

# UniLife

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Issue 1 Volume 8



**An interview  
with the President**

# Message from the President



A new academic year and a new President and Vice-Chancellor, together with the prospect of major external pressures on the higher education sector, mean that it is timely to consider our future directions, our priorities and plans - and indeed the wider values and value of this University.



*A visit to Clearing*



*International Students Orientation*



*Meeting 'Student of the Year' Joseph Akinnagbe (See page 4)*

In the first few months since my appointment, I have reiterated my strong commitment to the 2015 Agenda, but I have also indicated that the means and timescale for achieving our ambitious goals and the way that we measure our progress and success may be very different given the rapidly changing environment.

We must maintain a sharp focus on continuing to improve the experience of our students and on further improving the quality of our research. Whilst these goals will remain the main drivers of our efforts and attention in the coming months, "Goal 3: Social Responsibility" has already captured the interest and attention of many within and outside the University.

A clear demonstration of the value of universities to wider society has never been more important. We must redouble our efforts to explain the importance of

a strong higher education system to the UK and of the real value to society of the kind of discovery and scholarship that is undertaken in universities such as ours.

The specific identification of "Social Responsibility" as one of three main goals for the University arose from a recognition that we do much more than educate students and conduct research, and that many of our other activities have profound and far reaching benefits to society. Some of these activities, such as the work of our Museum, Gallery, John Rylands Library on Deansgate, Martin Harris Centre, Race Relations Archive and the Visitor Centre at Jodrell Bank, public lectures and open days, widening participation, volunteering, public and community engagement and work on sustainability are well recognised. But there is much more that we do not capture, recognise, promote or can demonstrate the impact of.

Where possible, we must embed activities and outcomes relevant to social responsibility within Goals One (World Class Research) and Two (Higher Learning). This will include our research on global challenges such as world poverty, sustainability and international development, and aiming for the highest standards of research integrity and ethics - not because this is an ever increasing demand from funders and publishers, but because it enhances the quality of research. We are developing plans for all of our undergraduates to have access to courses that will address the key issues related to the great challenges facing society and global citizenship, and will continue to support the volunteering activities of our staff and students and to support access to a university education for those with the greatest potential, irrespective of their ability to pay. Within Goal 3, however, we must build a powerful and impressive list of flagship initiatives and activities that

- 4 News
- 6 Research
- 9 Reaching Out
- 10 Feature: An interview with the President
- 12 Feature: Study Abroad
- 14 Feature: Distinguished Achievement Awards
- 16 What's On
- 20 Discover the Whitworth



Registration



Meeting students at the Start of the Year Fair

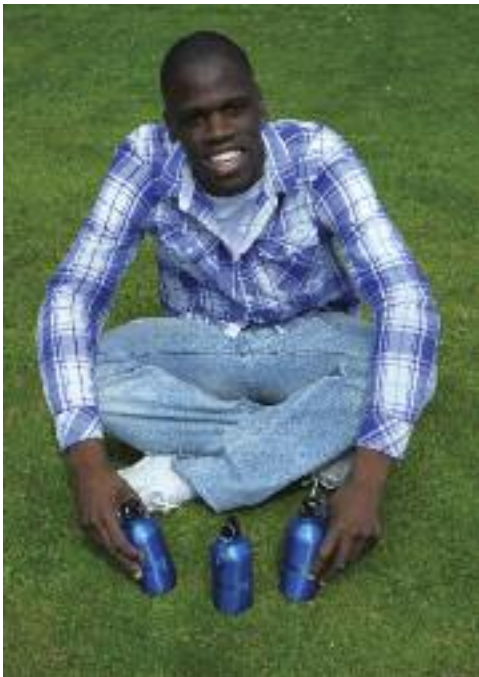
are distinctive to The University of Manchester such as the public venues described above, the Beacon for Public Engagement, our Equity and Merit Scholarships and the high profile activities of some of our most talented public communicators.

The goal of making The University of Manchester truly distinctive in its awareness of and contribution to social responsibility does not mean that we should all start new activities in this area. Staff time and other resources are already stretched. We now need to better recognise, coordinate and support such activities, and most importantly ensure that they are adding value. Evaluation of some of these activities is ongoing and effective. We know how many students we recruit from less advantaged backgrounds, how many people visit the Museum and Art Gallery each year, how many Equity and Merit Scholarships we award and the outcomes of our research on global

challenges. For other activities in this field, assessment and evaluation are much more challenging and we must develop them so that we can demonstrate their impact and recognise those colleagues whose activities are most effective and targeted to meet our institutional goals.

The "Social Responsibility" goal presents a genuine opportunity for The University of Manchester to demonstrate its value and contribution to wider society and to distinguish ourselves from other universities in an increasingly competitive global marketplace. Goal 3 will have significant value if our commitment to social responsibility is consolidated and we are able to define flagship activities and identify clear and positive outcomes for all.

I look forward to working together in the coming months to ensure the vision is translated into reality.



## Britain's top black graduate

**A PhD student and budding entrepreneur has been named as the most outstanding black student in Britain.**

Edwin Broni-Mensah, a 25-year old who created his first computer game at the age of seven and now runs his own company, was selected from a shortlist of 200 people.

Edwin, studying for an Applied Maths PhD as well as running his innovative refillable water bottle company GiveMeTap, topped the list by Future Leaders magazine.

The shortlist features 100 graduates in total, all who have balanced good academic grades with impressive achievements outside of their studies.

Edwin is a shining example of this, having set up a company which encourages local businesses to offer free refills of water to anyone carrying a distinctive GiveMeTap bottle.

The firm then sends 70% of its profits to help support water projects in African regions where it's needed most.

Edwin has already managed to build up a network of over 43 restaurants and eateries as outlets in Manchester and, recently, Salford.

Along with the other students, Edwin was honoured at a prestigious reception at the House of Lords hosted by Lord Victor Adebowale.

Edwin said: "I am extremely delighted and feel very honoured at being recognised as one of the Future Leaders. I was overjoyed at being named number one for on such a prestigious list."

Edwin obtained a first-class degree in Mathematics and Computer Science, which led to him being awarded a straight scholarship to study his PhD.

## Manchester's Joseph Akinragbe voted 'Student of the Year'

**A University of Manchester undergraduate has won the prestigious NUS/Endsleigh 'Student of the Year' award.**

Joseph Akinragbe, 19, starts his third year after being recognised for his outstanding work supporting fellow students, the Students' Union and a range of community and business projects.

An international student studying Economics and Finance, Nigerian Joseph impressed the distinguished panel of judges. The entrepreneur, consultant, student activist and community worker is currently the youngest ever President of Manchester Entrepreneurs, a University of Manchester Society which supports future businesses and community leaders.

A National Consortium of University Entrepreneurs award recipient, Joseph is a member of the Ernst and Young Top 30 UK Undergraduates and the youngest member of RAW Northwest, a group of the top 250 entrepreneurs in the region.

He is also a National Black Achievers winner and the youngest member of the Lord Davies' Black Entrepreneurs Roundtable, which gave policy



advice to the Labour Government on supporting black and ethnic minority entrepreneurs.

He was elected as a world youth leader with One Young World, a project supported by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Bob Geldof, Muhammad Yunus and former UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan among others.

He was also elected onto the University of Manchester Student Union executive as the International Student Officer.

Joseph said: "I think being at University is a brilliant way to help different people so that you can apply what you have learned. I strongly believe that students have a duty to use their skills and position to help others.

"I've been extremely lucky to be in the right place at the right time - but on the other hand, I've worked really hard to achieve this.

"Indeed, if you are prepared to work hard, you will be surprised at just what you can achieve."

## Whitworth makes Lever Prize shortlist

**The University of Manchester's Whitworth Art Gallery has been nominated for the 2011 Lever Prize for the second year in a row.**

The gallery will compete with four of the North West's most outstanding arts organisations for a £10,000 cash prize and a year-long collaboration with business leaders in the North West.

The Lever Prize is judged by the North West Business Leadership Team (NWBLT), comprising 28 of the region's largest companies, in partnership with Arts and Business North.

The other shortlisted entries are Band on the Wall, Tatton Park Biennial and The Lowry.

Director of the Whitworth Art Gallery Maria Balshaw said: "As a runner-up in 2010, we are delighted to once again be shortlisted for the Lever Prize. The prize offers enormous



potential to work with local businesses and the talented, driven individuals that run them."

