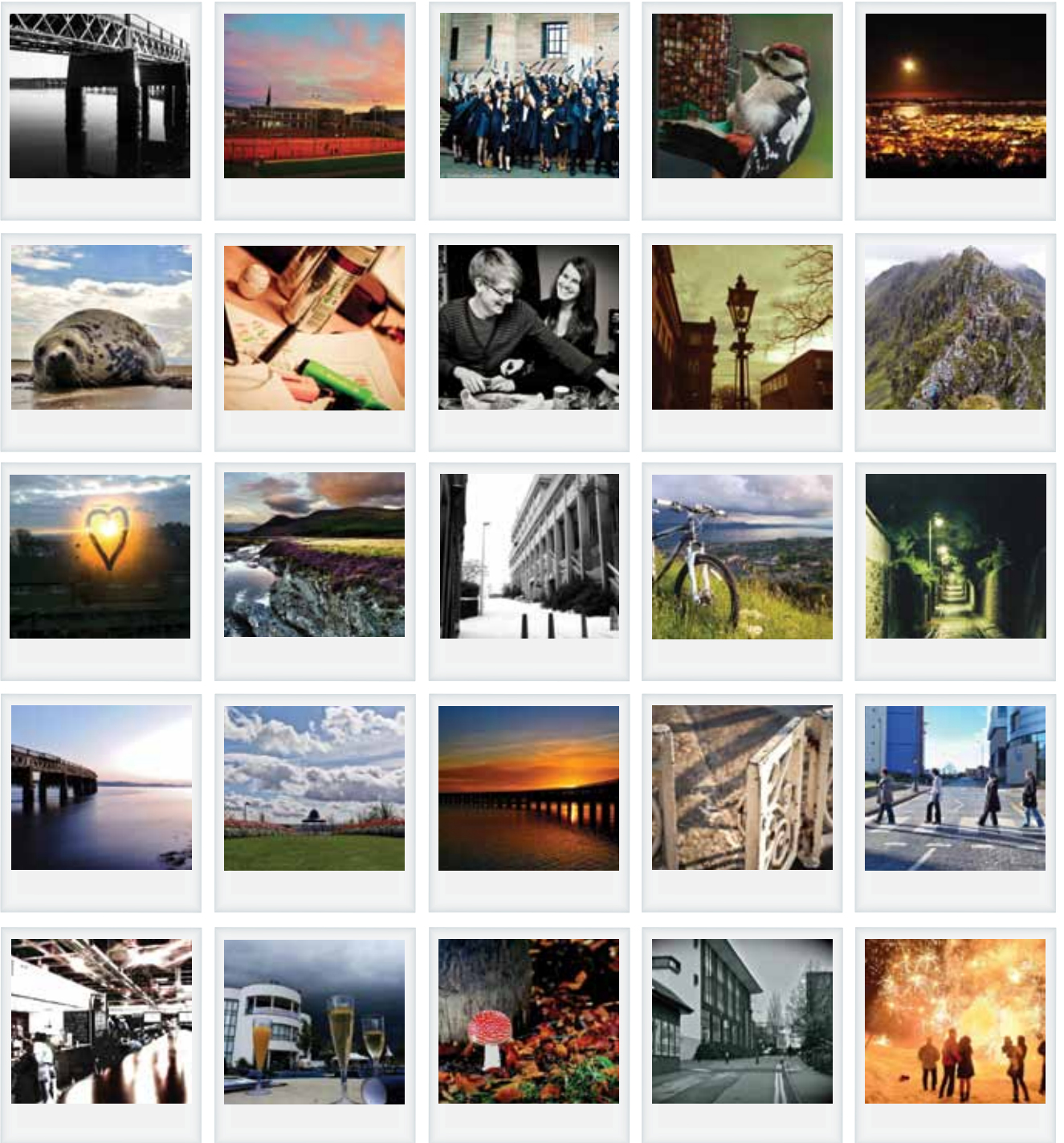


# c n t a c t



The magazine of the University of Dundee • April 2012



A snapshot of campus life

## contents

news.....03



photo comp.....14



women in science....16

court news.....28



from the archives.....27

what's on.....35

## credits

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## from the principal...

As work continues on the new University strategy that will guide our development during the next few years, three enduring values crop up consistently. Examples of excellence, our role in transforming lives and commitments to equality can be found throughout our history from the inauguration of University College, Dundee, in 1883 right up to the present day. In this month's column, I want to highlight three issues which show these values are at least as relevant today.

During the economic difficulties of the recent past, there had been Cassandra-like warnings of a meltdown in research funding, both in the charity and industrial sectors, and the University had been bracing itself for a tough ride. Whilst the competition for funding has clearly intensified and resource does seem to be spread much more thinly, particularly amongst the research councils and charities, the University nevertheless appears to be holding its own in winning significant grants from all the major funders. To be able to maintain large levels of funding in the midst of an economic downturn is remarkable. It shows, too, that our research strengths are both real and enduring and also supports our strategy of excellence. It is welcome corroboration of the wisdom of focusing resource on what we do best, and this strategy will continue with investments in 3\* and 4\* research. These successes have of course not been won without dedication and determination across the University, and I want to thank those who have worked so hard to maintain our research profile.

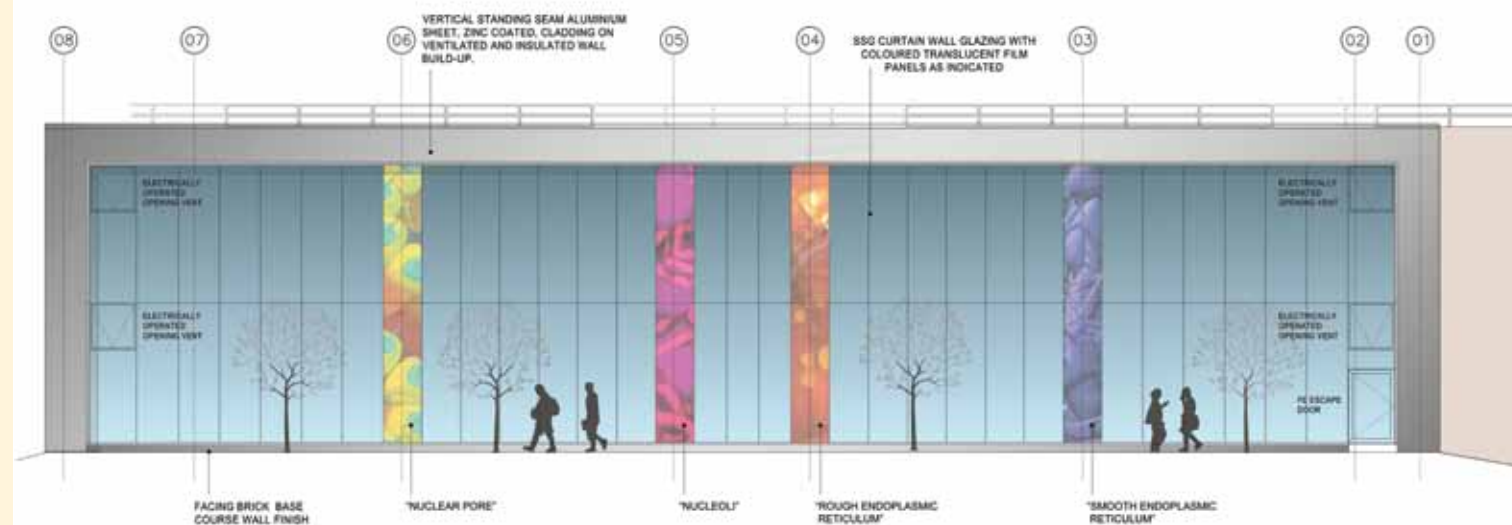
One of the most palpable ways in which we transform lives is in providing our students with the knowledge and skills to succeed once they graduate. An innovative way in which we assist this process is through the Careers Service's award-winning internship scheme, run through the Placement Base. More than 600 students this year alone have been placed on internships. Participation in such schemes makes an important difference to the employability of our graduates, giving them a foretaste of the world of work as well as equipping them with the critical skills which will help them succeed in their chosen careers. This type of activity is critical to our success in an environment in which universities are increasingly measured by the employment prospects of their students.

The University's commitment to equality can be traced back to the deed signed by our founding benefactor, Mary Ann Baxter, which contained a clause promoting 'the education of persons of both sexes'. Recently, the University signed up to the Athena SWAN Charter, with Professor Doreen Cantrell agreeing to act as the champion for this initiative. For those of you who don't know, the Athena SWAN Charter recognises and celebrates good employment practice for women working in science, engineering and technology (SET) in higher education and research. The University's track record in promoting women in SET is better than many institutions, but there is much still to do, particularly in ensuring that women in the early stages of their academic careers in science, engineering and technology are given the support and encouragement necessary to allow them to succeed.

Crucial to our success as an institution is our commitment to a range of underlying core values, such as those above, and as the University strategy evolves, you can expect to hear more.

**Professor Pete Downes • Principal and Vice-Chancellor**

For more news from the Principal read his blog at <http://blog.dundee.ac.uk/principal>



## New phase of Medical School upgrade begins

**The University is set to redevelop the School of Medicine at Ninewells with a major extension and refurbishment.**

The project forms phase two of an £11million programme to upgrade facilities at the Medical School, which is consistently rated as one of the top performing medical schools in the UK.

This phase of the project will see a new extension built on the north side of the Ninewells building and refurbishment of existing library and teaching space.

"We are absolutely committed to further enhancing the student experience at Dundee to ensure that we continue to provide the highest quality education for tomorrow's doctors," said Professor John Connell, University Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing. "Part of that is making sure that we have first class facilities to match the quality of our teaching, which is consistently rated very highly.

"To that end we have begun a three-phase approach to revamping the accommodation we have on the campus at Ninewells. In the first phase, which has been completed, we have created new seminar rooms and built a world class clinical simulation area, a facility that was opened in November 2011. This work was supported by a major grant from the Dow Trust.

"Phase 2 includes a new-build development on the site at Ninewells which will provide us with state-of-the-art IT and electronic teaching facilities. There will also be redevelopment work to give us a major upgrade on existing accommodation. One result of all of this is that we will, for the first time, be able to bring the Centre for Medical Education right into the heart of the School. The CME is a key for us in delivering education programmes internationally and the School as a whole will benefit from having it right in the centre of our operations.

"In phase 3 of the project we will completely upgrade our lecture theatres. We are very highly regarded internationally and what we are doing with this project is providing the level of facilities that will allow us to build on our reputation, and put us in good shape for years to come."

At the same time the School continues to build on its international reputation as a centre for research excellence, particularly in the areas of cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, neuroscience and skin diseases.

The project is an £11.2million investment with funds already committed by the University, the NHS in Tayside, NES Education Scotland and key local donors such as the Dow, Leng and Mathew Trusts. Further fundraising is required and will be the subject of a major campaign over the next year.

The aim is to have all phases completed by 2014/15.

The frontage of the new building, which will be visible from the public path leading from the multi-storey car park to the main entrance at Ninewells, will be adorned with artwork by Janice Aitken, a lecturer from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design, who won the competition to design transparent panels which illustrate an aspect of medical research.

"I was delighted that my designs were chosen to be included in this important new building," said Janice. "It is a privilege to have my work incorporated into the fabric of the Ninewells campus, where it will be seen not only by staff and students inside the new building but by those using the hospital itself. I hope that it will enhance their experience of visiting what is an extremely important place in the life of our community."

The panels depict different elements of a eukaryotic cell, a basic building block of the human body. They were created using a combination of 3D animation software and digital painting. The colours have been chosen to create a vibrant and positive atmosphere both outside and within the building.



## Young scientist wins early career award



**A researcher in the MRC Protein Phosphorylation Unit (MRC-PPU) has been named as the winner of a British Biochemical Society Early Career Development Award for 2013.**

Dr Kris Clark (pictured) is one of only four young scientists chosen to receive the award next year in recognition of the impact of their research. Only scientists who have been awarded their PhD degrees within the last five years are eligible.

He will present his Medal Lecture at a Biochemical Society conference in 2013. The lecture will also be published in the journal *Biochemical Society Transactions*.

Over the past two years, Dr Clark has identified how the immune system defends the body against infection by bacteria and viruses without overproducing substances called "cytokines", which are a major cause of lupus, psoriasis and arthritis. His research has also identified ways in which improved drugs to treat these autoimmune diseases might be developed.

"I am thrilled to have won this award from the Biochemical Society," said Dr Clark. "It is a great honour to have my research recognised by my peers in this way."

