



Key appointments to help shape our future

Important new appointments which will build on our commitment to deliver leading research and education in powerful combination.

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Be Curious and the Astbury Conversation saw visitors flock to campus to find out more about our world class research.

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Leader column

'International Leeds'

Innovations in transport and communication mean that the world is now equivalent in size to a single European country a century ago. But that does not mean that challenges we face are shrinking or becoming easier to meet – far from it.

The major global issues of providing the world's growing population with energy, food, water, health care and security in the face of rapid environmental and social change are growing and becoming more complex. As a research-intensive university it is a key part of our task to work with governments, higher education institutions, businesses and non-governmental organisations to tackle these challenges.

Our strategic plan to take 'International Leeds' to a new level is already bearing fruit and helping to position us firmly on the global stage. Events such as the recent Astbury Conversation – cited by Nobel prize winner Professor Michael Levitt as "one of the best-run academic symposia" he has ever attended – are attracting international audiences. This inaugural event was a superb example of how we can showcase our research at Leeds to both public and academic audiences, and foster collaboration with other institutions.

I hope that future events of a similar calibre will be hosted by our new Cultural Institute and the Priestley Centre for Climate, to name just two. Strategic groupings of this type are – and will be – essential to help us establish more and stronger international relationships. They will enable us to forge links such as those already existing between Priestley climate researchers at Leeds with Norway's foremost institute for climate research, CICERO*. Together, they are developing joint leadership of an international world climate research project and taking first steps towards a joint doctoral training programme.

It is also vital that we continue to establish and build enduring partnerships in student education. For example, in September the first cohort of students will arrive in Leeds on a programme established by the Faculty of Arts jointly with Sarah Lawrence College, a prestigious liberal arts college in New York State. And student recruitment is now

well underway for the four undergraduate engineering programmes offered by the Southwest Jiaotong University-Leeds Joint School.

As well as attracting international academics, students and organisations to our vibrant campus, we must continue to look outwards and take the Leeds message to a wider global audience. I have recently returned from a trip to China, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore designed to do just that. I was privileged to visit Guangdong University of Foreign Studies in China to take part in celebrations marking the 10th cohort of students graduating – and the achievements of 250 alumni – from a joint Leeds-Guangwai MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. Our partnership with Guangwai has provided an excellent research base for our School of Education staff involved in the programme, and we are now discussing ways to build on this success by broadening our partnership to encompass new academic activities.

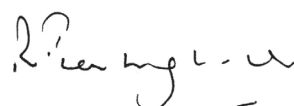
This trip also enabled Professor Rob Richardson (Mechanical Engineering) to explore opportunities for collaboration in the field of innovative robotics with visits to the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Professor Andy Gouldson and I spent time in Malaysia and Singapore, where we visited the British High Commission and the University Teknologi Malaysia UMT, and met representatives of the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education.

Throughout the Asian trip we had warm support from our alumni at events in Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. I experienced again what great help our former students can be in opening up educational and professional networks in their home countries. Professors Richardson and Gouldson gave outstanding public lectures during the trip, bringing the educational

and research opportunities at Leeds to new audiences.

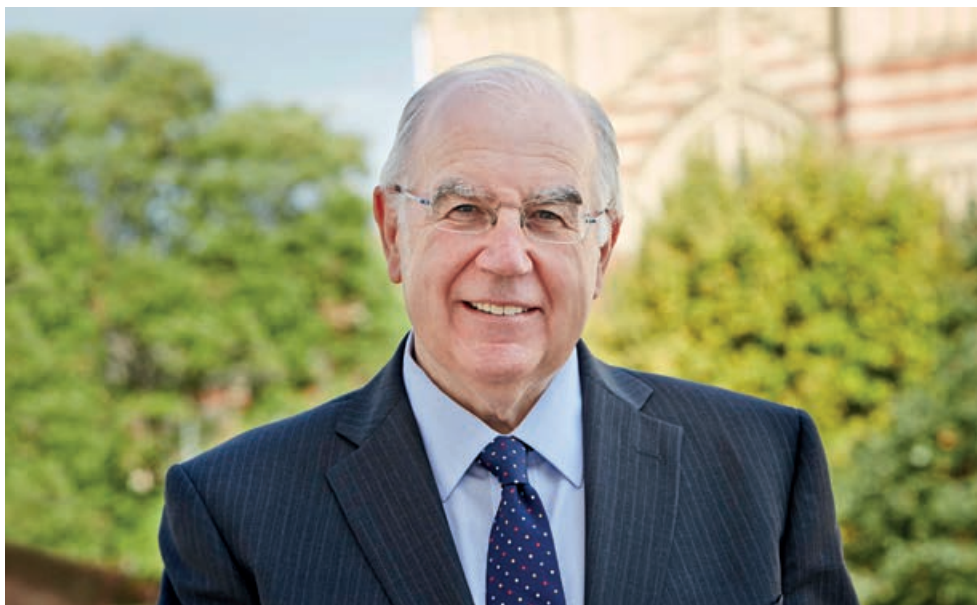
It is clear that having an international focus and collaborative approach to research will be even more important to our success in securing research funding in future. The government's new Global Challenges Research Fund of £1.5bn over five years is expected to account for 10% of Research Council UK funding by the end of the decade, and there are already signs that its main requirement – for research to address the problems of developing countries – is influencing funding priorities. Similarly, the Newton Fund for research which promotes the economic development and social welfare of developing countries was increased last year from £75m to £150m a year until 2021. To meet the criteria for this Fund, research must be carried out in collaboration with one of the Fund's 15 partner countries. Official Development Assistance (ODA) and Newton funding will be, of course, a focus of detailed attention in the University over the coming weeks.

Leeds is already well equipped to flourish internationally and well served by Jacqui Brown and her excellent team in the International Office, but the arrival of our new Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International), Professor Hai-Sui Yu, will provide clear academic leadership and bring a new energy and drive to our international activity. His mix of overseas experience and academic excellence will enable him to work with the University community and overseas partners to enhance our international standing even further.



Vice-Chancellor Sir Alan Langlands

*Center for International Climate and Environmental Research



News

Inspiring events promote science to new audiences

Two new University events – Be Curious and the Astbury Conversation – saw local, national and international visitors flock to campus to find out more about our ground breaking and inspiring research.

More than 250 eminent researchers from all over the world attended the Astbury Conversation – the first international event of its kind at the University, dedicated to the subject of molecular biology. The two-day event began with an academic symposium which was followed by a public exhibition showcasing the research and technologies used in the University's Astbury Centre for Structural Molecular Biology.

