

UniLife

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Letter from the President



There have been some arresting illustrations in recent editions of the *Times Higher Education Supplement* of just how impersonal the relationship between students and teachers has become over several decades of what is called, inelegantly, the massification of higher education.

One took the form of a confession by an experienced Admissions Tutor that, in selecting students, "The personal statement – over which students get so worked up – counts for almost nothing." The entire admissions process, he added, is predicated on the "anonymous, bureaucratic" attitude that, "with us, you're just a number, not an individual." The article was headlined: I don't care who you are...

A further sad illustration of how far the impersonalisation of higher learning has reached was an argument, this time from an experienced academic teacher, reassuring *THES* readers that it is no longer necessary for university lecturers to learn the names of their students. There are just too many students and there is just too much pressure on academics, he explained, for even the rudimentary courtesies of lost personal interactions to survive in this age of mass higher learning.

As with many profound problems, there are no obvious villains to blame for this state of affairs. Academics are not to blame. Indeed, the academic profession has fought a gallant, if ultimately unrewarding, rear-guard action against the impersonalisation caused by inexorably mounting student:staff ratios. Nor have universities been in a position to resist the process of massification, either morally or financially. Successive Governments may be held responsible for expecting more for less from universities over too many decades, but we can scarcely question the policy objective of making universities accessible to individuals and social groups who just a generation or two ago could not have aspired to higher learning.

The sad but inescapable reality nevertheless has been a decline in the essential quality of the student learning experience.

This slow process has been rendered no less profound or any less damaging by virtue of the inexorable, undramatic way it has conditioned university communities to lower their expectations and relinquish once-cherished standards of staff-student interaction.

Of all the findings of studies into what produces the best, most transformational learning experiences for students, one factor stands out more than any other: personal interaction between the learner and a teacher. At whatever level we probe, the primary determinants of learning quality involve personal interaction and engagement. Often these are student-to-student learning interactions; sometimes they involve "mentors" and "advisors" as key players in the student experience.

Against that problematic background, we are beginning a major, comprehensive review of undergraduate education in The University of Manchester, and it is vital for all of us in the University community – students, academics, student support staff, administrators and policy-makers – to commit to this Review as one of the most important things we will be doing over the next six months.

This needs to be a root-and-branch Review. Manchester will never be one of the world's great universities unless we find new, sustainable means of re-creating (perhaps in novel new forms) the highly personalised, profoundly interactive learning experiences characteristics of the smaller, more intimate, typically collegiate universities of the past. There are few contemporary models to copy, but much good practice to learn from.

But we will nevertheless have to re-think how we teach, what we teach and how we design curricula. We will need to find ways of providing all students





with mentors and advisers with whom they may interact personally. We are good at supporting students in the wider social, cultural and personal dimensions of their lives during their years at university, but we must try to find ways to do even better.

Obviously, as we will henceforth be dealing with successive generations of students for whom personal interactions as well as information gathering and processing happen as readily in cyberspace as in a classroom or a common room, so the sooner we commit to on-line learning as an integral element in our educational strategies the better.

This Review will succeed or fail depending on how widely and seriously the University community embraces it. The role of Senate – and of individual Senate members – the Associate Deans (Teaching and Learning) and the Students Union will be key to the process.

But above all, we cannot go on letting academic teachers feel that they are fighting the slow defeat of authentic learning in face of the inexorable advance of mass higher education. So this must be a radical Review. Suspending disbelief, we must dare to hope that we can find better, more creative, more interactive, less impersonal ways of nurturing Manchester students into graduates as accomplished and able and sought after as any in the world.

Alan Gilbert

Professor Alan Gilbert
President and Vice-Chancellor

Further details about the Review of Teaching, Learning and Student Support referred to by the President and Vice-Chancellor can be found on the intranet at the web address below.



Frog find spawns hope

A critically endangered frog, thought to have become extinct, has just been rediscovered in Costa Rica by Andrew Gray of the Manchester Museum and Honorary Scientific Associate at The University of Manchester.

After receiving special permission from the Costa Rican authorities to work in the famous Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve, Andrew went on a mission this summer to work with rare Green-eyed Frogs, *Rana vibicaria*, at their last known breeding site.

Andrew said "Many amphibian species have disappeared completely from such high altitude areas over the last 25 years, where a changing climate and fungal infection are suspected to be the cause. A significant crash in the amphibian population occurred at Monteverde in the late 1980's, when many species disappeared without trace, including the Golden Toad, *Bufo peregrinus*."

Apart from the challenging weather conditions he faced during the 16 hour long hike into the remotest part of the reserve, some sections of the mountain trail proved particularly treacherous. At one point, Andrew and his companion, naturalist Mark Wainwright, had to cross the middle of a massive landslide where the slightest slip would have proved fatal. Not satisfied to rest from the daytime trek, they also chose to go looking for frogs at night. It was a

decision they did not regret, as this was when they heard a totally unrecognisable frog call.

The frog in question was calling from a high branch. Precariously, Andrew scaled the slippery, moss-covered trunk in his wellington boots, extending his reach along the bough in his effort to retrieve the vocalizing male. He says "One look at the specimen in my hand and I knew I had caught something very special". And so he had.

The beautiful brown and metallic-green treefrog was *Isthmohyla rivularis* - a nocturnal species. The species had disappeared from Monteverde along with the Golden Toad, almost 20 years ago, and no-one had seen it since.

Although Andrew who is Curator of Herpetology (study of reptiles and amphibians) at the Museum could have collected the prize specimen, he decided it would only be right to leave it in the wild. After taking several unique photographs, he released the little frog exactly where it had been found.

This significant find has excited biologists and conservationists around the globe, many of whom have been searching for such a species at Monteverde themselves. "It also provides new hope that other species considered to be extinct, such as the Golden Toad, may too have survived and await similar discovery," added Andrew.



In brief

New chapter for Library

The John Rylands Library in Manchester has officially reopened after a £17m transformation.

The magnificent neo-gothic building on Deansgate is a major visitor attraction as well as a world-renowned research library, which is part of The University of Manchester.

Broadcaster and journalist Anna Ford, co-Chancellor of The University of Manchester, officially reopened the Library at a special ceremony last month.

More than £8m was provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund to complete the three-year project.

The Unlocking the Rylands project was launched to conserve the Grade I listed building and its collections and to improve physical access and facilities for visitors with the addition of a new entrance wing.

Bill Simpson, University Librarian and Director of the John Rylands Library, said: "The John Rylands Library is one of the most important rare book and manuscript libraries in the world.

"This project has enabled the University of Manchester to keep the collections in the building created for them over a century ago and to make these treasures accessible to all."

A full report on the official re-opening will be available in the next issue of *UniLife* (5 November).

Professor shares retail expertise with Harvard

Manchester Business School's Professor Nitin Sanghavi has been appointed visiting scholar at Harvard Business School. The role officially starts in March 2008, when he will visit the campus to work on developing new case studies and other research initiatives. During his stay he will also share his international retail experiences with staff and students.



The appointment builds on Nitin's long-standing relationship with Professor David Bell's Retail Team at Harvard, with whom he has been working closely for a number of years developing research case studies and joint executive teaching initiatives.

Professor Michael Luger, director of Manchester Business School, said: "We are delighted for Nitin and to strengthen our relationship with Harvard. His appointment is testament to the quality of his research and the reputation of MBS' Retail Centre, which has one of the strongest client portfolios in the world. It's essential that business schools continue to feed research into the private sector and to break down barriers between business theory and practice."

Professor Sanghavi has also been made visiting professor at The University of Rennes, in France.

Academic honours

Academics have received a number of prestigious honours and awards in recent months.

Professor Andre Geim from the School of Physics and Astronomy and Professor Nick Higham from the School of Mathematics have both been appointed as Fellows of the Royal Society.

Professor Geim's discovery of graphene - a new type of fabric just one atom thick - in 2004 made headlines around the world. His work has brought the prospect of computer chips made from a single molecule a step closer.