"Dundee has provided me with a great opportunity and stimulating environment to address key questions in the innate immune system and my research would not have been possible without the support of many people within the College of Life Sciences. I now look forward to presenting my Medal Lecture next year."

Born in Canada, Dr Clark studied there and in Australia and then the Netherlands from where he obtained his PhD from the Radboud University Nijmegen in 2007. In March 2006 he was awarded a Short-Term Fellowship from the Federation of European Biochemical Societies to enable him to spend a month in the MRC Protein Phosphorylation Unit and it was this visit that led him to join Philip Cohen's laboratory in May 2007 after being awarded a Long-Term Fellowship by the European Molecular Biology Organisation.

Professor Sir Philip Cohen, Director of the MRC-PPU, said, "I am really delighted that the Biochemical Society has chosen Kris for one of their young investigator awards."

"He has made two major breakthroughs that have significantly increased our understanding of how the innate immune system is kept in check to prevent the onset of autoimmune diseases. One of these has yet to be published and will make a big impact when it is."

## Fellowship award for Philosophy researcher



**A senior lecturer in Philosophy in the School of Humanities has been awarded a two-year Research Fellowship at the Centre for Arts and Humanities Research at the Natural History Museum in London.**

Dr Beth Lord (pictured), who has a particular interest in 17th and 18th century philosophy of nature and the philosophy of museums will be

making regular trips to the London institution to use its unparalleled collections of natural history specimens and documents to develop new philosophy projects.

"I'll have the chance to apply for further grants to do philosophical research with the museum's collections," she said. "One of the areas I'd like to explore is 18th century concepts of evolution so that would be looking at pre-Darwinian ideas."

"I'm hoping to use the archives in the museum and their collections to present ideas visually in, for example, an online exhibition."

Dr Lord, who is Principal Investigator on the Arts and Humanities Research Council Spinoza Research Network, is looking forward to being able to explore the museum's collections and work with the artefacts.

"So much of my work involves reading so it will be great for me to work with the objects in the museum and be a bit more hands on," she said.

"The Fellowship is a great opportunity for me. Two of my research themes are philosophy of museums and philosophy of nature so this Fellowship is the perfect confluence of these two ideas."

Dr Lord's Fellowship post begins in the Spring. For more information visit the museum's website at [www.nhm.ac.uk/research-curation/departments/cahr/index.html](http://www.nhm.ac.uk/research-curation/departments/cahr/index.html)

## RSE Fellowship honour for four Professors



**Four professors from the University have been elected as Fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.**

Professor David Muir Wood, Professor Jason Swedlow, Professor Caroline Wilkinson, and Professor Kate Storey are among 46 new UK and International Fellows joining the RSE's 1500-strong Fellowship of experts in the Sciences, Arts, Humanities, professions, industry and commerce.

Each new Fellow of the RSE is recognised within his or her peer group as having achieved excellence within their discipline or profession.

University Principal Professor Pete Downes said, "I am delighted to see these four distinguished scientists being recognised as new Fellows of Scotland's national academy of science and letters. It is a source of pride for the whole University, and fitting recognition for their considerable professional achievements."

Once admitted to the RSE, Fellows are encouraged to contribute to the aims and objectives of the Society, including the provision of expert policy advice to Government and Parliament, outreach education programmes for young people, and public engagement events including conferences and discussion forums. The central aim of the Society is the advancement of learning and useful knowledge.

David Muir Wood is Professor of Geotechnical Engineering. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 1998, and has written three books on soil mechanics.

Jason Swedlow is Professor of Quantitative Cell Biology in the College of Life Sciences. He was named 'Innovator of the Year' at the 2011 BBSRC (Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council) Impact Awards for his work on the Open Microscopy Environment (OME) - a revolutionary venture into open source software.

Caroline Wilkinson is Professor of Craniofacial Identification within the Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification (CAHID). She is a member of the Board of Governors of the International Association of Craniofacial identification (IACI), and was President of the organisation from 2008-10. She was also previously President of the British Association of Human Identification (BAHID).

Kate Storey is Professor of Neural Development and Head of the Division of Cell and Developmental Biology. Her lab carries out leading-edge research into neural differentiation in embryos and embryonic stem cells.

The RSE was founded in 1783 by Royal Charter and is Scotland's National Academy of Science and Letters. Former and current Fellows of the RSE include Sir Walter Scott, Sir Charles Darwin, John Logie Baird, William Wordsworth, James Clerk Maxwell, John Scott Russell, Francis Crick, Sir James Black, Sir Philip Cohen, Sir David Lane, Sir Paul Nurse, and Fred Sanger.



Professor David Muir Wood



Professor Jason Swedlow



Professor Caroline Wilkinson



Professor Kate Storey





## Oral cancer research wins Ian Stevenson award

**Professor Graham Ogden, Chair of Oral Surgery at the University's Dental School is the winner of this year's Ian Stevenson Award for Excellence in Public Engagement for his tireless work in communicating his research on oral cancer.**

The award was created by the College of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing and Revealing Research in honour of Professor Ian Stevenson, former University Vice Principal and holder of the first Chair of Pharmacology, who died in 2005.

It is aimed at recognising outstanding science communicators within the College and improving understanding of research to a wider audience.

Professor Ogden, who is also an Honorary Consultant Oral Surgeon with NHS Tayside, was presented with his award of a certificate and £500 by Mrs Pat Stevenson, widow of Professor Stevenson.

The award judges praised Professor Ogden's long record of communicating his research on oral cancer during his 26 year career at the University including raising public and professional awareness of the disease and its risk factors. This has also involved visiting local secondary schools in Dundee to speak about risk factors for oral cancer.

More than 75% of oral cancers are associated with alcohol and tobacco use and Professor Ogden received particular praise for his work with the national Drinkaware campaign and local events including Mouth Cancer Awareness Week with students at the University, and the Mouth Cancer Foundation.

Through his work with Dundee University Students Association he has helped raise student awareness of alcohol as a risk factor for oral cancer from less than 10% to more than 50% .

He has also worked with the Ben Walton Trust, which raises awareness of mouth cancer, and is hoping to roll out the Mouth Cancer Awareness Week initiative at Dundee to other Universities across Scotland.

Professor Ogden said, "I am delighted to receive this award which in part reflects the dedication and enthusiasm of the students who have helped make the MCAW event such a success over so many years.

"I would also like to acknowledge the support and contribution made by the staff in our Unit, in particular that of Eileen Black and Simon Shepherd."

The Ian Stevenson Award for Excellence in Public Engagement is open to all staff and students in the College of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing.

It honours Professor Stevenson's contribution to the work of the University and also his commitment to promoting science to a wider audience, exemplified by his instrumental role as Chair of Sensation Science Centre.

Image above shows left to right; Professor Tim Hales, Pat Stevenson, Professor Graham Ogden, Lynn Dyer, Dr Jon Urch, Public Engagement & Outreach Co-ordinator.



## Top teachers win CASS award

**A project to build the UK's first entirely energy autonomous building in the University's Botanic Gardens and a regular evening virtual get-together for students have been rewarded in the College of Arts and Social Sciences Teaching Awards for 2011-12.**

Two main prizes were awarded, for Innovation In Teaching and for Excellence In Teaching.

Dr Neil Burford and Joseph Thurrott, from Architecture, part of the School of the Environment, were named winners of the Innovation prize, while Lynn Boyle, from the School of Education, Social Work and Community Education, took the Excellence prize.

Dr Burford and Mr Thurrott were named winners of the Innovation prize for their project to build an energy autonomous building. This research led teaching project involves students from across architecture, renewable energy and engineering in developing and delivering the building in the Botanic Garden. The project is designed to mainstream integrated solutions for zero energy buildings thereby enabling Scottish industry to meet the future stringent environmental legislation governing the energy efficiency of buildings.

Crucially it will reinforce the relevance and significantly enhance the quality of existing teaching programmes beyond the scope of the study thereby educating a future generation of energy responsible designers.

The project involves students in the design, development and construction of the building, engaging with a wide spectrum of stakeholders in the building industry, including professional engineering consultancy, statutory consents for Planning and Building Control, manufacturers and suppliers.

In addition, students have worked with research organisations to incorporate highly innovative ideas and technologies within the design. Planning permission was awarded in November and the prototype building will be constructed over the subsequent months.

Lynn Boyle, from the School of Education, Social Work and Community Education, took the Excellence prize for her innovative and engaging approach to working with students on the BA in Childhood Practice programme.

Her teaching involves leading a tutorial/webinar via the Adobe Connect platform every Monday evening, where students can ask questions and meet online to discuss their studies and access an hour lecture on a particular module, study skills or relevant issues. Students know Lynn will be online, giving them access to a tutor and the opportunity to discuss the latest news and issues in childcare.

This is especially important as her students are all employed as early years educators and carers, mainly those who manage childcare centres, and are dispersed throughout the world.

Professor Robert Duck, Deputy Head of the College of Arts and Social Sciences, said, "We have had some great examples of innovation and excellence in teaching across the College but our winners stood out as offering inspiring, innovative and engaging programmes which have been extremely well received by the most important people - our students."

Image above shows left to right; Professor Rob Duck, Dr Neil Burford, Joseph Thurrott, Lynn Boyle and Carey Normand.





## £10m boost for tropical disease research

**The Drug Discovery Unit at the College of Life Sciences has received over £10 million from the Wellcome Trust in the fight against some of the world's most neglected parasitic diseases, including support for a multi-million pound partnership with GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) to discover new drug treatments.**

The Drug Discovery Unit (DDU) will work with GSK's Kinetoplastids Discovery Performance Unit (DPU) at the company's Tres Cantos Medicines Development Campus in Spain.

The goal of the collaboration is to develop safe and affordable treatments for Chagas disease, leishmaniasis and African sleeping sickness, all neglected tropical diseases which kill tens of thousands of people across the developing world every year and are caused, in some cases, by parasites called kinetoplastids.

The partnership's aim is to deliver at least one treatment against one of the diseases in the next five years. It is being supported by a grant of £8.6million from the Wellcome Trust. The funding comes in addition to a recent award of £1.5million by the Wellcome Trust to Professor Alan Fairlamb at the DDU to investigate Chagas disease.

"These parasitic diseases, which afflict millions of people worldwide, are collectively responsible for about 150,000 deaths every year in Asia, Africa and Latin America," said Professor Fairlamb. "The drugs currently used to treat patients are often difficult to administer, have toxic side effects and are not always effective due to drug resistance.

"Better, safer drugs are needed that are cheap and easy to administer, because most of these patients are living in poverty without access to hospitals or clinics."

Significant progress has been made in Dundee towards the development of a new treatment for African sleeping sickness in particular over the past five years, and there have been promising results in identifying potential treatments for leishmaniasis.

"Currently we have a portfolio of discovery projects in various stages of development in African sleeping sickness and visceral leishmaniasis", said Professor Mike Ferguson Dean of the School of Research at the College of Life Sciences. "We have several types of compounds with promising activity in animal models. The next step is to chemically modify these molecules to find the optimal balance of drug-like properties for clinical trials".

Now the expert teams at Dundee and GSK will work together to expand their activities in an integrated, multidisciplinary effort to find effective treatments for the three diseases.

"Having an industry-experienced, multidisciplinary drug discovery team housed alongside world leaders in the biology of these parasites is a major strength of the Drug Discovery Unit and is rare in a UK university," explained Professor Paul Wyatt, Head of the DDU.

"We are very pleased to have GSK as a valued partner in the project. The support from the Wellcome Trust has enabled us to create a powerful team by combining DDU's and GSK's considerable expertise and infrastructure, to accelerate progress towards discovering new drugs for these terrible diseases. We have already forged a very productive partnership and look forward to an exciting and successful future."

Dr Ted Bianco, Director of Technology Transfer at the Wellcome Trust, said, "This significant award from the Wellcome Trust recognises the University's distinguished track record in the area of neglected tropical diseases and its strategic approach to translational research. The partnership with GSK is an exciting and timely development that brings together complementary skills from academia and industry. I applaud both parties for their commitment to global health."

## Researchers investigate brain tumour suppressor



Dr Nick Leslie

**Scientists at the College of Life Sciences have found new ways in which an important tumour suppressor, involved in at least a quarter of all cancers, works.**

The research team led by Dr Nick Leslie has been studying the tumour suppressor protein PTEN, which when 'turned off' or damaged drives the development of many cancers.

By studying brain tumour cells, the team found that some damaged PTEN proteins can still operate in many of their normal ways but importantly lose the ability to stop cancer cells invading the brain.

