



Making the Tour terrific!

How the University's staff and students are planning to get this year's Tour de France off to a great start when it comes to Yorkshire.

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New Library takes shape

Work on the University's Laidlaw Library – inside and outside – is progressing in leaps and bounds.

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Excellence in cardiovascular research

A series of new grants confirms the University's School of Medicine as a leader in the field of cardiovascular research.

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Bringing the arts to life

Summer will see Leeds buzzing with a wide variety of artistic events during the University's fourth Festival of Arts.

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Leader column

Increasing Knowledge and Opportunity

Consultation about the University's Strategic Plan 2014:2020 gets underway after the May Bank holiday. The creation, dissemination and application of knowledge will remain at the heart of all that we do and builds on the University's historic mission. In addition, we will aim to provide a wide range of opportunities for students and staff, ensuring excellence in every aspect of student education, research and innovation and promoting enterprise and creativity.

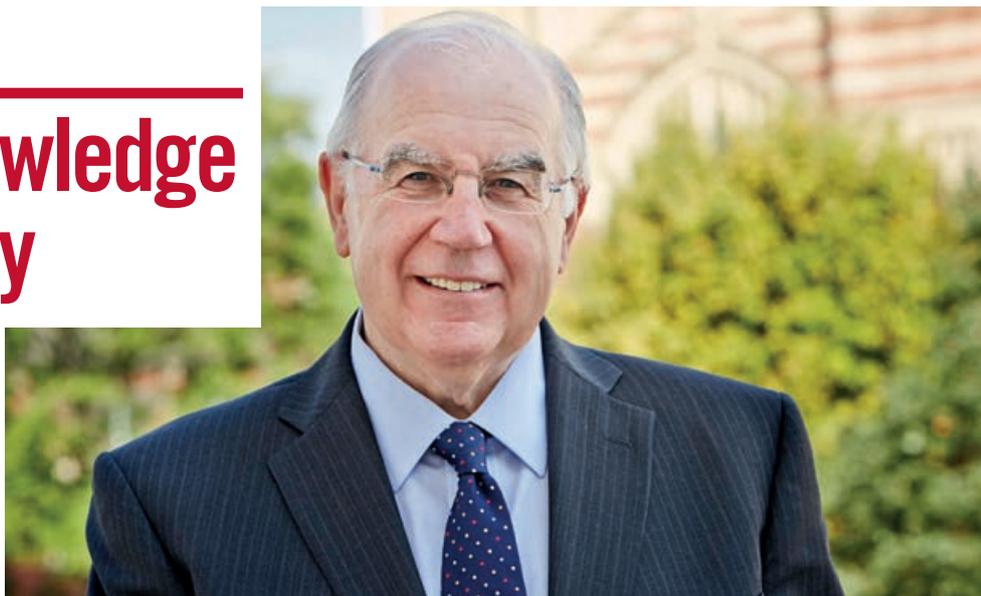
Increasing knowledge and opportunity in powerful combination is, and will continue to be, the defining feature of life at Leeds, distinguishing us from other universities and enabling us to address the challenges of education and research across a broad range of disciplines with energy and confidence.

This means that every member of staff at the University will continue to have an absolute focus on meeting the needs and aspirations of students, present and future, providing a forward-looking environment for education, training and personal development; putting a premium on high quality tuition, independent learning and critical thinking; and inspiring students to develop new knowledge and insights of their own.

It means making a step change in the range and volume of world leading research carried out at Leeds, operating successfully across the indivisible continuum from the arts, humanities and social sciences through to the biological, environmental, engineering and physical sciences; adding to the global stock of knowledge through curiosity-driven research; and moving discoveries and findings into practice through translational and applied research.

It also means effective partnership working – promoting creativity, innovation, enterprise and impact and working with other universities, industry and the public and third sectors to ensure the transfer of knowledge and higher level skills. And it means playing a full part in the development of the Leeds City region and the country as a whole; boosting our engagement with a world-class cultural community in the North of England, ensuring that the population benefits from our strategic health partnerships and increasing still further our £1 billion contribution to the regional economy.

Universities are complex institutions but this will not be a complex plan, nor a blueprint. The purpose of the plan is to set some specific



aims, to be clear about the results we are trying to achieve and to waymark the direction in which the University is heading. It focuses on what matters and will be implemented in an environment of high trust with streamlined monitoring and reporting systems.

It is a plan that will draw on the expertise and professionalism of staff and the energy, enthusiasm and talent of students, investing in people and ideas and ensuring that the campus is fit for the future and meets exacting standards of environmental sustainability.

The plan aims to provide students with outstanding education and all round personal growth, and commits to doing everything we can to provide affordable access to undergraduate and postgraduate programmes for all who can benefit. It follows through on the root and branch transformation of student education that has been taking place in recent years and promises new programmes, a step change in internationalisation, the active involvement of students in programme design, developments in digital and e-learning and a new operating model to support careers development and employability. It also pledges to work with other universities, HEFCE and the government to drive progress in tackling the challenges of financial support which face postgraduate students.

In research, the irreversible trends towards larger, longer grants for high quality, interdisciplinary research poses new challenges and the possibility that government funding allocated through the UK research councils and HEFCE might be concentrated in fewer universities means that it is not good enough simply to maintain our current position. The proposed plan argues for greater consistency in the quality of research outputs, very substantial increases in grant income and a stronger focus on attracting and retaining high performing staff.

The University will therefore build on existing and emerging research strengths, invest in a new academic fellowship scheme and postgraduate research studentships,

and develop new platform technologies to enable research success, promote industry partnerships and support PhD students to develop advanced skills and expertise.

The plan positively supports the idea that the breadth of our knowledge base and our distinctive strengths can provide a springboard to address major global challenges including high impact work in health, water, food, energy, culture and cities. Work is in hand to develop a clearer understanding of the distinctive contributions that Leeds can bring to each of these themes and to determine the opportunities for growing our research capability and income in each of these areas.

Unashamedly, the proposed plan will focus attention and investment on the University's central mission of student education and research and innovation. However it also recognises the need for active partnerships, collaboration and enterprise locally, nationally and internationally; the crucial importance of providing staff with opportunities for personal and professional development and developing new ways of working; and a sustainable campus environment that we can be proud of, with £250m worth of capital projects either underway or being actively planned.

I hope that this plan will take a fresh approach to delivering change by investing in people and ideas and I look forward to discussing it with as many of you as possible over the summer period. Senate discussed the draft plan on 14 May and will have a further opportunity to comment at its meeting on 9 July. The plan will be submitted to Council for approval at its meeting of 24 July and in the meantime, I look forward to drawing on your experience and ideas about what matters and what works.

Alan Langlands

News

Inspiring a new generation of triathletes

A new partnership between the University and Olympic medallists Alistair and Jonny Brownlee is set to help other athletes follow in their footsteps.

The University of Leeds Brownlee Brothers Partnership aims to inspire junior triathletes and help develop the sport throughout the region. The brothers, who are alumni, attended the launch with Vice-Chancellor Sir Alan Langlands, where they gave local schoolchildren the opportunity to ask questions about their sporting success.

The Partnership has three strands: the first will see a new Brownlee Scholarship giving a talented student athlete sporting, academic and financial support to help them pursue a career in sport; second, it will build on current students' abilities, allowing them to undertake triathlon training and placements in local schools to help train budding athletes; and,



Alistair (l) and Jonny launched the Partnership at The Edge

finally, regional triathlon training camps will be held at the University, with top coaches putting junior athletes through their paces using our world-class training facilities.

Alistair says: "We've introduced the Brownlee Scholarship so that a talented athlete can continue with their studies and also pursue a successful career in sports. We both really appreciated how the University supported us, enabling us to juggle our education and training commitments so we were able to enjoy the best of both worlds."

Jonny adds: "The idea behind the Partnership is to encourage young sporting talent and motivate a whole new generation of triathletes using the University's fantastic sports facilities."