Professor Higham, director of the Manchester Institute for Mathematical Sciences, is best known for his work on the accuracy and stability of numerical algorithms.

Other honours in the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences include the award of the 29th SAC Gold Medal by The Royal Society of Chemistry to Professor Douglas Kell in The School of Chemistry.

Professor Steve Furber from The School of Computer Science has also been honoured with the 2007 Faraday Medal from The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET).

Professor John Perkins, Vice President and Dean of The Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences has been appointed Vice President of The Royal Academy of Engineering.

The achievements of two academics from the Faculty of Humanities have been recognised with their election to the prestigious British Academy.

Professor of Sociology Mike Savage and Professor of Law Anthony Ogus are to become Fellows of the Academy, joining some of the nation's leading scholars in humanities and social sciences.

Professor Savage Directs the £3.7 million Economic and Social Research Council Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change (CRESC).

CRESC is the first British research centre in Britain to develop an empirically focused account of cultural change and its economic, social and political implications.

Professor Ogus is a pioneer of the application of economic theory to the study of law in the UK and Europe and was awarded a CBE in 2002 for services to the Social Security Advisory Committee.

Simon Weston opens centre offering future hope to burns survivors

Falklands war veteran and burns survivor Simon Weston, OBE, has officially opened a major research centre dedicated to improving treatments for survivors of burns, trauma and other disfiguring conditions.

The Healing Foundation Centre at The University of Manchester is a 25-year, £10 million initiative between the University and the Healing Foundation, a national charity supporting research into disfigurement and visible loss of function.

The Centre, led by the Healing Foundation Professor of Tissue Regeneration, Enrique Amaya, will focus attention on the amazing 'regenerative' abilities of frogs, salamanders, zebra fish and animal embryos, to learn how certain animal models are able to repair wounds without scars or, in some cases, regenerate amputated limbs. It is hoped that these lessons can then be used to benefit future



human survivors of trauma, disease or congenital deformity.

As lead ambassador for the Healing Foundation, Simon Weston - who survived major burns when the Sir Galahad, 25 years ago - also opened a 'tissue

regeneration' scientific symposium at the University.

Commenting on the work of the Centre, Simon Weston said: "I am proud to be involved at the start of such an exciting initiative."



www.healingfoundation.org

Anna Ford launches 'A Portrait of the University'

Co-Chancellor of the University Anna Ford has officially launched a new book celebrating more than 150 years of university life in Manchester.

'*A Portrait of The University of Manchester*' is the first major illustrated volume to be published tracing the University's life from the Victorian era to its current position at the cutting edge of 21st century change and progress, including accounts of the merger between The Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST three years ago.

In her foreword Anna Ford says: "When the new University was founded in 2004 I sensed a collective and profound sigh of relief. The eyes of the academic community, the government and higher education institutions around the world had been on us as we navigated our way through the immense complexities of merging two fully fledged institutions...We could have failed, but we didn't, and the breathtaking ambition of the transformation laid out in the Manchester 2015 agenda - 'to make The University of Manchester, already an internationally distinguished centre of research, innovation, learning and scholarly inquiry, one of the leading universities in the world by 2015' - is already beginning to bear fruit."

Sir Terry Leahy, Chief Executive of Tesco plc and Co-Chancellor of the University, adds in his foreword: "I hope that this portrait of the University - past, present and future - will inspire many of us to re-engage with our alma mater, or to deepen our existing involvement."

Richly illustrated throughout with archive images and specially commissioned photography, '*A Portrait*



Anna Ford

of The University of Manchester' includes anecdotes and memories from alumni, as well as current and former members of staff.

Professor Alan Gilbert, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University said: "This beautifully illustrated and fascinating account of university life in Manchester over a century and a half will be a valuable marketing tool for enhancing our international reputation, as well as helping us in our

quest to become one of the world's leading universities by 2015."

Imprint: Third Millennium Publishing, London
Historical Consultant: Professor Brian Pullan
ISBN: 978 1 903942 49 9
Hardback priced £45 (RRP)

Copies are available to purchase from
lisa.linekar@manchester.ac.uk or 0161 306 4081.

£25million investment in sustainable consumption

Supermarket Tesco has teamed up with The University of Manchester in a £25 million investment that will bring together the world's leading experts to tackle climate change and help deliver a revolution in green consumption.

The Institute will promote fresh thinking and explore vital areas of research such as how customers can be empowered and incentivised to buy green products and services, how business can adapt to meet customer needs and how we can train the next generation of environmental leaders and experts. Its research and conclusions will be shared freely.

Projects already under way include research into low carbon lifestyles and the role of new technologies in delivering them, and outcomes could range from making paper from chicken feathers and fuelling delivery vans with plastic milk bottles.

Tesco Chief Executive Sir Terry Leahy said the Institute - one of the key elements of Tesco's climate change strategy announced in January - was further proof of the company's long-term commitment to making a positive contribution to tackling environmental issues.

"At Tesco, we know our customers are concerned about climate change and expect us to be taking the lead in helping create a greener future. We

have already taken a number of significant steps in this direction, for example by announcing our plans to introduce carbon labelling on all our products.

"Making a real difference to global problems will take time, but our support for this partnership with one of the country's top universities marks another major milestone on the road to a low-carbon future."

Drawing on expertise from all four of the University's faculties, Manchester will lead and co-ordinate a wide range of focused research programmes.

The SCI will also become a focal point for the next generation of researchers, policymakers and advisers in the area of sustainable consumption through an extensive postgraduate training programme.

Professor Alan Gilbert, President and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Manchester, said: "We're delighted that Tesco has chosen Manchester for this vitally important new institute.

"The partnership will be built on a shared understanding that we need to bring together the best thinking from all sectors to address these critical global concerns."

While new research findings are expected within the first year of the launch of the SCI, the partnership is a long-term commitment and includes funds to endow a continuing Professorship in Sustainable Consumption.



Sir Terry Leahy

VP's View

Many of us are wondering what happened to the summer this year, with a distinct lack of sunshine. But to some of our staff this may have been a blessing. They have spent recent months working hard on various aspects of our submission to the Research Assessment Exercise, with a final deadline of 30 November 2007.

The results of the RAE will be known in late 2008, and will influence both the research funds we receive from HEFCE and of course our reputation. This in turn influences many further funds and our attractiveness to new academic and research staff and students.

To give a perspective on the scale of the RAE operation, we will return 54 of the Units of Assessment (probably the broadest return of any University). We will submit about 7,500 research outputs for assessment, each checked carefully and held on record by the library, either electronically or physically. We have checked and validated nearly 12,000 graduate student records and nearly 120,000 financial records. The written sections on environment and esteem amount to over half a million words, while the outputs section is about another three quarters of a million words. Just to complicate things a little further, we have had to integrate data from more than 20 different IT systems. Then there have been the "interesting challenges" of the RAE submission software!

While we should celebrate the submission, the hard work doesn't stop here. 36 of our staff are members of the panels which will be reading and judging these submissions and a further two are seconded to the funding councils as panel advisors. We also have to think about "what next?". How can we best use the vast amount of information we have compiled? How can we best drive forward the University's research strategy after the immediate constraints of RAE2008 have been lifted?

So if some of your colleagues seem to have been a little preoccupied, and you have been annoyed by repeated requests for information, perhaps you can understand why. We all owe a great deal to the academic staff who have taken a major role in the RAE process, but it is also important to recognise the many administrative staff (often "invisible to the naked eye") in Schools, Faculties and in the Centre and who have provided truly outstanding support for RAE – and with a smile. Our success will depend heavily on their fantastic efforts.

Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell,
Vice-President Research

Professor Simon Gaskell, Vice-President
Research

Professor Nigel Vincent, Associate Dean
Postgraduate Research

Dr Andrew Walsh, Head of Research Policy and
RAE Co-ordinator

University signs agreement with EDF

The University and energy group EDF have signed a framework research and development (R&D) agreement, which will pave the way for important new studies into energy networks and generation.

