



Embracing our Global Community

Wherever you come from in the world, you are part of the University's vibrant global community – that's the message that's coming loud and clear from our International Student Office.

Read more on page 8

Celebrating SET Women at Leeds

Recognising the outstanding achievements of female colleagues.

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Going wild in Yorkshire!

Staff get access to Yorkshire Wildlife Trust nature reserves.

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Crowds flock to Russian art exhibition

New show brings record attendance and royalty.

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Leader column

Recruitment and partnerships on the world stage

Welcome to the new look Reporter – the updated design gives the content a more strategic focus, so it's easier to see exactly what we're doing and where to achieve our objectives. It also means that this column has a new place.

As we go through the academic year, separate editions of the magazine will look at our specific key strategic areas. This first issue has an 'Internationalisation' theme. Of course, it covers other issues that are important to the University, but the main focus is on the different ways in which we are fulfilling our role as a member of the global higher education community, and how we are encouraging our students and staff to play their parts, too.

Next month our Deputy Vice-Chancellor, John Fisher, will lead a university delegation to Hong Kong to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). We already have MOUs with other valued institutional strategic partners, notably Osaka, Zhejiang, and Penn State. Much of the activity is facilitated through our membership of the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN), which brings together 19 research intensive universities.

These institutional partnerships sit alongside our successes in building high quality, strategic international partnerships with groups such as Opera North, Marks & Spencer and Arup. In March we signed another partnership – a £3m deal with Sinochem, the Chinese state-owned chemicals business which will allow us to fund six research projects in MAPS and FBS. This is a significant development with one of China's biggest companies and a great example of our internationalisation strategy intersecting with our impact agenda. Good chemistry (excuse the pun) between key members of University staff – particularly Professors Long Lin and Mike Wilson – and Sinochem helped seal the deal. It topped off an excellent few months for us and I hope it will lead to more joint projects.

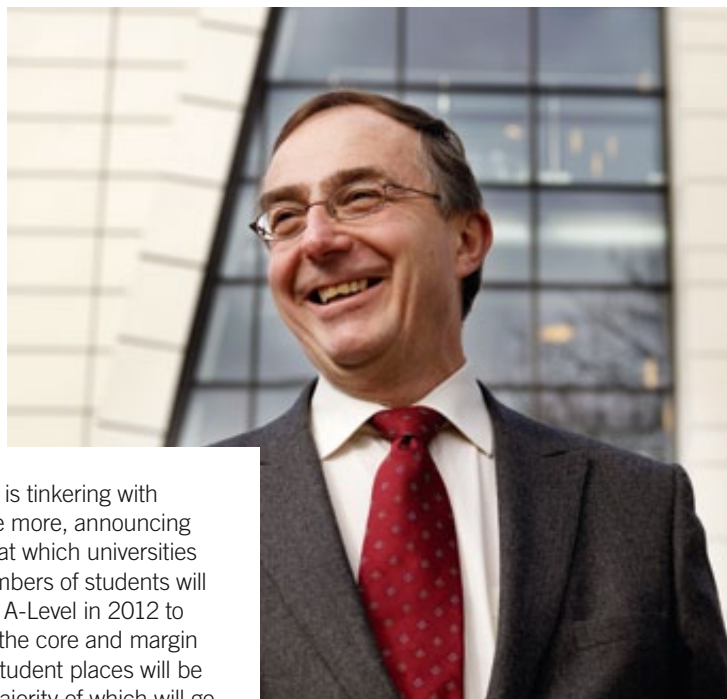
Back in the UK, we have recently been reminded yet again of the government's zeal to introduce the free market to higher

education. David Willetts is tinkering with student recruitment once more, announcing that the grade threshold at which universities can recruit unlimited numbers of students will be reduced from AAB at A-Level in 2012 to ABB in 2013. As part of the core and margin system a further 5,000 student places will be taken out in 2013, the majority of which will go to those universities charging £7,500 or lower. This is on top of the 20,000 places already set aside in each of 2012/13 and 2013/14.

The impact for Leeds will be minimal, as around 95% of our undergraduates achieve ABB or above. The core and margin system means that we will lose our fair share of the remaining 5%, but I'm not too concerned. Government believes it will drive up standards. I would argue that we have been driving up standards for all the right reasons at Leeds for the last eight years.

The changes come in the middle of the Integrated Planning Exercise (IPE), and we will look again at our recruitment forecasts. Some academics units have been reducing student numbers for strategic reasons and I don't think we will reverse those decisions. But there are some schools – Chemistry would be an example – where there is a strategic advantage in growth, and where an expansion could lead to further strategic developments in the school.

Staff recruitment has been a focus in recent weeks, in particular recruiting Leadership Chairs. Things are going well. Interestingly, three of the five potential recruitments I have been part of involved US-based academics. This is probably due partly to budget cuts in US higher education, but I think it also shows that the message about the great work we are doing at Leeds is being positively received right around the world and supports our ambitions to 'build and maintain world-class performance'. Continuing the world-class performance theme, in July we will host the Chinese Olympics team as they prepare for London 2012 – so look forward to a special edition of the *Reporter*, celebrating the participation by our staff, alumni and students in the Olympics programme.



About the Reporter

The *Reporter* is the University of Leeds' staff magazine, produced eight times a year. Over 8,500 copies are distributed to staff across campus.

The *Reporter* is produced by Sarah Ward in the Communications and Press Office.

<http://reporter.leeds.ac.uk>

Stories and Letters

Story ideas and letters are welcomed as hard copy or in email. The deadline for the next issue is Wednesday 20 June.

Events

Please submit events online at www.leeds.ac.uk/events

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Cover photograph shows students and Cultural Ambassadors Steven Marcelino and Sylvia Suyeon Wong.

News

Academics SET for success



The Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Arthur and Dame Athene Donald (front row, second from left) with colleagues at the event.

The outstanding achievements of 14 female colleagues were recognised at the inaugural Celebrating SET Women at Leeds event and photographic exhibition earlier this month.

Organised by the University's Women in Science Engineering and Technology Network (WiSET), the new event celebrates women in the University who have achieved an external prize or award in their field for outstanding research, teaching, scholarship or technical work since January 2009. Nominations were gathered from our community of postgraduate students, research fellows or associates, lecturers and readers, professors and research technicians.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Arthur opened the exhibition, which featured specially commissioned photographic portraits of each of the nominated academics. More than 50 guests attended the event, including Professors Dawn Freshwater, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Staff and Organisational Effectiveness, Vivien Jones, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Student Education, and Jane Francis, Dean of the Faculty of Environment. The guest speaker was Professor Dame Athene Donald, Fellow of the Royal Society, 2009 L'Oreal/UNESCO Women in Science Laureate for Europe and former Chair of the Athena SWAN* Forum.

"Celebrating SET Women at Leeds supports our Athena SWAN objectives for the recruitment, retention and advancement of women in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) areas of the University," says Patricia Gray, WiSET co-ordinator. "It was extremely encouraging that so many colleagues supported the initiative, which we hope will become a regular event."

