



Reporter

Issue 562
November 2011

Inside

Listening to the past:

An intriguing research project aims to shed new light on oral communication in early modern Italy. **Page 4**



The multi-faith project that put Leeds on the map:

Documenting the minority religious communities of Leeds over a period of 35 years. **Page 8**



Changing times for the School of Healthcare:

Professor Andrea Nelson, the new Head of the School of Healthcare, talks about future challenges facing the School. **Page 14**



■ Next issue: January 2012
Deadline: 22 December 2011



Energy campaign adds up to big savings

The mysterious 40,647 figure appearing around campus has finally been revealed to be the total number of staff and students at the University – every single one of whom can play their part in helping to cut our future energy use and costs.

“We used the giant numbers to launch the *It All Adds Up* campaign and grab people’s attention right from the start,” says sustainability officer James Dixon-Gough. “We know that the majority of our staff and students are concerned about climate change, but many of them are unaware of the University’s Carbon Management Plan (CMP) and our pledge to reduce our carbon emissions by 35% by 2020. The campaign is targeting attitudes and behaviour towards energy use and, now we’ve got people’s attention, we can engage with them in the coming months and introduce more activities and ideas aimed at bringing about a change in the way we use energy right across the campus.”

[continued on page 2]

THE REPORTER

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

The *Reporter* is produced by Sarah Ward in the Communications and Press Office. Contributors to this issue include Simon Jenkins and Fiona Gildea.

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

STORIES AND LETTERS

Story ideas and letters are welcomed as hard copy or in email. The deadline for the next issue is Wednesday 21 December.

EVENTS

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

DISTRIBUTION AND INSERT ENQUIRIES

Phone Tom on 0113 343 8373 or email t.saxton@adm.leeds.ac.uk

EDITORIAL ENQUIRIES

The Reporter
Communications and Press Office
Level 14
Ziff Building
Leeds LS2 9JT
Tel: 0113 343 6699
Email: the.reporter@leeds.ac.uk

If you would like information in alternative formats (eg, large print or audio) please contact us.

Energy campaign adds up to big savings [continued from front page]

Director of Facilities Management Dennis Hopper adds: "Queries about the cost of running the year-long campaign need to be set in the context of our annual energy bill, which is set to rise from £11.5m this year to £17m by 2020/21. We're investing in energy efficient equipment and building design, but some of the fastest payback will come from raising awareness of our energy usage and changing how our staff and students currently consume energy. Our CMP target savings for next year are relatively modest – for example, we want to save 840 tonnes in electricity, which will save £92,000 – but evidence has shown that this type of awareness raising and behavioural change campaign can reduce energy costs by 10 or even 20%. That's why we believe that the *It All Adds Up* campaign will be money well spent."

The environmental impact of the campaign itself was given careful consideration. "We looked at low cost, sustainable ways to get the message across so, for example, the straw bales will be taken off site for composting, the giant numbers will go to the School of Design, and the paper used on campaign posters and leaflets is 100% post-consumer waste and will be recycled for notepaper," continues James. "The total carbon emissions from the campaign are around three tonnes of CO₂, an amount which could be offset easily if an extra 3% more of staff turned off their computers on University closed days."

A very important element in the campaign is the *It All Adds Up* website – <http://italladdsup.leeds.ac.uk/>. "We've had an encouraging response to the website so far, with hundreds of people signing up and pledging their support," says Dennis. "The website provides information and a wealth of resources to help us all to use energy more efficiently, but it's not just one-way traffic – it's also a forum where people can share best practice and submit their own stories and suggestions."

Hundreds of pledges and suggestions have already been received and colleagues have used the site to raise concerns about their



own specific areas. "As an example, we had a comment about unnecessary heating in the level 10 walkway between the Garstang and Irene Manton buildings," explains James. "Once the heaters were turned on, they ran continuously at a high temperature. As the corridor is simply a protective walkway – not a place to sit – the suggestion was simply to turn the heaters off or remove them. We looked into it and found that the situation was a bit more complicated because, without a small amount of heating, the metal window frames along the corridor would degrade. Our solution was to identify the minimum temperature needed to protect the building, and set the temperature at that lower level, thus making considerable savings. This is exactly the kind of query or suggestion that we want staff and students to submit to the website, so we can take action.

"It's important to realise that *It All Adds Up* is just one part of our CMP. In recent months we've also been putting energy meters in all buildings; improving the control of fume cupboards to make them more energy efficient; and installing high-specification insulation in the Faculty of Biological Sciences and EC Stoner buildings, all of which will ensure better use and significant savings of energy. This year's Green Impact initiative, too, has been very successfully re-launched, with nearly double the number of teams signing up to take part this academic year.

"The University is really leading the way and setting an example for other universities and colleges to follow. We sincerely hope that all our staff and students will engage with us on the CMP and *It All Adds Up* – the stakes are certainly high."

Win an iPad2

Reducing our carbon emissions is a key element of the CMP and we all have a part to play in the way we use energy both on and off campus. Our website <http://italladdsup.leeds.ac.uk/> gives hints and tips on how to reduce our carbon footprint and use energy more efficiently.

To coincide with the launch of the site, we're offering an iPad2 in a competition open to all staff. Just answer the five questions opposite for your chance to win. All the answers are featured somewhere on the site. We will draw one correct entry out from all those received and the lucky winner will receive an iPad2.

Enter by emailing to italladdsup@leeds.ac.uk (put 'iPad2 competition' in the subject line) or send your answers in writing to: iPad2 competition, Sustainability team, Estate Services, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT. The closing date is Friday 20 January 2012.

Questions

What is our target for reducing carbon emissions by 2020/21?

How much does the University spend on heating every year?

Laboratories consume large quantities of energy – but according to Higher Education – Environmental Performance Improvement (HEEPI), how many times more per square metre than offices?

How long have we been installing meters within all buildings on and off campus to enable more accurate analysis of energy usage?

A plasma screen left on overnight and at weekends is responsible for how many kg of CO₂ annually?

Rules of the competition are available at <http://italladdsup.leeds.ac.uk/staff/competition/> **W**

Medical engineering pioneers' prize

Two decades of research and impact have won the Royal seal of approval for the Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering (IMBE).

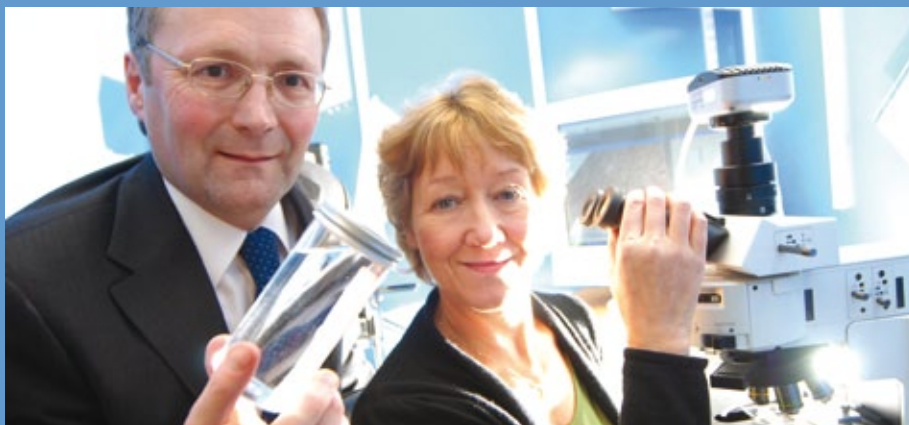
IMBE, led by Professors John Fisher and Eileen Ingham, was named in November as a winner in the 2012 Queen's Anniversary Prizes. The prizes, awarded every two years, are the country's highest honour for academic work.

