



The Olympics at Leeds

The 2012 London Olympics is involving colleagues, current students and alumni from across the University in all manner of activities, including competing at the highest level to win gold or being a Torchbearer like our Director of Commercial Services, Stewart Ross (above).

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Ecosystem garden gives Leeds a Gold

An inspirational garden brings research to life and takes gold at Chelsea.

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SEE stars

Fantastic images from this year's School of Earth and Environment Photo Competition.

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Shifting Perspectives

A new photographic exhibition celebrates the diversity of people with Down's syndrome.

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Leader column

Careful preparation ensures we are fit for a successful future

Last minute preparations for the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics are in full swing. Athletes will be completing their final training activities, and all those in supporting roles will be getting ready to ensure the Games are an unforgettable experience.

For all of us, the Olympics here in the UK will be a once in a lifetime event. As Kriss Akabusi says on our 'Celebrating the Games' video, "Don't let them pass you by".

We're hosting the Chinese and Canadian athletes on campus. Looking after elite athletes requires complicated planning but colleagues from across the University have been making sure that they will have everything they need. Others are also involved in supporting the Games with many of our students acting as Games Makers and looking after visitors to London. Thirteen of our current students or alumni are competing, so the very best of luck to these Olympians. We've already seen some of our staff and students carrying the Olympic torch, and wouldn't it be fantastic if we could see athletes from Leeds collecting a medal, too?

Another achievement of which I'm extremely proud is the University's garden which won a Gold medal at the Chelsea Flower Show. Congratulations to Dr Rebecca Slack and the team from the Faculties of Earth and Environment and Biological Sciences that put it together. It was a great idea, so closely linked to our academic research. The University received fantastic coverage which not only gave gardeners good advice but, more importantly, really helped public understanding of science. The 'Pollinator' hat even went 'viral', which was highly entertaining.

We are aiming to reconstruct at least part of the Chelsea garden outside the Roger Stevens Building. A long-lasting legacy for everyone to enjoy would definitely be the best way to commemorate such a fantastic achievement.

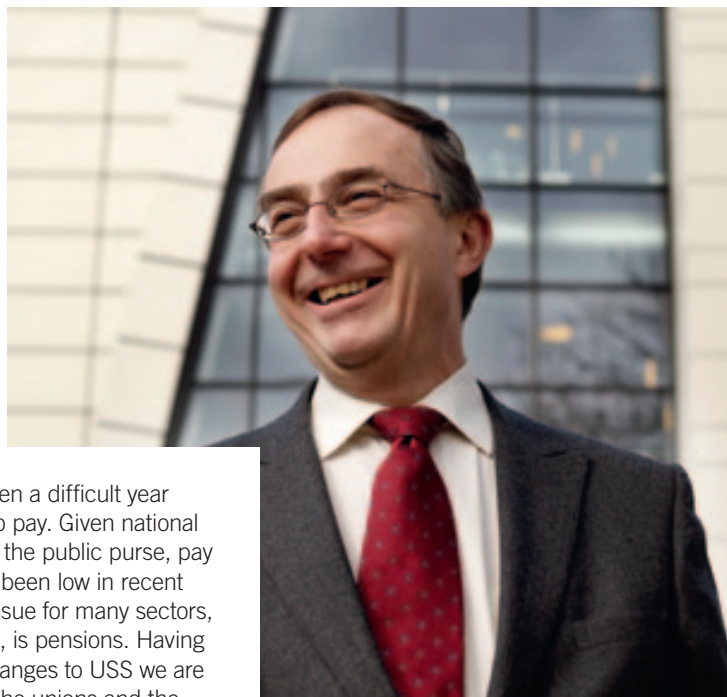
I recognise that it has been a difficult year for people with respect to pay. Given national austerity issues affecting the public purse, pay awards have necessarily been low in recent times. Another difficult issue for many sectors, not just higher education, is pensions. Having implemented national changes to USS we are now in discussions with the unions and the trustees about changes to our local scheme and a formal consultation with all members will start shortly.

The need for change to our local scheme is not prompted by the current financial position of either the University or the pension scheme, rather it's in response to the risk associated with the growth of future pension liabilities and their later affordability in future decades as people live and draw their pensions for much longer periods. Getting this right is incredibly important for our staff, for the future of the pension scheme, and for the long-term financial health of the University. It is a complex situation, but the senior team and Council are of the view that we must begin to address it now. The relevant information will be openly communicated to you, in full, during the consultation period.

At a time of incredible financial volatility, I make no apology for having a surplus in 2010/11 in excess of £35m, on an income of £543m. A strong balance sheet and healthy reserves are the best way to protect the future of the organisation, and the surplus we generate each year contributes to that position. This is an appropriate and important safeguard, which also gives us sufficient funds for reinvestment. If we don't reinvest, we're not only in danger of standing still, but of going backwards.

We have now recruited seven Leadership Chairs across the Faculties of Engineering, Arts, PVAC and Environment, with more to come.

We are attracting and appointing more brilliant people interested in the relationship between student education and research, and who fulfil the expectation of being excellent at both – a combination that is right at the heart of our strategy. Along with our existing staff, they will also contribute to our readiness for 2012-15 and to the Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014).



We are certainly making good progress with our REF preparations. We now have a first draft of all the environment and impact statements and in September there will be a full mock REF submission. There's no room for complacency; it's important that we stay focused on ensuring that our submission in November 2013 is truly excellent. I'm grateful that people are working very hard to be included in the submission; there's still plenty of opportunity for research outputs to be completed and for contributions and refinements to impact case studies. I'm sure colleagues understand the importance of a good REF 2014 outcome, not only on research funding to the University, but also to enhancing our profile internationally, with future students and staff, with industry and with research councils and other funding agencies. Our performance in the REF will be a defining moment. If we get a top ten position in the UK, it will be an important signal about our longer-term, worldwide aspirations.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone for their efforts over the year. We've been through a lot of change – not least preparing for the new funding regime – and it's been demanding, but there have been visible and fantastic examples of the effort that people are putting in. The Open Days last month – despite the weather – were a really good example of people going that extra mile to make sure that we're ready for the future. We now exist in a very different higher education funding system, but we are being successful at making it work for us and we can be confident that we will come out the far end of all this change as a world-class internationally competitive university.

Enjoy your summer.

News

Ecosystem garden gives Leeds a Gold at Chelsea

An inspirational garden bringing to life scientific research carried out by academics at the University made headlines throughout the world by winning a Gold medal at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

The garden – called Gardening for Champions – received the award in the Environment category. It was created to echo a ‘typical’ northern garden and was based on research into ecosystem services carried out by the Faculties of Environment and Biological Sciences. Permeable materials were used on the path to slow water run-off and prevent flooding, and a green-roofed (planted with sedum grass) pagoda housed information boards explaining the function of the garden. Designed by expert Martin Walker, the garden had three areas: a vegetable and fruit bed; a shady garden common in many north-facing gardens; and a rain garden planted for areas of high rainfall or water run-off.

Dr Rebecca Slack (Faculty of Environment) explains: “We decided to take part in Chelsea because we wanted to show how easy it was for people to become ecosystem champions and make a real, positive difference to their local environment. It’s estimated that gardens take up between 20-35% of space in urban areas so if we can help gardeners to make a few simple changes, it will improve the environment for literally millions of people in the UK.

