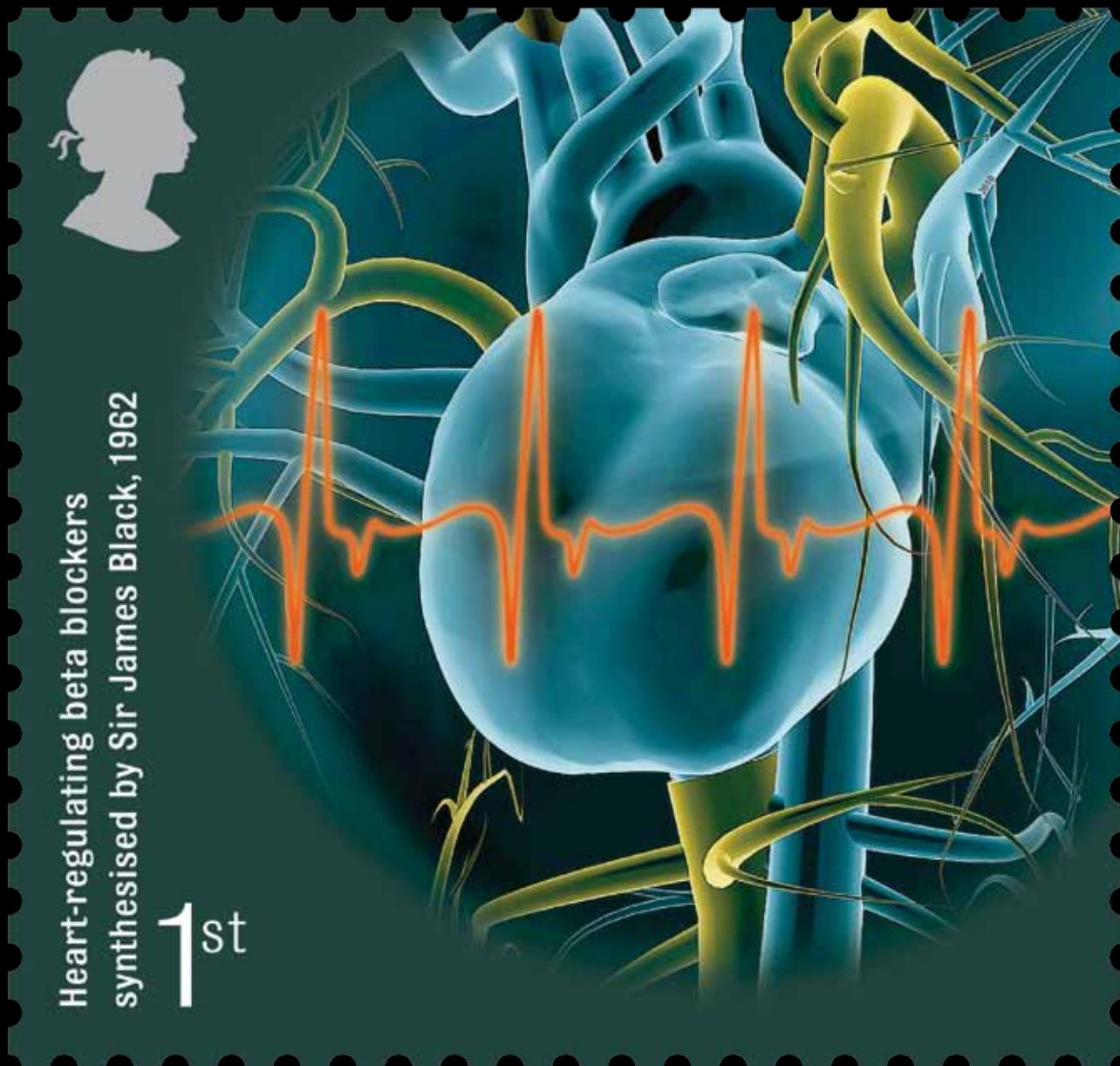


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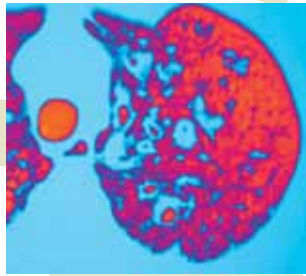
The magazine of the University of Dundee • September 10



A First Class Achievement

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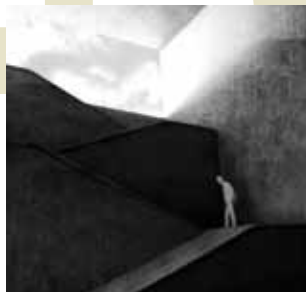
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from the principal...