The Institute is the UK's leading bioengineering research institution and has pioneered new joint replacements, spinal interventions and tissue engineering technologies – creating products and therapies in use by surgeons around the world.

Thousands of people have received improved joint replacements based on this research; its unique valve replacement technology has given a new lease of life to heart patients; it has pioneered regenerative biological scaffolds for vascular repair.

The Institute is determined to push back the boundaries of research, create new therapies to replace damaged tissues in further areas of the body and enable surgeons to perform longer-lasting orthopaedic reconstructions.

Professor Fisher expressed his pride at the award, which will be presented by the Queen



Receiving Royal recognition: Professors John Fisher and Eileen Ingham.

in February: "We are absolutely delighted. This is recognition for the hard work of a lot of people and of the fact we are taking this work forward into the future.

"We are driven by the conviction that, with the right medical and biological interventions, the goal of fifty active years after the age of fifty is within reach."

Among patients who have benefited directly is Harvey Thompson, a Professor of Computational Fluid Dynamics at Leeds, who was given a ceramic-on-metal hip in 2009. "I was always an active sportsman but gradually I started getting more and more pain in my hip."

Though only in his early 40s, Harvey was facing life without his favourite pastimes: "I assumed at my age they wouldn't do anything about it, but I was referred for X-rays – and things moved quickly."

Harvey's arthritic left hip was replaced – and within six weeks he was back at work. He's now playing sport and enjoying life again, and has the prospect of his artificial hip lasting 30 years and more. "It's amazing. Playing football after fearing I might never be able to do so again, is absolutely great."

Sir Jimmy Savile, OBE, LLD (1926-2011)

Sir Jimmy Savile, an honorary graduate of the University, died on 29 October. Sir Jimmy made generous donations to the University of Leeds to sponsor the LURE scholarship scheme. LURE is Leeds Undergraduate Research Enterprise. In exchange for a bursary, LURE scholars undertake medical research, mentor other students and network with clinical and academic colleagues. Without Sir Jimmy's financial support, Leeds Medical School would not have been able to offer LURE scholarships.

Co-directors of LURE, Professor Shervanthi Homer-Vanniasinkam and Dr Karen Lee, said: "Sir Jimmy was a truly extraordinary citizen whose immense generosity was coupled with a vision to make people's lives better, on every front. We, at the University of Leeds Medical School, were hugely privileged to have known Sir Jimmy and to have had his support for the LURE scholarship programme. We will miss his keen interactions with the scholars, and his boundless energy and support for LURE."

The University has since rescinded the honorary degree given to Savile.

Savile Institute to harness Sir Jimmy's generosity to improve the lives of heart patients across Yorkshire

A generous bequest from the will of Sir Jimmy Savile will be used to create The Savile Institute at Leeds Teaching Hospitals, devoted to improving outcomes for heart patients across Yorkshire.

Listening to the past

An intriguing research project aims to shed new light on oral communication in early modern Italy, helping us to better understand the voices of the past.

A substantial £1.2m grant from the European Research Council is funding the Italian Voices project – *Oral culture, manuscript and print in early modern Italy 1450-1700* – which is headed by Professor Brian Richardson (School of Modern Languages and Cultures).

“Nothing like this project has ever been attempted before,” says Professor Richardson. “Researchers have tended to concentrate on the written word without asking how and when texts were circulated in speech and song.”

The four-year project will study how oral culture related to the written word during a period when print technology was spreading rapidly alongside manuscripts, and how far oral culture was independent of writing. The research team includes experts in Italian history, literature and language, and members of the international advisory board come from universities such as Trento in Italy, Paris and Toronto. They will



The Italian Voices team (l-r): Drs Chiara Sbordoni and Stefano Dall'Aglio, Professor Brian Richardson, Dr Massimo Rospocher and Naomi Wells.

use a variety of sources, including official documents, sermons, diaries, songs, poems and plays, to piece together the voices of early modern Italians of both genders and all social classes.

“The research area is vast, so the project is focusing on four areas,” continues Professor Richardson. “Firstly, social and public performance, exploring how texts were read aloud, sung and improvised. We hope to clarify how performers engaged with people of the time – many of whom were illiterate. A second strand of research examines oral communication surrounding politics, which will hopefully lead to a better understanding of how people participated in politics at a grass roots level. Thirdly, we’re exploring the spoken word in the religious sphere; it’s

the time of the Reformation, so this should reveal some interesting information about the languages, including Latin, used to communicate in a religious context. And lastly, we’re looking at the linguistic variety used within texts. Many different languages existed across Italy, so we’re seeing how and why these were used in areas such as drama, poetry and speeches.”

The group’s research will be presented in a series of seminars and conferences in the UK, Italy and the USA, and it’s expected that several publications will result from the project. A website supporting the project has been set up at [http:// arts.leeds.ac.uk/italianvoices](http://arts.leeds.ac.uk/italianvoices), and, as well as reporting recent news and information, it will become a forum for discussion. **W**

News round-up

Are you an ecoDriver?

The University is leading a €14.5m European project which could save drivers pounds at the petrol pump and protect the planet. The four-year project will see researchers develop new technologies for in-vehicle and remote devices, such as downloadable smartphone apps, that will help motorists to significantly reduce their fuel consumption by driving in a more energy-efficient way. Leeds researchers led by Professor Oliver Carsten (Institute for Transport Studies) will work with transport research centres across Europe, as well as several leading vehicle manufacturers, to design and test the devices, which could be on the market within five years.

New option for meeting rooms

A refurbished suite of meeting rooms within the Leeds University Union (LUU) is now available for University staff to book. The new rooms were first used during the summer, when LUU and the University hosted the National Union of Students Conference

attended by 600 delegates from students unions across the UK. If you would like further information or to organise a guided tour of LUU’s newly refurbished meeting rooms contact Charlie on 0113 380 1388 or at c.a.roberts@leeds.ac.uk

Chinese University of Hong Kong joins Worldwide Universities Network

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) has become the 17th member of the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN). Nanjing and Zhejiang are already Chinese partners. Founded in 1963, CUHK is a comprehensive research university with a global vision and a mission to combine tradition with modernity and bring together China and the West. It has more than 20,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students, including 3,000 international students. WUN is a global university network that is committed to fostering collaboration between its members in research, education and mobility. www.wun.ac.uk/about/members/university-leeds **W**

Roads are bad news for bats



Brown long-eared bat
© Professor Altringham.

Major roads significantly reduce bat numbers, activity and diversity, according to a new study from the University's Faculty of Biological Sciences.

The findings – published in the *Journal of Applied Ecology* – raise serious issues for how road construction projects can limit their impact on these protected species.

The study measured bat activity and diversity along unlit sections of the M6 motorway in Cumbria, in the North of England, which carry between 30,000 and 40,000 vehicles a day. It showed that the negative impact of a major road carries a considerable distance, with bat activity three times lower at the roadside than 1.6km away.

PhD student Anna Berthinussen walked along 20 routes perpendicular to the motorway, stopping at set points up to 1.6km from the road. Using ultrasonic detectors to record bat echolocation calls, she assessed bat foraging activity levels. The research took into account

other factors such as the time after sunset, habitat and weather.

Just under 3,500 'bat passes' were recorded and three main groups of bat species identified – *Pipistrellus*, *Myotis* and *Nyctalus*. "The results were really clear cut when all other factors were taken into account, showing a very strong correlation between bat activity and diversity and distance from the road," says Anna. "Bat activity showed no sign of levelling off before the last recorded point, so it's likely that activity would continue to increase beyond the distance set for this study."