“Chelsea is a fantastic event, every year it captures people’s imagination and people who would never usually class themselves as gardeners, are talking about gardening. We wanted to capture that enthusiasm and help people relate their garden to the wider environment. We’re absolutely delighted to have come away from our first experience of Chelsea with a medal. It’s a real accolade for the whole team, but more importantly it’s a great way to draw attention to the science behind the garden.”



Gold gardeners (l-r): Dr Slack, Dr Goddard and Martin Walker at Chelsea.

The garden showed practical steps which people can take to look after water resources, encourage pollinators and create carbon sinks to help guard against global warming. Dr Slack continues: “We chose these three themes because they reflect our research, but more importantly they have a very real impact on people’s everyday lives. By making lots of often small but interconnected changes to a garden, a gardener can reap the many benefits that result.”

Working alongside Dr Slack were Professor Les Firbank, Professor Bill Kunin and Dr Gordon Mitchell, with further help from Dr Mark Goddard – whose recent study showed that bees prefer wilder gardens – and Constanze Vageler. The Natural Environment Research Council funded much of the research.

Visit <http://gardenchampions.leeds.ac.uk> for more information.



Dr Mark Goddard in a bee-friendly environment. Photo © Steve Bootle.

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About the Reporter

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Valuing our people

SEE stars – winners of the Earth and Environment Photo Competition

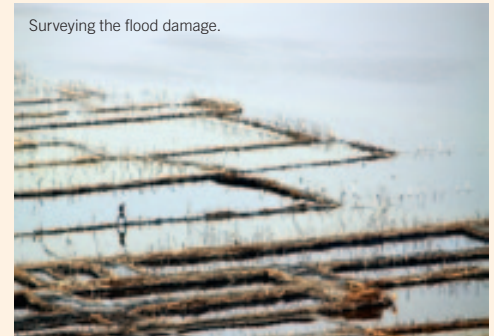
This fantastic image showing the Triassic strata in Devondal, north-east Greenland, was the overall winner of this year's School of Earth and Environment (SEE) Photo Competition, and winner of the Dynamic Earth category.

The photo was taken by PhD student Andy Parsons during fieldwork with a project run by the Cambridge Arctic Shelf Programme (CASP), a not-for-profit charitable trust which carries out field, literature and analysis-based geological research in prospective hydrocarbon basins.

Images taken by PhD student Rachel Berman were voted top in both the People and Culture category and the Fieldwork category. "The first photograph – Pause for thought – shows a community meeting in a primary school in a remote mountainous village in the Kasese district in Western Uganda," explains Rachel. "The meeting was held in partnership with the local national government organisation (NGO) I was supported by whilst on my fieldwork. The meeting was to enable to community to discuss progress of a 'school's gardening project' that the NGO was running, which provides the space for children to learn improved agricultural techniques, as well as providing a source of food to enable the school to provide meals for the children.

"The second photo – Surveying the flood damage – was taken at Lake Katwe. It is one of only a few salt lakes in Uganda and provides most of the country's salt for export, which is used for both human consumption and in animal tanning industries. The local community rely on dry weather to support the natural production process of the salt. Floods had affected the salt pans at this end of the lake for most of the dry season, with serious economic consequence. In a good season, a typical sized salt pan, like some of those pictured, can produce enough salt for a family to send three children to university."

The SEE Photo Competition is extremely popular and attracted nearly 70 entries this year.



Surveying the flood damage.



Pause for thought.



Winning photo of the Triassic strata in Devondal, north-east Greenland.

Valuing our people

Team Talk – Medical Technologies Innovation and Knowledge Centre



The MT IKC team (l-r): Nigel Smith (Commercial Director), Karen Brady (Project Assistant), Rowan Grant (Business Development Officer), Graeme Howling, Leanne Burgin, Marcus Orton (all Technology Innovation Managers), Ceri Williams (Director of Operations), Clare Green (Network Innovation Manager), Lindsay Georgopoulos (Commercial Officer), John Egan (Clinical Innovation Director).

What does the Medical Technologies IKC team do?

We facilitate collaboration between researchers across the University with companies and clinicians to accelerate new innovative medical technology products and services to market.

Who's in the team and what are their roles?

We have an Operations Director, a Commercial Director, a Clinical Innovation Director, four Technology Innovation Managers, a Commercial Officer, a Business Development Officer and a Project Assistant. We each play a part in managing innovation in our projects, manage Intellectual Property, work with academics and liaise with industry to keep them aware of our work and the service we offer.

Tell us about some of the team's most successful projects?

'Filling without drilling' has attracted a lot of media attention. The project is led by Professor Jennifer Kirkham and Dr Amalia Aggeli in partnership with a Swiss company, credentis. Together we have invested £1m to further develop a treatment that can reverse early-stage tooth decay. A fluid is painted onto the decayed area on the tooth, where it imitates the conditions that occur during normal tooth development. This allows the tooth to repair itself naturally so a patient won't need to have their teeth drilled and filled.

We're also very proud of work in collaboration with NHS Blood and Transplant. The technology, led by Professor Eileen Ingham, provides a means of stripping cells from tissue to leave behind scaffolds, which can then be used to replace worn and damaged body parts of another person, and assists the body to repair itself.

What particular challenges has the team got coming up in the next year?

We're funded by the Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Board, Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and the Technology Strategy Board until 2014, so we are really keen to deliver all our projects within the time frame, ensure we find suitable commercial partners who might wish to take technologies to market and also find other means to ensure the sustainability of the centre.

What innovations in the field of medical technologies do you think people can expect to see in the next 10 years?

We believe the field of regenerative medicine will begin to make an impact on the treatment of patients. Improvements in IT, diagnostics and imaging will also mean that diseases will be detected at an earlier stage, giving the opportunity for earlier and more targeted treatment.

Which people or departments do you work with inside the University?

Professor John Fisher is our academic director, and we work closely with 50 key academics across 10 departments, plus a total of 200 researchers! We also work very closely with Professor Richard Thorpe and his team in LUBS who help us develop our innovation skills across the whole centre.

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

Working with a pool of dedicated and highly talented people who are committed to developing new technologies that will benefit patients.

Tell us something about your work that would surprise people.

We have a project portfolio of 121 funded collaborative projects with 36 companies, and we have contributed to 36 products that have reached the market.

How can people find out more about the team?

We have our own website www.medical-technologies.co.uk and we tweet! @medtechleeds Keep an eye on our YouTube channel for some video testimonials coming very soon www.youtube.com/medtechleeds

Inspire our students

Pitch perfect

A *Dragons' Den*-style business competition for final-year German students at Leeds has become a model which other northern universities and language schools are set to follow.

The 'German Business Student of the Year' competition was developed by the Department of German's Dr Giles Harrington together with the regional Honorary Consul for the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr Mark Green. Giles explains: "We wanted to give students a chance to demonstrate that by their final year of study they have become confident communicators with business acumen, diplomacy, presentation and teamworking skills, as well as linguists."

The competition, which takes place entirely in German, sees students deliver a 20-minute 'pitch' for a business idea suitable for the German market. Fellow German language students can attend the competition and vote for a pitch, but it is a panel of 'dragons' acting as potential investors which has the final say.