Buildings, events, festivals, libraries and archives are all eligible for the award and previous winners include

Liverpool Biennial in 2006, Manchester International Festival in 2007, Tate Liverpool in 2008 and the National Football Museum in 2009.

The 2011 winner will be announced at an event in Manchester in March.



## Learning Commons set to become a landmark

**Work is progressing on the development of the University's new Learning Commons which will become a real focal point for student learning from 2012 onwards.**

The £30 million landmark building will feature up to 1,000 open plan study spaces with a mixture of individual and flexible study spaces, including bookable rooms for group work. The building is set to open at the beginning of the 2012/13 academic year.

The Learning Commons concept was first developed in the US and Australia to describe a building where students can get together and learn – either on an individual basis or by working collaboratively in groups.

Our Learning Commons will be one of only a handful of similar facilities in the UK and will be run by the John Rylands University Library as an extension of its current role in meeting the ever changing needs of the 21st century student.

The building will be open 24/7 so that students will be able to choose what time of day or night they want to study. There's also going to be a huge emphasis on technology with around 500 computers, scanning and printing facilities and wi-fi access throughout.

There will be a FoodonCampus café within the building, featuring comfy seating areas to offer a welcome break from all that intensive study.

The building will be known as the 'Alan Gilbert Learning Commons', in memory of the University's former



President and Vice-Chancellor who died in July this year. The building has been developed in consultation with representatives from the Students Union to make sure that users needs have been fully taken into account.

Commenting on the development, the University Librarian Jan Wilkinson said: "The Learning Commons will bring together services that support students in their learning, writing and use of technology.

"We will work in partnership with other services on campus to provide expertise and resources for students to support and enhance their learning."

Professor Colin Stirling, Vice-President for Teaching and Learning added:

"This project shows a real commitment to helping our students to achieve their full potential during their time here at Manchester.

"The Learning Commons will bring together a whole range of resources to help our students with their learning and research. All in all, it's aimed at making learning more productive and successful."

Being built on the site of the former refectory and Moberley Tower where Oxford Road, Lime Grove and Burlington Street converge, the Learning Commons will be one of the most environmentally sustainable on campus.

It has been designed to maximise the use of daylight and reduce the need for artificial lighting. It will be the

first to feature a 'green' roof. This is where specially selected plants grow on the roof of the building, providing a habitat for wildlife to flourish and helping with insulation. The building will also feature solar cells to generate electricity and rainwater will be harvested and used in the building itself – for example in the toilet system.

Demolition work is due to be completed by the end of 2010, with the building contractors moving onto site early next year.

To get more of an idea of what the development will look like, keep an eye open for displays which will be going up in key buildings across campus towards the end of this year.

## Talking about the weather

**Weather extremes in the North and South Poles and their rapidly-changing climates are the latest subjects of a fascinating series of podcasts about our atmosphere.**

A team from the Centre for Atmospheric Science have started producing the monthly episodes to inform people about the weather, climate and air pollution.

This includes seismic recent events such as the Icelandic volcano ash cloud, as well as what makes hurricanes tick and why playing football at the World Cup was tricky for some (and not just England).

It is hoped the informative and entertaining half-hour broadcasts will inform and entertain about the world around us.

One of the podcast team, Dr. Gavin McMeeking, said: "Everyone is affected by weather, climate, and the air pollution, and if they want to learn more about them we hope they join us to hear makes them tick and hopefully get a laugh or two along the way.

"This podcast explains the science behind them. Someone whose flight home from Australia was cancelled will know a bit more about why they couldn't make it home after they listen to the programme."

<http://thebarometer.podbean.com/>

## Scientists discover new cause of blindness

**University of Manchester scientists have discovered a new cause of age-related macular degeneration (AMD), a condition that affects more than 50 million people worldwide and results in blindness.**

Professor Tony Day, at Manchester's Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Matrix Research (WTCCMR), said: "There are several factors that predispose to AMD, smoking being one example.

"More recently it has been discovered that many sufferers are genetically pre-disposed to AMD, but it was not known how it caused the condition. We have unravelled the pathway to show exactly how a very important and common genetic variant affects the eye.

"Our work may now allow the development of new therapeutic strategies for treating or preventing this devastating disease, the most common cause of blindness in the industrialised world."

The work provides a novel molecular explanation for AMD which, it is hoped, will lead to new therapeutic strategies for treating or preventing this devastating disease.

## Terrible price for wildlife trade laid bare

**A new book published accuses Governments and NGOs of increasingly giving approval to widespread human rights abuses in the name of wildlife conservation in Africa.**

Professor Rosaleen Duffy from The University of Manchester blames endemic poaching and human rights abuse on rapacious consumer demand for ivory, medicines, ornaments, foodstuffs, clothing, bushmeat and caviar - among other products.

The academic, who has worked extensively in the continent, describes how mercenaries and park rangers are able to kill Africans found without

permission in national parks. Many shootings, she says, are carried out with impunity, whether the intruders are commercial poachers or impoverished local people hunting for food.

"If we examine the idea of a war to protect wildlife carefully, it is clear that it is used to justify highly repressive and coercive policies against the world's most marginalized and vulnerable people," she said.

But despite these extreme measures, demand continues unabated - especially for bushmeat, where loggers, miners and road builders are driving demand as well as the African Diaspora.

The academic based in the University's School of Social Sciences said: "The idea of a 'war to save biodiversity' has taken hold; conservation organisations and their supporters have increasingly backed military-style campaigns to prevent poaching.

"Consumer demand from rich communities in Europe, America and China is the root cause of the problem and this is rarely tackled by governments and NGOs.

"The use of deadly force is now common, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa where international pressure to save high-profile species is intense.



## Nuclear research centre

**Work has begun on a new £20m research centre for radiation science and nuclear engineering decommissioning research.**

Jointly funded by the University and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), this state-of-the-art facility will establish a unique 'leading edge' centre..

The centre is being built at Westlakes Science and Technology Park, near Whitehaven in West Cumbria, with access to the unique facilities within National Nuclear Laboratory's Central Laboratory on the Sellafield Site .

The 2,000 square metre facility will incorporate computer modeling stations, electron optics and large-scale experimental facilities for radiation science.

There will also be office accommodation and seminar rooms for the delivery of courses for postgraduate and professional development. Within twelve months the centre will house around 40 staff and postgraduate researchers.

Professor Andrew Sherry, Director of the Dalton Nuclear Institute, said: "The challenge of safe and secure energy supply within a low-carbon economy has created the environment for a renaissance in civil nuclear power.

"New skills and research are required to underpin plant life extension, new nuclear build, future reactor systems and nuclear waste management and disposal.

"Our joint investment with the NDA builds upon the University's strong heritage in nuclear science and engineering, to develop a truly world-leading research capability in the fields of radiation chemistry and radiation damage on materials."



## Stone Age remains are Britain's earliest house

**Archaeologists working on Stone Age remains at a site in North Yorkshire say it contains Britain's earliest surviving house.**

A team from the Universities of Manchester and York revealed that the home dates to at least 8,500 BC - when Britain was part of continental Europe.

The research team unearthed the 3.5 metres circular structure next to an ancient lake at Star Carr, near Scarborough, a site comparable in archaeological importance to Stonehenge.

The team were excavating a large wooden platform next to the lake, made of up timbers which have been split and hewn. The platform is the earliest evidence of carpentry in Europe.

The house predates what was previously Britain's oldest known dwelling at Howick, Northumberland, by at least 500 years.

The house, which was first excavated by the team two years ago, had post holes around a central hollow which would have been filled with organic

matter such as reeds, and possibly a fireplace.

The site was inhabited by hunter gatherers from just after the last ice age, for a period of between 200 and 500 years.

According to the team, they migrated from an area now under the North Sea, hunting animals including deer, wild boar, elk and enormous wild cattle known as auroch.

Though they did not cultivate the land, the inhabitants did burn part of the landscape to encourage animals to eat shoots and they also kept domesticated dogs.

Dr Conneller said: "This changes our ideas of the lives of the first settlers to move back into Britain after the end of the last Ice Age.

"We used to think they moved around a lot and left little evidence.

"Now we know they built large structures and were very attached to particular places in the landscape."



