rawalpindi, Pakistan

Research in the News

- Women have more control of joint family finances, such as domestic bills and savings, than a decade ago, according to research led by Professor Geoff Beattie from the School of Psychological Sciences. However, the study found that there was still a perception gap, where most men felt the male partner was in control of finances while women thought the female was in charge. The findings were reported in the *Daily Star*, *the Daily Express*, the *Manchester Evening News*, and lifestyle pages of regional newspapers.
- Humanity has a 'moral duty' to pursue scientific research that could enhance intelligence and allow people to live well beyond 100 years as a matter of routine, according to Prof John Harris from the School of Law. Prof Harris, an expert in medical ethics, spoke to *The Times* ahead of 'Tomorrow's People', the Princeton Lectures at Oxford University. He also spoke to the *Independent on Sunday* about the case of Natalie Evans, who recently lost her appeal at the European Court of Human Rights to use her frozen embryos.
- Getting ready for the summer holidays could help women spot the early signs of breast cancer, according to Professor Gareth Evans from the School of Medicine. Prof Evans studied the North West Breast Cancer Registry and found April to July are the top months for diagnosis, suggesting that women become more 'breast aware' as they become more conscious of their figures. This story was reported in the *Daily Express* and the *Manchester Evening News*.
- Tourist visits to some of the most beautiful English landscapes may have to be restricted as the impacts of climate change take effect, according to a new report. The document, produced by Sustainability Northwest and the School of Environment at The University of Manchester, warns that the numerous pressures already facing these areas and the strain on these landscapes will grow over time. Their findings were reported in the *Financial Times*, the *Independent on Sunday*, *Metro London* and regional newspapers. The story also featured on news bulletins for *BBC Radio* and *ITV's Granada Reports*.
- Girls as young as ten should be vaccinated against cervical cancer, according to Prof Henry Kitchener from the School of Medicine. Speaking at the International Conference on Teenage and Young Adult Cancer Medicine in London, Prof Kitchener said that a vaccine for the human papillomavirus (HPV) is being developed, and could be available within 12 months. This story featured in the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Daily Mail*, the *Daily Express* and *Evening Standard*.
- An alcohol cloud 288 billion miles long has been found in a part of the Milky Way where new stars are being born. Team leader Dr Lisa Harvey-Smith from the School of Physics and Astronomy and Jodrell Bank Observatory said it could give clues as to how stars are formed. *The Sun*, *Ireland on Sunday*, and *Asian Age* all reported this story, and Dr Harvey-Smith also spoke to *BBC World Service Radio* about the discovery.

Grants and Contracts

Chemistry awarded six EPSRC grants

The School of Chemistry has been awarded a record six grants from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), totalling £4.4 million. The six grants include £1.3 million to continue support for a national service in electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectroscopy, £976,000 for new nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy instrumentation, and £835,000 for studies of zeolite crystallisation.

The School has both the second highest EPSRC grant portfolio by value, and the largest BBSRC portfolio, of any Chemistry department in the UK.

Manchester residents are pioneers of major study

Around 3,000 South Manchester residents became trailblazers in a visionary medical project during March and April 2006, when they took part in the start-up phase of UK Biobank.

The revolutionary research project, hosted by the University, will go nationwide later this year - eventually recruiting half a million volunteers aged 40 to 69. It aims to improve the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer, heart disease, diabetes and other serious conditions by gathering a vast bank of medical data and material, which will allow future researchers to study how genes, lifestyle and environmental factors affect our risk of disease.

Medical researchers from more than 20 UK universities helped design the study, which is a massive technological undertaking. Specially-designed automated systems will separate blood samples and store, retrieve and track around 10 million biological samples, which must be kept at between -80°C and -200°C for several decades.

Professor Alan Silman, The University of Manchester's representative on the committee advising UK Biobank's Board of Directors, said: "The University's winning the competitive bid to host UK Biobank was a real coup for Greater Manchester, as well as a reflection of the excellent facilities we have for population-based studies. It is the most important medical research study ever undertaken and will bring international recognition to the region, and this initial phase will allow the people of South Manchester to inform the design of a project which will span at least the next 20 years."

www.ukbiobank.ac.uk

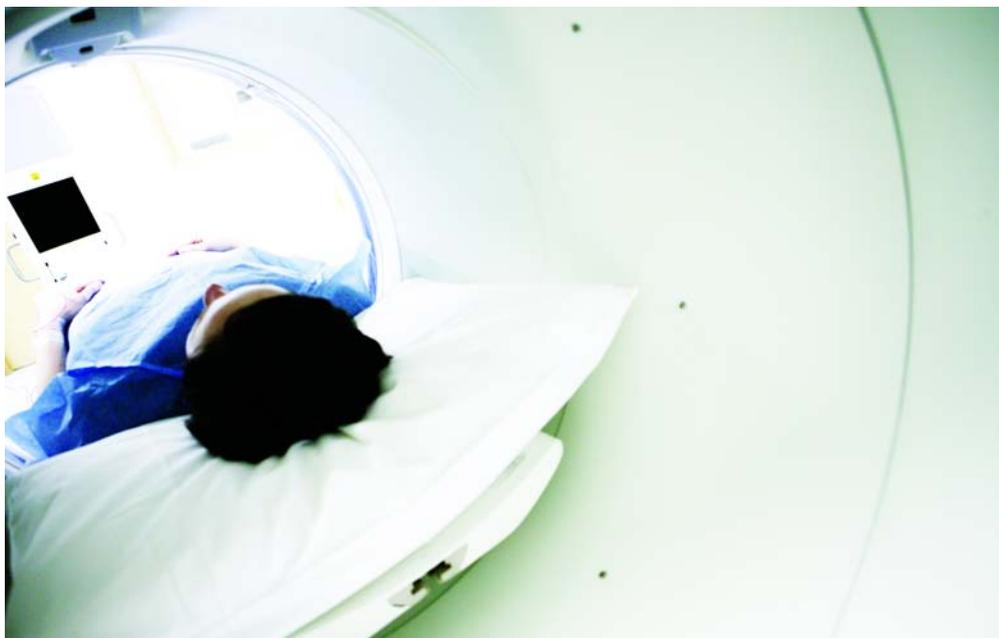
Teenage and young adult cancers identified

Professor Jillian Birch of the School of Medicine has analysed a new data set of more than 16 million cancer cases, and discovered specific cancers most likely to affect teenagers and young adults.

