

c n t a c t



The magazine of the University of Dundee • October 2012



Medical school builds on success

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from the principal...

Well, summer's over – although perhaps like me and much of the rest of the country you're wondering whether we really had a summer at all this year. Hopefully, some of you managed to escape to warmer climes for a well-earned break.

This year's early start means that the admissions process has been even more condensed than usual and thanks are due to the many staff involved. But as the new clutch of entrant students settles into its academic routine, this year I think we begin with a new sense of confidence. And I say this for a number of reasons.

As I have commented on other occasions, the Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey put us top in the UK – this should give us the reassurance that our learning and teaching strategy and our student services are on the right track. Equally, early financial indications are showing a good outcome for 2011/12 which will put this year on a firmer footing as we tackle the new challenges of changes in funding and especially the introduction of fees for students from the rest of the UK. We already took the view in the previous session that we needed to invest in staff, and some of these appointments, advertised over the summer, will start to bear fruit during 2012/13 in readiness both for the REF as well as for our continued excellence into the future. One remarkable outcome for 2011/12 is the level of research funding awarded. In total this soared to beyond £100m, and leads us tentatively to believe we may be able to buck the economic trend in research funding and maintain our ground. This should add to our confidence, too.

I am personally very excited at the prospects for the year ahead. Very shortly our new University vision and strategy will be unveiled through a series of open meetings and discussions, kick-starting a process that I believe will be transformational. The vision is not something we have just invented; it builds on enduring values which have guided the University's development since its foundation. A small cross-section of staff and students had been working on this for some time, and the next few weeks will be vital as we share this work. All staff and students have a part to play in realising the vision by translating its principles to shape our culture, creating a sense of common purpose and shared ambition.

For me personally, this will be an interesting year, as I have taken over the convenership of Universities Scotland. This will see me more often than usual in discussion with other Principals, politicians and the Funding Council as we seek to address a series of important issues such as tuition fees, widening access, University governance, outcome agreements and immigration. It promises to be a challenging year, but one hopefully in which I can raise the profile of the University.

One other thing heading towards us on the horizon is the referendum on Scottish independence. It may seem a long way off, but autumn 2014 will be upon us before we know it. I'm keen for this University to play a key role in debating the central issues of independence and union. There is a lot at stake in a referendum such as this, with passionate views on all sides, and I believe that universities have an important role to play in ensuring that whatever decision is taken, it is done against a backdrop of informed debate. To this end Professor Whatley, Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Arts & Social Sciences, and colleagues are working to develop an exciting programme of events, discussions and publications, and I look forward to being able to share the details with you soon.

Professor Pete Downes • Principal and Vice-Chancellor

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



Lorraine Kelly lays first brick at Medical School

Lorraine Kelly, the television presenter and former Rector of the University, donned a hard hat and picked up a trowel to lay the first brick of a major extension of the School of Medicine in July.

Lorraine maintains close links with the University, for which she was Rector between 2004 and 2007.

"I'm delighted to lay the first brick of this important new development," said Lorraine. "I'm very proud of my links with Dundee University which consistently punches above its weight and has played such an important part in the renaissance of my brilliant adopted city!"

The extension 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.

Work on this phase of the project is seeing a new extension built on the north side of the Ninewells building and refurbishment of existing library and teaching space.

"This is a major project which will provide us with first-class facilities to match the quality of our teaching, which is consistently rated very highly," said Professor John Connell, Vice-Principal of the University and Head of the College of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing.

"We are delighted that this development will allow us to maintain the very highest standards of education, working in close partnership with NHS Tayside and NHS Education for Scotland."

The University has already completed the first stage of a three-phase approach to revamping the Medical School. The first phase included the development of 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 state-of-the-art IT and electronic teaching facilities. There will also be redevelopment work to upgrade existing accommodation, allowing the relocation of the Centre for Medical Education right into the heart of the Medical School. The Centre delivers education programmes internationally.

Phase 3 of the project will see a complete upgrade of lecture theatres.

The project is an £11.2million investment; funds have already been committed by the University, the NHS in Tayside, NHS Tayside Endowment Funds, NES Education Scotland, the Wolfson Foundation, the Northwood Trust 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.

CBE for Professor Leigh



The Queen's Birthday Honours List in June brought a CBE for Professor Irene Leigh, former Vice-Principal of Research and Head of the College of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing.

Professor Leigh was given the honour for her services to medicine. She was awarded an OBE in 2006.

The summer also brought a further honour for Professor Leigh as she was given the Archibald Gray Medal of the British Association of Dermatologists at their annual meeting in Birmingham. The medal is the highest accolade in dermatology in the UK.

Professor Leigh is a world-renowned authority on skin biology and disease and has extensive experience of managing research programmes in universities and the National Health Service.

She has served in senior posts in national and European dermatological research and was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 1999.

Professor Leigh still holds the Chair of Cellular and Molecular Medicine in the School of Medicine.

She arrived at Dundee in 2006 from her previous post as Joint Director of Research and Development for Barts and the London Trust/School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Professor Leigh is currently organising the International Investigative Dermatology 2013 meeting which will take place in Edinburgh from 8th to 13th May next year. This is a tri-society scientific meeting of US, Japanese and European research societies with satellite meetings including a joint seminar with Health Science Scotland on Innovation in drug discovery and stratified medicine.

Around 2000 people are expected to attend the meeting, which is held every five years but only once in 15 years in Europe. This will be the first time it has been held in the UK.

Decent appointment for University and CASE



Professor Stephen Decent has been appointed as Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Art, Science and Engineering.

Professor Decent has most recently been Head of School of Mathematics and Director of Research and Knowledge Transfer for the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences at the University of Birmingham.

He is a Professor of Applied Mathematics, and a Fellow and member of the Council of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications.

Professor Pete Downes, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University, said, "Stephen brings fresh talent to our Senior Management Team and to the leadership of CASE."

His experience and expertise will bring vital ingredients as we shape a new and ambitious vision for the continuing development of the University."

Professor Decent added, "I'm delighted to be joining a high quality team across the College. CASE is well placed within a thriving University to continue to build upon its world-leading education and research."

The College of Art, Science and Engineering at Dundee is made up of three schools - Engineering, Physics & Mathematics; Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design and the School of Computing

It has a population of 2,500 students of which 15% are international. Undergraduate programmes span the visual disciplines, engineering, physics, mathematics and computing. A suite of more than 20 postgraduate programmes includes world-leading courses in medical technologies, design ethnography, forensic art, geotechnical engineering, renewable energy, mathematical biology and business intelligence.

Top Universities Scotland role for Principal



Universities Scotland announced the appointment of Professor Pete Downes, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University, as its Convener for the next two years.

Professor Downes was already a member of Universities Scotland's Executive Committee and has led its Research and Knowledge Committee for the last two years.

He said, "It is a great honour to be appointed to this role, and I look forward to the many challenges it brings."

"This is a time of unprecedented change in the higher education sector in Scotland, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in order to find solutions to these challenges to ensure that Scotland's universities continue to excel in both teaching and research at a global level."

Professor Downes has a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Birmingham and worked for ten years in the commercial pharmaceutical sector prior to his appointment as Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Dundee in 1989.

His career has been characterised by outstanding scientific achievement and academic leadership. He has played a key role in developing life sciences at Dundee as a centre for excellence in the understanding and treatment of major diseases, including diabetes and cancer, and as a major contributor to the Scottish economy.

He was a Vice-Principal of the University and Head of the College of Life Sciences for three years prior to his appointment as Principal.

Professor Downes is one of the 15 most cited bio-scientists in the UK. He was awarded the Colworth Medal of the British Biochemical Society in 1987 and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1991. He was honoured by the Queen with an OBE in 2004.

Universities Scotland Director, Alastair Sim said welcomed the appointment, saying, "I am delighted that Professor Downes is willing to undertake this role at a time of challenge and opportunity for the sector."

Keyhole Surgery Pioneer to Receive Award



Professor Sir Alfred Cuschieri, one of the world's pioneers of keyhole surgery, is to receive the Steven Hoogendijk Award in the Netherlands next month.

The prize, consisting of a silver medal and 10,000, is a biannual prize awarded by the Dutch philosophical society Bataafsche Genootschap. This is the fifth time the award has been made.

Sir Alfred Cuschieri is Professor of Surgery at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa and Chief Scientific Advisor to the Institute of Medical Science and Technology (IMSaT), a joint research centre hosted by the Universities of Dundee and St Andrews. Previously he was Professor and Head of Department of Surgery and Molecular Oncology at Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, University of Dundee, where he developed many of the techniques in laparoscopic, or 'keyhole' surgery that have become commonplace today.

Around 60% of all surgical procedures carried out in the UK today are done using the keyhole technique.

Sir Alfred's research interests include minimal access therapy, endoscopic surgery, technology and micro-robotics, ergonomics, nanotechnology and nanoscience and virtual/augmented reality systems for skills training.

"I am honoured to be receiving the Steven Hoogendijk Award and look forward to a very interesting trip to the Netherlands in October," said Sir Alfred.

The Bataafsche Genootschap der Proefondervindelijke Wijsbegeerte is a Dutch philosophical society, founded in 1769 by Steven Hoogendijk, a clockmaker in Rotterdam. Its field of interest is medicine and technology, in particular the combination of both. They will present Sir Alfred with the award at a ceremony on Friday October 5th. A mini-symposium will be held the day before.

IMSaT – The Institute of Medical Science and Technology

IMSaT is an interdisciplinary institute for future Medical Technologies positioned at the interface of Physics, Engineering with Clinical and Life Sciences founded in 2006 as a joint initiative by the University of Dundee and the University of St Andrews, supported by Scottish Enterprise and the EU.

The Institute brings engineers, physicists, mathematicians and life scientists together with clinicians, health service providers, and corporates to research and exploit the developments that are occurring at the interface between the biomedical and physical sciences.

www.imsat.org

Professor Ron Hay awarded Novartis Medal



Professor Ron Hay, of the College of Life Sciences, has been presented with the 2012 Novartis Medal and Prize.

Professor Hay was awarded the prize in recognition of the discovery of a new biological control mechanism called "SUMOylation". The development of this field has explained how a previously fatal form of leukaemia can now be cured by treatment with arsenic.

The Medal is awarded annually in recognition of outstanding contributions to the development of any branch of biochemistry to scientists (of any nationality) working in the UK. The recipient receives the Novartis Medal and £3000.

This is the third consecutive year that the Novartis Prize has been awarded to someone from the College of Life Sciences. Professor Angus Lamond was the recipient of the prize for 2011 and Professor Grahame Hardie in 2010. Previous winners of the Prize from the College of Life Sciences include Sir Philip Cohen, who gave the Novartis Medal Lecture in 1992.