Brain tumours are particularly deadly, because although they rarely spread outside the brain, by the time they are diagnosed, some cancer cells have usually moved away from the original tumour and infiltrated the surrounding brain tissue. When a surgeon removes the initial tumour, it is often not long before a second tumour grows from the few cancer cells in the surrounding brain tissue.

Dr Leslie's team set up experiments, using a 3D matrix similar to that found between cells in the brain, to investigate this process of how cancer cells invade from a tumour mass into healthy tissue. Their work, published in the journal *Science Signalling*, describes how PTEN controls the way these brain tumour cells grow, change their shape, switch particular genes on and off and importantly how PTEN normally stops this invasion process.

"We know that PTEN has lots of effects on what cells do, but it has proved harder to be certain which of these effects are important in stopping cancer and therefore which ones we should develop drugs to target," said Dr Leslie.

"It is really important we understand the factors driving these cancers, which affect thousands of people every year in the UK."

Dr Leslie said a lot was already known about one way in which PTEN can stop cells growing and dividing, but there have been several hints in the past that there are other undiscovered ways in which PTEN may stop cancers developing.

"In our new work, we've used two similarly damaged versions of PTEN, one of which was found in a tumour, that we show can still do the best recognised things that PTEN does, just as well as normal PTEN protein. However, these damaged proteins have completely lost the ability to stop brain tumours cells invading through a 3D matrix. This implies that in some, and perhaps many, tumours it is not the best known things that PTEN does that explain why it gets damaged, but instead it must be these new ways that PTEN can work that we know much less about."

The work also identified a 'gene signature' (showing which genes are turned on and off in particular cells) that is controlled by PTEN, which links to its control of invasion, but not its best recognised ways of working.

"Interestingly this gene signature also seemed to be recognisable in almost all of a large set of human brain tumour samples that lack or have damaged PTEN, providing more evidence that this new way in which PTEN works may be important in brain tumour development," said Dr Leslie.

"The key goals of future work in this area need to include understanding much more about these new ways in which PTEN can work and whether they show us new ways to develop drugs to treat brain and other tumours."

The work of Dr Leslie and his team has been supported by funding from the Medical Research Council and the Association for International Cancer Research.



## Chief Scientist role for Professor Andrew Morris



**Professor Andrew Morris (pictured), co-Director of the University's Medical Research Institute, has been appointed the new Chief Scientist for Scotland.**

Professor Morris, who is an internationally renowned expert in diabetes and health informatics, succeeds Professor Sir John Savill as Chief Scientist.

Professor Morris leads a research team that uses informatics to improve the quality of care, and the study of the epidemiology and genetics of diabetes and its complications.

He has published over 230 original papers and attracted over £30 million in peer reviewed grant funding. He is the principal investigator on many clinical studies of new therapies and genetics of diabetes, including the Wellcome Trust United Kingdom Case Control Collection for Type 2 Diabetes that has recruited 20,000 individuals, and Generation Scotland, a study of the genetic health in 30,000 Scots.

He was awarded the RD Lawrence Award by Diabetes UK in 2003, the Saltire Society Scottish Science Award in 2005 and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Scotland's national academy of science and letters, and a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

He was appointed by the Minister for Health and Community Care to be Lead Clinician for diabetes in Scotland (2002-2006) and led a national programme of quality improvement in diabetes care. He is a Governor of the Health Foundation and since 2010 has been Convenor of Health Science Scotland, a collaboration between the Universities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dundee, NHS Scotland and Scottish Enterprise, that aims to bring together Scotland's cutting-edge expertise in clinical and biomedical science into a globally competitive cluster.

In 2007 he co-founded Aridhia Informatics, a health care informatics company that now employs 50 people in Edinburgh and Dundee, which is exporting Scottish know how to the United Kingdom, Middle East and Australasia.

"I am delighted and honoured to be joining the Chief Scientist Office at the Scottish Government, and look forward to working with colleagues to take forward the important agenda of health research," he said. "There are great opportunities to translate our outstanding NHS and University research capabilities into improved patient care and economic growth across Scotland."

Professor Sir Harry Burns, Scotland's Chief Medical Officer, welcomed the appointment.

"We are delighted to be able to appoint a researcher of Professor Morris's calibre to the post of Chief Scientist, where he will provide strategic leadership to the Life Sciences research community in Scotland," he said.

"His particular area of expertise of Health Informatics is a growing area of interest both in Scotland and the wider UK and his appointment will further strengthen our position in this, and other clinical areas."

## Chief Dental Officer opens new lab

**A new Integrated Dental Teaching Laboratory in the University's Dental School was officially opened by Miss Margie Taylor, Chief Dental Officer for Scotland in February.**

The University invested £645,000 to refurbish the laboratory which incorporates state of the art audio-visual facilities, allows a greater focus on interactive teaching and enables staff to create and develop innovative teaching programmes for both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Postgraduate students undertaking taught Masters degrees will also be using the facilities for focused programmes of study, as well as dentists and dental care professionals undertaking short courses for their continuing professional development.

Miss Taylor said, "I am delighted to have been invited to visit this fantastic new facility, which will enhance dental training for students, and ensure they have the necessary skills to become part of the dental workforce."

Dr Brendan Scott, Senior Lecturer and Consultant in Restorative Dentistry, said, "The refurbished Integrated Dental Teaching Laboratory, incorporating state of the art audio-visual facilities, will enable staff to create and develop innovative teaching programmes for our undergraduate and postgraduate students."

Professor Mark Hector, Dean of Dentistry, said, "The refurbishment of these labs was made possible with the generous support of the University and has enhanced considerably the environment and facilities for the delivery of theoretical and practical classes for our undergraduate and postgraduate dental students."

## University leads the way in €45M Diabetes project

**Researchers at the University are leading the academic contribution to a 45 million Euro project aimed at improving outcomes for patients with diabetes.**

DIRECT (Diabetes REsearch for patient stratification), a consortium funded by the Innovative Medicines Initiative, brings together scientists and clinicians working in academia with the pharmaceutical industry to tackle the current bottlenecks in diabetes drug development.

It also aims to develop a personalized medicines approach to treatment of Type 2 Diabetes with either existing or novel therapies.

The project includes leading experts from 21 academic institutions and four pharmaceutical research organizations.

Dr Ewan Pearson, from the University's Medical Research Institute is academic lead for the project which also involves the Universities of Oxford, Bath, Exeter and Newcastle and Imperial College London as well as associated partners across Europe.

"There is no doubt that strong collaboration between diabetes clinicians and scientists in academia, and the experts in biomarker and drug discovery, and drug trials, in the pharmaceutical industry will result in improvements in patient care, and that's what DIRECT is all about – better, personalised treatment for patients with diabetes," he said.

The project is supported by the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI), a unique Public Private Partnership (PPP) between the European Union and the pharmaceutical industry (represented by the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations / EFPIA). The EU contributes to this PPP a total of one billion Euro over ten years, which is matched in-kind by the EFPIA member companies.

The aim of the consortium is the discovery, development and application of biomarkers, or tests, that predict who gets diabetes, whose diabetes deteriorates rapidly after diagnosis and who responds well or poorly to diabetes therapy. This will result in the development of new drugs and the better targeting of existing drugs in order to improve outcomes of patients with diabetes.

Meanwhile a new study by researchers at the University has found people with diabetes across all of Scotland's 14 health boards are choosing to manage their own care by accessing and understanding their own medical records.

An analysis of the usage and uptake of the NHS portal "My Diabetes My Way," which was launched in 2010 to enable people with diabetes to access and share medical records with doctors, found that test results were the most popular area.

Key findings were that on average people used the portal nine times and a total of 498 people with diabetes across all of Scotland's 14 health boards registered to access their own information. Patients said that they found the system "timely" and "equitable" as everyone had access to the information. The project aims to have 5,000 people using the portal by the end of next year.

My Diabetes My Way ([www.mydiabetesmyway.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.mydiabetesmyway.scot.nhs.uk)) is the official NHS Scotland portal, which contains key diagnostic information including demographics, laboratory, lifestyle, foot and eye screening results and prescribed medication. Changes can be tracked over time using history graphs and tables.

The system supports the self-management agenda of the Scottish Government and the objectives of the NHS Scotland Healthcare Quality Strategy. The aim is to provide as much information to individuals about their diabetes so that they can better manage their condition during the times when they are not in contact with their healthcare teams.

Lead researcher Scott Cunningham presented his findings at the Diabetes Professional Conference in Glasgow last month.

"We tailor our educational information so it is relevant to the patient at the time they are reviewing their results," he said. "The Scottish Diabetes Survey 2011 is shortly due to publish figures detailing that diabetes prevalence in Scotland is close to the 250,000 mark – nearly 5% of our population – and the burden of the disease on NHS resources continues to escalate. We already know from published research that diabetes in Scotland accounts for around 12% of hospital inpatient costs."

Simon O'Neill, Director of Care, Policy and Intelligence at Diabetes UK, added: "Diabetes is a lifelong condition and people with diabetes have to manage their condition every day of the year.

"It is estimated that nearly 50,000 people in Scotland are living with Diabetes who do not know it. A further 620,000 are estimated to be at risk of developing Diabetes. It's therefore vital that the NHS empowers people to engage in their own care.

"The portal system allows people to keep a closer eye on the management of their own health. The work that is being done in Dundee is making a huge difference to people's lives all the time and is absolutely vital for the progression of care of people with diabetes. The fact that people with all of Scotland's 14 health boards accessed My Diabetes My Way shows progress is already being made for people to manage their own care and it is being made easier for them to do so."



## Geddes-inspired Masters degree to be launched

**A new Masters degree aimed at helping design professionals learn how to plan, develop and deliver sustainable urban environments is to be launched in the Autumn.**

The MSc in Advanced Sustainable Urban Design will draw heavily on the work of the pioneering biologist, sociologist and town planner Patrick Geddes, who held the Chair of Botany at what was then University College Dundee from 1889-1914.

Among his many achievements, Geddes devised a means of representing the inter-relationships between the natural and built environments, and the social, cultural, economic and political life of communities living in, and around, cities.

This notion of 'sustainable urbanism' advocated by Geddes is particularly significant in an increasingly globalising world, where mobility of people has widened choices of where they live and work.

Taking on these themes, the new Masters, offered by the University's School of the Environment, will meet the need for an urban design programme that enables professionals to understand, evaluate and design places. They will be equipped with the skills and confidence to contemplate alternative futures, reflect on current design practices, and implement grand visions.

Course Director Dr Deepak Gopinath said the aim of the programme is to develop outstanding urban design professionals.

"The changing nature of urban living, ecological pressures, and the tension between the natural and built environments means there is a clear need to reconsider urban design," he said,

"Patrick Geddes' pioneering work in sustainable urbanism is timeless as it points to an alternative form of design and development, one where the natural and man-made can live together in harmony. It provides a good starting place for the advancement of skills for an urban design profession.

"Equally, with £1 billion waterfront regeneration work taking place in the heart of the city of Dundee, there are ample opportunities to understand the inter-relationships between 'discourse' and 'practice' in shaping high quality places."

The MSc Advanced Sustainable Urban Design programme consists of core modules in Discourses in Urban Design, Spatial Analysis, Sustainability in Contemporary Cities, and Urban Design Practice and Master Planning. A range of elective modules will be offered including Space and Security, Sustainability Assessment, and Environmental Change Monitoring.

More information is available by visiting [www.dundee.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/advanced\\_sustainable\\_urban\\_design\\_msc.htm](http://www.dundee.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/advanced_sustainable_urban_design_msc.htm) or emailing Dr Gopinath on [d.gopinath@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:d.gopinath@dundee.ac.uk). Admission queries should be sent to [postgrad-admissions@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:postgrad-admissions@dundee.ac.uk).



## NEW MASTERS DEGREE IN FORENSICS LAUNCHED

**A new postgraduate programme aimed at those aspiring to a career in forensic anthropology has been launched by the University's Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification.**

The MSc in Anatomy and Advanced Forensic Anthropology will welcome its first students in September and offer them advanced training in subject areas which meet current professional requirements but which are not collectively available at any other institution in the world.

"This course dovetails perfectly with the growing professionalisation of forensic anthropology in the United Kingdom and builds on our reputation as an international centre of excellence in the field," said Professor Sue Black, Director of CAHID.

"We can offer a unique range of advanced practical skills and theoretical understanding here at Dundee. We are the only UK University with access to Thiel cadavers, so students work with a resource that closely mimics live presentation. A detailed understanding of soft tissue anatomy is a vital skill when working in Disaster Victim Identification (DVI).