From the outset, the competition had the support of the Honorary Consul. As well as providing cash prizes, Mr Green used his German business connections to help to arrange internships for the winners, and promoted the competition to German businesses and to other northern universities.

This year's 'dragons' – Mr Green, his wife Anna Fleisch, and Professor Henk de Berg from the University of Sheffield – were most impressed by final-year student Philippa Pye's pitch. Philippa won a cash prize and a paid internship with Deutsche Bank in Birmingham. All the runners-up were also offered internships or interviews with Haribo plc, Dr Oetker, Deutsche Bank, and global translation company thebigword.

Giles said: "The standard of the pitches this year has been very high – even better than last year. It is the calibre of the students' presentations that really gives me confidence in this competition."

The format has impressed other universities, and it is planned to expand the scope of the competition to eventually include other northern universities, with a regional final hosted in Leeds. Next year staff in the School of Modern Languages will work with Dr Sarah Underwood at Leeds Enterprise Centre to develop the module that supports the competition, so that Leeds language students are equipped with the vocabulary and specialist knowledge essential to entrepreneurship.



Competition participants (l-r): Dr Giles Harrington, Mark Green, student Philippa Pye and Anna Fleisch.

International

Business Ethics on the agenda



University of Leeds Business School student, and One Young World Ambassador, Nick Simm met with Antony Jenkins, currently head of retail and business banking at Barclays Bank, to help prepare a set of ethical business principles to be debated at the One Young World Pittsburg Summit 2012.

Nick was sponsored by the Business School last year to represent the University and the UK at the One Young World Summit 2011. He spoke in front of the 1,200 global delegates and high-profile ambassadors such as Desmond Tutu and Sir Bob Geldof about ethical business and the future for social entrepreneurship. Since then, Nick has launched his own social business, BoldGorilla (www.BoldGorilla.com) and is actively promoting the principles of the One Young World community.

Barclays is a committed partner to One Young World and wants to promote positive change. CEO Antony Jenkins volunteered to help prepare the discussions on ethical business.

Nick, part of a working group of ambassadors, will engage with innovators, ambassadors and senior corporate members to shape the discussion that will take place at the Summit in October. Panellists from some of the world's least trusted sectors will debate principles put forward by the ambassadors. At the end of the session, the panellists will commit to adopting the refined principles and the ambassadors will lobby and push these principles within their networks and communities. The aim of the session is to work towards transparency in all sectors and to establish this new, effective set of principles to drive positive change towards a fully transparent system.

Inspire our students

Bringing Healthcare and Medicine together

The School of Medicine's Julie Laxton, Shelley Fielden and Anne-Marie Reid, together with Anne-Marie Henshaw and Joan Maclean, both from the School of Healthcare, report from the Healthcare and Medicine Interprofessional Learning Day.

Over 500 first year undergraduate students from medicine, adult, child and mental health branch nursing and assistant practitioner programmes took part in the Interprofessional Learning (IPL) Day.

It was the first such event on this scale held in the Faculty, and was the outcome of 18 months of discussions and planning amongst members of the Schools of Healthcare and Medicine. The chosen theme was Patient Safety, an important focus for all professions, and the group benefited from external advisers with experience of large IPL delivery.

The morning session involved small, interprofessional group activities with facilitators drawn from both healthcare and medicine. The afternoon session began with a keynote speech by Professor Vivien Jones, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Student Education. It was followed by presentations from Patient Safety researchers, and a panel session with experts, including a service user/carer representative, who responded to questions formulated by the students.

Professor Jones said: "It is important for our students to be challenged – to be stretched in a good way that makes them excited about their work now and in the future. Traditionally, health and social care students have been educated in silos, yet when they graduate they are working together. Interprofessional education is an obvious way to prepare for future team working and I'm proud that Leeds is pioneering this way of learning."

Student evaluation was largely positive; comments included:

- The most enjoyable aspects were learning from other programmes, mixing with different students and interaction with different professions
- I enjoyed listening to other undergraduates and teamworking. The programme has been an eye-opener

The practicalities of room bookings proved the most challenging aspect, and a whole day seemed long for everyone. This will be a prime consideration when planning a repeat event, which we hope will include more students and additional professions.

"It is important for our students to be challenged – to be stretched in a good way that makes them excited about their work now and in the future."

Professor Vivien Jones
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for
Student Education



International

Building bridges with China

The Faculty of Biological Sciences has been cementing relationships with Guangzhou and building collaborations with Chinese academics and industry.

BioScreening Technology Group Leader and the Stratified Medicine Hub academic lead Dr Darren Tomlinson visited Guangzhou late last year to take part in the first China Science Bridges Workshop run by Dr Qun Shao and Paul Thorning, as part of the University of Bradford's Science Bridges China, a £1.3m Research Councils UK programme. Darren received extra funding from the Medical Technologies Innovation and Knowledge Centre to promote his group's non-antibody binding proteins as reagents that can be used to develop diagnostics. Over 500 Chinese delegates attended the first day, with around 30 delegates taking part in the week-long workshop.

As a result of the workshop, two grants were funded. The first in collaboration with Dr Ruo-Pan Huang (Founder and President) at RayBiotech, will develop cancer biomarker arrays to detect numerous types of cancers. The second project is in collaboration with Dr Tao Peng at the Chinese Academy of Sciences at Guangzhou Institute of Biomedicine and Health (GIBH). This will seek to produce novel ways of detecting and treating viral infections. The aim of both projects is to successfully develop products as diagnostics within two years.

Darren has also been awarded a Guest Principal Investigator position at the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) at GIBH and has been awarded the CAS Young International Scientist Award. He returns to Guangzhou this month to a joint workshop organised by China Science Bridges team and Yorkshire Cancer Research, with the aim of building collaborations to develop cancer technologies.



Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor John Fisher with Professor Tony Chan, Vice-Chancellor of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, during a recent visit to Hong Kong (see Reporter 566 for more details of the trip).

International

Design project tackles leftovers

Identifying and designing environmentally friendly, energy efficient ways of dealing with industrial leftovers was the focus of a Sino-UK collaboration between some 60 staff and students when they attended a two-week programme in Guangzhou, China earlier this year.

The project – Upcycling of Industry Leftovers – was hosted by the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Art (GAFA) and supported by the British Council. Participants came from seven Chinese institutions and eight UK universities, including three students and Dr Bruce Carnie from the University's School of Design.

Working cross-cultural teams of three, each group was supervised by a member of staff from both a Chinese and a UK university.



School of Design student James Garner received an award for his individual design work as part of the project.

Students experienced an immersive, cross-cultural, collaborative design project on low-carbon-impact design outcomes from manufacturing waste and leftovers. As well as working with people from the other country, students also developed their language and intercultural skills, team working spirit and creativity, and improved their employability.

Staff from both countries were able to share ideas about design teaching and learning, sustainable futures in design and design education, potential for postgraduate work and research projects, as well as UK participation in international Chinese design competitions for practitioners and students.

"I was fortunate to visit Hunan University, one of the world's oldest universities, to meet the Vice-President, the Dean of the Faculty of Design and a number of academics working in a variety of fields including design for society and inclusive design projects for rural and disadvantaged communities in China," says Dr Carnie. "I hope these meetings will help develop relationships to provide collaborative opportunities for staff and students to take part in these exciting and worthy projects sometime in the not too distant future."

The outcomes and feedback from the project were unanimously positive and it is very likely that the project will become an annual event.

