



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

bulletin



SPRING 2014

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH STAFF MAGAZINE



Ahead of the game

Jim Aitken on how higher education helps our athletes to excel – page 12

Inspiring change

We celebrate the diversity and influence of our female colleagues – page 8

A unique perspective

International students share their insights into Edinburgh life – page 16

Help or hindrance?

Lydia Plowman looks at children's learning in the digital age – page 18

Competition & giveaway

Your chance to win tasty treats from two fantastic local cafes – page 27

bulletin*

PUBLICATION DETAILS

Published by: Communications and Marketing, The University of Edinburgh

CONTACT US

bulletin

Communications and Marketing
The University of Edinburgh
C Floor, Forrest Hill Building
5 Forrest Hill
Edinburgh EH1 2QL, UK

E: bulletin@ed.ac.uk
T: +44 (0)131 650 9747

SUBMISSION DETAILS

If you would like to submit an idea for an article, please contact us at the email address above in advance of the next deadline. The next edition will be published in the autumn. The deadline is 31 July 2014.

For regular updates, visit Staff News at www.ed.ac.uk/news/staff.



Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/UoE_staff.

If you require this document in an alternative format (eg large print, on coloured paper, etc) please get in touch by using the contact details above.

The University of Edinburgh is mindful of the environmental impact of producing this magazine and seeks to minimise resources wherever possible. This magazine has been printed on recycled, uncoated stock that contains 100 per cent post-consumer waste and is manufactured at a mill that is certified to the environmental management system ISO14001.

Cover photo: Chris Park

editorial

As another academic year comes to a close, colleagues across the colleges and support groups can reflect on a great number of accolades and achievements. In this edition of *bulletin* we share just some of your recent success stories.

From dinosaur discoveries and living organ regeneration (pages 6–7) to winners of the EUSA Teaching Awards (page 4), we highlight our research and teaching excellence and innovation. We also reflect on the University's progress with enhancements to the student experience (page 26).

We celebrate the commitment of our long-serving staff members (pages 14–15) and also introduce a few new faces (pages 20–22, 25).

Looking ahead, we preview Edinburgh's chances at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games (opposite), and Jim Aitken, Director of Sport, outlines how higher education is helping our sporting stars to excel on the world stage (pages 12–13).

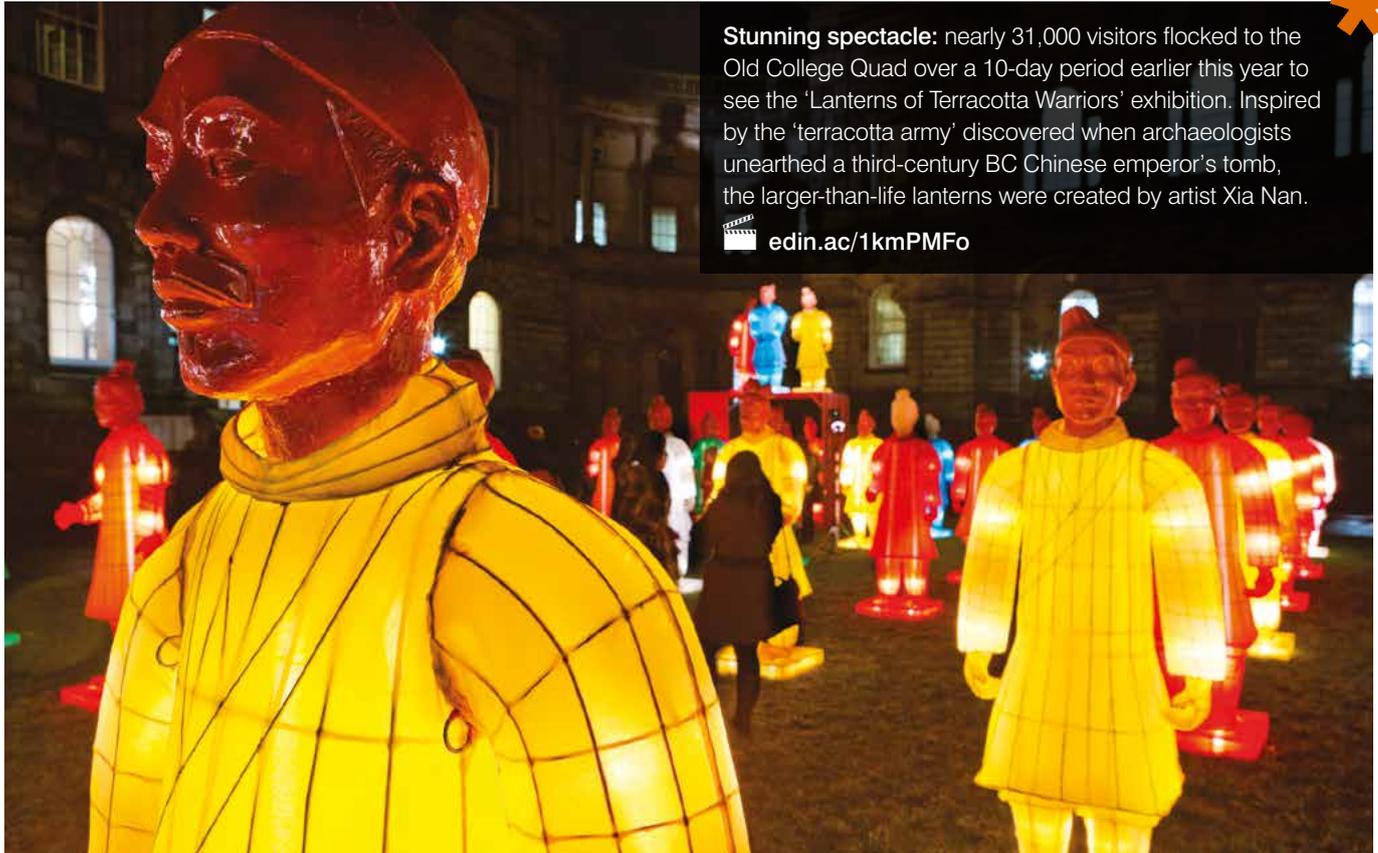
Keep up with staff news at www.ed.ac.uk/news/staff, where you can sign up to get the latest headlines delivered straight to your inbox. And you can follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/UoE_staff.

Artist's impression: Malcolm Fraser Architects



Little people's paradise: the University's new purpose-built nursery, Arcadia, will open at King's Buildings on 4 August. Designed around the concept of 'free play' by the award-winning Malcolm Fraser Architects, Arcadia brings together the long-established teams at Uni-Tots Nursery on George Square and the Day Nursery on Dalkeith Road. It caters for children aged six weeks to five years.

For more information and enrolments, visit www.arcadianursery.co.uk.



Stunning spectacle: nearly 31,000 visitors flocked to the Old College Quad over a 10-day period earlier this year to see the 'Lanterns of Terracotta Warriors' exhibition. Inspired by the 'terracotta army' discovered when archaeologists unearthed a third-century BC Chinese emperor's tomb, the larger-than-life lanterns were created by artist Xia Nan.

 edin.ac/1kmPMFo

Laurence Wintam

Glasgow Games' countdown begins

The University's Commonwealth Games' hopefuls have begun their countdown to Glasgow 2014.

The XX Commonwealth Games will commence on 23 July, and Edinburgh students, staff and alumni hope to represent Team Scotland in a host of events, with staff also set to play a number of support roles.

Potentially 50 students, alumni and staff will be involved – nearly double the number associated with the Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games – and the University hopes to be represented in 11 of the 17 featured disciplines, including swimming, squash, athletics and hockey.

Hurdler Eilidh Child, a physical education graduate and recent inductee into the University's Sports Hall of Fame, will captain Team Scotland at the Games.

Other Edinburgh hopefuls include: Dr Ross Houston, Scientific Fellow at the Roslin Institute (athletics); performance psychology student Caitlin McClatchey (swimming); chemical physics student Richard Schafers (swimming); medical student Calum Tait (swimming); law student Sarah Robertson (hockey); sport science student Sean Doherty (table tennis); physical education graduate Alan Clyne (squash); physical education graduate Claire Brownie (netball); and medicine graduate Anne Ewing (cycling).

Staff from Edinburgh's Fitness Assessment and Sports Injuries Centre will support Team Scotland: Lindsay Thomson has been appointed Head Physiotherapist and Deputy Head of Medical Services, alongside physiotherapist Sandi Lyall and Dr Alastair Nicol.

>> page 12

University explores closer ties with SRUC

The University and the Board of Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) are exploring a closer degree of collaboration.