New Dean of Faculty of Medicine and Health



Professor Stewart

Professor Paul Stewart has been appointed as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Health and will take up post on 1 August. He will take over from Professor Peter McWilliam. Working in partnership with the Dean of Dentistry, the Head of the School of Healthcare and the Head of the School of Psychology, Professor Stewart will support the development of the individual schools and promote educational and research synergies across the Faculty.

In his present post, Professor Stewart has driven through an exciting programme of change, building excellent relationships with the NHS, delivering a flagship undergraduate MBChB programme and scaling up research success in biomedical science. In his new role, and as a member of the Faculty Management Group and the University Strategy Group, he will have the opportunity to continue this work while building broader links across the Faculty and between Medicine and Health and the other faculties.

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About the Reporter

The *Reporter* is the University of Leeds' staff magazine, produced eight times a year. More than 7,500 copies are distributed to our staff and stakeholders. The *Reporter* is produced by the Communications team.

If you have an idea for a story, want to write a letter, comment on this edition or would like to voice your opinion about University matters, please get in touch:

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If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of the magazine, please email internalcomms@leeds.ac.uk quoting your staff number or, if you are external to the University, your name, postcode and preferred email address.

The front cover shows staff members who have volunteered as Tourmakers (l-r): Odette Dewhurst, Helen Costelloe, Ai Lyn Tan and Karen Priestley.

News

New Library takes shape

A mild winter and relatively dry spring has seen building of the new Laidlaw Library progress in leaps and bounds. The shell of the building is taking shape with – at the time of writing – floor slabs in place on the lower ground, upper ground, first and second floors.

The individual blocks of Portland stone are being combined off-site to form pre-assembled panels, ready to be put in place as the building's facing in early summer. With this in situ, the external shell is on schedule to complete in September, while roofing will be finalised during October. While construction progresses, work has continued on furniture layouts, colour schemes and finishes for the Library.

“We aim to use colour in carpet and upholstery to guide students through the Library and signal the various zones and uses for different areas,” explains University Librarian Stella Butler. “Vibrant colours such as red and orange will be used in spaces designed for group study. A more serene, purple-based palette will characterise spaces intended for individual quiet study, so colours will become more restrained as you move up through the building, visually signalling the transition into quieter areas.

“We’re also working on other fronts including external landscaping, internal signage, shelving and, very importantly, the process of planning for commissioning and operating the building once it’s open. A team of staff has now been assigned to the building and their role will grow as the Library’s opening in spring 2015 draws closer.”



Making progress: the Library site in January and (below) in May



Artworks to inspire

Distinctive artworks by students from the School of Fine Art and the School of Design, selected by Library staff, will be a prominent feature throughout the Laidlaw Library.

As well as hung artwork, there will be a number of glass ‘manifestations’, where opaque or coloured vinyl is stuck onto glass to produce an image. Taken together, around different 20 artworks will be displayed in the Library.

Library staff will choose students’ work twice a year, so there will be a changing display for Library users to enjoy. Walls for hanging artworks will be allocated to the two schools. Fine Art tutors will invite Library staff to select three pieces from their students’ work in May, and a selection of Design students’ work will be chosen each December. The pieces will

be loaned for a year and installed (and taken down) by a team from the Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery.

“Having art in the Library helps establish a creative, inspiring atmosphere and is a great way of bringing our students’ artworks to a wider audience – including community groups using the Library,” says Layla Bloom, Gallery Curator. “When taken together with the new external sculpture, it will highlight the University’s commitment to enhancing art and culture within the city.”

More details about the chosen artworks will appear in a future issue of the *Reporter*.

News

Garden creates a buzz

The Laidlaw Library will be a hive of activity in more ways than one, when the roof-top garden becomes a permanent home for three active beehives early next year.

Nearly 40 staff and students have been trained as beekeepers – or apiarists – with 12 of them acting as Hive Leaders. The beekeepers will ensure the hives are monitored regularly, report on the health of the bees and help maintain a healthy colony. Although there are no plans for library users to have access to the roof top garden, they will be able to enjoy watching the bees come and go amongst the greenery.



Anna-Marie Vickerstaff of Bardon Grange helping out with University's existing beehives



MSc student Laura Hendrickson gets to grips with a frame from one of the hives

Specialist technologies offer greater learning choice



Different areas of the new Library will be colour themed

After months of consultation with students, staff and potential suppliers, the Technology Working Group has finalised the technical facilities and equipment for the Library.

“The building infrastructure was designed for generous provision of power, data and wifi to underpin the technology-rich environment which characterises student learning today,” says Brian Clifford, Head of Learning and Research Support.

“We’re now focusing on the end-user equipment, including connectivity for mobile devices in group study rooms or booths. This lets people present, collaborate and share content wirelessly; each person simply connects their mobile device to the central screen to display what they have on their own device. Up to four different screens can be shown simultaneously. This technology has the potential to transform group working, and we think our students will find it a really valuable facility.”

The eight group study rooms will have a large screen driven by a PC and a webcam to allow groups to rehearse and review presentations. The 10 smaller group booths will feature integrated table, power and large-screen display. All rooms and booths will have display panels showing the current event and/or booking status.

Library users will be greeted with an impressive ‘media wall’ showing University news, events and images. Elsewhere in the building, 14 digital screens will give directions to different rooms, subject areas and study zones.

News

First Folio goes online

A priceless First Folio of Shakespeare's plays is now available online, following months of painstaking digitisation work at the University's Library.

The First Folio is one of the most important publications in the history of the English language, gathering Shakespeare's work together in one volume for the first time.

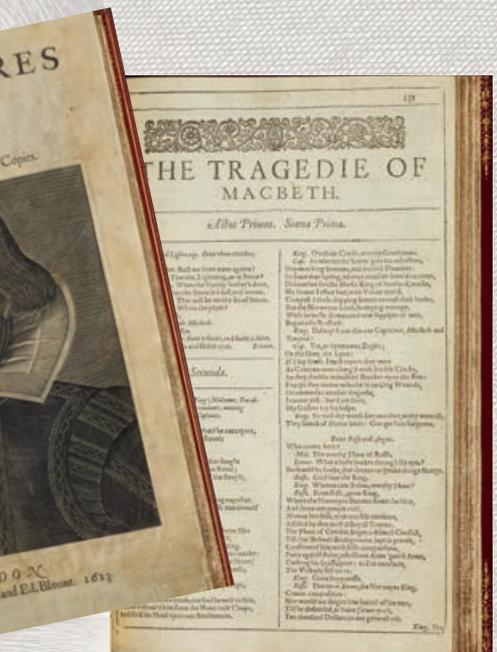
Martin Butler, Professor of English Renaissance Drama, explains: "The First Folio contains 18 plays that had never been printed before, some of them among the most famous in the canon. Without the Folio, we would not have *Macbeth* or *Julius Caesar*, *Antony and Cleopatra* or *Coriolanus*; we would be without *The Winter's Tale* and *The Tempest*."

Although 230 copies of the First Folio exist worldwide, only 40 are in Britain and just two

are in Yorkshire. To mark the 450th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth, the University has opened this historic work for all. Support from the University's Footsteps Fund – which brings together donations from alumni – has allowed the fragile 900 pages of the Folio to be photographed and made available online at

<http://goo.gl/rjXiH>

The online formatting allows the content to be explored in a range of ways, giving easy access to the original text and other learning materials



and the footnotes and annotations which have been added by the book's different owners. A complete digital resource of the plays will be launched in May.

News in brief

New Director for Institute

Professor Mark Kearney is the new Director of LIGHT (Leeds Institute of Genetics, Health and Therapeutics) in the School of Medicine with effect from 1 June.

Professor Kearney is a British Heart Foundation Chair in Cardiology, heading an exciting translational research group. A crucial part of his role will be to align academic activity in LIGHT incorporating the School's new research strategy, focusing on cardio metabolic science, reproduction and development, while simultaneously nurturing crucial cross-cutting platforms such as informatics, biostatistics, imaging and epidemiology. Professor Kearney takes over from Professor Mark Gilthorpe.

