

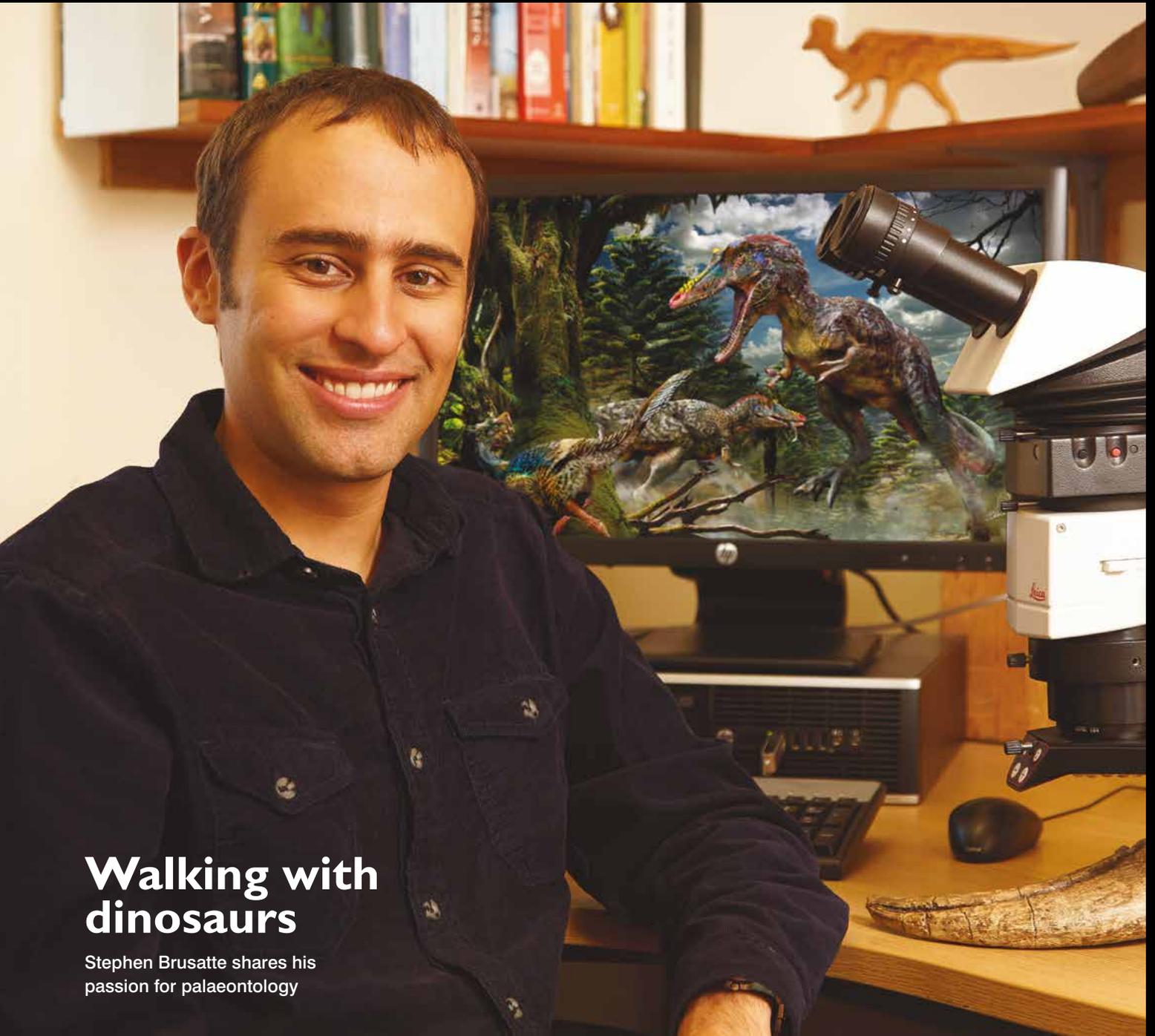


THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

bulletin*

AUTUMN 2014

STAFF MAGAZINE



Walking with dinosaurs

Stephen Brusatte shares his passion for palaeontology

Nobel win for neuroscientists

Edvard and May-Britt Moser's nod to Edinburgh

Our shining symbol

The University's Golden Boy gets its glow back

Bridging the gap

Antonella Sorace on the benefits of bilingualism

Competition & giveaway

Win a meal for two or a reflexology treatment

Contact us

bulletin

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welcome

Edinburgh is renowned for not only its international collaborations but also for the breadth of its staff community, and this edition of *bulletin* celebrates the diversity of our employees based locally and abroad.

We meet one of our most dynamic young researchers recruited from the US – palaeontologist Dr Stephen Brusatte (pages 8–9) – and we introduce the directors of all four of our overseas-based Global Offices, who share their experiences of working in Mumbai, São Paulo, Beijing and New York (pages 10–13).

Helping to tackle global challenges is high on the agenda for our newly formed Department for Social Responsibility & Sustainability (pages 16–17) and Professor Antonella Sorace explains the benefits of learning foreign languages (pages 20–21).

As usual, our news pages are packed with reports about colleagues who are making a difference around the world – from Nobel Prizes and knighthoods to internal accolades such as the Principal’s Medals and Chancellor’s Awards – and we also introduce a number of new starts and senior colleagues (pages 3–5 and 22–24).

Staff are also reminded that nominations are open for the Rectorial Election 2015, which will be staged online in February (opposite).



New partnership: Little Sparta, a spectacular garden created by celebrated Scottish artist Ian Hamilton Finlay, is at the centre of a new partnership with ECA. Students on the College’s newly launched *Cultural Landscapes* MSc programme will have access to Little Sparta to study the relationships between people and the landscapes they inhabit, and to examine Mr Finlay’s work.

Find out more at: edin.ac/1rOt2gO

Edinburgh shaped me as a neuroscientist: Nobel winner

Nobel Prize winner Professor Edvard Moser has attributed his years as an Edinburgh postdoctoral researcher as being integral to the shaping of his career.

Professor Moser and his wife Professor May-Britt Moser were recently announced as two of the three winners of the 2014 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine.

The scientists, who are long-term collaborators, were recognised by the Norwegian Nobel Committee for their discovery of grid cells, which enable the brain's 'internal GPS' to determine position and navigate surroundings.

From 1995 to 1997, they worked at Edinburgh as postdoctoral researchers with Richard Morris, Professor of Neuroscience at the Centre for Cognitive & Neural Systems (CCNS). Professor Edvard Moser is an Associate Member of the CCNS and earlier this year was made



Edinburgh connection: Nobel Prize winners Professors May-Britt and Edvard Moser.

an Honorary Professor in the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine.

"I had a great time in Edinburgh as a postdoc and my years with Richard Morris formed me as a neuroscientist," he told *bulletin*. "Since then, Richard and I have collaborated in various contexts, with him being a guest professor at my university for many years. I'm pleased

to keep the connection with the university where much of it started."

The Mosers, who both have research posts at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, share their Nobel Prize with University College London's Professor John O'Keefe. Professor O'Keefe also has links to Edinburgh, having co-authored with Professor Morris *The Hippocampus Book*, a neuroscience textbook.

Meanwhile, education campaigner and Edinburgh honorary graduate Malala Yousafzai was jointly awarded the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize for her struggle to support girls' rights to education.

After surviving a 2012 assassination attempt by members of the Taliban, Ms Yousafzai, 17, has since campaigned for children's rights to education around the world. The University awarded her an honorary Master of Arts degree in 2013.

Old College plans set in stone

November marks an important anniversary for the University: 225 years since Old College's foundation stone was laid. Architect Robert Adam's original building plans were buried during the 1789 stone-laying ceremony, and on 23 November the University will re-enact the procession through Edinburgh's Old Town to the Old College Quad and officially announce plans for the redevelopment of the School of Law at Old College. An extensive refurbishment project will see the School's interior, including its Law Library and teaching spaces, redeveloped in phases.

>> Golden Boy's new look: page 14



Nominate your Rector

The nomination process for the role of University Rector is now open. The Rector presides at the University Court, chairs General Council meetings in the Chancellor's absence and works closely with EUSA.

Elections take place every three years, and students and staff on the Rectorial Election Roll can nominate a candidate. The deadline for nominations is noon on Tuesday 13 January 2015, and online voting will take place 10–11 February 2015.

For information on nominations and deadlines, staff postal voting, and information packs, email Dr Katherine Novosel, Head of Court Services, at rectorial.elections@ed.ac.uk, or visit the website.

www.ed.ac.uk/rectorial-election

UNESCO honours unique Gaelic archive

A University collection of Gaelic historical and cultural documents has been recognised as one of the world's most important archives.

The Carmichael Watson Project, housed in the Centre for Research Collections, is one of nine archives that have been added to the UNESCO 2014 UK Memory of the World Register, which raises awareness of exceptional but lesser-known British documentary riches by awarding them with the globally-recognised Memory of the World status.

The Edinburgh archive has as its centrepiece the papers of the pioneering folklorist Alexander Carmichael who, between 1860 and his death in 1912, collected stories, songs, anecdotes and objects from Gaelic-speaking areas in the Highlands. The papers contain an extensive range of material, from legends of loch monsters and second sight to accounts of clan battles, Gaelic insults and crofting customs.

 www.carmichaelwatson.lib.ed.ac.uk/cwatson

Next generation of robots on way

Experts from the Schools of Informatics and Engineering have collaborated with colleagues from Heriot-Watt University to form a new centre aimed at developing the next generation of robots.

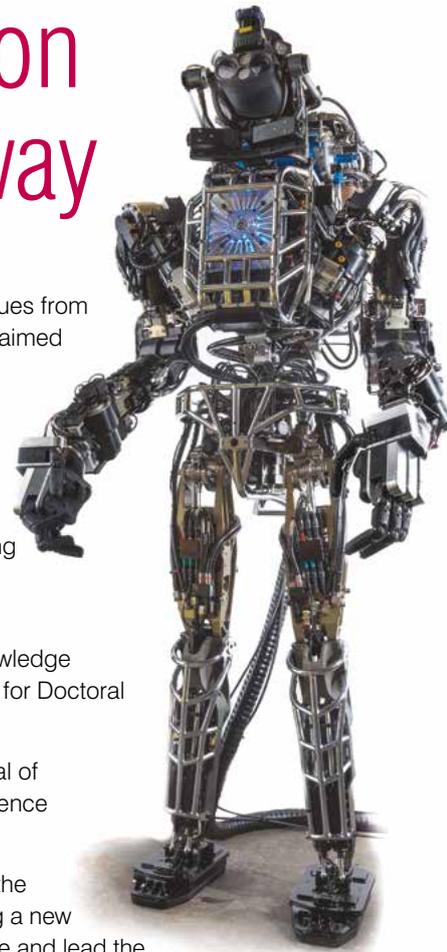
The Edinburgh Centre for Robotics brings together dozens of scientists and engineers from both institutions, together with some 40 partners from industry, and will seek to develop robotics expertise for a range of markets, including renewable energy, healthcare and assisted living, transport and manufacturing.