The colleagues recognised at the event were:

- Professor Anne Neville (School of Mechanical Engineering)
- Professor Eileen Ingham (Faculty of Biological Sciences [FBS] and iMBE)
- Sandra Karl (PhD in School of Earth and Environment)
- Dr Laura Coates (School of Medicine)
- Dr Rhiannon Turner (Institute of Psychological Sciences [IPS])
- Dr Bridget Wade (School of Earth and Environment)
- Professor Michael Hardie (School of Chemistry)
- Liz Meenan (School of Education)
- Professor Alison Ashcroft (FBS, Institute of Molecular & Cellular Biology)
- Professor Denise Bower (School of Civil Engineering)
- Professor Louise Dye (IPS)
- Kyriaki Myrissa (IPS)
- Lucy Struthers (IPS)
- Dr Clare Lawton (IPS).

It's hoped the Celebrating SET Women at Leeds exhibition will soon move to a permanent home within the University. In the meantime, you can view the photographs at www.equality.leeds.ac.uk/for-staff/athena-swan-and-wiset/

* Read more about Athena SWAN on page 4.

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Celebrating success (l-r): Professor Louise Dye, Kyriaki Myrissa and Dr Clare Lawton. Photo taken by Lawrie Phipps.

Valuing our people

Investing in an equal future

The University's commitment to the principles of the Athena SWAN Charter were underlined at the recent Celebrating SET Women at Leeds event at which the University announced an intention to invest in ways to support our female academics to play a greater role in the leadership and management of the University, including recruitment of a dedicated Athena SWAN officer.

"We already have a history of commitment to Athena SWAN: the University itself has Bronze status; the Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences (MAPS) recently achieved Silver status and the School of Healthcare was awarded Bronze; and several other faculties are in the process of putting submissions together," explains Professor Dawn Freshwater, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Staff and Organisational Effectiveness. "This new investment will help to achieve Silver status or compliance right across the University – in the sciences and arts – by 2015.

"Athena SWAN is vital for equality. In particular, it supports female early career researchers returning after career breaks, helping them to get back into work and performing at the level they would wish, and giving them access to promotion opportunities and leadership roles. Embedding the principles will ensure our policies enable all our female colleagues to make a contribution to the management of the University, and also encourage greater representation on committees and governance bodies such as Senate.

"As well as being a significant way of supporting our values, the objective to achieve Silver status is being driven by a requirement from the UK's funding councils. Funding bodies such as the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the National Institute of Health Research and Medical Research Council have all indicated that they will only allocate funding to institutions which have achieved this status. Some councils are introducing this requirement as early as 2013, and it will be in place across all of them by 2015."

The Athena SWAN officer is expected to be appointed this summer, and will work with faculties, Human Resources and the Equality Service, advising them about Athena SWAN submission requirements and helping to further embed the Athena SWAN principles within the University.

Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (WiSET) is an informal club that brings together women from across the University who are doing research, academic or technical audience in the University. The First Tuesday Club meets monthly for women to network and take part in a range of development activities.

More information from www.equality.leeds.ac.uk/about-us/women-in-science-engineering-and-technology



Colleagues from MAPS, the School of Healthcare and the Equality Service with their Athena SWAN awards.

About Athena SWAN

The Athena SWAN Charter is a scheme which recognises excellence in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) employment in higher education. Any university or research institution committed to the advancement and promotion of the careers of women in SET in higher education and research can apply for membership.

The beliefs underpinning the Charter are:

- The advancement of science, engineering and technology (SET) is fundamental to quality of life across the globe.
- It is vitally important that women are adequately represented in what has traditionally been, and is still, a male-dominated area.
- Science cannot reach its full potential unless it can benefit from the talents of the whole population, and until women and men can benefit equally from the opportunities it affords.

www.athenaswan.org.uk

Valuing our people

Team Talk – Delivering Internationalisation

What do you mean by 'Internationalisation'?

These are activities that focus on strengthening our international partnerships for strategic advantage. Generally we concentrate on the internationalisation of research and opportunities for improving the postgraduate research experience.

How are you delivering internationalisation?

When people think of the International Team they usually associate us with student recruitment, marketing and managing the experience of international students at Leeds. However, we also focus on international research partnerships and for this we seek to form teams with colleagues from outside of our own service. As a result, we've established four International Regional Working Groups (IRWGs) – cross-Faculty and Service teams that drive collaborative activity based on clear alignment of international strengths to market opportunities. The groups focus towards China, Japan, Southeast Asia and the Middle East. Current activity includes the development of university strategic partnerships, (eg, Zhejiang and Osaka) and promoting research that's already acknowledged as having strategic significance but which would benefit from a global boost, eg, Professor Andy Gouldson's work on 'low carbon cities'. In addition, the groups support new initiatives including the promotion of cultural understanding and overseas undergraduate volunteering opportunities.

'Internationalisation' is not only about collaborating with other institutions outside the UK. The term encompasses how international we are as a university. We have a large number of non-UK staff and for many this is their first experience of working in the UK. The International Staff website is run by the International Office and the Staff and Departmental Development Unit and provides relevant information on anything from registering with a doctor to how to get published in the UK.



Members of the Internationalisation team*

So how might you work together?

A good example might be our approach to developing links with the Chinese University of Hong Kong, a recent addition to the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN). We're in the process of establishing a Memorandum of Understanding for staff and postgraduate exchange. The delegation to the signing of this will be led by our Deputy Vice-Chancellor, accompanied by academics who want to take advantage of this embryonic partnership to develop new research links; and we're also using alumni links so Andy Gouldson can deliver a high-profile public lecture as part of the visit.*

How do you choose projects to work on?

A variety of ways, including a clear steer by the Internationalisation Steering Group. We also gather data and intelligence to identify clusters of expertise or capacity – this is stored in a database for use across the University <http://internationalisation.leeds.ac.uk/resources/login/>. Then we explore research that the University has already earmarked as 'strategic' eg, the transformation fund projects.

Who do you work with across the University?

Faculty International Leaders, researchers collaborating with WUN partners, the Dean of Postgraduate Research (PGR) Studies, IRWG members, business development managers, alumni...anybody with an international research and PGR focus!

How will your work change in the future?

One of our intentions is to build links with the Research and Innovation Service. They have insight into Faculty research priorities through things like the Annual Research and Innovation Review which could help us to identify where we target our internationalisation efforts.

In many cases we're working on non-standard opportunities, outside formal structures, and this means there are challenges around communicating what we do and who we should be working with.

What are the most rewarding things about being in your team?

The work is driven by the needs of the people we work with as well as our own remit. We each bring a different piece to the puzzle so that we achieve our desired aim. We work directly to the International Director and there's no line-management relationship between us, so the emphasis is on collaboration and mutual benefit.

Tell us something about your work that would surprise people.

We do most of our work here at Leeds and we've never been to an International Recruitment Fair!