Enhanced strategic alignment is seen as an opportunity to further develop research education and consultancy that is "vital to Scotland's rural economy", according to the Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea. Closer alignment would also "contribute to the global challenges of health, environmental and food security", the Principal said.

SRUC and its predecessors have worked closely with the University for more than 100 years. Some of its degree programmes are validated through Edinburgh and it is an Accredited Institution of the University. It is envisaged that SRUC will retain its identity and mission.

 www.sruc.ac.uk



Laurence Winram

Dancers and musicians enjoy St Cecilia's Hall ahead of its closure for redevelopment.

One last dance for St Cecilia's Hall

Swing dancers and jazz musicians transformed St Cecilia's Hall into a 1940s ballroom recently as part of 'One Last Dance', an evening of dancing and live music from the University's Jazz Orchestra.

The event was part of the Scotland-wide Festival of Museums, and celebrated one of the venue's previous forms, when it was the famous Excelsior Ballroom.

St Cecilia's, Scotland's oldest purpose-built concert hall, is to close temporarily in summer, for restoration.

A £6.5 million redevelopment project will see the iconic building transformed into a centre of excellence. The refurbished and extended hall will house more than 1,000 world-class objects, including historical musical instruments, and be a hub for research and teaching. The redevelopment is due to be completed in August 2016.

Restoration of the McEwan Hall is also ongoing, with the second phase of repair works on stonework areas fronting Bristo Square set to be completed by the end of the year. Redevelopment of the hall's interior will follow, and the project is due for completion in late 2016.

Awards acknowledge teaching excellence

The School of History, Classics & Archaeology was the standout performer in the 2014 EUSA Teaching Awards, receiving five accolades.

The School scooped awards in four out of 13 categories in the student-led awards, which recognise the teachers, support staff and students who have made a positive impact on students' learning experiences.

History, Classics & Archaeology was Best School or Subject Area runner-up, and its staff received: Best Personal Tutor (Dr Ulf-Dietrich Schoop, Lecturer in Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology); Best Personal Tutor runner-up (Dr David Kaufman, Lecturer in History – Online Distance Learning); the Ian Campbell Award for Teaching in the Humanities and Social Sciences (Dr Rob Dinnis, Early Career Fellow in Archaeology); and the Teaching with Technology Award (Dr David Kaufman).

Dr Kaufman, who was the only staff member to receive two awards, paid



Mihaila Bodlovic

The 2014 EUSA Teaching Awards were presented in 13 categories.

tribute to his colleagues: "It's a great honour to receive this award from the one group who really matter, and it's testimony to the great work done by all those on the online MSc team."

The Best School or Subject Area award went to the School of Chemistry.

More than 2,500 nominations were received from students for this year's awards, and a student judging panel determined the shortlist and winners. Close to 100 staff members and students gathered for the awards ceremony at Teviot Row House.

At a glance: the 2014 EUSA Teaching Awards

Best Feedback: Dr Daniel Swanton (School of GeoSciences)

Best Personal Tutor: Dr Ulf-Dietrich Schoop (School of History, Classics & Archaeology)

Best Postgraduate Tutor: Eliana Lambrou (School of Physics & Astronomy)

Best Research or Dissertation Supervisor: Dr Samantha Griffiths (Division of Pathway Medicine)

Teaching with Technology Award: Dr David Kaufman (School of History, Classics & Archaeology)

Peer Support Award: Alice Cezanne & Emma Butcher (Biomedical Society)

Kendell Award for Teaching in Medicine: Professor Simon Maxwell (School of Clinical Sciences)

Teaching in Veterinary Sciences Award: Dr Susan Kempson (Royal [Dick] School of Veterinary Sciences)

Van Heyningen Award for Teaching in Science & Engineering: Professor Iain Gordon (School of Mathematics)

Ian Campbell Award for Teaching in the Humanities and Social Sciences: Dr Rob Dinnis (School of History, Classics & Archaeology)

Best Course: *Stem Cells, Neurodegenerative Diseases & Models*

Best School or Subject Area: School of Chemistry

Supporting Students' Learning Award: Tracy Noden (School of Biomedical Sciences)

For the full list of winners, including runners-up, visit www.ed.ac.uk/news/staff/teaching-awards-240414.



Dave Gorman, Director of Social Responsibility and Sustainability (far right), with staff, student and EUSA volunteers who helped organise the 2014 Sustainability Awards.

Our champions of change celebrated

A record-breaking 38 staff teams entered the University's 2014 Sustainability Awards, which were held recently at Teviot Row House.

The annual awards are staged by the Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability and EUSA, and recognise individuals, groups, offices and laboratories for their efforts in making their work practices more sustainable and socially responsible.

The awards programme allows entrants to take incremental steps towards achieving bronze, silver and gold awards. This year, 15 staff teams received gold status compared to only nine teams in 2013, and Printing Services won gold for the fourth consecutive year.

The awards marked the official launch of the University's Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability.

Speaking at the event, Professor Mary Bownes, Senior Vice-Principal External Engagement, referred to the department as "an advisory service to academic schools and support departments... to innovate and champion change that will make our University better."

Edinburgh is the first university in the UK to have a department for social responsibility and sustainability. The department is responsible for promoting and embedding sustainable practices, in relation to energy efficiency, recycling and ethical investment and procurement, within the University.

2014 Sustainability Awards: highlights

- **Best Energy-saving Idea Award:** the Roslin Institute, for its innovation to reduce the power consumption of its refrigeration equipment
- **Innovation Award:** 'ACT! A Festival for Social Change', a student-run event that attracted more than 400 people
- **Cutting Carbon Footprint Award:** Stewart Anderson, Edinburgh Research and Innovation, for a Microsoft Outlook plug-in that calculates the most sustainable routes to meetings
- **Outstanding Personal Contribution Awards:** Heather Anderson and Marie Craigton, the Chancellor's Building team, College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine; John Turpin, Estates & Buildings' Landscaping Office.

For the full list of winners visit www.ed.ac.uk/sustainability.

Scope of REF2014 return highlights research quality

Staff across all colleges and support groups were involved in the submission of returns to 30 units of assessment for the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF), the results of which will be published online and in print on 18 December.

Replacing the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), the REF was developed by the four UK higher education funding bodies to assess the quality of research in UK universities and to inform the selective allocation of public funds.

Six joint submissions were included in the University's return, which was submitted in late 2013, and the number of Edinburgh academics included in this submission is substantially higher than it was for the RAE2008.

The REF will rank the overall quality level of each submission's research activity from 4* to unclassified, reflecting the quality of outputs, impact and environment.

www.ed.ac.uk/governance-strategic-planning/ref2014

Top honour for online distance learning

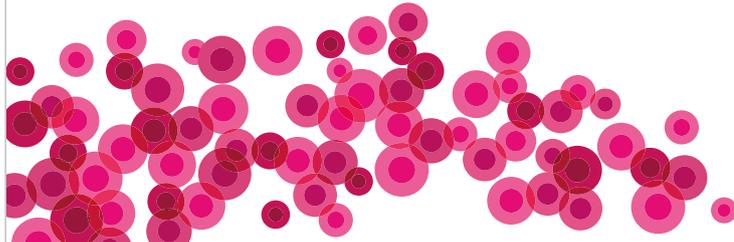
The University's excellence in online distance learning has been recognised with a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education.

The award – widely regarded as the highest national honour in UK education – was given for the Edinburgh Surgical Sciences Qualification, a suite of online masters programmes aimed at aspiring surgeons.

The qualification is offered jointly with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and supports more than 250 surgical trainees internationally.

research in focus

From documentaries to new dinosaur species, the latest academic studies by staff are helping advance our understanding of science and the arts.



Edinburgh scientists pioneer lab-grown red blood cells

Researchers based in the University's MRC Centre for Regenerative Medicine are refining the process of culturing red blood cells in the laboratory, in the hope that cells will be tested in patients for the first time. The project, led by the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service, is part of a collaborative research programme and aims to see the first volunteers treated in a trial by late 2016. It is hoped the trial will pave the way for the wide-scale use of artificial blood, derived from stem cells, in blood transfusions. More than 90 million red blood cell transfusions take place each year worldwide, and the researchers believe that producing red blood cells in the laboratory could potentially overcome risks such as infection transmission, and provide younger cells that may survive for longer and perform better.