Alongside a facility for robotics research and knowledge exchange, the collaboration will support a Centre for Doctoral Training in Robotics and Autonomous Systems.

The centre and programme were funded by a total of £13.2 million from the Engineering & Physical Science Research Council (EPSRC) and industry support.

"The Edinburgh Centre for Robotics aims to help the country realise its industrial potential by producing a new generation of highly skilled researchers... to create and lead the UK's innovation pipeline," said Sethu Vijayakumar, Professor of Robotics and Centre Co-Director. "This will be supported through a major EPSRC investment in world-class infrastructure and robotic platforms."

 www.edinburgh-robotics.org



A virtual first for anatomy at Edinburgh

Edinburgh's virtual cadaver – one of the first of its kind in the UK – is being used this year in teaching. The Anatomage Table was created from CT scans and enables medical and anatomy students to investigate the human body by virtually dissecting life-sized male and female bodies. Pictured is the School of Biomedical Sciences' Gordon Findlater, Professor of Translational Anatomy, with students.

 To watch a demonstration of the Anatomage Table, visit edin.ac/1tfVhoN.

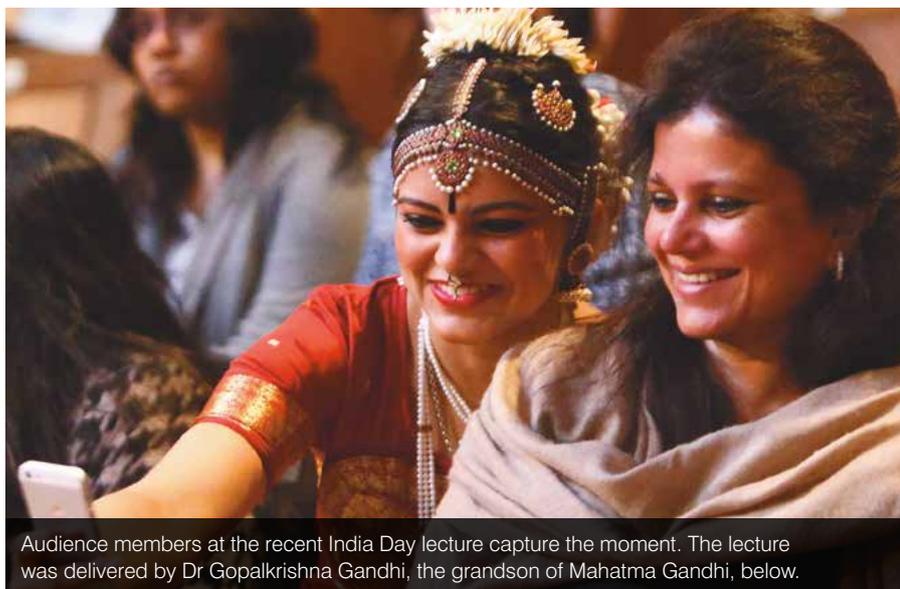
Santander bank pledges support

Santander bank has pledged to fund £400,000 over a three-year period to support scholarships and enterprise at the University.

The Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, signed a funding agreement with Steve Pateman, Santander's Executive Director, Head of UK Banking.

The funding will offer students and staff new scholarship opportunities, support a variety of entrepreneurship activities and go towards enhancing the University's links with Latin America through the Centre for Latin American Studies.

Through Santander Universities, the bank also supports 15 Edinburgh Santander Scholarships for Masters students and funds entrepreneurial competitions for staff and students.



Audience members at the recent India Day lecture capture the moment. The lecture was delivered by Dr Gopalkrishna Gandhi, the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, below.

Celebrating our links with India, South Asia

Staff, students and members of the public celebrated the recent India Day by attending a lecture delivered by the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi.

Dr Gopalkrishna Gandhi, a distinguished scholar and statesman who has held various government and diplomatic posts including High Commissioner to South Africa and Sri Lanka, talked on the topic 'India Yesterday, India Today'.

The inaugural India Day lecture was part of the University's India and South Asia Week.

Speaking to the sell-out crowd in the McEwan Hall, Dr Gandhi said: "India Day has to be about more than a country and its people. And its celebration has to be about more than a paean to its glory.

"It has to be a searching of India's soul to see why its yesterdays, flawed as they are, seem to have a moral dimension that today is looking for."



Highlighting Edinburgh's long-standing relationship with South Asia, the week's celebrations included lectures, dance and music performances, a Bollywood night, Namaste party, photographic exhibition and a display of rare manuscripts. Events were organised by the Centre for South Asian Studies, the Edinburgh India Institute, the South Asian Students Association and the International Office.

 To watch the India Day lecture, visit edin.ac/1yjevV.

Centre promotes benefits of bilingualism

An innovative centre that encourages and supports speaking more than one language was launched recently at the University.

The centre is an expansion of the existing information service Bilingualism Matters and will continue to raise awareness of speaking more than one language through community projects such as talks in schools, information sessions

for public and private organisations, and offering advice for families.

Bilingualism Matters currently has eight European branches including Edinburgh, and over the next six months it will expand further in Europe, and in the US.

>> Turn to page 20 for Bilingualism Matters Director Professor Antonella Sorace's *Opinion* piece.

in brief

Commitment to race equality

Edinburgh is one of 30 institutions to participate in a national trial of the Equality Challenge Unit's race equality charter mark, which aims to tackle racial inequalities in higher education. As part of the trial, the University has invited staff and students to express their views on race equality and how the University's commitment to equality and diversity translates into lived experience. The Race Equality Survey closes on 30 November.

 edin.ac/1tyx96P

Rankings rise for Edinburgh

The University has climbed the *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings to 36th position in the world, up from last year's 39th. The rankings rate universities on 13 performance indicators, including teaching, research and international outlook. Earlier this year, the QS World University Rankings, which are based on performance in areas such as academic and employer reputation, staff-to-student ratios, research citations and international students and faculty, placed Edinburgh at 17th in the world.

Fairtrade status renewed

The University has renewed its Fairtrade status, which it has held since 2004 when it became the first Fairtrade-accredited university in Scotland. The renewal coincided with another milestone, which saw the University's Fairtrade hot beverage supplier, Coffee Conscience, fund the planting of its 1,000th fruit tree at local orchards, 336 of which were contributed to by Edinburgh. Together, the University and Coffee Conscience fund several community projects.

Potterow dentist, optician open

The recently opened Vitality Dental and Optical in Potterow is available to staff and students and offers a range of services, including free eye tests and dental check-ups. Other services include specialist eye care, contact lenses and eye wear, and National Health Service and cosmetic dental care.

 www.voptical.co.uk

Subscribe to Staff News

Colleagues are reminded they can receive regular staff-related updates by visiting the University's Staff News website. Read news online, subscribe to Staff News' digest services through email update or RSS feed or follow @UoE_staff on Twitter.

 www.ed.ac.uk/news/staff

research in focus

From emu eggs to giant maps of the galaxy, the latest academic studies by staff are helping advance our understanding of science, medicine and the arts.

Competition ‘could boost kids’ fruit and veg uptake’

Turning meal times into a competition could increase the number of children who eat fruit and vegetables, School of Economics experts reveal. A study by researchers at the Universities of Edinburgh, Bath and Essex analysed the findings of a trial involving more than 600 pupils aged six to seven and nine to 10, in 31 schools. Two incentive schemes, using stickers and pens as rewards for eating fruit, were compared to a control group with no incentives. Results showed that while boys responded to both incentives, girls mainly responded to the offer of an additional reward for the most stickers collected, and that the intervention had more pronounced effects among children who received free school meals. School of Economics’ Professor Michele Belot, says: “Our research shows that certain incentives do work, and in particular work for groups of children that typically respond little – or not at all – to other health-promoting interventions, such as boys and children from poorer backgrounds.”



Emu eggs may hold clues to causes of birth defects: study

Eggs from emus and chickens are helping Roslin Institute researchers to understand how genes can cause birth defects. Team members, including Dr Megan Davey (pictured) showcased their research recently at the Easter Bush Campus Open Day as part of the Midlothian Science Festival. By using the eggs to investigate how genes control the way our bodies develop, the researchers found that the genetic mutations responsible for causing extra fingers to form in chickens are similar to those found in humans. Polydactyly, or having extra digits, is the most common birth defect, and the experts discovered that one gene, called Sonic Hedgehog, is key to ensuring that fingers and toes develop correctly. The mechanism functions the same way in all animals with fingers and toes, including birds.

EPSRC backs data science centre

A £4.7 million contribution from the Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), together with £5.3 million of direct and in-kind support from the University and 34 external partners, including Microsoft, IBM, Google, Amazon, Apple and Xerox, has enabled the launch of the School of Informatics’ Centre for Doctoral Training in Data Science. The centre is designed to help create a new generation of data scientists for today’s increasingly data-driven society. Starting this year, 10 students each year – for the next five years – will join the centre and undertake a 12-month masters programme, an internship with an industry partner, and a three-year PhD.

Spin-out secures €1.2m

DestiNA Genomics, a spin-out company formed by Professor Mark Bradley to commercialise novel tests for cancer and infectious diseases, has secured €1.2 million in investments from partners in Spain, Belgium, the UK and Saudi Arabia, as well as Scottish Enterprise. The company will now collaborate with a subsidiary of Spanish investor Vitro Group to develop a colon cancer assay. This is in addition to collaborations with research and commercial partners across Europe. Mark Bradley is Professor of High-Throughput Chemical Biology in the School of Chemistry.