Olympics

Getting involved: how Leeds is making its mark on the Olympics

The 2012 London Olympics will involve colleagues, current students and alumni from across the University in all manner of activities.

Of course, chief amongst those taking part are our athletes – details of the categories and dates they're competing can be found on page 11 – but there are hundreds of other people who have been and will be involved in making the Games a success.

Here are just some of the activities in which people from the University of Leeds have been taking part.

- Over 200 **Chinese athletes** will be staying on campus and training in venues in the region. They'll be followed by the **Canadian Paralympic Wheelchair Rugby** team training camp in August.
- **Alumnus Martin Green** (MA English 1996) is Head of Ceremonies for the Games.
- A **'pop up' athletics track** in University Square saw local schoolchildren and the Vice-Chancellor Michael Arthur get on their marks for a 100-metre dash, followed by a student volleyball competition.
- 30 of our students have been selected to be **Games Makers** in London, and will be helping and advising some of the thousands of visitors expected to visit the Games.
- Thanks to links between the **School of Modern Languages Centre** and our alumni, French undergraduates were prompted to apply for internships with CTV Television Network, which will provide coverage of the Olympics for broadcast in Canada. Jack Greenway (BA French and Spanish) and Catherine McMillan (BA Economics and French) have been taken on as **bilingual French-English production runners**. "I personally feel incredibly honoured to be a part of something so special for London and our country as a whole. The fact that I will be able to hone my French skills whilst being a part of the Olympic Games in my home country really does present itself as being a golden opportunity!" says Jack.



Some of our student Games Makers with Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Student Education Professor Vivienne Jones (centre).

- **Dr Phil O'Connor, Carole Burnett and Carole Bailey** (Leeds Institute of Molecular Medicine) are part of a team that will diagnose and treat athletes' injuries.
- Two special **countdown clocks** were designed by three students from the **School of Mechanical Engineering**. Inspired by the Union Jack flag and the modern, geometric look and feel of the official 2012 Olympic Games brand, the clocks are now in situ in The Edge and student union building.
- **Seven torchbearers** from the University helped carry the Olympic flame on its 8,000 mile journey around the UK. In Leeds, first year Nursing student Chris Ferry carried the flame through Hunslet and *Reporter* cover star Director of Commercial Services Stewart Ross carried the torch on between Hunslet and Leeds city centre.



On their marks, the Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Arthur with local schoolchildren on the 'pop up' track.

Olympics

The University of Leeds Olympians



Thirteen Leeds alumni and current students are taking part in the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics. The following details show in date order when the athletes will be competing and in what category. The very best of luck to all of our Olympians!

Calendar of Events

Paul Mattick, GB Men's Rowing, Lightweight Fours

Heats, 28 July / Repechage, 29 July / Semi Final, 31 July / Final, 2 August

London 2012 will be Paul's second Olympic Games after he finished fifth as part of the Lightweight Men's Four in Beijing. He was also part of the team that won Gold at both the 2007 and 2009 World Championships, so hopefully he will help the GB Team on to the podium on home water.

Andrea Dennis, GB Women's Rowing, Lightweight Pairs

Heats, 28 July / Repechage, 29 July / Semi Final, 31 July / Final, 2 August

Andrea is a Team GB veteran having competed at two European and five World Championships. In her latest outing for the team she took Gold as part of the Lightweight Women's Four.

Matt Holland and Ed Scott, GB Men's Water Polo

Preliminaries, 29, 31 July, 4, 6 August / Quarter Final, 8 August / Semi Final, 10 August / Final, 12 August

Matt and Ed face a tough group as part of the Team GB Water Polo team but, hopefully, whichever of the two goalkeepers start they will keep the opposition at bay. With Team GB facing the Gold, Silver and Bronze medallists from Beijing in their group it will be a tough test but we're sure they'll be up for the challenge.

Ashleigh Ball, GB Women's Hockey

Preliminaries, 29, 31 July, 4, 6 August / Quarter Final, 8 August / Final and Bronze Medal Match, 10 August

With 47 England caps and five for Great Britain, Ash will be adding the Olympic Games to her playing CV after already competing at both the Commonwealth Games in 2010 and World Championships in 2011. The midfielder scored some crucial goals in this year's Champions Trophy against China and Germany to help Great Britain finish in second place.



Jonny and Alistair Brownlee.

Rebecca Gallantree, GB Women's Diving

3m Synchronised heats and Final, 29 July / 3m Springboard preliminaries, 3 Aug / Semi Finals and Final, 4 Aug / 10m Platform preliminaries, 8 Aug / Semi Finals and Final 9 August

Rebecca competed at the Olympic pool in London during the diving World Cup and is raring to go for the Olympics. Now settled in Leeds having studied Sport and Exercise Science she is on course to compete in two separate diving events.

Jack Oliver, GB Weightlifting

77kg Class Heats and Final, 1 August

Jack smashed the British under-20 and under-23 records at the World Championships held at Disneyland Paris last November. Having rapidly risen through the rankings over the last six years, Jack was selected to represent England at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, finishing eighth.

Jonathan Hammond, GB Prone Rifle Men

Qualifying and Final, 3 August

Jonathan will be making his second appearance at an Olympic Games for Team GB and after winning Bronze, Silver and two Gold medals at the 2010 Commonwealth Games he has a great opportunity for Olympic success.

Alistair Brownlee, GB Men's Athletics

Triathlon, 7 August

Alistair is one of the great medal hopes for Team GB after winning Gold at both the World and European Championships last year. He goes into the Olympics as the world number 1 so we have high hopes of him being able to win a medal this summer.

Jonathan Brownlee, GB Men's Athletics

Triathlon, 7 August

Jonny is also one of Team GB's medal hopes, coming in second behind his brother at the World and European Championships last year. In the last year Jonny became the World Sprint Champion and won the Team Triathlon World Championship. Hopefully, going into London 2012 with these successes will hopefully mean we will see two Brownlees on the podium.

Paralympics

Claire Cashmore, GB Class S9 Swimming

30 August

This will be Claire's third Paralympic Games and she is hoping to add to the three Bronze medals that she has already won. Despite this being her third Olympics she is evidently still excited: "Being in front of a home crowd will be incredible."

Kim Daybell, GB Class 10 Table Tennis

Preliminaries from 30 August

Ranked 8th in the world, Kim stands a real chance at getting in the medals. He has represented England in able-bodied table tennis despite being born with Poland's syndrome. He has spent this year building up for the Paralympics as well as studying in his first year of Medicine. He says: "It's been a busy year, but one of the big appeals for me about Leeds – as well as the course, which is great – was the support they would give me as an athlete."

Karen Darke, GB Hand Cycling, H2 time trial and H2 Road Race

5, 7 September

After watching the Beijing Paralympics on television, hand cyclist Karen was determined to compete at London 2012. She qualified for the London Paralympics by winning two Bronze medals at the World Championships last year and now has her eyes set on Paralympic glory.

Olympics

Training camps to make champions

The University of Leeds, Leeds City Council and Leeds Metropolitan University is providing China's European HQ for pre-Olympic training.

Teams staying in Leeds are: Table tennis; Taekwondo; Fencing; Swimming; Track and field; Boxing; and Women's field hockey. Three teams will train at The Edge: Table tennis, Taekwondo and Fencing, and the remaining teams will train in the wider Leeds City region.