Sir Philip, who is a former President of the Biochemical Society, presented Professor Hay with the Medal at a Prize lecture at the College of Life Sciences.

Professor Hay's lab is part of the Centre for Gene Regulation and Expression, and he is also an honorary Programme Leader at the Scottish Institute for Cell Signalling (SCILLS) at Dundee. He was made a Fellow of the Royal Society last year.

"It is a great honour to be awarded the Novartis Medal of the Biochemical Society," said Professor Hay. "This recognition is a direct result of the hard work and creativity of the scientists who now work, and who have worked, in my laboratory. This also reflects on the high standard of the facilities available and the excellence of the scientific environment here in Dundee."

Professor Angus Lamond, Director of the Centre for Gene Regulation and Expression, said, "This is a well deserved recognition of Ron Hay's outstanding research. The award of the Novartis Medal is a major distinction and underlines Ron's reputation as a world leading researcher."

Scott takes up reigns as entrepreneur-in-residence



Scott Brady, a successful businessman who has built up and sold companies across a wide range of sectors, has taken up the role of the University's first entrepreneur-in-residence in June.

Scott will pass on the benefit of his experience of the business world to students and graduates, with a particular focus on helping start-up companies to develop and grow. He

will deliver practical advice to those who engage with TEG through group and one-on-one sessions that examine a variety of subjects including market research, marketing, accounting, regulation, production and access to funding and investment.

Scott said he was delighted to be taking up the role for an initial period of three years, and that he hoped to help talented emerging entrepreneurs to fulfil their potential to the benefit of the local area and the wider economy in that time.

"We are living in challenging economic times, and there is no point pretending otherwise," he said. "However, such times very often lead to genuine innovation and I am sure that, with the right help, we can help to unleash the creativity and entrepreneurialism that exists at Dundee."

"I have worked with The Enterprise Gym and thought it was an exceptional service for students so I'm very happy to now be part of it and to bolster their offering. I think that, more and more, we are seeing that the entrepreneurs of tomorrow will be those who achieve academically. My job is to help them take their talent, creativity and knowledge and equip them with the skills to succeed in business."

TEG director Ken Edward welcomed Scott to the University, saying, "Scott is a fantastic addition, and his appointment will really help us to establish entrepreneurialism at the very heart of everything we do at the University."

RSE Awards for Dundee researchers



Professor Geoffrey Gadd



Dr Nicola Stanley-Wall

Dundee academics honoured as RSE Prize Winners 2011/12 announced. Professor Geoffrey Gadd and Dr Nicola Stanley-Wall, both from the College of Life Sciences, were among the winners of the Royal Society of Edinburgh's inaugural prizes, recognising some of the top talent in Scotland at both senior and early career levels.

Professor Gadd, a world pioneer in the growing field of geomicrobiology, received the RSE/Sir James Black Prize for his outstanding contribution to his field.

Dr Stanley-Wall, lecturer in the Division of Molecular Microbiology, received the RSE/Patrick Neil Medal, the early career prize in the field of life sciences, for her outstanding research work, leadership skills and public engagement activities.

Dr Stanley-Wall runs a highly successful research group at the university and her work in encouraging young people to take an interest in microbiology has included organising the two-day 'Magnificent Microbes' event at the Dundee Science Centre.

Professor Gadd said, "It is a great honour to receive the Sir James Black Medal from the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and I am so pleased that our research on important environmental roles of microbes has been recognised in this way. Microbial interactions with metals and minerals influences many geological processes, as well as plant productivity and human health, and an important part of our research examines ways in which microbes can be used to combat pollution."

Dr Stanley-Wall said, "I am delighted to receive the RSE/Patrick Neil Medal and to have our work on the social life of bacterial communities recognised. It is wonderful to see young school children and their teachers so inspired when we tell them about the importance of the unseen world of microbes for our general well-being."

Sir John Arbuthnott, President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, commented, "It is a pleasure to be able to award these prizes to individuals who have contributed, and continue to contribute, so much to advancing understanding in their respective fields. Their achievements do much to cement Scotland's place firmly at the cutting-edge of the global research community across a wide area of knowledge. A key role of the RSE is to promote public engagement with science and the arts and humanities. All of this year's Prize Winners have shown passion and flair for communicating their work to audiences far and wide. I congratulate each of them on their achievements, and on winning this year's RSE Prizes."

www.royalsoced.org.uk

Celebrating a decade of collaboration

The successful partnership between the James Hutton Institute and the College of Life Sciences has been celebrated at a 10 year anniversary symposium this month.

The partnership was first initiated in 2002 when plant scientists from the University moved to what was then the Scottish Crop Research Institute (SCRI). Five years later the Division of Plant Sciences was established, following a reorganisation of the College of Life Sciences, and currently has around 45 scientists and PhD students located at the James Hutton Institute in Invergowrie.

Professor John Brown, Head of the Division of Plant Sciences said: "The co-location of scientists from the University at the James Hutton Institute has enabled interaction and collaboration between

research groups and so far has generated around £8 million in joint funding in areas of translation of basic to applied research in areas such as plant disease, bio-energy and recombination.

"This unique model of interaction has exploited the complementarity of the two. We have plans for further growth and strengthening of the partnership and we look forward to many more years of success."

The Pathways to Impact in Plant Science symposium was held at the Dalhousie Building earlier this month and involved a number of speakers from both institutions as well as from across the UK and overseas.

Dundee welcomes Dalai Lama

After seven years of careful planning and preparation His Holiness the Dalai Lama visited Dundee in the summer to deliver the Margaret Harris Lecture on Religion.

His talk "Education of the Heart: a new world order of compassion" was heard by a capacity audience at the Caird Hall. Tickets for the event sold out within hours of going on sale at the start of the year.

Hundreds more well-wishers and local schoolchildren also gathered in the City Square to greet the celebrated spiritual leader. It was this enthusiastic welcome which University Chaplain Rev Dr Fiona Douglas, one of the main organisers of the visit, has described as particularly "moving" and one of the highlights of the event.

"There was such a wave of warmth towards him and I remember feeling immensely proud of that," she said. "Everyone to a person was so delighted to see him. When he walked out on stage the entire audience got to their feet and applauded. The atmosphere was electric."

"We hoped that the event would be a good experience for everyone but I could not have anticipated such an overwhelming response. It really was a great historic day for Dundee."

Dr Douglas began her preparations for the visit seven years ago when she first sent the invitation to deliver the annual Margaret Harris Lecture on Religion to His Holiness the Dalai Lama. But it was only this year that she started to believe it was finally going to take place.

"We were told right from the outset that we could do all the hard work in arranging a visit and yet it may not actually happen so we didn't dare hope too much," she said.

"He was due to come a few years ago but then he was ill and it didn't happen. It probably wasn't until the tickets started selling out in January that I realised it was really happening this time. That took me by surprise a bit. I knew there would be a lot of interest but I had no realisation that the tickets would sell out within two hours."

Dr Douglas, who worked closely with the Edinburgh Interfaith Association in organising the visit, admitted that the level of planning necessary to make the event a success had been enormous but added that it had all been worth it.

"We were working with so many different agencies, the city council, the police, local community groups, voluntary organisations, different faith groups and at times it was quite challenging trying to keep focussed on what the visit was all about."

"But it was great to have all these groups coming into the University and we made some very worthwhile connections. It was also wonderful to see all different parts of the university working together to make the event such a success."

“There is such a level of admiration for the Dalai Lama and I think that is because of his message and the simplicity of it...Every individual can make a difference in the world and that is an important message for us as a University and ties in very closely with our vision.”

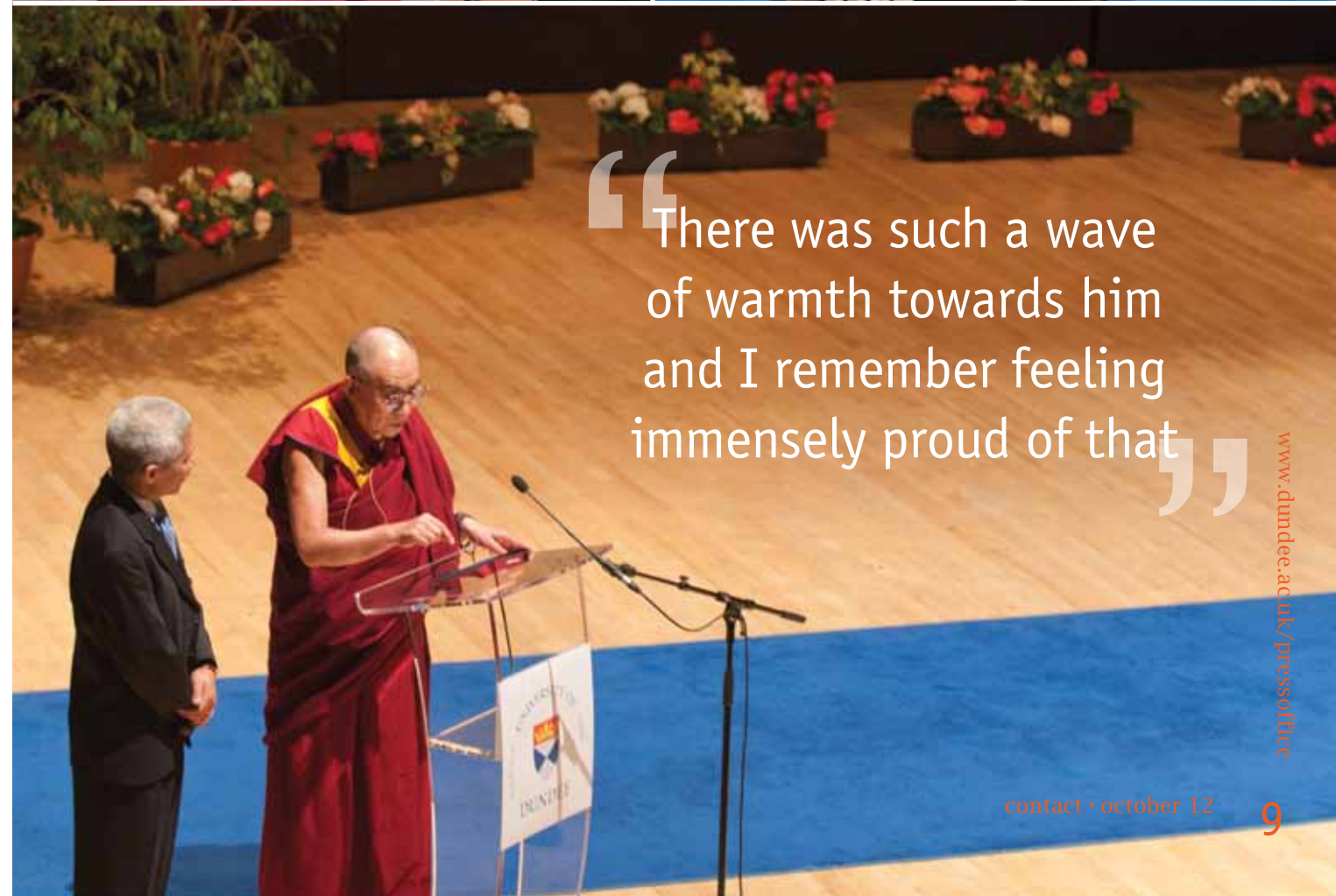
We wanted to make it a superb event and I think it was. And what was amazing was that it didn't matter what religion anyone was and whether they had a religious belief at all, yet they were all there to hear a lecture on religion.