£7.5m boost for bioscience

A £7.5 million pledge from the Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council will support

Edinburgh PhD students working in the fields of agriculture, food security, industrial biotechnology, bioenergy and bioscience for health. The funding is part of a multimillion pound investment announced by Vince Cable, the Business Secretary, during a recent visit to the Roslin Institute. It will be matched by £7 million from the East of Scotland Bioscience Doctoral Training Partnership (EASTBIO), which is led by the University’s School of Biological Sciences in collaboration with the Universities of Aberdeen, Dundee and St Andrews. Research students will address issues including sustainable food production, renewable energy sources and the health challenges of an ageing population.





Astronomers to lead international project

School of Physics & Astronomy experts are to lead a €9 million international project that will increase the stargazing powers of the Very Large Telescope (VLT) in northern Chile. The VLT is the most productive ground-based astronomical facility in the world, and researchers based in the UK Astronomy Technology Centre at the Royal Observatory Edinburgh will spearhead efforts to probe the distant reaches of the early universe using a powerful new telescopic tool known as MOONS. Providing crucial follow-up for the VLT, the instrument will allow astronomers to see obscured areas in the Milky Way at a distance of around 40,000 light years, and enable them to create a 3-D map of our galaxy. In doing so, they hope to tackle some of the most compelling astronomical puzzles, such as how stars and galaxies form and evolve.

What I'm discovering



Catharine Ward Thompson, Professor of Landscape Architecture, leads *Mobility, Mood and Place*, which explores how places can be designed collaboratively to make mobility easy, enjoyable and meaningful for older people. She was named Outstanding Researcher of 2014 by the European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools.

"Mobility, Mood and Place has a multidisciplinary group of academics leading the research. As well as myself, there are

architects, health geographers, psychologists, geriatricians, a social gerontologist and a social anthropologist (our 'happiness' expert!). The team is predominantly drawn from Edinburgh, but also from King's College London, the University of York and Heriot-Watt University. Our approach is to explore places that 'lift the heart' for older people, thereby supporting and encouraging them in remaining active and healthy into very old age. We recognised that many interventions in the built environment have tended to focus on overcoming barriers to access for older and disabled people; this is necessary for maintaining mobility but it is evidently not sufficient to promote active lifestyles. So our research considers what makes places attractive and enabling, enhancing mood and thereby forming a virtuous circle for wellbeing and mobility, encouraging outdoor exploration and keeping people mobile for as long as possible."

www.mobilitymoodplace.ac.uk

Making headlines

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

A sweet tooth is 'all in the mind'

An international research team, including experts from the School of Biomedical Science's Centre for Integrative Physiology, has found that while people can become addicted to eating for its own sake, sweet treats that are high in sugar or fat are no more addictive than those that are not. The brain does not respond to nutrients in the same way it does to addictive drugs such as heroin or cocaine, say the researchers and, instead, people can develop a psychological compulsion to eat, driven by the positive feelings that the brain associates with eating. The study's findings were published in *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews* and picked up by scientific and mainstream media outlets in the UK, Sweden, Australia and Asia.

Decline in monsoon rainfall levels 'induced by humans'

Worldwide media outlets as varied as the *Times of India*, the BBC, *Science Daily* and the *Financial Express* reported on a School of GeoSciences' study that suggests emissions produced by human activity have caused a decline in annual monsoon rainfall levels. In the second half of the 20th century, the levels of rain recorded during the Northern Hemisphere's summer monsoon fell by as much as 10 per cent, and the scientists found that emissions of tiny air particles from manmade sources – known as anthropogenic aerosols – were the cause. Dr Debbie Polson, the study's lead author, says: "This shows for the first time that the drying of the monsoon over the past 50 years cannot be explained by natural climate variability and that human activity has played a significant role in altering the seasonal monsoon rainfall on which billions of people depend."

Study to look at net health checks

Researchers from the Centre for Population Health Sciences within the School of Molecular, Genetic & Population Health Sciences are to investigate whether it would be beneficial to replace face-to-face GP visits with phone or internet consultations. A two-year study will be conducted by researchers from the Universities of Edinburgh, Bristol, Oxford and Exeter. Its announcement was reported by various media channels, including the *Times Higher Education Supplement* and the BBC.

Walking with dinosaurs

From unearthing fossils to consulting on Hollywood blockbusters, Dr Stephen Brusatte is taking giant strides to educate others about science. He shares his passion for palaeontology with Corin Campbell.

Why do you think people are so fascinated by dinosaurs?

Dinosaurs are where science and imagination collide, because they're other-worldly but also real. I think science is sometimes too abstract for people to fully appreciate but dinosaurs are different. When you see a T rex skeleton in a museum it's so big and so unlike anything in the world today, and that can be very inspiring.

What made you decide to become a palaeontologist?

I wasn't really interested in dinosaurs as a kid. It wasn't until I was 14 or 15 that I became fascinated and began reading every book I could find on dinosaurs, evolution and geology. The whole thing seemed like a big detective story to me, and it became a huge challenge and thrill to think about how the Earth changes over time.

What attracted you to the University at this stage in your career?

A lot of things. It's a great university and I love the city. I applied for the position while I was doing my PhD in New York. The University was already widely regarded as a major place for studying palaeontology, and now we're expanding on that by building Edinburgh's first dinosaur lab, which is really exciting.

What does your current role involve?

I'm on a Chancellor's Fellowship, which is very research-focused to begin with, and gradually involves more teaching as the years progress. The programme was very forward-thinking of the University – it has meant that we now have an incredible group of young researchers working in the School of GeoSciences.

What's the best thing about your job?

Knowing that every day you could discover something brand new. I also get to travel a lot and work with people all over the world. We also have some of the best students in the UK, which is fantastic from a teaching perspective.

... and the most challenging?

It's a very varied job and I love it, but balancing everything can be challenging. Handling the responsibilities of being a professional scientist also takes a bit of getting used to, and we're in a constant struggle to attract funding for our work.

How does Edinburgh support you in your efforts to collaborate on projects?

We're well supported by the University, as it recognises that science relies so much on collaboration. As part of my research, I work very closely with colleagues in Romania, Poland, Portugal, China, Russia, South America and the US.

What are the most exciting discoveries you've made recently?

Discovering *Pinocchio rex* was pretty neat because it's not every day that you identify a new species of tyrannosaur [Dr Brusatte helped identify *Qianzhousaurus sinensis*]. It really was a one-in-a-million discovery, and a truly inspirational one.

I was recently part of a big project looking at what led to the extinction of the dinosaurs. It's one of the biggest mysteries of science but, until now, we really didn't know much about it. We found that dinosaur ecosystems were particularly vulnerable when the huge asteroid collided with Earth 66 million years ago, and that the dinosaurs very well might have survived had it hit slightly earlier or later. I've also been

looking into how birds evolved from dinosaurs, which is an area that I focused on during my PhD.

Are dinosaur fossils ever discovered in Scotland?

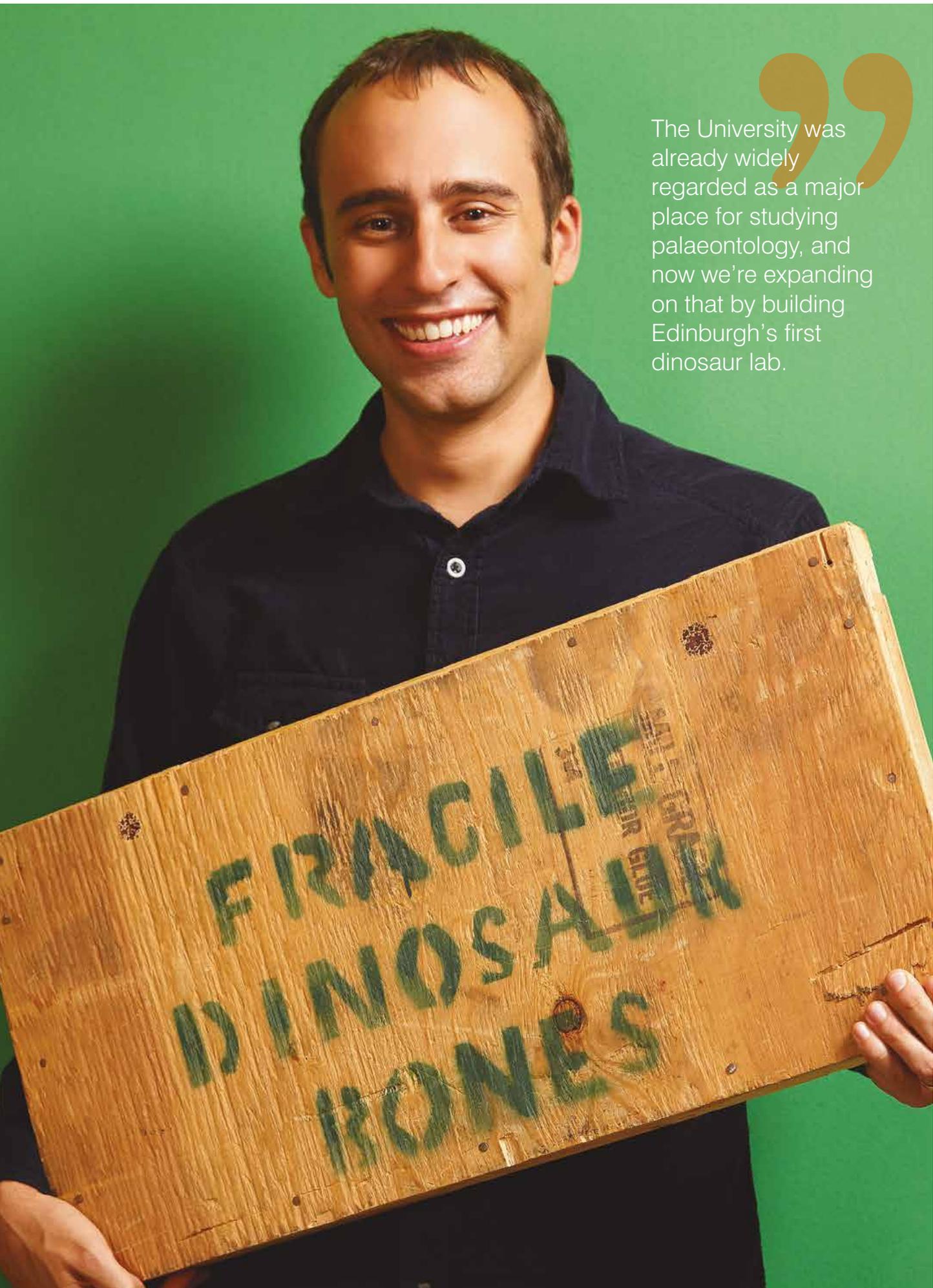
I've actually been carrying out some work on Skye. The island is tremendously important as it's one of the few places in the world where dinosaur fossils have been found from the Middle Jurassic Period, around 170 million years ago. Ultimately, I hope to some day find Scotland's first complete dinosaur skeleton there.