It seems like no time at all since I was in the Caird Hall in June congratulating and celebrating with our most recent graduates, and by the time you read this, I shall have been at the Caird Hall once again, this time to welcome our newest students. At a time when prospective students have found it more difficult than ever to find the places they want at University, we are welcoming record numbers of students into the fold. I am sure you will join with me in wishing them well in their University careers, and I look forward to seeing them in a few years' time, back at the Caird Hall, to witness them graduate.

It's been a busy summer and work is gathering pace on the Strategic Review, with a number of the projects that have been developed within Schools approaching their implementation phase. Alongside these efforts the University needs to develop a clear strategy for its long-term future, and at its Retreat in early September, the Court tackled this very issue. Amongst the many points raised in discussion were a realisation of the strengths and weaknesses of the institution, what parts of the University were really distinctive, and how these components could be developed to produce the world-class student experience and research environment that we aspire to provide. Court discussions, however, represent only the initial phase of a wider debate on the shape and complexion of the University. The students, academic and support staff of the University all have a role to play in improving our reputation and in ensuring our long-term financial sustainability. As the semester progresses, emerging thoughts on our future will be provided for debate and consultation.

There have been a number of comings and goings over the summer. We said goodbye to Professor Anne Anderson, who has achieved such a lot in the College of Art, Science & Engineering in a relatively short time. Professor Calderhead has assumed the role of Acting Head of College.

We also paid tribute to the dedication and commitment of John Milligan, the outgoing Chair of the University Court, whose last meeting took place in June. He has been succeeded in this role by Eric Sanderson. Over the summer we also welcomed a clutch of new Court members: Craig Kelly and Chris Browne as Students' Association President and Deputy President respectively; and three new lay members of Court: Jo Elliot, Christina Potter and Andrew Richmond. I have to say that I am particularly excited to have such eminent and capable people join the Court, who, I am confident, will play a significant part in the life of the Court and the development and governance of the University.

I would also like to say a few words about the V&A project, which is now reaching an exciting phase. Later this month, an exhibition opens at Abertay University library, showcasing the six shortlisted architectural designs for the V&A building on the Dundee Waterfront. The project is becoming a tangible reality, and it is hard to underestimate the impact that it will have on the soul of the city and the benefits that it will bring to Dundonians and local businesses alike as well as to the University. I hope we can all take pride in the University's pivotal role in the development of the project.

Professor Peter Downes • Principal and Vice-Chancellor

New research suite opens in Perth



The Gannochy Trust Clinical Research Suite, a new facility on the Perth Royal Infirmary site funded by the University's £3 million Diabetes Research Campaign, was formally opened at the end of last month by radio and TV personality Fred MacAulay.

Built at a cost of around £600,000 the research suite fulfils the aim of the Diabetes Research Campaign to provide state-of-the-art clinical research facilities at PRI to enable scientists and doctors to work together to carry out research from "the cell to the community."

It will also enable patients in Perth and Kinross to more easily engage with researchers.

"We have always enjoyed wonderful support from the public across Tayside for the research we carry out, and it would not be possible to do much of that research without people getting as involved as they have," said Professor Andrew Morris.



images courtesy of Lewis J Houghton

"Thanks largely to the outstanding efforts of the members of the public, Tayside is now internationally recognised as having arguably the best information and knowledge of a diabetic population anywhere in the world - over 20,000 people across Tayside have taken part in diabetes research.

"With this facility we are reaching out to people in Perth and Kinross and making it easier for them to engage with the research we are doing, all of which is helping provide new knowledge about diabetes and shape future treatments and prevention.