The final highlight was a lecture by Nobel Laureate Professor Michael Levitt (FRS), during which he explained how computer modelling has advanced our knowledge of the molecular processes underpinning life, health and disease and what the future holds for this area of science. He also talked about how his career developed from a childhood in South Africa, through research in the UK, Israel and the USA, to his Nobel Prize in 2013.

"We were delighted with the response to the Astbury Conversation from both the academic community and the general public," says Professor Sheena Radford, Astbury Centre Director. "It shows that there is a real appetite for greater understanding of the structure and

function of molecules at many different levels. Plans are already underway for the 2018 Astbury Conversation, and the intention is that the event becomes firmly established in the international academic calendar."

The inaugural Be Curious event was equally successful, attracting more than 1,000 visitors of all ages – many of them visiting campus for the first time.

Eighty activities on the theme of Health and Wellbeing were spread out over campus, ranging from typesetting medieval-style to discovering more about genes through the 100,000 Genome project. Some 200 colleagues took part, explaining and demonstrating their research projects to visitors, and 50 student ambassadors were also on hand to guide and help people find their way around all the campus, stands and activities.

Marina Crowe, the Public Patient engagement officer responsible for organising Be Curious, says: "It was an excellent day and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive and encouraging. People really enjoyed the opportunity to explore campus, talk to our staff and students and get 'hands on' with all different types of research."

"Raising awareness of the 100,000 Genome Project in this environment was good fun, and we saw over 250 people which was fantastic."

Debbie Beirne (Institute of Cancer & Pathology) at Be Curious



Fun for all at the Be Curious event



Vice-Chancellor Sir Alan Langlands with Professor Michael Levitt at the Astbury Conversation

"Be Curious opened up the University as a site of exploration. It was fascinating to see how campus can be transformed by diversifying activity and participation."

Jane Scott (Design) at Be Curious



"It was great for the children to become familiar with the University, campus, students and staff."

Visitor to Be Curious

Stay up to date with University news and events:



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University of Leeds



leeds.ac.uk/forstaff

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About the Reporter

The Reporter is the University of Leeds' staff magazine, produced eight times a year. More than 7,600 copies are distributed to our staff and stakeholders. The Reporter is produced by the Communications team.

Previous copies of the Reporter can be found online at www.leeds.ac.uk/forstaff/reporter

Read online

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

Keep in touch

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 contact us at the.reporter@leeds.ac.uk or 0113 343 6699.

Your comments are always welcome.

The front cover shows student volunteer Imogen Letts (Biomedical Sciences) and an eager listener at the Be Curious festival

News

Key appointments to help shape our future

The University has made a number of important new appointments which will build on our commitment to deliver leading research and education in powerful combination.



Professor Lisa Roberts

Professor Lisa Roberts has been appointed as Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation. She will lead on the further development of the University's research and innovation strategy, delivering a step change in the quality, volume and impact of world-leading research carried out at Leeds. Her brief includes promoting partnerships in a number of key sectors, accelerating collaboration across a wide range of academic disciplines and driving recruitment of world-leading academics.

Professor Roberts says: "I'm delighted to be joining the University. It is a research powerhouse with a strong reputation for innovation. I am excited by its ambitious plans and the opportunity to lead growth in the scale and quality of research."

Professor Tom Ward has been named Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Student Education. He will lead on the overall education strategy, ensuring the University attracts, excites and retains high-quality students from a wide range of backgrounds. His brief will include implementing innovative measures to ensure students benefit from an outstanding education and excellent all-round experience, widening participation, promoting teaching excellence and innovation, and further boosting the employability of the University's students.

Professor Ward says: "Higher education is in a

period of rapid change, and it has never been more important to retain a clear focus on our role. We serve society through the quality of the education we provide to students, and the knowledge we create through research."

Both new Deputy Vice-Chancellors will take up their posts in August.

The University has also appointed its first Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International), Professor Hai-Sui Yu. He will work with University teams and stakeholders to determine and deliver Leeds' international strategy, helping to boost the University's global profile and standing, while generating research and educational opportunities with overseas partners. A distinguished geotechnical engineer, Professor Yu will also hold the role of Professor of Geotechnical Engineering in the Faculty of Engineering.

Professor Yu says: "I am thrilled to be joining Leeds at this pivotal time, as it delivers an ambitious Strategic Plan with an acute global focus."

Finally, Jim Slack has been appointed as the University's Director of IT and will be responsible for ensuring that IT delivery meets the University's needs, working in partnership with academic and service colleagues to support delivery of our strategic ambitions.



Professor Tom Ward



Professor Hai-Sui Yu



Jim Slack

News

Eye-opening photos of Asia

Fascinating photos taken by East Asian Studies students were on show in the Parkinson Building as part of the annual Eye on Asia photo exhibition and competition.

Jing Lin – Lake of the Heaven (Tibet, China)



Mailies Fleming – 18 Hour Sleeper Train (Xi'an-Beijing, China)



Hannah Tendler – The Underweight Cow (in a village on the border between India and Nepal, India)

The exhibition featured a selection of breathtaking photos taken by our students and others during their Year Abroad travels in Asia. The annual event is organised to raise money for charity and help broaden people's perspectives of Asia. This year, £253 was raised for Global Action Nepal through photo submissions and sales.

Prior to opening, the exhibition was recommended to the University Senate by Vice-Chancellor Sir Alan Langlands. Those who attended the exhibition were invited to cast their votes on the best photograph.

First prize of a Polaroid camera went to Mailies Fleming for 18 Hour Sleeper Train taken in

China. In second place was Hannah Tendler, winning a £100 STA travel voucher for her photo The Underweight Cow, which was taken in India. Third prize went to Jing Lin for 'Lake of the Heaven', which was shot in Tibet. The top 40 entrants took away a free print of their photo.

New supplier framework for design

Looking for help to produce a video? Or perhaps your web pages and supporting materials need a refresh? If you source and commission any type of visual design work for the University, you need to know about our new supplier list.

The new supplier list for graphic design, web and video production is now live. Designed

to bring professionalism and consistency to all our publications, websites and videos, this mandatory framework involves 14 external companies and is managed by the Communications team.

Come and meet the suppliers in Parkinson Court on Tuesday 24 May between 10am and 1pm to see what they have to offer. Refreshments are provided and no booking is necessary.