Under the initial four-year agreement, the University could receive as much as £2m funding from EDF for a variety of scientific and technological research projects.

Academics at the university have been working successfully with EDF and its UK company EDF Energy for over 20 years on a wide range of projects.

New projects will take place across three schools within the University's Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS); The School of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering (MACE), The School of Materials and The School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE).

Potential studies in EEE include investigations into

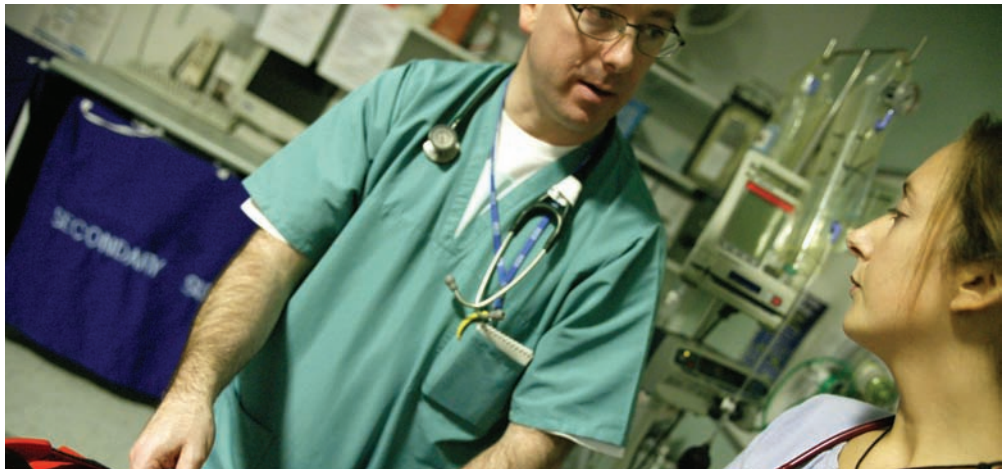
large wind power penetration, wind farms and lightning, and environmentally-friendly insulating oils for use in transformers.

In one project in the School of Materials, researchers in the Materials Performance Centre (MPC) will work with EDF's R&D section to examine stress corrosion cracking in materials used in the power industry.

There are also proposals for several new EDF-funded PhD and post doctoral projects in the area of power systems and computational fluid dynamics (CFD)

Professor John Perkins, Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS), said: "This partnership is yet another important development and success for the University. We are delighted to be working with EDF and we are confident both parties will benefit from our collective expertise."

Hospitals Improve Trauma Care...Online



The Trauma Audit and Research Network (TARN) has launched a unique website to help hospitals improve their trauma care and see how they compare to their peers.

Traumatic injuries from serious incidents such as road accidents and violent altercations are the biggest cause of death and disability in people aged less than 44 in the UK. Trauma is also the most costly 'disease', affecting mostly children and young people who are then in need of care and unable to work for many years and therefore costs society more than cancer and heart disease. Every year 10,000 mainly young people die as a result of injury, with double the number severely disabled for life. This costs the NHS 1.6 billion every year but most of the costs to society are outside healthcare, they result from lost earning through premature death and disability and lifelong care.

TARN – founded by The University of Manchester and Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust – helps hospitals to collect and evaluate data on their trauma care (treatment of serious injuries such as

head injuries, chest injuries and broken limbs) and how they rate in comparison with other Trusts. It then advises their NHS Trusts on how the care could be improved.

As well as developing this website, with the support of the Healthcare Commission, TARN has expanded its work to cover paediatric trauma care (TARNlet) and Europe (EuroTARN).

And its recent *Lancet* publication is also being considered by National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) which is about to give NHS Trusts guidelines on the management of head injuries.

TARN's Director of Research Dr Fiona Lecky, an A&E consultant at Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust, said: "We provide a standard measure of the process at each stage on the patient pathway, thus measuring the performance of the system."

"Generally the standard of trauma care in UK hospitals participating in TARN is satisfactory and this initiative is an important foundation for monitoring and improving patient care in the future."



Science steps in to discover wonders of Toe-tankhamun

An artificial big toe attached to the foot of an ancient Egyptian mummy could prove to be the world's earliest functional prosthetic body part, say scientists.

Research at The University of Manchester is hoping to prove that the wood and leather artefact (pictured above) in the Cairo Museum not only looked the part but also helped its owner walk 'like an Egyptian'.

If true, the toe will predate what is currently considered to be the earliest known practical prosthesis – an artificial leg from 300BC – by several hundred years.

Jacky Finch, who is carrying out the study at Manchester's KNH Centre for Biomedical Egyptology, is recruiting volunteers whose right big toe has been lost in order to test an exact replica of the artificial toe.

A model of a second false Egyptian big toe on display in the British Museum, albeit without its mummy, will also be tested at the Human Performance Laboratory at the University of Salford (pictured right).

"The toes date from between 1000 and 600BC, so if we can prove that one or both were functional then we will have pushed back prosthetic

medicine by as much as 700 years," said Jacky.

"The Cairo toe is the most likely of the two to be functional as it is articulated and shows signs of wear. It is still attached to the foot of the mummy of a female between 50 and 60 years of age. The amputation site is also well healed."

The British Museum artefact – named the Greville Chester Great Toe after the collector who acquired it for the museum in 1881 – is made from cartonnage, a sort of papier maché made using linen, glue and plaster.

It too shows signs of wear, indicating that it may have been

worn by its owner in life and not simply attached to the foot during mummification for religious or ritualistic reasons. However, unlike the Cairo specimen, the Greville Chester toe does not bend and so is likely to have been more cosmetic.

"The Human Performance Laboratory will use state-of-the-art technology to test whether the replicas of the artificial toes benefit the wearer and could therefore be deemed functional," said Jacky.

"If either one is functional it may be interesting to manufacture it with modern materials and trial it for use on people with missing toes."



Manchester scores cancer imaging coup

The University of Manchester's Wolfson Molecular Imaging Centre (WMIC) has appointed a world-renowned cancer imaging specialist Professor Juri Gelovani to develop new tracers for the study and treatment of a wide variety of tumours.

Professor Gelovani heads the molecular imaging department at MD Anderson, Texas, in the United States, which has an extensive programme for the development of tracers.

His collaboration with the WMIC will involve clinical-translational studies to explore the use of several new tracers which have shown promise for studying tumour proliferation and infiltration. One of Professor Gelovani's first projects at the WMIC will involve the development of new fluorine-18 labelled tracers for studying brain tumour activity. It is thought that these tracers will provide substantially better scan contrast for grading of malignancy than current techniques and will have a great potential for future clinical use.

Professor Gelovani will also work closely with the Manchester Cancer Research Centre (MCRC).

Professor Gelovani said: "I am sure that this will be a great opportunity to combine the strengths of our two institutions and contribute to the development of the University's oncology imaging research program".

In brief

Parenting help for bipolar mums and dads

Parents with bipolar disorder (formally known as manic depression) can take part in a study that will give them the chance to follow a highly successful parenting skills programme.

Dr Steven Jones and Dr Rachel Calam at the School of Psychological Sciences will assess the volunteers' current mood and experiences of parenting with an online questionnaire before offering some of them help via an online version of the Triple P Positive Parenting Programme that featured on the ITV1 television series called 'Driving Mum and Dad Mad'.

The Triple P system, developed by University clinical psychologist Professor Matt Sanders, is known to be effective in modifying and improving children's behaviour by rebuilding positive relationships, tackling discipline and setting rules and limits.

Dr Jones and Dr Calam are recruiting parents who have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder, have children aged three to ten and online access.

- For more information or to take part in the study, volunteers can visit www.reachingabalance.org.uk.

www.reachingabalance.org.uk

Free health 'MOTs' in world's biggest male ageing study

Researchers at the University are offering free health 'MOTs' to older men from South Asian and Afro-Caribbean communities as part of the world's biggest study of male ageing.