"There is such a level of admiration for the Dalai Lama and I think that is because of his message and the simplicity of it. It is a very basic human message centred on compassion. It is not about what you learn but what you do with that learning. Every individual can make a difference in the world and that is an important message for us as a University and ties in very closely with our vision. That is what we are trying to do, to give people the skills to go out into the world and make a difference."

With the excitement of the visit over Dr Douglas now has to turn her attention to the next Margaret Harris lecture, a task she acknowledges is proving something of a challenge.

"I haven't quite sorted that out yet but I know what I won't be doing. I won't be trying to arrange anything like the Dalai Lama's lecture. It would be impossible to follow that so I'm not going to try."

"I'm going to go for something completely different. We have built a lot of very good relationships so hopefully something will come about from that."



“There was such a wave of warmth towards him and I remember feeling immensely proud of that”

£11m boost from Wellcome Trust



The Wellcome Trust has announced over £11million in strategic funding to two research groups at the University.

A team led by Professor Irwin McLean has been awarded around £5.9m to help establish a Centre for Dermatology and Genetic Medicine, building on Dundee's international reputation for research into the causes of skin diseases and developing new medicines for inherited skin disorders.

The Centre for Gene Regulation and Expression (GRE), led by Professors Angus Lamond and Julian Blow, has been given a £5.4m grant. The GRE Centre, established in 2008, is one of the leading research centres studying the cell biology of gene expression and chromosome biology. It has attracted scientists from around the world to come to work in Dundee.

Professor Doreen Cantrell, Head of the College of Life Sciences, said, "These grants offer recognition of the outstanding basic and translational life sciences research that goes on in Dundee. The funding is a testament to the pioneering nature of Irwin, Angus and Julian and their colleagues' research and represent a strong investment from the Wellcome Trust in the technologies that support it."

Professor McLean said the Wellcome grant could shorten the time it will take to bring new skin disease therapies into clinical use.

"We are enormously grateful to The Wellcome Trust for awarding this strategic grant in recognition of the strong international reputation of the Dundee skin science groups in identifying the causes of skin diseases and developing new medicines for inherited skin disorders," he said.

"This award, to establish the Centre for Dermatology and Genetic Medicine, will allow us to rapidly expand our capability to find the causes of the remaining unsolved skin conditions using cutting edge genome sequencing technology and to expand our dermatology drug discovery programme.

Importantly, this large injection of funding will shorten the time to take our new therapies closer to clinical use."

The grant will fund eighteen new research posts, 15 of them full-time positions.

Professor McLean's award is the result of a cross disciplinary collaboration with Dundee colleagues Professor Paul Wyatt, of the Drug Discovery Unit, Dr Paul Campbell, of the Biomedical Physics Group, Professor Irene Leigh in the School of Medicine, and Geoff Barton Professor of Bioinformatics, together with Professor John McGrath, of Guy's Hospital Medical School, London.

The GRE Centre comprises thirteen research groups and over 100 scientists.

Professor Lamond said, "I am delighted that the Wellcome Trust will be funding another five years of our research. This is clear recognition of the work that all our researchers and support staff in GRE have done over the past five years to form a centre for research excellence in gene regulation and expression here in Dundee. The grant will allow us to continue our ground-breaking research and world class technological infrastructure.

"This grant will support and develop technology and expertise in Microscopy, Mass Spectrometry, Computing and Proteomics, which is essential to our research.

"By using these technologies in our experiments we can gain a deep understanding of cell growth and regulation and how these cellular mechanisms go wrong in a range of human diseases."



Professor Irwin McLean



Professor Angus Lamond



Professor Julian Blow

Work begins on new £12.5m life sciences centre



Work is now well underway on a new £12.5 million Centre for Translational and Interdisciplinary Research at the College of Life Sciences.

The development will further enhance Life Sciences capacity including in drug discovery – an area in which Dundee is already the leading University in the UK and one of the foremost academia-based centres in the world.

Around 200 new research jobs will be added once the CTIR is complete, adding to the 1000-plus scientists, research students and support staff from 62 countries in already working in the College of Life Sciences. Construction work, which began in the summer, is scheduled to finish in winter 2013.

"This is another major expansion for the College of Life Sciences that will significantly enhance our capabilities across key areas of research," said Professor Michael Ferguson, Dean of Research in the College of Life Sciences.

"The high-level objectives are to enhance translational research by expanding drug discovery capacity, to enhance computational biology, mathematical biology and biophysics, and to provide future expansion space.

"We already have very strong drug discovery programmes in the area of neglected tropical diseases - including African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness), Leishmaniasis, Chagas' Disease, tuberculosis and malaria - which are producing strong candidates for drug development. We expect to see these leading to effective drugs for at least one of these diseases.

"We are also addressing other unmet medical needs. What we aim to do is translate our basic research in areas like cancer and eczema, and other diseases, to produce chemical agents that can tackle these problems in an innovative way.

"Universities are very good at innovation. What they haven't been quite so good at is developing the capability to translate that innovation into new medicines and applications. This new Centre will help us provide that bridging point."

The CTIR will also bring experimentalists into juxtaposition with mathematical, biophysical and computational biology, breaking down the barriers between the scientific disciplines to facilitate innovative translation of biological and drug discovery research into new therapeutics.

The first (ground) floor will house a brand new High Throughput robotics and molecular pharmacology facility to augment the existing Drug Discovery Unit and to translate basic science into commercial and therapeutic opportunities. The second floor will house Mathematical Biology and Biophysics, Bioinformatics, Data Analysis and Software Development.

The construction of the CTIR will cost about £12.5 million. A peer-reviewed Wellcome-Wolfson Capital Award in Biomedical Science of £4.875 million has already been made towards the project. In addition, a contribution of £5 million has been committed by the University. The remainder has been raised through the generous donations of local funding agencies and charitable trusts.

The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) has also made a contribution towards a networking centre in the CTIR, thanks to the BBSRC Excellence with Impact Award won by the College of Life Sciences last year.

The front facade of the building will feature large anodised aluminium cladding panels incorporating artistic abstractions representative of 4 key scales of Life Science Research: Molecular, Organellar, Cellular and Tissue. The scientific images will be translated into artwork, to be perforated onto the panels, by Professor Elaine Shemilt and her team from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design. In addition, the new Centre will contain a gallery for art-science projects.

The building has also been designed to be energy efficient and has already received an excellence rating in its design phase from the Building Research Environment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM).

Visitors to the campus will see the CTIR taking shape over the coming months as the foundations are laid and the concrete frame of the building goes up.

For further information, including video interviews, see: www.lifesci.dundee.ac.uk/other/ctir



Entrepreneurs win Starter for 6 opportunity

Two members of staff and two graduates of the University have been selected to take part in Starter for 6, Scotland's premier training and investment programme for innovative creative entrepreneurs.

Dr Mhairi Towler, a cell biologist who has just completed a Masters in Animation and Visualisation at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, Emily Dewhurst, part-time Campaign Director of the Million for a Morgue Campaign, Kirsty Maguire, an architect and studio tutor in the School of Architecture and Tolani Nkili Onajide, an architecture graduate, have all won a place on the prestigious programme which offers the chance to pitch for up to £10,000 of business investment.

Funded by Creative Scotland's Innovation Fund the Starter for Six programme provides participants with the business skills to turn their innovative ideas into reality.

While Mhairi, Kirsty, Tolani and Emily's businesses are very different, the four women all agree that the support, training and mentoring offered by the programme will be immensely beneficial for them.

"Being part of Starter for 6 has given me the motivation over a short period of time to get organised with the practical issues involved in starting up a business," said Mhairi, founder of science animation production company Vivomotion.

"I have had my business idea for a couple of years now but actually getting started has taken longer than expected. The input from the Starter for 6 team, my mentor, Jamie Bryan, and the other mentees will help me get the business going."

Mhairi, who was named as the first winner of the Principal's Prize for Enterprise and Entrepreneurship in the summer, was working as a postdoctoral researcher in the College of Life Sciences when she had the idea of creating animations to enhance students' learning experience.

Realising there was an opportunity to provide a service for lecturers, teachers, biotech companies and people involved in public outreach she enrolled on the University's Masters in Animation and Visualisation course to learn the animation skills she needed.

She is now hoping the Starter for 6 programme will help her grow her new business.

Kirsty, who set up her own award-winning eco architecture practice last year, is also very pleased to have used the programme to develop her company.

"I'm delighted to be part of the programme which has helped me with a number of areas of the business as well as sharing experiences with other inspirational business leaders."

Her company, Kirsty Maguire Architect Ltd, provides architecture and design services for high quality, high performance, low energy buildings as well as training to students, professionals and contractors. It also carries out special consultancy work and international development, working across Scotland and internationally.

For Emily, who set up her company Kitchen Press last year, the Starter for 6 programme has already played an important role in the development of her business.

"It not only gives you a crucial grounding in the nuts and bolts of running a business but introduces you to a really inspiring peer group of fellow entrepreneurs working in diverse sectors."

Kitchen Press published its first title The Parlour Café Cookbook to great acclaim last year. Emily is now planning to publish a series of cookbooks celebrating culinary heroes throughout the UK.

Tolani is hoping the programme will help develop her company NKILI which designs luxury shirts. Tolani, who studied architecture at the University, has already won awards and support from the Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust and Cultural Enterprise Office. Her designs are influenced by one of the protagonists of modern architecture Ludwig Mies Van der Rohe and his minimalist approach.

During the Starter for 6 programme Mhairi, Emily, Kirsty and Tolani have taken part in training sessions covering finance, marketing, defining your business and pitching/presentation skills.

Participants for the programme are selected on the basis that they can demonstrate an innovative and sustainable creative business and that they will be based in Scotland. It is open to businesses that are pre-start or that have been trading for less than one year. For more information visit www.culturalenterpriseoffice.co.uk/starterfor6

Reinventing the past and the role of historians



University researcher Dr John Regan has sparked a passionate debate about the role of historians in Irish history after analysing accounts of a notorious series of killings carried out almost a century ago.