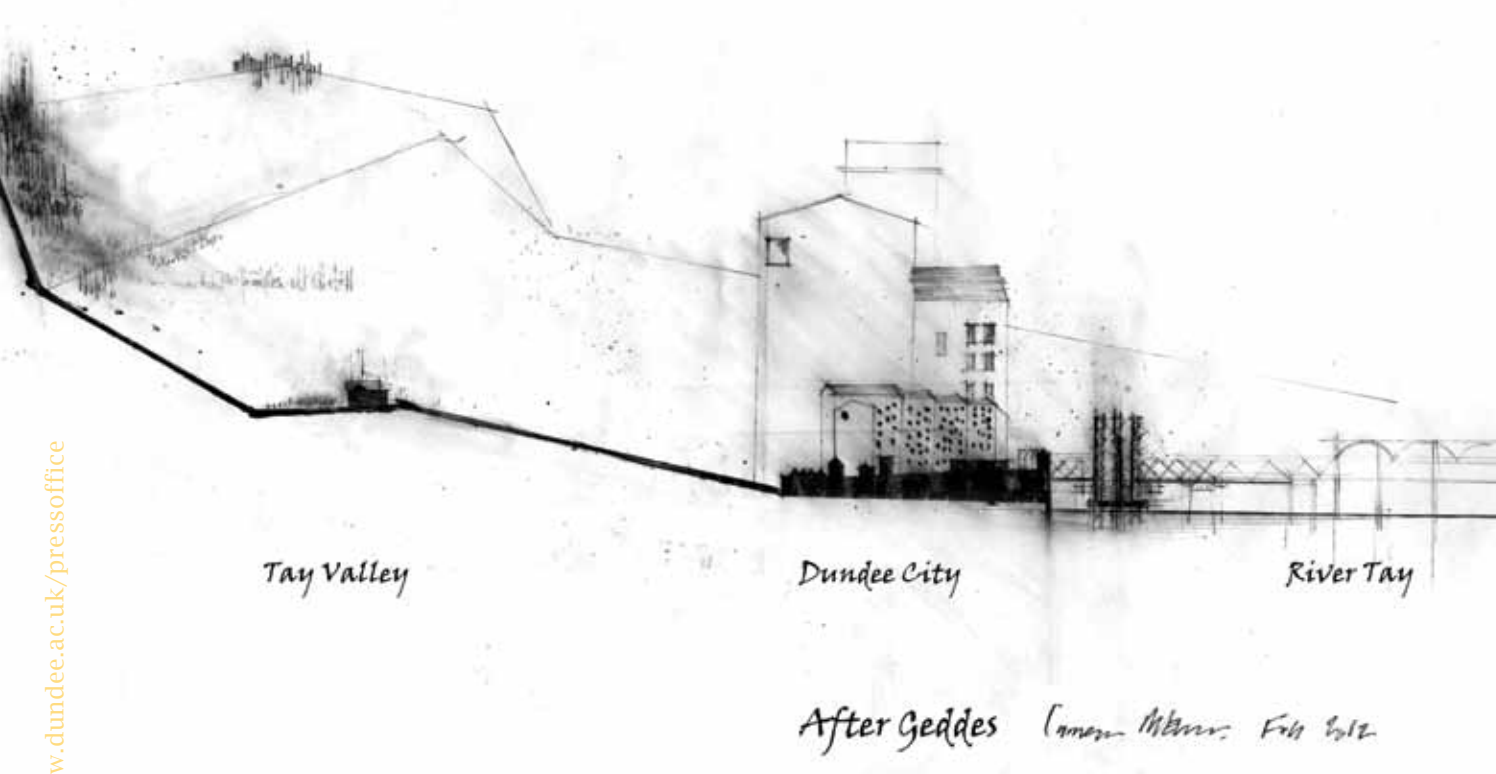
"CAHID received a police commendation for its training programme in DVI to the UK national team, and this expertise will also form a part of the intensive training programme.

"Analysis of juvenile remains is an advanced skill for which the Centre has a global reputation. We offer hands-on practical experience through access to the irreplaceable Scheuer collection of juvenile remains via teachers who authored the key text on this subject."

An articulation agreement has already been signed with a US university - Radford in Virginia - and students will be welcomed to Dundee in September of 2012. This collaboration arose through their staff attending the two week professional summer programme in juvenile osteology which is held every July in Dundee and run by Dr Craig Cunningham.

Along with the opportunity to gain advanced skills, the new MSc programme offers work placement internships for the best students.

"We are one of the premier centres internationally for forensic anthropology education and research," said Professor Black. "What this new programme is specifically aiming to do is to prepare students for the enormous leap from academic study into professional practice and provide a launching pad for the multi-skilled forensic anthropologists of the future."





# A snapshot of campus life

**A weekly photographic competition aimed at portraying the varying aspects of life at the University has resulted in a stunning collection of almost 1000 images.**

Launched last September the competition invites photographs on a different theme each week with the aim of providing the University with a gallery of pictures to share with prospective students and use on websites and publications.

One submission has already made it on to the front cover of the 2013 undergraduate prospectus while another provided the image for the University Christmas card. Others have also featured on the University website.

Dr Ramanee Peiris, one of the competition organisers based in Admissions and Student Recruitment, is delighted with the response from students and staff so far but is hoping more people will be inspired to submit their own photographs.

“We have had some really fantastic images submitted since the competition began,” she said. “The idea was to build up a collection of images of University life and of the campus which we can share with prospective students and we have been delighted with the response.

“We would really like to encourage more people to enter however, especially members of staff. Some have been here for a long time and know the University so well and it would be great to see their take on some of the themes particularly some of the course-related ones.

“We want to know what goes on inside lectures, tutorials etc and we’d love to see how staff and students would visually show someone what they do.

“We’re always looking for really good ways of illustrating the courses we offer and it is the staff who are teaching, and the students who are studying who have the best knowledge in terms of what accurately reflects their courses.”

Ramanee added that she is also keen to hear from staff members who would be interested in using photographs submitted to the competition in their own promotional materials.

“We have built up a wealth of very high quality, creative images and it is a resource to be shared,” she said.

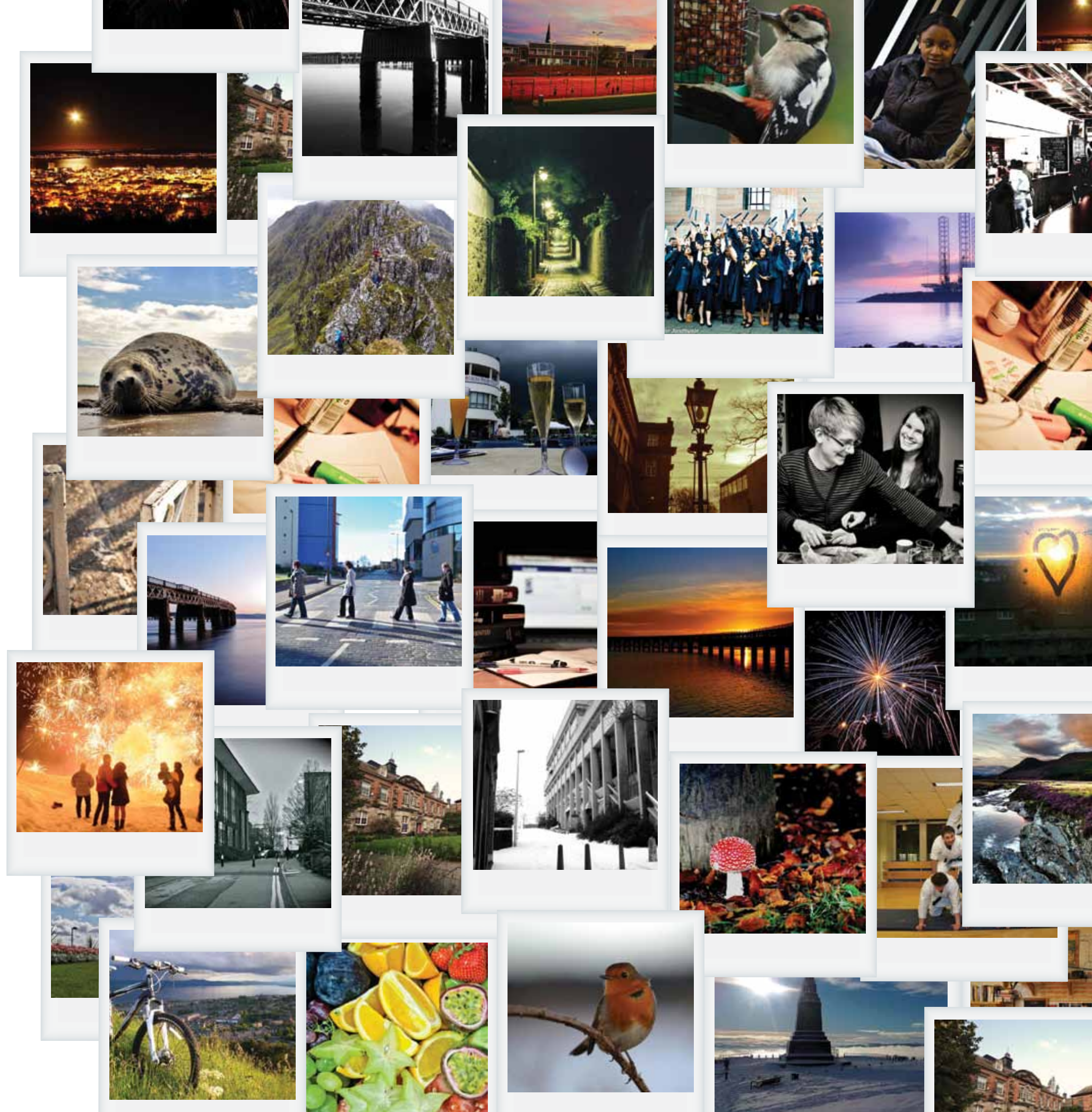
Each week’s competition invites entries on a different theme. This semester’s themes have included “winter,” “team work,” “fees and funding,” “how I study,” “Green campus,” and what entrants would like to see on the front cover of the prospectus.

The entries are added to an album on the University’s Facebook page and staff choose a weekly winner who receives a 2GB pen drive. At the end of each semester there is a public vote to choose the overall winner who receives a cash prize of £50.

“Some of the themes are more popular than others,” explained Ramanee. “The prospectus and winter themes both attracted lots of entries and the How I study theme resulted in really fresh take on studying which is exactly what we’re looking for.”

Although the last competition of the semester ended on 28 March there will still be a chance to vote until the end of April by visiting the Facebook page. There will then be a new set of themes to cover the summer months.

For more information on the competition including tips on how to enter visit the Student Services website at: [www.dundee.ac.uk/student-services/photocomp/tips.htm](http://www.dundee.ac.uk/student-services/photocomp/tips.htm)





# Portrait of a scientist

For Janice Aitken, lecturer in art, media and illustration at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, portraiture, whether painted or photographic, is about capturing the spirit of the subject and telling something of the story of their life.

So when she set about her latest project photographing female scientists as part of this year's Women in Science Festival, her aim was to offer a glimpse of the individuals behind the careers in the hope that it might inspire future generations to follow their lead.

Working in collaboration with Zoe Venditozzi, writer and graduate of the University's Masters programme in Creative Writing, Janice photographed thirteen local scientists, researchers and technicians all at different stages of their careers and in different fields of expertise from molecular microbiology to artificial intelligence.

The portraits were unveiled at an exhibition at the Dalhousie Building in March and featured in a companion publication highlighting each scientist's biography, background and motivation.

"The main aim of the project was to provide positive role models to encourage girls and young women to choose careers in science, technology, engineering and maths," explained Janice.

"We wanted to show that these women may be high achievers but they are all people with a story of their own. We wanted to show the women behind the careers and encourage a new generation to see what is possible, what can be done and to believe that this is achievable.

"It was really important that the women are at all levels and stages of their careers so there are professors, researchers and technicians. What they have in common is an enthusiasm for what they do that I personally found inspiring and I hope others will too."

Janice, whose work has been commissioned for The Lancet, National Geographic online and the Science Museum in London, has been involved in the Women in Science Festival for the past few years and is a member of the organising committee. It was while discussing ways of celebrating women working in science in Tayside and Fife that the idea of the portrait project took shape.

It resulted in Janice and Zoe meeting, interviewing and photographing scientists and technicians from the University as well as the James Hutton Institute in Invergowrie and the Universities of Abertay and St Andrews.

The project has had unexpected benefits for Janice who is now looking forward to working with a number of the women she photographed.