If you'd like to find out more about future training or workshop sessions delivered by these suppliers, contact us to join our Commissioners Network. If you commission graphic design, web or video, please send us your name, job role and email address.

More information can be found on the Communications website at comms.leeds.ac.uk, which includes the new supplier contact details and a resumé of all the listed companies' strengths.

Research and innovation

New manufacturing research at Leeds

A new research team specialising in manufacturing processes and associated teaching has joined the University's Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering in the School of Mechanical Engineering.

Led by Professor Russell Harris and Dr Robert Kay, the team will undertake research into future manufacturing processes that will complement and further the University's ambitions related to high-value engineering and health.

The team – which was previously based at Loughborough University – brings with it a unique vision and portfolio of research around novel manufacturing processes. The strategy to deliver this is based on hybrid and multisystems fabrication, comprising digitally-driven, templateless manufacturing processes. It incorporates emerging fields of science and technology to realise new capability, devices, and applications that add value to our society

and economy.

Professor Harris says: "In essence, we seek to drive new innovations in products and applications by enabling new ways to make them. In all of our work we aim to add value, particularly in terms of functionality.

"We're delighted to join the University, where we see many opportunities to further our interdisciplinary research in conjunction with colleagues across campus. We've been greatly impressed by Leeds' embedded ethos of delivering the highest-quality research alongside outstanding teaching, and believe we share common values and ambitions. We feel that we will significantly benefit from the environment of great people and great support,

and likewise that we will be able to make a significant contribution to the continued growth of the institution. We also expect to strengthen our research partnerships with UK academia and industry."

The team's current research areas include prosthetics, rehabilitation, and robotics, and it is particularly recognised for its number and range of collaborations, both cross-discipline and across different institutions. It has collaborations across 16 different UK universities, including several schools at Leeds and multiple clinical and industrial organisations. The team will be based in the newly refurbished Engineering building.

Professor
Russell Harris (l)
and Dr Robert Kay

Discovering the best treatment for hand eczema

A UK-wide trial which aims to work out which is the best treatment for hand eczema is being coordinated by Leeds researchers.

Hand eczema is a skin condition which affects up to 10% of the UK population.

Symptoms include redness, itching, pain, dryness and blisters.

The trial, funded by the National Institute for Health Research, is being led by Leeds' Clinical Trials Research Unit with colleagues from Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

It aims to work out which is the most effective hand eczema treatment for people over 18 who have failed to respond to steroid creams. The treatments to be compared in the trial are the tablet alitretinoin and a light therapy

called PUVA, where the hands are exposed to ultraviolet (UV) light after they have been soaked in a special solution.

Both these treatments are used by doctors in standard clinical practice. However, there is no clear evidence indicating which is most effective in treating different types of hand eczema.

Dr Miriam Wittmann, Associate Professor in Inflammatory Skin Diseases in the School of Medicine at the University, says: "We know how many people really struggle in their everyday lives due to hand eczema, but we do not know definitively which is the best treatment to use. This research aims to give patients and clinicians a clear message about the most effective treatment."

Read more about the trial on the ALPHA website at goo.gl/lnlpK



Research and innovation

Don't put your REF eligibility at risk!

The Higher Education Funding Council for England's new open access (OA) policy for the next REF officially came into effect on 1 April, meaning that papers accepted for publication from that date must be added to Symplectic, the University publications database, to be eligible for submission to the REF.

To help prepare our researchers for the new OA element of REF eligibility and to assess suitability of institutional systems and services, the requirement to add papers to Symplectic on acceptance was introduced at Leeds one year early. However, at the end of the pilot year, only 38% of the University's estimated annual research output had been added to Symplectic. If this pattern is repeated now the new policy is in operation, approximately two-thirds of the University's research output would be ineligible for the REF.

So, don't put your eligibility at risk. As soon as you've had either a journal article or a

conference paper accepted for publication, simply:

- 1 Go to Symplectic – publications.leeds.ac.uk
- 2 Click on 'Accepted for publication? Deposit your work'
- 3 Fill in the mandatory fields and deposit your author accepted manuscript

The Library will check copyright and make the paper open access via White Rose Research Online at www.eprints.whiterose.ac.uk when

any publisher-required embargoes have expired.

The process of uploading your paper is quick and easy, and support is available in every school goo.gl/t6z8nQ

More information about the policy and how to comply is available at www.library.leeds.ac.uk/university-publications or email research@library.leeds.ac.uk

Climate research Centre seeks members

Are you looking for opportunities to contribute to climate change research and build your professional profile? The new Priestley International Centre for Climate is bringing together researchers from across the University to work collaboratively in areas related to climate change, its impacts and response strategies.

The Centre is named after Joseph Priestley (1733-1804), the natural scientist whose work on gases – he identified carbon dioxide when he lived and worked in Leeds – feeds into the University's work on carbon sinks today. With a focus on delivering research to underpin robust and timely climate solutions, the Centre represents a major investment of £1.5m by the University to strengthen our position as a world leader in climate research. As well as continuing to raise Leeds' international profile, the Centre has been established to increase research funding and, crucially, to encourage interdisciplinary working, with the aim of stimulating new partnerships and novel approaches.

Membership of the Priestley Centre is free

and open to University staff and PhD students whose research and interests align with the Centre's vision. Benefits include opportunities for networking and developing new collaborations, access to dedicated communications support, funding for research projects and related activities, and support for submitting funding proposals, as well as the opportunity to influence the strategic direction of the Centre.

All members can join the self-organising Priestley Society, which will play a key role in encouraging cross-departmental working by organising social events, bespoke training courses, seminars and meetings for research discussion and support. A series of lunchtime seminars to facilitate knowledge exchange and networking is planned for later this spring.

The Centre will formally launch on Tuesday 14 June. The afternoon event will be attended by Vice-Chancellor Sir Alan Langlands and include the presentation of climate change research prizes, a guest keynote speaker, presentations by international partners and Priestley Centre academics on new research directions, and a panel debate. And, of course, plenty of food and drink! More information will be in the next *Reporter*, but book your place at goo.gl/cwBY49

To join the Centre and receive regular bulletins about activities, news and funding, go to www.priestley.leeds.ac.uk/join-us

You can also follow @PriestleyCentre on Twitter.

Students

The Next Stage in employability

The Next Stage – a new programme of seminars and workshops based in the School of Performance and Cultural Industries (PCI) – is enhancing students' personal development and employability.