You do lots of outreach work... what do you enjoy most about taking science out of the lab?

It's fun! Personally, I think that talking about science is as cool as actually doing it. I really enjoy giving talks, writing books and consulting for TV and movies like *Walking with Dinosaurs*. Besides, I think scientists should talk about their work because there's so much distortion in science news coverage and it's important to speak directly to people. I also want students to be excited and to feel engaged with research. I see outreach as being one of my key responsibilities as a scientist, alongside research, teaching and administration, and the School of GeoSciences is very supportive of that.

What advice do you have for current students hoping to pursue a career in palaeontology?

It's essential to learn about your field, so take as many relevant courses as you can. But passion for a subject is always the most important ingredient. If you're passionate about something, you should go as far as you can with it. ✚

A man with short dark hair, wearing a dark blue polo shirt, is smiling broadly. He is holding a large, rectangular wooden board in front of him. The board has the words "FRAGILE", "DINOSAUR", and "BONES" painted on it in large, green, block letters. There is also some smaller, less legible text on the board, possibly "MILITARY GRADE". The background is a solid green color. A large, stylized quotation mark is visible in the upper right corner of the image.

The University was already widely regarded as a major place for studying palaeontology, and now we're expanding on that by building Edinburgh's first dinosaur lab.

Global citizens

The recent launch of the University's North American Office in New York builds on our already strong ties with the US and Canada. Here, we reveal how our histories are intertwined and introduce all four directors in our Global Office Network.



The University's position as the most popular destination for American students studying in the UK is an enviable one. Each year, hundreds make the transatlantic journey, along with similarly high numbers of Canadians – but this is not a new phenomenon. For centuries, Edinburgh has been a popular choice for the best and brightest talents from North America, including some of the leading thinkers of their day.

In 1786, American Founding Father Thomas Jefferson wrote to his son-in-law Thomas Mann Randolph. The young man, unsure of which path to follow, received this advice as he embarked on his studies at Edinburgh: “You are now in a place where the best courses upon earth are within your reach... Such an opportunity you will never again have.”

The flow of talent moved in both directions, with two Edinburgh graduates – Benjamin Rush and John Witherspoon – signing the *US Declaration of Independence*. Such men also founded and influenced a host of educational establishments across North America, ensuring that the four-year liberal arts degree, pioneered by Scottish universities like Edinburgh, became the norm across the US and Canada.

This legacy of achievement is now being built upon by the University's North American Office, which is situated in the heart of Manhattan at 45 Rockefeller Plaza. It will enable Edinburgh staff and students to interact more effectively with a range of people and partners in this important region.

The office's official opening was celebrated with a number of events,

including discussions and presentations from leading Edinburgh academics.

These included a demonstration by Professor Harald Haas of his high-speed wireless technology, Li-Fi, which is predicted to overtake traditional wi-fi by offering far greater data transfer rates and improved security; an examination of the many links between North America and Scotland from historian Professor Sir Tom Devine; and a highly successful conference, which it is hoped will be followed by a number of new research partnerships, on the need to improve healthcare in developing countries.

The University also announced details of two new scholarships, worth up to \$US35,000 each. The John Witherspoon Masters Scholarships will allow two



The North American Office

It's a thrill to be back at the University, says Joanna Storrar, a former Development & Alumni colleague.

"This is a return for me to the University. I was appointed Deputy Director of Development in 1997 and was later promoted to Director of Development. When I left to move to the US in 2005, I remember thinking, 'That was one of the great privileges of my life.' It's a thrill to be back.

"My job involves coordinating and integrating a spectrum of international agendas in North America – fundraising, partnerships with universities, research commercialisation, alumni relations, recruitment and profile raising. Much of what I do involves liaising between University staff and organisations here, rather than trying to do everything myself.

"The wonderful thing about the office is the way in which the University has recognised how interconnected all these things are. I report to the Director of the International Office, with a dotted line to the Director of Development, and have regular interactions with Development & Alumni, ERI [Edinburgh Research & Innovation], the North American Deans, the Global Academies, the Careers Service and the Colleges and Schools. Externally I work with alumni, donors and volunteers, with universities with which we're working on exchange and research agreements, and with UK and Scottish government agencies.

"I go to work by train from Princeton to Penn Station, then walk 20 blocks to the Rockefeller Center. We have a room with a view – I can see one spire of St Patrick's Cathedral, and the building on Park Avenue where I started my first job. It's a great way to start the day." >>



Joanna Storrar, centre, with colleagues from the North American Office.

US masters-level students to apply for postgraduate study in any field for the 2015/16 academic session.

The North American Office joins the China Office, established in 2005; the India Office, set up in 2010; and the Office of the Americas, which opened in 2013 and serves Latin America. Each is tailored to the particular requirements of their own region, but all share the common aims of strengthening the University's relationships, supporting teaching collaborations and generating cultural exchange.

Here, we meet those colleagues based in our Global Office Network, and find out a little about their working day. 🇨🇦



Explore Edinburgh's links with North America: edin.ac/1x7LAN0.



📍 The North American Office is based in New York. For more information, email Joanna.Storrar@ed.ac.uk or visit www.ed.ac.uk/global-offices.

The India Liaison Office

Being part of the University's global ambition to be a partner of first choice is exciting, says Amrita Sadarangani.



"I'm lucky – my journey to work is a 10-minute drive across Marine Drive, the beautiful promenade in South Mumbai!

"Usually my day entails a run through my inbox and a chat with the team about urgent and administrative matters, then phone calls with contacts. We have lunch together at our desks – I often pack a lentil and vegetable curry with roti – and the afternoon is spent dealing with longer emails, reports and calls with Edinburgh.

"We get regular updates, support and advice from our line management at the

International Office, and we're also in contact with the Vice-Principal International, International Deans at the Colleges and some Schools, the Edinburgh India Institute and the Centre for South Asian Studies.

"My role is to identify opportunities for the University in India, with respect to academic and research partnerships, alumni development and opportunities for students, and to build and maintain Edinburgh's perception and networks with leading Indian institutions and UK Plc in India. The team here works with

leading Indian universities, research institutes, the Indian Government, British Council and British High Commission in India, Scottish Development International's India team and the Research Council UK India Office.

"I'm excited by the University's global ambition to be partner of first choice, and I'm glad to be part of that journey."

✎ The India Liaison Office is based in Mumbai. For more information, email Amrita.Sadarangani@ed.ac.uk or visit www.ed.ac.uk/global-offices.

The China Office

Dr Nini Yang says meeting the challenges of working remotely is made easier thanks to the support of Edinburgh-based colleagues.

"The China Office manages and develops partnerships with key institutions and agencies across the region. I'm responsible for coordinating a diverse portfolio of activity, including regional recruitment, alumni engagement, academic collaboration and developing connections and opportunities for advancing the University's activities across the region in relation to the *Internationalisation Strategy*.

"The International Office is my major contact, but I also deal directly with people in almost every department, at all levels, including the Principal's Office, the Confucius Institute and School- and College-based research and recruitment offices. All my Edinburgh colleagues are very supportive and they appreciate my situation, working on my own (with a non-English speaking assistant) and 7,000 miles away. I often come across

unique problems that aren't usually encountered in the UK, and immediate attention is sometimes needed.

"Each morning, I deal with emails from the night before (due to the time difference, most emails from Edinburgh come in after 5pm Beijing time). Then I deal with any issues and carry out meetings with our Chinese partners.

"On an ideal day, it should be about a 40-minute bus ride to work but often I'm trapped in traffic jams. A single trip to the office normally takes about 1.5 hours. That's accepted by everyone here because Beijing is 'slightly' bigger than Edinburgh – only 63 times larger and with a population of 20 million (40 times bigger than Edinburgh)!"

✎ The China Office is based in Beijing. For more information, email Nini.Yang@ed.ac.uk or visit www.ed.ac.uk/global-offices.



Dr Nini Yang, left, appreciates the support of her Edinburgh-based colleagues.





Amrita Sadarangani, left, with her fellow colleagues from the India Liaison Office.



The Office of the Americas

Relationship building is crucial when working in a complex region such as Latin America, according to Dalinda Perez Alvarez Rodriguez.

"Latin America is a very big part of the world, with more than 20 countries that are very similar to one another yet very different at the same time. It's a huge and complex region but I love the challenge and we're delivering some really interesting projects.

"For example, the Principal recently signed an agreement between the University of Edinburgh and the Ministry of Electricity & Renewable Energy in Ecuador. It's the first agreement of this kind that the University has signed, so we're very proud of this.

"Essentially, responsibilities are establishing collaborative links between the University and different stakeholders in Latin America, such as government agencies, cultural organisations, business, industry and, of course, academia.

"The University's reputation, the fact that it's a world-leading institution, is what attracted me to apply for this job. Plus, I love Scotland and thought it would be a great opportunity and an interesting challenge. I love my job.

"Being in touch with colleagues, following up on projects, looking at new opportunities, starting new projects, and building and nurturing relationships are all part of my week. I deal with colleagues from the International Office and almost all areas of research, and others from different areas of the University.

"They are particularly helpful when projects are starting up, and I often call on academics to provide specialist information that is unique to their backgrounds.

"Externally, I deal with people from governments, government agencies both British and local, universities, funding bodies, companies, research councils and research centres.

"A smooth journey to work takes about 75 minutes by car. My office



Dalinda Perez Alvarez Rodriguez loves the challenge that her varied role brings.