"What surprised me was how much fun the project was and it has proved very, very worthwhile me," she said. "I met many very interesting and inspirational women but I also made a lot of contacts for future collaborations. I already collaborate with Professor Caroline Wilkinson - I worked with her on the Bach reconstruction - but this has opened up new possibilities for using digital skills to interpret scientific images."

The Women in Science book is published by DUP. For more information contact the DUP Office on 01382 384413 or via [dup@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:dup@dundee.ac.uk)



Photo Credit, David Aitken

Women in Science from left to right; Betty Dolan, Professor Jan Clarkson, Dr Karen Petrie, Professor Tracy Palmer, Professor Caroline Wilkinson, Dr Maria Ana Cataluna, Professor Lesley Torrance, Dr Nia White and Dr Victoria Cowling.





## Gender reading gap closing suggests new study

**A new report by Professor Keith Topping, from the University's School of Education, Social Work and Community Education, into the reading habits of over 210,000 British schoolchildren has shown that the difference in abilities between girls and boys reading appears to be closing.**

The annual report, 'What Kids Are Reading 2012', written by Professor Topping and published by Renaissance Learning, included 1,237 schools and shows that although in some academic years girls are continuing to outperform boys, on balance across all years, the reading gender divide is closing.

The difference between boys' and girls' reading performance has been widely acknowledged, but for the first time, the report has found that girls are not always outperforming boys, and that girls are no longer choosing to read harder books than boys of the same age.

However, the reading preferences of girls and boys continue to be very different, with boys showing more interest than girls do in non-fiction, especially in the secondary years.

Professor Topping, who is Professor of Education and Social Research at the University, revealed that the results of this year's report were something of a surprise.

"Previous reports had found boys' difficulty level in terms of self-selected books lagged behind girls so we were surprised this year to find that it had caught up," he said.

"This is most encouraging and reflects the efforts of teachers and librarians to encourage boys to read more challenging books. However, it does not tell us anything about boys' reading of books they are told to read or their performance on standardised reading tests, where they may still be under-performing in relation to girls.

"We also did an analysis of the books children liked best. The difficulty of the books they liked best after reading them was far ahead of the difficulty of all books. Thus if children really like a book, they will deal with higher levels of challenge successfully. Teachers and librarians need to pay more attention to what children say about the books they read, and stock libraries accordingly.

"I think that the finding that boys' difficulty is the same as girls' when reading self-selected books is important in the light of the on-going concern about male reading standards. It suggests that a way to raise male reading standards on books they have not chosen to read is through working on motivation and purposes for reading."

Professor Topping has been involved with the Renaissance UK reading report for the past four years. His main research focus is peer learning and other forms of non-professional tutoring in core skills such as reading, spelling, writing, thinking skills, science, maths and IT. He also has interests in computer aided assessment, peer assessment and formative assessment.

**"This is most encouraging and reflects the efforts of teachers and librarians to encourage boys to read more challenging books"**



## Exceptional PhD students sought for Dundee Hub

**A groundbreaking project led by the University is offering a number of graduates the opportunity to launch their academic career while helping to transform Scotland's economy.**

Ten postgraduate places have been created as part of the £16million 'Knowledge Exchange (KE) Hubs in the Creative Economy' programme, which seeks to bring creativity and commerce together in the name of fulfilling the nation's business potential.

The Dundee-led project is supported by creative businesses, including SMEs, arts and culture organisations and other agencies, and has received almost £5million funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and other bodies.

Two of the positions will be based at the University, which was last year named as one of four Hubs across the UK, leading a consortium of Scottish institutions, which will also host two PhD posts each.

Working at the cutting edge of commerce, the Hubs have been charged with the task of building new partnerships and entrepreneurial capacity in the creative economy. They are also seeking to increase the number of arts and humanities researchers actively engaged in research-based knowledge exchange.

The 10 PhD posts represent a significant part of the research portfolio and will form a peer group with the collective task of understanding design at a strategic level. Candidates should hold a first degree at undergraduate level or have a proven track record of working continuously within industry for at minimum of three years.

"We are delighted that the first round of recruitment is under way for this project, and the PhD candidates will work at the very heart of a project that will have a major impact on the creative industries and academia across Scotland," said Professor Georgina Follett, Deputy Principal of the University, who is heading the project.

"It will push design into areas it has not traditionally been associated with, such as sport, wellbeing, rural economics, and food and diet. It will reinforce the idea that design is not just about a beautiful product, it is something that can effect change in wider society."

As the major focus of AHRC's new knowledge exchange and impact strategy for 2011-2015, the Hubs will encourage significant interactions between research and the Creative Economy which will generate wider social, economic and cultural benefits.

Speaking as funding for the project was announced last year, Scottish Education Minister Michael Russell MSP said, "Scotland is a creative nation with a rich heritage, contributing to the world as a modern dynamic country.

"Culture and creativity deliver significant benefits for the people of Scotland. Our world leading creative industries support 60,000 jobs and generate £5.2 billion each year for the Scottish economy."

More information about these posts, and how to apply for them, is available at [www.dundee.ac.uk/djcad/news/2012/03/ahrcstudentships](http://www.dundee.ac.uk/djcad/news/2012/03/ahrcstudentships)

## Fairtrade Fortnight appeals to shoppers



**A Malawian farmer added his support to the University's Fairtrade Fortnight last month when he gave a talk at the D'Arcy Thompson Lecture Theatre**

**explaining how shoppers can help transform the lives of people in the developing world.**

Masauko Khembo of Kashinthula Cane Growers Ltd in Malawi revealed how Fairtrade-certified goods enable producers to escape poverty and contribute to the development of their countries.

Environment and Sustainability officer Trudy Cunningham said she was delighted Mr Khembo had visited the University to discuss the benefits of receiving a fair price for goods, and how the choices of shoppers in the developed world impact on people across the globe.

"Fairtrade Fortnight is part of a wider effort by the University to promote and sustain fairer trade alternatives, but no matter how much we bang the drum, hearing from someone whose life has been directly affected has more impact," she said.

"Fairtrade foods are already available in all campus shops and are used in all cafes, restaurants and bars on campus. Buying Fairtrade goods helps provide support through trade for marginalised farmers in the developing world.

"A few extra pence on your shopping bill can help to implement and to constantly reassess standards regarding the workers rights on issues such as working conditions, wages, child labour and the environment.

"Fairtrade Fortnight is aimed at reminding people of the benefits of Fairtrade and having fun at the same time."

Fairtrade Fortnight ran from the end of February into March and included film screenings, taste tests and information stalls.



# IGNITE

A 10-day celebration of  
creativity and culture across  
Dundee, Angus and Fife



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

17-27 May 2012

PREVIEWS  
DESIGN  
OPEN STUDIOS  
EXHIBITIONS  
DANCE  
DRAMA  
WORKSHOPS  
LITERATURE  
TALKS

## Leading role for Degree Show at Ignite 2012

A ten day festival of creativity and culture across Dundee, Angus and Fife will provide the platform for graduating students from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design to showcase their work next month.

Ignite 2012 builds on the success of last year's "Ignite Your Weekend" programme, which attracted more than 15,000 people to events in Dundee.

This year cultural organisations from across Tayside and Fife will combine for a ten day celebration of art, literature, design, dance, theatre and craft.

Leading the celebrations will be students from DJCAD who will be hosting their Degree Show 2012 for the duration of the festival.

Students from 11 different degree programmes will have the chance to demonstrate their creativity and talent at the event which has proved to be one of the annual highlights of Dundee's cultural calendar.

Joining the students at Ignite 2012 will be artists and writers at venues across Dundee, Angus and Fife.

Highlights include the V&A at Dundee annual keynote lecture on Saturday 19 May at the Dalhousie Building, a talk by best-selling thriller writer Jeffery Deaver in support of the University's Million For A Morgue Campaign on Sunday 27 May and the launch of Professor Kirsty Gunn's new novel *The Big Music* on Thursday 24 May.

The "Ignite" idea stems from the Dundee.com campaign of the same name and arose as a result of the desire for cultural organisations large and small to work together to raise the profile of the region and increase visitor numbers.

"The forthcoming arrival of V&A at Dundee has shone a spotlight on cultural activity in and around Dundee and Ignite 2012 is a great way of celebrating and highlighting the region's thriving creative sector," said Philip Long, Director of V&A at Dundee.

"There is a genuine culture of collaboration and support across the cultural sector here, and V&A at Dundee is proud to be a part of this. Through Ignite we hope to put the area well and truly on the cultural map, helping to transform outdated perceptions and show the region for the cultural hotbed that it has become.

"This year's festival is just a snapshot of the kind of activity that 'Ignites' the city and wider region on a regular basis and we hope that it will encourage new visitors to the city as well as providing a great programme for local audiences to enjoy."

A full programme of events will be published over the next month, with news and additions highlighted on the main V&A at Dundee website, Facebook and Twitter.

Ignite 2012 is a partner event of Visit Scotland's 'Year of Creative Scotland' programme.





## RSA success for Dundee graduates

**Four graduates from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design (DJCAD) have won prizes at this year's prestigious New Contemporaries exhibition at the Royal Scottish Academy.**

Twelve graduates from DJCAD and one graduate of the School of Architecture were chosen to exhibit a selection of new work alongside other young artists and architects from across Scotland.

Members of the RSA selected the graduates to feature based on the quality of their exhibits at last year's Degree Show. A total of 62 graduates from higher education institutions across Scotland were chosen to display their work at New Contemporaries, with a number of coveted prizes awarded to exhibiting artists and architects.

The DJCAD winners were Louise Pearson, who received £400 and the Maclaine Watters medal for winning the RSA Art Prize, Emma McGregor (£200 for the RSA Carnegie Scholarship), Lisa Birch (£150 for the RSA Landscape Award), and Suzanna Clark (£150 for the RSA Chalmers-Jervise Prize).

Professor Tom Inns, Dean of DJCAD, praised the achievement of the winners and other graduates chosen to exhibit.

"It is no small feat to be selected as among the best of your national peer group, and all the graduates will benefit from the exposure that RSA New Contemporaries brings," he said.

"I said at the time of last year's degree show that it was a vintage year for DJCAD, and this has been borne out by the number of artists chosen to exhibit, and the awards they have won.

"They have proven to be some of the country's best emerging artists, and we will be keeping a close eye on how their careers develop in years to come."

The other DJCAD graduates who exhibited at New Contemporaries 2012 were Daniel Cook, Aimée Henderson, Rose Hendry, Holly Keasey, Hannah Imlach, Claire McDonald, Neil Nodzak, and Claire Reid. Architecture graduate Luca Di Somma was also chosen to exhibit.

RSA New Contemporaries is a curated annual exhibition, now in its fourth year, that evolved from the long-standing RSA Annual Student Exhibition which was first held in 1976. It marks the RSA's commitment to presenting and supporting the best contemporary art in Scotland.

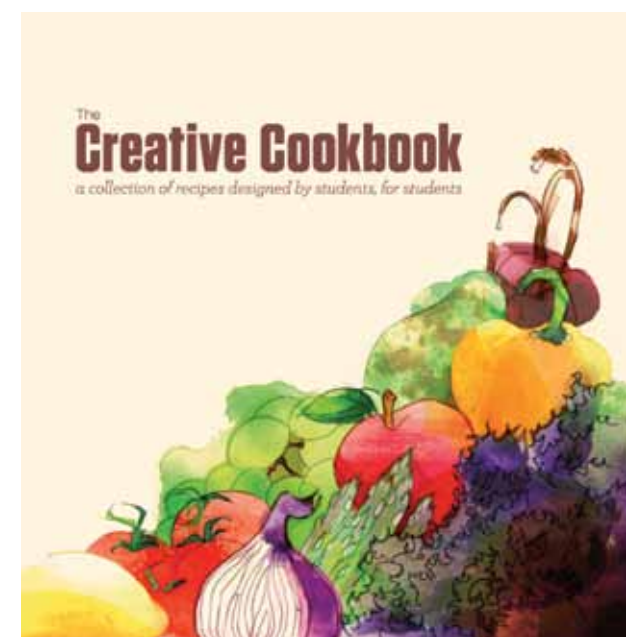
The revamped exhibition was held in all 12 of the magnificent RSA galleries, and gives each artist the opportunity to showcase a selection of new work, providing a more comprehensive representation of their practice. Works included painting, sculpture, film making, photography, printmaking, architecture and installation.

RSA representatives will once more visit Degree Shows at all colleges of art and architecture in Scotland this year, selecting the finest emerging artists and architects in the country for next year's exhibition.

RSA New Contemporaries ran at the Royal Scottish Academy on The Mound in Edinburgh until 11 April 11.