"UK and European law protects all species, so construction work must not have a negative impact on bat populations," says Professor John Altringham, who led the research. "This study shows that the impact of roads on bats is far-reaching, and road construction projects must take this into account or they are potentially breaking the law."



Pipistrelle pygmaeus
© Chris Scott

Preparing for our future

Student expectations, investment by the University, and knowledge management were some of the issues discussed at the recent open meetings attended by colleagues from across the University.

Each of the three meetings – which were all held around the theme of *Preparing for our future* – attracted a healthy turnout, with close to 400 colleagues keen to ask questions and quiz members of the senior team. Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Arthur attended each meeting, with all other members of his executive team being present for at least one session.

"We were very pleased with the number of people attending the meetings, and the range of questions that were asked," said Isabel Hunt, Director of Communications.

"The meetings were a good forum for people to raise issues that are of concern to them and their colleagues, and the Vice-Chancellor and his team were able to clarify some important areas. We aim to run this type of open meeting regularly, as it's a great way to encourage discussion about our strategy and get feedback on the key issues."

Other areas discussed included the centralisation of services, achieving a better work/life balance, how the potential return on investments is evaluated, and how research income can be increased.

£1.5m Investigator Award for hepatitis C virus research

Professor Mark Harris (Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology) has been appointed as a Wellcome Trust Senior Investigator, with £1.5 million funding to pursue his research goals. Professor Harris is the first researcher at the University to receive such an award from the Trust's Award programme. His £1.5 million funding is spread over five years and recognises his achievements to date in understanding key events in the life cycle of the hepatitis C virus. Areas that Professor Harris expects to focus on include defining in molecular detail the processes by which the virus genome is replicated and packaged into virus particles, and determining how these events are co-ordinated, with a view to developing new antivirals.

VIPs cement links with Leeds

Two influential and important visitors have been building relationships with the University's departments in recent weeks. Newly-appointed French Ambassador to the UK, Bernard Emié visited French at the School of Modern Languages and Cultures. He gave a talk (in French) to students on the theme of *Franco-British relations* and later met French students and staff.

Mr Ion Jinga, the Romanian Ambassador to the UK, visited the School of Politics and International Studies. The Leeds alumnus gave a lecture to students on the subject of *Romania and the United Kingdom, strategic partners in the European Union*.



Fred Sheehan and Tom Poole and (below) Richard Cruise.

Helping hands (l-r): Sally Bogg, Carl Pearson, Jon Whitwell, Tim Walker, Tom Halson, Jim Armstrong and Vanessa Styles.

ISS help desk

When was the team established?

The first official dedicated Help Desk team was established in 1994. In 2001 we moved to our current location and have just celebrated our tenth birthday!

Where are you based?

Edward Boyle Level 10 (on Red Route).

What does the team do on a day-to-day basis?

We provide University staff and students with a single helpful point of contact with Information Systems Services (ISS). Our experienced staff are available to answer questions and, where necessary, refer callers to more specialised support staff. We're also responsible for LoanIT, the loan laptop service and FixIT, the chargeable computer repair service, and provide the Remote Support Desk function so we can remotely access staff PCs to install software or resolve faults.

What are your busiest times of year?

The start of academic year – September and October – deadline and submission dates, and times when systems and services become unavailable (for example, the recent power cut was one of our busiest periods ever!).

How have help requests changed over the last few years?

We get lots more queries about mobile computing, ie, smartphones, mobiles, laptops, iPads and tablets, etc, and – as the majority of learning and teaching resources are now available online – people need support using the VLE.

Who else do you work with?

We deal with everyone from the Vice-Chancellor's office to cleaning services! One of our major challenges is the sheer volume and diversity of the queries we receive. In particular, though, we work closely with Library to deliver VLE and Portal Support, IT staff in faculties and departments, IT staff within ISS, Student Services and HR.

What are the most rewarding things about your work?

Helping students to recover lost or corrupted dissertations and sorting out laptops and mobile phones for international students – IT is often their only link home. We often get really positive feedback from users.

Tell us things about the team's work that would surprise people.

In 2001 we dealt with around 50,000 queries – that's now increased by 40% to around 70,000 queries per year! There are over 500 different types of call categories that we can log within our system.

The number of services the Help Desk supports has also increased dramatically. For example, the first wireless access point was installed in 2001 – we now have campus-wide coverage, allowing more than 5,000 people to log in at the same time. Since term started on 19 September and 31 October we helped over 1,000 users connect to the wireless network.

Has the team got any special projects coming up?

We're looking at expanding the LoanIT service and making it self-service, and we'll be installing touch screen Information Points in the ISS clusters.

Apart from IT knowledge, what particular skills do team members have?

Our customer service skills: good communication and listening, problem solving, analytical skills, patience and tenacity. They're much more important than IT skills.

What's the strangest request the team has had?

An international student wanted help getting her SIM card to work in her mobile phone. Occasionally, we also get queries from Leeds Met students who have lost their way!

Team talk

In a new feature, the *Reporter* takes a look at some of the important teams that make the University tick.

What's the team's top tip?

Protect yourself! Make sure you have up-to-date antivirus and malware software; it's essential for keeping your PC, laptop or smartphone healthy.

Who's in the team?

Day team: Sally Bogg, Vanessa Styles, Fred Sheehan, Jim Armstrong, Chris McKone, Tim Walker, Jamila Shaheen, Shamila Kausar, Jon Whitwell, Carl Pearson.

Evening and weekend team: Colette Smith, Peter Etteridge, Assif Hussain, Omar El-Anis, Sarah Lynch, Mohammad Anoshehpour, Jivanjit Saimbhi, Tom Corless, Rab Fazal, Tansar Hussain, Barry Herschy, Snigdho Ray.

Christmas cover



ISS will be providing formal cover for some critical systems, (VLE, Student Portal, staff and student email and web), between Christmas and New Year. This is to ensure students and staff have access to these systems while the University is closed, this is particularly important as a lot of students will be revising. Please note that the Help Desk will not be open to visitors during this time.

Are you part of a great team?

If you and your colleagues would like to feature in the Team Talk feature in the *Reporter*, then get in touch. Call Sarah on 36699 or email the.reporter@leeds.ac.uk



At the centre of the new network (l-r): Professor Colin Snape (University of Nottingham), Public Engagement Manager Nicola Smith and Professor Paul Williams (School of Engineering, Energy and Resources Research Institute).

Launch of National Network of Energy Research Centres

Thirteen UK Centres for Doctoral Training (CDTs) focusing on energy have joined forces to maximise the impact of their research.

The EPSRC-funded CDTs are based in universities across the country, each of which has leading energy expertise in a specific area. CDTs are an innovative new venture where cohorts of postgraduate research (PGR) students undertake a four-year PhD, which includes taught courses and professional development studies in addition to their research projects. This new style of PhD is intended to produce elite graduates with an in-depth understanding of the energy landscape and the ability to take a leading role in industry or academia. The Energy CDTs aim to secure the future supply of world leading energy researchers, which in turn will enable the UK to meet its energy challenges and drive the quest for a low carbon economy.

The national network is the result of a £60 million investment in the CDTs by the Research Council UK Energy Programme. It will allow the broadening and deepening of training and provide a common framework to support world-class energy PGR training. It will also bring CDT Directors together to discuss key issues in UK energy.

The network is led by Professors Paul Williams (Leeds) and Colin Snape (Nottingham). An operational manager based in Nottingham and a public engagement manager based in Leeds will coordinate activity across the network.