Media headlines, televised debates and ongoing newspaper discussions have followed Dr Regan's assertion in the journal

History that important archival evidence had been ignored by some historians in order to present the killings in West Cork in 1922, known as the Bandon Valley Massacre, as sectarian.

The killings, which left 18 people, all but one of them Protestant, dead was described by the late Canadian historian Professor Peter Hart as having been motivated primarily by religious hatred. Others have argued that the deaths had nothing to do with religion and more to do with informing against the IRA.

Dr Regan has argued that his findings of key evidence being omitted suggests an overt ideological agenda influencing the work of some historians, calls into question the credibility of their research and highlights the distinction between "genuine research historians" and "public historians" motivated by the political needs of the present.

In Ireland, argues Dr Regan, it was the outbreak of the "Troubles" in 1969 which put pressure on historians to respond to the political environment.

"There was a view that histories over-emphasising the achievements of revolutionary republicanism nourished the resurgent IRA," he said. "It was a powerful idea explaining the origins of the crisis but it neglected structural problems like partition and inequalities in Northern Ireland. If the "wrong" history was the active ingredient causing the Troubles some reasoned the "right" history might help to end them or stop them spreading."

As a result some historians sought to present the violence of Irish history as rooted in long-standing sectarian hatred. One such historian, maintains Dr Regan, was Professor Hart who equated the West Cork murders to "ethnic cleansing." When he took a closer look at Professor Hart's work he discovered it didn't tally with the archival evidence.

"What I do is very technical historical research," he explained. "I go into the footnotes and check the text against these sources. I look for discrepancies and instances of historians following an ideological agenda."

In The IRA and its Enemies Professor Hart argued that those killed in the Bandon Valley Massacre could not have been informers by citing a secret British Intelligence Report of the time which claimed that in the south of Ireland "Protestants and those who supported the Government rarely gave much information because.. they did not have it to give."



West Cork IRA and Cumman na mBann (women's auxiliary) 1922

However he left out the next sentence in the report which added, "An exception to the rule was in the Bandon area where there were many Protestant farmers who gave information."

Hart also left out the name of the only person he had ever identified as one of the perpetrators of the massacre. This Dr Regan believes is because the man, an atheist son of a Protestant family, did not fit with Hart's argument that the killings were sectarian.

It is this type of elision, or the repeated omission of key evidence, that Dr Regan argues reveals the methodology employed by some historians.

"It became increasingly apparent to me that what some historians were writing did not relate to what existed in the archives (or their own footnotes). They were ignoring the evidence and so critical information went unseen. This became the subject of a research project and the findings are published in peer reviewed journals History, Historical Journal, and Irish Historical Studies.

"Hart crafted his narrative against the backdrop of the Northern Ireland troubles. He projected what he knew about contemporary violence onto West Cork in the 1920s. As a society we should deal with who we are historically but that is not valid if the historical narrative is an invention or is grossly distorted. Hart's book is an extraordinarily skilled piece of writing but it is not historical. It is propagandist writing of a very subtle kind."

It is an issue, Dr Regan believes, which could become apparent in Scotland too as the country prepares for the referendum on independence.

"Where you have conflict in contemporary society you will also have conflict in its history and how it is represented," he explains. "More pressure may be placed on historians and some will respond to that pressure in their writing."

Dr Regan's research on the Bandon Valley Massacre and other issues relating to Irish history will be available in a new book of essays and articles. *Bread and Circuses: Eight Problems in Modern Irish Historical Scholarship* will be published next year.



Is adaptation better than cure?

If the horse that is global carbon emissions has already bolted should we be shutting the barn door or concentrating on limiting the damage caused by the rogue equine?

That's a debate that Professor Terry Dawson, SAGES Chair in Global Environmental Change in the School of the Environment, believes needs to be taking place as he is not convinced there is any realistic prospect of curtailing emissions. With a highly complex system of global trade, there is little sign of the sea change required to prevent changes to sea levels but exactly what this means for the 7 billion people who call this planet home remains unclear.

Forecasts vary from the apocalyptic to the negligible, with vested interests and media hyperbole hardly helping to clarify the matter, but Professor Dawson has no doubt that our industrial development impacts on the health of the eco-system.

Professor Dawson and colleagues from Dundee, Durham, Southampton and China are pioneering a new way of measuring and monitoring the impact of industrial and agricultural development on the environment. They are examining the past condition of environmental resources in China's Yangtze basin region and developing forecasts for the future. The team drilled core samples at two lakes in the region, and made detailed studies of the sediment they retrieved. From this, they examined the condition of resources, which are essential for the survival of local communities and are an issue of growing concern as China industrialises at an exponential rate.

"Our results demonstrate that for China, as in other developing countries, economic growth and intensification of agriculture has resulted in degradation of biodiversity and soils and water quality," explained Professor Dawson.

"This is an example of the trade-offs that society is making with regarding to economic development, food security and the environment."

Perhaps surprisingly, Professor Dawson is not using these findings to argue for a drastic cut in carbon emissions, but rather for a shift towards a policy of adaptation that would see resources diverted instead to the need for enabling communities to mitigate the changes.

"I definitely think that adaptation is a better way forward for everyone," he says. "It's a no-win situation trying to handle carbon on a global scale. Some countries ignore any effort to put together any kind of mechanism to manage carbon on a global scale. Others say, 'why should we when they won't? In the UK, we basically contribute 2 per cent of the global carbon emissions. We could switch everything off tomorrow and it wouldn't make a difference if we do it unilaterally."

"On the other hand, poor people who stand to be adversely affected by climate change could be helped a lot if we use international development funds to help them to adapt to climate-based events rather than fighting a losing battle. That's maybe unpalatable to some, but it seem to have a more realistic chance of helping people. The human race has proved wonderfully adaptive over hundreds of thousands of years, and climate change is not an overnight phenomenon. We have a chance to help communities and people to cope based on evidence rather than apocalyptic predictions about what might happen."

One of the major problems that Professor Dawson sees with trying to manage global carbon emissions is the relentless development of countries such as China, India and Brazil. When the Kyoto Protocol was developed, these countries were excluded from calculations because it was deemed unfair to restrict their development in light of their relatively low per capita emissions. China is now the world's biggest emitter of carbon, and reportedly builds a new coal-fired power station every week.

Professor Dawson feels it is unrealistic to expect developing nations to curtail economic growth, trapping millions of people in poverty as a consequence, when the situation has arisen as a result of western industrialisation over the past two centuries.

He continued, "It's said that the environment takes second place to economic development in China but they are actually embracing new technology, such as renewable energy, more than many western countries. At the same time, China is sitting on enough coal for hundreds of years and are encouraging other countries to go down a coal-based energy production system and are quick to stand up and say "you can't tell us what to do when you built your wealth on this basis".

"In the medium term at least, there is still a need for a significant chunk of our energy output to be met by fossil fuels. Indeed, developing countries are only successful if they have the energy they require to grow. Should we stop them from succeeding?"

Many environmentalists maintain that the solution to climate change is for the world to understand our global interdependency but Professor Dawson believes this inextricability actually makes a reduction in carbon emissions harder to achieve, compounded by a misunderstanding of the role that individuals play in the process.

"Britain, for example, has relied heavily on Chinese manufacturing for years," explained Professor Dawson. "We complain that the Chinese environmental record is not great but we're contributing to it. One of the big arguments is that the only way Britain has been able to cut its carbon emissions is by outsourcing pollution to China. Old industries are not operating in the UK but there is still a carbon footprint attached to any product we import. China's wealth is dependent on our consumption so there's a very complex interrelation in global trade that's hard to unravel. There are arguments to suggest that as we become more interconnected it becomes harder to affect one part without sending a ripple effect throughout the entire system. Look at the sub-prime mortgage disaster and now the Eurozone crisis.

"People talk about hitting peak oil, but there always seems to be more efficient ways of accessing the product. As oil prices rise, other techniques become viable. There seems to be a never-ending increasing demand for energy.

I think, ultimately, we're going to mine fossil fuels until they run out. That's the reality we have to deal with, and have to help the people affected by climate change to deal with.

“When it snows in Scotland the country grinds to a halt, but not Sweden because it happens every year and they have adapted by building the necessary infrastructure”

"There is also a standard of living debate and there are those who say we need a contraction in expectations on the part of the western nations. You get people in some parts of the world every bit as happy as in western nations with emissions and salaries 5-10 times higher. But there is still no sign of this appetite being satisfied, and indeed it's being replicated in countries like China."

The original idea underpinning the Chinese study was a desire to devise a set of effective sustainability indicators, similar to the ones used to monitor the health of an economy. The project is now aiming to develop a regional 'ecosystem service index', monitoring the health of a region's environment. Economists often cite protectionism as a sure prescription for turning a recession into a global depression, but Professor Dawson believes there is actually a positive environmental potential in defending the national interest.

"When times are bad, politicians and policy makers are there to look after the interests of their people," he said. "We are seeing that even in rich countries where there are calls for an end to bail-outs and international aid. One of the issues that we are developing from our work in China is a debate about planetary boundaries – a theory about the environmental limit to the expansion of the human population. Our current work with the University of Southampton involves us trying to see whether we can downscale the idea of planetary boundaries to kind of regional boundaries where people can live within their environmental means. This might however limit the population and the amount of stuff they can produce and export in that region but it might be more effective than looking at the world as a whole.

"My feeling is that, for any meaningful reduction in carbon emissions to take place, there needs to be a new form of governance of global systems, and we face more environmental issues than just climate change. There exists an opportunity to protect our doorstep businesses. I'm in favour of subsidies and trade barriers as a first step to getting a control of our environmental impacts of our lives.

"We need to bring an evidence base to decision making for policy, and I think the way forward is about adaptation. When it snows in Scotland the country grinds to a halt, but not Sweden because it happens every year and they have adapted by building the necessary infrastructure. If this is to be the norm then we can adapt to these events on a national or regional basis as they occur rather than trying to deal with hypothetical future scenarios which, in terms of bringing a hugely complex system of global financial interdependency to heel, we are almost powerless to prevent."



More access for families urges road death report

Families of road death victims in Scotland should be given full access to investigation reports relating to the incident, according to a report by the University and Scotland's Campaign against Irresponsible Drivers (SCID).

Granting bereaved families access to detailed collision investigation reports would aid the grieving process and improve post-impact care for families, argues the report which was published in the summer.

At present, in Scotland, there is no formal procedure for access by the family of a victim of a fatal road collision to the police report and associated documents. This is in marked contrast to some countries in Europe where a police report is provided on request to the family of a road death victim on completion of the investigation or conclusion of criminal proceedings.