Short sessions run alongside the programme's centrepiece, the Dream and Achieve event, during which panels of practitioners and a keynote speaker from the cultural and creative industries interact with PCI undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The Next Stage is curated by Dr Philip Kiszely, Director of Student Education for PCI, and Senior Education Service Officer Terri Watkins. It focuses on aspects of professional engagement, including writing about performance, theatre-making, outreach work, directing, cultural engagement, acting with music, and festival management. Students are also advised about placements and postgraduate study.

Terri Watkins says: "This is an example of academic and education staff working together to deliver an outstanding student experience. The programme brings together students

with different interests and at all levels, and encourages them to be proactive about their career development."

"I'm delighted that The Next Stage has been so successful, especially as it demonstrates PCI's commitment to addressing one of the key areas of the University's Strategic Plan," says Philip Kiszely. "Part of that success is down to the School's continued sector involvement, which positions our students at the cutting-edge of the cultural and creative industries."

"We deliver the programme on a modest budget through the engagement of alumni and ongoing connections with leading professionals, and believe that The Next Stage model may be useful to other schools wishing to enhance their employability and professional development activity."



PCI students discuss professional development

A decade of generating wisdom together

Celebrations took place in China to mark the 10th anniversary of the joint Masters in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) programme offered by the University and Guangdong University of Foreign Studies (GDUFS).

The Vice-Chancellor, Sir Alan Langlands, together with Dr Martin Wedell, Dr Judith Hanks and Dr Richard Badger (School of Education) met academics, alumni and dignitaries from GDUFS.

Celebratory events include a symposium – Resources-sharing in Sino-Foreign Joint Education and Teacher Development – at which alumni discussed and described the impact the MA has had on their lives.

"Students come from all over China – from the 'Ice City' of Harbin, to Hainan in the South China Sea – to study on this MA and it was gratifying to hear how completing it has transformed their lives," says Dr Wedell, Head of International Education. "This is one of the first, and certainly one of the most long-standing, collaborative initiatives that the University has established in China. The equal and complementary contributions made to the teaching and administration of the programme by colleagues from the two institutions offers a sustainable

Blackboard Collaborate to come online

Blackboard Collaborate, the University's new online interactive session platform, allows sessions to be recorded and shared easily with others. Colleagues can also have real time conversations online using audio, video, chat, screen sharing and breakout rooms.

The online sessions enable colleagues to host a variety of events online, including:

- A tutorial with a group of students who are off-campus
- A webinar with a guest speaker/expert
- Progress meetings for supporting students on remote placements
- Drop in clinics (problem solving, Q&A, student/staff support)
- Interviews and pre-enrolment support
- Online research meetings
- Flexible CPD opportunities
- School/Faculty meetings for colleagues who are off campus.

Colleagues who use the VLE already have access to Collaborate via their module and organisation spaces. Rooms are available to schedule sessions, for module and organisation activities, and individually for instructors to use.

From June 2016, all colleagues will be able to use Blackboard Collaborate via the web with support from IT.

Information about using Blackboard Collaborate through the VLE is at goo.gl/UtXvWv

More details about case studies, training and support on Blackboard Collaborate can be found at goo.gl/wzGTBQ

model for future international developments."

Dr Hanks comments: "The success of the programme stems from mutual respect and recognition of each institution's expertise and professionalism. Lecturers from GDUFS lead half the modules and lecturers from Leeds lead the other half, all on-site in China. We have different approaches and enjoy our intercultural exchanges, so our partnership and the programme have continued to evolve during the decade the two Universities have been working together. The relationship is a template for sustainable forms of internationalisation; whether UK-Chinese/ Chinese-UK or other international collaborations. We are looking forward to working together in harmony for many years to come."

People

All can benefit from mentoring scheme

Openness, trust and enthusiasm – together with a love of exploring the University's many cafés – form the basis of the relationship between mentee Emma Chippendale and mentor Samantha Haynes.

The two now meet regularly after being partnered through the University's mentoring scheme. This aims to bring experienced colleagues together with colleagues at earlier career stages, to listen and offer advice and guidance. The scheme is open to all staff – support, academic and professional – at all grades, across the University.

Samantha, a Research Support Administrator (Earth and Environment), and Emma, Student Education Service Officer (Postgraduate – History), have been meeting since October. Both are enthusiastic about the benefits of the mentoring scheme.

"I'd definitely recommend having a mentor, whatever grade you are," says Emma.

"Samantha has given me really helpful one-to-one advice and assistance and, because we do very different jobs, she can offer an alternative perspective which, in turn, helps me find new ways to resolve issues.

"The meetings are confidential, so I can speak openly and be completely honest. It's a great way of getting support to explore

career progression options, and it's been challenging too! Meeting Sam has introduced me to new networks and opened my eyes to opportunities that are out there in the University."

The mentoring scheme aims to benefit both parties, and Samantha is a keen advocate for taking on a mentoring role: "Being a mentor costs nothing but it's hugely valuable. It allows me to practise my skills, such as being supportive, encouraging and listening. It's an opportunity to share my experiences of working at the University and, hopefully, provide some useful insights.

"We discuss Emma's objectives and I offer suggestions, maybe help out with paperwork or put her in touch with other colleagues who can also give hugely valuable advice. When Emma does achieve her goals, I will be thrilled to think I've played some small part in helping her."

For more information about the mentoring scheme, please contact Sarah Farrell on s.farrell@leeds.ac.uk



Making the most of mentoring: Samantha (l) and Emma

Service Desk goes from strength to strength

"The transformation of the University's IT Service Desk over the past five years has been really impressive – and we're aiming to become even better," says Tim Walker, Service Desk Manager.

The 10-strong Service Desk team has made improvements year on year and now has a mission and vision. "We've benchmarked our performance, established key performance indicators and found new ways to get customer feedback," continues Tim. "Last year we implemented Service Now, introducing standardised processes for dealing with customers, and our remote support tool, Bomgar, is also fully integrated, making for better call recording and a faster, more effective service.

"The team members are so positive and enthusiastic; they can see the importance of what they're doing and how Service Desk plays a part in helping the University to achieve some of its strategic aims."

The team is a member of the Service Desk Institute (SDI), which sets standards for the sector, including training and core coaching, as well as auditing members and awarding certificates. "The next audit takes place in June, and we're taking a collaborative approach to ensure we're ready for it," says Tim. "Our aim is to achieve the SDI's four star rating."