*See page 7 for more details of this visit

Inspire our students

A rewarding year for students and colleagues

This year's Celebrate Week was the biggest yet, with eight events recognising, rewarding and congratulating students and colleagues who have made important contributions to the University and also to the wider community.

Kicking off the week was the Sports Colours and Scholarship Awards which recognised the achievements of the University's student athletes, teams and coaches. This was followed by the Intercultural Ambassadors Showcase (see page 8 for details). The great work of the Residents' Committees in helping students to make the most of their time in halls was the next awards ceremony, attended by over 100 students and colleagues.

The inaugural Partnership Awards celebrated the achievements of students and colleagues in nine categories. The winners in each of the 10 categories were:

- *Inspirational Teaching*: Professor John Barrett, School of Earth and Environment, Professor of Sustainability Research
- *Innovation*: Christopher Lee, Student, Institute of Psychological Sciences
- *Impact*: Jake Rylatt, Student, Law School Rep
- *Critical Thinking*: Dr Julie Wallbank, School of Law, Senior Lecturer
- *Constructive Feedback*: Dr Jonathan Mound, Director of Student Education, School of earth and Environment
- *Collaboration*: Philosophy Society
- *Mentor*: Dr Neil Morrison, School of Mathematics, Research Fellow for Applied Mathematics,
- *Extra Mile*: Joanne Lay, Disability Coordinator, School of Healthcare
- *Participation*: Liane Hobson, Postgraduate School Rep, Faculty of Biological Sciences
- *The Partnership Award*: Institute of Psychological Sciences



Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Student Education Professor Vivien Jones with some of the winners of the LeedsforLife Citizenship Awards.

The following day saw the Leeds RAG team's Community Fund presentation, during which nearly 30, mainly local, charities received cheques of up to £1,500. The audience heard how the University boosted this year's fundraising total by donating over £17,000 in library fines.

“This is our commitment to all our students to support them in making the most of their time with us at Leeds.”

Professor Vivien Jones
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for
Student Education

An audience including alumni, business and third sector partners, as well as colleagues and students, attended the LeedsforLife Citizenship Awards. Professor Vivien Jones Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Student Education, said: “This evening is a showcase of projects and individuals who have dedicated their time to improve the lives of others. The LeedsforLife Citizenship Awards is one part of the LeedsforLife programme. This is our commitment to all our

students to support them in making the most of their time with us at Leeds.

Volunteering represents one tangible way through which students can develop key employability skills whilst having fun, broadening horizons, meeting new people and making a difference to society.”

The winners of the six awards were:

- *Education Award*: Access Academy Volunteer – Jane Irvine
- *Community Award*: ActionBound – Heather Parker and Laura Carling
- *Sport and Wellbeing Award*: Be a Champion – Fraser Weir
- *LeedsforLife Foundation Award*: All Ears Cambodia – Ned Carter
- *Project of the Year Award*: University of Leeds Innocence Project – Naomi Ellen Speechley and Paul Sheppard
- *Outstanding Contribution Award*: Eating Stones – Chris Ferry.

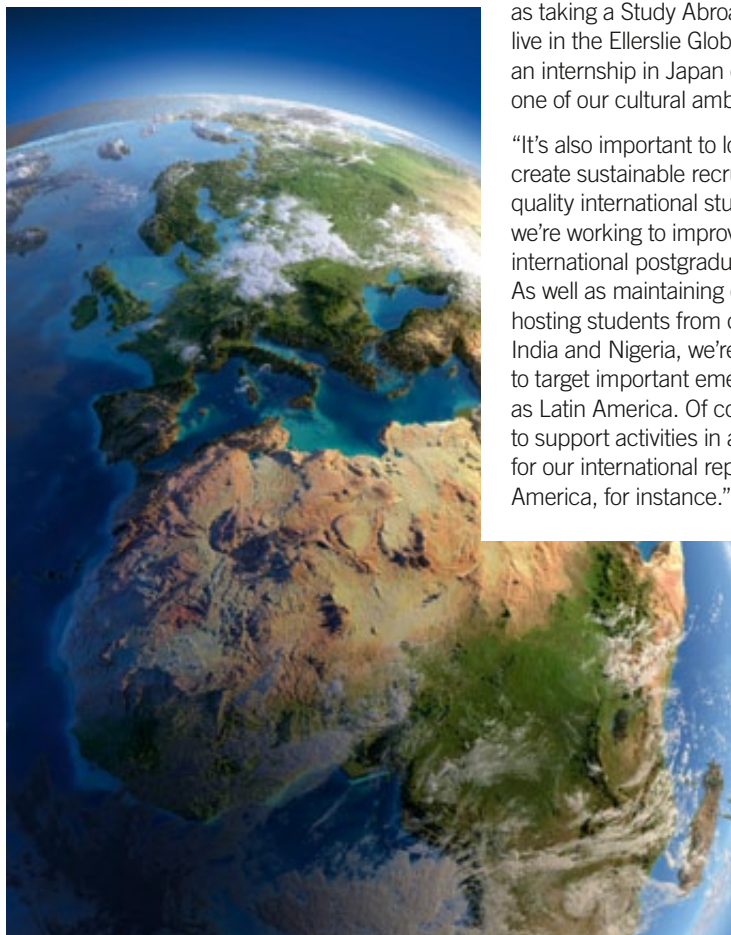
The Riley Awards brought this remarkable week to a fitting conclusion, showcasing the talents and contributions of some of LUU's hundreds of clubs and societies

International

Internationalisation: the ways forward

Our internationalisation strategy is now firmly embedded within the University and is becoming an integral part of the way we work. In this feature, and other articles in this internationally-themed Reporter, we'll try to give you a flavour of some the international work that is being done by our colleagues in the fields of research and innovation, enhancing the student experience and building a global community.

"This year, following our annual strategy theme review, the internationalisation strategy was broadened to capture some important new objectives," explains International Director Dr Judith Lamie, who has overall responsibility for the international element of the University's strategy.



"High-quality, strategic partnerships are an important part of our future and, whilst we already have several significant and important international partners – for example, Osaka University in Japan – we want to identify a further three to five flagship partnerships that will form a focus for development and will exemplify the internationalisation strategy. The Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) is an important platform to help support this development, as we identify and develop key bilateral relationships and a higher profile involvement in the WUN's global challenges.

"We'll continue the work we're doing to embed internationalisation into our home-based activities, by widening the internationalisation of the student experience and curriculum. We're doing this to encourage all our students to take part in activities – academic and co-curricular – that will give them opportunities to meet and work with people from other cultures. These activities could be as diverse as taking a Study Abroad option, opting to live in the Eilerslie Global Residence, doing an internship in Japan or volunteering to be one of our cultural ambassadors on campus.

"It's also important to look forward and create sustainable recruitment of high-quality international students. In particular, we're working to improve our recruitment of international postgraduate research students. As well as maintaining our long tradition of hosting students from countries like China, India and Nigeria, we're also developing plans to target important emerging markets – such as Latin America. Of course, we'll continue to support activities in areas that are important for our international reputation – North America, for instance."