The report concludes that Scotland could establish a new system reasonably simply that would open up new avenues of accessing information to bereaved families.

Vikki Long, researcher in the School of Law at Dundee who compiled the report, said, "It is very encouraging to learn that legal procedures and practices exist in several European countries that could have a positive influence on the development of Scots law in relation to access to information following a fatal road collision. If these were adopted in Scotland it would reduce some of the anguish experienced by those bereaved by road death."

Stuart Cross, senior lecturer at the School of Law and one of the editors of the report added, "The Scottish government has a unique opportunity here to improve the rights of families of victims of fatal road collisions by providing them with a legal right to access the relevant information about what actually happened."

"A coherent, consistent system embedded in clear legislation would help answer the question that many families ask - 'what happened?'"

Joyce Beasley, Chairperson of SCID, said, "Whatever the circumstances of a road death, it is SCID's experience that bereaved families will wish to access as much information as possible about the fatal collision and that having access to that information will aid the grieving process.

"We have been campaigning in Scotland on behalf of bereaved families to have a system in place whereby the family of a road death victim can, if desired, obtain access to the police report and associated documentation compiled by the police, the procurator fiscal and other experts and agencies during the investigation into the collision. This report shows that this is already happening in some other countries throughout Europe and that such a system could be implemented in Scotland."

The report states that the optimum situation would be the establishment of an independent multi-disciplinary body carrying out in-depth safety investigations of all fatal road collisions in tandem with the police and publishing its report, together with primary legislation providing a legal right of access to the police report and associated documents on completion of the investigation or on conclusion of criminal proceedings.

Analysis Wall

A massive touchscreen measuring more than 4 square metres has been built by researchers in the School of Computing.

The Analysis Wall can be used to plot the path of a debate, separating out the arguments in real time and allowing direct participants and those contributing online to make contributions in parallel.

The Wall is seen as a tool that can remove much of the distinction between, for example, a television or radio studio debate and the resulting discussion and commentary that it prompts online.

Researchers in the School of Computing developed the Wall for use in the field of argument analysis and have road tested it live by dissecting the discussion on the BBC Radio 4 programme 'The Moral Maze'.

Professor Chris Reed, who leads the team that built the Analysis Wall, said, "Whether you're looking at real time environmental risk management, intelligence analysis, criminal investigation, or plotting the path of a political debate, it comes down to getting many smart, well-trained analysts together, supported by the right hardware plus smooth, well-engineered software underpinned by solid theory of reasoning and argument.

"That's what we've done with the Analysis Wall, with new research all the way from the philosophy through the artificial intelligence, to the practical engineering.

"Some tasks are simply not suited to being divided up amongst many people who quietly work on their own part of the picture. Wherever you have complex, highly connected webs of reasoning you need a big shared work space. If you add in time pressures nothing beats the direct, physical manipulation that a touch screen offers."

Professor Reed said the Wall added a new dimension to monitoring, directing and participating in live discussion.

"This blurs the boundaries between what is happening on a radio or TV programme and any associated discussion online. It brings the two together. Our own specialist field is in argumentation theory, breaking down the nature of arguments and debates, and the Analysis Wall allows us to do this live, rather than waiting for a week or two to receive full transcripts and associated comments."

The project is part of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council-funded Dialectical Argumentation Machines project.

**be inspired...
try something new**



superstar team challenge
thursday • 18 october @ 6 - 8pm

have you ever wanted to prove you're the best both physically and mentally? search for a superstar team challenge will determine who is the toughest! work up a sweat through a variety of fitness tests. the overall champions will be crowned ise superstars. not for the feint hearted!! we are looking for teams of 4 to take part – are you tough enough?

register at ise reception now!
(your £10 per team registration money will be donated to help men living with prostate cancer in Dundee)

wear it pink - zumba superhero party
tuesday • 23 october @ 6 - 8pm

dance like you've never danced before! come and join us for a fun filled zumba party with a difference, inspired by the traditional cumbia, salsa, samba and merengue music and moves we have in class. being part of our charity event to help raise money for breast cancer campaign shows you are a superhero so we want you to dress like one for the occasion!!

register at ise reception now!
(only £5 to reserve your place)

any queries or questions, please contact
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email n.long@dundee.ac.uk • tel 01382 386763

Transforming lives with cleft research and care



For Professor Peter Mossey, one of the world's leading experts in craniofacial anomalies such as cleft lip and palate, the facts are stark. While the chances of being born with such a birth defect are broadly similar across the world, the consequences are not.

"Across the developed world the rate of infant mortality for children with cleft problems is the same as those with those as non-cleft kids. However, the vast majority of children born with cleft palate in India or sub-Saharan Africa do not survive," said Professor Mossey, who is based in the School of Dentistry.

"The reasons for this are complex but they include a variety of issues from a perceived burden of care, misplaced cultural beliefs such as curses, familial stigma and a lack of health care and facilities. But a major part of that is this perception that these children have a very serious defect that cannot be treated. Many people think that even with the best care these children will not survive. That is not the case. Surgical repair of the cleft lip at 3 months and repair of the palate at around 9 months can rehabilitate these children and for many this restores their ability to eat and speak normally.

"Children with cleft lip and/or palate do have significant care needs that require multi-disciplinary support through to adulthood, but the important thing is that we can treat these children and they can lead a very productive and rewarding life."

Getting that message across is one of the main challenges for those working in the field. "I would say that is perhaps our greatest challenge in the developing world," said Professor Mossey. "We need to raise awareness of the possibilities of cleft repair and rehabilitation. It need not be a death sentence."

Professor Mossey has concentrated his research on cleft lip and palate for the past 20 years. The condition is one that affects around 1-in-700 children. It can cause significant problems for feeding babies, affect speech and lead to difficulties in dental development.

Treatment is fairly standardised across the developed world, with significant advances having been made in the past two decades. "At one point there were widespread differences in how the problem was treated, but there is now considerably better agreement on best practice and treatment has improved considerably," said Professor Mossey.

"So in what we might call the developed world, we are tackling cleft lip and palate at a multi-disciplinary level aimed at improving quality of care but in the developing world even access to care remains a major issue. We have to combat a number of issues ranging from cultural beliefs to a lack of healthcare infrastructure".

"The good news is that it is an issue that is now taken seriously by the World Health Organisation, who we lobbied to include birth defects among their range of non-communicable diseases and which they accepted. That sort of backing helps people like me find more support for work in areas such as sub-Saharan Africa.

"Organisations like the WHO are now increasingly switching their attention to other health problems in parts of the world where infections such as HIV/Aids or malaria are being more effectively controlled. Over the last 2 decades we see a phenomenon known as the "rising tide" of birth defects as a cause of infant mortality.



Due to vaccinations, better sanitation, clean water and improved nutrition neo-natal and childhood infections are better controlled and therefore these children are given a better chance of life. This in turn leads to a greater proportion of genetic or part-genetic conditions such as birth defects and cleft lip and palate is one of these.

"But there are significant changes occurring now in the developing world in the developing world and for example another country with high infant mortality due to cleft lip and palate is India where cleft lip and palate is being addressed with the help of western intervention through education, greater awareness and charitable support."

Professor Mossey is helping co-ordinate a new genomic study into craniofacial anomalies such as cleft lip and palate in Ethiopia,. The project will investigate the genetic and environmental causes of craniofacial anomalies with the ultimate aim of prevention. The research project is being conducted by principal investigator Dr Mekonen Eshete of Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia with the support of Professor Mossey at Dundee and Dr Azeez Butali of the University of Iowa as external advisers and collaborators. Dr Butali was formerly a PhD student of Professor Mossey at Dundee who between 2005 and 2009 completed his Doctorate project on the topic of cleft lip and palate in Nigeria.

"There are two main research issues we have to address," said Professor Mossey. "Firstly we must improve access to care and the overall quality of care. And secondly we must increase prevention of the condition. We know that there are genetic and environmental factors which contribute to the condition. If we can identify a genetic predisposition to it, and then find out what modification to environment can help control it, then the hope is we can put together a package that can stop it."

The Ethiopian study has been boosted by support from companies DNA Genotek and BioServe Technologies. Through the DNA Genotek Helping Hands Program, DNA Genotek will be providing Oragene®•DNA kits to collect DNA from saliva from study participants. DNA Genotek Partner Program member BioServe Biotechnologies will provide the DNA extraction services as part of its corporate philanthropy program.

"This generous gesture by DNA Genotek and BioServe, by raising awareness is literally life-saving, and will unlock the potential for the study in Ethiopia that is geared ultimately towards primary prevention and that can be replicated in other sub-Saharan African countries ".

“We need to raise awareness of the possibilities of cleft repair and rehabilitation. It need not be a death sentence.”

Olympic boost for Eilish



University sports scholar of the year Eilish McColgan added Olympian to her sporting CV this summer when she lined up against the world's best in the 3000m steeplechase at the London games.

The 21-year-old athlete had battled her way back to fitness after a potentially career-ending injury last summer to secure the Olympic A qualifying time for the gruelling event and win a coveted place in the Team GB squad.

Although disappointed at not making it through the heats to the Olympic final, Eilish believes her experiences in London will stand her in good stead in the years ahead.

"I'm so grateful to have been selected for the Olympics," she said. "It was an amazing experience. Walking into the stadium and hearing 80,000 people cheering is something I'll never forget.

"I'm usually pretty calm about racing as all the hard work has been done in training but every single seat was taken in the stadium unlike all the other races I've taken part in before. It made me extremely nervous.

"But being a part of the Olympics has definitely made me more determined. I hadn't been able to train to my full potential due to running the risk of injury to my broken foot last year and I had to be very careful in what I was doing this year.

"Next year will be a huge step up in training and there should be big improvements to be made. I'll be concentrating more on the weakest part of my event and working on my barrier technique."



Eilish, who is coached by her mum, former 10,000m world champion Liz McColgan, has her sights firmly set on a series of ambitious targets over the next few years.

"I want to be in the final at next year's world championships and in the top five at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014," she said. "Then I want to be in the top five at the 2015 World Championships and the top five at the next Olympics."

If her progress this year is anything to go by, Eilish could be well on track to realising her dreams. So far she has set personal bests in the 5000m, 3000m 1500m and 3000m steeplechase this season.

Her determination and commitment have brought other rewards too including an invitation to run in the prestigious Fifth Avenue Mile in New York in September. Closer to home she is now in more demand for school talks and corporate events and children at her club track now shout her name as they watch her train.

These diversions apart though, it is back to normal for Eilish as she settles in to an intensive period of winter training and resumes her maths and accountancy degree.