The network comprises of the following CDTs:

- Wind Energy Systems – Strathclyde University
- Hydrogen Fuel Cells and their Applications – Universities of Birmingham, Loughborough and Nottingham
- Nuclear FIRS – University of Manchester
- Technologies for a Low Carbon Future – University of Leeds
- Energy Demand Reduction and the Built Environment – University College London and Loughborough University
- Nuclear Engineering – University of Manchester and Imperial College London
- Sustainability for Engineering and Energy Systems – University of Surrey
- Efficient Fossil Fuel Technologies – Universities of Nottingham, Birmingham and Loughborough
- Energy Futures – Imperial College London
- Energy – Durham University
- Fusion – University of York
- Centre for Sustainable Chemical Technologies – University of Bath
- Offshore Renewable Energy – Edinburgh University
- E-Futures – Sheffield University

The network's web presence will be hosted on the UKERC website and should go live early in 2012.

Celebrating 35 years of the research that put religions in Leeds on the map

Ground-breaking research by University staff which has documented and analysed the religious communities of Leeds over a period of 35 years was the subject of an exhibition of photographs and posters housed in Parkinson Court, November 21-25.

The Community Religions Project (CRP) was founded in 1976 by Professors Michael Pye and Ursula King and Reverend Bill Weaver, all from the Department of Theology and Religious Studies (TRS), with the aim of setting a new agenda for studying religion in local contexts.

In the 1980s and 1990s the CRP published pioneering work on minority ethnic religions, especially South Asian heritage Hindu, Sikh and Muslim communities settled in Leeds and Bradford. This established the CRP's reputation in an emerging area of Religious Studies, both across the UK and in Western Europe.

The Lord Mayor of Leeds, Councillor Reverend Alan Taylor, opened a networking event at the University, organised around the exhibition – Religion in Leeds Then and Now. Professor Kim Knott, CRP Director since the 1990s, gave a retrospective before guests browsed photographs from 1976 paired with contemporary images. TRS staff and students took the opportunity to interact with civic and community leaders, as well as public sector professionals and long-standing project partners.

“The exhibition was an opportunity to mark the history and significance of the CRP, and reflect the landscape and life of multi-faith Leeds,” says Dr Seán McLoughlin, who co-organised the exhibition with CRP colleague, Dr Mel Prideaux, following a successful application to the Faculty of Arts Innovation Fund. “It was also a chance to remind important people in the city of our wide-ranging expertise on religions, local communities and issues at the heart of public life, as well as underline that community engagement is very much part of the University's strategy.”

“Since the CRP was established in 1976, interest in religion, locality and community has increased across the board, and has had a significant impact on our teaching too. All first-year TRS students are exposed to the experience of conducting fieldwork in a local religious community, while our third-year students have had the opportunity to take a teamwork-based module which maps all aspects of religion in one of the city's neighbourhoods.

“In terms of the future, the CRP has moved from telling religious communities stories, to examining how and where faith sits as part of the political agenda. With the increased focus on faith – particularly Islam – in recent years, representatives of many religious communities have become the focus of, and engaged with, policy, working with the Home Office, DCLG and local government. Now, with cuts in funding and the coalition government's focus on the ‘Big Society’, minority religious communities have a different set of challenges. No doubt the CRP will continue to document how these challenges are met and provide new insights to assist partners in responding to them.”

The photographs and related academic publications are being fully digitised and will be available via an open access website to be launched in early 2012.



New Gurdwara (Sikh temple) on Chapeltown Road, Leeds.



Priest at Mandir (Hindu temple) in 1976.



Committee outside old Gurdwara in Chapeltown.



At the opening of the Liberty Building: Keir Starmer (l) and Professor Steven Wheatley (r).

Starmer declares Liberty Building officially open

One of the country's leading human rights lawyers and Director of Public Prosecutions Keir Starmer QC has formally opened the School of Law's Liberty Building.

Mr Starmer – who is an alumnus of the School – also gave a keynote address at *The Idea of Liberty* conference. Alumni, staff, current students and friends of the School were all welcomed to the conference which aimed to link the School's past with the present and the future and remind delegates of some of the best aspects of university life.

The conference also saw Professors Ian Cram and Robert Blackburn explore the idea of *Liberty at home*; Professor Sir Nigel Rodley and Steven Kay QC examine the subject of *Liberty and others*; and Professor Rosa Greaves and Nick Taylor look forward to *The Future for Law in the Liberty Building*.

Speaking at the opening, the Head of School of Law, Professor Steven Wheatley, said that the University's investment in the building showed confidence that the School of Law would continue to enhance its position as one of the UK's elite research-led law schools.

Another famous name also visited the School recently when Master of the Rolls Lord Neuberger gave a lecture on *Justice in the internet age at a time of austerity* to an invited audience of judges, magistrates, barristers, solicitors, academics and students. The Master of the Rolls is the second most senior judge in England and Wales. Prior to the lecture, Lord Neuberger held an informal question and answer session with staff and students.



Joint winners of the Tutor of the Year Jennifer Sands (l) and Dr Julie Wallbank.

Earlier this year the School held its inaugural Tutor and Module Team of the Year awards. Both awards were determined by student feedback provided in module questionnaires. Tutor of the Year winners were Jennifer Sands and Dr Julie Wallbank (joint winners in the Undergraduate category) and Dr Stefan Fafinski (Postgraduate). Awards for the Module Team of the Year went to Human Rights (Professor Steven Wheatley) and EU Discrimination (Anna Lawson and Dr Iyiola Solanke).

Laidlaw gift to help underprivileged students

Students from less privileged backgrounds will receive £9,000 during the first year of their studies at the University, thanks to a gift of £900,000 from alumnus Lord Laidlaw of Rothiemay.



The gift will provide scholarships of up to £6,000 to students from low-income backgrounds, who achieve A-level grades of at least ABB and a place at the University through the 'Access to Leeds' scheme. These scholarships will be in addition to bursaries given directly by the University, so these students will receive £9,000 in year one of their studies. In subsequent years of study, they will receive a bursary of £3,000.

After graduating in Economics, Scots-born Irvine Laidlaw studied for an MBA at Columbia University in the US before founding the Institute for International Research and growing it to become the world's leading provider of conference organisation, training and knowledge transfer. He has contributed to a number of good causes, primarily benefiting disadvantaged young people. Lord Laidlaw said: "I know how much I benefited from a university education. My time at Leeds was both enjoyable and the foundation stone of my subsequent career. Access to Leeds is a wonderful scheme, giving young people an

opportunity to fulfil their potential – and I am delighted to be able to offer financial support to those most needing it."

Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Arthur said: "We are very proud of Access to Leeds. In the new financial regime of higher education it is imperative that as a society we do as much as possible to encourage our brightest young people to aspire to higher education – regardless of their background. We are tremendously grateful to Lord Laidlaw for his gift which will help so many of our students to succeed in their studies."

Lord Laidlaw has committed to give a further £250,000 to support Undergraduate Research and Leadership Scholarships for arts students. Under the scheme, undergraduates join major research projects during their summer holidays, mentored by leading academics.

The Leeds announcement coincided with the first Student Finance Day, which is aimed at ensuring that people realise that anyone can afford to go to university, despite changes to the funding regime from 2012. It is organised by the Independent Taskforce on Student Finance Information, headed by consumer champion Martin Lewis.



New Services for Business website

To raise awareness of how the University can help meet the needs of businesses, the Research and Innovation Service (RIS) has launched a new 'Services for Business' section of the corporate website.

The new pages provide a comprehensive summary of how the University supports businesses, including how they can:

- advertise vacancies to students and graduates for free
- access our academics via consultancy services
- make use of the campus for conferences, events and meetings
- find out about licences and patents for new technology
- apply for funding for Knowledge Transfer Partnerships with academics and students.

"In today's economic climate it's more important than ever that universities such as Leeds dedicate themselves to widening the impact of their world-class research.