New academic training hub opens

Leeds Institute for Health Sciences has established a training hub to support the work and career development of promising clinical academics. It houses a range of posts funded by National Institute for Health Research, including academic clinical fellows, in-practice fellows and clinical lecturers. The trainees mostly represent the specialities of general practice and palliative medicine, identified nationally as high priorities for academic capacity building. Their research will focus on priorities, such as how to make use of 'big data' in analysing and evaluating approaches to implement evidence-based practice, and testing interventions to improve pain and symptom control in end-of-life care.

Change of name for School

From 1 August 2014, the School of Process, Environmental and Materials Engineering will change its name to the School of Chemical and Process Engineering. The new name better reflects its student education remit, which delivers undergraduate and taught postgraduate programmes in chemical engineering, petroleum engineering, energy and environment, fire and explosion, materials science and engineering, nanotechnology and aviation, with an intake of about 300 students per year.

The name also recognises that, together with degrees in Chemical and Nuclear, Chemical and Energy and Chemical and Materials Engineering, the Chemical Engineering degree attracts the largest share of the undergraduate intake in the School.

Visit from Lieutenant General Sir Nick Carter

The University was delighted to welcome Lieutenant General Sir Nick Carter, Commander of Land Forces of the British Army, to campus recently.

Sir Nick came at the invitation of the School of Politics and International Studies (POLIS), and gave a wide-ranging talk on 'What do

recent campaigns suggest for the future of land warfare?' His lecture covered key challenges facing today's armed forces, including the uses of 'soft' and 'hard' power, perceptions of military success, and the need to adapt strategy to address rapidly changing situations. He drew on his substantial experience of conflict in countries such as Bosnia and Afghanistan to answer questions, which included those about the conflict in Syria, the possibility of an elite 'global police force' replacing national armies, and whether history will judge British and international involvement in Afghanistan a success.



General Sir Nick Carter speaking at the University

Sustainability

Setting new standards

The University's bid to embed sustainability practice into everyday life has taken a further step forward with start of work to develop an ISO 14001-accredited Environmental Management System (EMS).

ISO stands for International Organization for Standardization. It is a body which develops and publishes voluntary international standards for good practice, services and products, helping to make industry more efficient and effective. The ISO 14000 group of standards provides practical tools for organisations looking to identify and control their environmental impact.

"Although we already have environmental plans and objectives covering the majority of our key impact areas, we currently lack evidence of an auditable management system," says the Sustainability team's James Dixon-Gough. "This

kind of evidence is increasingly required when the University bids for research or other funding, so, with that in mind, we are committed to developing an EMS and gaining accreditation as soon as possible.

"We've just started on the initial environmental review which will form the basis of the new system. This will be used to help identify our key environmental aspects* and understand whether we have the necessary procedures and working practices in place to manage their potential impacts. With work for implementation already started – and with a challenging target for



certification in early 2015 – it really is full steam ahead! Many colleagues will be involved at some level over the next few months, so I'd like to thank them for their help in advance. In the meantime, if people want to discuss any relevant issues, they can contact me at j.dixon-gough@leeds.ac.uk"

*An element of an organisation's activities, products or services that can interact with the environment.

New £25,000 sustainability project launched

The Leeds Green Exchange – a new project coordinated by Leeds University Union (LUU) in collaboration with other universities in Leeds – aims to embed sustainability at the heart of everything that happens in our city.

Earlier this year, the NUS provided every students union with the opportunity to apply for money from the Green Fund, a £5m resource. LUU were one of 25 successful applicants, and received £25,000 to implement the Green Exchange project.

The Leeds Green Exchange will provide a virtual forum as well as physical spaces, including a roof-top garden, on-campus facilities in halls and the community, for people to find out more about sustainability, learn to grow plants, exchange ideas and tips, and organise volunteers' sustainability projects.

Along with the University's Sustainability team, LUU will be supporting schools and faculties to set up opportunities for students to get involved, help them to find out their interests and gain valuable skills and experiences. The Exchange will also provide funding for students who have a great idea for a project that will help more people get involved in living sustainably.

If any of your students want more information about the funding available or an application form, email greenexchange@leeds.ac.uk

Inspire our students

Graduate jobs still up for grabs

'It's not too late to get a graduate job' – that's the message for new and recent graduates, who are being urged to attend the Yorkshire Graduate Recruitment Fair (YGRF) when it comes to the University on 9 June.

"We're really keen for our new graduates to find out about the Fair. It's on the day after exams finish, so we hope staff will tell their students that it's worth staying around in Leeds for a bit longer," says the Careers Centre's Glenys Hastings.

"We have produced a big pop-up banner telling people where and when the Fair is taking place, which has been appearing in various places around campus, such as the IT Help Desk, Careers Centre and the Hidden Café in the Union. It's even been to Bradford University because the Fair is part of a summer fairs programme organised by the Association

of Graduate Careers Advisory Services. This allows students from any university to come to the Leeds fair, while our students can visit other fairs if they've moved away from Leeds."

Over 100 exhibitors are expected to attend the event, which will take place in The Edge. As well as offering people the chance to engage with potential employers, the Fair will host employability workshops. 'Interview booths' – where employers can chat to students who have impressed them – have been introduced for the first time this year and already search firm Sagar Wright and Enterprise Rent-a-Car have taken up booths.



"This is an excellent opportunity for our new graduates to meet face to face with employers that still have graduate jobs on offer," says Jane Conway, Assistant Director of the Careers Centre. "Meeting an employer at the Fair gives you a much better insight into the organisation than online research ever could. We hope that our graduates will be able to quickly establish relationships with employers and be seen as real people rather than faceless applications."

For more information visit <http://careerfairs.leeds.ac.uk/ygrf/>

Inspire our students

Awards add up to success

Eight major events, 300 awards, and more than 1,000 participants – including community organisations and 25 local charities – all added up to make this year's Celebrate Week a huge success.

The annual week-long programme of events reinforces the Partnership between the University and Leeds University Union (LUU), and recognises the achievements and successes of University staff and students.

After attending many of the events Vice-Chancellor Sir Alan Langlands said: "My first Celebrate Week was humbling and inspiring in equal measure. I felt a great sense of pride hearing about our students' extraordinary achievements in sport and volunteering, watching the excellent performances at the Riley's and finding out more about staff and students working together through the Partnership."

Bradley Escorcio, Union Affairs Officer, added: "It was great to see so many amazing students and members of staff being rewarded for



Inspiring people (l-r): Alice Smart (Education Officer), Professor Vivien Jones (Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Student Education), Charlotte Warner, Gemma Liddle (Social Work School Rep), Gemma Wincup (Midwifery School Rep), Voyin Pantic (Radiography Lecturer), Marian Hinds (Midwifery Programme Leader), Lynne Veal (Nursing Programme Leader), Andrea Nelson (Head of School – Healthcare)

their outstanding work over the past year. As we celebrate our 75th anniversary, it's not only a great time to showcase the incredible achievements of our students but also a great reminder of how a strong partnership between the University of Leeds and Leeds University Union can provide fantastic opportunities for our students."

This year saw the introduction of a new event, the Volunteer celebrations which thanks all the volunteers at LUU for their contribution to the community in Leeds, across the country and

around the world. Each volunteer group gave a presentation highlighting their achievements over the year, and singling out individuals for special recognition.

Celebrate Week also saw 25 local charitable organisations awarded various sums of money from the Rag (Raise and Give) Community Fund totalling almost £14,000. The money will contribute to many things, from buying petrol for outings and visits to new wheelchairs incorporating skis for disabled children.



Sir Alan Langlands with LeedsforLife Outstanding Contribution winner Amy McCulloch



Leeds Tealights performing at the Riley's – photo courtesy of Robert Palin

The Celebrate Week awards

Partnership awards – celebrate the achievements, representation and teaching of both staff and students by rewarding the behaviours reflected in the Partnership.