## Iran plays host to British theatre production

**Members of a Manchester-based theatre company are currently in Tehran where they are performing the first ever British production at Iran's main theatre venue.**

The English language play - a world premier - is written by University of Manchester PhD research student Mehrdad Rayani Makhsoos - an established writer, academic, documentary maker and director in Iran.

The Kolektiv theatre company project is supervised by Dr Sasha Dundjerovic, a senior lecturer in drama at the University, with a cast of three Brits and one Iranian. Sepidah Mazaripour - also a PhD student at The University of Manchester - is among the cast.

The trip - one of very few cultural exchanges to take place in Iran over recent years - is funded by the Iranian Dramatic Arts Centre, the country's most important cultural institution.

They will perform at Tehran City Theatre 'Human is human', inspired by Brecht's work 'A man's a man'.

Dr Dundjerovic said: "We are incredibly excited about this unique opportunity to exchange our cultural values and interests with Iranians. Cross cultural performance has always been interesting for me, and this is a powerful example of that."

## Emergency care may be failing to spot suicidal patients

**Emergency care may be failing to spot patients who go on to die by suicide - many of whom use these services in the year leading up to their death, suggests a University of Manchester study.**

Around 5,000 people kill themselves in England and Wales each year and previous research has indicated that the emergency department might be well-placed to pick up patients vulnerable to suicide.

The researchers reviewed emergency department hospital records in the North West of England for 286 people who died by suicide between 2003 and 2005 and had been in contact with mental-health services within 12 months of their death. In all, emergency department data from 38 hospitals were assessed.

The suicides were identified from information submitted to the University's National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness.

The analysis, published in *Emergency Medicine Journal*, showed that more than four out of 10 who had died by suicide had sought treatment at emergency care departments at least once in the year leading up to their death. And of these, 28% had visited emergency care facilities more than three times in the last year of their lives.

"Although psychiatric services clearly have a prominent role in preventing suicide in mental health patients, emergency care departments may represent an important additional setting for suicide prevention," said Research Assistant Damian Da Cruz.

"Frequent attenders may represent a high-risk group, and this should be recognised by emergency services. Closer liaison with general practitioners and mental health services to ensure appropriate and consistent management of these often complex cases may be of benefit."

## Pay gap between sexes still wide, study finds

**The pay gap between the sexes grows substantially over the first ten years of a woman's career, new research has shown.**

Dr Leen Vandecasteele from The University of Manchester found that though educational opportunities nowadays give men and women an equal start, the effect is often lost when women's childcare responsibilities kick in.

The sociologist blames the disparity on years spent away from the labour market and working in occupations which employ mainly women - such as cleaning or nursing.

She presented her findings last month at the British Sociological Association conference on Work, Employment and Society in Brighton.

The researcher used survey data from more than 5,000 households to compare two cohorts in their early career, starting in 1991 and 2000 respectively. She found that women in their early career earned on average 18% less than men in 1991, while this difference was down to 5% for the 2000 cohort.

She said, the gender wage gap has largely disappeared for women at the start of their careers. However, following the cohorts over their careers, she found that after eight years, the more recent cohort suffered a pay gap of 24%, almost catching up with the 27% figure for the earlier group.

The more recent cohort had higher education levels than the earlier cohort while their children were born substantially later. This, she says, could explain the more equal start in wages.

Dr Leen Vandecasteele who is based at the University's Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research, said: "The research confirms that progress has already been made towards the equalization of the wages of men and women - at the very start of their career.

"But while the younger generation of British labour market entrants enjoy larger gender equality in educational opportunities and initial wages, this does not persist over their career."



## Pedigree chums

**University researchers have won funding to investigate the colourful, and often controversial, world of fancy dog breeding in Victorian Britain.**

The British preference for pedigree dogs and their display has recently become the subject of intense public scrutiny and debate, with Cruft's Dog Show boycotted by the BBC and RSPCA and claims that the whole enterprise of pedigree breeding was out of touch with modern sensibilities of human-animal relations.

However, little or no historical perspective has been given on the topic and this project will begin to remedy this by returning to the very origin of the modern enterprise of breeding, showing and judging pedigree dogs.

The team - Dr Neil Pemberton and Professor Michael Worboys, from the Centre for the History

of Science, Technology and Medicine in the Faculty of Life Sciences and Julie-Marie Strange in the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures in the Faculty of Humanities - have been awarded £261,000 by the Arts and Humanities Research Council for the project.

The organised 'Dog Fancy' dates from 1859. Dr Strange said: "The team will be investigating the character and activities of the Dog Fancy, especially the nature and meanings of dog shows and the ideas that informed breeding practices.

"We will look at specific breeds and the controversies that surrounded them. For example, was the Irish Wolf Hound, a breed first registered in the 1870s, really a revival of ancient bloodstock, or, as its critics claimed, 'manufacture' of Scottish, Russian, Danish and Tibetan breeds?"

## Scientists to test new eczema cream

**Skin experts are to test a new cream for the treatment of eczema after trials of an oral version of the drug reduced patients' symptoms by 35% within a month.**

University of Manchester researchers in the Dermatology Unit at Salford Royal Hospital will ask 25 adult volunteers to apply the cream to affected areas of their skin for a period of three months.

The scientists will then use internationally-recognised clinical tests to judge how effective the new medicine has been at relieving eczema symptoms.

Dr Neil Gibbs, who is leading the study, said: "Eczema is a long-term skin disease that affects about 20% of infants and 5% of adults in the UK. There is currently no known cure for the disease which results in a variety of symptoms, including redness or swelling and cracked, dry, itchy or bleeding skin.

"In recent years, it has become more widely recognised that one of the most important features of skin conditions like eczema is a reduced ability of the skin to protect against dirt, infections and other nasties that get in and cause inflammation.

"This loss of normal skin barrier function is what our new treatments are targeting; the idea is that if we help the skin of eczema patients to repair itself it becomes less 'leaky' and more resistant to potential contaminants."

The group, headed by world-renowned dermatologist Professor Chris Griffiths, has attracted grant funding from the University of Manchester Intellectual Property (UMIP) company and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) to develop the new treatments and conduct clinical studies.





## Lovell Telescope helps 'citizen scientists' make an exciting find

**Jodrell Bank scientists have helped classify the first pulsar ever discovered by members of the public.**

The spinning pulsar was discovered hidden in data gathered by the Arecibo Observatory by an American couple and a German using Einstein@Home, a computer programme which uses donated time from the home and office computers of 250,000 volunteers from 192 different countries.

The citizens credited with the discovery are Chris and Helen Colvin, of Ames, Iowa and Daniel Gebhardt, of Universität Mainz, Musikinformatik, Germany.

Their computers, along with 500,000 others from around the world, analyse data from Einstein@Home.

The new pulsar is a neutron star that rotates 41 times per second. It is in the Milky Way, approximately 17,000 light years from Earth in the constellation Vulpecula.

The Jodrell Bank team worked with colleagues around the world using the 76m Lovell Telescope to help rapidly and accurately identify that, unlike most pulsars that spin as quickly and steadily, this pulsar sits alone in space, and has no orbiting companion star.

Astronomers consider it especially interesting since it is likely a recycled pulsar that lost its companion. However they can not rule out that it may be a young pulsar born with a lower-than-usual magnetic field.

Professor Andrew Lyne of the Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics said: "Either way, this is bound to be an extremely valuable discovery in helping us to understand the basic physics of neutron stars and how they form"

## Young animators

**More than 50 young people have received awards in a Computer Science animation competition - and one could be heading for stardom.**

Individual and team winners of this year's UK Schools Computer Animation10 competition - which attracted more than 1,200 entries from around 200 schools - received their prizes at a special awards ceremony at The Lowry, Salford Quays.

Each year, University academics challenge school pupils to create their own animated films, as part of a drive to inspire and enthuse the next generation of computer scientists.

A total of 50 prizes - including notebook PCs, digital cameras and MP3 players - were scooped by youngsters from 22 schools across the country.

The most prestigious prize, the Electronic Arts 'Hollywood Beckons'

award, was won by Hal Coley of Bosworth Community College in Leicester, for his film 'Success.'

The competition was set up in 2008 to mark the 60th anniversary of the world's first stored program computer, designed and built in Manchester - known as 'The Baby'.

This year saw almost double the amount of entries as last year.

Young people aged between seven and 19 were challenged have to create an animated film, lasting one minute or less.