She told an international conference on teenage and young adult cancer medicine that one category of cancers seems to have a peak incidence between the ages of 13 to 24. "These can be regarded as 'true' teenage and young adult cancers, rather than the tail-end of childhood cancers or the early development of cancers typical of older ages," she said.

The category includes Hodgkin's lymphoma, osteosarcoma, Ewing sarcoma, certain rare soft tissue sarcomas, germ cell tumours of the testis and ovary, and germ cell tumours in the brain. Identifying this pattern has implications for understanding the causes of 'teenage and young adult cancers', which was not previously believed to be a distinct group.

"There is quite a lot of evidence suggesting that the pattern and timing of infections are causally involved in Hodgkin's lymphoma for example," Jillian continued. "Osteosarcoma, a tumour predominantly of the long bones of the legs and arms, and Ewing sarcoma have pronounced peaks of incidence during teenage years, coinciding with the adolescent growth-spurt. It seems possible that pre-cancerous genetic changes occur in the bone tissue during childhood and, during periods of rapid growth, further genetic damage converts pre-malignant cells to malignant."



"Although most ovarian cancers peak over the age of 60, our analysis has demonstrated that germ cell tumours of the ovary as well as the brain are most frequent in older teenagers. Again it seems that factors affecting growth and development are implicated."

Although cancer is the leading cause of death in teenagers and young adults after accidents, there

are only about 1,900 new cases each year in the UK, spread across all the types. "This means that to develop our ideas and make progress in prevention and treatment, we need large-scale, international studies," Jillian concluded.

Professor Matt Lambon-Ralph

Professor Matt Lambon-Ralph of the School of Psychological Sciences has attracted two significant research grants for his work on the semantic memory, as well as an award to investigate the brain's support of language.

A five-year programme grant from the Medical Research Council and an additional award from the Wellcome Trust will enable Professor Lambon-Ralph's group to continue their research into how the semantic memory works and breaks down, in patients with dementia and stroke.

"Semantic memory is the knowledge we have about the world, including people, objects and the meanings of words," Matt explains. "It is central to everything we do, but is impaired after certain types of brain damage leading to significant disabilities for patients. It is therefore critical to understand how the brain encodes this knowledge and how it breaks down after brain damage."

The current literature provides inconsistent answers to these questions. Matt, who is Director for the Centre for Clinical Neuroscience, and his collaborators, including Drs Beth Jefferies, Shaheen Hamdy and Geoff Parker, will therefore use a unique combination of comprehension and language tests, mathematical models mirroring the cells which make up the brain, and enhanced brain imaging. In addition, the Wellcome Trust grant will allow them to investigate semantic processing using a technique called transcranial magnetic stimulation, which interferes briefly with the function of specific parts of the brain by generating a magnetic field.

"We stimulate the brains of healthy participants in the same regions that are damaged in the dementia and stroke patients, to investigate their specific roles," Matt explains. "After ten minutes, tasks supported by the stimulated region become temporarily disrupted - for example decision times become longer - helping us draw conclusions about how knowledge is organised in the brain."

"Putting all this information together will help us work out both how the brain supports our knowledge of the world and why it can break down, and hopefully provide critical insights about patient care and treatment."

Matt has also recently been notified of another grant award from the Gatsby Charitable Foundation, which will allow him to investigate the way the brain supports language. Again this is central to our everyday activities and, when affected by brain damage, results in serious disability.