BID TO BEAT DEPRESSION

Edinburgh researchers have been awarded a £4.7 million funding boost from the Wellcome Trust to study clinical depression, in the hope of developing better treatments. Over the next five years, scientists will examine people who have known depression risk factors and then use memory, reasoning and mental speed tests as well as brain imaging to determine whether specific subgroups of patients correspond to specific disorders. The collaborative study involves experts from the Division of Psychiatry, Centre for Cognitive Ageing & Cognitive Epidemiology, the Institute for Genetics & Molecular Medicine, and Edinburgh and the University of Aberdeen's brain imaging facilities.

£7.4M STUDY TO EXAMINE APPETITE

Edinburgh scientists are leading on a £7.4 million research project that will investigate what drives appetite. The Nudge-it initiative has been funded by the European Commission and will examine how eating habits develop and what influence hunger, emotions, stress and economic factors have on food choices. Collaborators from 16 institutions around the world will use brain imaging, behavioural studies and laboratory experiments to conduct their research, with the aim of providing better evidence for public health policies aimed at promoting a healthy diet. The project will be led by Professor Gareth Leng, Head of the School of Biomedical Sciences.

HEALTH RESEARCH LESSONS

Professor Graeme Laurie, Chair of Medical Jurisprudence in the School of Law, has received a £1 million research grant from the Wellcome Trust as part of its Senior Investigator Award Scheme in Medical Humanities. The grant was used to set up Liminal Spaces, which will examine the liminal spaces of health research regulation (or the grey area between rules and sound ethical judgement). Professor Laurie will collaborate with anthropologists, sociologists, ethicists and lawyers, alongside stakeholders and regulators, to learn lessons across health research sectors such as data linkage, tissue storage and use, stem cells, clinical trials and experimental therapies.

...awards news...awards news...awards news...awards news...awards news

Chuang Zhao



GeoSciences expert helps identify new species of tyrannosaur

Dr Steve Brusatte of the School of GeoSciences has helped identify a new species of dinosaur from the same family as the Tyrannosaurus rex. The long-snouted, carnivorous *Qianzhousaurus sinensis*, nicknamed Pinocchio rex, lived more than 66 million years ago and had an elongated skull and long, narrow teeth. Dr Brusatte was called to southern China after the fossilised dinosaur was unearthed by construction workers. Until the discovery, palaeontologists were uncertain of the existence of long-snouted tyrannosaurs. "It has the familiar toothy grin of T. rex but its snout was much longer and it had a row of horns on its nose," says Dr Brusatte, whose findings are published in *Nature Communications*.

Volunteers sought for climate study

School of Biological Sciences researchers are recruiting volunteers to track the emergence of spring in their local woodlands, as part of a national survey of plants and climate change. The Track a Tree study will take place over this spring and next, and invites members of the public to choose a plant or tree and monitor its development as the weather grows warmer. Researchers believe the study will give them a clearer picture of how climate change is impacting on seasonal developments in key woodland trees and plants in parts of the UK. The team, led by PhD student Christine Tansey, hopes to identify how warming springs affect the seasonal timing of different woodland species.

 www.trackatree.org.uk



Making headlines

bulletin highlights some of the University's research milestones that have been reported in the media recently.

NORTH COAST TIDES' POTENTIAL

Renewable tidal energy sufficient to power nearly half of Scotland could be harnessed by the tides in a single stretch of water off the country's north coast, according to School of Engineering researchers. Some 1.9 gigawatts of clean energy could be generated by turbines placed in the Pentland Firth, between mainland Scotland and Orkney, the engineers estimate. The Pentland Firth, with some of the British Isles' fastest tidal currents, is a prime candidate to host marine power projects, and this research, produced in collaboration with University of Oxford colleagues, builds on previous estimates of the site's potential. This story was widely reported in Scotland, Europe, the US and Australia.

LIVING ORGAN REGENERATED

Edinburgh scientists have for the first time used regenerative medicine to fully restore a degenerated organ in a living animal. The researchers from the MRC Centre for Regenerative Medicine rebuilt the thymus of very old mice by reactivating a natural mechanism that gets shut down with age. The regenerated organ had a similar structure to those found in younger mice, and it is hoped the advance will pave the way for new therapies for people with damaged immune systems and genetic conditions. The research was published in the journal *Development* and the story was covered worldwide by the mainstream and medical media.

STATINS' COUGH RELIEF HOPE

Drugs commonly used to lower cholesterol could also provide relief to lung disease patients, an Edinburgh study has shown. The drugs – known as statins – were found to help alleviate the chronic coughing often associated with lung disease. Statins are commonly prescribed for people at risk of heart attack, but scientists are increasingly finding that they also have anti-inflammatory effects. This latest study, outlining the drugs' potential to treat patients with an inflammatory lung condition known as bronchiectasis, was led by Clinical Research Fellow Dr Pallavi Mandal and its results were widely reported in the UK, US, Australia and India.

What I'm discovering...



Dr Amy Hardie is an award-winning film-maker and Head of Research for the Scottish Documentary Institute at Edinburgh College of Art. She is currently editing a new feature documentary, The Singing Hospice, for release later this year.

"I'm Film-maker-in-Residence at Strathcarron Hospice, near Glasgow. It's a charity providing free specialist palliative care to patients both at the hospice and in their own homes.

"Hospice care is increasingly important. There have been significant changes in palliative care medicine and procedures in the last 10 years. A terminal

diagnosis that would have meant you had only weeks to live now carries a prognosis of years, not months. But that's life on pain medication and perhaps without some of your essential organs – this is the new reality that faces most of us.

"In Strathcarron, I've spent years with people who didn't know if they would be alive next week, next year, or for another 10 years.

"One patient offered to sing to the camera – anything rather than talk about their illness or their impending death. They used the music to escape; to bat away death. I made music films for them that they could share with their families. The project grew and grew.

"I realised the urge to create, to make meaning and share pleasurable experience, is deeply rooted within us and becomes even more urgent when you are close to death. When they did start talking to me about being scared of dying or wanting death as a release from their pain, they used songs to really express how they were feeling.

"What did I discover? Enjoy life. Really."

 www.amyhardie.com

Inspiring women in the spotlight

To celebrate International Women's Day and the diversity of roles held by women at Edinburgh, the University unveiled a unique photography exhibition. We share a selection of staff images that featured in 'Inspiring Women, Inspiring Change'.

1



Hesham Sofhrai, Eddleston, Dominic Ibbotson, Euan Myles

International Women's Day champions the economic, political and social achievements of women around the world, and to reflect its 2014 theme of 'inspiring change' the University staged 'Inspiring Women, Inspiring Change'.

Celebrating the diversity and influence of roles held by Edinburgh's 6,000 female employees, the unique portraiture exhibition showcased newly commissioned photographs of 40 Edinburgh role models who have made their mark in the University's recent history.

Among the women selected are senior managers, academics and support staff who, along with students, alumnae and honorary graduates, were nominated by their peers for their contribution to the University and beyond.

All of those featured have helped the University address urgent global challenges and provide an outstanding student experience to both on-campus and online learners.

The women's individuality and character, which are undoubtedly a huge part of their success, were captured on camera by seven leading photographers.

'Inspiring Women, Inspiring Change' was on display throughout March in the Old College Quad and complemented by a mini exhibition in the Visitor Centre. 



1. **Sue Welburn**, Assistant Principal Global Health, is also Director of the Global Health Academy and Professor of Medical & Veterinary Molecular Epidemiology in the School of Biomedical Sciences.

2. Professor **Polly Arnold**, the Crum Brown Chair of Chemistry, is also Director of Research in the School of Chemistry.

3. **Fay Holmes**, Domestic Assistant, has worked for the University since 1985. Over the years she has been 'Mum' to hundreds of student residents and she currently works in Richmond Place.

4. **Sarah Smith**, the University Secretary, is also Head of the Student and Academic Services Group and has overall responsibility for the central secretariat, planning functions and various student services.

>> page 10



5. **Janet Carsten** is Professor of Social & Cultural Anthropology in the School of Social & Political Science.

6. School of Clinical Sciences experts, from left: **Joanna Wardlaw**, Professor of Applied Neuroimaging, Honorary Consultant Neuroradiologist, Head of the Division of Neuroimaging Science and Director of the Brain Research Imaging Centre; **Jane Norman**, Vice-Principal Equality & Diversity, Professor of Maternal & Fetal Health and Director of the Edinburgh Tommy's centre; **Hilary Critchley**, Head of the School of Clinical Sciences and Professor of Reproductive Medicine/Honorary Consultant in Obstetrics & Gynaecology; **Karen Chapman**, Professor of Molecular Endocrinology.

7. Rev Dr **Harriet Harris**, as University Chaplain, is responsible for providing pastoral and spiritual support for students and staff of all faiths and none.