LeedsforLife Citizenship awards – recognise student volunteers who have made an outstanding contribution in their field.

Intercultural Ambassadors showcase – celebrates the achievements and activities of the Ambassadors who have dedicated their time, skills and enthusiasm to helping others benefit from being at a multicultural international university.

Volunteer Celebrations – say thank you to volunteers at LUU for their contributions to the community.

Sports Colours awards – recognise the outstanding efforts of students and coaches from LUU's sports, martial arts, outdoor and competing dance groups.

Rag Community Fund – Presenting money to local charities from the Community Fund.

The Riley's – celebrate the successes of LUU societies.

Hall Exec awards – say thank you to all of hall committee members and celebrate events hosted in residences.

Partnership award winners

Best Feedback award

Dr Kevin Linch (School of History)

Extra Mile award

Dr Sri Sridharan (School of Chemistry)

Innovation award

Professor Ruru Li (School of Modern Languages and Cultures [SMLC])

Inspirational Teaching award

Dr Frances Weightman (SMLC)

Mentor award

Dr Johanna Stiebert (School of Philosophy, Religion and the History of Science)

Personal Tutor award

Kate Watkins
(Institute of Communications Studies)

Support award

Jeanette Hannah (Disability Support)

Outreach award

Herebans Kaur (School of Law)

Winners of the LeedsforLife awards

Community award

CATCH (Community Action to Change Harehills) – Amy Hewitt and Caroline Donnelly

Sport and Wellbeing award

Women's Hockey Club – Issy Cronee and Hannah Crane

LeedsforLife Foundation award

Peer-led Mental Health Support – Lucy Bailey

Environment award

The Real Junk Food Project – Conor Walsh

Project of the Year

Women in Social Enterprise – Rachel Wylie

Outstanding Contribution

Amy McCulloch

Education award

Teddy Bear Hospital – Cordelia Newbery

Improving support for mature and part-time students

To ensure that the University offers our mature and part-time students the very best levels of support, the Lifelong Learning Centre and Leeds University Union (LUU) are working with these students and Student Support Officers to discuss their experiences and the challenges they face.

“As a result of the discussions and the recurring themes that crop up, we aim to create good practice guidance and training for University staff,” explains the Lifelong Learning Centre's Paul Devlin.

“We also want to collate best practice examples of how different departments are supporting their mature and part-time students, in terms of recognising previous career experience and skill sets, dealing with potential or actual financial hardship, childcare demands and academic challenges,” continues LUU's Sarah Charlesworth. “The aim is to share the great things that are happening in schools and services.”

Examples could include such activities as:

- adapting meetings, tutorials and questions appropriately when meeting mature students
- recognising students with dependants and ensuring they are offered placements close to home
- matching mature and part-time students to tutors.

If you want to send any examples, or have any questions about working with mature or part-time students, please email Sarah at s.charlesworth@leeds.ac.uk



LeedsforLife winners



Rebecca Thomas, a mature student in the Leeds University Business School

Inspire our students

The Leeds Curriculum reaches key milestones

Several notable milestones have recently been passed in the enhancement of the Leeds Curriculum, including a research-based final-year project (FYP) embedded in all programmes from 2014/15.

“This final-year project should be the pinnacle of every undergraduate’s intellectual development,” says Professor Vivien Jones, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Student Education. “It will provide all our students with the opportunity to carry out their own independent research, which significantly enhances important employability skills.”

Guidelines for staff on how the FYP will be implemented are available on the Leeds Curriculum project website – <http://curriculum.leeds.ac.uk/rbl/final-year-project> – and examples of good practice will be available shortly.

Realising another key principle of the Leeds Curriculum to broaden a student’s learning, the 10 Discovery Themes and 1,000+ corresponding Discovery Modules are being fine-tuned ready for Year one students arriving in September. These Discovery Modules replace what were previously known as electives and will enable students to broaden their learning in a more structured way, inside



The Leeds Curriculum will challenge, stimulate and equip students



or outside their chosen discipline. More guidance is currently being prepared for staff, particularly those interested in developing new Discovery Modules.

The Discovery Themes website is currently being built within the LeedsforLife website and will be ready for staff to explore by July (see next Reporter). It will go live for students in September and a Discovery Themes Fair during Intro Week (24 September) will support new students in choosing their Discovery Modules.

Further information can be found at <http://curriculum.leeds.ac.uk/> or contact Karen Llewellyn at k.a.llewellyn@leeds.ac.uk

“The Leeds Curriculum is an ambitious project, the aim of which is to provide for our students a distinctive, research-led educational experience which challenges and stimulates them, and equips them for their future. We have made excellent progress, built on enthusiasm and commitment from colleagues and students the Core Programme Threads are embedded, and the research-based learning journey described for our students in all our programmes. As more of our students take Final Year Projects, and engage over the coming year in Discovery Themes, we will come even closer to achieving that distinctive offer.”

Dr Mitch Waterman, Pro-Dean for Student Education, Medicine and Health; Chair of Programme Threads Group

Office 365 on its way

A new email service will be introduced across the University from September, giving students and staff secure ‘anywhere’ access to email, calendar, contacts and tasks.

The Exchange online service – part of the Microsoft Office 365 suite of services – will give users improved email access via a wide range of devices, as well as a significant increase in quota (starting at 50Gb).

“Office 365 will significantly enhance our email provision for students and staff,” says IT’s Craig Adams, who is managing the implementation of the project. “A particular feature for students is that they will be able to access Student Advantage, enabling them to install up to five free copies of Office Pro Plus.”

New students will automatically receive the service when they join the University, while existing student users will be migrated in September. Bradley Escorcio, LUU’s Union Affairs Officer, who has been working with IT on the project, says: “It’s great to see the University responding to student feedback

and seeking to improve all areas of the student experience, so I’m excited to see Office 365 bring our services up to the standard of other Russell Group universities this summer.”

Staff accounts will be migrated incrementally from early autumn. Members of the IT team will meet with departments to discuss their individual needs, and full migration dates and information will be published later in the year.

More information is available at <http://it.leeds.ac.uk/> and this website will be updated when new information is available.

Inspire our students

Delivering internationalisation training



Members of the Language Centre team with visiting Japanese academics.

Eight Japanese lecturers and researchers became the first participants in a new professional development programme delivered by the University's Language Centre.

The programme was a result of the Japanese Ministry of Education's initiative to facilitate internationalisation, whereby Japanese lecturers are increasingly being required to teach in English and develop collaborative research projects with overseas universities. The two-week course was designed to help participants improve their lecture delivery skills in English and gain a better awareness of teaching methodologies that can be used when teaching courses in English to international students.

The programme was arranged for Kyushu University because the numbers of international students there have increased significantly,

requiring more modules to be delivered in English. Seven participants were from Kyushu University and one from Fukuoka Women's University.

"The programme gave participants opportunities to observe the methods Language Centre staff use to teach international students and attend different lectures around the University," says Rupert Herington, who helped design and deliver the programme. "Participants also met Leeds researchers to explore whether there might be interest in future collaborations or activities.

"We hope that the course will be the first of many and will lead to closer links with Kyushu University and the other RENKEI network partners, which include many of Japan's leading universities."

For further details contact r.herington@leeds.ac.uk

Your time video is a winner

"Absolutely stunning camera work, I didn't want to it end" is how one of the judges of this year's Student Video competition described the winning entry, *Your Time*.

The video, by students William Stanley and Alice Greenfield (both from the Institute of Communication Studies), was a clear favourite with the judges, who included students and staff. The winners received their prize of £250 from Professor David Cooper, Dean of the Faculty of Performance, Visual Arts and Communications, and will attend a media alumni event.

"We wanted to express the message that your time at Leeds is highly valued by the University and that people's time is their own, hence the title *Your Time*," says Will. "We wanted the emphasis to be placed on university being a significant part of a person's life and that at Leeds people can really make the most of the experience."