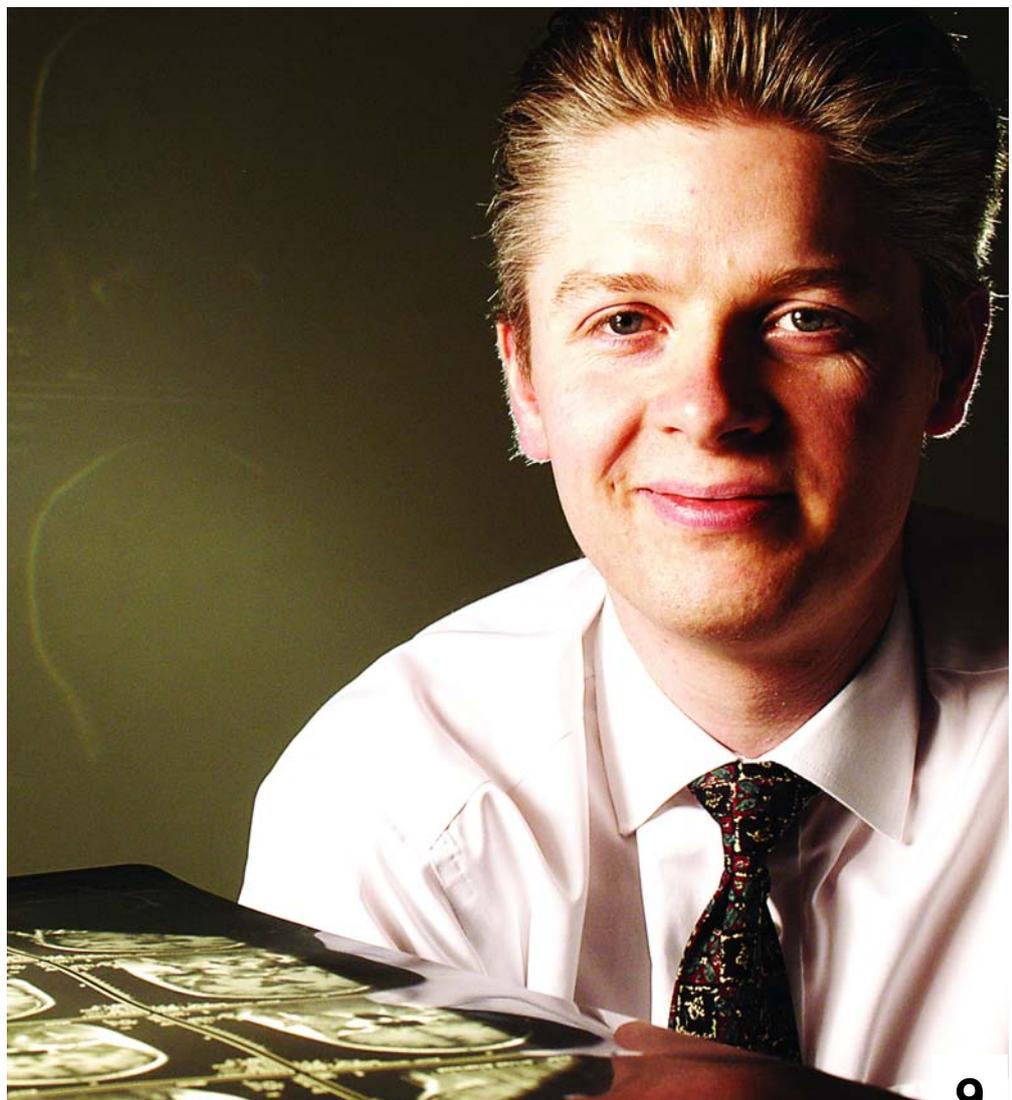
"In the months immediately after a stroke, many patients with language impairment show partial recovery of function," he says. "However, we know very little about this recovery and the brain mechanisms that underpin it."

"We will use a combination of careful assessments of these patients during their recovery and mathematical models of the recovering brain to learn more about this process. The information we

gather will be critical in understanding how we can use speech and language therapy and other techniques to maximise natural language recovery and improvement."

As if all this activity wasn't enough, Matt has been selected to give a BA (British Association for Scientific Advancement) Charles Darwin Award lecture in September. Entitled 'Investigations of concepts and meaning: the case of the four-legged duck,' it will discuss how cognitive neuroscience offers converging methods for investigating where and how the brain represents concepts and meanings.

"Being chosen to give the lecture is a huge honour, and was certainly the icing on the cake in what was a pretty unbelievable month!" he says.





Equity of access is one of this University's values. In the first place, this is simply an issue of social justice, but it is also a matter of self-interest. To succeed in our ambition to become one of the world's leading universities, we must recruit the best students and staff available. That means that we must be pro-active in seeking out the best people wherever they are and encouraging them to come here. In particular, equity of access for students is given substance through having Widening Participation as Goal Five in *Towards Manchester 2015*.

The University already has an excellent record in this regard, with widening participation officers in every Faculty and additional outreach through our special assets, The John Rylands Library, The Manchester Museum and The Whitworth Art Gallery. We make contact with prospective students from all backgrounds through HE awareness days for under-16s, backed by summer schools, mentoring and curriculum enrichment activities. We work hard at identifying talented individuals later in their secondary education and we encourage them to apply for admission, notably through the imaginative Manchester Access Programme, which helps students to demonstrate their academic potential. Finally, we offer a very generous support package of scholarships and bursaries to make finance less of a problem for students from low-income backgrounds.

Some observers believe that widening participation must mean lowering standards, whereas in fact widening participation is concerned with lowering barriers, whilst unequivocally maintaining standards. At this University we are serious about equity and we are serious about excellence, and being serious about widening participation expresses both of those values. So let us all take pride in our activities that foster social justice by expanding the opportunity to study here.

Professor Bob Munn,
Vice-President for Teaching and Learning

Leading and learning through dialogue

The University's Centre for Educational Leadership (CEL) joined forces recently with the, BT Education Programme to host an event on the importance of leading and learning through dialogue.

The BT Education Programme, Communication Skills for Life, believes that the skills of dialogue are an essential life skill, critical for cognitive development and effective leadership and learning.

CEL, a national leadership centre based at the University, shares this belief and applies it in the design, development and delivery of its Master's and professional development programmes, consultancy and coaching.

Demonstrations, live performance and workshops from leading practitioners brought the potential of dialogue of life. Topics ranging from 'dialogic teaching in Japan' to 'technology aided dialogue', provided an insight into the vast potential of dialogue to improve leadership and learning at every level.



Dr Gerard Egan, Emeritus Professor of Organisational Development and Psychology, Loyola University of Chicago; Dave Hancock, Head of Education and Volunteering, BT; Dr Lyn Dawes, Research Consultant, Dialogic Teaching in Science Project, Cambridge University; Keith Phipps, National Teaching Awards Winner 2001, Most Creative Use of IT; Diane Hofkins, Assistant Editor, Times Educational Supplement; Ann Dering, Research and Development Director, CEL; Dr Rosemary Sage, Senior Lecturer, University of Leicester.

CEL was particularly proud to have long-time friend of the Centre, renowned international consultant and writer Dr Gerard Egan, Emeritus Professor of Organisational Development and Psychology at Loyola University of Chicago, as guest speaker.

Dr Egan addressed delegates at the event, sharing his thoughts on the value of effective dialogue and providing insights into how people and organisations learn, develop and achieve excellence.