Organisers hope the competition has given young people a chance to explore computer animation for the first time, and to get them excited about using computers creatively.

Toby Howard from the School of Computer Science, said: "We've been amazed and delighted by the response to this year's competition. The standard of work submitted has



made judging the competition extremely tough indeed.

"Computers are now an essential part of our modern lives, and we need to encourage the brightest and the best of the next generation

to engage in the challenges facing computing."

The competition was funded by Electronic Arts and Google.

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# An interview with the President

When Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell arrives at the University at the crack of dawn it's not the office of the President and Vice-Chancellor that she heads for . . . it's a laboratory.

Despite the demands of holding the top job at a world class university, Nancy is determined to continue with the research that has already earned her an international reputation.

And she believes the unusual approach will make her a stronger Vice-Chancellor; keeping her in touch with the inevitable pressures the University will face.

"I am sure there are Vice-Chancellors at some universities who do some research, but it is unusual for a university of this size," admits Nancy.

"I do love research and discovering things. But this will also keep me anchored to what it's like at the coal face; understanding the impact of funding difficulties or the pressures of teaching on the ground."

Biology and a non-executive director of AstraZeneca - has been based at Manchester since 1987.

She is the first woman Vice-Chancellor in the University's 186-year history. But she says she would not have considered taking this path had it not been for her "inspirational" predecessor, Alan Gilbert.

"Alan Gilbert's contribution to the University has been enormous," said Nancy.

"I consider it to be a real privilege to have worked with him and I would not be in this position now were it not for him.

"He was an individual of enormous integrity. He was very concerned about doing the right thing - even if it was not the easiest option.

"He has done an enormous amount for this University. And I think he would be quietly pleased

that universities in the South East now worry about Manchester's growing success.

Working alongside Alan Gilbert over the past six years, Nancy has already witnessed rapid changes at the University.

And - despite the financial challenges looming ahead - she is determined that the speed of the ambitious journey towards excellence will continue apace.

"The University has already come a long way," says Nancy.

"We have made huge progress in developing our estate and buildings. And there is now a recognition that The University of Manchester is a real challenger to be amongst the best universities in the world. But there is still a long way to go."



they should be with the teaching and learning they receive.

"We are a big university and we struggle in some areas to ensure students feel that they are at home that they are cared for and looked after, particularly with big classes.

"We have to manage expectations of students and how they should mature into independent learners."

But as well as supporting students in their learning Nancy wants to broaden student access to a wide range of opportunities, academic and more broadly.

During her own undergraduate days at the University of London, Nancy was keen to take an active role in University life.

As well as obtaining a First in Physiology, she learned how to play Bridge, darts, table football and squash, helped run the Entertainments section of the Students' Union and was secretary of a number of student societies - including the rugby club.

She clearly relished her time as an undergraduate, but too often now, she says, students' experience of University and of living in the Manchester community is too narrow.

"Often students live in halls or student houses, they come onto the campus for lectures and then go home again," said Nancy.

"I feel that they could gain more from their university experience and I think they could contribute more too.

"I would like to see students more aware of what is happening in the University, of its facilities and of the opportunities available."

Nancy points to the Manchester Leadership Programme and associated volunteering opportunities as one of the ways students can already participate; giving them the chance to contribute to their community and to pick up the leadership skills that are valued by employers too.

However she is also keen to take that a step further by enabling students to take course options from outside their own disciplines and establishing new courses that will be open to all and will address some of the big social issues such as global citizenship, sustainability and world economics.

Social responsibility is clearly important to Nancy and she wants this focus to be reflected in the research strengths of the University too.

"In 10 years I would like to have The University of Manchester clearly known as one of the best universities in the world and somewhere where excellent research and teaching contributes to society" said Nancy.

"Our international reputation is very highly dependent on the quality of our research and research outputs. Clearly we have to be excellent in all the research we do.

"Primarily ensuring we have the best research is about getting the best researchers, whether that's our young people that we nurture, our top staff that we support or 'stars' that we recruit from elsewhere.

"And secondly we have to ensure researchers have the right facilities, the right environment and the right support."

In looking to the future, Nancy is also clear that Higher Education is about to face a period of "unprecedented change" as a result of the current economic climate.

Until the publication of the government's Comprehensive Spending Review later this month - and perhaps much later - it won't be clear how this will impact on Universities.

But there has already been widespread speculation that there could be cuts of around 25 per cent or more.

"The economic climate is the biggest challenge we are facing," said Nancy.

"Clearly we will have to prioritise. We will have to look at the value of everything we do. We will have to ask, can we afford to do this? And, can we afford not to do it?"

"We are already looking hard at where there are potential efficiency savings. And where we don't do things as efficiently as we could, sometimes cuts - if they are not too harsh - can make it better."

In order to counter any reduction in government funding staff at the University are already looking at income generation and partnerships with industry.

"It's difficult to balance optimism for the future with what is going to be a really difficult time," said Nancy. "I have no doubt that the next year or so will be hard."

For every one that has congratulated Dame Nancy on her historic appointment as the first woman Vice-Chancellor at the University, another has asked her why she would want to take it on at this time.

"People say to me why would I want to be Vice Chancellor at this difficult time? And that is a fair question.

"But for me it's about trying to manage ourselves through these difficulties in the best and fairest way possible - and continuing the forward momentum towards building a great world-class university here in Manchester."

“ We have made huge progress in developing our estate and buildings. And there is now a recognition that The University of Manchester is a real challenger to be amongst the best universities in the world. But there is still a long way to go. ”

As President and Vice-Chancellor, Nancy is determined to ensure more research at the University reaches world-class and world leading standards; by attracting the best academics and providing them with the best facilities.

She is equally determined to make sure the University, the biggest in the UK, meets the growing expectations of its undergraduates.

Although undergraduate applications continue to show that Manchester is the most popular university in the country, the results of the National Student Survey are not so flattering and Nancy is determined to improve the student experience.

She believes the transition from school to University is now more difficult than it was a generation ago, with students no longer arriving with the same experience of self-learning that was routine 20 or 30 years ago.

And as a result she says steps need to be taken to ensure students receive more personalised support and feedback about how they could achieve more.

"Students like the general atmosphere of the University," says Nancy. "But there are some parts of the University where students are not as happy as

## Scholarship Success for Study Abroad Students

**Annually, more than 600 undergraduate students spend a semester or a year studying at one of The University of Manchester's partner universities. Students on selected programmes can choose from universities across the world including North America, Asia, Latin America, Europe and Australia.**

Almost without exception, students return from their period of study abroad having not only benefited from the experience academically but also culturally and socially, with their horizons expanded and often with a desire to engage in further study or work that has an international dimension.

Study Abroad Adviser, Jenny Gonzalez Hogg, said: "Many of the University's degree programmes allow students to undertake a period of study abroad and importantly there are no extra tuition fees required to participate in the scheme. Students participating in programmes within the EU can often get an Erasmus grant towards their time abroad.

"Students studying at European institutions will often be required to be able to speak the language of the host country, although there are some exceptions. The majority of worldwide partners teach in English.

Manchester students have been very successful in obtaining a range of prestigious scholarships to help support them in undertaking a period of study abroad. Over the last five years, 11 students have been awarded the UK Government-funded 'Scholarship for Excellence' to study in Hong Kong; five students have been awarded the Singapore Government funded 'DUO Exchange Fellowship Award', and two students have received scholarships from Education Australia to study at The University of Melbourne. Students have also received scholarships from the British Universities Transatlantic Exchange Association (BUTEX) to study in the USA and JASSO for study in Japan.

We spoke to two scholarship winners who had completed periods of study abroad to find out what their experiences were and what they gained from their time abroad.



**Alexandra Barker**  
**Politics and International Relations**  
**Exchange at University of Melbourne, 2009 (graduated this summer)**  
**[Education Australia Student Mobility Scholarship]**

**What made you decide to apply to go abroad on an exchange initially?**

It seemed like too good an opportunity to pass up on! I didn't take a gap year but loved the idea of travelling, I was confident it'd be an amazing experience for me personally as well as looking great on my CV (and it has - every job interview I've had, it's been a central topic)

**What was your day-to-day life like in Melbourne?**

Ultra social! Living in halls again and having a roommate meant that there was never a dull moment, and being an international student means everyone is keen to get to know you. We did a lot more cooking outside on the barbecue than the weather allows for in Manchester, and it was brilliant being less than 20 minutes from the beach - reading for essays on the beach became a bit of a habit!