Professor Fred Wu and his team at the Andrology Research Unit and the Arthritis Research Campaign (ARC) Unit of Epidemiology need 400 ethnic volunteers aged 40-79 for the latest stage of the European Male Ageing Study (EMAS) of more than 3,200 older men across the continent.

They will carry out a range of tests at a time and venue to suit the volunteer, then repeat the process in five years to see how their health and fitness has changed.

Those taking part in the confidential study will receive a report as well as £30 for taking part and travel expenses.

It could even save their lives – an EMAS pilot study in Manchester revealed three cases of undiagnosed cancer, two of the prostate gland and one of the blood (leukaemia).

- To take part in the study, contact Carly Moseley on 0161 276 6670 or Gill Aarons on 0161 276 6353 or email info@emasweb.org.

Byron was UK's greatest European

A new collection of writings and artefacts relating to Byron is to highlight the poets' achievements - after years of disregard by his fellow English.

Dr Alan Rawes, from The University of Manchester, is leading a team to create a world-class Byron Archive at the University's John Rylands Library.

The archive forms part of The Byron Centre, directed by Dr Rawes and launched recently at the library.

The Byron Centre is the first multidisciplinary grouping of academics dedicated to looking at the massive significance of Byron in European literature, music, art and politics.

The Archive includes a small handbag made by Byron's childhood love Mary Chaworth, material from Byron Societies around the world and 30 years of research by renowned Byron enthusiast Megan Boyes.

There are contributions from Greece, Australia, Germany and the Far East. A bronze bust of

the poet made by Greek sculpture Nicolas Kotziamani will also be displayed.

Dr Rawes said: "Byron was perhaps the most important European in the first half of the nineteenth century in the terms of his influence on literature, art, music and politics - with the possible exception of Napoleon.

"But this is not known by many Britons, who sadly still regard him as little more than an over-sexed Regency dandy."

He added: "As far as prudish Victorian Britons were concerned, his great achievements were overshadowed by his sexual activities.

"British attitudes to the poet didn't begin to recover until well into the 20th century, and it's telling that the modern academic Byron revival was led by US scholars.

"Other Europeans, however, did not let Byron's bisexuality and affair with his half-sister detract from his greatness.

"The real scandal is that Byron is only now beginning to take his rightful place alongside other great Britons."



Clues to new genes behind rheumatoid arthritis

Researchers have identified evidence of several new genes behind the chronic inflammatory disease rheumatoid arthritis (RA), which affects 387,000 people in the UK.

Professor Jane Worthington and her team at the University's arthritis research campaign (arc) Epidemiology Unit made their findings as part of the largest ever study of the genetics behind common diseases.

The £9m Wellcome Trust Case Control Consortium (WTCCC), which published its results in the journals *Nature* and *Nature Genetics*, has given a major boost to the understanding of genetics of seven common diseases, including RA. It has identified a wealth of genes implicated in coronary heart disease, type 1 and type 2 diabetes, Crohn's disease, bipolar disorder and hypertension, as well as RA.

Professor Worthington and her team have implicated several genes in the development of RA for the first time. Previously, two genes were known to explain 50% of genetically determined

susceptibility. Now the team have replicated their results for one of the new genes and are working to validate others.

RA is a chronic inflammatory disease that can affect nearly all joints in the body, particularly the hands and feet. Complications such as lung disease can occur. In addition, patients with RA are more likely to die from cardiovascular disease and some cancers. Some people respond well to treatment, but most suffer a lifetime of disability.

Dr Anne Barton, a clinician on the team, said: "We hope that this study may help us to discover why 40-50% of people do not respond to therapy. This therapy is expensive and this work could show whether someone would respond well or not in advance, rather than by costly trial and error."

Professor Worthington said: "The WTCCC has been a fantastic example of collaborative effort in the UK. It has taken us to the place we are now, more rapidly and efficiently than if we had tried to undertake this study on our own.



T.rex quicker than Becks, say scientists

T.rex may have struggled to chase down speeding vehicles as the movie Jurassic Park would have us believe but the world's most fearsome carnivore was certainly no slouch, research carried out in Manchester suggests.

The University study used a powerful supercomputer to calculate the running speeds of five meat-eating dinosaurs that varied in size from a 3kg *Compsognathus* to a six-tonne *Tyrannosaurus*.

The research – believed to be the most accurate ever produced – puts the *T.rex* at speeds of up to 18mph, fractionally quicker than a sportsman such as a professional footballer.

The bipedal *Compsognathus*, by comparison, could reach speeds of almost 40mph – that's 5mph faster than the computer's estimate for the fastest living animal on two legs, the ostrich.

The team – headed by biomechanics expert Bill Sellers

and palaeontologist Phil Manning – say the accuracy of their results is due to the computer's ability to use data relating directly to each dinosaur.

"Previous research has relied on data from extant bipedal models to provide clues as to how fast dinosaurs could run," said Dr Sellers, who is based in the Faculty of Life Sciences.

"Such calculations can accurately predict the top speed of a six-tonne chicken but dinosaurs are not built like chickens and nor do they run like them.

"Our research involved feeding information about the skeletal and muscular structure of the dinosaurs directly into the supercomputer so it could work out how the animals were best able to move."

Despite its powerful memory and 256 processors, the computer still took up to a week to learn the biomechanics of each animal – starting with the first clumsy steps and developing

into a top running speed based on the optimum gait and posture.

"The figures we have produced are the best estimate to date as to how fast these prehistoric animals could run," said collaborator Dr Manning, in the School of Earth, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences.

"Since the movie Jurassic Park, scientists have questioned the speed of these dinosaurs and some have wondered whether *Tyrannosaurus* could have run at all.

"Our research suggests that, while not incredibly fast, this carnivore was certainly capable of running and would have little difficulty in chasing down footballer David Beckham for instance."

In brief

Euro prizes for genetics

At the recent European Society of Human Genetics Conference in Nice, members of the Medical Genetics Research Group had a high profile.

Emma Hilton was awarded the Young Investigator Award for Outstanding Science for her paper was presented with the award by Nobel Laureate Prof AJ Ciechanover.

Professor Andrew Read was awarded the ESHG Education Award for 'outstanding contribution to the dispersal of knowledge of modern human molecular genetics' represented by his book *Human Molecular Genetics*, now in its 3rd edition and a standard text in the field.

Professor Read and Professor Dian Donnai also launched their textbook *New Clinical Genetics* at the meeting and rights have already been agreed for translation into over 10 languages.

Other members of the research group were chosen for plenary and platform sessions presenting work: May Tassabehji, Helen Schlecht, Professors Clayton-Smith and Donnai also ran their popular Syndrome Identification Workshops attended by over 400 delegates and now part of the EU-funded DYSCERNE initiative coordinated in Manchester.

Maths additions

The School of Mathematics has boosted its academic staff with some major appointments over the summer.

Professor Alex Wilkie, a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS), has been appointed to the position of Fielden Chair of Pure Mathematics. Professor Wilkie is a known for his contributions to model theory and logic and joins from The University of Oxford's Mathematical Institute.

"I am excited about joining a world class group in mathematical logic," said Professor Wilkie. "The new Alan Turing building has a wonderfully positive feel to it and reminds me of two of my favourite centres for mathematical research meetings – the Fields Institute in Toronto and the Newton Institute in Cambridge. I'm sure I shall be very happy and inspired here."

Professor Toby Stafford has joined from The University of Michigan and brings with him huge expertise in the areas of algebra and algebraic geometry.

"It is a great honour to be able to come to The University of Manchester after spending 18 years in the US," said Professor Stafford. "Manchester has an exceptional Mathematics school and I am looking forward to working with many people from across the department, particularly those from the broad and strong algebra group."

Other recent appointments in the School of Mathematics include senior teaching fellow Dr Carolyn Dean, Dr Marcus Tressl in the pure mathematics group and Dr Alexander Donev, Dr John Moriarty and Dr Markus Riedle in the probability and statistics group.