The brief for the competition was to promote the University and the city to prospective students. See the video at <http://goo.gl/48UNku>



William and Alice with Professor David Cooper (centre)

Financial Support Package for UK PGT students launched

An exciting new project has been made possible through the Footsteps Fund, supported by alumni and friends of the University. The Widening Participation Postgraduate Support Package is a financial award designed to act as an incentive for high-achieving but disadvantaged UK students to embark on taught postgraduate study.

A £380,000 donation from the Footsteps Fund has been matched by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), enabling the creation of this one-year pilot programme

Leeds will be offering awards worth £10,000 for students from less advantaged backgrounds, working with HEFCE and five partner universities (Manchester, Newcastle, Sheffield, Warwick and York) to provide an array of financial, guidance and academic products designed to address falling postgraduate (PG) numbers, especially among those from lower income backgrounds.

Research has shown that students from lower socio-economic backgrounds are underrepresented those progressing to higher

degrees, yet pursuing some careers requires study for a professional qualification. In others, such as business or HR, a postgraduate qualification sets students apart from the many undergraduates competing for a position.

This award will help students get back into higher education (or continue their studies at a higher level). Together with partner universities and HEFCE, Leeds will evaluate the impact of the measures put into place to recruit and retain PG students. The intention is that this work will act as a model of good practice.

The closing date for applications is 13 June. Details can be found at www.leeds.ac.uk/pgfinancialsupport

Research and innovation

Excellence in cardiovascular research

A series of large grants from the British Heart Foundation (BHF) has confirmed the University's School of Medicine as a leader in the field of cardiovascular research.

The largest of these grants, a £1.89m British Heart Foundation Strategic Initiative grant awarded to Professor Sven Plein, will fund a new Centre for Translational Cardiovascular Imaging. "The grant, along with matched University funds, will allow the creation of a new facility that encompasses a multiphoton microscope, a new preclinical imaging facility – including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), nuclear imaging and ultrasound – and a clinical MRI scanner dedicated to cardiovascular research," says Professor Plein. Several researchers will be recruited to deliver the translational research agenda of the Centre, which will also support several other projects recently awarded to the group (including BHF project grants and fellowships and National Institute for Health Research studies).

Dr Helen Philippou (School of Medicine) has received a BHF grant of £725,000.

Working with Dr Richard Foster and Professor Colin Fishwick (School of Chemistry) and Professor Robert Ariens (School of Medicine), she hopes to develop a molecule suitable for a new breed of anticoagulants.

"All anticoagulant agents currently used in clinical practice carry significant risk of bleeding," explains Dr Philippou. "If this research is successful, it will be possible for the first time to safely treat thrombosis without the need to balance the risk of bleeding. Ultimately, this will enable more patients to be treated with anticoagulants who are currently not treated because they are at increased risk of bleeding,

for example, the elderly. Furthermore, it may enable a much wider range of individuals suffering from risk of thrombosis, such as patients with coronary artery disease, to benefit from anticoagulant therapy."

A further BHF grant of £212,000 will fund work to create the world's largest research database of information about heart attacks. This will be led by Dr Chris Gale, Honorary Consultant Cardiologist and Associate Professor of Cardiovascular Health Research.

Dr Gale and his team will pool data from national registries of cardiovascular disease based at the National Institute for Cardiovascular Outcomes Research, University College London, and link them to administrative data from Hospital Episode Statistics. The dataset will be used to map treatment pathways and outcomes of about one million NHS patients who have had a heart attack. The project aims to analyse where missed opportunities for care arise and assess the results of not adhering to recommendations, which it is hoped will lead to treatments that may reduce preventable deaths.

These three projects will run alongside and link with research already being carried out at Leeds by Professor Mark Kearney – one of British Heart Foundation's top professors – who is leading ongoing work on understanding the link between heart disease and diabetes. His team is aiming to develop new treatments for people with Type 2 diabetes, looking to repair damaged blood vessels. "Once a person gets diabetes, their cardiovascular system usually begins to deteriorate within a few years," says Professor Kearney. "We are trying to halt this process and so prevent heart attacks."

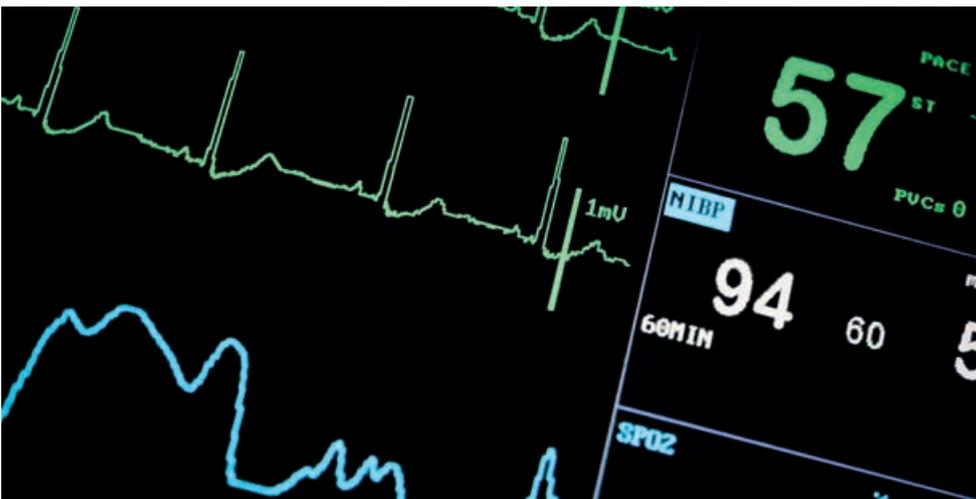
Another branch of this research will be finding new ways to prevent the damaging effects of diabetes in people who already have coronary heart disease.

Feedback wanted for KRISTAL phase 2

KRISTAL, the 'one-stop shop' which replaced COSTA for proposal creation, grant management and reporting, has now been live for over 12 months. Engagement with the system to date has been high – approximately 1700 applications and new awards have been processed via KRISTAL since its launch, and hundreds more are in progress. In many cases grant costings are initiated by Principle Investigators directly in KRISTAL before being reviewed and finalised by the Faculty Research Offices.

A second phase of KRISTAL development is proposed to commence later this year, which will include, for example, improved reporting functionality and modifications to enable Knowledge Transfer and Consultancy projects to be managed through KRISTAL. Before commencing this work the KRISTAL team would like to gather input from users, or potential users, of the system, to understand where further developments can have the most impact. In particular, we would like to hear from you if you have suggestions for how to make existing functionality more user friendly, or if you are maintaining local systems or spreadsheets to manage elements of your research grants portfolio which could potentially be integrated into KRISTAL to reduce duplication and extra effort.

Please submit any feedback or suggestion via the short form available at <http://goo.gl/mskrKJ> by 17 June. Alternatively you can feedback suggestions via your Faculty Research Office.



Research and innovation

Leading the way in Earth observation

The University has received £5m from the UK Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) to host and lead two national centres for studying the Earth from space – the Centre for the Observation and Modelling of Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Tectonics (COMET) and the Centre for Polar Observation & Modelling (CPOM).

Professor Tim Wright from the School of Earth and Environment and Director of COMET, says: "This marks a new chapter in the history of CPOM and COMET. It presents a golden opportunity for the scientific community to exploit the growing volume of data collected by satellite sensors, placing the University of Leeds at the heart of the government's strategy to drive economic growth through investment in space technologies."

Scientists in CPOM are now analysing the first images to be acquired by the European Space

Agency's Earth observation satellite Sentinel-1A.

Professor Andy Shepherd from Earth and Environment and Director of CPOM adds "This is an exciting time for Leeds to be taking the driving seat in Earth observation. We will soon have unprecedented views of our planet from space that will allow us to detect millimetre-scale movements of the Earth's crust and ice fields as they change over time."