International

Summer visit to strengthen links with China



Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor John Fisher is set to lead the University's largest ever delegation to China.

Public lectures, school visits, media appearances, meetings with partners from academic institutions, industry and government, and alumni gatherings will all feature on the programme of events when the delegation visits the country this June.

Along with members of the International team, representatives from the faculties of Arts, Engineering, Earth and Environment, Performance, Visual Arts and Communications and Leeds University Business School, will also be part of the five-day visit.

"A major objective of the visit is for us to explore closer working relations and collaboration with the Chinese University of Hong Kong, which is now a member of the Worldwide Universities Network," says explains International Director Dr Judith Lamie, whose team have helped organise the delegation.

"We're also hosting a series of events for our key alumni and meeting with schools as part of the international recruitment drive. In addition, Professor Fisher will be in mainland China before our visit to Hong Kong, speaking at the International Conference on Biomedical Engineering and Technology."

International

Embracing our Global Community

Wherever you come from in the world, you are part of the University's vibrant global community – that's the message that's coming loud and clear from our International Student Office.

"Our international students have been a really important, positive part of the Leeds experience for many years. Now, through the Global Community project, our aim is to give all our students – home and international – more opportunities to meet and share a wide range of exciting international social and cultural activities," says Katy Manns, International Student Office (ISO).

The Global Community project was started by the ISO in 2010 and has developed as a partnership between the University, Leeds University Union (LUU) and students. It began partly to address International Student Barometer survey feedback saying that, whilst international students rated the ISO and their welcome to Leeds very highly, some were disappointed not to have more interactions with home students. It was also the ISO's response to the internationalisation strategy call to internationalise the experience of all students and the recognition that many home students were missing opportunities to develop cultural awareness, cross-cultural skills and global perspectives through interacting with international students.

"Thousands of our students have an interest in finding out about and meeting people from different countries – whether directly via their courses or through a personal interest," continues Katy. "Global Community makes it easier for students to come together through a programme of social activities, including the weekly Global Café – which attracts up to 400 people – LUU's week-long International Cultural Festival, a dedicated website and Facebook page.

"We also have a team of 40 volunteer Intercultural Ambassadors who do a fantastic job designing and running events and encouraging students to get involved. The ambassadors are trained and mentored by University and LUU staff, and this year the programme has been funded by the Higher Education Academy and Santander Universities. Our ambassadors learn some really valuable transferable skills such as project management, communications and multicultural teamwork."

This year's Ambassadors came from 16 different countries, and included undergraduates and postgraduates from a wide variety of disciplines. Amongst their projects were story-telling and creative writing workshops, five-a-side football, an international pub quiz, a postcard factory and helping to organise the International Cultural Festival.

Speaking at the Intercultural Ambassadors Programme Showcase which celebrated the achievements of the Ambassadors and the Global Community – Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Student Education Professor Vivien Jones said: "By increasing meaningful contact between a diverse range of students and building an open attitude to difference, the Intercultural Ambassadors play a vital role in helping this community to flourish."

The Global Community project has some exciting developments planned, including an intercultural activity programme for 100 students – 50% home students and 50% international students – who will be living in the new Ellerslie Global Residence. The first of its kind in the University, the residence will offer students a truly global experience. Also coming soon, the second phase of the Global Community website which will enable students to connect and swap information about different countries, cultures and intercultural experiences.

www.globalcommunity.leeds.ac.uk



"It was a unique experience to find and interact with such a diverse group of students under one roof. Even though we all belonged to different countries, cultures, religions, age-groups and academic levels, we could all feel a sense of mutual respect and affinity."

2011-12 Intercultural Ambassador



International

International News Round-Up



The 131-metre Kyoto Tower.

Japan

Three undergraduate Engineering students undertook 10-week internships at Toyota Boshoku last summer. This was the first scheme of its kind and was very well-received by the organisation and students. This year Toyota Boshoku is accepting one PhD student for a research-based internship and a further three Engineering undergraduates. The company has said that in future they will also be happy to accept students interested in doing internships in Global HR, Public Relations/Communication, Sales and Purchasing.

Leeds is one of six UK universities to have teamed up with six Japanese universities in a research and knowledge transfer collaboration aimed at strengthening links with industry.

The 12 universities in Japan-UK Research and Education Network for Knowledge Economy Initiatives (RENKEI – meaning ‘collaboration’ in Japanese) are forming pilot projects for collaboration in three main areas: technology and knowledge exchange with industry; student mobility; and universities’ social engagement. Among the projects are summer schools for postgraduates and early career researchers, and a bilateral skills development programme for PhD students.

The Japanese institutions in RENKEI are the universities of Kyoto, Kyushu, Nagoya, Ritsumeikan, Tokyo and Tohoku. Joining Leeds from the UK, are the universities of Bristol, Liverpool, Newcastle, Southampton and University College London.

Brazil

The Worldwide Universities Network has welcomed its first South American partner. The University of Campinas in Brazil – popularly known as Unicamp – is regarded as one of the leading research universities in South America, and has a distinct profile among Brazilian universities as a leader in technology, health sciences, natural sciences, human sciences and the arts. The university has more than 31,000 students and around 2,000 staff.

Professor Anne Neville (School of Mechanical Engineering) led a delegation from the Institute of Engineering, Thermofluids, Surfaces and Interfaces, and the Centre for Integrated Petroleum Engineering and Geosciences to formalise a Collaboration Agreement between the University, the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and the Instituto Nacional de Tecnologia. This collaboration forms the basis of a long-term partnership that will involve significant industry-academia engagement from operators and service companies in Brazil’s burgeoning oil and gas sector.

Africa

A workshop funded by WUN, the Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy and Africa College, and hosted by Dr Susannah Sallu and Professor Andrew Dougill (School of Earth and Environment), focused on Climate Compatible Development and experience from sub-Saharan Africa. The three-day workshop brought together international development and donor agencies, policy makers, researchers, non-governmental practitioners, private sector partners from climate finance sector and government staff working in sub-Saharan Africa. Forty participants attended, including delegates from Zambia, Malawi and Tanzania.



Schoolchildren in Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine

Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine are partner countries in a three-year project involving Leeds and three other European Union Medical Schools. Modernising Undergraduate Medical Education in the EU Eastern Neighbouring Area seeks to: develop integrated curricula in the partner institution medical schools; introduce new and upgraded content (eg, geriatric medicine) and learning and teaching approaches; establish a Medical Teacher Training Centre in each country; develop capacity amongst partner schools and promote dissemination of new curriculum and staff development models in other Eastern Neighbouring countries beyond 2014.

Cambodia

After an initial visit, our Access and Community Engagement team is assessing whether there is scope to establish an international volunteering programme to begin in summer 2013. The next step is a thorough review of legal and health and safety requirements.

Singapore

The Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Arthur visits Nanyang Technological University in Singapore this June. As well as meeting academics from the institution, he will also meet with influential alumni and is expected to give a British High Commission Distinguished Lecture.