Around 250 athletes and up to 50 officials will have a sole occupancy of the University's Storm Jameson Court residences before heading to the Games in London. Teams are arriving and leaving separately, and staying for varying periods (8-17 nights).

The University has created a training environment as close to the Olympic experience as possible; all equipment is the same brand or nearly identical to that used during the Olympics. A music system is available to the table tennis team so they can play background crowd noise to replicate a Games atmosphere.

Around 150 volunteers will support the Chinese camp, of which some will be University of Leeds students. Most University volunteers will be native Mandarin speakers, or studying Mandarin. The recruits will have a variety of roles including team attachés, training camp hosts and providing translation services for athletes.

Just days after the last Chinese athletes depart, the University again welcomes the Canadian Paralympic rugby team for their pre-games training camp.

The 17-strong team, including members of the side made famous in Academy Award nominated film *Murderball*, is amongst the frontrunners to win Gold at this year's Paralympic Games. The team were here for a six-day stay in April, involving high-intensity training sessions, regulated recovery periods and strictly controlled meals to prepare the team for tournament competition.



Ian Chan of the Canadian Paralympic Rugby Team.

The returning team will hold an identical training camp before the serious business of London 2012 begins. Having taken Bronze at Beijing 2008, losing to Australia by just one point in a gripping semi-final, the squad are hungrier than ever to claim Gold.

Andy Van Neutegem, Canadian High Performance Director, said: "This is an important time for our athletes to prime themselves for the intensity of competition in September, and the University has provided us with the perfect atmosphere to make our team as successful as it can be. We look forward to returning for our final preparations for London 2012."

"This is an important time for our athletes to prime themselves for the intensity of competition in September."

Andy Van Neutegem
Canadian High Performance Director

Sustainability

Awards mark growing commitment to sustainability

The University's Environmental Awards 2012 marked the end of another successful year for environmental sustainability. With a second year of the Green Impact scheme complete, and other initiatives by staff and students across the University, there was a lot to celebrate.

The ceremony itself was a celebration of sustainability with a seasonal, local menu produced by University Catering for the occasion, and reclaimed slate roof tiles used for awards.

Professor Vivien Jones, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Student Education, presented the awards, including 32 awards to Green Impact Teams. The scheme saw an increase in both the number of participating teams and quality of submission in its second year, with 15 Bronze awards, seven Silver awards and seven teams being awarded the highest Gold standard. A further eight awards were presented, honouring a number of projects and hard-working individuals.

Dennis Hopper, Director of Facilities, noted the significance of the increased participation: "No-one can be in any doubt that the University faces challenging times and looking ahead, sustainability is going to take on a greater importance than ever. To see so many people demonstrating so much commitment is very encouraging and provides a very strong base for us to build on."

Green Impact is an environmental accreditation scheme empowering staff to take an active role in reducing the environmental impact of their workplace. If you're interested in taking part in Green Impact in 2012/13 contact the Sustainable Development Team at sustainability@leeds.ac.uk

For more information, visit:

www.leeds.ac.uk/sustainabledevelopment
www.leeds.ac.uk/greenimpact



Pro-Vice-Chancellor Vivien Jones speaking at the event

University sustainability awards

Biodiversity

Jen Dyer – Sustainability Action Group (winner)

Bardon Grange Project (highly commended)

Waste & Recycling

Green Streets – LUU (winner)

Sustainable Travel

Caroline Scott (winner)

National Institute for Health Research (highly commended)

Jono McKendry (highly commended)

Energy Saving

Andrew Goddard (winner)

Education for Sustainable Development

Sustainable Health Research Group (winner)

Green Impact Awards

Working Towards Accreditation

Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Fairbairn House

Bronze Award

School of Biology, Cleaning Services, Communications and Press Office, Energy Building, Equality Service, Human Resources, Institute for Transport Studies, School of Law, Lifelong Learning Centre, Marketing, School of Mathematics, School of Politics and International Studies, Staff Departmental and Development Unit, Sport and Physical Activity, University Purchasing

Silver Award

Catering Services, Clinical Trials Research Unit, School of Earth and Environment, Facilities Directorate HR & People Development, Faculty Office in Faculty of Medicine and Health, Leeds Dental Institute, Strategy and Planning

Gold Award

Access and Community Engagement, Estate Services Building and Central Boiler House Office, Information Systems Services, Leeds University Library, Leeds Institute of Genetics, Health and Therapeutics (LIGHT) Building, Student Administration, Teaching Technology Support

Working Towards Accreditation – Laboratories

Jim Deuchars' Lab, Leeds Dental Institute

Bronze – Laboratories

Energy Building, LIGHT Building, Plant Nematology Laboratory

Best energy saving idea

Cleaning Services

Best innovation

Catering Services



The Energy Building Green Impact Team collecting their award

Research and innovation

Tailored support to help researchers deliver impact

Impact is a word that all researchers – especially those developing submissions for Research Excellence Framework 2014 – are hearing increasingly often and now the Staff and Departmental Development Unit (SDDU) is offering tailored support to colleagues seeking to improve their effectiveness in delivering impact from their research.

“This isn’t just a one-off event or workshop,” says SDDU’s Dr Ged Hall, Innovation and Enterprise Senior Training and Development Officer. “This support is offered to people over a period of time that’s right for them and their research project. It means they get the support they need, when they need it, which covers topics that will improve the success of their journey to deliver impact. It helps people to understand what impact is and improves their effectiveness in delivering it.

“The support is primarily aimed at early career researchers from disciplines that target funding from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. However, SDDU is happy to advise colleagues at any career stage if there’s evidence that the support is cascaded to early career researchers within the research group or institute.”

A number of research projects are currently being supported, including two for which Dr Julia Steinberger (School of Earth and Environment) is Principal Investigator (PI) and Co-PI. “The University’s support to help achieve research impact is welcome and fills a real gap,” she says. “Traditionally, our training focuses on progress in research and science, leaving a noticeable lack in communication about and application of our findings. The support helps us train younger scientists to be more versatile and is tailored to projects funded by the very research councils who are demanding research impact to accompany all our work.”

Another PI, Dr Helen Philippou (School of Medicine, LIGHT) shares this view: “Every research project’s route to commercialisation, or societal benefit, is different and therefore SDDU’s tailored support is the most logical way to fit with this diversity.” Although Ged is based in SDDU, he works closely with colleagues in the Research and Innovation Service and draws on expertise from within and outside the University.

Visit www.sddu.leeds.ac.uk/sddu-impact-bespoke-support.html for more information or contact Ged on **(0113 34) 33357** or email g.hall@adm.leeds.ac.uk



Ged (r) with Dr David Dawson, Research Fellow in Civil Engineering, who is a member of the Undermining Infrastructure project team led by Dr Julia Steinberger and Professor Phil Purnell.

KRISTAL set to manage grants

A new IT application – KRISTAL (Knowledge Research Innovation System at Leeds) – for managing our research grant portfolio from pre-award through to post-award will launch across the University in the autumn this year as part of the Research Support Process (RSP) project.

The new system replacing COSTA will facilitate the costing and pricing of applications, streamline awards set up and allow academic investigators to access information on spends against budgets for their projects on a real-time basis.