Chinese collaboration



HIT President, Professor Wang Shuguo, is presented with a plaque to mark the visit of the delegation by President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Gilbert

A high-level delegation led by the President of Harbin Institute of Technology, China, Professor Wang Shuguo, visited The University of Manchester in February. Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT) has a renowned reputation in science and engineering and is now designated as one of the leading research institutions in China along with Tsinghua, Beijing, Fudan and Nanjing.

On this occasion, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences and HIT to provide the framework for specific collaborative projects such as 2+2 articulation programmes.

Subject to the approval of the Ministry of Education, EPS is hoping, through this arrangement, to attract HIT students onto a number of undergraduate programmes ranging from Physics, Computer Science, Earth Science, Materials Science to Mechanical and Civil Engineering. This signals the start of major collaboration in student co-education with key institutions in China.

Research could lead to better drugs and whiter whites

Groundbreaking research published by The University of Manchester could revolutionise the way drugs are made and have major implications for the industrial sector.

The University of Manchester team, working with colleagues in Bristol, has provided a unique insight into the working of enzymes - biological molecules that speed up chemical reactions in the body.

When these chemical reactions go wrong they can lead to disease, so modern drugs are designed to target enzymes and 'switch them off'.

But their ability to accelerate chemical reactions means enzymes are also used in a number of commercial processes, including brewing, food processing, domestic cleaning and paper manufacturing.

"Improving our fundamental knowledge of how enzymes work is important to a wide range of pharmaceutical and industrial fields," said Professor Nigel Scrutton, one of the lead researchers at Manchester.

"Enzymes are central to the existence of life because most chemical reactions in our cells would take place too slowly or produce a different outcome without their involvement.

"But when enzymes malfunction they can cause serious diseases, so modern drugs are designed to prevent enzymes accelerating, or 'catalysing', inappropriate reactions.

"Our research has shown at an atomic level how enzymes act as catalysts; the findings are a radical departure from the traditional view of how they work and might explain why attempts to make artificial enzymes have so far been disappointing.

The work - published as a major research article in the leading journal *Science* - builds on earlier studies by Professor Scrutton and Dr David Leys, from the Faculty of Life Sciences and Professor Michael Sutcliffe from the School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science.

Together they have shown, now in unprecedented detail, how enzymes avoid unfavourable energy barriers caused by the resistance to a reaction by allowing matter to 'flow through' the barrier - a process known as quantum mechanical tunnelling.

"We have provided new insight into how enzymes

work from painstaking efforts of a large interdisciplinary group based on detailed experimental observations and theoretical analysis at the atomic level," said Professor Scrutton.

"Modern drugs are designed to have structures that stick to enzymes and prevent them from catalysing the reactions, so our results need to be taken into account when designing new drugs.

"In the longer term, this research could also help us exploit enzymes more successfully and lead to better manufacturing processes in a number of commercial sectors.

"In cleaning products, for instance, enzymes help speed up the chemical reactions that break down protein and starch stains; a better understanding of how this process works might one day lead to more effective, faster acting agents."



Jones's Journey

For the lad from the tiny village of Llanrhaeadr in North Wales, son of a plasterer, it has been a remarkable journey to his present position, leading what seems destined to become one of the best comprehensive cancer research centres in the world.

Even though he has been at the forefront of cancer research, here and in the United States, for many years, Professor Nic Jones still thinks about that journey. "I never thought that I would get the opportunity to make a major contribution to the development of the Manchester Cancer Research Centre, which has the potential to be among the best in the world," he says. "It is truly a privilege to be part of this development."

Mind you, if you ask him what his ultimate ambition might have been, he would probably opt for playing for Man United. Or even the other "reds", Wrexham, the football club he supported as a boy. "At school, I was fascinated by science," he says. "But my main interest was playing sport." And even when he went to UCL, the first kid from his village ever to go to university, his great joy was to play soccer for the university. "It was a real lifeline and helped me to adjust to life in London," he says.

Sporting prowess aside, he did also get a good degree in Microbiology, enabling him to do his PhD in Edinburgh, working on the link between the replication of DNA and cell division, which formed the basis for his lifetime's work on the understanding of DNA tumour viruses.

arts didn't turn me on and I was lousy at languages, even Welsh," he says. "But I was really interested in science. It fascinated me, especially the beauty of how organisms function. I wanted to make discoveries and to understand the complexity of organisms."

When it came to going to university, he made a conscious decision to move right away - and in 1968 went off to London to read Microbiology at UCL. There the seeds of his future specialism were sown - he completed a scientific project on certain aspects of the bacterial cell cycle.

Following graduation, he took the opportunity to go to the laboratory of Willie Donachie in the Molecular Genetics Unit in Edinburgh. That clinched it. "The Unit was an inspirational environment," he says. "I found myself among a lot of talented people and it was a real eye-opener for me." It was also life-changing in that he met his wife, Elizabeth, there.

Awarded his PhD, in 1974, he got the chance to go as a postdoc to work on bacterial cell division at the University of Connecticut Medical School. That was the start of a long and happy association with America. He and Elizabeth were only supposed to be there for two years, but liked it so much they didn't want to leave. And the work was compelling.