"It is a bit strange after the Olympics because you live in a bubble while you are there and everything is done for you. I think I had the Olympic blues for a while but now it is good to get back to normal and get back into training."

London calling for University contingent



The University's involvement in the London Olympics began long before the opening ceremony began. Two of the 8000 torchbearers who transported the Olympic flame the length and breadth of the UK, have a University connection.

Dr Anna Campbell (pictured above), a lecturer at ISE and an expert on the role of exercise in cancer survivorship, carried the flame through Meigle while Dr Jill Roche, a recent graduate of the School of Medicine, carried it through Dundee.

Dr Campbell has spent more than 10 years researching the effects of exercise on cancer survivorship and has established the first city wide cancer rehabilitation programmes in Glasgow and Dundee for women with breast cancer. A keen runner, she leads the Clinical Exercise Science component of the Sports Biomedicine Degree Programme at the University.

Dr Jill Roche (25) is a former elite gymnast who also ran at national level during her school years and played volleyball for Scotland, captaining the University team and playing in the Scottish Universities National team. As well as her studies and sporting activities Dr Roche is also an active fundraiser for charity and has carried out a considerable amount of voluntary work over the years.



Two current medical students also played an important role during the Olympics and Paralympics.

Hannah Lawrie, who is a member of the University's Volleyball Club, acted as scorer at the Paralympic Sitting Volleyball tournament, while Kenny Duffy (pictured above) used his skills as a physiotherapist to help keep the world's finest athletes at the top of their game.

Hannah, who regularly acts as scorer during varsity fixtures, attended a number of training workshops prior to the Paralympics to make sure she was fully prepared.

Kenny (29) qualified as a physiotherapist before returning to University to embark upon a medical degree two years ago. He was head coach of the University's Trampoline Club for 2011/12, and also runs twice weekly clinics for Dundee University Sport athletes.

A native Dundonian, he has worked as a physio with Scottish national junior squads in trampoline, gymnastics and women's football in the past. During London 2012 he was based at Wembley Stadium.

ISE member David Winch handed over a cheque for £2541 to Dr Anna Campbell (left) and Hazel Ednie (right) both of ISE and Dr Phyllis Windsor (centre) of Ninewells. The money, raised through a 12 mile solo row down the Tay, will help men living with prostate cancer access the CanMove Dundee programme based at ISE.



HUMAN RACE

INSIDE THE HISTORY OF SPORTS MEDICINE

University hosts Human Race exhibition

A fascinating exhibition focusing on the science behind sport arrived at the University in September for a seven week run.

Human Race: Inside the History of Sports Medicine highlights for the first time some of the pioneering developments in medical imaging, surgery and sports training that have taken place over the last 200 years, and their subsequent impact on the development of Sports and Exercise Medicine

Funded by the Olympic Legacy Trust, the exhibition, which was officially opened by local athlete and Olympic torch-bearer Ronnie McIntosh, runs until 10 November at the Lamb Gallery and the Institute of Sport and Exercise. It includes objects contributed by museums, individuals and other institutions from across Scotland.

The Dundee leg of the exhibition's tour of Scotland, which has been seen by more than 200,000 visitors across Scotland including Stirling, Aberdeen, Inverness and Edinburgh, will feature a number of local highlights including a variety of evening and lunchtime talks relating to sports medicine.

On 24 October Professor Rami Abboud, Director of Institute of Motion Analysis and Research, will discuss reliance on technology in assessment and enhancing performance in a talk entitled Technology, Biomechanics and Humans!

Later in the month Mr William Hadden, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at Ninewells Hospital will look at the work of Professor Ian Smillie, founder of the University's Department of Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgery and a specialist knee surgeon with a worldwide reputation. The talk, A Small Giant, will take place on 31 October in the D'Arcy Thompson lecture theatre in the Tower Building.

Talks already taken place have included a look at the role of an international rugby team doctor by Dundee graduate Dr James Robson, Head of Medical Services with the Scottish Rugby Union and a discussion on the preparations for Glasgow 2014 by Vicky Strange, General Manager of Sports Competition for the Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

Lunchtime talks, which will all take place in T4 in the Tower Building, include Dr Anna Campbell, lecturer in Sports Biomedicine, who will look at the health benefits of staying active (12 October), Brian Ewing, Director of ISE, who will be highlighting how football has embraced sports science (19 October), Dr Graham Lowe, Curator of the Tayside Medical History Museum, who will be exploring the life of George Alexander Pirie, Dundee's X-ray pioneer. (2 November)

The final lunchtime talk on 9 November also forms part of Dundee Science Festival and features Dr Peter Taylor, Senior Lecturer in Molecular Physiology, discussing the extraordinary career of pioneering experimental physiologist John Scott Haldane.

The exhibition, which includes a workshop programme for schools, covers five sports science related themes.

“The timing is very good for us as it follows on so quickly after the Olympics and Paralympics.”

These include charting the development of medical imaging and diagnosing sports injuries with increasing accuracy, surgical advances that allow athletes to quickly return to competition following injury, the historical change over the last two hundred years in how an athlete is prepared for competition,

doping in sport and the controversy over changing technologies and equipment and their impact on sporting performance and a historical look at how sport and exercise has been promoted as a means to improve the health of the nation with a pause for thought regarding the negative health effects that professional sport can have on the elite athlete.

Curator of Museum Services at the University Matthew Jarron is confident the Human Race will prove a fascinating attraction for visitors particularly with an increased interest in sport following the Olympics and Paralympics.

“The feedback from other venues has been very good and we have some really interesting local highlights here,” he said. “The timing is also very good for us as it follows on so quickly after the Olympics and Paralympics. There are lots of connections, particularly with the role of science in facilitating the extraordinary achievements of our Paralympic athletes.”

Dr Audrey Duncan, Sports Science Manager at ISE agreed. “Human Race is an official part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad. The exhibition, and its associated programme of events, which spans science, medicine, art and history really does have something to offer everyone with an interest in sport and exercise and allows us to be an exciting part of the cultural and sporting legacy of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games”.

For more information on the exhibition visit the website at www.humanrace.org.uk/

www.dundee.ac.uk/pressoffice

www.dundee.ac.uk/pressoffice

Star turn for Zoe at Literary Festival



Zoe Venditozzi (pictured), a recent graduate of the University's MLitt in Creative Writing, has many years experience of helping out at the annual Dundee Literary Festival. This year however, rather than handing out tickets, putting up posters and looking after guest

authors she'll be stepping out of the sidelines and into the spotlight.

Zoe will be taking centre stage at the launch event of this year's Festival in the Dalhousie Building on 24 October when she officially launches her own debut novel *Anywhere's Better Than Here*.

"I'm delighted to be involved in the launch of this year's festival," said Zoe. "I've loved helping at the Literary Festivals over the years as it is such a great event but it will be very special this year to be here as a published novelist for the first time. It's such a wonderful thing to be part of."

Festival Director Anna Day is hoping the double launch will highlight the city's blossoming literary scene and the growth of the festival itself.

"We wanted to create a symmetry between this year's festival with its new look programme and the work of a wonderful new local author who was educated here at the University," she said.

"The festival is bigger and slicker this year but it hasn't lost its heart. We have a wonderful mix of events from literary fiction, poetry, sports, music, food, workshops, history, adventuring and lots of events for kids.

"The programme is a triumph, featuring world class authors coming to Dundee to read from new work, to let us into the secrets of their success, as well as local authors, debut authors and even some killer events."

Included in the star-studded line-up are Morvern Callar author Alan Warner and award-winning journalist and novelist James Meek who will be appearing together to read from their work on Friday 26 October, celebrated poet and playwright Liz Lochhead and Booker-shortlisted novelist Bernard MacLaverty (both 27 October) and Costa novel of the year winner Colm Toibin (29 October).

News and current affairs also feature large in this year's festival programme with appearances from the BBC's Political Editor Nick Robinson, who will be discussing politics, power and the media on 26 October and the BBC's Middle East correspondent Jeremy Bowen who will be highlighting his new book *The Arab Uprisings* (27 October).

The war in Afghanistan will also be explored by writer Max Benitz who will be talking about his book recording the months he spent in Afghanistan with the Scots Guards.

With sporting fever at an all time high after the success of the Olympics and Paralympics, this year's Literary Festival is offering a feast for fitness fans with talks by adventurer and author Mark Beaumont (25 October) and runners Geoff and Ben Beattie and Phil Hewitt who will be considering why people run (27 October).

On 28 October, Drs John Babraj and Ross Lorimer, authors of new book *The High Intensity Workout*. Will discuss their research and give festival-goers the chance to try a high intensity session themselves. Later that day football writers Rodge Glass, Graham Hunter and Richard Wilson will be relating their tales from the back page.

This year's Comics festival will span three days and will celebrate the work of award-winning Scottish author Grant Morrison. Beginning with a special screening of a documentary of his life on Friday 26 October it will continue with a workshop on 27 October and a full-day conference on the 28th.

For more information on Dundee Literary Festival 2012 visit the website at www.literarydundee.co.uk/festival/2012/

"The festival is bigger and slicker this year but it hasn't lost its heart. We have a wonderful mix of events."



Poetry



Sports



Workshops



Comics



Children



Current Affairs



Crime



Non-Fiction



Fiction



Ecological and Environmental Physiology of Fishes

Professor F Brian Eddy and Professor Richard D Handy
Oxford University Press

Fishes have evolved to colonise almost every type of aquatic habitat and today they are a hugely diverse group of over 25,000 species. The evolution of this great diversity of species has resulted in a myriad of

solutions to the demands posed by the aquatic environment.

Ecological and Environmental Physiology of Fishes presents a current and comprehensive overview of fish physiology to demonstrate how living fishes function in their environment. The emphasis is on the unique physiological characteristics of the fish, but with applications to questions of broad relevance in physiological ecology.

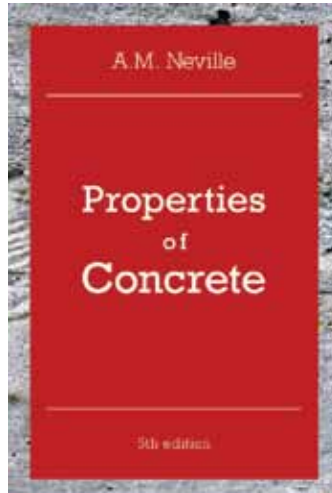
A preliminary chapter introduces the aquatic environment and gives a general description of fish biology, evolution, and taxonomy. Subsequent sections discuss the particular problems of living in water, life in extreme environments, techniques for studying fish ecophysiology, and future research directions.

This accessible text, which incorporates the latest experimental techniques, is for both graduate level students and researchers in the fields of fish comparative physiology and physiological ecology, and those taking specialist courses in fish ecology.