**What have you enjoyed the most about your time abroad?**

I loved every minute. I made brilliant new friends, benefited from a fantastic university, and was in one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The choice of modules at Melbourne was excellent, and I found them really engaging.

**What aspects of your time in Melbourne have you found most challenging?**

Finding the time to do everything I wanted to do, and managing my budget! I was a bit concerned initially about the academic side of things, as I was being asked to write essays in a way I'd never done them before, but the lecturers and tutors are incredibly approachable. I also thought getting to know the university and city would be difficult, but the orientation week and international office have everything brilliantly organised.

**What does your time in Melbourne mean to you personally?**

It was the best time of my life. It changed me as a person - I'm more confident now, more self-assured, and more relaxed. It showed me that dreams and vague notions of wanting to go travelling aren't

just pipe dreams, but can be realised. As a direct result of my time in Melbourne, I'm going to Canada for 6 months after I graduate then travelling through Asia with a Canadian friend I met in Melbourne. I wouldn't be doing this if I hadn't studied abroad - it opened up a whole new range of possibilities to me. As I mentioned before, it's something that employers really like - they recognise the skill set it develops and the need for independence and organisation.

**How has studying abroad affected your academic studies/ future plans?**

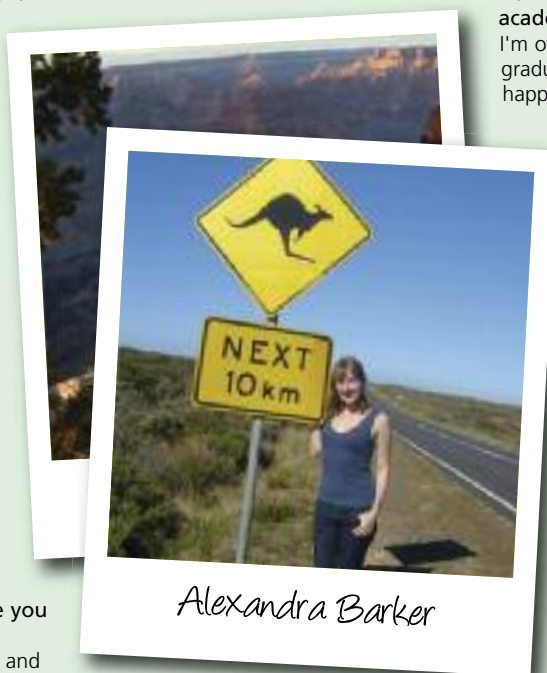
I'm off to Canada to work for six months after graduation then travelling Asia, which wouldn't be happening without Melbourne! I now definitely want a job where I can travel, or work in different international offices - I had interviews with Ernst and Young and Michael Page recently, and asked them both if I'd be able to escape the UK.

**How did you learn about the Education Australiascholarship and how did that funding make a difference to you?**

I learnt about it from the Study Abroad Unit. The funding meant that I was able to really immerse myself in everything studying abroad had to offer. It meant that I was able to do a lot of travelling and take part in lots of once-in-a-lifetime experiences. It also allowed me to forget about getting a part-time job and instead do some volunteering while I was out there with the Big Issue. It really gave me many more options than I would have had without it.

**Would you encourage other Manchester undergraduates to study abroad?**

Absolutely. I've been telling everyone who has the opportunity to do it to go for it. It might seem a daunting prospect, but it's exciting and worthwhile. It teaches you so much about yourself and gives you an edge. I can't think of a single negative about it, and there are millions of positives in academic terms, personally, in terms of future job prospects - it's the best thing I've ever done and I'd do it again in a second.





USA



Australia



Beijing



Dijon

**Ruaraidh Maclean**

**Mathematics**

**Exchange at University of North Carolina, 2010**

**[Manchester - UNC Award for Study Abroad]**

Ruaraidh studied Mathematics and his scholarship is funded by an American Alumna who came to Manchester on exchange in the 1980s. She had such a good experience that she now is actively involved in helping promote US-UK relations, and amongst other things, donates money to encourage the exchange of students between Manchester and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**What made you decide to apply to go to abroad on exchange initially - especially as one of our first ever Maths students to participate?**

I always enjoy visiting new places, meeting new people and trying new things. When I first heard about the Study Abroad programme, it seemed the perfect opportunity to get out of Manchester for a while and experience something completely new.

**What was your day-to-day life like in Chapel Hill?**

Being a student at Chapel Hill is vastly different to being a student at Manchester, in every aspect imaginable. Academically it's very different in that my courses all took place in small classrooms with 10-20 students in each class. This is in stark contrast to my lectures in Manchester. Assessment takes place continually throughout the semester in Chapel Hill, as opposed to just having a midterm and a big final exam at the end of the semester. Socially and culturally it's a world apart from Manchester too. Everything you see in films and on TV shows is surprisingly accurate!

**What have you enjoyed the most about your time abroad?**

Spring Break in Miami was completely unforgettable. After eight weeks of consistent studying, it was great to just leave all that behind and spend a week chilling on the beach and partying in the bars.

**What aspects of your time abroad have you found most challenging?**

Being so far from my girlfriend, friends and family has been hard, but it's something that I fully expected. I just got myself really involved with making friends, playing football and exploring the town. The first couple of days upon arrival was a real hassle, due to the sheer volume of administrative things that need to be done; Our accommodation was pretty bare and it was a couple of days before we got to a store selling bedding, so for our first night or two we were sleeping cold on a mattress which wasn't great! All part of the experience though.

**What does your time in the USA mean to you personally?**

It's been a great chance for me to develop as a person, and to learn more about a culture that's so far removed from what I'm used to back in Manchester.

**How has studying abroad affected your academic studies/ future plans?**

At home I study exclusively Maths but here in Chapel Hill I decided to take a German course in addition to my three Maths courses. I'm definitely going to explore the possibility of taking some German credits when I get back to Manchester for my final year, it's been a refreshing change to study something that isn't Maths! I would love to spend some more time abroad in the future, this experience has made me sure of that.

**How did the scholarship funding make a difference to you?**

After the semester ends, I'm embarking on a 4,500 mile road trip across the country with a German guy who I've met here. The scholarship funding has gone towards the cost

of the rental car. I can't wait!

**Would you encourage other Manchester undergraduates to study abroad?**

Most definitely. There's going to be very few times in your life when you get the opportunity to spend an extended time of period abroad, I strongly urge anyone who's in two minds to take this chance while they've got it. It's been a semester to remember, for sure.

[www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/studyabroad/](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/studyabroad/)



Ruaraidh Maclean

## Distinguished Achievement Awards 2010

For the first time this year, the Distinguished Achievement Awards honoured members of the Professional Support Services as well as the Teacher, Researcher, Postgraduate Research Student and Undergraduate of the Year from each of the four Faculties at a ceremony in the Council Chamber.

In addition to the new PSS Distinguished Achievement Awards there were also the University Social Responsibility Awards which are part of the same scheme, presented at a separate ceremony in May.

Here we offer a very brief snapshot from each winner's citation to give a flavour of just some of their achievements.

### PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

#### Sam Bibby – Research Contracts Office

Sam is described as being an incredibly enthusiastic, diligent and industrious colleague but has an innate sense of what it means to provide excellent customer service and never deviates from it.

He was promoted to Research Contracts Officer in 2007. In early 2008, he took on sole responsibility for all contracts within the Faculty of Life Sciences and, since then, the contractual work from a number of Schools. His colleagues in these Schools and the Faculty attest to his great expertise and professionalism and to the fact that his contribution has added 'great value' to what they are aiming to achieve.

#### Mr Arthur Clarke – Building Attendant

Arthur Clarke is a Building Attendant in the Ellen Wilkinson Building. He has worked for House Services since 2001.

For the majority of 2009, Arthur serviced (among others) the Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health. His duties included cleaning, setting up rooms for teaching, receiving and handling of goods/furniture and many more.

Arthur's endeavours help the whole University community to create a pleasant study environment for our students and teachers as well as for our staff undertaking research activities.

#### Susan Fidalgo, International Co-ordinator for undergraduates in Manchester Business School

Sue has shown extraordinary dedication to the welfare of exchange students across MBS Undergraduate programmes while being highly proactive in establishing and nurturing relationships with our partner institutions.