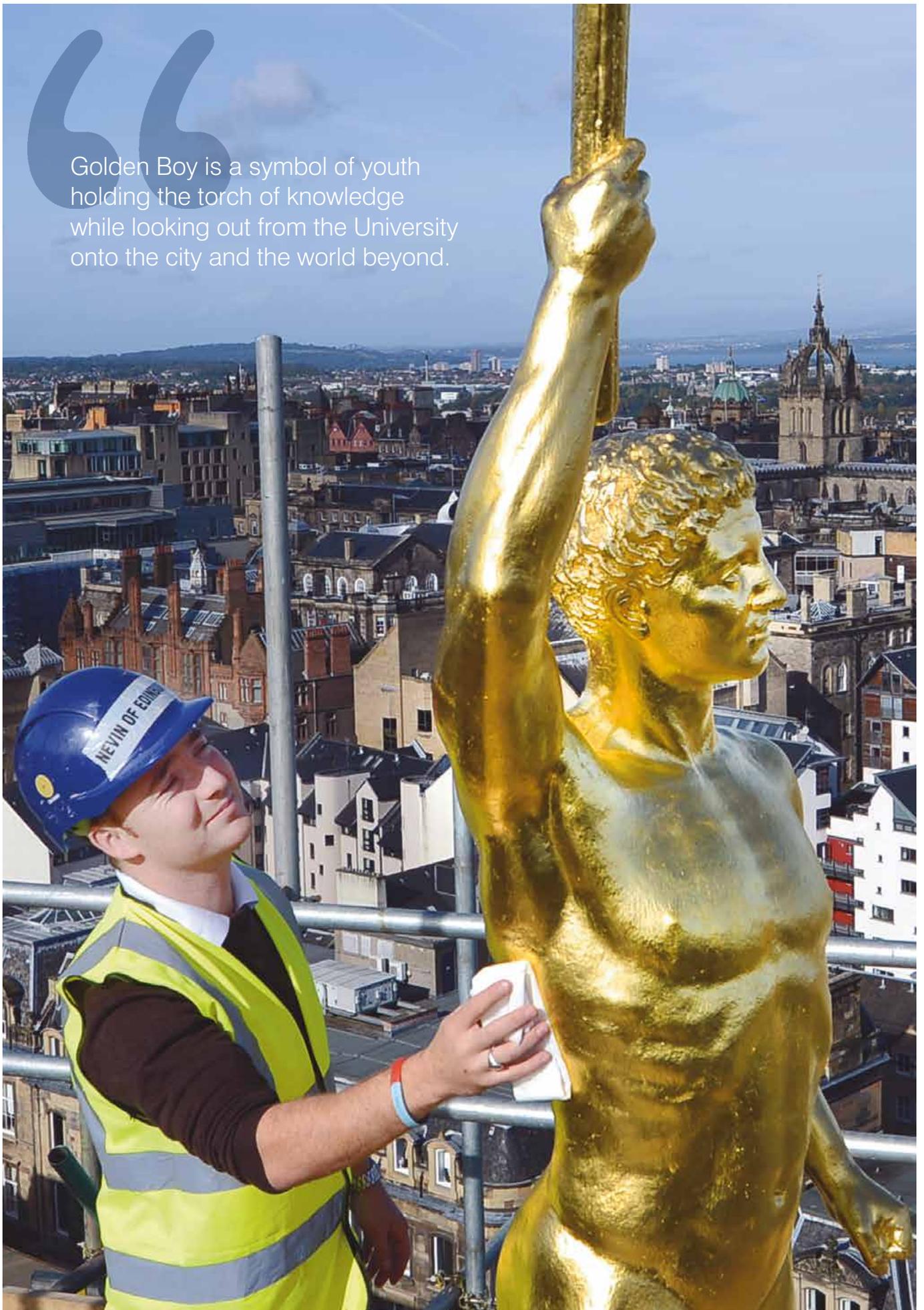
has a huge window looking out to a nice patio with trees and flowers. I work in a serviced office – Tania and Mitch, the guys at reception, do the coffee run – and for lunch my favourite thing is to go out to a place around the corner for tacos."

📍 The Office of the Americas is based in São Paulo. For more information, email Dalinda.Perez.Alvarez@ed.ac.uk or visit www.ed.ac.uk/global-offices.



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Golden Boy is a symbol of youth holding the torch of knowledge while looking out from the University onto the city and the world beyond.



Neil Hamra: The University of Edinburgh Art Collection



Opposite: "This is the highest place I've ever worked," says master gilder Mark Nevin. From far left: Anthony Hall, the model for the statue; applying the gold leaf; preparing the statue's surface for its new coat.

Our shining symbol

An ambitious restoration project has returned the glow to Golden Boy. Edd McCracken reveals how Edinburgh's iconic emblem was transformed.

Two hundred feet above South Bridge, master gilder Mark Nevin is handling sheets of pure gold with almost sacred care. "This is the highest spot I've ever worked," he says, as traffic and pedestrians pass by below. In early medieval art, gold leaf was used to confer divinity to figures via shimmering halos. In latter day Edinburgh, it's being used to restore one of the city and University's most iconic statues: Golden Boy.

Standing proudly at the top of Old College's dome since 1888, the seven foot-high bronze figure is the highest statue in Edinburgh. It has long stood for the University's ethos: "Golden Boy is a symbol of youth holding the torch of knowledge while looking out from the University onto the city and the world beyond," says Neil Lebeter, the University's Art Collections Curator.

Sculpted by John Hutchison (who also created the statue of John Knox that sits in New College's courtyard) to sit atop Sir Robert Rowand Anderson's dome, this figure of intellectual virtue has a rebellious and untold backstory. It was modelled on Anthony Hall, a renowned local athlete whose chiselled physique was much in demand by artists in 1800s Edinburgh, when classical ideals of

physical and architectural beauty defined the age. Famed especially for his boxing exploits, Hall was also known as a "man about town", according to Mr Lebeter.

"It was said that at Highland Games he enjoyed the 'social elements' as much as the competition," Mr Lebeter says. "The sculpture, with its classical Greek proportions and symbolism, is certainly saying something different from the character."

Golden Boy's mischievous magnetism was still strong in the 1980s, when members of Edinburgh's mountaineering club scaled the dome to adorn the statue with a tartan scarf and hat.

While in recent years the University has thrived, its symbol has suffered. Decades of traffic fumes, seagulls and the Scottish weather have taken their toll, says Estates & Buildings' Graham McGrath, Premises Manager and restoration project lead: "We noticed that the shine wasn't there any more. It's been 30 years since it was last regilded, but it had become dull."

So Mr Nevin was called in. His family firm, Nevin of Edinburgh, has worked on equally historic decoration and restoration projects over the past 40 years, such as

the Royal Palace of Stirling Castle and the Magdalen Chapel on the Cowgate. But before Mr Nevin could acquaint himself with Golden Boy, he needed a way to work in the heavens without Edinburgh's early autumn breeze blowing away his gold leaf. Cue Mr McGrath and his team.

Over six weeks, a free-standing scaffolding structure slowly grew up around the A-listed building and dome. Golden Boy was then enclosed in a tent studio, and Mr Nevin ascended the numerous ladders armed with several books of gold leaf.

First he washed years of grime from the statue and broke down any underlying paint on the surface, then coated it with a special glue designed to hold gold leaf. Mr Nevin goes through up to 6,000 books of gold a year, each containing 25 sheets. Each sheet is 23-and-a-half carat gold. The final part is copper, added to bolster what is naturally a soft metal.

The finished results are as spectacular as anticipated, and should last for the next three decades – Golden Boy is once again living up to its name. ✚

Watch master gilder Mark Nevin at work: edin.ac/1CBd7rX.

Meet the trailblazers

The first of its kind in a UK university, the Department for Social Responsibility & Sustainability aims to help address a range of global challenges. Rob Tomlinson hears how staff and students can play their part.



It's about the way we market ourselves to our students and the promises we make, and then later it's the dialogue we have with them, and the practical help we can offer.

Dave Gorman, Director of Social Responsibility & Sustainability

Trailblazing is a term with which the University quite rightly likes to be associated, on account of its 400-year track record of invention and innovation. It's a trend that continues to this day across a wide range of its activity and perhaps most recently with the creation of an entirely new department – the first of its kind in a UK university.

April 2014 saw the official launch of the groundbreaking Department for Social Responsibility & Sustainability (SRS). It's the first time that these two areas of inter-related activity have been brought together within one department in the University, and according to its Director, Dave Gorman, it has a simple but ambitious vision: "We want to work together with staff, students, alumni and people from the local area and beyond to create a world-leading, socially responsible university."

A former Head of Environmental Strategy at the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Mr Gorman acknowledges that his department has an extremely wide remit – and part of its initial aim is to define exactly what it means to be socially responsible.

"We're working on sharpening the definition," he says. "It's everything from taking action on climate change and embedding that ethos into the curriculum, to having an impact on the real world in terms of things such as what we as an institution purchase. We already have a strong track record in areas like our fair trade activity, and we look very closely at supply chains to ensure that they don't involve child labour and that workers from the companies that we buy from are treated well."

This commitment was recently demonstrated when Edinburgh became the first higher education institution in the UK to join Electronics Watch, an EU-funded monitoring organisation that works to achieve respect for labour rights



in the global electronics industry through socially responsible public purchasing.

As a founding affiliate of Electronics Watch, the University encourages electronics suppliers to disclose factory locations so that labour conditions can be monitored.

"Responsible investment is a really important element, but then there are so many other facets to social responsibility – it's how we run our buildings, the energy we use, the courses we teach. You can't be socially responsible if you're not a good employer so it's looking at HR-related matters and issues such as the living wage and contracts of employment."

Mr Gorman is eager to point out that the 20-strong department, which forms part of Corporate Services, is just as much for students as it is for staff.

"In the early days of the student experience it's about the way we market ourselves to our students and the



promises we make, and then later it's the dialogue we have with them, and the practical help we can offer."

In conjunction with EUSA, the SRS department is setting up a two-way forum where students can tell staff what they want from them and, in exchange, staff offer practical help and advice. This comes, among other things, in the form of supporting student placement programmes and assisting with research projects.

One of the projects the department is collaborating on, with the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine, is an initiative looking at freezers and the temperatures at which they run. The research will inform how freezers can be made more efficient, greener and ultimately socially responsible and sustainable pieces of machinery.