It will also be of relevance and use to professional fish biologists and aquaculturists seeking a concise but authoritative overview of the topic.

F Brian Eddy is Professor Emeritus at the University of Dundee and previously held a personal chair as Professor of Zoology in the Department of Biology.

Richard D Handy is at the University of Plymouth where he is Professor in the School of Biomedical and Biological Sciences (Faculty of Science and Technology). Richard studied for his Ph D (1987 - 1990) and was awarded a Natural Environment Research Council Fellowship (1990 - 1993) in the Department of Biological Sciences, University of Dundee.



Properties of Concrete – 5th Edition

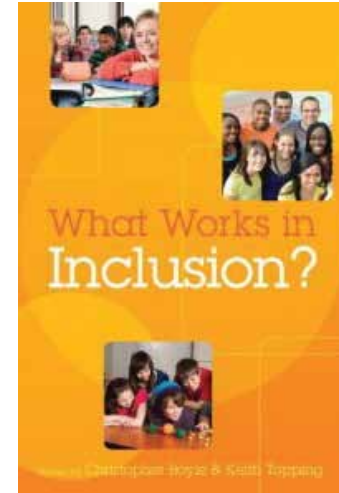
Adam Neville

Since its first publication in 1963, **Properties of Concrete** has been internationally acclaimed as the definitive work of reference on the subject for both the professional and the student engineer. It has been translated into 12 languages and has sold well over half a million copies.

The fifth edition has been updated to reflect advances in concrete technology over the past decade, yet it still retains the original aim: to provide reliable, comprehensive and practical information on the properties and use of concrete, and the selection of mix proportions based on scientific observations and the author's extensive engineering experience.

The emphasis is on understanding the behaviour of concrete and relating it to physical and chemical phenomena involved in the performance of the material in service. The overall effect is to give an integrated view of the properties of concrete so as to enable the reader to achieve the best possible construction in concrete. In addition, the scientific basis of the information provided is invaluable in planning research and in the interpretation of test results.

Dr Adam Neville CBE, TD, FRSE, FEng is a former Principal of the University. He is a renowned international authority on concrete and author or co-author of nine other books, the latest of which are Neville on Concrete and Concrete: Neville's Insights and Issues, as well as over 250 research and technical papers.



What works in inclusion?

Christopher Boyle and Keith Topping

While there is a plethora of material on the subject of school inclusion it is often weighted towards offering definitions and theories of inclusion.

Although these are useful and important for understanding international perspectives and approaches, the practical scenarios encountered by teachers, by definition, operate on a completely different level.

The aim of this new book, by Keith Topping and Christopher Boyle, is to highlight such success. This approach has a focus on the realistic aspect of practising inclusive education and facilitating all levels of teacher educational experience to be clear about what is likely to make a difference in practice.

It concentrates on how to make inclusion work from the view of internationally established practitioners in the field of teacher education.

Keith Topping is Professor of Educational and Social Research with the School of Education at the University of Dundee.

Christopher Boyle is Lecturer in Psychology and Inclusive Education in the Faculty of Education at Monash University, Melbourne.

DJCAD wins 'Best Marketing Strategy' prize

Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design's innovative approach to marketing has won it a prestigious prize at this year's Scottish Event Awards.

This year's DJCAD Degree Show beat off competition from Edinburgh's Hogmanay, the Ideal Home Show Scotland, Irn Bru Carnival, The Enchanted Forest, and Young Scot Rewards to win 'Best Marketing Strategy' award.

DJCAD marketing manager Mhari MacDonald said she was delighted with the success.



Picture above shows star guest and former Rector of Dundee University Lorraine Kelly with Professor Tom Inns, Dean of DJCAD, with "Elvis" AKA graduate Matthew Corden at this years Degree Show Associates Night.

"What we're doing is supporting and promoting the Degree Show, so we give our talented and dedicated art and design students the best possible platform to showcase their work.

"Whilst we're delighted to be recognised in this way, the success of the Degree Show is determined by the quality of work being exhibited. The talent at DJCAD is borne out by the success that our graduates go on to have at exhibitions, in the workplace, and the awards they win."

The marketing team used a strategic and integrated campaign comprising artwork, advertising, events, printed materials, publicity, online presence, and social media to push the boundaries of previous campaigns. As a result, high levels of attendance were maintained while raising the profile of DJCAD.

The DJCAD Degree Show was commended in the same category at the 2011 Scottish Event Awards, and went one better this time around. In previous years, it has also been named Best Educational Event at the Scottish and UK Event Awards.



DJCAD Masters Show 2012

Around 50 postgraduate students from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design (DJCAD) put on an eye-catching and thought-provoking display of their work over the past year at the University's annual Masters Show in August.

Five Masters programmes, namely Animation & Visualisation, Design, Fine Art, Forensic Art and Medical Art, were featured at DJCAD and at GENERATOR Projects in Mid Wynd.

Jeanette Paul, Head of Learning & Teaching at DJCAD, "Some of the UK's most exciting postgraduate courses are to be found at DJCAD, and we can certainly boast some of the country's top postgraduate art and design students.

"This year's crop have produced highly stimulating, thought-provoking work which demonstrates intelligent research as well as the creativity, imagination and innovation that is the mark of artists and designers."

Some of the talking points from this year's show included a 3D-reconstruction of a decapitated Viking's skull, a project to promote neighbourliness in a Dundee housing scheme, and a set of 'dating chairs' for romance-seekers.



MASTERS

court news

The April and June meetings of Court saw the discussion of a broad range of topics, including preparations for the Research Excellence Framework, budget setting, and collaborative agreements.

Student experience survey

At the April meeting, the Principal announced that Dundee University had been named as the best university in the UK in the Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey. The Court congratulated all those whose industry and dedication had contributed to the rating, and were pleased to hear that the University had performed well across a range of categories - scoring particularly well in: facilities (ranked 1st), accommodation (joint 2nd), Students' Union (3rd), social activities (joint 3rd), and high quality staff lectures (4th).

Collaborative Agreements

In April the Court considered a proposal for a new collaborative project with the Costeas-Geitonas School in Athens. The agreement would see the four year MA (developed from the existing Bachelor of Primary Education (BEd)) delivered in Athens by Staff from the School of Education, Social Work & Community Education. The Court supported this innovative project and looked forward to further updates. An update on the Dasman Diabetes Institute collaboration was also received, with the Court noting a positive and productive start to the project and expressing an ongoing interest in the project.

Finance and the Budget

As usual, the June meeting saw the Court formally approve the proposed budget for 2012-13 along with the financial forecasts for submission to the Funding Council. The Court was also pleased to hear that research funding awards for 2011-12 had recovered from a dip in 2010/11, and was even predicted to exceed the levels seen in 2009/10.

Governance

The April and June meetings saw Court approve recommendations from the Remuneration Committee to update its remit, as well as recommendations emerging from the Audit Committee's review of effectiveness. Changes proposed by the Graduates' Council to the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations pertaining to Graduates' Council were also approved (Details of these are on the PGLA website www.dundee.ac.uk/academic/court).

Student Recruitment

Following the introduction of fees for students from the rest of the UK (RUK) in September 2011, the Court showed a keen interest in the regular updates provided by Student Operations. Recruitment figures, bursary and scholarship awards, as well as entry to the new three-year degree programme were reviewed, and emerging patterns of student recruitment for entry in 2012/13 were discussed at length.

Research Excellence Framework

The April meeting saw a presentation to Court on preparations for the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014. Court noted that the review differed from the previous Research Assessment Exercise of 2008, with the focus now placed squarely on the excellence of an institution's research. Court recognised the importance, both financial and reputational, of achieving a good REF performance, and at the June meeting Court approved the Internal Framework for Engagement with REF 2014, including the Code of Practice on the Selection of Staff for submission to the REF Equality and Diversity Panel.

Annual Reports

The Court welcomed the annual reports from the Sports Union and Dundee University Students' Association (DUSA). The Sports Union President, Ms Sophie Warburton, highlighted the successes and milestones of 2011/12, reporting a 21% increase in attendance at training sessions, and a 15% increase in Sports Union membership. Court praised the work of the Sports Union, and was pleased to hear of the evolving supportive relationships with DUSA and the Institute for Sport and Exercise. The President of DUSA also set out major achievements and significant events occurring throughout 2011/12, including a number of high level debates and work on the DUSA Executive Manifesto.

Comings and Goings

Court paid tribute to two of its members for whom the June meeting would be their last. Donald Cathcart had reached the end of his term of office as the member of Court elected by non-teaching staff, while Matthew Kendrick was stepping down as the independent student representative on Court. The Court welcomed Ms Sheila Krawczyk and Ms Julie McGovern who had been elected to fill these roles from 1 August 2012.

The Court formally learnt of the death in early May of its former member Lt Col. Denis Naulty who had served as the Graduate's Council Assessor on University Court from 1979 - 1987 and from 1991 - 1995. Court members expressed their condolences, noting his contributions during his terms of office.

The Court also noted the appointment of the following Deputy Principals: Professor Margaret Smith, Deputy Principal for Internationalisation; Professor Alan Page, Deputy Principal for Research Governance; and Professor Georgina Follett, Deputy Principal for Knowledge Exchange in the Creative Arts. The appointments were made for a period of three years in the first instance from 1 August 2012.

Contact

The next edition of Contact will be published in December. The copy deadline is Monday 29 October. Submissions should be sent to h.mcnally@dundee.ac.uk by that date.

appointments



Professor Annalu Waller

Personal Chair of Human Communication Technologies

Professor Waller has been at the University since 1989. Gaining her PhD in 1992, she held several research posts before being appointed lecturer in 1998 and senior lecturer in 2008.

As a newly qualified rehabilitation engineer, Annalu established the first augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) service in South Africa before coming to Scotland to investigate the role of narrative in AAC. Her research continues to focus on applying artificial intelligence in the design of systems to support the development of language and communication with and for people with severe speech and physical impairments (SSPI).

She is pioneering ways in which children and adults with SSPI can actively participate in the design of assistive technology.

Professor Waller has recently established a unique user group of volunteers with SSPI to work with researchers and industry to design and evaluate intelligent technology for AAC, thus reducing the high rate of technology abandonment and equipping people with SSPI to reach their individual potential.



Professor Graeme Martin

Chair in Management

Professor Graeme Martin

Professor Martin joins the Centre for Energy, Petroleum, Mineral Law and Policy from the University of Glasgow Business School, where he held a professorial appointment and was also programme director for a masters in

clinical leadership run in conjunction with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

Before that he was a professor at the Edinburgh Business School at Heriot Watt University and Director of the Dundee Business School at Abertay.

He is a senior adviser to the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development in the UK and a Global Faculty member of the New York-based Reputation Institute.