8. **Jane Johnston**, Estate Development Manager, is responsible for the delivery of the University's construction projects with a shared responsibility for developing and implementing the University's estate strategy.

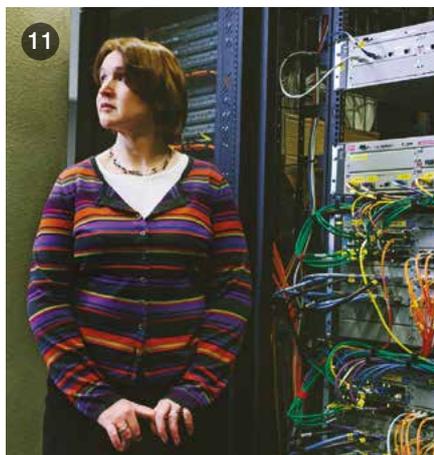
9



10



11

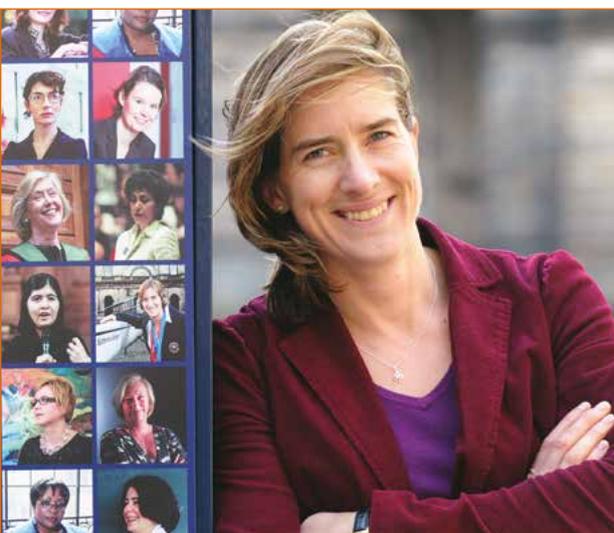


9. **Mary Bownes**, Senior Vice-Principal External Engagement, is also Professor of Developmental Biology and Director of the Scottish Initiative for Biotechnology Education in the School of Biological Sciences.

10. Dr **Rowena Arshad**, Head of Moray House School of Education, is also Co-director of the Centre for Education for Racial Equality in Scotland.

11. **Jane Hillston**, Professor of Quantitative Modelling, is also Director of the Laboratory for Foundations of Computer Science in the School of Informatics.

12. **Jacky MacBeath**, Head of Museums, is also Deputy Head of the Centre for Research Collections.



Going for gold

The unveiling of the 'Inspiring Women, Inspiring Change' photography exhibition was followed by the University's annual International Women's Day lecture. Entitled 'Women in Sport – Going for Gold', the lecture was delivered by Olympic gold medallist and Edinburgh law graduate, Katherine Grainger (pictured).

 edin.ac/1kmJPbk

12



Ahead of the game

As Edinburgh students, staff and alumni prepare for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, Jim Aitken, Director of Sport, explains how higher education is helping our athletes to excel. He talks to Cate MacKenzie.

What does your role entail?

My job essentially falls into two parts: to shape the strategic direction and advocacy for sport at Edinburgh, and to deliver an outstanding sporting experience by meeting the needs and interests of the entire University community – from gym goers and adventure and recreational sport enthusiasts to those with desires to compete on the international stage.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Working with so many great people – I have an outstanding team who are passionate about the University and all that it does for young athletes. I also enjoy working with different people within and outside of the University.

Can universities like Edinburgh help talented athletes reach their potential?

Absolutely. Sixty per cent of the medallists in Team GB at the London 2012 Olympic Games were in or had just come out of higher education, and I'd guess that it will also be the case with at least half of the competitors at Glasgow 2014. Edinburgh is recognised as one of the very top sporting universities in the UK, and the measure of that is our great results in inter-university competition and at major games, how many students we get on to national squads and teams, and our great track record of creating a pathway for young people to improve and go on to achieve their goals as well as gain a world-class degree.

And how does the University help to create that pathway?

Edinburgh has one of the UK's best performance sport programmes, and we give our most talented student athletes access to things like top-class physical

conditioning expertise, sports medicine care, training and competition facilities, flexible study, cash assistance, lifestyle planning, and much more. We also actively embrace the power of the profile and reach of sport. The University is proud of the achievements of our student athletes, some of whom will go on to follow alumni Sir Chris Hoy and Katherine Grainger to the Olympic stage, others who'll represent us at regional level. Our athletes are phenomenal ambassadors for Edinburgh.

How do Centre for Sport & Exercise (CSE) staff members support athlete development?

In addition to the 13 full- and part-time coaches who lead our eight Team Performance sports, we have three full-time strength and conditioning coaches who work out of the performance gym. Scotland's biggest sports medicine centre, FASIC [Fitness Assessment and Sports Injuries Centre], is also based here. FASIC staff do a lot of diagnostic work with student athletes to catch any niggles before they become injuries.

How will the University community, CSE staff in particular, use their expertise and experience at Glasgow 2014?

In addition to the many people from around the campus who'll be attending as volunteers, we'll have potentially 50 students, graduates or staff involved in some capacity as a competitor or official. That's really something else, and a significantly higher number than we had at the Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games, where we had just over 30. I think it's a sign of

the growth and development of our sport programme over these past four years.

Three of our FASIC staff – physiotherapists Lindsay Thomson and Sandi Lyall and medical physician Dr Alastair Nicol, who all have previous Games experience – were selected on merit to join Team Scotland's medical team. We'll also have a couple of coaches working in Team Scotland, subject to final selection of course, and we also have a team manager and a number of physiotherapists going as volunteers.

Has the worth of Edinburgh's world-class facilities also been recognised?

We were thrilled to host the GB Swim and Volleyball teams before London 2012 and India's national hockey team has accepted our invitation to base their pre-Glasgow training camp here. New Zealand's All Blacks rugby team, who've said in the past ours is the best gym they've ever used, will also train here before the autumn internationals against Scotland. The word is definitely out internationally that the University's facilities are second to none.

Will having the Commonwealth Games so close to home help to shine a further light on the University?

Sport is now a widely accepted aspect of university life; for many students it's a daily aspect. But as we saw after London 2012, there will be an upsurge of interest in a variety of sports, post-Games. People will be inspired by what they see on TV and we have to ensure our clubs and programmes are ready to accommodate them. That's always a challenge, but an enjoyable one – and we'll be ready. 🇬🇧



The University is proud of our student athletes, some of whom will go on to follow alumni Sir Chris Hoy and Katherine Grainger to the Olympic stage.



Making a difference

Colleagues, Court members and guests gathered recently to honour the commitment of long-serving staff members. *bulletin* joined the celebration.

Some of the more familiar faces seen around the campus over the years were acknowledged by the University recently at a special reception for long-serving staff members.

Nearly 50 colleagues who have served for either 25 or 40 years were honoured at the event, which was held in the Talbot Rice Gallery.

Professor Stuart Monro, Vice-Convenor of the University Court, thanked the awardees on behalf of the Principal for their dedication and commitment.

"Tonight is about celebrating and making a difference," he said. "Everyone here has engaged with students in one way or another – you may be a researcher or may be focusing on teaching or some other aspect of supporting students, but each



Commemorative pins were presented to the guests of honour at the special reception.

of those aspects is important and it's that sort of commitment that makes Edinburgh the university it is, and one which I hope you all feel proud to be part of."

bulletin caught up with the six employees who each celebrated 40 years of service, and here we share some of their insights, career highlights and fond memories.

John Bracken
Senior Animal Technician,
the Roslin Institute



Best opportunity: "I started in 1973 as an animal technician and no way in my wildest dreams would I ever have thought that I'd have trained to do anaesthesia, and that I'd now be doing embryology. It's so fantastic that I've had the opportunity to do these things."

Biggest change: "The technology – you can't help but go back to what the cloning of Dolly did [Mr Bracken was the anaesthetist present at Dolly the sheep's birth in 1996]; it turned scientific thinking on its head and it proved something that scientists thought really couldn't be done. It was a big moment. How privileged I was to just be a part of it."



Long-serving staff members gathered in the Talbot Rice Gallery recently for a special reception to honour their commitment.

Agnes Gallacher

Sequencing Facility Manager,
MRC Human Genetics Unit,
Institute of Genetics &
Molecular Medicine



First day: "I started as a junior technician. It was my first job, and it was a big adventure."