Image above shows work by Emma McGregor.

## Hollywood star supports students' cookbook



**A diabetic-friendly recipe for Apple Tart provided by Hollywood star Brian Cox features in a new cookbook produced by Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design students to raise funds for food security projects in the developing world.**

University Rector Brian contributed one of the 60 recipes in 'The Creative Cookbook'. The publication was created by Illustration, Animation and Graphic Design students as part of their Level 2 Communications Design module.

For the module, the students explored food in its widest context, examining issues such as farm production, food security, scientific food research and climate change. An exhibition of their work entitled 'The Living Field' was displayed at the Matthew Gallery, DJCAD, in March.

The Creative Cookbook has been produced by students, for students, and all proceeds will go to Signpost International, a charity empowering people in Africa and Asia to grow their own food, enabling the future sustainability of many communities in the developing world.

Brian Cox's involvement came after he was approached by Module Leader Jackie Malcolm and asked to contribute a recipe. The diabetic actor is keen to raise awareness of the risks posed by sugar consumption, and said he was delighted to provide the recipe, which his mother regularly made when he was a boy growing up in Dundee.

"It's easy to make," he said. "All you need is very thinly sliced cooking apples, cinnamon, short crust pastry, milk and sugar, or agave syrup for diabetics.

Make sure you stew the apples and then add the agave and a little cinnamon. Roll the short crust pastry into the dish, spoon the apple mixture in, cover it and glaze it with milk."

Jackie Malcolm praised the students for their hard work in producing both the cookbook and the exhibition.

"The students have worked very hard on a very complex project involving many aspects of food research," she said.

"The cookbook they have produced will help to make a difference to people who do not have the same food choice as they do and will help them to nurture communities desperate for the simple basic food products to live.

"The involvement of many different partners has made this project multidimensional in its understanding of food, and we are very grateful to them for the contribution they have made to the project. This exhibition is the result of all their hard work and demonstrates the possibilities of communication design."

The James Hutton Institute, Biosphere Research Institute, Newton of Arbirlot Farm, and Signpost International are among the organizations who assisted the students during the module.

The cookbooks are on sale for £5 and all proceeds will be donated to Signpost International. Copies can be purchased from the John Smith Bookshop on the University campus, or by contacting Jackie Malcolm on j.y.malcolm@dundee.ac.uk.



## New comic anthology launched



**An anthology of work from aspiring comic and graphic artists from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design (DJCAD) launched last month (March).**

Anthology One showcases the range of creative work from the Comic Art and Graphic Novels module undertaken by Animation, Graphic Design and Illustration students. The 72-page, full colour comic is published by 'UniVerse', a new imprint specially created to provide exposure for the students' work.

The cover for Anthology One was provided by top comic artist Colin MacNeil, an alumnus of DJCAD. He was one of a number of leading industry professionals who hosted workshops with the students as part of the module.

Lecturer Phillip Vaughan, who designed the module, praised the students for producing such high-quality work.

"We created UniVerse to promote and publish up-and-coming work from the next generation of comic creators," he said. "This is the best of the work from the first cohort of the module and the standard is there for all to see."

"Level 3 undergraduates from the Animation, Illustration, and Graphic Design programmes completed this work over a 12-week period, and we now plan to roll the module out to other areas of DJCAD. The Comic Art and Graphic Novels module is beneficial in a number of areas as it teaches students to think about their work differently and tailor their talents in a specific direction."

"Anthology One provides an opportunity for them to enhance practical skills related to the creation of comics, and it is a publication that will appeal to fans of the genre."

The anthology, a joint venture between DJCAD and the School of Humanities, is the first in a series featuring work from across the range of comics modules offered at the University.

The pioneering MLitt in Comic Studies programme, launched last September, is the first postgraduate degree of its kind in the UK. An undergraduate module focusing on contemporary British comic writers and graphic novelists is also taught by Dr Chris Murray, one of the UK's foremost authorities on the subject and the organiser of the comics conference, which takes place as part of the Dundee Literary Festival each year.

"This is an exciting time for Comics Studies at Dundee, and the DJCAD module has been hugely successful," said Dr Murray. "The results are impressive, and the students clearly benefited from workshops with the industry professionals, which formed part of the module."

"Comics and graphic novels are becoming an increasingly important form of literature, art and field of study, and hopefully we'll see some of the artists featured in Anthology One progress to our MLitt course."

Anthology One also features the winning strips from the first Dundee Comics Prize (also known as The Tartan Bucket Prize), which was awarded at the Dundee Comics Day in October 2011.

It is priced at £5.95. For information, or to order a copy, please email: [universecomic@gmail.com](mailto:universecomic@gmail.com)

## Gold medal success for DJCAD trio



**A trio of Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design students have struck gold in a competition to design medals which will be awarded to recognise excellence in medical education research.**

The competition run by the Association for the Study of Medical Education (ASME) challenged Year 3 students from the Jewellery and Metal Design programme at DJCAD to design a new medal to be presented annually to a scientist from around the world who has made an outstanding contribution to the goals of the organisation.

Alasdair Taylor (24), from Ayrshire, won first prize and £400 for his design for the prestigious ASME Gold Medal, which will be made later this year and presented to winners of the award for the next five years.

Grant Herron (26), from Dundee, also received £400 after winning the President's Medal category, while 21-year-old Kirsty Nicholson, originally from Glasgow, won £100 after being named runner-up in the Gold Medal competition.

Jewellery & Metal Design course director Teena Ramsay congratulated the trio on their achievements, saying, "The students all presented designs of a very high standard that displayed exciting possibilities. The judging panel were equally impressed by what they saw."

"Working to a brief and budget is very challenging but also rewarding and helps the students develop a professional practice within the client arena. Both the Gold Medal and President's Medal will be made five times, and the ASME have said they will ask our students to compete to design replacement medals in another five years time."

ASME seeks to improve the quality of medical education by bringing together individuals and organisations with interests and responsibilities in medical and healthcare education. Professor Ronald Harden, from the University's Medical School, was the 2009 winner of the Gold Medal.

Judges from the organisation were so impressed by Alasdair Taylor's design that they are looking to use it as a potential future logo for the association.

## Hawkhill House listed by Historic Scotland

**Historic Scotland has recognised the significant heritage value of Hawkhill House, the home of Museum Services at the University, by making it a listed building.**

The 18th century villa, located to the rear of the Crawford Building and adjacent to the University's tennis courts, has been named as a category C building in acknowledgement of its importance to the city's built heritage.

Hawkhill House was originally built in the late-1700s, with alterations made in the middle of the next century. Significant sums have been invested in recent years, with extensive work to the building's exterior walls and roof to ensure it remained fit for purpose as a functioning part of the estate and reflected its historical importance.

It was the childhood home of Professor Sir James Alfred Ewing, the first Professor of Mechanical Engineering at what was then University College Dundee and a key member of the team who helped break wartime German codes.

Matthew Jarron, Head of Museum Services, has been trying to have Hawkhill House listed for several years.

"This is wonderful news," he said. "Ever since we moved into Hawkhill House seven years ago I've been fascinated by its history and its many beautiful architectural features."

As well as being the childhood home of Professor Ewing it has many other intriguing stories - though I've still yet to see the ghost!"

The criteria by which candidates for listed status are measured include their age and rarity, architectural interest and close historical associations. Among the features of Hawkhill House noted by Historic Scotland are decorative iron railings and a fanlight above the main door.

Inside, the original room plan is largely intact, with ornamental cornicing, an Adam-style chimney piece and a curving stair with decorative iron balusters.

The listing document said, "Hawkhill House is the last surviving example of the large, freestanding villas which formerly characterised this area of Dundee in the late 18th and 19th centuries. A building at this location appears named on William Crawford's map of Dundee of 1777."

"The building largely retains its classical profile with symmetrical principal elevation, fenestration pattern and steeply pitched roof. The interior retains an early room plan on both principal floors, and a number of decorative features survive."

Tours of Hawkhill House will be conducted as part of the Festival of Museums weekend on 18th-20th May. More information is available from <http://festivalofmuseums.com/hawkhill-house-guided-tour/>



## D'Arcy Thompson impact celebrated



Two art exhibitions will open in the Tower Building at the end of April as part of a two-year project to celebrate the influence of the University's first Professor of Biology on the visual arts.

The University's Museum Services were awarded £100,000 in January by the Art Fund as part of their RENEW scheme, to build a collection of art inspired by D'Arcy Thompson.

In the Tower Foyer Gallery, the exhibition Coded Chimera features the results of an AHRC-funded research project by sculptor Bruce Gernand, who teaches at Central St Martins (part of the University of the Arts London). Gernand's project was developed in association with the Natural History Museum and the Cambridge Computer Lab and explores the ideas of morphogenesis (the study of biological dynamics) pioneered by D'Arcy Thompson.

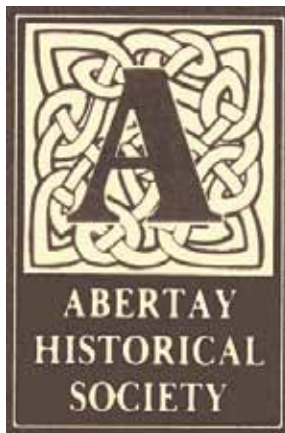
The sculptures, models and diagrams shown in the exhibition (which was first staged at the University of Cambridge last year) make connections between the process of sculpture and the principles of biological dynamics.

Upstairs in the Lamb Gallery, three artists present their own responses to the collection displayed in the D'Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum and to D'Arcy's ideas and writings.

Professor Roger Wilson (Head of Fine Art at the Glasgow School of Art) has invited fellow artists B E Cole and Stuart MacKenzie to join him in an exhibition called Heresies, a term D'Arcy himself used to describe the controversial theories that he would publish in his seminal work On Growth and Form.

Both exhibitions run from 27 April to 16 June. On 19 May a special drawing workshop will be held in the D'Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum to accompany the shows. Visit [www.dundee.ac.uk/museum](http://www.dundee.ac.uk/museum) for further information.

## Historical Society Celebrates 65th Anniversary



One of Scotland's best known local history societies, with strong links to the University, celebrates its 65th anniversary next month.

The Abertay Historical Society was founded on 29th May 1947 at what was then University College, Dundee by Principal Major-General Douglas Neil Wimberley and History lecturer Dr Wainwright. Its aim was to promote the study of local history in Dundee, Angus, Perthshire and Fife.

Since then the society has maintained its strong University links. The Principal is among its Honorary Presidents and several past presidents and office bearers have been staff or graduates of the University.

The current AHS Council includes Dr William Kenefick from the School of Humanities, Dr Kenneth Baxter from Archive Services, Dr Jan Merchant from the Centre for Archive and Information Studies and Matthew Jarron, the University Museum Curator who is its General Secretary.

The lectures held by the Abertay have given staff and students and opportunity to present their research to a wide cross section of the local community.

As well as holding regular lectures, the Society usually publishes at least one publication on an aspect of local history each year.

Many of these volumes have been written by University staff or post-graduates including Professor Chris Whatley, and are widely used by students and academics.

The Society also awards a prize to the undergraduate history dissertation which has made the greatest contribution to local history. The extensive archives of the AHS are held by Archive Services.

The society will celebrate its anniversary at its annual general meeting at Discovery Point on 9 May.

"It's a great pleasure to be involved with a society that has such a distinguished history," said Matthew Jarron.

"We continue to provide a stimulating programme of talks for our members and at our AGM on 9 May Prof Richard Oram of the University of Stirling will be giving us an environmental history of the Upper Glen Almond valley.

"Our publications also make important local research available to the public and many of the authors have been University of Dundee staff or alumni. Anyone interested in joining the society can contact me on [museum@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:museum@dundee.ac.uk)"

More information can also be found at: [www.abertay.org.uk/](http://www.abertay.org.uk/)

## From the Archives: The Titanic 100 years on

10th April marked the 100th anniversary of one of history's most infamous disasters – the sinking of RMS Titanic on its maiden voyage. One of the more unusual items held in the University Archives is a copy of the Daily Mirror from 16th April, from the Sydney Scroggie Collection, which reported the disaster.

What is remarkable about this edition of the paper is that it reported the Titanic's collision with an iceberg but, with tragic irony, informed its readers that all the passengers were safe, having been taken off the ship and transferred to other liners, which had responded to a wireless distress signal. It was further reported that the damaged vessel was being towed to port in Nova Scotia by the Allan liner Virginia.