Working closely with businesses of all sizes via a range of channels including consultancy, knowledge transfer partnerships and internships is a great way to achieve this," said Kathy Brownridge, Director of RIS. "We're particularly keen to engage with companies who may not have considered working with a university before – including small and medium-sized organisations, and those working in very specialised sectors.

"The new site answers the kind of questions businesses ask us frequently. It cuts through the jargon and allows users to find information on services like hiring conference facilities or effective recruitment, whilst sparking interest in developing deeper partnerships via Knowledge Transfer or accessing new technologies to grow a business. Our aim is to continually update and refine the site in response to feedback."

Spread the word

RIS is keen to promote the new pages as widely as possible, and invites University colleagues to share the link with any professional networks and other contacts they think may be interested (by posting it on LinkedIn, for example).

www.leeds.ac.uk/info/125077/services_for_business



Letters

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

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.

ENERGY ALTERNATIVES

Is the University developing a strategy to make greater use of alternative sources of energy, eg, including solar panels on new buildings or retro-fitting older ones such as the Parkinson?

Adrian Smith

Faculty Team Librarian (Retired)

Reply: The University is committed not only to reducing its energy costs and carbon footprint but also improving its wider sustainability performance. The Carbon Management Plan (CMP) is an important part of this and its challenging carbon reduction targets help position us as a leader in this field (see pages 1 and 2 for more news of the current *It All Adds Up* campaign).

The CMP has a target to reduce carbon emissions by 35% by 2020/21 based on a 2005/6 baseline and shows how we intend to reduce energy consumption. By reducing our energy consumption not only do we reduce our carbon emissions, but we begin to

reduce our energy bill which for the last academic year exceeded £9,533,285 for Academic use and £1,946,820 for Residential use.

The University is committed to installing renewable energy when it is practical and cost effective to do so. This must be balanced against energy efficiency measures which often have shorter pay-backs. So far, the University has 16 kW of small scale photovoltaic systems, a number of solar thermal installations and three biomass installations. The majority of our electricity also comes from a combined heat and power station where waste heat is used to heat our campus buildings.

At present we are investigating a large-scale photovoltaic system and are also considering how wind energy and anaerobic digestion might help meet some of our energy needs.

James Dixon-Gough

Sustainable Development Officer

Leader column

Professor Michael J P Arthur
University Vice-Chancellor



Separating fact from fiction

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, the launch of the Carbon Management Plan has been a success. As you may have noticed, the high-profile start of our campaign to reduce carbon emissions by 35% by 2020/21 was parodied by *Leeds Student* and others, who produced photocopied spoofs mocking the campaign and my salary and distributed them around campus.

I'm pleased students are interested in this issue and the send-ups amused me greatly. Our carbon emissions are an important issue and we wanted to stimulate debate. In 2009/10, our annual energy bill was £11.5m and unchecked, that could reach £17m by 2020/21. I hope students maintain their interest in the plan, and include facts and figures about carbon use in future spoofs!

If we cut our energy use we can spend more on what we are here to do – education and research – and this can only have a positive effect on recruiting the students we want in a more competitive market. There's currently great interest in undergraduate application numbers. The introduction of higher fees in 2012 makes speculation on this issue inevitable – but at this stage in the recruitment process unhelpful.

When tuition fees rose from £1k to £3k in 1994, applications to universities fell 4% before recovering in subsequent years. When fees at some universities reach £9k, you could expect a larger decline, and a recovery taking longer. To counter this it's vital there is accurate, clear information available. I would urge anyone interested in really understanding the new fees system and what it means for students to visit www.moneysavingexpert.com Click on the 'students' tab to help separate the fact from the fiction.

In the meantime, beware of speculation. Applications fluctuate weekly, but the important thing is numbers on 15 January when the deadline closes. There's no complacency, but remember ours is a very

popular university. We received more than 52,000 applications from home and EU students for 6,700 undergraduate places last year. I am keen to improve our conversion rates. We need to nurture the students we offer a place to and keep them better informed, so they know how interested we are in them from an early stage.

Some of you may have read press reports on UCAS' recent proposal that there should be wholesale changes to the admissions system. The UCAS review highlights problems including students being allowed to hold offers from multiple institutions, the advice and guidance given to students about applying to university, and the clearing system.

Clearing is a mess and there are problems with the admissions system, but the evidence that we need to abandon it and move to a post-results applications model is far from clear. I found UCAS' suggestions puzzling and to my read, there's no evidence to suggest that the changes will do anything to help widen participation and ensure fair access.

The weight of evidence shows that most A-level predictions, particularly the A-level grades that concern this university, are pretty accurate. There's also a myth that it is children from state schools whose grades are often under-predicted. In fact the converse is true – most of the inaccuracy in this group is an over-prediction, usually by only one grade. If anything, this helps us assess their abilities in a more holistic way that takes account of their potential as well as their achievement.

Let's see what the consultation on UCAS proposals produces, but I am currently quite concerned that the proposed change to a post-A-level result application process has the potential to damage all our good work in widening participation.

I know from regular meetings with our alumni how important it is that we are doing everything we can to encourage any student with the talent to succeed at Leeds to be able to come here – regardless of their background. The subject came up recently

when I went on a short alumni and corporate relations trip to North America. Forging closer links with former students is increasingly important, I met close to 200 alumni of all ages in Toronto, New York and San Francisco, and it was highly successful in building up our network and receiving donations.

I also visited Goldman Sachs in New York where we have been running an innovative pilot scheme called "10,000 Small Businesses". Through this, our academics help educate Yorkshire's entrepreneurs in business principles. Entrepreneurs learn new ideas, form peer groups and drive success in the region and it's worked brilliantly. I've met some of these young (and not so young) entrepreneurs and they are a deeply impressive group. It is good to see a company like Goldman Sachs engaging actively in corporate social responsibility and I'm very pleased that they are contributing something tangible to the local economy here in Yorkshire.

In Palo Alto (a stone's throw from Stanford University) I visited 'StartX' – a student-run start-up designed to help students and staff create companies. The students get free business space and advice from top-level entrepreneurs, business angels, companies and venture capitalists to get their companies fizzing and buzzing. I learned about it through our international network, as the daughter of one of our alumni is involved. I was blown away at their thinking, creativity and passion. Student enterprise is strong at Leeds. But can we do more and can we learn from StartX? We're thinking about getting some of our student entrepreneurs over to Stanford to see for themselves.

Finally and as reported last week, I would like to congratulate John Fisher and Eileen Ingham for winning a Queen's Anniversary Prize for their work at the Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering. This is a great achievement for everyone at iMBE, and particularly for John, who somehow manages to combine the role of Deputy Vice-Chancellor with this outstanding research, innovation and entrepreneurship.

In the news

The crisis in the Eurozone continues, leading the media to seek comment from several of our academics. Amongst those giving their opinion to BBC Radio Leeds were Professor Malcolm Sawyer (Leeds University Business School [LUBS]) and Dr Charles Dannreuther (School of Politics and International Studies). Professor Giuseppe Fontana (LUBS) appeared on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme.



Research led Dr Chris Gale (School of Medicine) showing that heart attack patients aged over 85 are less likely to receive specialist care from a cardiologist in hospital and vital heart medicines after leaving hospital, appeared in the *Yorkshire Post* and other regional newspapers. Hospital heart attack death rates have made significant improvements across all age groups in England and Wales, but there are still "worrying" inequalities in **heart attack management for the elderly**, a study funded by the British Heart Foundation (BHF) has shown.

Professor Andrew Gouldson (School of Earth and Environment) appeared on the *Politics Show* talking about **carbon capture** and the need for government incentives and planning for carbon capture and storage projects.