In brief

New Resource Centre now open

The Manchester Museum's new Resource Centre is now open for use on the third floor. It provides an area of study for students, (including tutorial groups), volunteers, academics, independent researchers and members of the public, to work on projects using the Museum's numerous collections. There is computer access to the internet and a small working library available; reference books held within Collection areas can also be used by appointment. Visitors are welcome to the Centre at any time between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Friday, although access to the collections and their reference books need an appointment.

Please email phyllis.stoddart@manchester.ac.uk or drop into the Resource Centre to discuss your requirements.

Research Postgraduates Showcase Interdisciplinary Research Excellence

Postgraduate researchers in the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, hosted the first interdisciplinary research symposium of its kind recently at the successful Graduate Research Conference 2007.

Spearheaded by the EPS Graduate Development Scheme (GraDS) the one-day conference provided postgraduate researchers and post-doctoral research assistants with an opportunity to foster interdisciplinary research excellence and promote transferable research skills at the University of Manchester.

Held in the Simon Building, the event attracted over 200 participants with 40 talks and 100 posters. The conference theme reflected the diverse research taking place across the Faculty and included topics such as materials and optics, nuclear physics, computational science, biophysics, laser applications, earth science systems and astronomy.

Opening remarks by the EPS Associate Dean of Research, Professor Helen Gleeson, discussed how postgraduates could add value to their own research project by encouraging them to seek out opportunities for interdisciplinary or collaborative research with other students from across the faculty. Vice-President and Dean of EPS, Professor John Perkins, delivered the closing remarks and presented awards.

Sponsored by the School of Earth, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, School of Physics and Astronomy, the Photon Science Institute, and the Dalton Nuclear Institute, the conference was organised entirely by postgraduate research students.

For more information visit the web address below



www.psi.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/events/grc/index.html

Jewellery artist builds bridges with lasers

A jewellery artist studying for a unique PhD in an engineering school is using powerful industrial lasers to produce unusual new designs.

Sarah O'Hana is in the second year of a project called 'The creative use of laser processing and its application to contemporary jewellery' in the Manufacturing and Laser Processing Group.

She rubs shoulders with engineering colleagues undertaking projects with technical titles such as 'Laser surface modification of titanium alloys for improved cell integration' and 'Nano particle generation and manipulation'.

But her concern is rather more with aesthetics than practical industry application.

"The aim of my research is to investigate laser techniques to generate new processes for the



creative industries," says Sarah.

"Historically the gap between the sciences and the arts is legendary, making it difficult for either culture to understand the other effectively.

"My research, therefore, seeks to establish a productive dialogue between the two communities, with the aim to enable the use of laser processing to open new avenues in the field of contemporary jewellery."

Leicester to be Britain's first plural city

Leicester is to become Britain's first plural city in about 12 years - where no ethnic group will form a majority, according to researchers at The University of Manchester.

The team at The School of Social Sciences also expect Birmingham to reach plurality about five years later in 2024.

Professor Ludi Simpson who led the research team, says the results reflect world-wide trends of increasing ethnic diversity.

He said: "In Leicester and Birmingham, the White group will remain the largest by far - though it will not account for a majority of the population as a whole.

"These and most other cities are already diverse with many different ethnic minorities.

"Indeed it is indisputable that whether the whole of Britain or its city districts are considered, there will be more cultures represented in more equal numbers than in the past."

The study is Britain's first ever review of city population forecasts and according to Professor Simpson, dismisses previous claims of imminent minority White cities.

Using detailed analysis of census and local authority data, it also rejects claims by the Commission for Racial Equality that Leicester will have Europe's first city with a 'majority non-white population' in three years.

He added: "Our findings correct those officials at



the Commission for Racial Equality who have made unsubstantiated claims and ignored government statistics.

"Through eagerness to make political points about diversity, commentators have often exaggerated or passed over the facts and claimed plural cities by 2010.

"Britain's growing diversity is clear and measurable but it is not as focused on a few cities as many people imagine. "Diversity is apparent in suburban and rural neighbourhoods too.

"Leicester is expected to be minority White in about 2019, followed by Birmingham in about 2024.

"However, the districts of Bradford and Oldham are expected to stay majority White for the foreseeable future."

Harlem Globe-swotters bank on Manchester experience

The University of Manchester recently hosted a group of teenagers from Harlem, allowing them to experience life at a top UK university.

The 22 American students arrived from the Double Discovery Centre at Columbia University, which helps talented secondary school pupils from disadvantaged urban backgrounds to prepare for higher education. For many, it was the first time they had ever travelled beyond the boundaries of their New York borough.

The University has a long tradition of opening up opportunities for higher learning among groups underrepresented in higher education.

During their stay in Manchester, the New York students met staff at the Bank of New York in Manchester city centre, many of whom completed their degrees at The University of Manchester. The Bank is also a sponsor of the DDC at Columbia.

Other highlights included a visit to Manchester United and a trip on the Manchester Wheel, as well as a day out in London. Two of the students were also interviewed live on the BBC Radio Manchester Breakfast Show.

Julian Skyrme, Head of Widening Participation at The University of Manchester, said: "We were delighted to be the host for the visit of students from Columbia University's Scholars programme. As two of the leading universities in the world, we share similar values in supporting all talented youth

to progress into university, regardless of background. We showed them the best of what opportunities there are in Manchester - academically, culturally and in the world of work, and we hope their visits to the University and the Bank of New York will inspire them to aim high."



www.columbia.edu/cu/college/ddc/

Big business tackles unemployment in Moss Side

Fifteen of Manchester's leading employers, including the University, have teamed up to tackle long-term unemployment in some of the city's most disadvantaged areas through a unique employer-led initiative called the Central Manchester Employers Alliance (CMEA).

The Alliance aims to provide support to people most disadvantaged in the labour market, including lone parents, people on disability and health-related benefits, people from black and minority ethnic communities and ex-offenders. The initiative was launched at 'Moss Side Works!' the first careers and training event to be staged by the new Alliance.

The University of Manchester's Assistant Director of Human Resources and Chair of the CMEA, Steve Grant said: "This initiative gives some of the City's biggest employers the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to the City and also recognises that within Moss Side there resides an untapped pool of potential talent."

Hayley Tatum, UK Operations Personnel Director for Tesco, Graham Lumberg, Director of Laing O'Rourke and Geoff Thompson, MBE, five times World Karate Champion and Executive Chairman of the Youth Charter for Sport, Culture and the Arts launched the Alliance by delivering keynote speeches in support of the work of the CMEA.

Amanda Jones, Head of Diversity at the Co-operative Group said: "We are delighted to support the Central Manchester Employers Alliance. Our business is based on a clear set of values that place the community at the heart of everything we do. The CMEA allows us to work with other major Manchester employers towards the aim of equality of access to training and employment opportunities for all residents, no matter what their background or locality."

The event, backed by Greater Manchester Employer Coalition and Jobcentre Plus, aims to give a helping hand to people in an area of Manchester with the highest levels of unemployment and a range of social problems.

First report submitted to OFFA

The University has recently reported formally on its progress in widening participation to the government's Office for Fair Access (OFFA). The Director of Fair Access now requires all publicly funded providers of higher education in England that decide to charge fees above the standard level to submit a report against milestones agreed with OFFA in their Access Agreements.

Julian Skyrme, head of widening participation in the Student Recruitment, Admissions and International Development Division, said "We welcomed the opportunity to present such a high-profile report to OFFA. Equity of access to higher education, irrespective of background, is one of the principal values enshrined in our Manchester 2015 Agenda and this report has allowed us to communicate to government and other stakeholders, in detail, our substantial investment in bursaries, scholarships and outreach activities designed to widen participation into higher education."

A summary of the University's submission is included with this issue of UniLife. The full report is available to view at the web address below.

www.manchester.ac.uk/wp

University business links gaining Momentum

Manchester Momentum is celebrating a successful year since its launch last September. Momentum is a membership organisation, supported by the University, which aims to nurture the growth of small businesses that have an affiliation with the University. These include our own spin-out companies, tenants of our incubator buildings and companies in Manchester Science Park.