Plans include improvements to the LoanIT and LoanIT self-service, which offers automated access to laptops on both a free, short-term and

longer term, charged basis. Income from the chargeable service pays for additional resources to support the service. With a laptop unit in the Laidlaw Library, an additional unit ordered for the Health Science Library, and plans to install a new 48-laptop unit in the Edward Boyle Library, LoanIT now has over 150 laptops. A full service review will take place this summer.

Also up for review is FixIT – the chargeable PC repair service shared between the IT Service Desk, which undertakes software fixes – and the IT Workshop which provides hardware. Revenue pays for additional Service Desk resource, and it's hoped that the review will include recommendations for expansion to increase income.

IT Service Desk statistics

- **92%** of Service Desk users feel their experience is 'extremely positive'
- **73,685** users contacted the Service Desk in 2015
- Around **2,600 phone calls** are received per month
- In 2015, **74% of calls** were resolved at first point of contact
- **866 laptops** booked in to the FixIT Service during the past 12 months



A positive team (l-r): Gavin Scott, Fred Sheehan, Luke Haywood, Deborah Walker, Tim Walker, Daniel Latibeaudiere, Antonia Jones, Carl Pearson, Catherine Lumb and Grace Baker

People

Executive MBA – scholarships offer for staff

Do you have a leadership or management role within the University and feel that a formal management development programme would help you perform your role more effectively?

Our Executive MBA is accredited by the Association of MBAs and is ranked 7th in the UK and the best in the north of England, according to *The Economist's* 2015 ranking of executive MBA programmes. The two-year part-time programme is delivered Thursday to Saturday at Weetwood Hall, and is taught by leading academics and supported by expert coaches and mentors.

To make a positive contribution to the professional development of senior colleagues, Leeds University Business School is offering University staff three scholarships to the value of 50% of the programme fee.

Staff Scholarship Award application forms are available from embaenq@leeds.ac.uk and must be completed no later than 1 July 2016.

All successful applicants will be interviewed during the week commencing 11 July 2016.

For details on entry requirements, the course and how to apply, visit goo.gl/3Nd1tt

For an informal chat before applying, email Programme Director, Vince Dispenza, at v.dispenza@leeds.ac.uk



Vince Dispenza, Executive MBA Programme Director

MBA students at Weetwood Hall



Campus

Stay Local and save money

Stay Local, a new local shopping initiative from Leeds University Union (LUU), is encouraging staff and students to use independent businesses in Leeds and save money in the process.

The project successfully launched last autumn and has developed great partnerships with over 20 local independent businesses, including cafés, record shops, clothing boutiques and bars. They all offer a discount for Stay Local cardholders.

The discounts are available to all NUS Extra cardholders who just show traders the Stay Local symbol on the reverse of their card. The card already gives access to hundreds of national and international

discounts, including the Odeon, Co-op and Pizza Express.

University staff can buy an NUS Extra card at goo.gl/Wpmmg or from the LUU Helpdesk. If you already have a card without the Stay Local symbol, just pick up a sticker from the Helpdesk.

The initiative recently signed up the Monday Farmers' Market stallholders, and all these traders will offer a Stay Local discount every week. Look out for £1 cakes, reduced chutney, jam and honey, pretzel deals and free pots of Mediterranean treats. To check where to get discounts, go to

www.staylocalleeds.tumblr.com

or follow [@StayLocalLeeds](https://twitter.com/StayLocalLeeds) on Twitter.



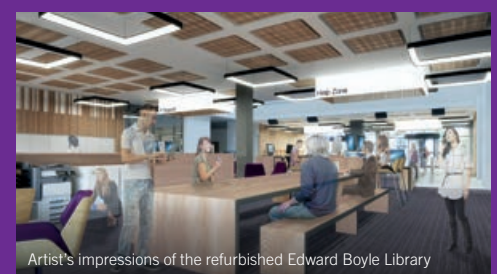
Staying local (l-r): Lauren Edwards, LUU Community Projects intern; Jonathan Phillips, of Humpit hummus and pitta bar; and Jonny Foster, LUU Community Officer

Edward Boyle Library Summer Closure

The library will close fully at 7pm on Friday 3 June for the summer. Refurbished parts of the building will open in autumn 2016 for students to study and access texts whilst work on other parts of the building continues.

When the whole refurbishment is completed in early 2017, it will have over 2,000 group and silent study spaces offering a comfortable and technology rich study environment for students. It will also have a new Great Food at Leeds café and a dedicated postgraduate floor.

A book retrieval service will operate over the summer for science and engineering main collection texts.



Artist's impressions of the refurbished Edward Boyle Library

Partnership

Student start-ups sparkle at business awards

Eight innovative businesses shared prizes worth over £10,000 in the 2016 University of Leeds Business Plan Competition, organised by Spark, the University's business start-up service.

The competition awards prizes in two main categories: Pre-trading and Trading up to 24 months. Winners in each category receive a cash prize of £2,000, and this year a further prize of £1,000 for the best digital business idea was sponsored by Santander.

First prize in the Trading Company category went to Rowena Madar and Satthaporn Barnes for their specialist branding and marketing company, Eat Fish Design. Both women graduated last year with a Masters degree in Product Design from the School of Mechanical Engineering. Their company was founded in November 2015 and is already working on

Trading

1st – Rowena Madar and Satthaporn Barnes: Eat Fish Design

2nd – Georgina Grant-Muller: AVANTEA Ltd – a luxury loose-leaf tea company whose ethically sourced products come in a wide variety of traditional and adventurous flavours

Joint 3rd – Jade Topper: Lady Evelyn – a line of couture bridal accessories, veils and, as of autumn 2016, a collection of gowns

Joint 3rd – Owen Seabrook: Seabrook Media – a production company that is already making connections with larger organisations, including the BBC



Aiping Xu – winner of the Pre-trading Company category



Winners of the Trading Company category, Satthaporn Barnes (l) and Rowena Madar

projects for nine client companies in the medical technology sector, translating the benefits of complex technical products through simple and beautiful marketing and design materials.

Winner of the Pre-trading Company category was Aiping Xu, currently studying for a Masters degree in New Media. She also won Santander's best digital business venture prize. Her company, Lean In Media, uses her experience of working as a movie and documentary buyer in China to provide consultancy to film producers and distributors looking to sell programmes to the Chinese market.