Two different research projects involving Professor Tim Bishop (School of Medicine) and his team at the Leeds Institute of Molecular Medicine made the news. The first was a Cancer Research UK project which has discovered three new genetic faults that increase the chances of developing melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer. This was featured in national and international media, including the *Mirror*, *Daily Mail* and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. The second research involving Professor Bishop showed that taking **two aspirin tablets a day can cut the risk of bowel cancer** by almost two-thirds for those at the highest risk. This was featured in the *Daily Telegraph*, *Yorkshire Post* and Radio Leeds.

Professor Peter Nolan (Leeds University Business School) gave a plenary address on *Wages, Productivity and Economic Performance: the likely legacy of the UK Work Programme* to the first national conference on the **coalition government's Work Programme**. The conference, held in Westminster Studio, was broadcast live on Policy Review TV and included presentations from the Rt Hon Chris Grayling, Minister for Employment, and the Rt Hon Stephen Timms, Shadow Employment Minister.

Professor Derek Scott (School of Music) featured in a 90-minute BBC4 programme on *The Story of Music Hall*. The programme traced the **history of the music hall**, and presenter Sir Michael Grade talked to enthusiasts and performers, including Professor Scott who appeared in both his capacity as an academic and as a performer.

Research suggesting that a **fibre-rich diet can cut the risk of bowel cancer** appeared on the BBC World News website and in the *Daily Mail* and *Yorkshire Post*. The analysis of 25 studies was conducted at the University by Dr Darren Greenwood (School of Medicine) and Imperial College London.

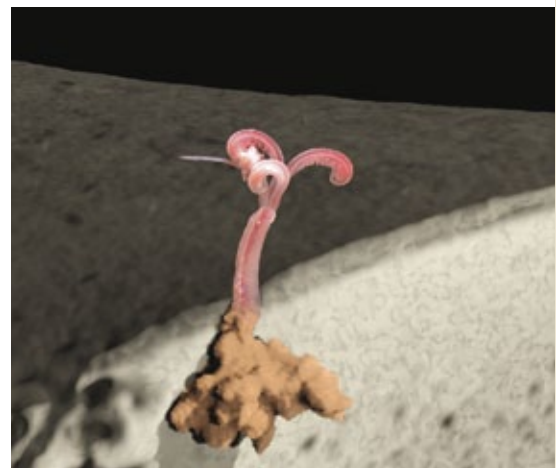
Apologies to Dr Iyiola Solanke (School of Law) for omitting her title in the October issue of the *Reporter*. Dr Solanke featured in the online *Huffington Post* giving her views on the rioting in English cities earlier this year.

Dr Bill Murphy (School of Earth and Environment) was interviewed by BBC Look North about the **environmental impact of mining potash** from a site in North Yorkshire where deposits have recently been found.

The *Daily Telegraph* carried an article which quoted Professor Matt Seymour, professor of gastrointestinal cancer medicine (School of Medicine, LIMM) and director of the National Cancer Research Network (NCRN). Professor Seymour and his team are researching how **genetic testing techniques can be used to assess if expensive medicines would work for specific patients**. He said: "We have to get clever about how to target drugs. Medications for cancer have to be personalised because no two cancers are identical."

Professor Alison Fell (School of Modern Languages and Cultures) provided her research on **World War One nurses** for use in a drama on BBC Radio 4's *Woman's Hour*.

A paper written by PhD student Nicholas Higgs (School of Earth and Environment) and published in *Historical Biology* confirming what scientists have long suspected, that **bone-eating 'zombie' worms** erased parts of the fossil record by destroying bones before they could become fossils, received global coverage including BBC News, the *Telegraph*, *Huffington Post*, ScienceDaily and Earthtimes.org.



Further details of press coverage can be found at <http://mediacuttings.leeds.ac.uk/index.aspx> **W**

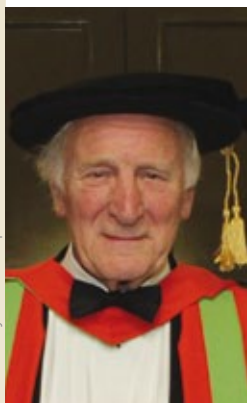
Our people

Honours

Send your honours to the.reporter@leeds.ac.uk

Professor Ian Kirkpatrick (Leeds University Business School) has been appointed Director of Leeds Social Sciences Institute (LSSI). LSSI involves all faculties where social science has a significant presence: ESSL, LUBS, Environment, Medicine and Health, Performance, Visual Arts and Communications, and Arts.

LSSI will continue to take forward the promotion of interdisciplinary research, innovation and impact in the social sciences to position the University internationally as a centre of excellence, maximise internal and external collaboration and strategic alliances within and beyond the social sciences. The Institute will integrate within it the White Rose Social Sciences Doctoral Training Centre so that research student and researcher training is embedded within a research context, and enable the strong external promotion of research degrees in the social sciences at Leeds.



The University has honoured Yorkshire businessman and philanthropist **Dr Keith Howard** with an Honorary Doctorate of Laws. The honour was conferred during a celebratory dinner marking Dr Howard's 80th birthday, organised and hosted by Opera North, Yorkshire County Cricket Club and the University, three organisations which have greatly benefited from his support.

Dr Howard is the owner and majority shareholder of Emerald Group Publishing, the world's leading scholarly publisher in business and management. He is chairman of the Opera North

Future Fund, an endowment fund created in 2008 to support and extend the work of the company through outreach and education work together with main stage productions. The Fund also supported research opportunities in the Faculty of Performance, Visual Arts and Communications, and enabled the appointment of inaugural members of the University's Academy of Cultural Fellows.



Professor Alice Hills (School of Politics and International Studies) has been appointed the civilian policing expert responsible for assessing the United Nations Development Programme's Rule of Law programme in Somalia. This requires her to evaluate the policing project currently being implemented in the three recognised regions in Somalia, and to make recommendations for future approaches to supporting rule of law and security programming in Somalia.

A recently published book by **Dr Gail Day** (School of Fine Art, History of Art and Cultural Studies) – *Dialectical Passions: Negation in Postwar Art Theory* – was shortlisted for the 2011 Isaac and Tamara Deutscher Memorial Prize. The prize is "awarded for a book which exemplifies the best and most innovative new writing in or about the Marxist tradition."

A team of **engineers and environmental specialists from the University**, together with a team from Sellafeld Ltd and BHR Group, has been awarded the Core Chemical Engineering Award by the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE) for the Sludge Centre of Expertise. The Leeds team was led by Jeff Peakall (School of Earth and Environment), Simon Biggs and Simon Lawson from Particles CIC in the School of Process, Environmental and Materials Engineering (SPEME). The team also included Gareth Keevil and Russell Dixon from the Sorby Environmental Fluid Dynamics Laboratory, Carlos Grattoni and Phil Guise from University spin-out company RDR Ltd, and Susanne Patel from Particles CIC.

The work is part of the University of Leeds – Sellafeld Sludge Centre of Expertise which aims to clean up radioactive sludge produced by the UK nuclear industry. The Centre will play a key role in describing the behaviour of the sludge wastes that have arisen after years of operation at Sellafeld and other nuclear sites across the UK, and will help nuclear engineers work out how to dispose of the sludge safely and efficiently.



Debbie Gibbs, PA to Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Student Education) Professor Vivien Jones, was a runner up in European Management Assistants (EUMA) PA of the Year award. EUMA is a professional non-profit making association which provides training and development opportunities for leading PAs. Debbie received an award to mark her achievement during the EUMA training day in London, which was held around the theme of *Taking the lead in the 21st Century*.