Research and innovation

Specialist support for fellowships

As part of our ongoing commitment to develop our researchers and further strengthen our research activities, the University is keen to support those applying for Fellowships. The recently formed Public Funding Team in Research and Innovation Service (RIS), together with colleagues from the Staff and Departmental Development Unit (SDDU) and across the faculties, work to facilitate this support.

Researchers at all levels can access a wealth of specialist support to help them complete their applications, including tailored, individual advice, peer group review and mock interviews.

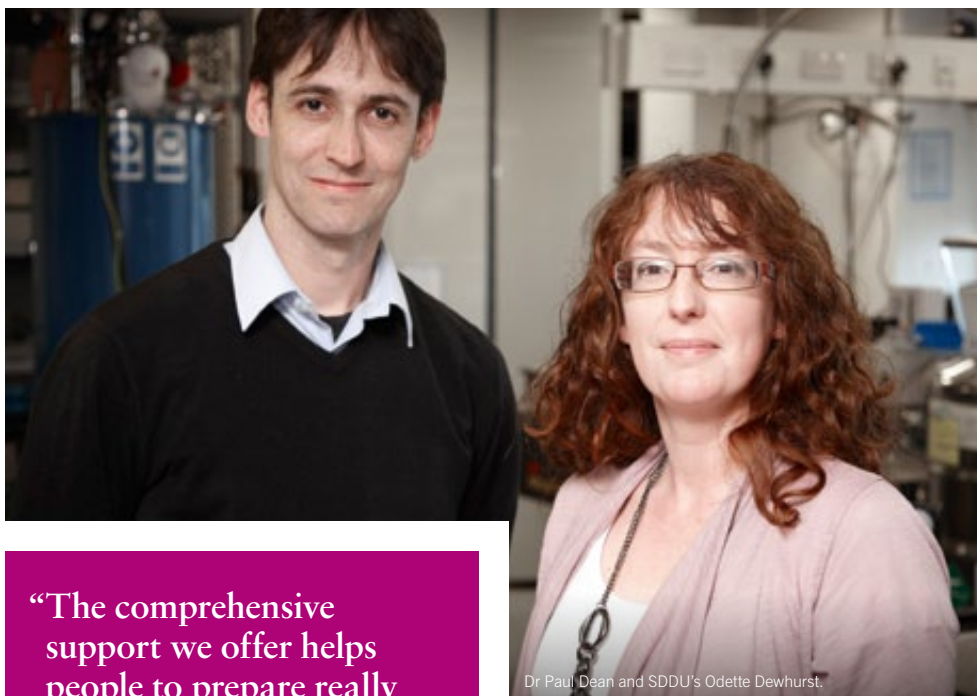
“The comprehensive support we offer helps people to prepare really robust applications that have a better chance of success,” says Odette Dewhurst of the SDDU. “It builds confidence as people know that their proposals have been thoroughly tested and reviewed, and individuals also acquire important new skills that they can use in future applications.”

Bespoke support for selected first grants and fellowship schemes have been in place for several years, including programmes to select and support those applying for Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) fellowships.

“From May 2010-June 2011, colleagues from RIS, SDDU and the Faculty of Engineering supported 13 researchers – from PhD to professorial level – as they applied to the EPSRC for a fellowship,” continues Odette. “Of these 13, seven were selected for interview and, ultimately, four researchers were successful in being granted a fellowship. This was a much higher success rate than recently achieved and was above what’s seen nationally. Research Councils UK, too, was impressed by the level of applications so it was a very positive outcome.”

The support programme, generally, is as follows:

- Interested researchers submit an Expression of Interest form; faculties review these and decide whose applications to support



Dr Paul Dean and SDDU's Odette Dewhurst.

“The comprehensive support we offer helps people to prepare really robust applications that have a better chance of success.”

Odette Dewhurst
SDDU

- Chosen researchers are then invited to take part in the fellowship support programme. (Those not selected are offered guidance on their CV, other funding schemes, etc.)
- Via a series of short sessions, the support programme covers topics such as the art of crafting a successful application, budgets and University processes. Applicants also have access to faculty research office staff, senior academics and RIS for help with specific queries
- The initial stage is completed with peer review for completed proposals
- Applicants are offered support throughout the whole process, including preparing for interview.

Speaking about the support he received during his fellowship application, Dr Paul Dean (School of Electrical Engineering) said: “Completing the application was a tortuous process but I had excellent support from colleagues at the University. “I was encouraged to apply for the fellowship by Professor Giles Davies amongst others, and he and Professor Edmund Linfield mentored me through the whole process, even staging mock panel interviews so I would know what to expect.

“I also received invaluable feedback from Professor Peter Jimack, now the faculty’s Dean, and really useful advice from RIS. It all paid off as I was awarded an EPSRC fellowship grant of £850,000 for quantum cascade laser research.”

Programmes of support run throughout the year, so we strongly recommend people to sign up to the relevant RIS email list: http://researchsupport.leeds.ac.uk/index.php/academic_staff/funding_opportunities/email_networks/

Sustainability

Partner brings added value for reuse@leeds

reuse@leeds – the University’s internal reuse scheme – is partnering with a local company which promises to make the scheme even more sustainable and community-friendly.

After items have been advertised on the reuse@leeds system, and the Estates Handygang have moved the items to storage, local company Over2Hills now collects our surplus furniture and redistributes it to local charities for free. They undertake special collections and will even take broken items!

“The company offers a great environmentally-friendly service,” says Mike Howroyd from the Sustainability team. “Wherever possible, items are redistributed to local charities, or failing this, they refurbish or remanufacture them into new items. If that’s not feasible, items are recycled: metal elements are sold for scrap; plastic is granulated and sold back to a supplier; and

wood is chipped, mixed with a seaweed extract and sold to a garden centre as soil improver. As a result, only about 2% of items end up in a skip. In addition, Over2Hills donate some of the profit generated to a charity of our choosing. Last year, on our behalf, they donated £1,500 to St George’s Crypt, a Leeds-based charity that supports homeless, disadvantaged and vulnerable people.

“reuse@leeds has been a great success, saving nearly £500,000 and over 150 tons of CO2 in three years. This new partnership is set to bring even more benefits by recycling only as a final option and increasing our links with the local community.”

Over2Hills also offer a re-upholstery service. Ring 0127 487 6761 or visit www.over2hills.co.uk for details.

Details of reuse@leeds can be found at <http://reuse.leeds.ac.uk> or contact Mike Howroyd on 0113 343 7375 or m.a.howroyd@leeds.ac.uk

Sustainability

Sustainable development website now live

The new sustainable development website has recently launched, making it even easier to find information about sustainability at the University. The site contains links to the It All Adds Up and Green Impact websites and has sections on, Carbon, Waste and recycling, Transport, Purchasing and Biodiversity.