Pre-trading

1st – Aiping Xu: Lean In Media (also winner of the Digital award)

2nd – Jacob James: Intrepid Exposures – a company running locally sustainable and community-oriented travel photography workshops around the world

Joint 3rd – Mark Narvidas: Archimedes' Box – a venture which aims to educate young independent thinkers by facilitating an environment of self-motivated learning and discovery

Joint 3rd – Mercedes Hernandez-Gomez and Rocio Gaudioso-Pedraza: ResearcherSkills – an online business providing scientists and science companies with a platform to efficiently connect, collaborate and outsource research-related services

University welcomes VIPs

A host of special guests visited the University in the first few months of the year, meeting with members of the senior team, academics and students to find out more about Leeds research and education.

Professor Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer for England, came to campus, where she met some of our University Academic Fellows and attended a lunch hosted by Sir Alan Langlands, Vice-Chancellor. She also attended a number of presentations from Academic-

NHS Research Partnerships, including the Leeds Academic Health Partnership, the MRC Centre for Medical Bioinformatics – part of the Leeds Institute of Data Analytics – and the Leeds Biomedical Research Centre.

Later in the day, a packed audience heard Dame Sally talk frankly about her role and the challenges posed by the public health agenda.

Other high-profile guests have included: Professor Sir Mark Walport, Government Chief Scientific Adviser; Leverhulme Trust Director, Professor Gordon Marshall, and Chairman, Niall FitzGerald; Professor Timothy Dafforn, Chief Scientific Adviser at the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills; and Professor Philip Nelson, Chief Executive of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.



Campus visit (l-r): Professor Paul Stewart, Dean of Medicine and Health; Dame Sally Davies; and Sir Alan Langlands

Official launch opens White Rose Brussels office

Guests at the launch included (l-r): Dr Phil Holliday, European Public Affairs Director; Alison Rose, British Ambassador to Belgium; Vice-Chancellor Sir Alan Langlands; Vice-Chancellor of York, Professor Koen Lamberts; and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield, Professor Shearer West. The formal opening reception was followed by presentations by academics from the three universities.



In the news



Dr Charlotte Blease (Leeds Humanities Research Institute) is quoted in the *Washington Post* on Facebook and altruism, noting that our behaviour is similar to our primal instincts to **mimic the behaviour of the most attractive, strongest and most powerful among us.**

Research by Professor Andy Challinor (Earth and Environment) suggesting that the effects of climate change on food production **could cause 500,000 extra deaths by 2050** was referenced in the *Mail Online*. It was also distributed widely online through *France 24*, *Daily Pakistan* and *Yahoo Finance*.

New research led by Dr Julian Ramirez-Villegas (Earth and Environment) about an **urgent need to transform key food-producing regions in Africa** was covered by *BBC News Online*, *Science Newslane*, *Voice of America* and *PhysOrg*.

Items from Special Collections featured as part of the BBC's celebration of **the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death**. Actor Barry Rutter was interviewed in the Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery for BBC *Look North*.

Dr Joanne Maycock (Food Science and Nutrition) was quoted in the *Independent* that **soy drinks can reduce the risk of developing hormone-related diseases**, such as breast and prostate cancer, and can ease menopausal symptoms.



Dr Stephen Wright (Chemical and Process Engineering) commented on **expansion plans for Leeds Bradford Airport** on BBC *Look North*.

Dr Liam Sharkey's (Molecular and Cellular Biology) research about how a family of proteins **allow bacteria to resist the effects of certain antibiotic drugs** featured in the *Mail Online*.

Professor David Wall (Law) was quoted in the *Sun* regarding the death of Muslim shopkeeper Asad Shah in relation to the **increasing figures of Facebook-related crimes** in Greater Manchester.

Dr James Harris (History) talked about his new book on **Stalin's Terror of the 1930s, The Great Fear**, on BBC World Service.



Research led by Dr Klaus Witte (Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine), which has found that **vitamin D3 can improve the heart function of people with heart muscle weakness** (known as heart failure), featured in the *Mail Online*. It also appeared in the *Times*, the *Independent* and gathered widespread coverage across US media.

Professor Philip Conaghan (Leeds Institute of Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Medicine) featured in the *Mail Online* explaining that **exercise is a natural painkiller for those with arthritis**, as paracetamol is ineffective.

Professor Clive Upton (English) spoke about the **discovery of new Anglo-Saxon coins** and the implications for the English language and cultural identity on BBC Radio 4's *Making History*.

Research by Professor Anna Madill (Psychology), Dr Christian Selinger from Leeds General Infirmary and PhD student Jihane Ghorayeb suggesting one in six women who suffer IBD (Inflammatory bowel disease) may be **limiting their fertility options**, featured in the *Huffington Post*, Fox News and *GMA News Online*.

The Be Curious festival was recommended as one of the best weekend days out in the *Times*.



Professor Bill Gerrard (LUBS) featured in the *Times* about the **importance of geographical location for young football players**, and urban players having easier access to football clubs than youngsters from remote rural areas.

Dr Ian Greenwood (LUBS) wrote about the actions needed by the government to **save the UK steel industry** in the *Guardian*.

Research by Professor Keith Hamer (Biology) into the **impact of offshore windfarms on gannets** was featured on BBC's *Countryfile*.

Research by Professor Louise Dye (Psychology) showing that consumption of Concord **grape juice can aid memory** featured in the *Yorkshire Evening Post* and the *Express*. Professor Dye was also filmed by BBC *Look North* in the University's driving simulator, discussing a study on the benefits of grape juice on the concentration and driving abilities of middle-aged working mothers.



Honours

The University has won a national Guardian University Award for Enterprise for its approach to supporting students and “encouraging a spirit of creativity and self-belief that helps students to launch their own enterprises.”

The InTechnology Incubator project, which helps new graduates looking to set up in business, proved to be the winning initiative for the Guardian awards. Providing a much-needed physical space on campus, it offers the full package of business advice, practical support and access to financial assistance.

Kairen Skelley, Business Start-Up Manager at the University, says: “The Spark team truly believes that the University of Leeds has the most talented and highest-quality entrepreneurs. Consistently, these young men and women are spotting gaps in the market and are producing innovative, credible and viable business ideas. Together with the substantial support and mentorship we provide, they are building the foundations to deliver scalable and highly profitable businesses.”

The University's partnership with M&S was also shortlisted in the Business Partnership category of the awards.

In addition, the University was ranked 6th in the UK for best student experience in the annual Times Higher Education survey.

Laura Millward, Collections Assistant at The Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery, is one of the first recipients of a Professional Research Fellowship from the Understanding British Portraits Network. The Fellowships enable the recipients to significantly enhance their portrait expertise, and deliver a substantial output to benefit their home collection and its audience. Laura will research the pendant portraits of industrialist John Marshall and his wife Jane by pastellist John Russell (c1802/05), which hang in the gallery.