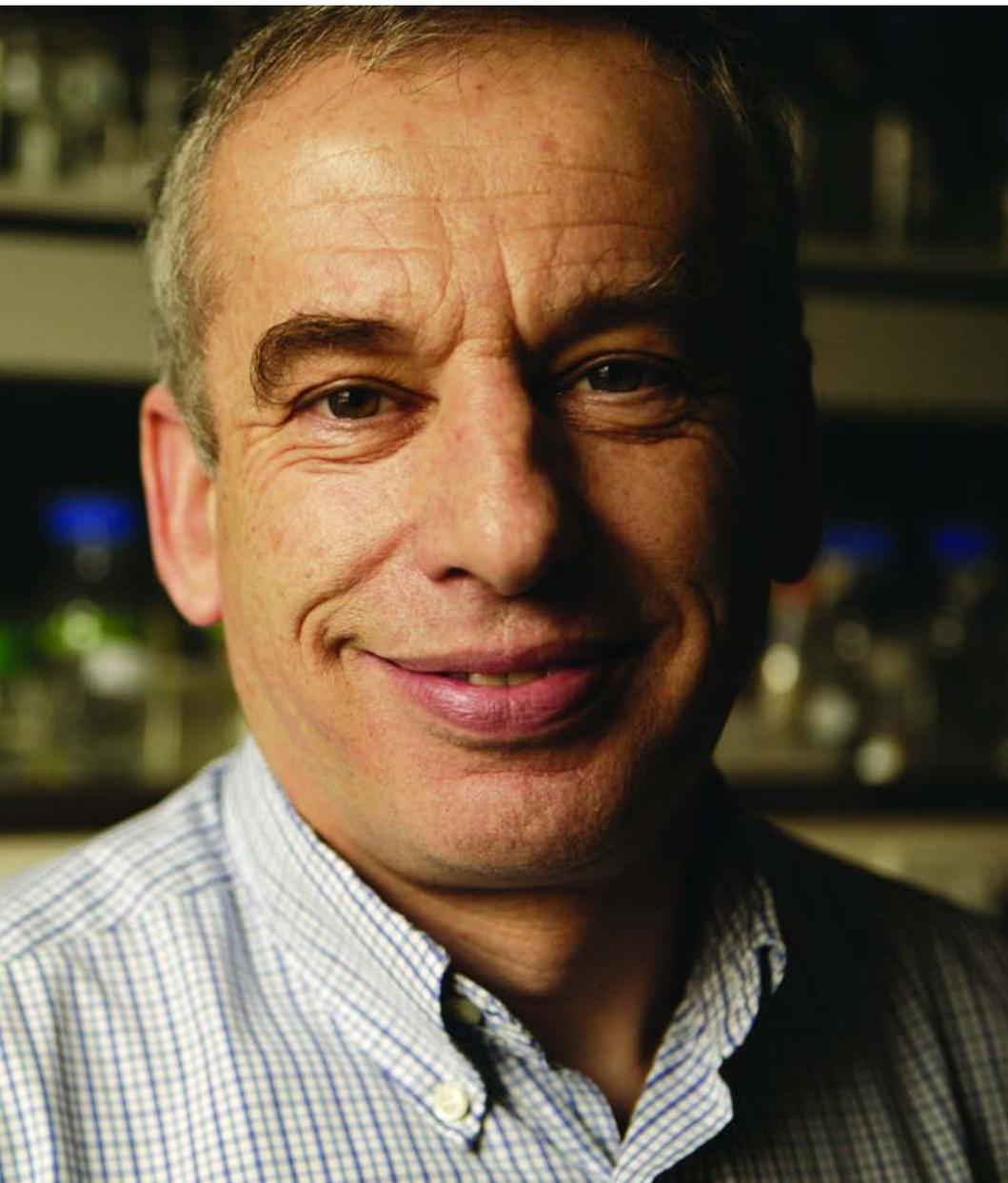
"At the time, molecular biology was really developing as a field and recombinant DNA technology, the ability to cut and paste DNA sequences, was emerging," he says. "It was exciting. And that really did start me on the journey which has brought me to where I am now."

He worked first with Mary Jane Osborne and, then, Tom Shenk, who arrived from Stanford to set up a new group. Work in Tom's lab focused on understanding the processes by which DNA tumour viruses affected cell proliferation and growth. In particular, Nic worked on the E1A gene, the major gene involved in the ability of adenoviruses to transform cells.

In 1978, just as he was about to be thrown out of the US for overstaying his visa, he got a faculty position in the Department of Biological Sciences at Purdue, Indiana, and his green card that allowed him to stay indefinitely. There, he got the chance to set up his own lab - and thus followed six scientifically "very exciting" years, where he continued his work on understanding different aspects of how the adenovirus regulated cell growth. Perhaps more importantly, his and Elizabeth's daughters, Kirsten and Megan, were born there.

They were happy in the States, but in 1985 came an offer he couldn't refuse from the premier place for cancer research in the UK, the Imperial Cancer





Research labs in London. He stayed there productively for 13 years. He was Principal Scientist there when he was tempted by the daunting challenge of moving here, as Director of the Paterson Institute for Cancer Research, adjoining the Christie Hospital, and Head of the Cell Regulation Laboratory.

"I had become increasingly interested in scientific management and development, in addition to my research, and I was at a stage in my career when I wanted the challenge of leadership," he says. "This Institute was something I wanted to take on."

As a true son of Wales, it gave him added pleasure that he started his new job on 1 March, St David's Day, 1999. It was quite a challenge. "I believed in the potential of the Paterson," he says. "I believed that it could and should be world-class. And I welcomed the opportunity to get it on course." If anyone could do it, he could - and has.

After five years' hard work, often involving painful reorganization, the Institute emerged with flying colours from the independent international review set up by Cancer Research UK, completely endorsing the changes made and the vision for its future direction.

"That was very important," he says. "It led to constructive discussions between the University, the Christie Hospital Trust and Cancer Research UK." As a result, the Paterson is now an Institute of the University - and the great project of the £50 million Manchester Cancer Research Centre is being launched, with Nic Jones as Director.