There's also a horizon-scanning element to the SRS role, examining trends and being aware of what's around the corner

globally and how that will impact on institutions' drives to improve in this endeavour. That is coupled with the more practical work of advising the University Court and senior management on what amounts to best practice in SRS areas, as well as facilitating staff workshops at a local level, for those who want to be more involved in initiatives such as recycling, green transport projects and energy saving.

As well as refreshing the University's *Responsible Investment Policy* and reviewing the *Climate Action Plan*, Mr Gorman talks of creating an 'Edinburgh way' in terms of thinking and acting on being socially responsible and sustainable.

"The University is large and we want to build on existing good practice, and make the whole institution – academics, students and support staff – more aware of these issues, bringing a harmony to the way in which we approach them," he says. ✱

Awards offer chance to make a difference ✱

Registration for Edinburgh's 2014/15 Sustainability Awards is now open.

Offering staff and students the opportunity to make their places of work and study more socially responsible and sustainable, the Awards were launched by SRS and EUSA in 2010/11, in partnership with the National Union of Students and Green Impact.

Last year, a record-breaking 35 teams from five campuses participated, and the programme also saw its first participating student society in 2012/13, when the Edinburgh University Theatre Company received an award that recognised their efforts to become a green theatre venue.

Entrants can work to achieve a bronze, silver or gold award by meeting certain criteria which must be evidenced and recorded using an online toolkit. Teams from any department, laboratory, student society or student residence can enter.

A team of trained staff and student volunteer auditors will visit entrants in March/April 2015 to review completed toolkits and provide feedback, and all participants will be invited to celebrate their achievements at an awards ceremony on 22 April.

🔗 For more information, visit www.sustainability.ed.ac.uk/awards.



Building a reputation

Since the University was founded in 1583, its buildings have been at the heart of the architectural heritage for which the city of Edinburgh is famous. For anyone working or studying here, whether in one of our oldest buildings such as Old Moray House, or a more recent development such as the Informatics Forum or the Scottish Centre for Regenerative Medicine, its impact on the city's built environment and skyline is clear. Recent refurbishments, such as those at 50 George Square and High School Yards, as well as investment in new construction projects, reflect the University's ambitious approach to its estate as the needs of students and staff evolve. The photographs on these pages put some of the University's aesthetic richness in a fresh light, by approaching parts of the campus from a new angle. 



Stories showcased

The University is working with Historic Scotland to produce a book showcasing the finest buildings, both old and new, across the University's campuses. The book will include the stories behind the buildings and the people who use them. It is due to be published in 2016.

Paul Dodds, White Dog Photography; Dave Morris; Matt Davis; Douglas Robertson



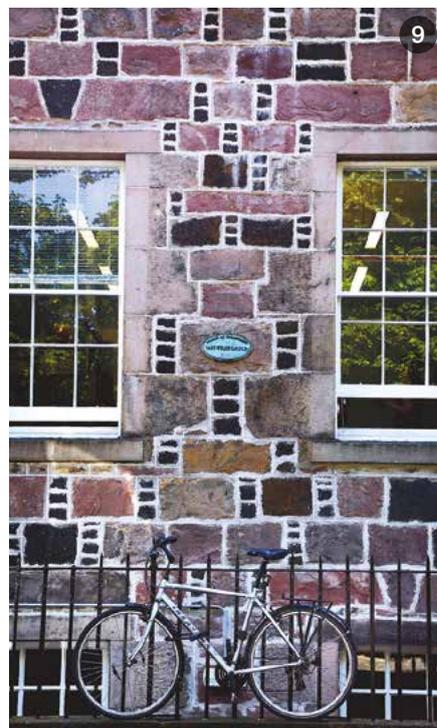
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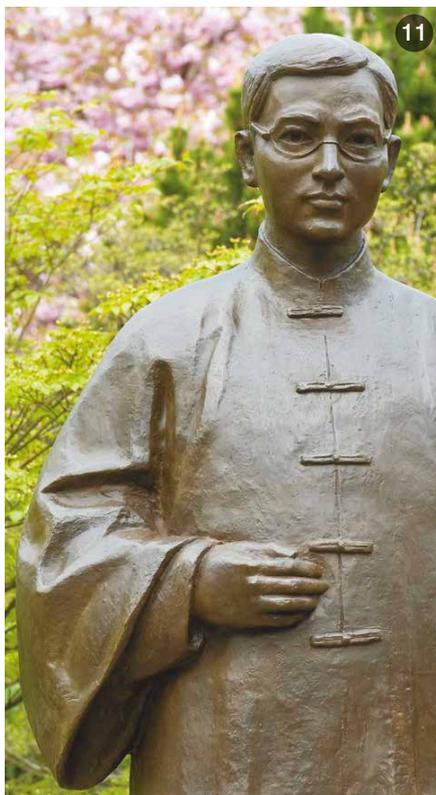
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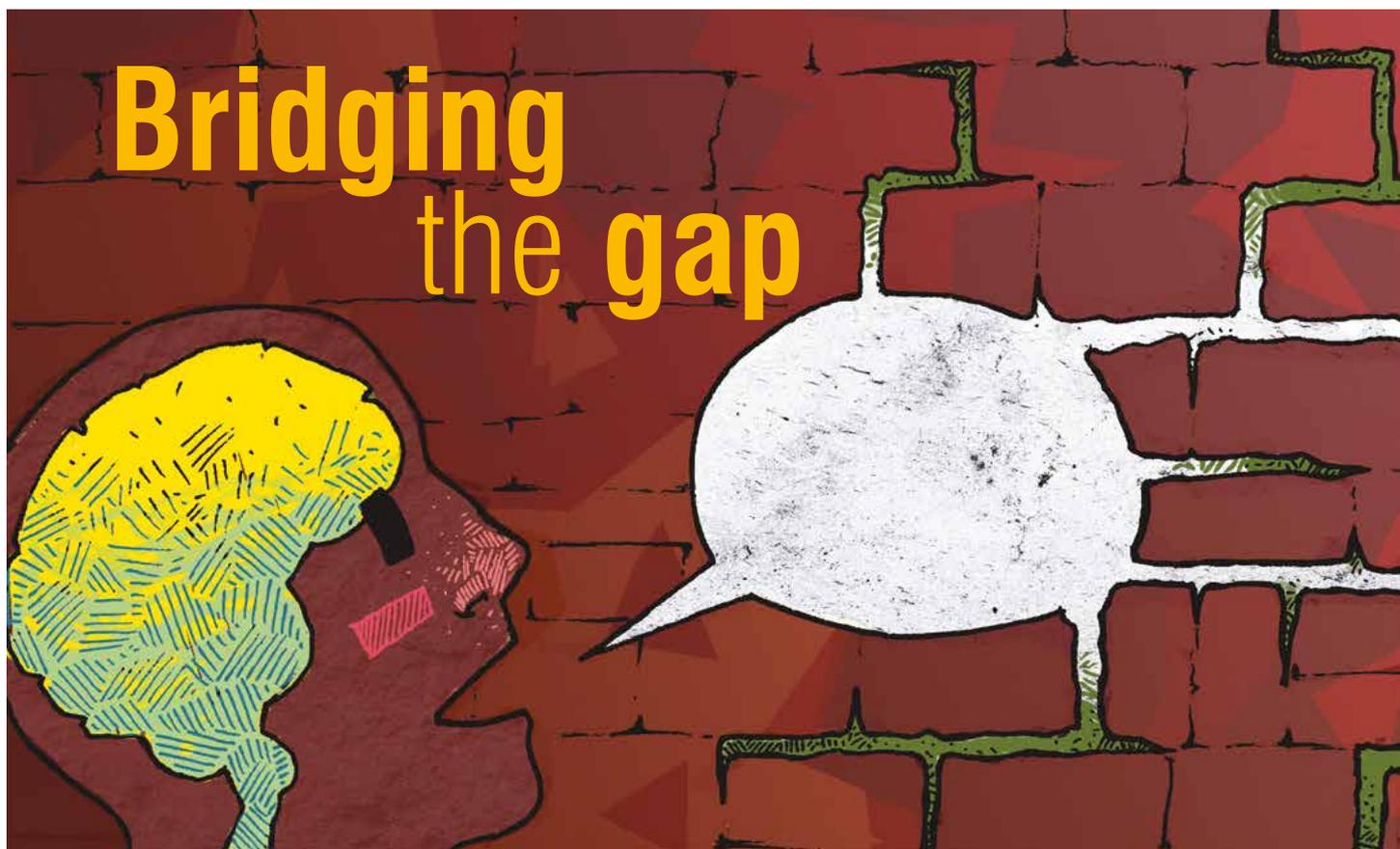
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1 St Albert's Catholic Chaplaincy won two 2013 Edinburgh Architectural Association Awards. 2 The £60.6 million Roslin Institute. 3 Opened in 2013, the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation is the UK's first historic, refurbished building to achieve the building sustainability BREEAM Outstanding Award (design stage). 4 Striking stonework at High School Yards. 5 A sculpture on the Informatics Forum commemorates both Jim Haynes' Paperback Bookshop that once occupied the site, which was signposted by a rhino's head, and the 2011 merger between the University and ECA. 6 Hidden delights around every corner. 7 Stonework over the entrance to the Old Medical School on Teviot Place. 8 When opened in 2006, the William Rankine Building was the first building in the UK to increase energy efficiency by actively drawing in daylight. 9 Old meets new in the Central Area. 10 The Scottish Centre for Regenerative Medicine was designed to facilitate collaboration between scientists and clinicians. 11 A statue of Dr Huang Kuan, the first Chinese student to graduate from a Western university, stands in the grounds of the Confucius Institute for Scotland. 12 A George Square gem.



It was once cautioned that learning a second language as a child could be bad for brain development. But recent studies suggest that the linguistic and cognitive advantages of being bilingual far outweigh any classroom confusion. Professor Antonella Sorace explains how.

Illustration by Felix Miall, a third-year ECA Illustration student.

Long-term investment in multilingualism has been a hard sell in the UK – the perception that ‘everyone speaks English’ can make foreign languages seem irrelevant and lead to a lack of incentive to learn them. But the statistics of language use show just how flawed this perception is, and policy-makers are becoming increasingly aware that language skills are falling just as the need for them is growing. One estimate, from the Centre for British Teachers (CfBT) Education Trust, suggests a lack of language skills costs the UK economy £7.3 billion a year.