Professor Emeritus Clive Walker (Law) has been conferred with the title of Queen's Counsel (Hon) by the Lord Chancellor. He was commended for making a major contribution to UK law on terrorism. He has advised the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation, contributed to UK law on terrorism, written several authoritative books and articles on counter-terrorism legislation, and regularly assisted professionals involved in counter-terrorism work.



Laura Stroud (Leeds Institute of Health Sciences) has been elected a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health (FPH). This level of membership is offered to those who have distinguished themselves through their significant contribution to public health practice, policy or research, or to the specialty of public health.

Great Food at Leeds (GFAL) has won two awards and a silver medal at the annual national TUCO (The University Caterers Organisation) Awards.

GFAL won TUCO's Marketing award for the relaunch of the loyalty programme and gained silver in the prestigious Chef's Challenge competition. Chefs Simon Wood and Lisa Hall were given 30 minutes to invent and cook a menu from set ingredients. They received a silver medal for the quality of their cooking and innovative flavours and were also awarded the Hygiene award.

GFAL was also victorious in the U Dine Awards. Run by the Menu Innovation Network, the awards recognise innovative student dining and bar concepts in the HE sector. GFAL achieved the award for the positive impact that the new Refectory has had on customer satisfaction.

Leeds University Business School (LUBS) has won the PQ Award for Accountancy Innovation in recognition of its online course, The Importance of Money in Business.

The free course, designed by LUBS in collaboration with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), explores the role that money plays in business success. It provides students at school or college, or university undergraduates, with the opportunity to delve into the world of business, gaining skills for a successful career in accountancy or finance. The Dean of LUBS, Professor Peter Moizer, together with colleagues Nick Scott and Alice Shepherd, was actively involved in the production of the course.

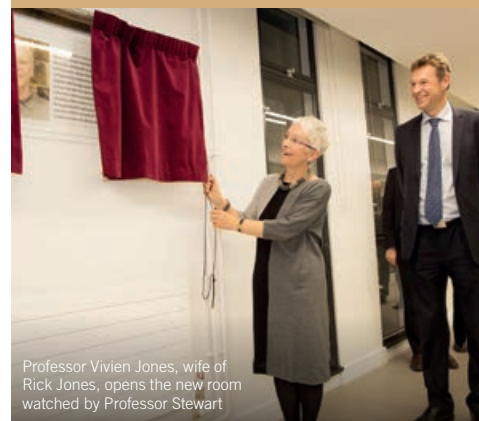
Professor Paul Routledge (Geography) has received the James Blaut Award from the Association of American Geographers (AAG) for his lifetime work on social justice, activism and bridging theory and practice. Professor Routledge received the award and gave the James Blaut Memorial Lecture at the AAG conference earlier this year.

Professor Rick Jones, who influenced the modernisation of pathology in the NHS through his enthusiasm for health informatics, has been posthumously honoured by the University.

Professor Jones, who died in 2014 after a long illness, had an international reputation for academic leadership, clinical excellence and high-impact research. Colleagues gathered to inaugurate a room in his honour in the Leeds Institute of Data Analytics, based in the School of Medicine.

Professor Paul Stewart, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Health, says: “The recent success of the University in the development of data analytics in the health domain, including the establishment of the Medical Research Council Centre in Medical Bioinformatics, was due in large part to Rick's vision and unswerving commitment.

“The Rick Jones Education Room is named in honour of a man who was an excellent and enthusiastic teacher with a strong belief in research-led education. Rick was tireless in his pursuit of academic excellence and innovation, setting – and invariably achieving – exactly high standards in every project that he undertook.”



Professor Vivien Jones, wife of Rick Jones, opens the new room watched by Professor Stewart

News

The Great Oxfam Sew Down

School of Design students embarked on a 12-hour sewing marathon, repairing, restyling and redesigning vintage clothing that had previously been donated to Oxfam.

Prior to the event, these donations were almost worthless due to missing buttons, torn seams, frayed hems and stained fabric.

Using their skills and dedication to the Oxfam cause, the students upcycled a total of 155 garments, adding an average value of £30 to the items. On average, each student gave a new lease of life to four garments.

A spokesperson for Oxfam says: "The event exceeded all our expectations and Oxfam is very impressed with the students' professionalism and dedication."

The pieces of clothing will raise in excess of £6,000 when they are sold on Oxfam's online vintage website. Oxfam will use this to help alleviate poverty.

Visit Oxfam's online vintage website at goo.gl/iAexCQ



Students get hands-on upcycling clothing.

Small ads

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DIETARY STUDY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We will provide you with biscuits, pancakes and milkshake to consume each day for 12 weeks to investigate metabolic health. For more information visit www.food.leeds.ac.uk/pathway-27 (Ethical approval: MEEC 15-015)

Samantha Sutulic, food27@leeds.ac.uk

RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Been feeling down? Paid research opportunity. Participants (18yrs+) required for confidential study aimed at exploring stress and suicide. Participants will be compensated £40 for their time and travel expenses.

starlab@leeds.ac.uk or visit goo.gl/MOC2VC for more details. (Ethical approval: 14-0155)

House for sale

ADEL SPACIOUS DETACHED EXTENDED HOUSE

Five double bedrooms, 'granny' flatlet. PV cells with income circa £1300 pa. Large south-facing productive garden. Excellent transport links to University. £655,000.

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Events

Mitzi Cunliffe's work of the 1950s, until Saturday 2 July, The Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery

An exhibition highlighting the career of American sculptor Mitzi Cunliffe in the 1950s, a period which included the design of the famous BAFTA trophy, participation in the Festival of Britain and the commissioning of the *Man-Made Fibres* sculpture for our campus.

This year the University is celebrating the 60th anniversary of *Man-Made Fibres*. This iconic piece of public art, sculpted from Portland stone, was created especially for the opening of a new building, also called

Man-Made Fibres, now the Clothworkers' South Building. The sculpture features two monumental hands with a striking weave motif cradled between them, reflecting the exciting developments in synthetic fibres that the new building represented. Cunliffe's contribution to public art in the 1950s has been somewhat overlooked. This exhibition reassesses her work during this period and coincides with her inclusion in the Historic England Out There exhibition at Somerset House.