The new system will also handle EU awards and some EKT awards; all existing research grants and contracts will be migrated to the new system.

Each Faculty has an implementation team that is working with the central project team and academic colleagues to implement the new system in the Faculties. The Faculty Implementation Teams are led by the Pro-Deans for Research & Innovation and include Directors of Research & Innovation, Finance Managers and Faculty Research & Innovation Managers.

We have just finished testing the pre-award part of the new system for which a group of ninety academic and support staff testers identified a number of bugs and changes.

The general feedback from testers was extremely positive.

Next steps in the project are to increase awareness and communications about the new system within Faculties and begin testing the post-award part of the application. Centrally run training for academic investigators will begin in early September and will be supplemented by local training sessions with academic staff as the launch date for the new application approaches in early October. The Faculty Research and Innovation Offices will also provide targeted assistance to applicants planning applications in the autumn.

Any queries in relation to this development should be directed to Faculty Research & Innovation Offices.

Research and innovation

How Knowledge Transfer Partnerships work



A KTP between Leeds University Business School and Clydesdale Bank received an ESRC award for the 'Best Application of a Social Science in a KTP'.

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) has been a flagship government funding mechanism for business/university partnerships for over 36 years and provides academics with the unique opportunity to apply research to real world business projects. Leeds has recently received funding approval for its 100th active KTP since the scheme started in 1975.

The KTP Office at Leeds was established in 2004 in the Keyworth Institute. The team built and implemented a service which increased the number of KTPs at Leeds from a handful of programmes a year to the current level in the mid twenties (which places Leeds in the top three nationally). In January this year the team (which consists of Paul Bell, Kimberley Matthews and Robert Whiting) relocated to the Research and Innovation Service under the Services to Business team to better integrate their service with the wider University innovation support agenda.

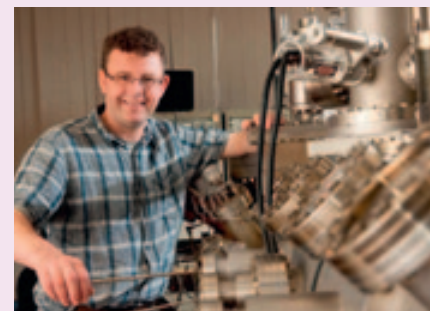
KTPs are designed to deliver benefits to all involved. For academics KTPs provide the opportunity to:

- Apply knowledge and expertise to important problems facing businesses
- Demonstrate the impact of research activities

- Develop business relevant teaching and research material
- Identify new research themes and undergraduate and post graduate projects
- Publish high quality journal and conference papers
- Gain an improved understanding of business requirements and operations
- Contribute to the REF
- Participate in rewarding and ongoing collaboration with innovative businesses
- Supervise and act as mentors for past graduates working on business based projects.

With our strong research base here at Leeds, defining high quality KTP proposals that deliver a great impact has always been the norm and we intend to maintain and grow our numbers from the current level. In the KTP Office we strive to ensure this strategy continues well into the future by providing the experience and support to facilitate all aspects of KTP, from proposal scoping, writing and submission (where we have a 100% success rate) and graduate recruitment through project administration to post project monitoring.

If you need to know more about KTPs and how the KTP office can help you, contact one of the team, email KTP@leeds.ac.uk or visit www.leeds.ac.uk/ktp



Inventory goes live

Academics and researchers from both inside and outside the University can now find specialist research equipment in the University via an online searchable inventory.

Updated daily, the Equipment Sharing and Management System (ESMS) gives information on all current research equipment with a purchase value over £25k held by the University.

“Classification began in 2011, and now there are around 980 items on the inventory, with a combined value of around £89m,” says Dr Gavin Burnell (School of Physics and Astronomy) who has managed the project together with Professor Edmund Linfield (Institute of Microwaves and Photonics).

“The aim is to maximise the use of the equipment we already have in an era of constrained funding. Each item has been classified according to the University’s taxonomy, saying exactly what it is and what it does. If people want further information or advice about a particular piece of equipment, they can also find details of the academic manager and technical contact.”

A further upgrade to the ESMS site has just gone live, allowing Leeds academics to enrich the inventory by giving additional information, such as specifications, photographs, and descriptions of how the equipment has been used and performed.

“We’re one of the first universities in the UK to make our inventory live and accessible to other academics and industry,” continues Dr Burnell. “We hope it will provide opportunities to market our facilities to outside users and increase our collaborative work, particularly with other N8 universities and industry.”

For further details, please contact Catherine Wearing at c.i.wearing@leeds.ac.uk or visit <https://esms.leeds.ac.uk/>

In the news

Professor David Cottrell (School of Medicine) contributed to a discussion of **clinical depression amongst teenagers** in the BBC Radio 4 programme *The Trouble with Moody Teens*.

Dr Paul Carter (School of Modern Languages and Cultures) is mentoring one of the competitors in the BBC's Amateur Scientist of the Year competition, led by the BBC Radio 4 *Material World* programme. Dr Carter has helped William Rudling, a Leeds-based artist, to develop an online '**Faces and Voices**' experiment to test the theory that people's speech is influenced by the shape of their face.

The discovery by a team of researchers led by Dr Nikita Gamper (School of Biomedical Sciences) of a new mechanism for **pain signalling by nerve cells** was reported by *Times of India* and Yahoo! India. The discovery could explain current failings in the development of new painkilling drugs. "The findings challenge current approaches in drug development research and may offer new strategies," Dr Gamper said.

Following the issue of new guidelines by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE), Professor Mike Bennett (Leeds Institute of Health Sciences, School of Medicine) was widely consulted by the media on the subject of the **underuse of opioid painkillers for terminally ill patients**. He spoke on the BBC One *News at Ten* and *Breakfast*. Sound bites of his interview were replayed on BBC Radio Five Live Breakfast show, BBC Radio 4 news bulletins and numerous regional radio stations. Clips were re-broadcast on the BBC News Channel. Pre-recorded and live interviews with Mike that emphasised the local collaboration with St Gemma's Hospice were aired on BBC Radio Leeds. The story was also picked up by the Press Association, *London Evening Standard*, *Telegraph*, *Yorkshire Post*, *Yorkshire Evening Post*, *Nursing Times*, *Pulse* and the NHS Choices website.



Alumna Abra Dunsby-Sircana wears the 'Pollinator hat' at Chelsea

The University's RHS Chelsea Flower Show **gold-medal-winning garden** featured widely in media coverage of the Show. It was visited by Rachel de Thame for the BBC's RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2012 programme and was the focus of reports on *ITN News*, *ITV One's Calendar* and the BBC's *Look North* and on BBC Radio Five Live and Radio Leeds. The garden featured in the *Independent*, *Daily Express*, *Telegraph*, *London Evening Standard*, *New Scientist*, *The Ecologist*, *Yorkshire Post*, *Yorkshire Evening Post*, *Metro*, and *Washington Post* and on numerous gardening websites. The garden, designed by Martin Walker, and the media attention it gained, provided opportunities to showcase research into **pollination, water management and carbon management** being carried out at Leeds by Dr Rebecca Slack, Dr Gordon Mitchell, Professor Les Firbank, Professor Bill Kunin, and Dr Mark Goddard.