So far, Manchester Momentum has recruited 72 business members, including 28 spin-outs; advertised over 60 vacancies for student and graduate employment; facilitated two mentoring partnerships; made several internal introductions for businesses to seek technical and/or academic assistance, and held four events to improve members' knowledge of various aspects of business, from finding and keeping customers, to finance and business development.

An example of the benefits members get from the organisation is the experiences of Mobysoft Ltd, the sole provider of MobileLogic software, which enables companies to communicate with their customers via text message. Based in the North Campus incubator, it is the market leader in connecting housing associations and councils to customers' mobile phones.

Managing Director Derek Steele needed to hire a Marketing Assistant called on Manchester Momentum to help. The post was ultimately offered to a University of Manchester postgraduate student.

Derek said: "Manchester Momentum helped me tremendously every step of the way, including with writing the job description and shortlisting candidates. Having someone with me during the interview process to help prepare, conduct and make the final decision was particularly beneficial."



Stirling's Strategy

The appointment of Professor Colin Stirling as Associate Vice-President for eLearning signals a major development in extending the use of a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) campus-wide this session. And no-one could be better equipped to lead the charge and give it real momentum.

As Associate Dean for Education in the Faculty of Life Sciences, he has led developments there and found students to be very responsive to using learning technologies. "We provided eLearning packages for all first-year students and their feedback was very positive," he says. "They found that it helped their development and enabled them to keep track of how they were progressing. However, we've pushed our current VLE to its limits and staff are eager to get their hands on cutting edge technology."

The first step is to implement a long-awaited upgrade in our VLE in the shape of the Blackboard Learning System (formerly WebCT

Vista). This implementation is underway and the first wave of pilot courses are scheduled to launch in September 2007. This will be followed in Phase 2 by the development of a series of "exemplar courses intended to showcase the many new features available in Blackboard". These will launch at the beginning of the second semester in February 2008, at which time Phase 3 will begin with a campus-wide release of the new system.

"This development is urgent and exciting at the same time," he says. "It will provide us with the necessary tools and infrastructure to reach the forefronts of teaching & learning and to meet the needs of students in the digital age"

He warns that the implementation of Blackboard will not be without hiccups. "We must not expect it to be trouble-free," he says. "But we have in place a fantastic team who share the vision and are committed to the project."

His involvement in educational methods, which goes back to pre-merger days and then to managing the

merging of teaching in Life Sciences, is additional to his "day job" as a research scientist with an international reputation. He leads an eight-strong research group, funded by the Wellcome Trust, MRC and the Royal Society, into the fundamental mechanisms by which cells grow: "It's what I might call cellular logistics – how proteins are synthesised and get to the right place at the right time in the cell." The modelling is done on yeast cells, which famously share many of their internal workings with human cells.

This fundamental research informs our understanding of the development and treatment of degenerative diseases like dementia and cystic fibrosis.

A Professor at 35, Colin was always destined to be a scientist. He attended the local secondary school in his native Bathgate in Scotland, favouring Biology despite the advice of his careers master. "For some reason he thought there was no future in it" he says.

In 1980, he went to Edinburgh University to read Biological Sciences, emerging in 1984 not only with a First in Microbiology, but with a latent interest in protein targeting that would later define his research.

That latent interest emerged after he had completed his PhD in Genetics at Glasgow, where he worked on DNA recombination. However, the seed of protein targeting had been planted in his undergraduate time - by a lecturer at Edinburgh called Graeme Reid. As luck would have it, that interest was re-awakened by his attending a conference celebrating the 21st anniversary of the founding of Edinburgh's Department of Molecular Biology in 1987 - and hearing an invited lecture by Randy Schekman who was then at the University of California, Berkeley.

The upshot of that was an opportunity in 1988 to go to Berkeley as a post-doc to work with Randy. "It was a seminal experience - an exciting and enjoyable time, when my interest really got its focus," he says.

Indeed, he might well have stayed in California, but he was attracted by an advertisement for a lectureship in Manchester. His application was warmly received by Professor Keith Gull, who encouraged him to take up the challenge and opportunity offered by coming here to set up his lab. So, in 1990, still only 27, he came as a Lecturer in Molecular Biology - at a time, it has to be said,

when the discipline here needed a boost. Colin was among the first of a new breed recruited and developed by Keith Gull.

"It turned out to be a great place in which to try and get things moving," he says. "More new people arrived and the place became very vibrant - and it has gone from strength to strength. There has never been a dull moment in Life Sciences. We've never been afraid to reorganise when necessary and are always trying to adapt and improve."

His own contribution has been considerable - reflected in a number of awards. Just to pick a few from his CV, he was awarded the prestigious Lister Institute Research Fellowship in 1993, the Fleming Award of the Society of Microbiology in 1997, the Balfour Prize of the Genetical Society in 1998 and he currently holds a Royal Society Merit Award.

He got his Chair in 1998.

Yet he wears his distinction easily. A tall, rangy man with real presence, Colin enjoys hill-walking, golf when he can ("my only handicap is my clubs") and Man United. His style is casual, informal and good-humoured and he is full of enthusiasm and determination. He'll probably need both in good measure over this new session, which should go down as the time when eLearning came into its own in Manchester.

Name

Colin Stirling

Education

1980-84: BSc in Biological Sciences, University of Edinburgh

1984-87: PhD in Genetics, University of Glasgow

Career

1988-90: SERC/NATO Research Fellow, University of California, Berkeley

1990: Arrived in Manchester as a Lecturer in Molecular Biology

1994: Reader in Molecular Biology

1998: Professor of Genetics

2001-2004: Education Dean, School of Biological Sciences

2004-2007: Associate Dean for Education, Faculty of Life Sciences

Awards and Distinctions

- SERC/NATO Research Fellow (1988-1990)
- Lister Institute Jenner Research Fellow (1993-1998)
- Fleming Award (1997)
- Balfour Prize (1998)
- Member of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine (1998-)
- University of Manchester, Distinguished Achievement Medal (2005)
- Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award (2006-2011)





Manchester Leadership Programme students celebrate success

Manchester Leadership Programme (MLP) students from all faculties were joined by university staff, employers, civic leaders and representatives from charity and voluntary organisations at the Whitworth Hall for the MLP Awards ceremony.

Keynote addresses were given by the President and Vice-Chancellor and by Mike Reardon, Strategic Director of Manchester City Council, before the students were presented with their Manchester Leadership Award certificates.

Ellen Hawkins from Red Rose Forests was keen to attend to show her support to the MLP volunteer who worked with her charity. She said:

"Students from the MLP have been involved in woodland management tasks, litter clearance and pond digging. They have really helped to improve the environment for the community in a number of sites around Manchester."

Also represented at the event were university staff, including Adele Finley from the Manchester Museum, who has used MLP volunteers for a variety of community work, and Katherine McTavish from the Faculty of Humanities, who engaged MLP students to support widening participation activities in local schools.

In 2006/07, 326 students signed up for the MLP and even greater numbers are expected to register

for the 2007/08 programme. Many schools and programme directors have seen how the MLP can enrich their programmes and have been keen to open up the MLP as a credit-rated unit to an increased cohort of their students.

A new development for this academic year is the availability of a new online version of the Leadership in Action unit, designed particularly for those students whose timetables make it difficult for them to attend the physical lectures.

Programme directors who would like to find out more about how the MLP could add value to their programmes should contact: colette.cooke@manchester.ac.uk. Tel: 52828.

Courses for the Public

Offering around 150 courses, day schools, study trips and special lectures, daytime and evening, seven days a week, Courses for the Public, revamped and reinvigorated, provides a vital link between the local community and the University's research and scholarship. Along with other cultural assets open to the public, such as Jodrell Bank, John Rylands Library, the Manchester Museum and the Whiworth Art Gallery, the newly-named unit is a major attraction. The courses not only serve the public, but give University researchers the opportunity to present and promote their work to a wider world.