For more information contact <http://www.euma.org> **W**

The **Leeds Universities and Colleges Crime Reduction Partnership** has been awarded a Certificate of Merit, from this year's Home Office Tilley Awards. The project was amongst the top 16% of entries received (including the national finalists) out of approximately 100 entries this year.

Professor John Turner (Institute of Integrative and Comparative Biology) has been awarded two commendations in the 2011 *Times* Stephen Spender Prize for Poetry Translation. This, the first time that a contestant has been commended twice, was for translations of *Parsifal* and of *Vous voilà, vous voilà...*, both by the French nineteenth-century poet Paul Verlaine.

University spin-out company, **TRACSiS plc**, won an award at the Yorkshire Post Excellence in Business Awards. The company specialises in developing software for the transportation industry and has seen its turnover quadruple from £805,000 in 2008 to £2.67 million in 2010. Chief Executive John McArthur collected the prize for Companies with a Turnover Up to £10m from Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg at the awards ceremony in October.

TRACSiS was spun out from the University's School of Computing in 2004 following the development of crew scheduling software for rail services by Dr Raymond Kwan. Now the business has contracts with every major train operating company in the UK and is expanding internationally.

Small ads

Small ads can be submitted online at <http://smallads.leeds.ac.uk> **W**

The charge is £7 for 10 words or part thereof (University members) or £10 (general public).

The deadline for the next issue is Wednesday, 4 January 2012 at 4pm.

For enquiries please contact Thomas Saxton on 0113 343 8373 or email t.saxton@adm.leeds.ac.uk

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.

Professional services

ELECTRICIAN. PART P REGISTERED. contact Good Connections for repairs, installations, alterations, periodic inspections, testing, new sockets, lighting & consumer units. Prompt timekeeper. Good value rates. www.goodconnectionselectrician.co.uk **Richard Sykes 0777 249 9414**

EFFICIENT HEATING SOLUTIONS installs and repairs central heating and plumbing systems, gas appliances, showers, towel rails and radiators. Gas Safe Registered, Worcester Accredited, Which? Local recommended. **0786 870 3384** www.leedsboilerrepairs.co.uk efficientheating@gmail.com

TRADE SECRETS CONSTRUCTION PARTNERSHIP we design and install kitchens, bathrooms & wetrooms, bedrooms, conservatories, custom-fitted furniture, and more, to your specifications. Repairs and renovations – big or small. All work fully guaranteed. 40 years experience. Free estimates. **0113 261 3286 – 0776 806 1259 (daytime)** enquiries@tradesecretsconstruction.co.uk

COMPUTER PROBLEMS? For all hardware, software and networking issues. Home visits inc evenings and weekends. Reliable and efficient. **0795 863 8686** info@biztechleeds.co.uk

BUILDING CONTRACTOR All building work undertaken; roofs, extensions, kitchens and bathrooms fitted. Free quotes. 30 years experience. **Malcolm Wells 0789 545 9542**

LEGAL ADVICE: Divorce, Separation, Children and Financial Disputes, Pre-Marital and Cohabitation Agreements, Collaborative Family Law and Mediation. **FREE INITIAL 1/2 HOUR MEETING** – Contact Paul Lancaster at Blacks Solicitors, Hanover House, 22 Clarendon Road, Leeds **0113 207 0000** PLancaster@LawBlacks.com

HARDMAN HEATING are you ready for winter? Local, reliable Gas Safe registered engineer specialising in gas appliance: breakdown, servicing, installation and plumbing work. **Matt Hardman 0798 397 7554**

House for sale

BEAUTIFUL FAMILY HOME on Moorland Road, 2 minutes from Business School. 6 bedrooms, 4 kitchen-diners, 4 bathrooms, 2 lounges, front and back gardens, parking, GCH, double-glazing. £475K. **David Moor Estate Agent 0113 274 2033** enquiries@dmea.co.uk

Holiday home to let

SKI IN LA PLAGNE Apt. to let in beautiful Montchavin, sleeps 6, close to pistes **Anne King 0113 343 4243** a.e.king@leeds.ac.uk

GENALGUACIL, ANDALUCIA, SPAIN 2 d/b, 2 bathroom house (sleeps 6) in Genalguacil, a small white village in Andalucia, Spain. Beautiful walking/cycling with artwork festival yearly. Bars, shops and within driving distance of Rhonda, coast, Gibraltar. €55 p/night. **Ann Denise Buttress 0113 343 1442** A.D.Buttress@leeds.ac.uk

FABULOUS PARIS FLAT 1-bedroom, 60m² flat at Gambetta, in the 20th arrondissement. South-facing, beautiful view over park, elegantly furnished, fully equipped (wifi, washer-dryer, dishwasher, microwave-convection oven, etc.) Available for short or long-term stays. **0798 201 6569** ruedesgatines@gmail.com

Other

CAR-PARKING NEAR TO UNIVERSITY A small number of off-street parking places are available, just 3 minutes' walk from the University, for £30 per month **David 0788 060 2220** cadman.iring@gmail.com

CORRECTING COLOUR-VISION DEFICIENCY Research project to develop new spectacle lens to alleviate colour-vision deficiency problems – selected volunteers will be paid and receive free lenses and colour-vision tests in the School of Design and at a specialist optometrist. **Contact Vien Chung on t.i.v.cheung@leeds.ac.uk**

Changing times for the School of Healthcare

"My job is to try to ensure all the elements of our activity – research, learning and teaching, and knowledge transfer – are supported so that the people with those portfolios have everything they need to be successful," says Professor Andrea Nelson, the new Head of the School of Healthcare.

"We have some big challenges coming up in the next two years. In addition to the new fees regime, there may be changes when the authorities which currently commission health education are replaced by new Local Education and Training Boards in 2013. We need to ensure that the excellence of what we offer at Leeds – integration of research and education, producing skilled practitioners who can work in today's environment and also remain open to future developments – is conveyed to the new commissioners.

"We also need to make curriculum efficiency gains, which means getting more use of the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), blended learning and flexibly delivered modules. Lots of our students are already working in health service and social care, so developing models of delivering courses for their continuing professional development is very important.

"Our research endeavour is yet another challenge! Leeds is fortunate in that we've a long history of working in applied health research. However, the School is incredibly diverse – we have eight professions – and some larger parts of the School are further advanced as research disciplines than others. Multi-disciplinarity is one way we can support the newer, smaller disciplines to access bigger 'programmatic' research funding.

"The strategic aims of the School and University are really closely aligned. We share the aim of generating knowledge, sharing knowledge and helping students use that knowledge in their careers. For us the integration of research, scholarship and education is absolutely vital. We're coming to the end of a consultation about whether a flatter School structure would help create stronger linkage between strategic developments around education and research and innovation. Our colleagues – including health professionals who are seconded to teaching roles – make a fantastic contribution to the School and one of the potential gains of a realignment is that it will help people see the degree to

which they can be the masters of their own destinies, by empowering them and taking away layers of bureaucracy."

A nurse with a PhD in bioengineering, Professor Nelson joined the University in 2005 as a reader in wound care. She was Director of Research before becoming Head of School in August this year.



Noticeboard



Christmas through the ages – concert

Leeds University Liturgical Choir is appearing at the Arena at Leeds City Museum to give a concert of Christmas music on Saturday 10 December at 7pm. The programme will include music by Leeds-based composers or graduates (Philip Wilby and Andrew Carter), and there will be a mixture of familiar carols alongside some more unusual seasonal pieces. Full details and booking facilities are at <http://mus-www.leeds.ac.uk/lulc/> 

Fairtrade & Christmas Craft Fair

Kick off your Christmas shopping with a visit to this year's Christmas Fair on Thursday, 1 December in Parkinson Court between 10.00am-16.00pm. You'll find some great present ideas from the wide range of stalls selling a variety of Fairtrade goods, jewellery, homemade cakes, Christmas decorations and more.