The BBC Radio Four programme *Mapping Britain's Underworld* highlighted a project led by Professor Anthony Cohn (School of Computing) to develop software to create 3-D **maps of underground pipes and cables**. The software could help to reduce the £5 billion lost every year in Britain as a result of the disruption and traffic chaos caused by accidental damage to utilities.

The encouraging results of clinical trials of a new **treatment for rheumatoid arthritis**, involving Professor Paul Emery (School of Medicine), were reported by *Sky News*, the *Independent*, *Mirror*, *Yorkshire Post*, and *International Business Times*.

Analysis by Dr Dabo Guan (School of Earth and Environment) of official Chinese data, which shows that **China's carbon emissions** could be nearly 20 percent higher than previously thought, attracted attention around the globe. Dr Guan led a team of researchers from the UK, China and the US. Their findings, which suggest that the pace of global climate change could be even faster than currently predicted, were reported in the *Guardian*, *New Scientist*, *The Economist*, *Scientific American*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Le Figaro – France*, *La Repubblica – Italy*, *Le Matin – Switzerland*, *Reuters – Brazil and China*, *China Post*, *Yahoo! Hong Kong*, and *Yahoo! News*.



Worldwide coverage was also given to the findings of an international team of researchers led by Professor Alan Melcher (Leeds Institute of Molecular Medicine, School of Medicine). The team has discovered that **a virus which could be used to kill tumours** can "hitchhike" around the body inside blood cells. This means that it could reach the targeted tumour without being killed off by the body's immune system on the way. Professor Melcher said that he had no doubt that the virus could eventually be used in combination with chemotherapy to treat cancer. The research findings were reported by *BBC News*, *the Daily Mail*, *Metro – Canada*, *Ottawa Sun*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Yahoo! News*, *ABC News*, *Fox News*, *CBS News*, *Voice of America*, *North Korea Times*, *MSN India*, *El Nacional – Venezuela*, *Reuters Brazil*, and *ABC – Spain*.

Honours

Professor James Jaffe has been appointed a Fulbright Distinguished Chair in the School of History.

A professor of history in the College of Letters and Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Professor Jaffe is a labour historian, specialising in 18th century and 19th century British (and most recently colonial period Indian) industrial relations. His publications include: *The Struggle for market power: industrial relations in the British coal industry, 1800-1840* (CUP, 1991); *Striking a bargain: work and industrial relations in England, 1815-1865* (Manchester UP, 2000); and recently an edition of the diaries of Francis Place for the Royal Historical Society/Camden Society series.

While based in the University he will particularly be researching the early history of industrial arbitration, including attempts to introduce arbitration to India in the early nineteenth century.

The Fulbright Scholar Program supports awards for 800 US professors and professionals to study abroad each year. Selection represents international recognition of an academic's contributions to their field and their ability to create value and impact at the host institution.



Three Leeds researchers have been recognised for excellence in medical science by being elected to the Fellowship of the Academy of Medical Sciences. **John Fisher**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Mechanical Engineering; **Tony Turner**, Professor of Biochemistry; and **Peter Grant**, Professor of Medicine, are among 46 medical researchers joining one of the UK's most prestigious medical academies. Academy Fellows are elected for outstanding contributions to the advancement of medical science, for innovative application of scientific knowledge or for their conspicuous service to healthcare.



Dr Neil Morris (Faculty of Biological Sciences [FBS], Institute of Membrane and Systems Biology) has been awarded the Higher Education Biology Teacher of the Year Award by the Society of Biology. He lectures on neuroscience and his innovative teaching methods include the use of podcasts, assessments completed by text message, virtual learning-environments, social media, voting handsets and videos. **Dr David Lewis** (FBS) was also shortlisted.

Dr Kia Ng (School of Computing and School of Music) has been elected Fellow of the British Computer Society. Dr Ng is Director of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Scientific Research in Music and is involved in several research domains relating to 2D and 3D imaging, multimodal analysis, gestural interfaces, interactive multimedia, digital preservation, computer vision and computer music.

Professor Paul Emery, Arthritis Research UK Professor of Rheumatology and Head of Academic Section of Musculoskeletal Medicine, has won the prestigious Carol Nachman Prize for rheumatology. Sponsored by the German city of Wiesbaden, the prize is granted annually in recognition of outstanding, innovative research in rheumatology. This is the highest award in the world given to a rheumatologist and Professor Emery is only the second person in the UK to receive it.



A presentation 'Optical coherence tomography validation: a new quantitative imaging biomarker for affected skin in scleroderma' by **Dr Giuseppina Abignano** (School of Medicine) has been awarded the Abbott Innovations Award at the British Society for Rheumatology's annual conference.

The Skills@Library team from the University of Leeds was announced as the winner of the first **Credo Reference Digital Award for Information Literacy** for their project **Skills@Library lecturer pages** (<http://library.leeds.ac.uk/skills-lecturers>). The award was presented at the 2012 LILAC Conference.

China's National Hanban Office has approved the **UIBE-Leeds University Business Confucius** Institute. Professor Peter J Buckley OBE (Centre for International Business), and Cheung Kong Scholar Chair Professor in the University of International Business and Economics (UIBE), Beijing, said: "I'm absolutely delighted with the news".

The Yorkshire & Humberside Metropolitan Area Network (YHMAN) won the Best Public Sector Case Study award at the 2012 Cloud Computing World Series Awards for its Shared Virtual Data Centre (SVDC) and 'Community Cloud' service development. The project was developed to help share new and existing resources in Yorkshire and Humberside. A world-class 'community cloud' has been established across the YHMAN network, which connects 10 universities – including Leeds – 53 colleges and museums and nine councils. Colleagues from ISS attended the awards ceremony.



ISS' Kevin Barrass, Lynne Rodgers and Ed Carter.

The University's **Storm Jameson Court Residence** won a Bronze Award in the Access for All Tourism category at the prestigious VisitEngland Awards for Excellence 2012 (see *Reporter 566* for more details).

Letters

In praise of wildflowers

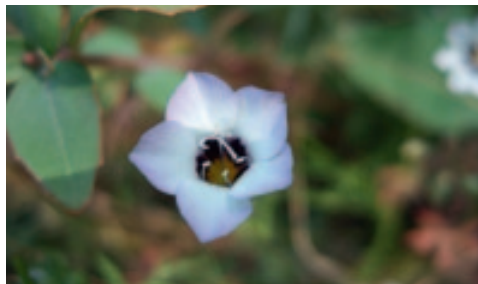
Dear Reporter

I was walking through St George's Field recently and noticed that in the area that has been left to grow, buttercups and bird's eyes are growing amongst other species. It's really nice to see the University leaving areas like this to grow and I hope that it continues, so I thought I would write to the Reporter to share this view.

Many thanks,

Miss Jo Moran

Taught Courses Administrator
Institute for Transport Studies



Dear Jo

Many thanks for your letter. It's great to know the campus is appreciated.

Planned wildflower planting takes place on campus in the following areas:

- A sizeable area to the left-hand side of Earth and Environment extension, behind the Maths and Earth Sciences building.
- A small patch of ground in front of Lyddon Hall.
- Another small area outside of the South Library electrical substation, to the rear of the Ziff and Social Sciences buildings
- Two areas of wildflower meadow at Western Campus planted as part of the re-landscaping works to the central pedestrian area.