Most enjoyable aspect: "I like the end product. I'm in the service department so I get satisfaction from seeing people happy."

George McMillan

Building and Technical
Manager, School of
Biological Sciences



Most satisfying aspect:

"When you get to the end of a new building or refurbishment project. King's Buildings is so modernised now; everything has improved and the communication and facilities available to students is tremendous."

Most challenging moment: "Recently we had a professor come out from Austria who requires special rooms and facilities and does his work on

optical tables that weigh more than a tonne. They had to be ferried in to the building by removing the windows and having a specialist haulage contractor crane them in."

Kathryn Penfold

Classifier in Acquisitions and
Metadata, Information Services
Library and Collections



Most interesting aspect:

"I see a lot of different people with a lot of different information needs. A friend and I started working at Moray House as librarians and mostly we came across students and social workers. She then went to the medical library and I went to New College – and it was a friar coming to my desk and a surgeon in a gown coming to hers!"

Biggest change: "When I started we were writing forms and card cataloguing, just for Moray House students. Now it's an international catalogue and all online; we're putting information out into the world, unchaining the library. We get enquiries from all over the world; it's fascinating."

Pauline McManus

Finance Administrator,
Division of Pathway
Medicine, School of
Biomedical Sciences



Best memory: "On my first day as a junior secretary I got taken around... the Director was Professor Sir Alexander Robertson and I asked if I had to curtsy!"

Most enjoyable aspect: "Working for successful people makes you grow with them. I enjoy working in a team."

Dr Paul Perry

Imaging & Microscopy
Manager, MRC Human
Genetics Unit, Institute of
Genetics & Molecular Medicine



First day: "I was a bit more concerned about my PhD thesis than I was about work; it was a very nervy day!"

Most proud of: "Some papers I had published in *Nature*. And I'm proud of building up imaging in the building I work in. It has sort of been half my life's work. I feel a strong sense that I shall leave it in good working condition when I retire, and that's a good feeling to have." 🇨🇭



From sunsets to city life, impressions of Edinburgh are showcased in a University photography competition for international students. Staged by the International Office, 'Be Edinburgh' aims to highlight, celebrate and promote the diversity of the University's international student population and its members' unique perspective on living and studying in Edinburgh. The competition asked entrants to share their feelings about the University and the city of Edinburgh through images depicting urban life, culture, people, buildings, scenery and social activities. The winning entries were selected by *Scotsman* photographer Jane Barlow from a shortlist drawn up by the University's Photography Society. More than 12,000 international students from 137 countries study at Edinburgh. 🇬🇧

A unique perspective





3



4

And the winner is...

1. First prize: **Salih Gonenc**
2. Second prize: **Mohamad Hanif Awang Senik**
3. Principal's Choice prize: **Nor Shahida Aziz Zuddin**
4. People's Choice prize: **Tharusha Edirishinghe**
5. Be Social prize: **George Goulandris**
6. Be Active prize: **Kai Qi Soh**
7. Be Local prize: **Sergiu Jiduc**
8. Be Campus prize: **Akanksha Middya**
9. Be Edinburgh Abroad prize: **Johannes Miocic**
10. Be Urban prize: **Veatriki Theodoratou**

 edin.ac/1jsXs3G

 edin.ac/1dEoD90



5



6



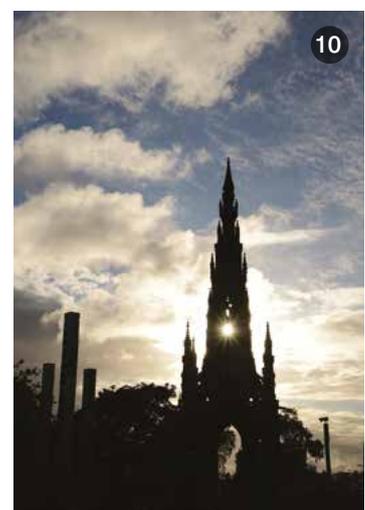
7



8



9



10



Help or hindrance?

From an increasingly young age, children have widespread exposure to new technologies, giving rise to parental insecurities about living and learning with technology. Professor Lydia Plowman gives her response to their questions about the digital world's helpful or harmful effects.

Illustration by Ellie Walker, a second-year Edinburgh College of Art Illustration student.

Whether it's at home or in an educational setting such as preschool or school, technology plays a role in the everyday lives of young children. Debate about the perceived desirability of under-fives' encounters with technology has persisted for many years, during which time there have been a great many changes to technological devices and toys.

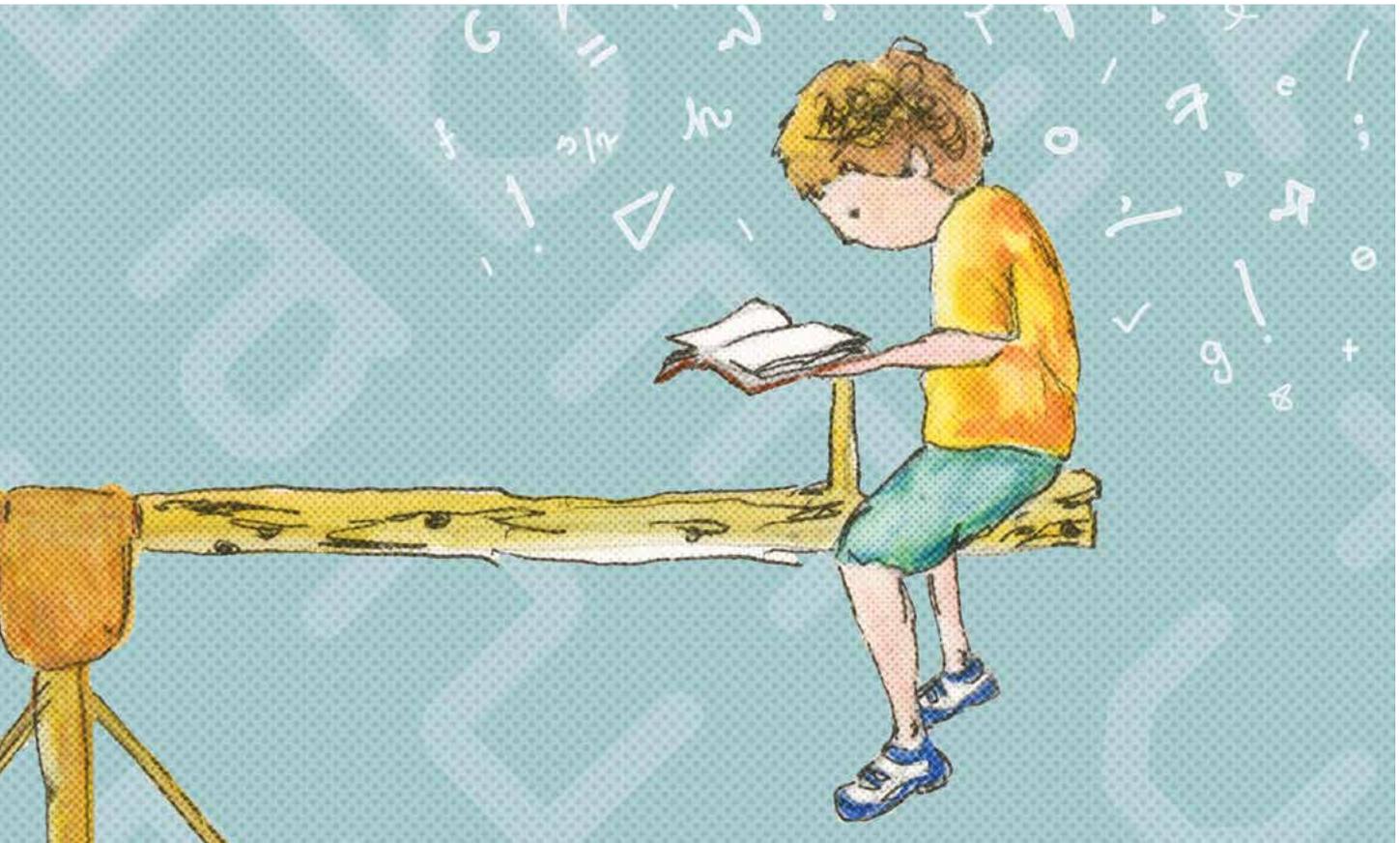
While some people believe that children need to become competent users of digital media to avoid marginalisation and to become effective global citizens, the ubiquity of digital media has led others to voice concerns about screen time and impact on wellbeing and socialisation. Some will tell you that children have an affinity for technology and they pick it up so fast that it's a struggle to stay one step ahead. Others believe that it's better for children to be playing outside or reading a book. Either way, most people agree that children's experiences with technology – for play, learning or communication – will have significant implications for their future lives.