Knowing more than one language doesn’t make someone more intelligent, but it can benefit individuals, businesses and communities.

It’s a given that language skills enable people to communicate more freely with others around the globe and it has been well established that bilingual children enjoy a variety of cognitive advantages over their monolingual peers. For example, as bilinguals have a better intuitive grasp of how language works, they’re often better at grammar in school and tend to learn new languages more quickly. As bilingual children regularly have to choose which language to speak,

depending on who they’re talking to, they also learn to appreciate, earlier than monolingual children, that people have different perspectives and outlooks. Studies have also determined that bilinguals tend to have more focused attention and are better able to ignore irrelevant information.

Bilingualism hit the headlines recently because of findings by Edinburgh researchers that learning a second language might also bring cognitive benefits in later life, even when that second language is acquired in adulthood.

A study led by my colleague Dr Thomas Bak examined tests such as verbal fluency in 835 native English speakers aged 70 or older. Of these participants, 195 people had learnt a second language before 18, and 65 had learnt a second language after 18. Dr Bak’s team compared the participants’ scores on the tests with their predicted IQ scores at age 11. The results showed that people who spoke a second language performed better on the tests than would be predicted from their early IQ results, relative to their monolingual peers. There were no differences between early versus late second language learners – in other



words, learning a second language may slow brain ageing.

An earlier study by Dr Bak suggests that bilingualism might also delay the onset of dementia symptoms in Alzheimer's disease patients and may slow the 'normal' decline of mental functions in healthy ageing. The study surveyed more than 600 patients and found that, on average, bilingual patients developed dementia four and a half years later than monolingual ones, irrespective of education, sex, profession or lifestyle.

Everybody is different, of course, and these and other generalisations about bilinguals are just that – average findings based on single studies. However, what is crucial in studies such as these, and others conducted recently around the world, is that their findings don't uncover problems or disadvantages of being bilingual – they find advantages.

In some communities, teachers and medical professionals still advise parents not to speak a different language at home, believing it will cause confusion and hamper learning. But researchers have found no solid basis for this belief.

I founded Bilingualism Matters in 2008 with the aim of raising awareness

about bilingualism through information campaigns, community events and professional training. Coordinated from the Edinburgh headquarters, branches of Bilingualism Matters now operate all over Europe, and our work was recently recognised with the creation of a dedicated centre at the University.

My colleagues and I conduct research with bilingual children and adults, and cover a range of areas including simultaneous acquisition of two languages from birth, consecutive bilingualism in children, adult second language learning, first language attrition (what happens to your first language if you spend much of your adult life operating in a second language), and bilingualism in ageing.

An important part of our remit involves collaborating with educators, and since 2008 we have organised more than 70 talks for schools and parent groups around Edinburgh. Bilingualism Matters contributed to the Government's *Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach* for prioritising language education in primary schools, and our researchers have been working closely with local education authorities on pilot projects

aimed at helping primary school teachers make the transition to early language teaching. We have also held more than 100 information sessions for both public and private organisations.

Bilingualism Matters also focuses on 'less privileged' types of bilingualism, involving regional minority and immigrant languages, with the aim of persuading members of these communities that their home languages should be seen as a resource, not a problem.

We need to move on from 'privileged monolingualism' to empowering multilingualism. Our goal at Bilingualism Matters is to contribute to this change by bridging the gap between research and the community so that more people can benefit from speaking more than one language. Multilingualism doesn't make someone more intelligent, but it's most certainly a good investment. 🇨🇭

Antonella Sorace is Professor of Developmental Linguistics and Director of Bilingualism Matters.

www.bilingualism-matters.ppls.ed.ac.uk



people news

A selection of achievements, accolades and appointments.

Dates for your diary

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. Here's just a selection.

Gap in the Air: A Festival of Sonic Art

Now until 14 February 2015, Talbot Rice Gallery: includes music, staff and student art, workshops and academic discussions.

www.ed.ac.uk/talbot-rice

Edinburgh Quartet performance

25 November, 1.10pm, Reid Concert Hall: Tôru Takemitsu's *Landscape* (1960) and Elgar's *String Quartet in E minor, Op.83*.

www.edinburghquartet.com

Ethics Forum: 'Should the University Employ Prisoners?'

4 December, 1pm, Chrystal Macmillan Building: lunchtime session examining prison labour and the University's role in rehabilitating prisoners in Scotland.

www.sustainability.ed.ac.uk/events

Annual Carol Service

7 December, 7pm, the McEwan Hall: all members of the University community and their guests are welcome.

www.ed.ac.uk/news/events



Edinburgh sports medicine expert Dr Andrew Murray provided support at the recent Ryder Cup golf tournament at Gleneagles. He was joined by fellow medic Dr Jane Dunbar.

Experts at Ryder Cup

Edinburgh sports medicine experts Dr Andrew Murray and Dr Jane Dunbar provided specialist support at golf's Ryder Cup recently.

The doctors are on staff at the University's Fitness Assessment & Sports Injuries Centre (FASIC), which was one of only four performance clinics worldwide to be associated with the European Tour.

Dr Murray has worked for three years with golf's European and Challenge Tours, while Dr Dunbar has been working with professional golfers since 1991.

In the summer, Dr Murray also provided support at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, alongside FASIC colleagues Lindsay Thomson, Sandi Lyall, Treena Shaw and Dr Alastair Nicol.

"This year saw an incredible summer of sport in Scotland, and it was great to have colleagues from FASIC at the heart of these events," said Dr Murray. "I enjoyed being part of 'the team behind the team' with our Judo team [at Glasgow 2014], while the tension and the drama of working at Gleneagles for the Ryder Cup was unbeatable."



Professor among world's top 100

Professor Lesley Yellowlees, Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Science & Engineering, has been named on the BBC's 100 Women list of influential women from around the world. The Royal Society of Chemistry's first female president, Professor Yellowlees (pictured) features on the 2014 list alongside women from a range of backgrounds, including campaigners, health workers, journalists, entrepreneurs and women affected by conflict. Speaking at a 100 Women interactive debate on 'the power of women', she drew on her own experiences to highlight the need to support women in science: "I have enjoyed the rigour of research and the exhilaration of academic study – it is possible to have a career in science and have a family... There is no such thing as a girl job or a boy job – there is just a job."

Royal recognition for eminent colleagues

Two staff members were acknowledged in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours List, with historian Professor Tom Devine awarded a knighthood and medical researcher Professor Aziz Sheikh made an OBE.

Sir Tom's knighthood for services to scholarship coincided with his retirement in the summer and celebrated a combined 45 years of service to the Universities of Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Strathclyde.

"This recognition would not have been possible without the collective support over my career of numerous colleagues, students and, above all, of my wife Catherine, our children and our grandchildren. I thank them all most warmly," said Sir Tom, who on his retirement was the University's Personal Senior Research Chair of History and Director of the Scottish Centre for Diaspora Studies.

To mark his departure, the University hosted 'Scotland's Past and Scotland's Present', an evening of discussion featuring Sir Tom and former Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Meanwhile, Professor Aziz Sheikh was made an OBE for services to medicine.



Royal honours: Professor Sir Tom Devine and, below, Professor Aziz Sheikh.

Professor Sheikh is Co-Director of the Centre for Population Health Sciences in the School of Molecular, Genetic & Population Health Sciences, and Director of the Asthma UK Centre for Applied Research. He is also a Visiting Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.



"This is truly well-deserved recognition for the very significant contribution that Aziz makes across a wide range of areas of medicine, particularly in primary care, asthma and allergy research," said Professor Harry Campbell, Co-Director of the Centre for Population Health Sciences.

Medal winner's 'enormous' efforts

Johanna Holtan, International Engagement Coordinator, EUSA, has received the 2014 Principal's Medal for Exceptional Service.



The medal recognises a staff member or team who makes a contribution to the University that far exceeds what is expected of their role, and Ms Holtan (pictured) received the award in recognition of her "enormous contribution" in supporting the student community in all aspects of internationalisation.

"Johanna has made extraordinary contributions to the University's internationalisation plans," said Professor Stephen Hillier, outgoing Vice-Principal International. "EUSA Global would not have happened without her."

Nicholle Bell, a School of Chemistry PhD student, received the Service to the Community medal in recognition of her innovation in the field of public engagement and community outreach.

Chancellor honours four

Four staff have received 2014 Chancellor's Awards for their teaching and research excellence.

Dr Elizabeth Bomberg, Professor Margaret Frame, Professor Jo Shaw and Dr Nicholas Mills were congratulated by the Chancellor, HRH The Princess Royal, at a gala dinner held at the Palace of Holyrood House.

Established in 2003, the Chancellor's Awards reward staff in three categories for their outstanding contributions: Research, Teaching and Rising Star, an honour given to an early-career academic who has demonstrated great potential in their field.

For more details on each award, visit edin.ac/1uq2itA.



Newly appointed Heads of School take up posts

The University has appointed four new Heads of School. Taking up their positions earlier this year are, from left: Professor Richard Sparks, Head of the School of Law; Professor David Gray, Head of the School of Biological Sciences; Professor Johanna Moore, Head of the School of Informatics; and Professor Iain Gordon, Head of the School of Mathematics. As part of an introduction to their new roles, each new Head underwent an induction course.

in brief

Student Systems scoop awards

Student Systems has been named the 2014 Tribal University of the Year, in recognition of its commitment to enhancing the University's Student Record System, EUCLID. Tribal provides EUCLID to the University, and the accolade recognises "significant changes and enhancements to student systems and processes". Student Systems was also named runner-up in three out of four individual categories at Tribal's annual awards event.

www.studentsystems.ed.ac.uk

Vice-Principal appointments

Three senior colleagues have taken up posts recently as Vice-Principals: Professor James Smith is Vice-Principal International; Professor Sue Welburn has taken up the newly created position of Vice-Principal Global Access; and Professor Andrew Morris is in post as the newly created Vice-Principal Data Science.

www.ed.ac.uk/about/people/officials

Student Communications' success

Communications and Marketing's Student Communications Team has won a 2014 Bronze Heist Award in the Best Internal Communication category for its 'On the Same Page as You' campaign. The Heist Awards celebrate professionalism, expertise and innovation in communications and marketing in the UK further and higher education sectors. 'On the Same Page' was commended for its innovative approach to enabling new dialogue between University staff and the student body.