Under the all-embracing umbrella of the Centre will come all the cancer-related research being done at the Paterson, the rest of the University including the Medical School and hospitals especially the Christie Hospital. "We are looking forward to expanding our basic research efforts and to faster translation of the knowledge we gain day-in day-out to the development of better and more specific therapies and therefore to the benefit of patients" he says. "With the combination of the Christie Hospital, the Institute and the Medical School, we have the tremendous advantage of having everything on the same site. It is very exciting - and I am very optimistic."

Indeed he is. Nic's optimism, energy, enthusiasm and great good humour are infectious. It is tempting to say that the journey has only just begun, but that would be unfair for a man who has come so far. All the way from Llanrhaeadr.

Name

Professor Nic Jones

Position

2005
Director, Manchester Cancer Research Centre,
The University of Manchester

Education

1971: BSc in Microbiology,
University College London, London, UK.

1974 : PhD in Molecular Biology,
University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Career History

1999-2005
Director and Head of Cell Regulation
Laboratory, Paterson Institute for
Cancer Research

1987-1999
Principal Scientist,
Imperial Cancer Research Fund, London

1985-1987
Senior Scientist,
Imperial Cancer Research Fund, London

1984-1985
Associate Professor,
Department of Biological Sciences,
Purdue University, USA

1978-1984
Assistant Professor,
Department of Biological Sciences,
Purdue University, USA

1977-1978
Instructor,
Department of Microbiology,
University of Connecticut
School of Medicine, USA

1976-1977
Postdoctoral Fellow with Dr. T. Shenk
at the University of Connecticut
School of Medicine, USA

1974-1976
Postdoctoral Fellow with Dr. M.J. Osborn
at the University of Connecticut
School of Medicine, USA

International Society Membership

European Molecular Biology Organisation
(EMBO)

Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences



Manchester's first international careers webcast for students

The University of Manchester's first ever live careers webcast recently took place direct from the Hong Kong offices of international financial conglomerate Citigroup. An enthusiastic group of Chinese students watched a corporate video, listened to a presentation from Citigroup's Head of Human Relations for Asia Pacific and had the opportunity to ask questions about graduate careers with the world's largest finance company.

The webcast was organised by the University's Careers and Employability Division, as part of their strategy to link overseas students with graduate recruiters based in their home country.

Jane Ratchford, Director of the Careers and Employability Division, said: "This is an exciting first for the University and for Citigroup. The event communicates to our international student community, and to the University as a whole, our strong commitment to developing innovative career development provision for our overseas students."

A mixture of undergraduates and postgraduates from all year groups took part in the Citigroup web session. All provided positive feedback and said that they had found the session to be useful and informative.

The University is also engaged in complementary activity aimed at linking international students to businesses in the city and the region, in order to both promote the employability of students and to support inward investment and export activities.

Parents get a "Rough Guide to University"

Saturday 1 April 2006 saw the Student Recruitment, Admissions & Widening Participation Division host a dedicated event for over 100 local parents and carers of young people who are registered on one of The University of Manchester's Widening Participation schemes. The parents that were invited have little or no heritage of higher education participation and the event aimed to provide information that will allow them to help their children make informed choices about their future educational options in the coming years.

The "Parents' Rough Guide to University" event included information on "Everything you needed to know about Higher Education but were too afraid to ask" presented by Julian Skyrme, Head of Widening Participation and a session on graduate pay and careers by Janet Willis from the Careers and Employability Division. Parents also met current and past University of Manchester students and



undertook a private tour inside the main University buildings before finishing with lunch and a Curator-led guided tour of The Manchester Museum.

Organising the event, Saskia Metcalf from the Student Recruitment, Admissions and Widening Participation Division, commented: "Giving parents, as well as young people, opportunities to come into the

University and learn about important issues such as admissions, student finance and graduate employment is important if we want to persuade more talented young people to consider higher education. Parents are key influencers in their children's decision making process and therefore integral to our widening participation strategy."

Museum reaches out across the world



On 22 March 2006, The Manchester Museum bridged the gap between England and Australia with a ground-breaking education project. The event was a partnership involving the Museum, University Video Conferencing staff, the National Museum of Australia and Kaleen Primary school in Canberra.

Pupils from Manchester were recruited from schools across the city via the City Council's Excellence in Cities (EiC) programme and invited to the Museum for an evening of discovery and entertainment shared via a live broadcast with pupils on the other side of the world. Their impressions and ideas on the night were filmed as part of an ongoing audience engagement project called "Collective Conversations".

Both audiences could see each other and had the opportunity to ask questions about the highlights of the event, as well as more general questions about life for pupils on the other side of the world.

Pete Brown, Head of Learning and Interpretation, said: "The idea was to use our Pacific collections as a focus for an international exchange of ideas and opinions, in order to enhance our understanding of the objects as well as our audiences worldwide. The event was the first of what we hope are going to be many international collaborations of this type. We can't reach out any further, but there are lots of other places to go."



The subject of Debate

The Inter-Schools Debating Tournament, now in its second year, was hosted by the University's Debating Society and the Widening Participation Office. A group of 100 pupils aged 14 to 16 years old participated. The tournament provides pupils with the opportunity to engage with members of the Debating Society - all current students - whilst acquiring knowledge about formal debating structures and enhancing their presentation and communication skills.

Preparations for the tournament started in December 2005 when 14 high schools from across Manchester and Trafford attended the first in a series of activities aimed to develop their debating skills in

readiness for the tournament itself which took place in March. Between December and March, members of the Debating Society visited the schools to run small workshops focusing on the specific skills pupils need to become successful debaters.

The Tournament continues to go from strength to strength each year and this is largely due to the commitment from the University's Debating Society which has now elected a School's Liaison Officer as part of its committee. We hope that in a couple of years' time, when many of the pupils will be starting their University careers, that they will continue to be involved in debating, maybe even at The University of Manchester.