Professor Martin has published extensively in the fields of management and leadership, human resources and change management, including many refereed articles in international journals, book chapters and books.



Professor Andrea Ross

Personal Chair in Environmental Law

Professor Andrea Ross joined the University in 1996 initially as a Lecturer and was then promoted to Senior Lecturer and Reader.

After qualifying as a barrister and solicitor in Ontario Canada, she obtained her LL.M in Environmental law at Aberdeen in 1991

where she was then appointed to a lectureship in Land Economy.

Professor Ross' research in public and environmental law focuses on the implementation of sustainable development and accountability in systems of multi-level governance.

Her book *Sustainable Development Law in the UK from Rhetoric to Reality* provides the first critical account of the various policy, institutional and legal mechanisms used by the UK and devolved administrations to implement sustainable development and explores how law can be used to support best practice in implementing sustainable development.

Professor Ross is the academic member of the Law Society for Scotland's planning law sub-committee. Her research continues to inform law and policy in the UK, Scotland and Wales.



Professor Hornig

Personal Chair of Magneto-hydrodynamics

Professor Gunnar Hornig's academic career began at the Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany, where he studied theoretical physics and was awarded a PhD with distinction in Theoretical Astrophysics in 1997.

He won a prestigious award for a Junior Research Group funded by the VW-Foundation, which allowed him to lead a research group on applications of knot theory to magnetic fields for six years.

He then worked in St Andrews before taking up a position at Dundee in 2005, first as Lecturer and then as Reader in Applied Mathematics.

Professor Hornig's main field of research is Magneto-hydrodynamics, a theory which describes the dynamics of magnetic fields in plasmas or liquid metals. He analyses complex field structures using topological and geometrical methods. The exploitation of these links to other complex systems, together with the work on magneto-hydrodynamics, form his future research directions.

CECHR takes off

cechr Four years after the creation of the Centre for Environmental Change and Human Resilience, the joint initiative between the University and the James Hutton Institute is growing into a new, more dynamic phase.

For Director Dr John Rowan it is a particularly exciting time with an increasing range of potential benefits and opportunities for the University.

“We are growing critical mass, new projects are popping up and things are moving into a more dynamic phase,” he said. “It is enormously exciting as it will lead to even more valuable work.

“We started out with a very clear agenda. It was about building the network and translating the vision and we have done that. The community is much more connected.

“At the outset we had three PhD students and now we have 14. We now have a Chair in Architecture, a chair in Human Geography, a new Chair in Social Dimensions of Climate Change and a Chair in Global Environmental Change. We’re seeing now that we have a much stronger University presence.”

Dr Rowan added that additional signs of the Centre’s growing success are the increase in the number and diversity of research grants, the publication of more research and the acknowledgement of expert status.

“External income generation is a key indicator of our progress,” he said. “Recent successes have included awards from NERC to Professor Mike Bonell at the UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science for work on Changing Water Cycles in India and to both Andrew Allan (UNESCO) and Terry Dawson in the School of the Environment for Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) Projects.



“CECHR has always been about bringing people together and harnessing the creativity of academics so that we can make a difference.”

“Colin Reid in the School of Law has achieved success from the Arts and Humanities Research Council to fund research into privatisation and biodiversity, whilst Alan MacDonald in History is working on climate change in Early Modern Scotland with support from the Leverhulme Trust.

“The productive potential of this vibrant and creative research community is also now being realised as the flow of publications in high quality journals begins to grow.

“We are also building stakeholder engagement through representation in the Scottish Government’s new ‘Centres of Expertise.’ For example Professor Chris Spray (UNSECO) has been appointed to the Steering Group of the Centre for Research Expertise on Water (CREW), whilst I’ve been appointed to the Directorate of the Centre for Expertise on Climate Change (now called the ClimateXChange).”

With the first cohort of students due to graduate next year Dr Rowan is hopeful for the future.

“We are building something very tangible,” he said. “The challenges we are addressing are not going to go away. In fact they are getting more severe and they are wicked problems. It is difficult for one discipline to make a difference. CECHR has always been about bringing people together and harnessing the creativity of academics so that we can make a difference. And our research is being translated into benefiting people’s lives. One of our students, for example, is working on fuel poverty.”

Flame of Hope Award for cancer researcher



A senior lecturer from the Medical Research Institute has been recognised as part of Cancer Research UK’s Flame of Hope Awards, an annual celebration of the outstanding contribution and achievements of dedicated volunteers.

Dr Colin J Henderson (pictured) received a Special Commendation in the Ambassador of the Year category, recognising his enthusiasm for public engagement and commitment to Cancer Research UK.

Local fundraiser Alana Loudon (pictured) personally presented Dr Henderson with the award at a Dundee Cancer Centre celebration attended by colleagues from across the University and Cancer Research UK.

Over the last 15 years, Dr Henderson has run lab tours within the University and attended numerous events on behalf of Cancer Research UK – including Race for Life and Relay for Life – to highlight the charity’s life saving research in Dundee.

Sarah Muir, Cancer Research UK Local Engagement Manager, said, “Dr Henderson has been involved in public engagement for Cancer Research UK since the mid-90s and has an infectious passion and enthusiasm for engaging supporters with local research, so I am delighted this has been recognised with such a prestigious award.”



WEST PARK

CHRISTMAS AT WEST PARK

PARTY NIGHTS FROM **£16** PER PERSON

Celebrating science at Dundee Science Festival

The science of warfare, sports medicine, wildlife photography and celebrity science will all be on offer at the University next month as part of Dundee Science Festival.

Running from 3 to the 18 November this two week celebration of science and innovation will see more than 50 events take place in over 20 venues across the city.

Festival patron Sir Philip Cohen, Director of the MRC Protein Phosphorylation Unit within the College of Life Sciences and Director of the Scottish Institute for Cell Signalling, has praised the breadth of topics covered in this year's programme.

"Dundee has a rich history of scientific excellence and a number of its institutions are at the forefront of research," he said. "Dundee Science Festival offers an exciting way in which the public can engage with this research and find out more about the fascinating science being carried out in and around the city.

"Since it started a few years ago, the programme has gone from strength to strength, offering a rich and diverse range of events for the community of Tayside and neighbouring regions.

"In addition to the breadth of the events on offer, the variety of topics discussed demonstrates the many ways in which scientific discoveries impact our daily lives and shape the world around us."

On the first day of the festival (3 November) researchers from the University will be heading to the shops for an interactive session in the Overgate while visitors to the University's Dundee Botanic Garden will be able to find out about the evolution of plants over the last 500 years!

Other highlights include a discussion of spectacular science by comedian, actor and director Ben Miller on 7 November and a family-centred demonstration looking at the science of warfare at the Carnelley Building on 10 November.

Also on November 10 researchers at the College of Life Sciences will be explaining their work as part of Doors Open Day, while the Department of Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgery at Ninewells will be holding a drop-in family workshop on the importance of staying active.

A week later (17 November) photographer and adventurer Doug Allen will be revealing the secrets behind his amazing wildlife images in a talk at the Dalhousie Building.

Visitors to the University will also be able to see the Olympic legacy exhibition Human Race: Inside the History of Sports Medicine at the Lamb Gallery and ISE for the first week of the science festival.

For more information on the Festival, which is coordinated by Dundee Science Centre and supported by a range of bodies including The Scottish Government, Dundee City Council, visit the website at: www.dundeesciencefestival.org/



what's on...

10 October

Café Science Extra

Dundee Science Centre
6-7pm

Into Deep Space: The Search for Planets with Dr Ken Rice from the University of Edinburgh will discuss how new planets are formed and discovered by 'planet-hunters.' Free event. No need to book but early arrival is advised to avoid disappointment. For more information contact Jonathan Urch at cafescience@dundee.ac.uk or by phoning 01382 386669.

24 to 28 October

Dundee Literary Festival

Dalhousie Building
Various venues

Bestselling authors, workshops, poetry, sport and politics plus a comic conference are all on offer at this year's celebration of all things literary. For more information see article on p24 or visit the website at www.literarydundee.ac.uk/festival.htm



29 October

Café Science

Chambers Coffee House, 34 South Tay Street, Dundee
7-8pm

Dr Ian Ferguson will look at Digital Forensics vs Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll in this Café Science session.

HUMAN RACE

INSIDE THE HISTORY OF SPORTS MEDICINE

Until 10 November

Human Race: Inside the history of sports medicine

Lamb Gallery and ISE

This Olympic legacy exhibition highlights the pioneering developments in medical imaging, surgery and sports training that have taken place over the last 200 years. For more information see article on p ?? or visit the website at: www.humanrace.org.uk

3 to 18 November

Dundee Science Festival

Dundee Science Festival is a city-wide celebration of science, providing fun, entertainment, challenge, inspiration and curiosity for all ages.

For more information visit www.DundeeScienceFestival.org

14 November

Winter Graduation

Caird Hall, Dundee City Centre and DUSA, Airlie Place

The third winter graduation will feature two ceremonies at the Caird Hall followed by a special celebration for graduates, families and friends in DUSA.

14 November

Café Science Extra

Dundee Science Centre
6-7pm

Dr Eli Gilroy will be asking How Often Do You eat Mutant Food?

26 November

Café Science

Chambers Coffee House
South Tay Street
7-8pm

This talk from Professor Graham Ogden who sits on the DrinkAware medical panel will discuss just how much alcohol it is safe to drink. For more information visit www.CafeScienceDundee.co.uk

Awesome Autumn at ISE

As well as their usual busy schedule of classes and activities ISE is offering some new events for the Autumn including individual and team superstar challenges, a zumba cardio party and an inch loss seminar.

The search for the fittest ise member takes place between 6pm and 8pm on October 9 and 16 when the individual superstar challenge will see contenders battling it out to see who can run the fastest treadmill mile, row the fastest mile and survive the ultimate plank test plus a few other gruelling tests.

On October 18 the team challenge offers the chance to get together with friends or colleagues and complete the fitness tests together. The highest scoring team will be crowned ise superstars. Registration money for this event will be donated to charity.

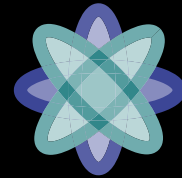
On October 23 DUSA will provide the venue for a charity zumba session inspired by a mix of cumbia, salsa, samba and meringue music while on November 6 there will be an inch loss seminar to highlight how to beat the winter blues by boosting metabolism, controlling portion sizes and making workouts more productive.

For more information visit the ISE website at www.dundee.ac.uk/ise/



www.dundee.ac.uk/pressoffice

www.dundee.ac.uk/pressoffice



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WHY MEET?

A PLATFORM TO PROMOTE YOUR RESEARCH TO A WIDER AUDIENCE

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