It's important to know more about living and learning with technology and to

engage with this transformation. When the only means of going online was using the family PC in the living room it was much easier to see what children were up to. But it's difficult to keep an eye on what children are doing if you add together the changes brought about by the availability of a wide range of internet-connected devices, the fact that the devices are getting smaller, and the fact that children's ownership of tablets is increasing as prices come down.

Running in parallel with these changes are those driven by media claims that can lead to parents feeling under pressure to use interactive devices to promote their child's learning ahead of starting school. Some of the apps and products available for young children claim to accelerate progress in learning to read, write and use numbers but they are often based on mundane educational tasks disguised as entertainment. The so-called interactivity may well provide some initial motivation for learning but it rarely continues beyond the first few encounters and may even get in the way of the educational potential.

An article I wrote with Joanna McPake of Strathclyde University, *Seven Myths*



about *Young Children and Technology*, addresses some of these issues. Parents and educators can find it difficult to know what's for the best because these products weren't around when they were young. Although media coverage has been extensive, there's little evidence to go on, and a number of widespread myths about children's experiences with technologies have emerged. In our paper, we selected seven statements to represent some of these myths and used the evidence from more than a decade of research in this area to provide a commentary on each one.

The article has been downloaded many thousands of times but our own research can't answer all the questions. To meet the thirst for information, the Children's Media Foundation (CMF), a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to ensuring quality, range and choice in UK children's media, commissioned me to review current research into children's media consumption and its possible effects, and to translate the key findings into accessible, parent-friendly and balanced reporting. This has been published on the CMF's newly launched 'Parent Portal' as

responses to six common questions that parents ask about their children's use of digital media, including 'Will playing video games make my child more aggressive?', 'What are the risks associated with my child going online?' and 'Will spending too much time in front of a screen affect my child's education?'.

Most technologies have both positive and negative features: for instance, iPads can be really useful for keeping children occupied on long journeys or in waiting rooms but parents are concerned about the apps that entice children into making purchases. Digital media easily become a focus for more widespread concerns such as feeling that children grow up too quickly these days, that there's not enough time to play, and that there's either too much pressure, or not enough, for children to perform academically.

Parents can make decisions about the role of technologies in family life, but they don't have to be controlled by technology. In the same way that families have expectations about homework, behaviour at meals, pocket money or bedtimes, parents can establish routines and practices about the use of digital media.

The pace of change has been fast and, as yet, there are no longitudinal studies to draw on. We need more research, not just on the effects of technology on children's wellbeing, cognition or socialisation but also on the cultural changes that affect us all. Overall, the aims of my research are to contribute to discussions about the place of technology in young children's lives, create richer learning experiences for children and others by informing the design process, provide insights that are valuable for parents and educators, and engage decision-makers in understanding more about the ways in which technology can support learning in the early years. ✚

Professor Lydia Plowman is Chair in Education & Technology in the Moray House School of Education, and Vice-Chair of the Economic & Social Research Council panel for education, linguistics and psychology.



www.ed.ac.uk/education/lydia-plowman

people news

A selection of recent achievements, accolades and appointments.

Highest Italian honour

Professor Stefano Brandani has been made a Knight of the Order of the Star of Italy (*Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella d'Italia*) for his contribution to scientific and technological research. Professor Brandani is Chair of Chemical Engineering in the School of Engineering and his research interests focus on carbon capture and membrane gas separation technologies. The award is bestowed by decree of the Italian president and honours those who preserve and promote Italian national prestige abroad.

Mapping out a mystery

An expert map maker has been announced as the University's next Fulbright-Scotland Visiting Professor. In August, Professor Matthew Bampton, a geographer from the University of Southern Maine, will begin his six-month visit, which has been organised by the US-UK Fulbright Commission, one of the world's most prestigious academic exchange programmes. He will work on a project to determine how an extreme climate event, known as the Little Ice Age, destroyed a Shetland Islands village in the 17th century.

Waste portal launch

Social Responsibility and Sustainability and Estates & Buildings staff have launched WARPit, an online portal that tracks reuse between departments. The portal allows staff to give away or loan unused items, such as toner cartridges, and aims to cut waste and make financial savings.

 www.warp-it.co.uk/universityofedinburgh



BAFTA success for ECA

Emma Davie, Edinburgh College of Art's Documentary Director and Programme Director for Film, won a BAFTA Scotland for Best Director for *I Am Breathing*. The film, which records the last months of the life of 34-year-old Neil Platt (pictured with his son) as he succumbs to motor neurone disease, was also runner-up in the Single Documentary category. Ms Davie shared the honour with ECA graduate Morag McKinnon.

University celebrates first decade of Fairtrade status

Staff, students and members of the public marked a milestone recently at a series of events held across the campus for Fairtrade Fortnight.

The annual celebration held special significance this year as the University celebrated its 10th anniversary of achieving Fairtrade status.

Events included a public lecture 'Does Fair Trade Make a Difference?'; a Just World Institute Ethics Forum seminar hosted by the Fair Trade Academic Network; and a bicycle-powered screening of a film about the global coffee industry. The Fair Trade Steering Group undertook a consultation on 'What's next for fair trade' at all of the events, and after collating and analysing more than 130



Events included bicycle-powered cinema.

responses, will use the results to inform the University's future strategy on social responsibility and sustainability.

In 2004 Edinburgh became the first Fairtrade-accredited university in Scotland, following a campaign by EUSA.

 edin.ac/1kmJ16u

New Year's honours haul for Edinburgh

Edinburgh staff and associates from a wide range of disciplines were recognised in the 2014 New Year's Honours List.

Academic colleagues from all three colleges, along with a member of the University Court, were honoured.

Professor Adrian Bird, Buchanan Professor of Genetics, was knighted for services to science. His research focuses on understanding DNA methylation and CpG islands, and their role in diseases such as Rett syndrome. He was made a CBE in 2005.

Professor O James Garden, Regius Chair of Clinical Surgery, was made a CBE for services to surgery. He is Surgeon to the Queen in Scotland, and a programme founder of the Edinburgh Surgical Sciences Qualification. His primary clinical interests include the management of hepatobiliary and pancreatic disease.

Professor Lesley Yellowlees, Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Science & Engineering, was made a CBE for services to chemistry. She was made an MBE in 2005 and in 2012 she became the Royal Society of Chemistry's first female president. Her research interests include inorganic electrochemistry and spectroelectrochemistry.

Alastair Fowler, Emeritus Professor of

Chris Close



Professor Lesley Yellowlees

Rhetoric and English Literature, was made a CBE for services to literature and education. A literary critic and editor, Professor Fowler is an authority on Edmund Spenser, Renaissance literature, genre theory and numerology.

Harvey McGregor QC, a Visiting Professor, was made a CBE for services to law and education.

Nigel Brown, Emeritus Professor of Molecular Microbiology and former Head of the College of Science & Engineering (2008–2011), was made an OBE for services to science. He is President of the Society for General Microbiology and Chair for the Deans of Science and Engineering in Scotland.

Margaret Tait, a University Court member and a former Convener of the General Council Business Committee, was made an MBE for services to education.

Li-Fi pioneer acknowledged for innovation

Wireless communications pioneer Harald Haas has been acknowledged by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) as one of the UK's top 10 inspirational scientists and engineers.

Professor Haas, Chair of Mobile Communications, was selected as a 2014 RISE (Recognising Inspirational Scientists and Engineers) Leader, in celebration of his achievements as an innovator in engineering and physical sciences research.

Professor Haas is a key player in the University's newly opened Li-Fi R&D Centre, which will build on his research into Li-Fi, a light-based communication technology, and other emerging wireless technologies including those supported by solar power.

He was also awarded the 2013 Tam Dalyell Prize for excellence in engaging the public in science. Speaking ahead of the recent annual Tam Dalyell Lecture, entitled 'My Li-Fi Revolution', Professor Haas said: "Solar-powered Li-Fi could make internet access available in far-flung places, and opens up all sorts of possibilities for widespread wireless communications."



edin.ac/1kmJ8ip

Disabled staff network to be established

Colleagues are invited to get involved in establishing a disabled staff network at the University. Staff are asked to register their interest with the Student Disability Service's Jackie Nicholson by 30 June. All responses will be treated in confidence. An exploratory meeting will be held on 11 July at a venue to be confirmed.