Mulled wine and other Christmas goodies will be available for a small donation, and you can take part in the raffle for your chance to win a hamper full of Fairtrade treats.

For details contact Sue Tattersall on 0113 343 5006 or s.tattersall@leeds.ac.uk or Jenna Hudson on 0113 343 4161 or j.l.hudson@leeds.ac.uk.

Showcase – Postgraduate Researcher Conference

Showcase – the second annual Postgraduate Researcher Conference – takes place on Tuesday 13 December and is now open for booking. The Postgraduate Researcher of the Year competition will be in the main conference auditorium alongside a new 'Three minute Thesis' competition, whilst the Postgraduate Research Poster and Image of the Year competitions will take place in Sports Hall 2. With all Faculties represented in terms of competition entrants, this is a fantastic opportunity for the research community across the University to come together to celebrate and learn about the achievements of our postgraduate researchers. All members of the research community are welcome to attend. For further details go to the conference website – www.leeds.ac.uk/rtd/pgconference.html – or email t.p.bromley@adm.leeds.ac.uk 

Research and Innovation Support Conference

This year's Research and Innovation Support Conference on Tuesday 6 December 2011 at Weetwood Hall will offer sessions on everything from relations with industry to supporting fellowship applications.

The theme is the *Shaping Research and Innovation Landscape*. The context for research and innovation is changing with an increased emphasis on research concentration, critical mass, focus on impact underpinned by distinctive world-leading research, collaboration (rather than competition) and value for money. The shape of support at Leeds has changed with the establishment of Research and Innovation Services.

Nine break-out sessions cover: the role of impact in shaping strategic agendas; supporting fellowship applicants; how the transformation fund is bringing about a stepped change in research activity; commercialisation; Doctoral Training Centres and studentships; equipment sustainability; REF2014; Horizon 2020; and relations with industry.

Contact Annette Caplan, a.c.caplan@adm.leeds.ac.uk with queries.




Activities at the Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery

Write Me a Picture: Creative Writing Workshop

Saturday, 3 December, 1.30-4pm

The *Sadler Gift* exhibition and display *Connecting Lives: Intimate Artworks of Bloomsbury* will be used to inspire creative writing, with a focus on imagining the lives of the people behind the works of art. Facilitated by Leeds poet Suzannah Evans.

Free, but places are limited; book by emailing gallery@leeds.ac.uk, phone 0113 343 2778, or online at <http://writingpeople-eorg.eventbrite.com/> 

Leeds Art Walk


Wednesday, 7 December, 5.30-7.30pm

The Walk is led by Pavilion and artist Amelia Crouch on the first Wednesday of every month and is free and open to all. December's Walk starts at *The Sadler Gift*, continues to the Wild Pansy Press Space, before arriving at the Henry Moore Institute's *United Enemies*. For more information contact gill@pavilion.org.uk or 0113 242 5100. No booking necessary.

Printed Papers

Saturday, 10 December, 2-4pm

Christmas is nigh and artist Karen Babayan has the perfect fix for your festive festooning! Learn to make your own personalised wrapping papers using relief printing techniques in glittering holiday colours. Suitable for ages 14+.

Free, but places are limited; book by emailing gallery@leeds.ac.uk, phone 0113 343 2778, or online at <http://writingpeople-eorg.eventbrite.com/> 

The Sadler Gift: lunchtime talk with curator Layla Bloom


Tuesday, 13 December, 1-1.30pm

A tour of current exhibition *The Sadler Gift*, celebrating 100 years since Michael Sadler's Vice-Chancellorship and illustrating his pivotal role in the development of the University Art Collection. Curator Layla Bloom will highlight key moments in British art represented in the collection. Free event, all welcome. No booking necessary.

Winter Wonderland Cards

Saturday, 17 December, 2-4pm

Join paper artist Sarah Mitchell to make a winter pop-up card for family and friends, taking inspiration from paintings in the current exhibition. Suitable for ages 5+.

Free, but places are limited; book by emailing gallery@leeds.ac.uk, phone 0113 343 2778 or online at <http://writingpeople-eorg.eventbrite.com/> 



FAQs

Andy Duley
Director of Commercialisation
Research and Innovation
Service

What does your role involve?

I work with our University academics to try to identify where we have inventions, ideas or intellectual property that has potential commercial value. With my team, I encourage academics to tell us about their ideas at an early stage, so we can analyse them and decide how best to take them forward.

We support colleagues through the development process and try to secure a good commercial output for their product or service. That could mean establishing a company – known as a spinout – or a licence. The University currently has around 300 commercialisation projects on the go; it sounds like a healthy number, but success is about having the right projects, not the most.

I also work with legal services, reviewing non-standard knowledge transfer contracts, and our services to business, which include our impact and innovation work, strategic partnerships and consultancy.

What did you do before you came to the University?

I spent 10 years at the University of Bradford, where my final role was as Deputy Director of Research and Knowledge Transfer. Prior to that, I was responsible for commercial training and consultancy at Grimsby College. As a lecturer I found increasingly that I was getting into the commercial side of things, taking on responsibility for the college's Continuing Professional Development programmes and consultancy. I found it really interesting, and gradually made transition to the commercialisation side of things.

Describe your typical day.

I've only been here a few months, so there's no such thing as a typical day yet! Days usually involve answering queries on specific University companies, meeting academics to figure out how we can structure and capitalise on existing projects, meeting with IP Group to discuss how we can increase volume of our commercialisation activity, and looking at the legal issues. There's plenty to keep me busy!

What about the future for Commercialisation?

The strategy is being worked out but it's relatively simple and revolves around people quickly and easily telling us about commercialisation opportunities. Once an academic has submitted a short form, we discuss developing the idea. We may decide that we want to take it further or that it's too early but, whatever the decision is, people are supported all the way. It's also a learning opportunity as people understand the process we go through and questions we ask, so they're better informed when considering future work that could represent an opportunity.

People don't usually mind if we decide that the time's not right to proceed with an idea, they just want to know what the answer is so they can plan for the future.

What do you wish you'd invented?

A pair of skis which would make me look controlled and elegant on the slopes. I have quite a messy, functional style, so if someone could make me ski like a Frenchman who's been skiing since he was three-years old, that would be great!

What's the most useful advice you've ever been given?

From a business point of view, it's to realise that good business is based on good relationships. If you can build a relaxed, trusting relationship then you'll end up with a much better deal – one that will hopefully lead to ongoing business interactions – than if you go in for all that aggressive *Dragons' Den* stuff. In a good deal, all parties should feel that they've had to give up something, to compromise, rather than coming away thinking that they've been stitched up.

Who would be your co-judges on *Dragons' Den*?

The American billionaire Warren Buffett is phenomenally successful and also seems to be an ethical man. Jonathan Ive, Vice-President of Industrial Design at Apple. He's British, has over 400 patents to his name and is one of the world's most influential designers. I'd need somebody who understands designs that people wanted, so he'd fit the bill. Peter Hook, ex-bass player with New Order. He made so many mistakes running the Hacienda nightclub that he should know all of the potential business pitfalls (and he'd be entertaining).

What's your most frequently asked question?

I've not been here long, so it's often 'Who are you and what do you do?'

What's your favourite gadget?

I'm not sure if a bike can be a gadget but – if it can – I'd choose my Lapierre Zesty mountain bike. I used to cycle on the road, but got fed up of the traffic so mountain biking has been my obsession for the last six months. I live in Baildon so I can easily go on the moors – I tend to fall off a lot but it's mostly a nice, soft landing!