Meanwhile, analysis of images by COMET, which will look at the motion of the Earth's crust, will take several months before the first results

can be announced, as the tectonic plates move much more slowly, from a few to tens of millimetres per year.

Over the next five years, COMET scientists aim to measure tectonic strain with unprecedented resolution for the entire planet, measure deformation and gas release at every active volcano, and combine these data with ground-based observations to build new models of these hazardous processes.



Valuing our people

Making the Tour terrific

Enthusiastic cycling fans from among the University's staff and students have signed up to play a part in getting this year's Tour de France off to a great start when it comes to Yorkshire in July.

Campus is hosting a series of events related to the tour*, and several members of staff will be Tourmakers, including Odette Dewhurst (Research and Innovation Service), Ai Lyn Tan (Leeds Institute of Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Medicine in the School of Medicine), Helen Costelloe and Karen Priestley (both School of Modern Languages and Cultures). All the volunteers are keen cyclists and have followed the Tour from a young age. Ai Lyn even went to Paris last year to watch the tour and saw Chris Froome take the yellow jersey.

At the time of writing, the Tourmakers didn't know exactly which jobs they would be doing but there are all sorts of options, including acting as Wayfinders to direct spectators, Flag Marshalls to warn the cyclists of any dangers en route or Volunteer Supervisors to help ensure the smooth running of the stages by briefing and coordinating a group of volunteers.

Whatever roles they play, the volunteers are determined to make sure the Tour's first visit to Yorkshire is an unforgettable experience for spectators and competitors.



Tourmakers (l-r): Karen Priestley, Helen Costelloe, Ai Lyn Tan and Odette Dewhurst

"I can't wait to show the world the Yorkshire charm, and welcome them to one of the world's greatest cycling events. Leeds Town Hall at the Headrow in Leeds city centre is my favourite landmark of the route – all eyes will be on this magnificent building as the Tour starts!"

Ai Lyn Tan

"It's been amazing to see British riders win the last two Tours and it'll be interesting to see if Team Sky can make it three in a row. However, I'm going to keep my fingers crossed in the hope of seeing a return to form from Andy Schleck."

Odette Dewhurst

*See FAQs on page 20.

University's Tour de France cycle jersey now available

The winning design for the University's own Tour de France cycling jersey has been chosen by public vote and the winning design will shortly be on sale.

Three designs were shortlisted, with voting taking place on Facebook and Twitter over five days. Over 750 votes were cast, and the design by School of Design student Melanie Edwards emerged as the winner.

University staff, students and alumni can now pre-order the jersey through the Velocampus Bike Hub. If you want a unique souvenir of the Tour de France in Leeds – or perhaps to represent the University at the next sportive! – visit <http://goo.gl/cGJtTn>



Melanie Edwards' winning design

Valuing our people

Team talk – Staff Festival team



Festival folk (l-r): Anthony, Sue, Ed, Jo, Jenna, Steve Ansell and Geoff



Enjoying the fun of the 2013 Staff Festival

Who's in the team and how long have you been established?

It's a long list, so here goes...!

Jo Westerman and Jenna Hudson (LOGIK and Staff Centre); Bev Kenny (Residential and Commercial Services); Steve Ansell (School of Performance and Cultural Industries); Steve Keeble (Leeds University Union); Sue Tattersall and Anthony Lowe (Conference and Events); Ed Malone (Sustainability); Patrick Craig (Sport and Physical Activity); Geoff Tooley (Catering); Yawen Ho, Karen Seed, Fiona Livermore, Liz McIntosh and Harry Sumner (Wellbeing, Safety and Health).

Although there are several new members who have joined recently, the core team has been established for the past five years.

What are the biggest challenges with organising such a large event?

The biggest challenge is catering for all ages and individualities. One of the main difficulties logistically is planning for all eventualities, with all the great British weather and the space/venue issues that can result. Stewarding and the correct level of signage can also be tricky to get just right. Although communication is good, it's still a challenge to reach all categories of staff.

Tell us something people might not know about the team

All members of the team have no difficulty revisiting their childhood and getting into fun mode! They're enthusiastic volunteers from across the University, who give a lot of free time on top of their everyday jobs to make these events such a success over the years.

If anybody wishes to volunteer their help in any way for this year's event it would be gratefully received!

We look forward to meeting staff and their families and friends on 11 July.



The Staff Choir performing in 2013

What does the Staff Festival team do?

The Staff Festival is a day when the University thanks its staff for all their hard work through the year. We generate ideas for the content of the day and put the ideas into action.

The team is very diverse so that we get a good cross-section of views for the aim and contents of each year's Festival.

What's the latest news from the team?

Charity nominations and voting have now taken place and the Staff Festival official charity will be the Leeds Survivor Led Crisis Service (also known as Dial House), The Photography Competition, Kids' Art Competition and – new to this year's Festival – the Fun Photo Competition have all been launched. All staff should take the opportunity to enter by the deadline of 2 June!

The revamped official website is now available and more information regarding competitions and what's on during the Festival can be found at <http://staff-festival.leeds.ac.uk/>

In the news



Air pollution swept across many parts of England and Wales at the beginning of April. BBC *Breakfast* attended the University to interview Professor Paul Seakins (School of Chemistry) about the high levels of pollution that exceeded levels seen as safe by the EU.

The University digitised a copy of Shakespeare's **First Folio** of plays, making it accessible over the internet. Both the *Yorkshire Evening Post* and *The Yorkshire Post* reported the story, including comments from Professor Martin Butler (School of English).

Aidan Foster-Carter (School of Sociology and Social Policy) featured on BBC *Breakfast* to discuss the South Korean **ferry disaster**. He was also interviewed on the topic on BBC Radio 5 live.

Christopher Megginson (Performance and Cultural Industries) was interviewed by the BBC for an online article that looked at how **technology** has changed parties. Lighters that were once waved in the air have been replaced by new technology such as mobile phones and LED wristbands, Christopher told the BBC.

5 live Breakfast interviewed Professor Andy Challinor (School of Earth and Environment) about the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (**IPCC**) report. Additional coverage of the report and Professor Challinor's comments included BBC Radio 1's *Newsbeat*, BBC Radio 4's *Farming Today*, BBC Radio Scotland, *BBC News* and *ITV News at Ten*.

Dr Stephen Wright (Process and Environmental Engineering) was interviewed on various channels including BBC News 24, BBC Radio Leeds and BBC Radio 5 live about the missing Malaysia Airline **flight MH370**. His comments were also included in a piece by *The Telegraph*.

New proposals aimed at improving work-life balance were introduced in France and Sweden and formed the basis of an article in *The Conversation* by Professor David Spencer (Leeds University Business School). The article, which specifically looked at the possibility of a **four-day weekend**, was also featured by *The New Zealand Herald* and became the subject of an interview with Professor Spencer on BBC Radio 4's *World at One*.

BBC *Breakfast* filmed Dr Alison Dunn (School of Biology) and Lucy Anderson (School of Biology) searching for killer shrimps at Grafham Water in Cambridgeshire. Lucy, who has worked with Dr Dunn on research surrounding **invasive species**, was interviewed on BBC *Breakfast* and Sky News about the impact they have on the environment. Their research, which looked at how species such as the killer shrimp could 'hitch-hike' on water sports kits, was featured by the *Express*, *BBC News* online, *BBC Countryfile Magazine's* website and *Planet Earth Online*.



© Lucy Anderson

Dr Vedran Durasevic (School of Chemistry) appeared on BBC One's *Watchdog Test House* to give a scientific insight into the mechanism of the wet care of textiles. Colour analysis of differently stained textiles was used to evaluate the efficiency of household **stain removers**. According to Dr Durasevic, some stain removers contain excessive amounts of blue pigment, which gives washed white materials a clean appearance due to the fact that we associate blue with cleanliness.