By chance a copy of the next day's edition of the same newspaper survives in another collection, Royal Liff Hospital. This reveals the much more tragic truth that 1,300 passengers had almost certainly perished and that her captain was among those who had drowned. Many notable individuals including J. J. Astor, one of the richest men in the world, and the journalist W. T. Stead were unaccounted for, presumed dead.

Later it emerged that the SS Californian might have been close enough to come to the ship's aid in time to save lives. For years there has been controversy about exactly how close the two ships were and whether the Californian's captain acted correctly during that terrible night. Californian was built in Dundee, the largest ship to be built in the city, and its details are recorded in the notebooks of John P. Ingram, a shipping historian, also held by Archive Services.

The University Archives are open to all students, staff and the public for teaching support and research. The collections hold a range of published newspapers and local magazines including the late eighteenth century Dundee Weekly Magazine, an interesting mix of international news and local gossip, the Dundee produced political magazine Tocsin praised by Keir Hardie as 'sane and high class journalism', and the University's own publications. For more information on the archive and special collections held in the University Archives see [www.dundee.ac.uk/archives](http://www.dundee.ac.uk/archives)



**TITANIC'S WIRELES**

**46,000-Ton Ship, with 2,300 Aboard, in Peril.**

**EVERYONE SAFE.**

**Morning of Suspense Ends in Message of Relief.**

**PASSENGERS TAKEN OFF.**

**Helpless Giant Being Towed to Port by Allan Liner.**

The White Star liner Titanic, the greatest ship the world has ever known, has met with disaster on her maiden voyage.

She left Southampton on Wednesday last and carried about 2,300 passengers and crew on board, with 3,400 sacks of mails.

On Sunday she came into collision with an iceberg, and immediately flashed out wireless messages for help.

Many steamers rushed to her aid, but her fate and that of the thousands on board remained in doubt on both sides of the Atlantic for many hours.

It was at length known that every soul was safe, and that the vessel itself was proceeding to Halifax (Nova Scotia), towed by the Allan liner Virginian.

All her passengers had by that time been taken aboard two of the liners that hurried to the scene in reply to the wireless message.



## court news

Discussions at the meeting of Court in February were focused on the Review of Higher Education (HE) Governance in Scotland, although reports on Rest of UK (RUK) student applications following the introduction of RUK student fees, and preparations for the Research Excellence Framework (REF) submission also received significant attention.

### Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Medicine, Dentistry & Nursing

Court welcomed the news of the appointment of Professor John Connell as Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Medicine, Dentistry & Nursing with effect from 1 January 2012, noting that the process of appointment of a new Dean of Medicine would commence shortly.

### Graduate Employability

The Court was very interested to hear a presentation from Professor Chris Whatley (Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Arts & Social Sciences) and Mr Graham Nicolson (Deputy Director of Student Operations) on the topic of graduate employability. Court members were updated on the work of the Employability Committee to embed employability principles into the curriculum, and were impressed by the range of employability enhancing initiatives from across the University.

### Research Excellence Framework (REF) Preparations

The Court heard an update from the Principal on preparations for the REF. Preparations had recently acquired renewed vigour following the appointment of Professor John Connell as Vice-Principal with responsibility for research. With the mid-term review completed, it was expected that the momentum of activity for REF would accelerate further in the coming months. The intention to return only staff performing internationally excellent research was noted, as was on-going work toward the production of a clear REF strategy and Code of Practice on the Selection of Staff.

### Student Application Figures 2012-13

The Court received an update on student application figures for 2012-13. Despite the introduction of higher entry grade requirements, a small overall increase in applications had been seen. The introduction of rest of UK (RUK) student fees for 2012-13 had led to a reduction in RUK student applications (though this was within modelled ranges), and increases in EU and overseas student applications were noted. Court members were also interested to hear about the student visit days that would be taking place over the next couple of months.

### Governance

With the publication of the Report of the Review of Higher Education Governance in Scotland on 1 February 2012, the Court understandably focused much of its attention on the report's various recommendations. Existing good governance practice at the University of Dundee meant many recommendations could, it was felt, be easily accommodated, and while concern was expressed at the nature of some of the recommendations, discussion turned to routes for proactive engagement with the consultation process.

Court welcomed Professor Sue Black to her first meeting of Court since her election by the Academic Council. Court also approved the recommendation for the appointment of Ms Shirley Campbell (Human Resources and Development Director of Scottish Water) as co-opted lay member of Court for four years in the first instance from 1 March 2012.

### Ordinances

The Court approved minor changes to Ordinances 39 (Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates), 40 (Student Discipline) and 43 (Tuition and Other fees). Invoking the urgency proviso in the Charter, the Court exceptionally approved these changes in one sitting. The changes can be found online at [www.somis.dundee.ac.uk/calendar/court/pdf/ordinances.pdf](http://www.somis.dundee.ac.uk/calendar/court/pdf/ordinances.pdf)

## The Bridge and Contact

The University's annual magazine The Bridge will be published in June in time for summer Graduation. The next edition of Contact will be published in the autumn. The copy deadline is Monday 27 August. Submissions should be emailed to [h.mcnally@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:h.mcnally@dundee.ac.uk) by that date.

## appointments



### Professor David Finkelstein

*Dean of the School of Humanities*

**Professor Finkelstein joins the University from Queen Margaret University, where he most recently held the post of Research Professor of Media and Print Culture.**

Born in the United States, he grew up there and in France and Puerto Rico. He obtained a BA in English Literature from Columbia University (1986), and a PhD in English and History from the University of Edinburgh (1990).

Professor Finkelstein worked as an archivist at the National Library of Scotland, and held postdoctoral and senior lectureship posts at the University of Edinburgh and Napier University before joining QMU in February 2000.

He is co-director of SAPPHERE ([www.sapphire.ac.uk](http://www.sapphire.ac.uk)), an initiative dedicated to the study of Scottish print and publishing industries, which was awarded a Glenfiddich Living Scotland Award for its preservation and promotion of Scotland's cultural heritage.

In addition, Professor Finkelstein is a Fellow of the English Association, a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Library of Scotland among other roles.

He said he was looking forward to building upon the existing reputation for Humanities at Dundee.

"Dundee has an enviable reputation for Humanities with a number of extremely popular and valuable degree and postgraduate programmes in addition to the exceptional research being carried out here.

"One of the most exciting aspects of the School of Humanities here is the approach to interdisciplinary work, which opens up so many more avenues and opportunities for collaborations with both internal and external partners.

"I look forward to building on the excellent work that has been taking place here for years and expanding the repertoire of the School into new areas of research and teaching."

### Professor Geoffrey D. Gooch

*Personal Chair in Water and Environmental Policy*

**Professor Gooch has been awarded a Personal Chair in Water and Environmental Policy at the IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science (under the auspices of UNESCO).**

He comes to Dundee from the University of Linköping in Sweden, where he was Professor of Political Science and also held the Jean Monnet Chair in European Political Integration.

He has recently conducted research on water-based livelihoods and biodiversity in protected areas in Vietnam, Costa Rica, India and South Africa and now leads a Dundee team in a new EU funded project on integrated coastal zone management.

His research focuses on the interplay between institutions, actors and policy, and on the science-policy-stakeholder interface.





## Record entry for book prize



A star-studded panel of judges, a growing reputation and the wonder of Twitter have all conspired to boost entries to this year's Dundee International Book Prize by almost 400 percent.

By the closing date last month a record-breaking 475 entries from all over the world had been received from aspiring novelists all keen to compete for a publishing deal with Cargo Publishing and £10,000, the largest cash prize for an unpublished work in the UK.

This year's competition, organised by the University's Literary Dundee initiative and Dundee's One City, Many Discoveries campaign, will be judged by a panel of literary stars including writer, actor and broadcaster Stephen Fry, novelists Philip Pulman and Alan Bissett and top literary agent Jenny Brown.

Literary Dundee Director Anna Day said the calibre of judges for this year's event was a major factor in attracting an "amazing" degree of interest, and thanked Stephen Fry, a former Rector of the University, for flagging up the prize to his four million Twitter followers.

"The growing stature of the Dundee International Prize has obviously played a part but the panel of judges we have this year has really helped the number of entries rocket," she said.

"Their connections and global reach has helped us reach new markets, and I send my sincere gratitude to Stephen Fry for re-tweeting our call for entries as we certainly saw an upsurge as a result. In fact the day he tweeted we received almost 100 entries from all over the world.

"We have always had an international reach when it comes to entries, but this year that's more the case than ever. There have been stories sent from Australia, New Zealand, all over America, and from Africa.

"From a preliminary look through the submissions, we can see already that the quality of writing is very high, and our team of readers will now go through them in detail. Each book will be read by two members of the team who will each score the piece out of 50 based on strict criteria.

"The highest-scoring entries will then go through to the next stage, where the judges will decide on a shortlist and, ultimately, a winner."

The winner of the 2012 Dundee International Book prize will be informed of their success in June, and the book will be published in the autumn as part of the Dundee Literary Festival.

## DUP publishes first ebook



Dundee University Press celebrated the launch of its first ebooks last month.

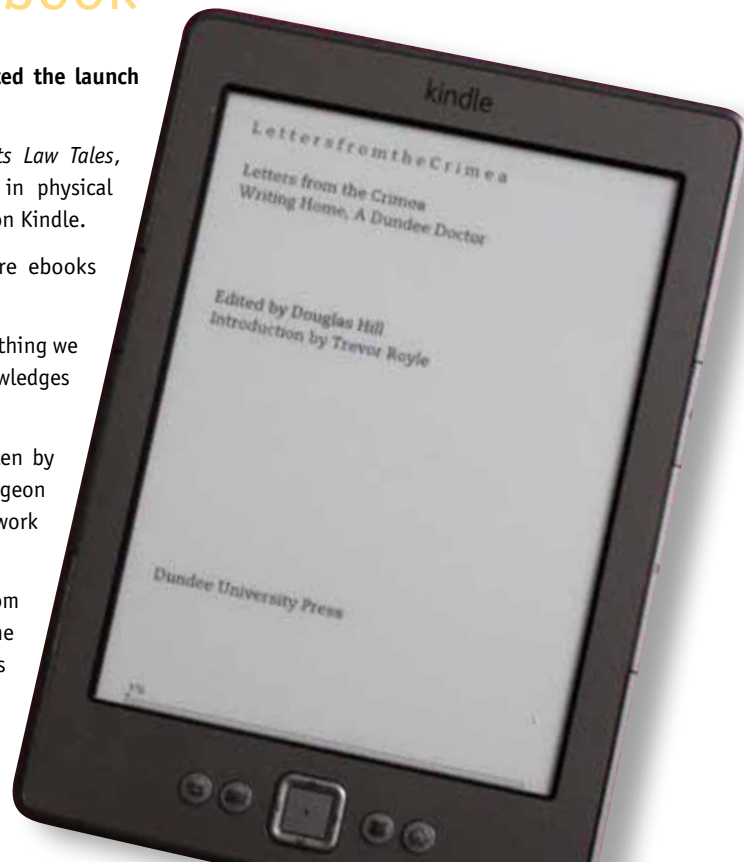
*Letters from the Crimea*, and *Scots Law Tales*, which were both first published in physical format in 2010, are now available on Kindle.

DUP Director Anna Day said more ebooks will be published in the future.

"This is the start of a new dawn for DUP," she said. "It is something we will be doing more and more. It is the way forward and it acknowledges the popularity of Kindle and ereaders."

*Letters from the Crimea* features a collection of letters written by newly qualified Dr David Greig during his service as an army surgeon in the Crimean War. It sheds new light on the war and on the work of Florence Nightingale.

*Scots Law Tales* brings to life a number of leading cases from the Scottish courts over the past hundred years including the Lockerbie trial, St Ninian's Treasure in Shetland and allegations of ritual child abuse in Orkney.



## TOP WRITER SUPPORTS MILLION FOR A MORGUE

### MILLION FOR A MORGUE.COM

Jeffery Deaver, one of the world's most successful thriller writers, will be at the University next month to talk about his new book *XO* and lend his support to the Million For a Morgue campaign.

The best-selling author, who has written 29 novels, been translated into 25 languages and sold over 20 million books, will be at the Dalhousie Building between 6pm and 9pm on Sunday 27 May.

He'll be discussing his new book which follows body language expert and special agent Kathryn Dance as she tries to stop an obsessive stalker from destroying a beautiful and successful country singer-songwriter. He'll also talk about his James Bond novel *Carte Blanche* which was published last year and comes out in paperback in May and his involvement in the Million For a Morgue campaign.

Tickets for the talk are available from the University's Online store or by calling 01382 384413.