From left to right: Stephanie Lee, Rionne Willams and Natalie Bowen (both from Our Lady's Sports College, Manchester) and Julian Skyrme (Head of Widening Participation)

University backs student authors

Pupils from St Edward's RC Primary School in Rusholme are launching their own book, produced with help from staff at The University of Manchester's Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre.

The book 'Oludah Equiano, Son of Africa' focuses on the remarkable story of an eleven-year-old boy who was kidnapped and put on board a slave ship. The pupils contributed poems and drawings to the book and now all Manchester primary schools have received a free copy to use in the classroom.

Professor Lou Kushnick, Director of the Race Relations Resource Centre at The University of Manchester, said: "The Centre has been delighted to work in partnership with young people in our city to encourage greater appreciation of race, migratory history and enjoyment of learning. The children should be proud of their important contribution to this moving, yet informative, book about a young man who helped change the face of British history."

The Race Relations Resource Centre is named in memory of Ahmed Iqbal Ullah, a 13-year-old Bangladeshi boy, who was murdered in a racist incident in the playground of a Manchester school in 1986.

Led by Professor Lou Kushnick, who has worked in the field of Race Relations for over 30 years, the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre and Education Trust were formed to develop anti-racist education outreach work for schools, community groups and a range of educational institutions.

A drama out of a crisis

A University academic is to use drama in a unique project to help Indonesian children come to terms with the devastation wreaked upon their lives by the 2004 Boxing day Tsunami.

Professor of Drama James Thompson from The University of Manchester will visit Banda Aceh in the troubled Aceh province of the country for a ten day trip in April. During the visit organised by Unicef, he will speak to local theatre groups and set up drama workshops for children living in the region.

The project will, he hopes, encourage children to express themselves through performance in a bid help them rebuild their lives after the tragedy

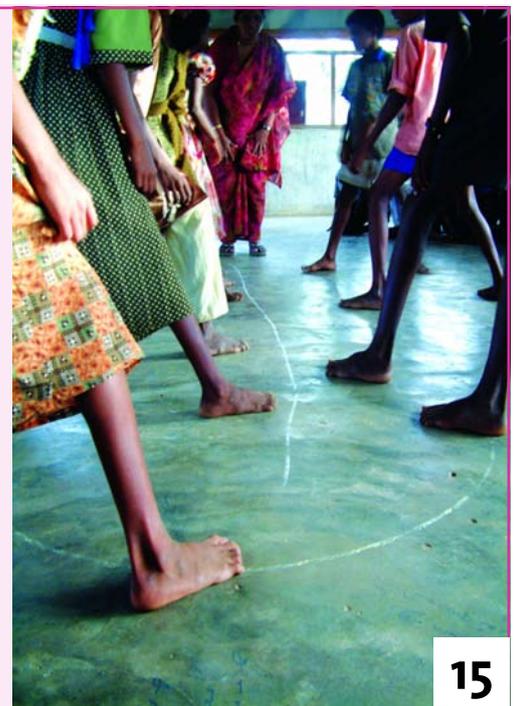
The work draws on Professor Thompson's involvement in a project which researches and creates performances in sites of armed conflict.

The "In place of war" project also supports and documents performance work by artists and communities displaced by war.

So far, the project team have worked in post genocide Rwanda, Palestine and Israel, Sri Lanka and refugee and asylum seeking communities within the UK.

The Professor and his colleagues aim to generate information and resources about how performance responds to war.

Professor Thompson said: "Performance is a powerful way for people to articulate what has happened to them and provides a way for them to come to terms with such tragedies, whether it's war or natural disaster.



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

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.

Opening hours

Mon to Sat 10am - 5pm, Sun 2pm - 5pm

FREE Admission

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

Chaplaincies

St Peter's House Chaplaincy

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10.00am Group Work

11.15am Morning Worship

12.15am Bible Study

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

email 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

rabbivy@hotmail.com

www.rabbivy.com

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

www.tableyhouse.co.uk

Contact Theatre

Until Sat 13 May 2006

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

Courses for the Public

The Centre for 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

The Manchester Museum

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Sankofa: Ceramic Tales from Africa *until 2 July*
Contemporary and historic ceramics providing a multi-sensory experience, including object handling.

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.

MAY BIG SATURDAY

1- 4 pm

Focus on Collections

Find out fascinating facts from Museum curators.

FREE (all ages)

11 am - 4 pm

Dig Manchester Weekend

Join up to dig in 2006 Continues on Sunday

FREE (all ages)

4 pm - 6 pm

Cultural Diversity Day

Activities led by the Museum's Community Advisory Panel. FREE (all ages)

6 pm - 9 pm

European Night of Museum's

Late Night opening with music and Spooky

Museum tours.

DROP-IN FAMILY EVENTS

Family Friendly

There is plenty to do for families during May (see brochure for more details)

Prebooked Family Events (0161 275 2648)

Drop-in Family Events (£1 per child, unless otherwise stated. For group bookings please call 0161 275 2648. Children must be accompanied by an adult).

MANCHESTER MUSEUM EVENTS

Saturday, 13 May, 1-4pm

A Walk in the Past

A walking tour of the Manchester Museum, The Whitworth Art Gallery and Victoria Baths. £2

Thursday, 18 May, 6.30pm-8pm

Summer Talk

The life and times of Victorian collector, Henry Dresser FREE

Friday, 19 May, 7.30pm-10pm

Aidan Smith supported by Keyboard Rebel.

Manchester singer/songwriter plays the Animal Life Gallery. £5 booking essential: 0161 236 7110

Friday 26 - Monday 29 May

Sphere:dreamz

With queerupnorth. Installation of beds and tantalising textures. FREE

Monday 29 May

1-4pm

Maharajah Alive!