It also lists ‘tweets’ giving details of interesting events taking place inside and external to the University.

www.leeds.ac.uk/sustainabledevelopment

Sustainability

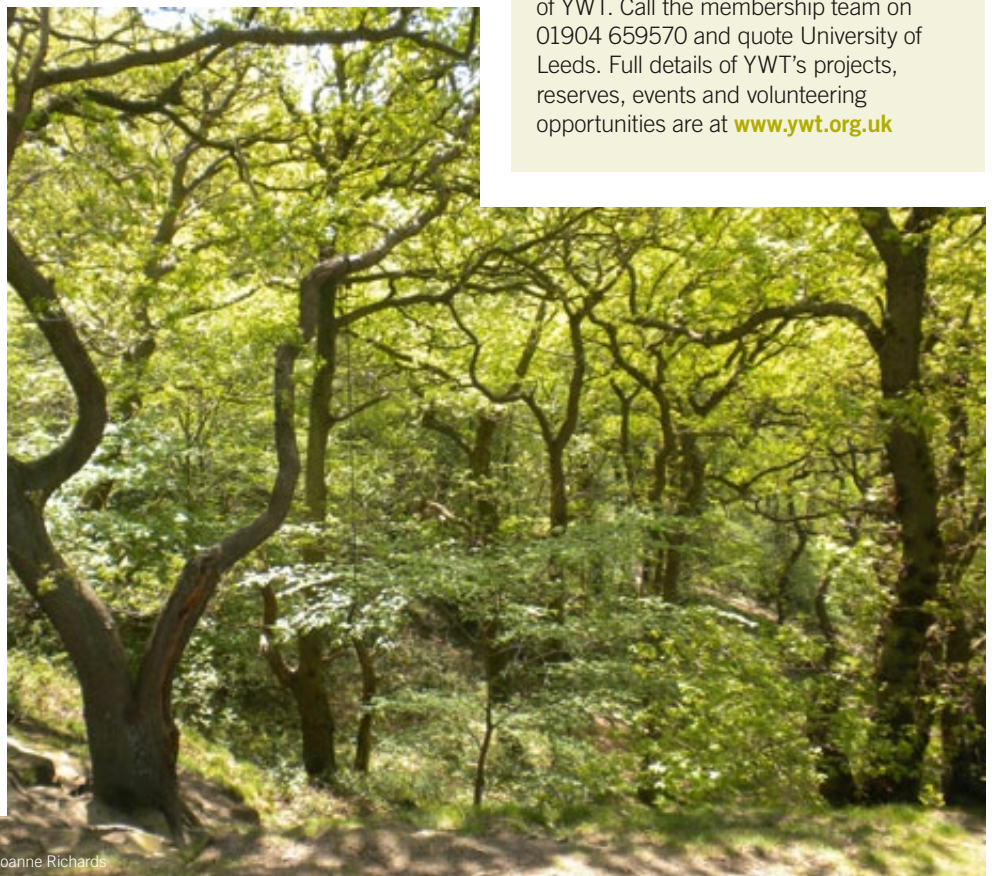
Going wild in Yorkshire!

Nature reserves in heathlands, meadows, ancient woodlands, beaches and moorland across Yorkshire are now open to colleagues, as the University has become a corporate member of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT).

“We joined YWT as part of the University’s commitment to improving local biodiversity,” says James Dixon-Gough, Sustainable Development Officer. “Membership has several benefits including advice and support for our Biodiversity Action Plan and access to local sites for field research and volunteering opportunities. Colleagues can visit more than 85 sites across the county, including the flagship Potteric Carr Nature Reserve in Doncaster.”

Entry to all sites is free, apart from Potteric Carr although colleagues can visit this site for free, too, if they quote membership number 48964 and show their University staff card.

For one year, colleagues can also take advantage of half-price yearly membership of YWT. Call the membership team on 01904 659570 and quote University of Leeds. Full details of YWT’s projects, reserves, events and volunteering opportunities are at www.ywt.org.uk



Hetchell Woods, near Thorne © Joanne Richards

In the news

In an episode of *The Food Programme* on BBC Radio 4, which investigated the growth in sales of 'free from' foods, **Professor Robbie Foy** (School of Medicine) explained the difference between a food allergy and food intolerance and discussed the difficulties of diagnosing allergies.

Rebecca Malby (Centre for Innovation in Health Management) wrote in the *Guardian* about the structural changes to the NHS soon to be implemented as part of the controversial Health and Social Care Bill.

In an editorial for the *British Medical Journal*, **Professor Theo Raynor** (School of Healthcare) discussed the challenges of making health information and services understandable and accessible to everyone, so that patients could properly engage with their care.

A report co-authored by **Dr Eva Morris** (School of Medicine), which has revealed that almost one in ten bowel cancer patients die within a month of diagnosis, was featured on *Sky News*, the *Mirror*, and the *Telegraph*. "Compared to elsewhere in Europe our survival rates are poor," Dr Morris explained. The Department of Health has launched its "Be Clear on Cancer" campaign to help people to recognise symptoms which could be a sign of the disease and to come forward earlier for treatment.



International research led by **Dr Carolina Pagli** and also involving **Dr Tim Wright** (School of Earth and Environment) into the 'plumbing system' underlying volcanoes was reported in the *International Business Times*, *MSNBC*, and the *Mirror*. The research, carried out in Ethiopia and Iceland, could make it easier to predict large eruptions in future. "The research has changed the way we think about volcanoes," said Dr Pagli.



Following the declaration of official drought zones across large parts of England, and the introduction of hosepipe bans in many parts of the south and east of the country, **Professor Adrian McDonald** (School of Earth and Environment) appeared on BBC Radio 4's *The Report* to talk about the 'ridiculous' amount of leakage from water pipes in the UK, the lack of strategic co-operation between water companies, and the possibility of moving water around the country. He also contributed to a *BBC News* article on solutions to the water shortage, discussed measures to conserve water on BBC1's *Inside Out* and was quoted on various local radio stations, in the *Independent*, and the *Mail*.

The €2.5 million Cosmic Dust in the Terrestrial Atmosphere (CODITA) international research project, led by **Professor John Plane** (School of Chemistry), which is investigating how space dust interacts with the Earth's atmosphere, was reported in the *Mail*, *Yahoo! India*, and in the *Malaysia Sun*.

The *Telegraph*, *Mail*, *Sun*, and *Sydney Morning Herald* all reported on research by **Dr Samantha Jamson** (Institute for Transport Studies) which demonstrated that the reaction times of a driver eating at the wheel are as slow as those using a mobile phone or driving at the legal alcohol limit.

A sociological study into working conditions in lap-dancing clubs by **Dr Teela Sanders** (School of Sociology and Social Policy) and Kate Hardy (Leeds University Business School) received attention from both the tabloid and academic press, including the *Independent*, *Mail*, *Telegraph*, *Sun*, *Observer*, and *ESRC's Society Now* journal.

Virtual slides that allow medical researchers to view tissue samples in 3D and from any angle, developed by **Dr Darren Treanor** (School of Medicine) and **Dr Derek Magee** (School of Computing) caught the attention of *Wired* magazine, *CNet*, the *Yorkshire Post*, *Yorkshire Evening Post* and *BBC News*. Drs Treanor and Magee appeared on the BBC local radio programme *The Naked Scientists* to discuss the technology.