Director Ann Barlow, is enthusiastic about the new direction being taken. "We are now able to offer people the opportunity to share in the key areas of research and scholarship in the University," she says. "It ranges from new developments in science to global politics and the environment. We have also kept many of our most popular courses, including archaeology, art history, music and creative writing. But essentially this is a new start and very exciting for us."

Significantly, Courses for the Public upholds an important and valued tradition in the University. From the beginning, it set out to give something to the city and the region. Since the late 19th century, extension lectures aimed to bring "the University to the people when the people cannot come to the University". The Department of Extra-Mural



Studies, founded in 1920, has had many manifestations, adjusting to changing times. Now, nearly 90 years on, it is streamlined, relevant and bears the title which clearly shows its purpose. And it is an integral part of the Faculty of Humanities, though reaching out across all disciplines.

The new-style programme offers a range of exciting themed courses. Frontiers of Medicine gives leading researchers the chance to share their insights into the latest discoveries and treatment techniques, from embryonic stem cells to nuclear spectroscopy and tissue engineering. The nine-week New Scientist course ranges from brain imaging to the role of fruit flies in helping us to understand brain development. New Views in Psychology challenges many common assumptions about the human mind, with topics such as The Perception of Time, Facial Recognition and Perception, and

Understanding Fears, Phobias and Anxieties.

Another new venture is a series on how the globalised world functions. With political scientist and media commentator Dr Bill Jones in the chair, leading international researchers from the Schools of Social Sciences and Environment will cover a range of topics, such as Migration and Global Development, Global Public Policy and Are We Good Global Citizens? to provide a focus for discussion. This special series runs alongside the regular and popular discussion groups on current and world affairs.

Operating in the cost-conscious times that we do, Courses for the Public has to earn its keep and, hardly surprisingly, fees have increased from previous levels. A ten-week course of two-hour sessions costs £130, though bursaries worth 60% of that are on offer for people who cannot afford the full fee.

"It is crucially important that, as always, we reach out to people in all walks of life and in all areas of our locality and region," says Ann Barlow. "It is also important that we reach out across the campus as a whole so that we reflect and provide ready access to research and scholarship in every Faculty of the University. Way back, the initial emphasis was on the natural and social sciences, but then there was a growing demand for art history, music and literature. Now, we embrace them all, including new science, new media and new issues affecting our lives."



Commercialization of teaching materials

Academic materials get much less publicity as a source of technology transfer than scientific and engineering projects do. However, there have been many notable successes in the US of instructional aids and "courseware". The University is therefore working hard, through UMIP, to bring such intellectual property (IP) into its commercialization programme.

The University has already backed the commercialization of teaching materials through support, managed by UMIP, for the development of FLAGS (Foreign Language Awareness Group for Schools). Originating from the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures, FLAGS employs WebCT and University student mentors to increase the potential take-up by secondary school pupils of less widely taught languages. Already licensed to Birmingham University, FLAGS is set to go national having acquired approval from the Italian Cultural Institute in London that has recommended it as a key breakthrough scheme.

Languages offered are currently Italian, Russian, Portuguese, Hebrew and Arabic – further Middle Eastern Languages are being developed. This project uses a purpose-built WebCT virtual learning environment to deliver course information and provide a taster of the language and culture to students who are studying languages post-16.

Dr Elena Polisca, Senior Language Tutor in Italian Studies, who created the scheme, states that, "I am hoping that in the future many more schools embark on the project, as well as other HE institutions. We are currently working to increase the number of languages on offer in the hope that more pupils find a language in which they are interested and potentially take it up at university level."

On another tack, UMIP is currently working with a School on the licensing of a curriculum to an overseas university and is exploring possibilities for being more active in this dimension of IP transfer.

In support of the University's initiative, UMIP and Eversheds (Solicitors) have published "Academic Materials and Publishing", which is the latest in their "Researcher's Guide" series on IP and related matters. Hard copies will be issued to Schools, and it can also be viewed on the UMIP website under the "Information for Researchers" tab.



www.umip.com



www.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/coursesforthepublic/

What's On

Contact Theatre

Sat 6 Oct, at 7.30pm

Pig Tales

From Sat 6, 13, 20 & 27 Oct

Reactor, The Tetra Phase

Tue 9 – Sat 13 Oct, at 7.30pm

Fair

Sat 13 Oct until Sat 1 March 2008 (Preview night Fri 12 Oct, 6-8pm) Free

The Mitchy Bwoy Experience

Fri 12 Oct, 8pm

Filthy Fridays – Hen Night

Sat 13 Oct

Black Writers Conference – email cultureworld@commonword.org.uk for details

Sat 13 Oct, 8pm

Linton Kwesi Johnson

Tue 16 Oct, 8pm

One Minute

Wed 17 Oct – Thu 18 Oct, 8pm

Slung Low present **Underground**

Thur 18 Oct, 8pm

Motherdust

Thu 18 Oct, 1-2pm Free

Raw Jam

Fri 19 Oct, 8pm

Upfront Comedy present **Comedy Winterfest 2007**

Fri 19 Oct 8pm

Where Are You?

Sat 20 Oct, 7pm-2am

James Yorkston & Magic Arm

Sun 21 Oct, 4pm to late

Sketch City – Berlin Launch Party

Mon 22 & Tues 23 Oct, 8pm

The Brothers Size

Wed 24 Oct, 8pm

Identities.tv

Thu 25 – Sat 27 Oct, 8pm

St Nicolas

Tues 30 Oct, 8pm

Truckstop

Tue 30 Oct, 8pm

Doors

Oxford Road, Manchester
Tickets/Info 0161 274 0600
www.contact-theatre.org

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 enquiries@tableyhouse.co.uk

www.tableyhouse.co.uk

Courses for the Public

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 and application forms are available on request.

CCE, 1st Floor, Humanities Devas Street

0161 275 3275

www.manchester.ac.uk/continuingeducation

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

International Society

Sat 6 Oct

North Wales Visiting Caernarfon and Penrhyn Castle

Sun 7 Oct

York

Sat 13 Oct

Oxford with guided tour

Sun 14 Oct

Blackpool and the famous Blackpool Illuminations

Overnight Trip!

Sat 20 - Sun 21 Oct

Edinburgh (with guided tour)

Sat 20 Oct

Llangollen and Erddig

Sun 21 Oct

Fountain's Abbey and Harrogate

Sat 27 Oct

Alton Towers Theme Park

Sun 28 Oct

Poole's Cavern and Hardwick Hall

Opening hours

Mon-Fri 9.30am – 7.00pm (during term time)

Mon-Fri 9.30am – 5pm (during vacation)

327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)

0161 275 4959

email int.soc@anchester.ac.uk

www.internationalsociety.org.uk



John Rylands Library (Deansgate)

The John Rylands Library on Deansgate houses one of country's greatest collections of printed books, manuscripts and archives. It is widely regarded as one of the most beautiful libraries in the world. Both the building and its collections are of outstanding international significance. The Library has just reopened after a £17 million transformation. *The Unlocking the Rylands project* will enable thousands of people to access the Library for the first time. Displays from the permanent collections will be complemented by a programme of changing exhibitions, starting with *The Silk Road & the Search for the Secrets of Silk* in partnership with The British Library.

Public opening hours

Mon and Wed-Sat 10am-5pm

Tues and Sun 12pm-5pm

Reader opening hours

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

FREE ADMISSION

The John Rylands Library

150 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 3EH

0161 275 3764

email jrul.special-collections@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/library

Chaplaincies

St Peter's House Chaplaincy

SUNDAY WORSHIP

11am Holy Communion

12.15am Bible Study

12.45 Lunch (1st Sunday)

6.30pm Evening Worship (term-time only)

FOYER 10am - 5pm

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

RC Chaplaincy, Avila House

Mass Times (term-time only)

SUNDAY: 7pm (in the Holy Name Church) next door to Chaplaincy

Mon, Wed, Fri: 6pm in the Chaplaincy Chapel

Tues, Thurs: 12.15 pm in the Chaplaincy Chapel

Oxford Road (opposite the Students' Union)

0161 273 1456

email info@rc-chaplaincy-um.org.uk

www.rc-chaplaincy-um.org.uk

The Jewish Student Centre and Synagogue

Hillel House, Greenheys Lane.