For more information, visit goo.gl/kBGluB



Mitzi Cunliffe, Man-Made Fibres, 1954-1956

Climate Question Time

**Tuesday 14 June 2016, 7.30-9.15pm,
Rupert Becket Lecture Theatre**

A Climate 'Question Time'-style event will take place to round off the launch of the Priestley International Centre for Climate. This free, public event will follow an internal launch of the University's new strategic centre for climate change research in the afternoon (see page 7). It will feature speakers from government, policy and research, including Lord Deben, Chair of the Committee on Climate Change and it will be chaired by journalist and Carbon Brief editor, Leo Hickman. Panellists will discuss the question, 'Are there achievable solutions for limiting climate impacts at 1.5C level?' Questions from the audience should be submitted in advance on the Eventbrite registration form (for preference), or in writing before the debate. Tickets are free and will be issued on a first-come basis. Pre-booking is required at goo.gl/Wal86T

More information about the Priestley launch and Climate Question Time event can be found at goo.gl/TES2j9

Further details about the Priestley Centre is also available at priestley.leeds.ac.uk



Staff Festival 2016, Friday 8 July

This year's staff festival around the theme of Country Fair in the City will feature an exciting programme of music, workshops, competitions and entertainment for all ages.

All University staff, family and friends are invited to join us for an enjoyable afternoon and a taste of the very best the countryside has to offer.

Find out more at staff-festival.leeds.ac.uk



Supplier Showcase

**Tuesday 24 May, 10am-1pm,
Parkinson Court**

The new supplier list for graphic design, web and video production is now online. Designed to bring professionalism and consistency to all our publications, websites and videos, this mandatory framework involves 14 external companies and is managed by the Communications team. Details at comms.leeds.ac.uk/suppliers/

Come and meet the suppliers to see what they have to offer at the Supplier Showcase. Refreshments are provided and no booking is necessary.

If you'd like to find out more about future training or workshop sessions delivered by these suppliers, contact extcomms@leeds.ac.uk to join our Commissioners' Network. If you commission graphic design, web or video, send us your name, job role and email address.

More information can be found on the Communications website at comms.leeds.ac.uk, which includes the new supplier contact details and a resumé of all the listed companies' strengths.

Frozen in Bronze: sculpture by world-renowned artist Michael Lyons

**Until Saturday 9 July at the Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery,
Monday 1-5pm, Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5pm**

The free exhibition, Michael Lyons: Freeze Frame, sheds light on the Yorkshire-based artist. An internationally celebrated sculptor, with large commissions on show in China, Mexico, Canada and Turkey, he is less well known in his home county even though his work is firmly connected to Yorkshire.

The exhibition explores Lyons' surreal, abstracted steel forms and archways frozen in bronze, and complements the recent installation of the sculpture *Lenten Cover* (1979) on campus. To coincide with the exhibition at the University, Yorkshire Sculpture Park will be displaying Lyons' *Heights of David* (1977) from the Arts Council Collection.

Lenten Cover (1979) by Michael Lyons is currently on display on the Western Campus



FAQs

James Dixon-Gough, Sustainability Manager

How did you come to work at Leeds?

After completing an MSc in Environmental Architecture, my first sustainability job was for a commercial property company in London. Prior to this I'd mainly worked for small charities or on community projects, so the social experience and the environmental MSc combined well together. I increasingly found myself at weekends travelling up to the Lake District or Sheffield and started looking for work further north. I was searching for a sustainability-related job in an area near good climbing and cycling! Leeds fitted the bill, so I applied when I saw a job come up.

What's your role at the University?

It's quite varied, but essentially it's managing the University's impact on the environment. I'm responsible for the Sustainability Strategy Making the most of Resources theme. This can involve everything from University biodiversity through to procurement, waste, reducing carbon emissions and managing our construction impacts.

You've been working on the University's Environmental Management System (EMS). Can you explain what this is?

The EMS is there to develop a more systematic and structured approach to our environmental management. As well as helping us to meet legal requirements, it enables us to standardise our approach, set clear objectives and, importantly, check and audit that these are being implemented across the University. It can be on the dry side, but I try to focus on the outcomes, such as improved biodiversity, reduced pollution and a focus on continual improvement.

How's the implementation going?

We've just received certification for ISO14001. This recognises that we have a working system in place and the feedback from the external auditor was very positive. I've been really impressed by support from colleagues across the University, especially the Health



and Safety Service who've developed the system alongside us. Moving forward, we're going to look at opportunities to improve this collaboration, make the system more efficient and support colleagues with training needs when required.

Can you tell us why it's so important that all staff comply with the EMS?

At its most basic level, the EMS is there to ensure we meet legal requirements and don't suffer reputational or financial repercussions. The EMS Standards, Procedures and Guides are there to support this (they can be found at sustainability.leeds.ac.uk/ems). However, more inspirational is the fact that, collectively, our University has subscribed to the values of sustainability, meaning we take our social, environmental and economic responsibilities seriously and aim to have a positive impact on society. That's a great thing! The EMS is a key part of these environmental responsibilities and an opportunity to support them.

What other big projects for Sustainability are you currently involved in?

We have a lot of day-to-day involvement with the large capital projects, but we are currently developing and improving sustainability requirements for the small to medium construction projects. The construction works have also meant that we have had to strengthen our biodiversity offsetting systems to ensure we still increase the long-term biodiversity of campus despite loss of land. I'm also starting a piece of work with the Energy team and external consultants, reviewing our carbon-reduction work and planning a new pathway to meet our carbon-reduction targets.

What's your most frequently asked question?

Probably: "Which bin does this go in?" I don't mind; it's good that people care enough to ask, and it can be confusing.

What would be your desert island book, piece of music, film/TV programme and luxury?

For the book, probably something by Fyodor Dostoyevsky. It takes me ages to read and can be read multiple times!

TV programme would have to be The Wire. I found it a brilliant and addictive watch and liked the balance within the characters. The police and the 'targets' they are tracking are as genius and flawed as each other.

Piece of music – Halycon by Orbital, as it reminds me of dancing in a field while the sun rises. I'm too old to stay awake that late now, but it's good to be reminded of that level of energy!

Luxury – iPod/music player (self-charging of course) with the rest of my music on it.

What do you get up to in your spare time?

I love being outside. If the weather is good and I'm not injured (I'm currently recovering from a broken leg and I am accident prone!), I'll be out in the hills, climbing or cycling. I like to balance this activity with some gentle pottering in my garden, having a relaxed bumble and the odd pint. I've also just started getting back into photography. If I can't be outside doing something I can at least look at photos of people doing so!



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