Parents and students alike have praised her kindness, understanding and willingness to 'go the extra mile' to support undergraduates both in Manchester and around the world.

#### Mr Steve Hamer, Finance Manager, EPS

Steve was nominated for this award primarily for his exceptional support of Schools and Faculties across the whole University and central functions on the implementation of the Procure 2 Pay (or P2P) software.

Steve's Faculty says he has epitomised the PSS's shared values consistently during his 18 years at the University.

He is described as a team player who looks out for the best interests of the University. Numerous examples of Steve's

professionalism, teamwork, openness to change and continuous improvement are cited in his nomination.

#### Scott Taylor, JRUL Information Systems Department and part of the eScholarship Team.

Scott is the first line of support for academic researchers needing help to use Manchester eScholar, the University's new institutional repository service. In October 2009 the service was used in the University's first annual Research Profiling Exercise.

In this period extremely high loads were placed on the system during which Scott sustained a level of professionalism and sensitivity to individual demands. Scott's 'can do' and customer-focused attitude during the Research Profiling Exercise significantly contributed to sustaining a level of academic engagement, the absence of which could have jeopardised the exercise as a whole.

### RESEARCHERS OF THE YEAR

#### Dr Jaclyn Smith, School of Translational Medicine, MHS

Jaclyn's area of research is the neuro-physiological basis of cough and translating this to the development of novel treatments for patients.

She has successfully challenged rigid thinking in this area and has moved the field on. She is described as possessing an almost unique range of skills that mean she is able to collaborate successfully with investigators in associated fields. She is an international expert in her field who is much sought after as both a speaker and consultant.

She is an outstanding Clinician Scientist who has really advanced her chosen research area and no doubt patients world-wide will benefit as a result.

#### Karel Williams, MBS, HUMS

A decade ago Professor Karel Williams initiated research on financialisation and has subsequently contributed by developing a distinctive socio-cultural approach to the field which mixes cultural studies and political arithmetic and sets finance in the political context of the upwards redistribution of income and power.

Some 20 articles span a remarkable range of leading journals in different disciplines and three major books constitute the most substantial corpus of work in this new field.

#### Professor Hugh Piggins, FLS

The Faculty recognises the exceptional contribution Hugh has made to his field, not only in terms of excellent research publications but also, as Section Head, in supporting academic staff associated with the Neurosciences Research Group.

Since joining the Faculty, Hugh has had a major impact in developing Neurosciences as a research theme and has played a prominent role in increasing the international visibility of neurosciences at Manchester. He has established an excellent research track record in the general area of circadian biology, championing his research

area and broadening the visibility of his work to general audiences.

#### Professor Richard Winpenny, School of Chemistry, EPS

In 2009, Professor Winpenny, published research in 22 papers, two of which immediately attracted wide general scientific and public interest, including featuring on the BBC News and subsequent citations.

During 2009 Richard's world-leading research was recognised by a Royal Society Wolfson Merit Award, and he was awarded or started grants totalling £5.4M - all the more remarkable when you learn that they occurred while Richard was also acting as Associate Dean for Research for the Faculty and as Director of the University's Photon Science Institute.

### POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENT OF THE YEAR

#### Daniel Hanson, School of Biomedicine, MHS

Daniel's PhD project was to find the gene that caused the primordial growth disorder 3-M syndrome and, having found this gene, to start to unravel the mechanisms that lead to the very poor growth seen in this condition.

This was an intense, painstaking process, requiring a dedicated, mature approach, a lot of patience and significant attention to detail. These skills combined with Daniel's previous experience in a forensic lab helped him to achieve his goal of finding the second gene.

#### Dr Katharine M. Earnshaw, HUMS

Katharine completed her PhD in 2009 in the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures within the Faculty of Humanities. Katharine graduated from this university in 2004 with First Class Honours, and took her MA in Ancient World Studies in 2005 and also won a prestigious research scholarship to study at the Fondation Hardt in Geneva in March 2007.

Her thesis constitutes an important new contribution to the field, and future publication of the expanded version is assured. Katharine is already one of the most active young researchers and teachers in the discipline.

#### Dr Elizabeth Pawson, FLS

Lizz, who completed her PhD at the end of last year, has been an exemplary student throughout her time in Manchester. She obtained her 1st class BSc (Biochemistry with German) and MRes at the University. She then undertook a MRC-funded PhD in neuroscience. Over the course of her PhD she was selected to present her work at three international conferences. Her work resulted in the publication of a high-impact research paper.

As well as her academic achievements Lizz was Postgraduate Representative for her section and a founding member of the Faculty of Life Sciences Postgraduate Society (2007-2008).

#### Dr Richard Pearson, School of Computer Science, EPS

Richard was recently awarded his PhD in



Computer Science. His research addresses a significant and important area of modern biology. Richard has developed properly validated test data and analysis strategies which are needed to help compare and contrast the wide range of methodologies for microarray analysis currently in use - the impact of his work has already been very strong and is enduring.

Richard's discoveries have been so impactful that his former School now includes the work from his thesis in the training materials they use to teach microarray analysis at Masters level.

#### **UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT OF THE YEAR**

##### **Thomas Ward, BSc Psychology, MHS**

Thomas, who has completed his degree in the School of Psychological Sciences, is described as having made an exceptional contribution as a Student Representative throughout his course and as a Peer Mentor, in both his 2nd and 3rd years of study.

He has been incredibly active in motivating his peers and co-representatives and has organised a number of social activities for the entire student cohort. He has also been instrumental in trying to re-establish a Psychology Society.

##### **David Tagg-Oram, HUMS**

David is described as having maintained an exemplary academic record in the Music Department, while at the same time being an outstanding President of the Manchester University Music Society (MUMS) spearheading a range of initiatives that have benefited both his Department and the University.

##### **Natasha Bray, Cognitive Neuroscience/Psychology, FLS**

Natasha has contributed so significantly despite having one of the Faculty's most challenging timetables and workloads. She is described as an

exceptionally bright student. She has also been an exemplary PASS leader, showing wonderful initiative.

Similarly, Natasha has been a model Student Ambassador for the Faculty since October 2007. She is described as having been enthusiastic and approachable, and always eager to assist in any Recruitment and Admissions activities.

##### **Martin Schuster, School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, EPS**

Martin is in his 3rd Year of his MEng (Hons) Electronic Systems Engineering. He is described as an exceptional student whose nomination is based on his outstanding academic achievement, his peer support of teaching and learning, his contributions to curriculum development, and his fund raising for charitable causes.

Martin joined the School's Peer Assisted Study Scheme (PASS) as a mentor in September 2009. He is a very highly regarded PASS mentor with a natural ability to support other students in overcoming their study barriers.

#### **TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

##### **Dr Richard Oliver, School of Dentistry, MHS**

Richard has been the coordinator for Oral and Maxillofacial Science-based subjects of the Dentistry programme since 2004. Two years ago he took on a new school role as coordinator of the Final Year within the new curriculum.

He has introduced innovations in his own clinical area of oral surgery so successfully that students now report this to be one of their favourite clinical sessions where previously this was the least favourite!

In all styles of teaching delivery Dr Oliver is described as lively, enthusiastic, humorous, knowledgeable and challenging.

##### **Dr Nuria Yáñez-Bouza, School of Languages, Linguistics and Culture, HUMS**

Nuria has quickly established a reputation as a committed, enthusiastic and innovative teacher. The very positive impression conveyed by her student satisfaction scores are backed up by her Peer Review. Further evidence of the impact of her teaching comes from the high demand for Nuria to supervise. Nuria has demonstrated a strong commitment to innovation in teaching and learning through e-learning.

##### **Dr Tracey Speake, FLS**

Tracey has shown consistently excellent and innovative teaching. The enthusiastic and inspiring way she has led major teaching initiatives, and her teaching is held in high esteem by a large number of FLS students.

Tracey has developed new courses, provided bespoke materials to a substantial proportion of FLS students, and has been pivotal in developing educational processes for other schools in different faculties (e.g. medicine, dentistry and nursing).

##### **Dr Danielle George, School of EEE, EPS**

Danielle's nominator describes her contribution to her School as inspiring to students and staff alike.