Professor Clive Upton (School of English) examined changes in the Queen's speech and the implications and influence of accent on BBC Radio 4's *Word of Mouth*.

The potential of research, led by **Dr Sarah Staniland** (School of Physics and Astronomy), into the use of proteins from magnetic bacteria to build computer components attracted attention around the world. Ultimately, Dr Staniland hopes to create a computer hard drive with a data storage capacity far greater than that of most hard drives today. The research featured in the *New Scientist*, the *Bangladesh Daily Star*, the *Times of India*, the *International Business Times*, *Wired*, and on *Discovery News*, *Yahoo! Taiwan*, and *BBC Brasil*.



Research carried out by **Professor Liane Benning** (School of Earth and Environment), together with a team from the University of Granada, into how gypsum crystals are formed, was widely reported in the Spanish press, and in Bangladesh national newspaper the *Daily Star*, as well as in *Planet Earth*. The research could ultimately lead to massive savings in construction costs and energy consumption.

Professor Philip Conaghan (School of Medicine), commented in the *Mail*, *Telegraph*, *Express*, *Mirror*, *Yorkshire Post*, and on *ITN News* about the future of arthritis care in the UK.

Honours

Professor Kate Oakley has been appointed **Professor of Cultural Policy in the Institute of Communications Studies**. Her research interests lie in the politics of cultural policy, cultural labour markets, urban and regional development and cultural industries.

Following a career as a journalist, Professor Oakley worked in information society policy. This included researching management consultancy as a knowledge-based industry while a Research Fellow at Manchester Business School and serving as Head of the Information & Communications Policy Group at the Policy Studies Institute (PSI). Her work at PSI covered research on intellectual property, the commercialisation of public sector information, and the growth of information work and workers.

As a self-employed consultant/researcher she worked for a variety of public agencies, think tanks and research organisations. Having worked on a large number of localised creative industry strategies, Kate developed an influential policy-informed critique of creative industries. She holds a Visiting Professorship at the University of the Arts, London.



A book edited by **Professors Griselda Pollock** (Art History and Cultural Analysis) and **Max Silverman** (French Literature and Cultural Studies) has been awarded the prestigious Kraszna-Krausz Prize for the Best Book of 2011 on the Moving Image. *Concentrationary Cinema: Aesthetics as Political Resistance in Alain Resnais's Night and Fog* (London and New York: Berghahn, 2011). www.kraszna-krausz.org.uk/

Deputy Vice-Chancellor **Professor John Fisher** has been appointed a Non-Executive Director of Marketing Leeds. It is part of a major move to refocus and provide strategic leadership to Marketing Leeds as it moves forward with a broader role to attract inward investment and tourism. **Nigel Foster**, Director of Ove Arup and Partners Ltd and University Council member has also been appointed a Non-Executive Director.

Professor Susanne Karstedt (School of Law) will deliver the Founders Day Lecture 2012 at the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in Lagos. The lecture celebrates the foundation of the Institute more than 30 years ago, which was conceived as a “nucleus and hub of legal research and advanced studies in law in Nigeria”. Professor Karstedt’s lecture is on *Justice, Security and Women’s Health: Global Perspectives*.

Professor Clive Walker has been appointed to a visiting professorial fellowship at the University of New South Wales (UNSW). The two-year appointment will deepen existing research links around terrorism studies which Professor Walker has already established with the Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law in the Faculty of Law at UNSW. The Centre has become the internationally renowned lead for the analysis of Australian counter-terrorism laws and policies.

Professor Paul Williams from the Energy Research Institute (Faculty of Engineering) has been awarded the Distinguished Guest Lecturer Medal for 2012 by the Environmental Chemistry Group of the Royal Society of Chemistry, in recognition of his “distinguished contribution to environmental chemistry”.

An article by **Dr Henry Yeomans** (School of Law) was awarded the Sage Prize for Innovation and/or Excellence 2012. The article *What did the British temperance movement accomplish? Attitudes to alcohol, the law and moral regulation* was awarded the prize at the British Sociological Association Conference.



The University’s **Storm Jameson Court Residence** has reached the finals of the *Access for All Tourism Award* category of the prestigious VisitEngland Awards for Excellence 2012. The award is being sponsored by DisabledGo. **Ian Robertson**, Head of Residential Accommodation, said: “Our nomination for the Access for All Tourism Award is testimony to careful planning for the construction of Storm Jameson Court and our determination to ensure that services we provide will help all building users feel welcome.”

Bright Beginnings, the award-winning childcare centre on campus, has been given the highest possible quality rating by the National Day Nurseries Association. It was rated Level 3, clearly indicating that it provides childcare and education in an exemplary manner.

(Correction) Professor Ian Chopra – recently awarded the 2012 Garrod Medal of the British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy – is a member of the Faculty of Biological Sciences, not the School of Medicine as previously reported.

Small Ads

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l.dye@leeds.ac.uk or tel 0776 876 3604

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Mark Williams m.b.williams@leeds.ac.uk

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Small ads can be submitted online at <http://smallads.leeds.ac.uk> The charge is £7 for 10 words or part thereof (University members) or £10 (general public). The deadline for the next issue is 27 June 2012 at 4pm. Advertisers are independent from the University. The University makes no warranty or representation as to (a) the accuracy of ads or (b) the quality of goods or services advertised. To the full extent allowed by the law the University excludes all liability.

Contact Emma Morris on (0)113 343 8373
or e.l.morris@adm.leeds.ac.uk

Research and innovation

Crowds flock to Russian art exhibition

Record crowds and royalty were attracted by a new exhibition — The Peredvizhiniki: Pioneers of Russian Painting — when it was shown at the Nationalmuseum in Stockholm and again when it moved to Kunstsammlungen Chemnitz in Germany.

Co-curated by the University's Professor David Jackson (School of Fine Art, History of Art, and Cultural Studies) and Per Hedström of Nationalmuseum, many of the paintings had never been seen outside of their homeland. Some 100 works by 41 artists are on loan from the State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow and the State Russian Museum, Saint Petersburg.

The Peredvizhiniki was a group of artists formed in the latter part of the 19th century, with the aim

of producing realistic depictions of life in Russia (in contrast to the traditional Academy painting, which they regarded as too rigid and out of touch).

"We were surprised, delighted and amazed to get some of these paintings, and equally delighted by the overwhelmingly positive reaction the exhibition received," says Professor Jackson. "The show has had a fantastic impact. All the catalogues were sold out, and we had 125,000 visitors in Stockholm with people queuing round the block to get in. Several members of the Swedish royal family were given special guided tours of the paintings, as was the minister of culture. People who missed the show in Sweden were calling us to find out if it was being shown anywhere else, so we were recommending that they go to Germany to see it!"

The exhibition is at the Kunstsammlungen Chemnitz in Germany until the end of May.



'They Did Not Expect Him, 1884-88, by Ilya Repin.