"We are delighted at the backing the campaign received, and particular thanks for helping to establish the Perth centre must go to The Gannochy Trust who provided substantial funding for the project."

The University has been hailed as a 'world-leading centre' for research into diabetes and is home to the Dundee Diabetes Research Centre, which hosts over 25 research teams engaged in diabetes research, ranging from the study of single molecules to complex clinical studies.

The Diabetes Research Campaign has raised £3million. The money has been used to establish state-of-the-art outpatient clinical research across Tayside, recruit international researchers to Dundee and build on existing clinical and laboratory research capacity.

In addition to the £3 million campaign of public fundraising, there has also been significant investment from NHS Tayside, including £650,000 which was granted from the NHS Tayside Endowment Fund.

Former principal in frame for honour

A portrait of former Principal Sir Alan Langlands was unveiled during the University's annual Graduation celebrations in the summer.

Sir Alan, who spent eight years in the role before taking up the position of Chief Executive of the Higher Education Funding Council for England last April, was in Dundee to receive an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

The portrait, painted by Professor Calum Colvin of Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, was unveiled by current Principal Professor Pete Downes at a ceremony in the Bonar Hall.

It now hangs on the wall alongside portraits of all other previous University Principals.

Professor Downes paid tribute to his predecessor and talked about the significance of his portrait joining those already on display.

"The portraits of past Principals, which hang in the Ustinov Room of the Bonar Hall, symbolise the great traditions and history of our University," he said.

"Sir Alan was far from being a traditional Principal and, fittingly, his portrait is far from traditional too. In so many ways he transformed the University to one of greater confidence and ambition and laid the foundations of infrastructure and key appointments upon which ambitions could be built."

While in Dundee, Sir Alan presented the inaugural Sir Alan Langlands Water Leaders prize to Teresa Liguori, an outstanding student who graduated with an LLM in Water Governance and Conflict Resolution this summer.

The prize is awarded to the graduating student with the best grades in three core water law modules plus a dissertation or equivalent.

Teresa (34) from Bologna in Italy was presented with a £1000 cash prize and an engraved crystal cube.

As part of her Masters work Teresa completed an internship project in Guatemala where she carried out practical work on the country's water law for a Non-Governmental Organisation. Her work on water law reform has been officially recognised by the Guatemalan Senate Cabinet Office for Water

DNA "molecular scissors" discovery

Scientists in the College of Life Sciences have discovered a protein that acts as a 'molecular scissors' to repair damaged DNA in our cells, a finding which could have major implications for cancer treatments.

Dr John Rouse and colleagues in the Medical Research Council (MRC) Protein Phosphorylation Unit, discovered a protein, known as FAN1, which is present in each cell and plays a vital role in maintaining healthy DNA and thus prevents mutations which can lead to cancers.

"The DNA in our cells is like an instruction manual for the proper working of each cell," said Dr Rouse, a Programme Leader in the MRC Protein Phosphorylation Unit.

"A major problem is that DNA becomes damaged regularly. If DNA damage is not fixed quickly then these instructions are changed and the result is mutations - undesirable changes in DNA - that can cause the cell to become abnormal. This is essentially what causes cancer.

"However, cells are very good at recognising when DNA has become damaged and they are good at finding DNA damage and repairing it. For example, cells can quickly detect breakages in DNA and quickly fix these breaks. Many different factors help this process but we still haven't identified all of them or exactly how this process works.

"With our findings we have unlocked a major part of the puzzle. We discovered a new protein, FAN1, which is essential for the repair of DNA breaks and other types of DNA damage.

"During repair of DNA damage, DNA 'flaps' are produced that must be trimmed for repair to be completed. These leftover pieces of DNA get in the way during DNA repair and that is why they have to be removed. FAN1 carries out this task, and in this sense it acts like a 'molecular scissors'.

"Our study shows that superfluous pieces of DNA are cut by FAN1. Cells that do not have FAN1 are unable to repair DNA breaks and their DNA becomes irreversibly damaged and cells die. This underlines the fundamental importance of FAN1.