As a relatively new academic she has taken on a significant teaching load both in terms of administration and delivery, but has successfully developed innovative approaches to teaching and assessment. Her development of e-learning tools bridging lecture and laboratory learning has been a huge success, receiving excellent feedback from staff and students. These technologies are now being adopted more widely.

In addition, Danielle contributes to the continuing improvement of Teaching and Learning across the School and beyond.

# What's On

## Music and Drama at Manchester

Sat 2 Oct, 7.30pm, £9 / £6 / £3  
**MUMS Introductory Concert**  
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Mon 4 Oct, 6.30pm, £5 / £3  
**CK Williams**  
The John Thaw Studio Theatre

Thurs 7 Oct, 1.30, FREE  
**Quatuor Danel Lunchtime Concert**  
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Fri 8 Oct, 7.30pm, £12 / £8 / £3  
**Quatuor Danel Evening Concert**  
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Sat 9 Oct, 8pm, £15 / £10  
**Adrian Edmondson & The Bad Shepherds**  
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Thur 14 Oct, 1.10pm, FREE  
**Joseph Tong and Waka Hasegawa**  
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Mon 18 Oct, 6.30pm, £5 / £3  
**Roy Fisher**  
The John Thaw Studio Theatre

Thur 21 Oct, 1.10pm, FREE  
**The Lovenotes: Acapella Quartet**  
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Fri 22 Oct, 7.30pm, £9 / £6 / £3  
**University of Manchester Symphony Orchestra**  
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Fri 22 Oct, 1.10pm, FREE  
**Manchester University Music Society Soloists**  
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Sat 23 Oct, 6pm, FREE (booking essential)  
**Rutherford's Lights: an Adventure in Sound and Science**

Richard Casey (piano)  
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Sat 23 Oct, 8pm, £6 (booking is essential)  
**Stand up Comedy with Kelly J Roberts and guests**  
Martin Harris Centre

Mon 25 Oct, 6.30pm, £12 / £10  
**Seamus Heaney**  
The Whitworth Hall

Thur 28 Oct, 1.10pm, FREE  
**Lawson Piano Trio**  
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Fri 29 to Sun 31 Oct  
**MANTIS Festival Fall 2010**  
MANTIS (Manchester Theatre in Sound) presents a weekend of electroacoustic concerts.

**The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama**  
Bridgeford Street, Manchester M13 9PL  
0161 275 8951/8950  
email [boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk)  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre)

## Centre for New Writing

Our unique events bring the best-known, contemporary novelists and poets to Manchester to discuss and read from their work. Everyone is welcome, and ticket prices include a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink.

4 Oct, 6.30pm, £5/£3  
**CK Williams**  
The John Thaw Studio Theatre

11 Oct, 6.30pm, £7/£5  
**Martin Amis Public Event**  
Venue: The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

18 Oct, 6.30pm, £5/£3  
**Roy Fisher**  
The John Thaw Studio Theatre

25 Oct, 6.30pm, £12/£10  
**Seamus Heaney**  
The Whitworth Hall

For further information and to book tickets visit:

Website: [www.manchester.ac.uk/arts/newwriting](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/arts/newwriting)

Online journal: [www.themanchesterreview.co.uk](http://www.themanchesterreview.co.uk)

**The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama**  
Bridgeford Street, Manchester M13 9PL  
0161 275 8951/8950  
email [boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk)  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre)

## Chaplaincies

### St Peter's House Chaplaincy

11am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Bible Study  
12.45pm Lunch (first Sun)  
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.

### RC Chaplaincy Avila House

Mass Times (term-time only)  
Sun, 7pm (in the Holy Name Church) next door to the Chaplaincy  
Mon, Wed, Fri, 6pm in the Chaplaincy Chapel  
Tue, Thurs, 12.15pm in the Chaplaincy Chapel

### The Jewish Student Centre and Synagogue

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

### Muslim Chaplaincy

South Campus Mosque, McDougall Centre  
Jammaat (Group Prayer) Daily  
Juma Prayer Friday 1.15pm  
Honorary Imam: Imam Habeeb, [h\\_chatti@hotmail.com](mailto:h_chatti@hotmail.com)

North Campus Mosque, Basement of Joule Library,  
Sackville Street Building  
Jammaat (Group Prayer) Daily  
Juma Prayer Friday 12.30pm

The role of the Volunteer Muslim Chaplain is to provide pastoral support, guidance and a listening ear to Muslim staff and students

Chaplains' emails: [a.sami99@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:a.sami99@yahoo.co.uk),  
[mbm1411@hotmail.com](mailto:mbm1411@hotmail.com), [assia\\_shah61@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:assia_shah61@yahoo.co.uk),  
[hawwah@hotmail.com](mailto:hawwah@hotmail.com)

## Gig Guide

### MANCHESTER ACADEMY 1, 2 and 3

Sat 9 Oct - £21.50 Adv	<b>Groove Armada</b>
Weds 13 Oct - £30 Adv	<b>Joe &amp; Keith Sweat</b>
Thurs 14 Oct - £18.50 Adv	<b>Bowling for Soup</b>
Fri 15 Oct - £15 Adv	<b>Plan B</b>
Sat 16 Oct - £22.50 Adv	<b>Brandon Flowers</b>
Sun 17 Oct - £13 Adv	<b>Joshua Radin</b>
Mon 18 Oct - £12 Adv	<b>Tinie Tempah</b>
Tues 19 Oct - £17.50 Adv	<b>Alter Bridge</b>
Weds 20 Oct - £13.50 Adv	<b>Yeastayer</b>
Sat 23 Oct - £14.50 Adv	<b>Train</b>
Tue 26 Oct - £17.50 Adv	<b>The Cat Empire</b>
Wed 27 Oct - £27.50 Adv	<b>Avenged Sevenfold/ Stone Sour</b>
Sat 30 Oct - £14 Adv	<b>Foals</b>
Mon 1 Nov - £18 Adv	<b>Sum 41 – The Eastpak Antidote Tour</b>
Weds 3 Nov - £15 Adv	<b>Ellie Goulding</b>

### Tickets from:

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

## International Society

Saturday 9 Oct  
**Oxford**  
Sunday 10 Oct  
**North Wales visiting Llangollen and Erddig**  
Saturday 16 to Sunday 17 Oct  
**Edinburgh**  
Saturday 16 Oct  
**North Wales visiting Anglesey**  
Sunday 17 Oct  
**York**  
Saturday 23 to Sunday 24 Oct  
**Bath and Stonehenge**  
Sunday 24 Oct  
**Liverpool**  
Saturday 30 to Sunday 31 Oct  
**Edinburgh**  
Saturday 30 Oct  
**North Wales visiting Conwy Castle and Penrhyn Castle**  
Sunday 31 Oct  
**Lake District visiting Rydal Mount and Gardens and Keswick**  
**Opening hours**  
Mon-Fri 9.30am – 7pm (during term time)  
Mon-Fri 9.30am – 5pm (during vacation)  
**Small World Café opening hours**  
Mon-Fri 11am – 3pm  
**327 Oxford Road** (next to Krobar)  
0161 275 4959  
email [int.soc@anchester.ac.uk](mailto:int.soc@anchester.ac.uk)  
[www.internationalsociety.org.uk](http://www.internationalsociety.org.uk)







## The Manchester Museum

### CHINA: Journey to the East

until 26 June 2011

Explore 3,000 years of Chinese history and culture and encounter artefacts from one of the most important and influential civilisations in world history. A British Museum Tour supported by BP, a CHINA NOW legacy project.

### Finding Manchester, Lost in Bolivia

until 30 January 2011

Follow Chris Smith and Liz Peel on their amazing four month journey through the Amazon in search of the small South American village of Manchester.

### FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Sunday 17 October, 2-3pm, £5, 6+

#### Strange Stones Puppet Show

The story of Mary Anning from her finding of the first complete Ichthyosaur fossil at the age of 12, to her later years as a pioneering natural scientist. Find out more at [www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk](http://www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk)

Monday 25 – Friday 29 October, 11am-4pm

#### October half term: Manchester Science Festival

Chinese technology from rocket paper folding to silk weaving, a frog talk, knitted bees and more. Find out more at [www.manchestersciencefestival.com](http://www.manchestersciencefestival.com)

Friday 29 October, 11am-12noon

#### Magic Carpet: Toys and Games

Get comfy on our magic carpet and enjoy toys and games themed stories and activities. With BSL interpretation.