A detail from *Black into the Sun*, 1986, by Terry Frost (1915–2003). Purchased 1987 © University of Leeds Art Collection/Photo: Norman Taylor, 2012. Courtesy the Estate of Terry Frost

Events

Exhibition trails University's treasures on paper

Paper Trails – the latest exhibition at the Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery – presents highlights from the University Art Collection's wide-ranging works on paper, including early English watercolours, 20th century drawings and recent prints.

Telling the fascinating stories behind well-known and seldom-seen works, the exhibition also explores the history of collecting among prominent figures connected to the University and the city of Leeds.

The exhibition presents a range of works with diverse themes and styles – from the abstract to the traditional, the domestic to the historical. It includes artists important for the region, such as Terry Frost, Jacob Kramer and Patrick Heron, and pieces by internationally-renowned artists, including Camille Pissarro and Robert Motherwell. Many of the selections are too fragile to be on frequent display, so this is a rare opportunity to see a diverse selection presented together.

The exhibition is accompanied by a full programme of talks and events; details are at www.leeds.ac.uk/gallery/events.htm

The exhibition runs until 28 July 2012. The Gallery is open from Mon-Sat, 10-5pm and admission is free.

Triptych — Fine Art degree show

Everyone is invited to visit this year's Fine Art degree show. Thirty-eight students are exhibiting at the show, the theme of which is 'Triptych' reflecting the three different studios and the practices they represent (painting, sculpture and printmaking/film). The exhibition is at 28-30 Clarendon Road and is open to the public on:

- Friday 8 June, 10am-5pm
- Saturday 9 June, 10am-5pm
- Sunday 10 June, 11am-4pm
- Monday 11 June, 10am-8pm

For more information visit <http://leedsdegreeshow2012.com/>

Thackrah Lecture — 28 June

Public Health Now is the subject of this year's Thackrah Lecture, which will be given by Professor Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer for England and the Chief Scientific Adviser for the Department of Health. The lecture is on 28 June from 12-1pm in the Yorkshire Bank Lecture Theatre, Leeds University Business School. To register, please email lihs@leeds.ac.uk

LUDUS programme announced

Leeds United, synchronised swimming, a city walk and an animatronic dragon all feature in the programme of the LUDUS Festival Leeds, the performing arts event taking place from 25 June to 1 July 2012.

The University is a lead partner in the festival, which will run alongside a major international conference (www.psi18.org) also curated by the School of Performance and Cultural Industries (PCI).

The University's Professor Mick Wallis, Co-Director of LUDUS, said: "This inaugural LUDUS Festival, a new venture in contemporary performing arts for the city, celebrates Leeds as an international centre of excellence in theatre and performance."

Visit www.ludusfestival.org or follow on Twitter @LudusFestival.

Staff Festival on 6 July — save the date!

Join colleagues, friends and family for an international afternoon of fun, food and festivities on Friday 6 July at the Staff Festival.

Family-friendly roller skating, bouncy castles and face painting return, along with an Opera North interactive workshop, a Green Zone birdbox-making activity, massage in the Relaxation Zone, and wine and beer tasting quizzes! All this and much more...

Follow Twitter @UOL_StaffFest or 'like' us on Facebook www.facebook.com/StaffFestival for up-to-date news. Find out more about the festival or see pictures of last year's event on www.leeds.ac.uk/staff_festival

We're still looking for street entertainers, face painters, tombola prizes and competition sponsors. If you'd like to help run a fairground stall or volunteer in other ways, please contact StaffFestival@leeds.ac.uk

New resource on campus — the M&S Company Archive

Explore the potential within the M&S collection at exclusive research taster sessions taking place on Monday 11 June, 10am-12noon, or Friday 15 June, 1330-1530.

To book contact Megan Parsons: megan.parsons@marks-and-spencer.com or 0208 718 3703.

FAQs

Chen Kun

(Director of China Office)

Where is the University's China Office?

The China Office is located in the University Avenue in Shanghai in the Knowledge & Innovation Center, in the center of Shanghai's biggest academic community. It's in walking distance to some of the top universities in the city, including Fudan University, Tongji University and the Shanghai University of Finance and Economics.

We have three team members; apart from myself, there is Gui Yijie, the office manager, and Li Jing, our customer service manager.

What does your job involve?

As the Director of China Office, I represent the University in the market. My everyday work involves working with Chinese educational institutions, recruitment agents, government agencies, alumni and industries, and media, as well as staff and students from Leeds, especially those who are visiting China.

I provide briefings, including market intelligence for the China Working Group, and do quite a lot of travel within China, on my own or with incoming Leeds staff. At recruitment fairs I promote the University to Chinese students, parents, agents and other stakeholders. I visit and speak to key staff at our partner institutions and agents to maintain good relationships and to explore new opportunities. I also talk to students at our partner institutions about our programmes and study opportunities in Leeds, and meet and speak to our alumni and join their activities. If necessary, we provide support to incoming staff and students. Finally, there are some activities with industry bodies such as the British Chamber of Commerce and the Confederation of British Industry.

How did you come to work for the University?

At the end of 2006, I was approached for a job in Shanghai but thought I'd have a look at jobs in the market. When I read the job advertisement for the University from CBBC (China Britain Business Council), I thought my background

and interests would make it a more suitable job for me, so I applied and got it. I stayed with the CBBC for more than a year, and then moved to set up the University's China Office in 2008.

What are your biggest challenges?

To work in a remote office with a small team can sometimes be quite isolated. Working with different cultures, regulations and procedures and the somewhat conflicting rules or practices are challenging, too.

What are the most rewarding things?

Hearing from the alumni saying that they had a wonderful time in Leeds, and that they had enjoyed study and living in Leeds, and that they landed good jobs with their Leeds degrees!

How do you see the relationships between the University and Chinese institutions developing?

I believe that we'll develop as partners at various levels and we form 'win-win' situations for the partners involved. The relationships will enhance our research, student education, recruitment, students and staff mobility, and are a very important development towards the University's internationalisation. With some institutions, such as our Worldwide Universities Network partners in China, we will build strategic relationships covering all aspects of what we do in the market; whilst with other institutions, the relationship may be focused on one or two aspects.

What professional achievements have made you most proud?

To double the student enrolment number from the China market in four years for the University, and to achieve the same for my previous employer, the University of Central Lancashire.

How would your friends describe you?

Easy going, laid back, sensible, well read and well travelled!

What are the main differences between Chinese and UK universities?

The UK universities are more independent from the government, and have more freedom. With the budget cut from the government, the UK universities are likely to have more freedom. Chinese universities are less independent from the government and have less freedom, but they have had more funding from the government in recent years.

What are your main interests outside of your work?

My dogs; they are lovely creatures – border collie pedigrees. The girl is called Xixi and the boy is called Haha.

What's your most frequently asked question?

Where is Leeds?

What are the top three things that visitors to China should try to see or do?

See different parts of China and remember that cities such as Beijing and Shanghai are not typical Chinese cities; be adventurous in what they eat; try to take metro or bus at least once during their visit.