With Manchester Art Gallery. Dance workshops with the Pushpanjali dance company and family music concerts celebrating the Museum's famous elephant, Maharajah. 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



Music and Drama at Manchester

Wed 3 May, 7.30 pm (£8/£5/£3)

Richard Casey – Piano

Renowned pianist Richard Casey returns with a challenging programme of cutting-edge contemporary works.

Thurs 4 May, 1.10 pm

Quatuor Danel

Programme – Tchaikovsky and Weinberg

Fri 5 May, 7.30 pm

(Free, tickets from the Box Office)

Postgraduate Composers' Concert

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

Mon 8 to Wed 10 May

Manchester Resonances Festival

Contact Martin Harris Centre for details

Thurs 18 to Sat 20 May

Open House with Quatuor Danel

Three days of music-making with Quatuor, open to students and members of the public to be coached by and make music with the Quartet, to discuss the season's concerts, and to share suggestions for seasons to come. Free event open to all.

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

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

Seminar Listings

Seminar listings are now available online at 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

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

International Society

Saturday 6th May

Chester

Sunday 7 May

North Wales visiting Llangollen and Chirk Castle

Saturday 13 May

Oxford

Sunday 14 May

Chester Zoo

Saturday 20 May

York

Saturday 27 May

Lake District visiting Keswick

Saturday 3 June

North Wales visiting Betws-y-coed and Portmeirion Village

International Society

327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)

0161 275 4959

Open: Mon-Fri 9.30am – 5pm

www.internationalsociety.org.uk

John Rylands Library

The John Rylands Special Collections Library, Deansgate, will be closed until later this year, 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/

Gig Guide Manchester Academy

MANCHESTER ACADEMY 1, 2 and 3

Tues 2 May

Dead Prez

Mystery Jets

Rick Witter & The Dukes

Wed 3 May

The Walkmen

Thurs 4 May

The Sisters of Mercy

Fri 5 May

Jeepster (a tribute to T-rex)

Sun 7 May

Uman 16

Tues 9 May

Anti-flag

Wed 10 May

Sounds of the Underground

Josh Ritter

Fri 12 May

Howe Gelb & Voices of Praise Choir

Sat 13 May

The Durutti Column

Tues 16 May

Everytime I Die

Wed 17 May

Taking Back Sunday

Fri 19 May

Howe Gelb & Voices of Praise Chohr

Sat 20 May

Josh Rouse

The Whip

Sun 21 May

Dinosaur Jnr

Mon 22 May

Jason Maaz & The Take it Easy Buddies

Wed 24 May

The Guillemots

Sat 27 May

The Close Roses vs Underwall

Sun 28 May

Thursday

Tues 30 May

Orson

Thurs 1 June

Gecko

Fri 2 June

Liam Frost & The Slowdown Family

Sat 3 June

Ian McNabb

Sat 3 June

Funeral for A Friend

Sun 4 June

Queensryche

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



President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert and Charles Nugent, Curator of Drawings and Watercolours

Whitworth watercolours boost its collection

The Whitworth Art Gallery has acquired three watercolours by painter JMW Turner, boosting its collection. The gallery's holdings of works by Britain's greatest watercolour painter are internationally significant and can only be matched by the national collections in London and Edinburgh, and the university collections of Oxford and Cambridge. The Whitworth holds more than 50 works and held 'Turner Watercolours from Manchester,' a significant exhibition in 1998.

The three watercolours are the a view of the Roman Forum from the so-called Hakewill series of 1818, a watercolour of Orfordness related to the Southern Coast project of circa 1827, and a superb Swiss view of 1845 showing Lake Lucerne.

Together these watercolours represent the most significant addition to the Whitworth's historic collection of drawings and watercolours since 1937, when Jesse Haworth's collection of watercolours by Turner came to the Gallery.

The watercolours were collected by Abraham Haworth, elder brother to Jesse Haworth and the founder of Abraham Haworth & Co., Manchester cotton brokers, in the 1880s. The Haworth family

bought the watercolours from Agnews, who had a Manchester office, at that time, for the region's industrial and mercantile collectors.

The view of Lake Lucerne was a major purchase by the Haworth family and was exhibited in the Royal Jubilee exhibition in Manchester in 1887. A significant Swiss series by Turner, of which the view of Lake Lucerne is part, is due for auction in London in the Summer and is expected to make in excess of £2 million.

These works come to the Whitworth from the estate of Mrs Hertha Haworth, under the Acceptance in Lieu Scheme, through the generosity of her executor and the main beneficiary of her will.



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Looking Back - The Renold Building



This dramatic shot of the Renold Building on the Sackville Street site has the look of a possible set design for Arthur Miller's *A View From The Bridge*. Taken in the mid-1960s, the photo captures the sweeping stairways which lead down to the landscaped area in front of Staff House.

The ultra-modernist style of the building, one of the first projects in the ambitious redevelopment initiated by the then Principal, (later Lord), Vivian Bowden, contrasts markedly

with the old main building extension, opened less than a decade earlier. Its other innovative feature was in having a central group of lecture theatres, rather than dispersing them in separate departmental units. It also boasts an artistic treasure - a mural by Victor Pasmore, titled appropriately *Metamorphosis* and completed in 1968, in the entrance hall.

The building was officially opened on 23 November 1962, by the man for whom it is named - Sir Charles Renold (1883-1967). Chairman of Renold Chains, he was noted as an

expert in industrial administration and had a long association with the College of Technology from the 1920s onwards, eventually becoming Chairman of the planning and building committees during the expansion of the campus in the late 1950s and 1960s. He was knighted in 1948 for services to the cause of good management, and the development of humane and progressive ideals in industry.

Whether the light industry which was removed to make way for the building quite saw it that way is not a matter of record.



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