✉ jacque.nicholson@ed.ac.uk

Uniform switch aids refugees

A simple colour change to cleaning staff uniforms, from hard-to-source and imported Royal blue to widely available light blue, has allowed Estates & Building's Waste & Recycling team to reduce its carbon footprint and donate to charity. The team donated 25 bags of recycled fleeces and jackets, along with other items, to local charity Edinburgh Direct Aid, which shipped the goods to refugees affected by the Syria crisis. The team has also committed to sourcing fair trade T-shirts.



Estates & Buildings' Robert Archibald with a pre-loved fleece.

appointments in brief

bulletin highlights a selection of new faces and appointments from around the University.

SENIOR VICE-PRINCIPAL

Professor **Charlie Jeffery** has been appointed as the University's new Senior Vice-Principal, succeeding Professor **Mary Bownes**. The Senior Vice-Principal supports the University by deputising for and advising the Principal, and plays a leading role in the development of University strategy and policy. Professor Jeffery will incorporate his current role as Vice-Principal Public Policy and Impact into his new remit, while Professor Bownes will take up a new part-time post as Vice-Principal Community Development.

VICE-CONVENER OF COURT

Dr **Anne Richards** will take up her post as Vice-Convenor of Court on 1 August. She will replace Professor Stuart Monro. The Court is the University's highest governing body and considers items relating to the governance, finance and administration of the institution. The Vice-Convenor works with the Principal and the University's Senior Management team and is responsible for the leadership of Court.

 www.ed.ac.uk/news/staff/court-news

HEAD OF MARKETING

Niall Bradley is in post as Head of Marketing within Communications and Marketing. A former long-serving colleague in Student Recruitment & Admissions (SRA), most recently as its Head of Recruitment (UK & EU), Mr Bradley has worked closely with staff across the colleges and support groups. **Rebecca Gaukroger** has been appointed as Director of the newly restructured SRA team.

NORTH AMERICAN OFFICE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Joanna Storrar has been appointed as the University's North American Office Executive Director. With a strong background in development, Ms Storrar was a previous Director of Development at the University. The North American Office, based in New York, will manage diverse activities including fundraising, recruitment, alumni engagement and collaboration with funders and sponsors. It will be officially opened in October.



Darya Grindash

Staff inspire and inform at ILW2014

Staff across all disciplines participated in a range of inspiring events at this year's Innovative Learning Week (ILW2014). More than 300 events took place, including 'Neuro Theatre: Live Simulated Brain Surgery' (pictured) for medical students. The event, held in the Anatomy Lecture Theatre, featured role-playing, demonstrations and a Q&A session with a recovered brain injury patient. Other ILW2014 events included a Maths and Magic Cabaret Night, icon painting workshops and a session on how to build and race hydrogen-powered buggies.



Watch ILW2014 video highlights at www.ed.ac.uk/innovative-learning

Preschoolers' little lessons in energy use



Caro Overy, the Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability's Engagement Manager, visited the University's Day Nursery recently

to teach its preschool-aged children about energy sources and their uses.

Through staging games and sharing coal specimens and photographs of wind turbines and other energy producers, Ms Overy (pictured) explained how different types of energy are produced and used. Afterwards, the children were shown around the University's award-winning Combined Heat and Power

Energy Centre which, through its efficient gas-fired turbine and machinery, heats the buildings in the Central Area.

Ms Overy also ran a workshop with nursery staff to illustrate how they can put sustainability into practice in the workplace, and she will continue to support nursery staff when the Day Nursery merges with Uni-Tots to form Arcadia in August.

The Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability supports colleagues across the University in embedding sustainability and social responsibility in their working practices.

 www.ed.ac.uk/sustainability

Richard Ambler (1933–2014)



Richard Ambler was born in Bexley Heath on 26 May 1933. He spent his childhood in India before returning to England to boarding school.

In 1954 he entered the University of Cambridge (Pembroke College) to study natural sciences and remained in Cambridge to undertake a PhD in the Department of Biochemistry.

Three years of postdoctoral research in Cambridge's MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology followed, and in 1965 he joined Edinburgh's newly established Department of Molecular Biology.

He was elected a member of the European Molecular Biology Organization in 1985 and given a Personal Chair in Protein Chemistry in 1987. He headed the Department of Molecular Biology from 1984 to 1990, and the Institute of Cell and Molecular Biology from 1990 to 1993.

Richard's research career was devoted to answering questions concerning the evolution of bacteria with the aid of amino acid sequence information. This led him to perfect protein sequencing techniques, and in 1963 he published the first amino acid sequence of a bacterial protein, that of *Pseudomonas* cytochrome c551.

Richard was an invaluable colleague, providing a reliable and helpful source of information on all aspects of protein chemistry. He had a wide range of non-scientific interests, particularly archaeology, and was a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Richard is survived by two daughters, four stepdaughters, seven grandchildren and his first wife, Pat. Sue, his second wife, passed away in 2003. His house was often frequented by visitors from around the world, and his companionship, common sense and mischievous wit will be sorely missed.

Professor Mary Bownes, Senior Vice-Principal External Engagement

Dr Michael Purcell (1956–2013)



The School of Divinity was deeply saddened by the death of Mike Purcell on Friday 18 October 2013, after a brief illness.

Mike was a devoted teacher and supervisor, and he was much cherished by students and colleagues alike. He originally trained as a doctor, but it was as a theologian and philosopher that he made his greatest contribution. It was in Europe (where he trained), and especially in Leuven, where he found that they make a virtue out of doing things differently and being able to deal with that difference. For Mike, there was an especially fruitful engagement between phenomenology and theology, notably in the work of writers influenced by Martin Heidegger and Emmanuel Levinas.

Mike became a fixture of the Leuven conference schedule. In addition, his ministry as a priest marked him as a theologian whose thought was invested in the life of the Church.

His most recent essay, part of a collection that redefined the concept of 'saintliness' as it appears in contemporary French philosophy, looked at how, from the mid to the late 20th century, various French thinkers applied that label to friends and colleagues.

As a theologian, Mike offered new ways of thinking about holiness, and what makes a saint.

He leaves behind him an international collection of colleagues, students, friends and keen readers. His loss is keenly felt in the School, and we extend our condolences to Mike's family and friends.

Dr Paul Foster,
Head of the School of Divinity

Martyn Campbell (1955–2013)



Martyn Campbell joined the University as a Servitor on 30 May 2005.

Previously, he worked for more than 35 years in various roles within

the printing industry. But it was at Edinburgh where he found the job he loved.

He was always the first to volunteer to learn a new skill, and he became the Estates & Buildings 'resident expert' in mail-franking machines.

Martyn was always keen to offer help around the University, and in early 2011 he worked at the new Vet School in the run-up to its opening. His professional and friendly approach earned him widespread praise from staff,

students and contractors alike. Shortly afterwards, he was promoted to Janitor in Old College and, in December 2013, to Senior Janitor.

Martyn took great pride in Old College, particularly the Playfair Library, and he worked tirelessly to ensure that everyone who attended functions there left with the highest opinion of the University.

In 2013 he received the Outstanding Personal Contribution Award at the Edinburgh Sustainability Awards, for his work in promoting the sustainability agenda around Old College.

Martyn was a passionate Bournemouth FC and Hearts supporter. He is survived by his wife Isobel and will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

David Brook, Estates & Buildings Support Services Operations Manager

out & about

There's a great mix of exhibitions and events to experience around the University over the next few months – so take some time to explore and be inspired.

Digital Imaging Unit/Edinburgh University Library



Hit a high note

St Cecilia's Hall's Musical Instrument Museum houses one of the world's finest collections of early keyboard instruments. Wed & Sat 2pm–5pm, and Mon–Fri 10.30am–12.30pm during the Edinburgh International Festival (4–29 Aug). To close from 1 Sep.

www.stcecilias.ed.ac.uk

See behind the scenes

Two exhibitions are currently on show at the Talbot Rice Gallery: *Pursuit of a Shadow: Jason Dee*, which reflects the transformation of cinema's material origins, and *Hand-made Cinema: Norman McLaren* (pictured), which screens the film-maker's movies alongside the physical materials that made them possible. Until 5 July.

www.ed.ac.uk/talbot-rice

©1949 National Film Board of Canada



Chart Chinese history

Poster Art of Modern China (1913–1997) comprises original Chinese propaganda posters on loan from Shanghai's Propaganda Poster Art Center. Curated by the Confucius Institute for Scotland. Adam House, daily 10am–6pm, until 12 July.

www.confuciusinstitute.ac.uk/posters



Learn about literature

Waverley 200, a micro exhibition celebrating the work of Sir Walter Scott – in particular his seminal tale *Waverley* – will be mounted on the Centre for Research Collections display wall, Main Library, Mon–Fri 9am–5pm, until 4 July.

www.ed.ac.uk/is/crc



Help knock down walls

Watch academics, entrepreneurs and professionals pitch their big ideas at the Falling Walls Lab. The winner will go on to the Berlin final and conference, where world-leading scientists will present their research. Playfair Library, 29 July, 2pm.

www.falling-walls.com



Behold a masterpiece

The World History of Rashid al-Din, 1314: A Masterpiece of Islamic Painting celebrates medieval Islamic manuscripts. Co-curated by CRC/Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Centre for the Study of Islam in the Contemporary World. Main Library, Mon–Sat 10am–5pm, 2 Aug–31 Oct.

www.ed.ac.uk/is/crc

health & wellbeing

A round-up of the people, policies and activities that are here to help keep you fit, healthy and well at work. For more information, visit www.ed.ac.uk/staff/health-wellbeing.