Due to a very disappointing spring and early summer, these areas haven't progressed as well as we would have liked. The plants are all there in proliferation but the unseasonably poor weather has certainly held them back to an extent. At present, we don't have any plans

to increase the areas devoted to wildflower planting but, as feedback like your own suggests, people are increasingly keen to see this kind of thing on campus.

Incidentally, the area in St George's Field isn't actually a planned wildflower area – it was left unmown for a performance as part of the LUDUS festival and conference and reverted back to amenity grass after the event – so it's even more gratifying to know that wildflowers are growing in it so readily.

Steve Ainsworth

Maintenance Manager
Facilities Directorate

We're keen to receive your letters on a wide variety of topics, from campus life to political and social issues in the wider world. Please note that all letters will be published at the editor's discretion, and may be edited for brevity. The letters policy is available online at <http://reporter.leeds.ac.uk/531/letters.htm>

Email the.reporter@leeds.ac.uk or post to Reporter, Communications and Press Office, Level 14, Ziff Building.

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David Bowers 0127 477 1984 davidbowers99@gmail.com

House/flat/room to let

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http://jupiter.ethz.ch/~ajackson/glebe_flats.html
jackson@see.leeds.ac.uk

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Other

PAID FACIAL COMPOSITE RESEARCH The task (a) lasts 20 minutes, (b) involves viewing a set of composites and engaging in several simple tasks and (c) takes place in the Institute of Psychological Sciences. All participants receive £2.

Emma Portch e.s.portch@leeds.ac.uk

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 5 September 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

Events

Shifting Perspectives

A new series of photos from the Shifting Perspectives project, which celebrates the diversity of people with Down's syndrome and challenges misconceptions, is on show in the foyer of the Charles Thackrah Building.

The work explores the photographic representation of people with Down's syndrome, challenging attitudes and prejudices and examining alternative representations of both adults and children. Shifting Perspectives questions general views of what living with Down's syndrome means to individuals, families and friends.

The exhibition includes work by Fiona Yaron-Field, Richard Bailey (showing individuals in their workplace), Fiona Bailey (portraits of her daughter Billie-Jo) and Eva Snoijink's beautiful portraits of children.

Hosted by the Leeds Institute of Health Sciences, the photographs are on view until 19 July. Details are at www.shiftingperspectives.org



Abdul Cat by Fiona Yaron-Field

Expulsion: 40 Years On, the South Asian East African Community in Britain

A day of interactive cultural and arts performances is being held to mark the 40th anniversary of Idi Amin's expulsion of the South Asian community from Uganda in August 1972. Many members of this community came to the UK, being citizens under prior colonial rule, and settled all over the country, including Leeds.

A free event in Millennium Square and Leeds City Museum on Saturday 14 July commemorates the experience of the Ugandan South Asians, as well as the broader community of the East African South Asians. All are invited to take part in dance and storytelling workshops and watch performances.

Local restaurateur Hansa will talk about her experience of migration from East Africa and provide a food tasting, and national commentator and journalist Yasmin Alibhai-Brown will be performing her play *Nowhere to Belong*.

Sponsored by Arts Council England and the University, the project stems from doctoral research being undertaken by Maya Parmar (School of English).

Full details are at www.expulsion40yearson.com

M&S Archive events

There are some exciting, family-friendly events taking place during the summer at the M&S Archive on campus.

Put Yourself in the Picture

Saturday 28 July, 11.00-1.00 and 1.30-3.30

Be a time traveller! We have hundreds of photographs dating back to the beginning of M&S. Visitors can go back in time and appear in a photo from over 100 years ago. Free, no need to book.

Sparky Saturdays: Dress to Impress with Emily Button

Saturday, 4 August, 11.00-1.00 and 1.30-3.30

Emily Button loves collecting useful bits and bobs. Make a paper person and dress them in your favourite M&S clothes – old or new. Bring along your buttons, beads and ribbon to add the finishing touch! Free, but booking is essential.

Splish Splash!

Thursday 9 August, 11.00-1.00 and 1.30-3.30

Marvel at our archive swimwear collection and design a swimsuit for the future. The Edge swimming pool is nearby, so why not bring your swim things! Free, no need to book.

New exhibition at ULITA

'Transformation: A Journey through Geometric Form' is now at the University of Leeds International Textile Archive (ULITA) at St Wilfred's Chapel in the Maurice Keyworth Building.

The exhibition by Rudranil Das and Briony Thomas, explores a range of concepts underlying structure and form in the decorative arts and design. Techniques of textile wrapping, laser cutting and etching have been used to construct the two- and three-dimensional works.

The exhibition is open until 20 July, Tuesday-Friday, 9.30am-4.30pm.



Metamorphosis #1

FAQs

Matt Davison

Tell us about your job.

I'm the Olympic Programme Officer for the University so I'm responsible for the range of Olympic activities taking place here. I've been in the role for over three years now and work on a wide variety of programmes. An example of the type of projects I have been responsible for is the Olympic lecture series which we've been running for the last few years. The lectures brought in a wide range of speakers; not just athletes but also people who work as part of the Games. Guest speakers included Roger Mosey, head of the BBC's Olympic coverage, Martin Green who is Director of Ceremonies for the Olympics and is also an alumnus, and former athletes Kriss Akabusi and Steve Cram.

What does a typical day involve?

At the moment we're really focusing on what is needed for China and their pre-Olympic training camp. Today I've been looking at the volunteer programmes, attended meetings about decorating and dressing campus and we've had some media here too.

On an average day, I might also deal with student athletes who are aiming for the Olympics. We meet with these athletes monthly to sit down and plan ahead to make sure they have the best possible academic set-up. I've built up quite a good relationship with them so it'll be fantastic to watch them compete in the Olympics!

Tell us how the Olympic countdown clock came about.

I'd been talking to a colleague and he told me about the Product Design programme and the types of projects students got involved in as part of this degree. At that time we'd been discussing ways in which other University departments could celebrate the Olympics and the idea of a clock had come up so I went to Engineering to see if any of their product design students would want to do this as an extra-curricular activity. We gave the students free rein on the design and the clocks are now up and counting down the number of days to go.



In your role, who's the most interesting person that you've had the opportunity to meet?

That's a good question – there are a few answers! I met Lennox Lewis which was amazing; that was a real celebrity wow, he had an amazing aura and presence. I also got to spend a day with Michael Fennell, who is Head of the Jamaican Olympic Association and he's also the President of the Commonwealth Games, when he was in Leeds. That was a funny day as his suitcase had gone missing so I ended up being his wife's personal shopper!

What's your most frequently asked question?

Because my role's so unusual, it's probably "What do you do?"

Who's your sporting hero?

Lance Armstrong for both what he's done in sport and for what he's overcome.

What are you hoping the legacy of the Olympics will be for the University?

I think we've been able to build up a reputation for being able to host major events and national sports teams – we've proved we can do it. Hopefully, this reputation will help us become a hub for sport with the knock-on effect that sporting individuals will want to come here to Leeds to study and train.

How can colleagues get behind the Olympics?

The main focus now is for colleagues to enjoy and celebrate the Olympics. In terms of events for staff, we'll probably be showing sporting events in The Edge. In particular, I'd encourage staff to watch the Brownlee brothers (both Leeds alumni) who compete in the Men's Triathlon on 7 August. We are also going to be displaying an Olympic torch, which one of our students who was a torchbearer has lent us.