Fellow Million For A Morgue supporter and best-selling novelist Stuart MacBride will be leading a murder tour in his home-town of Aberdeen with the lucky winner of the campaign's February competition. Jay Leffew from Erith in Kent won the prize and will be heading north to meet Stuart.

There is still time to enter the April competition which is offering an iPod loaded with DC Tom Thorne's favourite tracks as picked by crime-writer Mark Billingham, creator of the fictional detective. The prize also includes a couple of passes to go to Crimefest in Bristol at the end of May where Professor Sue Black will be highlighting the Million For A Morgue campaign alongside guests of honour Jeffery Deaver, Lee Child and Peter James.

To enter the competition, which closes at the end of April, visit the Million for a Morgue website ([www.millionforamorgue.com](http://www.millionforamorgue.com)) and register a vote for one of the ten authors vying to have the new mortuary named after them.



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## Campus CAB looking for volunteers



The University branch of the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), which opened on campus at the end of last year, is looking for people to train as advisers to help deal with an increasing number of enquiries.

The office, which operates out of the Dundee University Students' Association building

but is independent of the University, offers free, confidential and impartial advice on a range of issues and is open to students, staff and members of the local community.

Since it opened in November it has dealt with a variety of enquiries including debt and money advice, benefits, work-related problems, relationship and housing.

Aileen Ross, a support worker with the University's Student Services, who has also trained as a CAB adviser, said the office is now hoping to recruit more volunteers.

"We would like more staff and students to volunteer to train as advisers," she said. "There is a time commitment so it might be difficult for staff unless they work part-time but it is a fascinating job.

"You never know what the day will bring and what you will be dealing with. It is a role which can be quite attractive to for example law students or social work students as it involves case studies, dealing with legislation, different agencies and interviewing people."

Aileen added that volunteers are trained through Citizens Advice Scotland and spend 12 weeks on class-room based study before going on to work on different cases with the aim of building up a caseload of their own.

At the campus CAB there will be plenty of opportunities to work on a variety of issues.

"The type of things we tend to be seeing are about employment queries, benefits and consumer issues but it could be about anything," said Aileen.

For visitors to the CAB on campus there is the benefit of facing fewer queues and seeing advisers with access to specific support networks.

"We are open weekly between 10am and 1pm on Wednesdays and 1pm and 4pm on Thursdays but clients can drop in without an appointment, or visit the Advice team on DUSA level 4 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, to book an appointment for the Wednesday or Thursday sessions," explained Aileen.

"We also have specific networks we can access here because we are based at the University. For example we can refer people to international support, to the student funding unit etc and we have more specialised knowledge about issues such as fees and funding."

Anyone interested in volunteering with CAB should contact [advice@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:advice@dundee.ac.uk)

## Success for seniors open day at ISE



An open day at the University's Institute of Sport and Exercise aimed at people aged 60 years and over prompted a "fantastic" turnout in February.

The seniors open day offered participants the chance to try out a range of activities including senior circuits, aquanastics, swimming, sport and the gym all of which are included on ISE's regular seniors programme.

"We currently have 230 senior members and a further 215 members who access the active living exercise programme for diabetes and coronary heart disease," said Hazel Ednie at ISE. "There is a wide range of activity so there is plenty of opportunity for people to find the right exercise for them.

"The open day was a chance for people to come and try these activities, have a tour of the facilities and meet seniors members.

"We had a fantastic turn-out on the day and it was great to see everyone trying new things in the gym and at class tasters in the sports hall."

The seniors exercise programme offers members a choice of 10 weekly exercise sessions with a further six active living exercise sessions delivered weekly.

For more information visit the ISE website at [www.dundee.ac.uk/ise/fun/membership/seniors.php](http://www.dundee.ac.uk/ise/fun/membership/seniors.php)

## Dundee debut for twilight walk



Fighting Breast Cancer in Scotland

The University's Institute of Sport and Exercise is teaming up with breast cancer charity Breast Foot Forward to host Dundee's first ever Twilight Walk this summer.

Aimed at raising money for breast cancer care in Scotland, the Twilight Walk on Saturday 2 June will include a seven mile and ten mile route setting off from the University Sports Ground at Riverside and taking in the Discovery, the waterfront development, Dundee city centre and Perth Road.

The walk has come to Dundee this year in recognition of the work, carried out at the University by Dr Anna Campbell, to set up and extend a physical activity programme for people recovering from breast cancer.

Dr Campbell, who is based at ISE, was instrumental in setting up the Active ABC programme aimed at encouraging women to stay active during and following breast cancer treatment.

ISE are working with the NHS to extend the programme to include men who are living with cancer.

The University and Ninewells will be one of the beneficiaries of this year's walk along with the Breast Cancer Institute in Edinburgh and the Western Infirmary Breast Cancer Unit in Glasgow.

Anyone interested in taking part in the walk, which sets off at 4pm on 2 June, can obtain an entry from by emailing [info@breastfootforward.or](mailto:info@breastfootforward.or) or by phoning or texting 07951 007 540.

## Charity Golf Challenge Cup

Friday 11th May 2012, 1pm  
Drumoig Golf Course, Fife

Raising awareness & support for men living with & beyond cancer

Four person team competition • Stableford format, best two stableford scores

Entry • £100 for team of 4 or individual entry: £25 per person (you will be allocated a team)

Includes • Golfers buffet, golfer's goodie bag, **ise** fit for golf programme. Spot prizes.

The 18 hole championship style, Par 72 golf course offers many challenging features. The course is set on 250 acres of spectacular Fife countryside. Each hole offers an array of unique features and 2012 is set to see exciting new changes to the 12th and 18th holes.

For entry forms & further information • tel: (01382) 385177 • email: [h.c.ednie@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:h.c.ednie@dundee.ac.uk)

[www.dundee.ac.uk/ise](http://www.dundee.ac.uk/ise)



## what's on...

17 April

### Free talk by Professor Tony Martin

Of rats, ice and helicopters: restoring the UK's greatest wildlife spectacle

Zoology museum, 6pm

Professor Tony Martin will discuss his work with the South Georgia Heritage Trust in clearing rodents from the entire 100-mile long island using 3 helicopters, 370 tonnes of bait and a 25-strong team. The multi-million pound project aims to restore the ice-draped island of South Georgia to its original status as the world's most important seabird island. The talk is free. For more information contact [museum@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:museum@dundee.ac.uk)

21 April

### Botanic Garden Family Fun Day

Botanic Garden, Riverside Drive, 10am to 4pm

The University's Botanic Garden will be hosting some family friendly fun with a busy programme offering activities including wood turning, bee keeping, face painting, an arts and science workshop and a Fairytale Garden play. Entry is £3.90 for adults, £2.90 for seniors and children while children aged three and under go free. For more information contact the Garden in 01382 381190 or email: [j.e.forbes@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:j.e.forbes@dundee.ac.uk)

21 April

### Cosmic Quest: The Story of Astronomy

SELS 2012

Dalhousie Building, 6pm

The final talk in the SELS 2012 programme sees Heather Couper and Nigel Henbest look at the people and personalities, who over the millennia, have pushed our knowledge of the heavens forward and tested the limits of imagination in the quest to understand the Universe.

Tickets are available from the Events Office, tel: 01382 385564 or from the University's Online Store.

Finally from 28 April to 16 June we will be having two special exhibitions in the Tower Building as



28 April to 26 June

### Coded Chimera

Tower Foyer Gallery

Tower Building

Sculptor Bruce Gernand's project Coded Chimera uses computer modelling to explore the relationships between the process of sculpture and biological morphogenesis, taking D'Arcy Thompson's iconic transformation diagrams as a starting point.

28 April to 26 June

### Heresies

Lamb Gallery

Tower Building

Artists Roger Wilson, BE Cole and Stuart Mackenzie draw on D'Arcy Thompson's seminal text On Growth and Form and recent visits to the Zoology Museum to create striking works in a variety of media in their exhibition Heresies.

30 April

### Café Science

Cancer and Dundee: What's Poverty Got to Do with It

Chambers Coffee House, South Tay Street, 7pm

Professor Nora Kearney from the University's School of Nursing will discuss her latest research into the relationship between lifestyle, poverty and cancer cases in the local area.

For more information email Jonathan Urch at [cafescience@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:cafescience@dundee.ac.uk) or phone 01382 386669.

1 May

### Getting over-excited by the environment

Free talk by Dr Christopher Connolly

Zoology Museum, 6pm

Dr Christopher Connolly, from the Medical Research Institute at Ninewells, will discuss his work leading a multi-disciplinary research project on the effect of pesticides and miticides on bees. For more information on the talk contact [museums@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:museums@dundee.ac.uk)

1 May

Dundee Arts Cafe

### Should Humanities be Taught at University?

McManus Café, Albert Square

Professor Nicholas Davey will explore the reasons why the Humanities have become so misunderstood and what might be done to remedy this.

For more information visit [www.dundeeartscafe.co.uk/](http://www.dundeeartscafe.co.uk/)

3 May

### Dow Triennial Lecture

Do Humans Have a Future by Dr Richard Horton

Dalhousie Building, 6pm

Dr Richard Horton will deliver the Dow Triennial Lecture on whether or not human beings have a future. Dr Horton is Editor of the Lancet, and has a major reputation as a polemicist on biomedical research, the development of systems for the delivery of medical care and on international healthcare matters. His lecture will address urgent contemporary issues that impact on the health of our population.

8 May

### Notes from the Museum 4

Zoology Museum, 6pm

Poetry and prose inspired by D'Arcy Thompson and his extraordinary collections and written by students on the School of Humanities' Creative Writing courses will be performed at the fourth annual Notes from the Museum event. For more information contact [museums@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:museums@dundee.ac.uk)

11 May

### ISE's Charity Golf Competition

Drumoig Golf Course, Fife, From 1pm

The University's Institute of Sport & Exercise is organising a Charity Golf competition to raise awareness and support for men living with cancer.

More information from Hazel Ednie on [h.c.ednie@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:h.c.ednie@dundee.ac.uk) or 01382 385177

15 May

### Mackenzie Lecture 2012

Why National eHealth Programs Need Dead Philosophers

Dalhousie Building, 1pm

Professor Trisha Greenhalgh, Co-Director of the Global Health, Policy and Innovation Unit at Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry, will give the 7th annual Mackenzie Lecture held in honour of Sir James Mackenzie, a pioneer in research in general practice and the safe use of medicines.

For more information email [y.gormley@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:y.gormley@dundee.ac.uk) or tel: 01382 420029

18 May

### DJCAD Degree Show 2012 Preview

DJCAD

Perth Road

Graduating students launch the art show of the year with work from 11 different programmes on display. The exhibition will run until 27 May.

19 May

### Animal Art: A drawing workshop with Jennifer Robson

Zoology Museum, 3 – 5.30pm

Artist Jennifer Robson will introduce the Zoology Museums collections as a resource for drawing in this special session organised as part of the Festivals of Museums weekend. Places must be booked by phoning 01382 284310 or emailing [museum@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:museum@dundee.ac.uk)

For more information on the Festival visit <http://festivalofmuseums.com/>

19 May

### V&A at Dundee lecture

Dalhousie Building, 6pm

This year's keynote lecture takes place as part of the Ignite 2012 Festival. For more information visit the V&A website at [www.VandAatDundee.com](http://www.VandAatDundee.com)

Until 20 May

### Boris Gerrets

Centrespace, VRC, DCA

This exhibition showcases artist Boris Gerrets' award winning experimental documentary People I Could Have Been and Maybe Am, 2010. On 19 May Gerrets and renowned curator and critic Guy Brett will discuss the documentary in an "in conversation" event at Centrespace which is located on the lower floors of Dundee Contemporary Arts.

24 May

### Kirsty Gunn Book launch

Dalhousie Building, 6pm

Kirsty Gunn, Professor of Writing Practice and Study at the University, will be discussing her writing and academic work as she launches her latest book The Big Music.

Tickets are available from the University's Online store and by calling 01382 384413.

27 May

### Jeffery Deaver talks James Bond, Country Music and Murder

Dalhousie Building, 6pm

Best-selling thriller writer will be talking about his books and his support for the University's Million for a Morgue campaign.

28 May

### Café Science

Chambers Coffee House, South Tay Street, 7pm

Dr Graham Rena, a lecturer at the University's School of Medicine, will explore the research on the biology underlying the links between lifestyle ageing and age-related disease in a talk entitled Fit as a Fiddle – Ageing, Age-related Diseases, Diet and Exercise.





*picture this...*

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**Phil Taylor, Head of Communications at The James Hutton Institute**

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**[www.conventiondundeeandangus.co.uk](http://www.conventiondundeeandangus.co.uk)**



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