0161 226 1139

email rabiyy@hotmail.com

www.rabiyy.com

Jodrell Bank

Jodrell Bank Observatory Visitor Centre,
Macclesfield, Cheshire

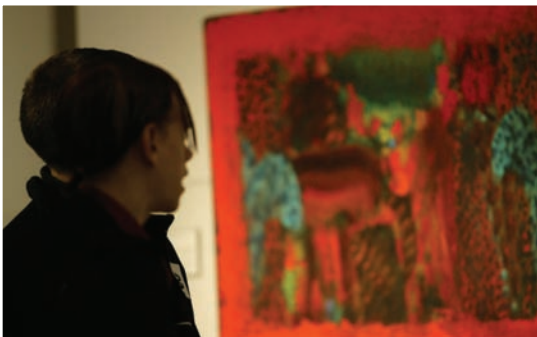
01477 571339

www.manchester.ac.uk/jodrellbank

Summer opening hours

Every day 10:30am to 5:30pm, until Sun 28 Oct.

Closed on Thur 4 Oct.



The Whitworth Art Gallery

DISPLAYS/COLLECTIONS

Autonomous Agents: The Art and Films of Lynn Hershman Leeson until 12 December 2007
Lynn Hershman Leeson's impressive and influential work spans the forms of painting, photography, performance, film and video, robotics and artificial intelligence.

Flights of Fancy: Select decorative schemes of the 1920s & 30s, 27 Oct 2007 to Mid Oct 2008
In the early 20th century the influence of Modernism encouraged a move away from highly patterned walls. This change in fashion affected wallpaper production as a whole and manufacturers, keen to retain their customers, produced numerous fancy paper decorations to add interest to plain or textured backgrounds.

Trade and Empire: Remembering Slavery until 27 April 2008
The exhibition explores slavery and its impact on trade and empire through objects picked from the Gallery's collection. These range from a pair of 18th century watercolours by Thomas Hearne that show day-to-day life in the Leeward Islands.

Sleeping Beauties: Walter Crane and the Illustrated Book until February 2008
The Whitworth Art Gallery presents a new exhibition of highlights from the recently acquired Walter Crane Archive. Spanning the career of the artist and designer Walter Crane, the late 19th and early 20th century, the display presents his book illustrations. It features Crane's early commissions as well as original drawings from his famous Toy Book illustrations flower books and political cartoons.

Walter Crane and the Illustrated Book until April 2008
Focusing on the book illustrations of Walter Crane, this exhibition will span Crane's entire career, incorporating a range of illustrations from his early commissions to his world famous Toy Books, Grimm's Fairy Tales and private drawings created for his children.

The Uncertainty of Identity: The Biographies of Things to February 2008
This exhibition explores the contexts in which the identity of an art or design object is formed and destabilised – creating its 'life history' or 'biography'. Where does the object come from and who made it?

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

The Whitworth Art Gallery
Oxford Road, Manchester
0161 275 7450
email whitworth@manchester.ac.uk



The Manchester Museum

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

A Place for Everything – Making order out of chaos until 31 Oct
How do people classify the world? Who names the animals and plants we see around us? Western Museums developed from private 'cabinets of curiosities' during the 18th century.

Revealing Histories: Myths about Race
The History of Trans-Atlantic slave trade and its abolition is a shared history and one that is relevant to Britain's past and present.

FAMILY EVENTS

October Big Saturday

Sat 6 Oct 11am-4pm

Rainforest Day

Visit the Museum for a family day of exploration where you can find out about plants and animals from the Rainforest and beyond. Meet live amphibians, learn some amazing facts about them and take part in art and craft activities, object handling and tours. See details of tours and activities in programme details.

Sat 27 & Sun 28 Oct

Victorian Gentleman

Collect an 'I've spied Mr Pye' sticker from Graeme Pye Esquire, somewhere in the Museum today.

Sat 27 Oct 1-4pm

Revealing Histories

A day of activities as part of Revealing Histories: Remembering Slavery

Fri 19 Oct 11am -12noon

Magic Carpet

Stories and activities on an animal theme under 5s Book £1

Opening hours

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The Manchester Museum

Oxford Road, Manchester

0161 275 2634

www.manchester.ac.uk/museum



Music and Drama at Manchester

Thurs 11 Oct, 1.10pm

Quatuor Danel

Thu 11 Oct, 2.15

Quatuor Danel Seminar

Piggy in the Middle: The Role of the Viola in the History of the String Quartet

Fri 12 Oct, 7pm

Quatuor Danel

Thu 18 Oct, 1.10pm

Mauricio Virgens & Paul MacAlindin – baritone & piano

Sat 20 Oct, 7pm

The University of Manchester Sinfonietta

Thu 25 Oct, 1.10pm

Joseph Tong & Waka Hasegawa – piano duet

Fri 26 Oct, 5pm

Psappha

Fri 2 - 4 Nov, various times

Mantis Festival : Novars Launch 2007

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

Bridgeford Street, Manchester M13 9PL

0161 275 8951/8950

email boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre

Gig Guide

MANCHESTER ACADEMY 1, 2 & 3

Weds 10 Oct

The NME Rock n Roll Riot Tour (The Enemy)

Thu 11 Oct

The Maccabees

Fri 12 Oct

The Coral

Sat 13 Oct

Mark Ronson

Sun 14 Oct

Athlete

Mon 15 Oct

The Twang

Fri 19 Oct

Reverend & the Makers

Tue 23 Oct

Ratt

Weds 24 Oct

Cold War Kids

Fri 26 Oct

The Wedding Present

Sun 28 Oct

The Pigeon Detectives

Mon 29 Oct

Ash

Fri 2 Nov

Wilco

Sat 3 Nov

The Stranglers

Sun 4 Nov

Hadouken!

Tickets from:

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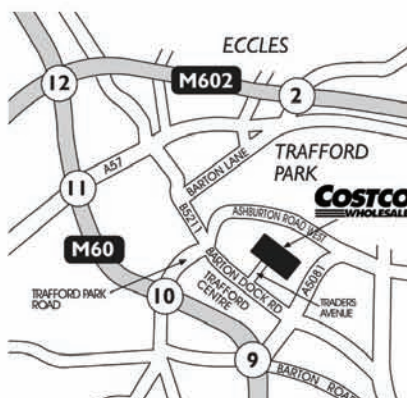
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Revealing Histories: Myths about Race

This sculpture shows the face of a man from the Kalahari desert in Southern Africa. Written on the side of the sculpture is 'Zulu Dagga Smoker'. Dagga is another name for marijuana. Although it was acquired by the Manchester Museum in the 1950s, we don't know why the sculpture was made or who commissioned it. Perhaps the man did smoke 'dagga'. But maybe whoever asked for this sculpture to be made simply assumed that he did. Is this a real tradition, or a stereotype? Are his features exaggerated? Is this object part of a racist myth?

This is one of many interesting objects displayed in the Manchester Museum's new exhibition, Revealing Histories: Myths about Race. It is designed to encourage debates around the racist thinking that had underpinned the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

Many Victorian institutions, including The Manchester Museum, contributed to the same racist thinking that had justified slavery. The objects and images in Myths about Race show how racist ideas were supported by museums and other media, and highlight how individuals and organisations in Manchester have worked to dispel these myths. This exhibition invites you to question the displays in the Museum, and to help shape its future.

A variety of talks taking place throughout October to celebrate Black History Month, enable you to contribute to this debate. Join our discussion panel chaired by Paul Okojie at our next Ideas Café: Are Museums Racist? Thursday 4 October 6.30-8pm. Take part in a Revealing Histories day of activities with guided tours and interactive workshops on Saturday 27 October. 1-4pm. Find out more at www.manchester.ac.uk/museum



www.manchester.ac.uk/museum



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