Recognition for quality catering

The University has had its Bronze Food for Life Catering Mark renewed, in recognition of its high-quality and sustainable food catering.

The Food for Life mark is a UK-wide awards initiative that celebrates best practice in providing fresh, healthy and ethical meals. In 2012, Edinburgh became the first Scottish university to achieve formal recognition in the scheme.

All of the University's retail catering outlets are now accredited by the Soil Association-approved award, which provides an independent endorsement that ingredients used by caterers are fresh, free from controversial additives, better for animal welfare and comply with national nutrition standards.

The bronze, silver and gold tiers encourage caterers to use local, free range, fair trade and organic ingredients.

The Accommodation Services' catering team enjoyed further success this year when, after switching all whole/shell eggs to free range, it earned a Good Egg award in recognition of its commitment to farm animal welfare.



Edinburgh's Healthy University Project takes a 'whole university' approach to health and wellbeing.

'Healthy University' appointments made

Edinburgh has reinforced its commitment to engaging its community in health and wellbeing and enhancing the student experience with the appointment of two new Centre for Sport & Exercise (CSE) colleagues.

Helen Ryall is in post as Healthy University Project Coordinator, and works alongside Louise Gourmelen, who offers communications and administration support. Their appointments were made on the recommendation of a campus-wide Healthy University consultation, which was hosted by the CSE. Funded by the Student Experience Project, the posts are both part time, for 14 months.

Both post holders will take a lead from the 70-member strong UK National Healthy Universities Network, which aims to offer a facilitative environment for the development of a 'whole university' approach to health and wellbeing.

www.healthyuniversities.ac.uk

NO SMOKING POLICY UPDATE

Staff are advised that in line with current British Medical Association (BMA) guidance, the use of electronic cigarettes is prohibited on non-smoking University premises. The guidance applies to all staff and students as well as visitors, contractors and sub-contractors when they are on University premises. The University's No Smoking Policy is designed to secure a healthy and safe environment and to eliminate passive smoking from its premises, in keeping with the *Smoking, Health and Social Care (Scotland) Act 2005*.

GEAR UP FOR SUMMER CYCLING

A series of successful cycling events held earlier this year by the Transport & Parking Office are to be repeated in the summer at various locations. The Essential Cycle Skills Course, Dr Bike Sessions and Cycle Roadshows cover a range of essential topics, including bike maintenance, safety and skills. Staff are reminded that bikes and safety equipment can be purchased through the University's Cycle to Work scheme, and that discounted bike locks are available from the Transport & Parking Office.

REFERRAL SCHEME SET UP

The Occupational Health Unit (OHU) has set up a physiotherapy referral scheme for staff. Access requires assessment by an OHU Adviser to ensure that certain necessary criteria have been met, including that physiotherapy would benefit the employee in relation to their work. The service offers an early physiotherapy intervention or rehabilitation for injuries or musculoskeletal issues and utilises the expertise of physiotherapists from the Fitness Assessment and Sports Injuries Centre.

My nine-to-five: Mark Wilkinson

As the University's Student Experience Project (SEP) Manager, Mark Wilkinson is tasked with developing and enriching the experience of all Edinburgh students. He shares some of his working day with *bulletin*.

I don't have a typical day but most usually involve chairing or attending staffing or project meetings. I get to walk around on campus as meetings can be everywhere from George Square to Chambers Street, Moray House, King's Buildings and out to Little France.

Most days feature far too many emails and far too many cups of coffee. I like to squeeze in Radio 6 in the background wherever possible – I much prefer to work to the sound of music rather than to the traffic noise in Buccleuch Place.

More than 20 staff are currently working on SEP activities – everyone bar a couple were new to the University when they started with the Project, which definitely gives us a fresh perspective. This is tempered by the fact that we're working in partnership not just with students but also with very experienced colleagues from across the University. Navigating through what is a very large and complicated institution can sometimes be challenging though.

Over the Project's first year we put the team together, set up our office, developed the governance and began to deliver on new service implementation. A lot has been achieved through the involvement of more than 90 staff and students who have worked through task groups to move the Project forward.

We've made significant progress in areas such as improved coordination of student induction; piloting key University surveys; building bespoke approaches to peer support; and piloting innovative approaches to student engagement and communication. For example, we've created Student Information Points in the Main Library, the Noreen and Kenneth Murray Library at King's Buildings and at Old College; piloted the use of the Big White Wall, which offers students professionally moderated 24-hour support for mental health and wellbeing; and developed the 'On the Same Page' campaign and undergraduate and postgraduate student newsletters.

We've also done initial scoping in areas of emergency support and the applicant experience, and built on work in support of the Healthy University initiative and new approaches to programme and course information management.

I studied history at Edinburgh from 1985 to 1989 and then completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Community Education in 1990. I've been involved in education since I graduated and feel passionate about the transformative



potential of learning – whether in community-based adult learning or in the higher education sector.

The most satisfying part of my job has to be the concrete sense that we're here to support all of our students to fulfil their potential.

🔗 Find out more at www.ed.ac.uk/staff-students/staff/enhancing-student-experience/initiatives/sep.

Get organised...

Workday: planned to a T or take it as it comes?

Routine is fine as long as it routinely brings some surprises!

Desk: neat and tidy or organised chaos? It's more like an art installation – I must get round to tidying it.

List person? Yup – crucial.

Daily staples? Coffee, soup, cake and the occasional cheery blether.

...and now relax

Best way to switch off? Allotment at weekends and a bit of easy-on-the-bones jogging. Or if it's raining, cuddle the dog.

Perfect Sunday afternoon? Having family round to cook for.

Ideal holiday? As long as my wife is there I'll have a great time.

Favourite time of year, and why? Spring, particularly May. Love the promise it brings.





Spot the difference

Two fantastic prizes are on offer this edition: a £40 meal voucher from th'eatery cafe at the Festival Theatre for the winner, and afternoon tea for two at eteaket tea room for the runner-up. To enter, compare the image on the right to the one on the left. You're looking for five differences. Circle each one and send us your entry by **Monday 30 June 2014** to the address on page 2. Correct entries will be entered in a draw and the winner will be selected at random.



eteaket
LEAF TEA EXPERTS

Award Winning Leaf Teas
Brilliant Breakfasts
Delicious Cakes
Lovely Lunches
Fabulous Gift Ideas
and of course our famous
eteaket Afternoon Teas



41 Frederick Street, Edinburgh, EH2 1EP
0131 226 2982 | hello@eteaket.co.uk | www.eteaket.co.uk

th'eatery

by
cater

Locally owned and independent small business
All dishes made to order from fresh, seasonal and, where possible, local ingredients

KITCHEN OPENING HOURS

Lunch: 12pm–4pm

Pre-theatre dining on
performance nights: 5pm–7pm

www.cateredinburgh.com

07961 573 658

barry@cateredinburgh.com

Festival Theatre,
13–29 Nicolson St, Edinburgh EH8 9FT



Showcase

In every edition of *bulletin* we highlight a piece of history from the University of Edinburgh Library and Collections.

Hand-coloured etching

This etching of a magnolia blossom was done by Mark Catesby (1682–1749), an English naturalist who compiled the first comprehensive survey of the flora and fauna of south-eastern North America (then part of the British colonies). *The Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands: Containing the Figures of Birds, Beasts, Fishes, Serpents, Insects, and Plants...* was published between 1729 and 1747, and consists of 220 hand-coloured illustrations with accompanying descriptions.

Visit www.ed.ac.uk/is/crc or images.is.ed.ac.uk.