Dr Colin Hendrie (Institute of Psychological Sciences) led a study at the University which looked at the influence of a woman's body shape. The research found that women who had **wider hips** were less cautious about their sexual behaviour as they find childbirth less distressing. The research was widely picked up in the press and received coverage in *The Times*, *The Telegraph*, *Mail Online* and the *International Business Times*.



Professor Claire Honess (School of Modern Languages and Cultures) spoke to presenter Matthew Parris and *Daily Mail* columnist Sarah Vine about the Italian poet and writer of the *Divine Comedy* **Dante** on BBC Radio 4's *Great Lives*.

Dr Mark Goddard (School of Biology) contributed to a piece of research that examined the effect of **urbanisation** on bird and plant diversity, published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*. The research was picked up by *The Guardian*, which also included a comment by Professor Goddard.



Our people/honours

Professor Bruce Yardley (School of Earth and Environment) has been appointed to the new role of Chief Geologist by the Radioactive Waste Management Directorate (RWMD) of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA). He will advise RWMD and its stakeholders on all Earth science aspects of geological disposal. The appointment is part time, and will run concurrently with his work in the School of Earth and Environment.

RWMD Managing Director Bruce McKirdy told *Geoscientist Online*: “Professor Yardley has a long-standing interest in issues associated with the disposal of radioactive waste. He is recognised internationally for his

work in geology and geochemistry and his experience will help us to further develop and explain our plans.”

Professor Yardley said: “Geological disposal is the only internationally recognised permanent solution for dealing with higher activity radioactive waste safely and securely. It is vital that as a country we take responsibility for this legacy waste and focus on finding suitable sites for its long-term disposal. I’m confident that we have sites in the UK where our geology will effectively isolate our waste, to help safeguard the future for countless generations to come.”



Professor Yardley



Professor Daryl O'Connor (Institute of Psychological Sciences) has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (RSA). Professor O'Connor believes that psychological science has a vast

amount to offer in terms of enhancing human capability and to close the gap between today's reality and aspirations for a better world – the latter being central to the RSA's mission. He has endeavoured to promote the importance of science and psychological theory, approaches and methods in the areas of medicine, endocrinology and medical epidemiology, as well as the discipline of psychology. He believes the RSA and its Fellows are well placed to increase the impact of science on major issues such as public health and behaviour change. As a registered health psychologist and Professor of Psychology, he hopes to engage with other Fellows in order to improve the impact of psychological research on relevant government policy and non-governmental initiatives, and to increase public engagement with science.

Great Food at Leeds, the University's Catering Service, has recently been shortlisted for not one but three national awards. The first nomination, the Best University Catering Service at the College and University Business Officers Awards, recognises innovative projects, customer engagement and product development. The second nomination, for Best Marketing Campaign at the Cost Sector Catering Awards, recognised the launch of the new Delivered Services brand *Deli(very)* and supporting promotional activity. Finally, we have been nominated as Best University Catering Service at the CUBO Awards. All three nominations reflect continued innovation and improvement at Great Food at Leeds. For more information visit www.leeds.ac.uk/gfal

The Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) has awarded Fellowships to **Dr Daniel Stone** (School of Chemistry) to **Dr Chris Davies** (School of Earth and Environment). This will give Dr Stone the opportunity to develop experiments to help reduce uncertainties in atmospheric models used to assess and predict air quality and climate change. Dr Davies will develop a model of the thermal history of the Earth's core and mantle in order to understand the conditions that facilitated the development of our planetary magnetic field.

Congratulations to **Professor Andy Bell** (Institute for Materials Research) who was recently awarded an Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) Established Fellowship in the area of advanced materials.

Professor Bell, Chair in Electronic Materials, has recently also been awarded the Verulam Medal and Prize by the Council of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM3), in recognition of his distinguished contributions distinguished contributions to refractories or other types of ceramic materials.

Leeds Student Television (LSTV) was successful at the National Student Television Awards, winning in four of the most competitive categories and finishing runner-up in the well-respected Best Broadcaster category.

The sports show, *Sideline*, won Best Sports Programme, *The Essential*, LSTV's weekly news programme won Best News and Current Affairs Programme, and Broadcast Journalism students, Joe Mason and Kerry Maule, won the highly prestigious Best On-Screen Male and Female for their presenting skills.

News

Bringing the arts to life

Summer will see Leeds buzzing with a wide variety of artistic events during the University's fourth Festival of Arts. Schoolchildren, members of the public and staff will take part in the Festival's schools and public events programmes throughout June and July.

"This year's Festival will be our most ambitious yet," explains Arts Educational Engagement Officer Lindsey Strachan. "As well as offering a comprehensive programme of events for schools, this year we have been lucky enough to work with a variety of partners to offer exciting events which are open to all."

Highlights will include an interactive West African music performance for families with Opera North; family-friendly archaeology workshops at Leeds Industrial Museum; Leeds City Council's Breeze Arts Festival for 11-19 year olds; and *Songs for Friends*, an international concert series recital celebrating the arrival of the Tour de France in Yorkshire.



Children from the 2013 Festival enjoying a workshop in the ULITA textiles archive

"As well as celebrating the rich arts heritage of the University, the Festival supports the recruitment and widening participation objectives of the faculties of Arts and Performance, Visual Arts and Communications," continues Lindsey. "The 2014 Festival will reach over 2,200 school pupils and over 500 members of the public. We couldn't run such an exciting event without the contribution of staff and students across both faculties, and we are tremendously grateful to them for giving their time."

Plans are already underway for the 2015 Festival. If you are interested in contributing get in touch at artsfestival@leeds.ac.uk Visit the Festival website at goo.gl/dt9HE3

First Festival of Social Science

The University is holding its first Festival of Social Science on 15-17 July, providing a selection of interactive events for students from Key Stages 2 to 5, including 'roadshows' that can go into schools and colleges and activities on campus. Events relate to business, economics, education, environmental studies, geography, law, politics, international studies, sociology and sustainability.

The programme and more details can be found at www.leeds.ac.uk/teachers

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Boss GT-10 Multieffects £290, Russian Electro-Harmonix
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Paul Steenson X32024, d.p.steenson@leeds.ac.uk

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leeds@walker-smale.co.uk

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Feeling stuck in life? Difficulty 'finding place in this world'? Nothing you do seems satisfactory? If yes, please consider being part of my study. Ethics no. 13-0236.

Raginie.Duara.prsd@leeds.ac.uk

ACTIVITY CENSUS STUDY

Participants wanted to investigate physical activity patterns. You will be asked to come to the Psychology department on three occasions lasting 20 minutes each. After completion you will receive £40 'Love2Shop' vouchers. Interested?

This study has received ethical approval from the Institute of Psychological Sciences Research Ethics Committee at the University of Leeds - Ethics Reference No: 13-0158.

Ben Morris b.morris@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 25 June 2014 at 12 noon. Advertisers are independent of 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 the Reporter on 0113 343 6699 or the.reporter@leeds.ac.uk

Events

Thackrah lecture, Maurice Keyworth Lecture Theatre – 18 June, 12pm

Professor Anne Mills FRS, Vice-Director of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Leeds alumna, will present this year's lecture hosted by Leeds, Institute of Health Sciences, entitled *The challenges of health systems across the world: shared diagnoses, differing prescriptions?*

The annual lecture is named after Charles Turner Thackrah, a pioneer in occupational medicine and public health, and a founder member of our School of Medicine.

For more information please visit:
www.leeds.ac.uk/lihs/thackrah.html

International Medieval Congress – 6-10 July

This year's programme of public IMC events and excursions features an exciting and unique mix of performances and practical workshops, as well as exploratory and exclusive excursions to sites of historical interest. Public events include a Middle English reading of Chaucer's *Reeve's Tale*, recipes from a medieval feast and a historical campus tour of the University. As last year, Making Leeds Medieval will also feature live entertainment including music and combat displays.