Saturday 13 November, 11am-4pm

#### Big Saturday: Rainforest Adventure

See live frogs, take part in rainforest craft activities and find out about Manchester in Bolivia.

### TALKS AND TOURS

Saturday 23 – Sunday 31 October

#### Manchester Science Festival Talks

From the history of Manchester Natural History Society (including a fight over an umbrella stand) to the science of dogs and a debate on sustainability. Find out more at [www.manchestersciencefestival.com](http://www.manchestersciencefestival.com)

Monday 25 October, 11am-2pm

#### Finger Knitting Workshop

This workshop is to teach the fun and easy technique of finger knitting and will run alongside the exhibition 'Reach out and knit together 2010'.

Wednesday 10 November, 3-4.30pm

#### Showcase Lecture: We are here because you were there: archaeology and politics in the 19th century and the origins of Cyprus collections in the UK.

Dr Thomas Kiely, Curator of Cyprus collections, Department of Greece and Rome, the British Museum.

Saturday 13 November

#### Day School: Archaeology of China

Listen to expert speakers and handle museum objects.

To find out more about events in the Museum visit our website.

### Opening hours

Open: Tues-Sat 10am - 5pm

Sun-Mon (and Bank Holidays) 11am - 4pm

FREE Admission

### The Manchester Museum

Oxford Road, Manchester

0161 275 2634

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



## John Rylands Library (Deansgate)

### EXHIBITIONS

#### Elizabeth Gaskell: A Connected Life

Until 28 November. An exhibition marking the bicentenary of the renowned Victorian novelist, Elizabeth Gaskell.

### EVENTS

#### Through the Pages: A Hidden History?

Until 31 Oct. This intimate display looks at a selection of gay narratives, from the legend of Gilgamesh to the life of Edward Carpenter, which offer glimpses of stories told and lives lived.

Wed 10 Nov, 12-12.45pm

#### Curator Tour and Close-up

Join the curator of *A Connected Life* for a tour of the exhibition and discuss Elizabeth Gaskell's life and works. Booking recommended.

Thur 14 Oct, 6-7.30pm, FREE

#### Directions to the Printer: Elizabeth Gaskell and Her Publishers

This lecture by Alan Shelston considers Gaskell's novels from the point of view of her relationships with her publishers.

Sat 23 Oct, 12-12.45pm

#### Curator Tour and Close-up

Join the curator of *Through the Pages* for a close up view and discussion of the items on display. Booking recommended.

### Public opening hours

Mon 12-5pm, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12pm-5pm

### Reader opening hours

Mon-Wed 10am-5pm, Thurs 10am-7pm, Fri-Sat 10am-5pm  
FREE ADMISSION

### The John Rylands Library

150 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 3EH

0161 306 0555

email [jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk)

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

## Jodrell Bank

Jodrell Bank is going through an exciting period of change with a new visitor centre development and is due to re open in the summer 2011. During the interim period, visitors will be welcomed at a temporary reception area located in the Environmental Discovery Centre. There will be limited facilities and no café. Visitors will have access to the Gardens and Telescope Observation Pathway. Opening times are 11am – 4pm and admission is free. For all development updates please visit our website.

### Jodrell Bank Observatory Visitor Centre

Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 9DL

01477 571339

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



## The Whitworth Art Gallery

### EXHIBITIONS

#### Intuition

Until 9 Jan 2011. A first look at highlights from The Musgrave Kinley Outsider Art Collection.

#### Walls Are Talking: Repeating Patterns

Until 16 Jan 2011. With its domestic links, wallpaper is the perfect medium to reflect notions of gender and sexuality. As well as featuring typical 'girls' and 'boys' wallpapers, the display includes many one-off or limited edition artworks.

#### The Land Between Us: Place, Power and Dislocation

Until 23 Jan 2011. This radical approach to landscape art presents historic and modern works together and on equal terms to explore nature, habitation, territorial power and culture.

#### Unstable States: John Ruskin and the Truth of Water

Until 23 Jan 2011. Drawing on John Ruskin's precise observations in his book *Modern Painters* (1843), this display investigates how artists from Van de Velde to Turner have captured the 'unstable states' of water.

### EVENTS

Thurs 7 Oct 8-9.30pm and Sun 10 Oct, 2-3.30pm, FREE

#### The Alchemy Collection: An Art Concert

A performance of unique musical scores combining chemical elements and action painting to collide and fuse with music, voice and audience. Composition by artist Michael Mayhew and Trio Atem.

Sat 9 Oct, 1-4.30pm, FREE

#### Big Draw/Big Sound

Michael Mayhew and Trio Atem transform your art into sound using a variety of instruments and sound-making objects.

#### PLUS Koyaanisqatsi Screening 11-12.30pm, FREE

*Koyaanisqatsi: Life out of Balance*, is a 1982 film directed by Godfrey Reggio with music composed by Philip Glass.

Thur 28 Oct, 6.30 - 9pm, FREE

#### The Student Social... In The Mix

A night of art and music curated by students.

### WORKSHOPS

1st Saturday of the month, 11-1pm (Textiles), 2-4pm (Life drawing), £5

#### Serious About Art

Monthly textiles and life drawing workshops to learn new skills, sharpen up old ones and meet like-minded people.

3rd Saturday of the month, 10.30-1pm, £3

#### Alternative Camera Club

Breaking the mould on conventional camera clubs, this workshop moves away from stale discussion of technique and concentrates on a considered, conceptual approach to photography.

3rd Saturday of the month, 2-4pm, £3

#### Crafternoon Tea

Enjoy a cuppa and try your hand at art and craft techniques. An artist joins us each time to give a demonstration and offer expert tips and advice.

### Free Events

We offer a range of FREE family workshops and events. Please visit our website for details.

### The Whitworth Art Gallery

Oxford Road, Manchester

0161 275 7450

email [whitworth@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:whitworth@manchester.ac.uk)

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

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For more information please contact Julie Isted for an informal, confidential discussion or application pack. There is no closing date for applications.

email [ceoffice@togethertrust.org.uk](mailto:ceoffice@togethertrust.org.uk)

phone **0161 283 4790**

or visit [www.togethertrust.org.uk](http://www.togethertrust.org.uk)

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# Discover the Whitworth



## The Land Between Us: Place, Power and Dislocation

To 23 January 2011

The new academic year sees a brand new exhibition at The University of Manchester's Whitworth Art Gallery. With free admission the gallery is well worth a visit as one of the hubs of cultural life on campus. The Whitworth is home to outstanding collections of historic and modern fine art, as well as reflecting Manchester's industrial heritage with world textiles and a rare collection of wallpapers.

In a bold new exhibition *The Land Between Us*, the Whitworth presents highlights from its historic collection alongside contemporary works to

explore how artists' interpretations of landscape have changed or endured over time. The journey begins with a forest of real trees; Olafur Eliasson's installation *The Forked Forest Path*, fills the gallery with birch and sycamore, creating the powerful illusion of a dark forest. And don't miss all 60 of the Whitworth's Turner watercolours on display in the show, paired with Black Audio Film Collective's video *Handsworth Songs* to show very different images of Britain.

William Holman Hunt and Larissa Sansour compare views of Palestine both ancient and modern, and Romuald Hazoum's panorama of

the Nigerian coastline makes a sharp counterpoint to Thomas Hearne's drawings of the islands of Montserrat and St Kitts, the destination of many west Africans stolen into slavery. Artists from Vincent Van Gogh to Chen Qiulin consider life on the margins of the city and John Robert Cozens and Nikhil Chopra both depict the changing landscapes of their many travels.

Coexisting side by side, the art of the past and of the present encourage us to take a new look at landscape, and the power and meaning associated with it.

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

### News Contact

#### News and story ideas

Internal Communications Office

tel 0161 275 2112

email [uninews@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:uninews@manchester.ac.uk)

online [www.manchester.ac.uk/staffnet/news](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/staffnet/news)

Deadline 13 October 12 noon

### Events Contact

#### Events and listings information

Philippa Adshead

tel 0161 275 2922

email [unievents@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:unievents@manchester.ac.uk)

Deadline 13 October 12 noon

### Adverts Contact

#### Ads

Janice Drew

tel 0161 275 2113

email [uniads@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:uniads@manchester.ac.uk)

Deadline 13 October 12 noon

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