November start for new Director of HR



Newly appointed Director of Human Resources, Zoe Lewandowski.

The University has appointed Zoe Lewandowski as Director of Human Resources.

Mrs Lewandowski took up the role in mid November and succeeds Sheila Gupta, who recently accepted a position at the University of Cambridge.

Mrs Lewandowski was previously Head of HR in the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine, a position she held since November 2002. Prior to this she worked in senior HR roles in the professional and financial services sectors.

"I'm delighted to have been appointed as the University's new Director of HR," she said. "I'm looking forward to using my extensive experience of working at the University to lead a successful, professional and flexible HR function that recognises and supports the diverse needs of the business."

Mrs Lewandowski is responsible for delivering and shaping the University's people strategies and policies and providing leadership to the HR function. She works closely with College and Support Group HR teams to deliver the high-performance culture necessary for the University to achieve its ambitions.

Jeanette Lennartsson (1964–2014)



Jeanette started her teaching career in the Graphic Design department at ECA in 1998 and worked across all year groups. One of her best qualities as a tutor was her amazing knowledge of the art scene. There wasn't an exhibition, performance or gallery opening she hadn't been to (glass of wine in hand) or had an opinion about.

Jeanette's students found her insight invaluable, helping them to contextualise their work. She was astonishingly well read and had a great grasp of cultures and languages. In recent years she was rightly pleased and proud that she had achieved a PgCert distinction.

At Jeanette's funeral her friends and family captured her passion for life, inquisitiveness, humour, her thrift and by

contrast her generosity, her love of conversation and debate, and her fascination with Edinburgh's property prices.

Colleagues particularly remember her intelligence, her worries, strong opinions, caring nature, her pride in her students and of course her love of gossip!

Jeanette was at all times passionate and enquiring. She couldn't sit still and was always hopping from desk to desk and from student to student to do what she did best – talk. Her conversations were deep, questioning, meaningful, challenging and honest.

Jeanette was our friend and colleague; staff and students within the School of Design are devastated by her loss.

Zoe Patterson, Programme Director for Graphic Design, School of Design, ECA

Magdalena Midgley (1952–2014)



Professor Magdalena (Magda) Midgley was born in 1952 in Bydgoszcz, Poland, and first came to Scotland in the early 1970s. She enrolled

at the University in 1974, studying as an undergraduate with Professor Stuart Piggott.

In 1985 she completed her doctoral thesis on the earthen long barrows of northern Europe, supervised by Professor Roger Mercer.

Magda was appointed lecturer, in what was then the Department of Prehistoric Archaeology, in 1989 and spent her entire career at the University until her retirement earlier this year.

She principally taught and researched on the early farming cultures of Europe and was published widely, particularly on funerary monuments, such as the earthen long barrows of the north European plain.

Magda took part in excavations from the Czech Republic to Burgundy and to east-central Scotland but her fieldwork extended even more widely from the Spanish Pyrenees to southern Scandinavia and the forested areas of her native Poland.

She was a much-appreciated colleague who also skilfully carried out key administrative tasks, including acting as quality assurance adviser to the then Arts Faculty Group for several years.

At the time of her death, Magda was still actively researching the early history of archaeology and its relation to romanticism. She completed the groundwork to set up 'Neolithic Scotland: Making Monuments, Creating Communities', a major collaborative project in which she would undoubtedly have played a leading role.

Magda is survived by her husband, Stephen.

Colleagues, the School of History, Classics & Archaeology

Anthony John Harmor (1951–2014)



Tony Harmor graduated from the University of Cambridge with a BA in Biochemistry in 1973, and then a PhD in

Pharmacology in 1977. After a postdoctoral fellowship at the Friedrich Miescher-Institut in Switzerland, he spent three years as a research assistant at the University of Bristol before moving to Edinburgh as a non-clinical scientist at the MRC Brain Metabolism Unit.

He was made an Honorary Professor at the University in 1995, and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1996, but remained with the MRC until 2001, when he joined Edinburgh's academic staff.

He served as Deputy Head, then Head of the Division of Neuroscience, and then as Head of the School of Biomedical Sciences, stepping down in 2008 to concentrate on his research and focus on his work with the International Union of Pharmacology (IUPHAR).

Tony's highly influential research contribution, involving more than 100 peer-reviewed papers, has been cited more than 7,000 times.

His work had important implications for our understanding of pain mechanisms and the effects of nerve injury on pain perception, for identifying susceptibility to major depression and for understanding circadian rhythms – the daily rising and ebbing of many physiological functions and behaviours.

Tony died on 10 April 2014, leaving his wife, Jillian, and sons William and Thomas. He was a warm and generous colleague, committed to excellence in research and teaching, and his tireless and selfless work gained him the deep respect, affection and loyalty of his colleagues. He will be sorely missed.

Professor Gareth Leng, Head of the School of Biomedical Sciences

Keri Holdsworth (1977–2014)



Keri joined our team at FASIC in 2011 and worked with the University's High Performance Programme, the Performance Athletes

in Schools programme and our clinics at Meadowmill East Lothian and the Pleasance.

Highly thought of as an excellent clinician, she had a kind and sympathetic attitude and displayed all the qualities of a truly professional physiotherapist. Some descriptions from patients and athletes who worked with her include: "friendly and good humoured", "always willing to go that extra mile for patients" and "always there for everyone".

Keri's outstanding work with the High Performance Programme showcased her strengths; she played a major part in the support team and was key to

helping the programme achieve huge success this year.

Keri worked for the Scottish Rugby Union age grade teams and was club physiotherapist for Watsonians. She was a strong team player, both professionally and socially, and was in the back row with Watsonians in her playing days. She gained several international caps for Scotland from 2008 to 2010.

Keri volunteered at the London 2012 Olympic Games and was due to volunteer as a physiotherapist at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

A recovery suite in the medical poly clinic within the Glasgow athletes' village was named the Holdsworth Suite in her memory, and the Centre for Sport & Exercise will introduce its own tribute to Keri. She will be sorely missed.

Treena Shaw, Sport & Exercise Medicine Manager, FASIC

my nine-to-five

As one of the University's four Estate Development Managers, Jane Johnston has worked on projects ranging from the Main Library transformation to the current McEwan Hall redevelopment. Here, she shares some of her working day.

I'm an early riser so am usually in the office before 8am, which gives me time to catch up on emails before the phones start ringing. The day usually consists of a couple of meetings in the morning and afternoon, and fitting in any preparatory work or actions in between.

I usually start a list on a Monday morning and add to it as the week goes on. Unfortunately, I usually get to the end of the week and find that there are still a number of things that have to be carried forward to the next week!

In a nutshell my job is to ensure the University estate is developed in line with the strategic objectives of the University, and in so doing making sure the construction projects are delivered to programme, within the approved budgets and to a quality that meets those strategic objectives.

The larger exciting projects that I'm managing at the moment are the Holyrood Student Accommodation Development and the redevelopment of the McEwan Hall, and I'm at the very early stages of reviewing the feasibility of a new student centre, which would be a facility potentially shared by Student Services and EUSA.

I have been at the University eight years, and a highlight has been working on the Main Library redevelopment. The results are transformational, evidenced by the fact that visits are up by more than 100 per cent since the project started, to just under two million a visits a year.

All projects are different – they have different end users, the size or type of project differs and the professional advisers and individuals alter each time, as does the contractor. As a result you're continually learning and developing and you're shaped by your cumulative experience over the years.

I find that what gets me through the day is at some point coming together with the team so we can have a bit of a laugh about something that has happened during the day to one of us. A sense of humour is important when faced with situations that are sometimes difficult to deal with, and is what makes it fun to come to work.

The most satisfying aspect of my job is reaching completion of the project and witnessing the end users, whether they are staff or students, occupying a building that has taken years in the planning. It can be quite a rollercoaster at times dealing with day-to-day frustrations so when you reach the end of the journey it can be an emotional experience.

🔗 Find out more at www.ed.ac.uk/estates.



Get organised...

Desk: organised or a beautiful mess?

It varies from being very organised for a short spell to messy over a few months.

Routine or take it as it comes?

Certainly no two days are the same, and that keeps the job interesting.

Daily staple?

A sense of humour.

Favourite lunch spot?

I usually only have time for a sandwich at my desk, however when I do take a break my favourite haunts are Ciao Roma, Dovecot Studios and Mother India.

...and now relax

Perfect Sunday afternoon?

Watching my youngest son play football, then preparing a big Sunday dinner.

Favourite time of year, and why?

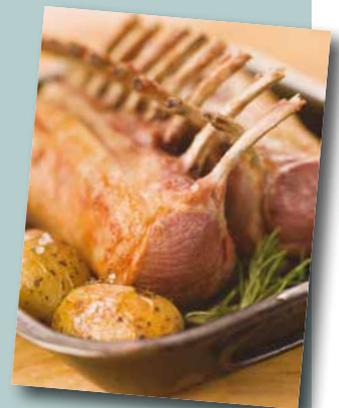
Summer – I love the long nights with time to spend in the garden.

Ideal holiday?

We have a family house on the Isle of Lewis. It's the place where I instantly feel relaxed and that I have left work behind. It's such a beautiful, peaceful place.

Best view in Edinburgh?

From the Salisbury Crags – it's amazing how many University buildings you get a spectacular view of.



competition

Can you spot the difference?

Two prizes are on offer this edition: dinner for two plus cocktails from Paradise Palms for the winner, and a one-hour clinical reflexology treatment and consultation from Emma Murray Therapies for the runner-up. To enter, compare the illustration on the right to the one on the left. You're looking for five differences. Circle each one and send us your entry by **12 December 2014** to the address on page 2. Correct entries will be entered in a draw and the winner will be selected at random.



Get involved: planned for March 2015, the University's second Gather festival will bring together staff, students and members of the public to celebrate culture, global citizenship and community. It is organised by EUSA and the International Office in collaboration with colleagues around the campus. To register your interest, contact the Gather team at www.gatheruoe.wordpress.com/get-involved.

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showcase

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

Rare manuscript

This image is a leaf from the *album amicorum* (illustrated autograph book) of Michael van Meer, a Dutch military officer, circa 1615. The manuscript is part of the David Laing Collection. Laing bequeathed his collection of rare books and manuscripts to the University in 1878, and it resides as a unique asset in the University's Collections.

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