Back by popular demand, the falcons and hawks will return for a flying display. The celebration will conclude in a performance of *The Dance of the Deadly Sins* performed by NONSUCH. Further information is available by emailing imc@leeds.ac.uk or visit the website at: www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/publicevents.html#free_event1

Edible Masterpieces – 24 May at The Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery, 1.30-4pm

Take part in this new fundraising initiative from the Art Fund which encourages art lovers to create edible masterpieces inspired by their favourite works of art. Jigsaw puzzle pieces of cake will be available to all to decorate. Once finished, these will be placed together to form a mystery work of art found somewhere within the Gallery.

Led by the team at Leeds' own Love Rouge Bakery, this workshop really will be the best excuse you'll ever find to eat cake! Open to all. No need to book. Just turn up and try your hand at making art with icing and cake!

Around the World in 80 Textiles: celebrating the tenth anniversary of ULITA – 30 April-25 July and 30 September-28 November

To celebrate a decade since the opening of ULITA at St Wilfred's Chapel, this free exhibition showcases the scope of the archive by presenting costume and textiles from all the countries featured in ULITA's collections.

The exhibition highlights some of the fascinating donors' stories, including the adventurous Professor Barker, who brought together one of ULITA's finest collections of 19th century Chinese textiles, and the amazing embroiderer Louisa Pesel, whose work was inspired by her extensive travels.

ULITA has its origins in a University research collection brought together in the 20th century. With substantial recent additions, this exhibition provides an opportunity to view the diversity of motifs, symbols, patterns, techniques and constructions found in the world of textiles.

For more information please contact Jill Winder at ulita@leeds.ac.uk or visit the website: www.leeds.ac.uk/ulita



National Women in Engineering Day – 23 June

National Women in Engineering Day has been set up by the Women's Engineering Society (WES) to celebrate its 95th anniversary. WES wants to focus attention on the great opportunities for women in engineering at a time when it has never been more important to address the engineering skills shortage. Encouraging girls into engineering careers we will not only increase diversity and inclusion – a business imperative – but enable the substantial future job opportunities that have

been predicted in this sector to be met.

National Women in Engineering Day aims to encourage groups and individuals to organise their own events in support of the day, and link them together for maximum impact through the use of the NWED logo, website and supporting resources.

For further information contact Dawn Bonfield at WES on office@wes.org.uk or 01438 765506



A minimal donation of £2 will be charged for those wishing to take part in this event and funds raised will go towards helping UK museums and galleries.

Sky Ride Leeds is back – 15 June, 10am

Join us on a fantastic traffic-free bike ride through the city, starting from The Headrow, and past some of the city's iconic sights including through the University.

With lots of free things to try out, including the brand new Tricks & Tunes area, plus a Bike cafe, there will be a real festival atmosphere.

Register your free place now – if you're one of the first 1,000 to sign up, you'll also receive a limited edition gift on the day.

Everyone who signs up for Sky Ride Leeds is entitled to a free expert bike check (worth £14.99) at Halfords. Visit the website for more information at:

www.goskyride.com/leedsSkyRide

FAQs

Edward McAloon, Sports Sustainability Intern, Sustainability Service

Tell us about your position as an intern in the Sustainability Service.

I'm a Sports Science and Physiology student on an industrial placement year with the Sustainability Service and Sport and Physical Activity (SPA). Coming from my particular degree to working in Sustainability isn't a natural progression but it has been a fantastic learning curve and a great opportunity to improve sport at a university that I love.

What does your role involve?

My role is a first for an intern in the Facilities Directorate! I'm working across two services – Sustainability and SPA – to find ways of working in partnership to make sport at Leeds more sustainable. We are looking at ways we can improve the environmental, social and economic impact of sport at the University on the local area. Another part of my role is to work with people across the University and city to deliver a successful Tour de France (TdF) programme, and I am also working with the Velocampus Bike Hub to increase the number of staff and student cyclists at the University.

Ah, le Tour! How are you involved in that?

We have created a Tour de France programme, entitled, 'Celebrating the Tour', with lots going on at the University in the run-up to 5 July. A lecture series is underway with fantastic and fascinating speakers encapsulating all aspects of the Tour, and, in partnership with Leeds City Council, School of Mechanical Engineering students are busy building a countdown clock that will be situated in Trinity shopping centre for the 50 day run-up to the 5 July, through a competition we supported.

A special University TdF cycling jersey, designed by an undergraduate student, is available for staff, students and alumni to buy so they can represent the University when they're out on a recreational ride or at their next sportive (see page 14)! Finally, SkyRide will cut through campus on Sunday 15 June, so my advice is keep checking our webpage for details as things are announced: <http://goo.gl/Qai5Zb>

There's a real mixed bag of events and hopefully it's varied enough for everyone to be inspired by this massive occasion.

What impact do you think the Tour will have on the city and region?

Hosting the Tour will be massive for the region, both for businesses and for the next generation of cyclists. Leeds is very fortunate to have some of the best cycling country in the UK on its doorstep – the Yorkshire Dales – and hosting the Tour is a great opportunity to show this off to spectators across the world.

What will you do on the days the Tour is in Yorkshire?

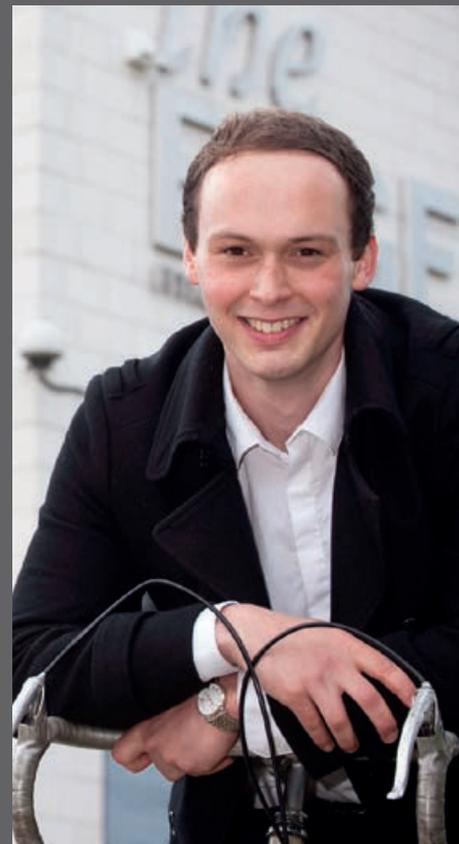
I'm hoping to be as close to the action as possible, even if that means getting up at the crack of dawn! I'll be trying to get as close to the start as possible and then race the peloton using a shorter route with a few friends out to the Dales so I can see the riders on some of the incredible climbs.

What's your top tip for people wanting to see the Tour?

Get to a spot early and don't move! It would be great to get a spot along one of the tougher climbs in the Dales – Kidstones and Buttertubs Pass are probably the most infamous. The peloton will be moving slower and it will be great to see the grimaces on the faces on the world's best riders to make you feel better about your own ability!

We've concentrated on the sporting side of your role, so what's coming up on the Sustainability front?

I've been working hard with people from across Sport and Physical Activity to create a sustainability action plan which we are now starting to implement. We are looking at everything, from recycling and showers to how we engage with local communities and charities a real mix. Hopefully, we will be able to make real change in the very near future.



What's your most frequently asked question?

"What is sustainability?" This is always a difficult question to answer when I'm asked by family or friends out of politeness. I usually end up taking half an hour of their time explaining the many different aspects!

If you could attend one of the world's great sporting events, what would it be?

The Tour de France – and not just because I have to say that! There aren't many sporting events steeped in so much history on your doorstep. I was lucky enough to be a Games Maker at the London Olympics so I'd love to go back and do that again.

And which five people would you take with you?

I'd have to take Sir Ian McKellen and Patrick Stewart – they're such a brilliant double act; Mary Berry in the hope that she would bring some tasty treats; Alan Partridge – his sports commentary is sublime and would definitely make it more interesting; and, finally, Roy Keane – he effectively picks himself in my opinion as I've been a massive fan for as long as I can remember!



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