"Now that we have identified FAN1 and the role it plays in repairing DNA we can start to develop drugs that inhibit it. This may have a significant effect in cancer, primarily in helping to greatly enhance the efficacy of drugs used in chemotherapy treatments.

"It is pure coincidence that last year we discovered a separate group of proteins called the SLX4 complex that acts as a 'molecular toolkit' for DNA repair and that are also required for trimming DNA during DNA repair! The SLX4 complex is another promising drug target.

Most of the work on FAN1 was done by Craig MacKay, a PhD student in Dr Rouse's team, with help from Anne-Cécile Déclais in the laboratory of Professor David Lilley, based in the College of Life Sciences.

Professor Lilley is a world-renowned expert on proteins that can cut DNA.

The research, which was published in the journal *Cell*, was funded by the Medical Research Council.

V&A AT DUNDEE MAKING IT HAPPEN

SIX DESIGNS | ONE CITY | YOUR CHANCE TO SHAPE THE FUTURE



Shortlisted designs on display at new exhibition

An exhibition of models and design concepts for the V&A at Dundee opens in the city this month (September).

The 'V&A at Dundee - Making it Happen' exhibition features work from the six shortlisted teams of world-class architects and designers who have put forward outstanding ideas for a landmark building that will house the V&A at Dundee and transform Dundee's waterfront.

Members of the public are being invited to have their say on the project by visiting the exhibition at the University of Abertay Library in Bell Street and giving their views on the proposals.

"This is another exciting step forward for the V&A at Dundee and it is a first chance for us all to see the potential shape and style of the building, as envisioned by six world-class design teams," said Lesley Knox, Chair of Design Dundee Ltd, the company which has been established to drive the V&A at Dundee project forward. Lesley is also Chair of the jury panel who will select the winning design team.

"We hope as many people as possible visit the exhibition and express their opinions on the various models and designs. The Centre will occupy a prime site on the Waterfront, which must be one of the most dramatic settings in Scotland, and we intend to have a building which is worthy of the site."

The six shortlisted companies who will be featured in the exhibition are:

- Delugan Meissl Associated Architects, Vienna
- Kengo Kuma & Associates, Tokyo
- REX, New York
- Snøhetta, Oslo
- Steven Holl Architects, New York
- Sutherland Hussey Architects, Edinburgh

They were shortlisted from more than 120 entries to an international design competition.

The winning design will be chosen by a jury panel before the close of the exhibition, which opens on Wednesday 29 September and runs until Thursday 4 November. Admission is free.

The V&A at Dundee is being delivered by Design Dundee Ltd, a ground-breaking partnership between the Victoria and Albert Museum - the world's greatest museum of art and design - and the University of Dundee, the University of Abertay Dundee, Dundee City Council and Scottish Enterprise.

The V&A at Dundee is looking to create a landmark building, which will be sited at Craig Harbour right on the banks of the River Tay. The site is being made available through the Dundee Central Waterfront Partnership, the joint venture between Dundee City Council and Scottish Enterprise which is revitalising the prime area of land linking the city centre with the River Tay.

Designers were invited to make proposals for a building that reflects the V&A at Dundee project partnership's desire to stimulate commerce as well as local and visitor interest.

The exhibition will be open from 9am to 9pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, between 9am and 5pm on Wednesdays and between 10am and 5pm at weekends.

For more information visit www.VandAatDundee.com

New students welcomed to city

The University welcomed around 3600 new undergraduate and postgraduate students to its community earlier this month at a special event at the Caird Hall.

Welcoming the new intake to the city and the university were University Principal, Professor Pete Downes, Lord Provost John Letford and Dundee University Students Association President Craig Kelly.

In his address to the new students Professor Downes said, "My message applies equally to everyone. You are now a member of our academic community and whether you're a postgraduate or an undergraduate, home, EU or international, each person is, first and foremost, an equal and valued member of the University of Dundee.

"This is a University which I am immensely proud to lead and it is my aim that you will take pride in your time here. Our success is measured not just in academic terms, but in the impact we have in the real world of finite resources, economic regeneration, human health and cultural richness.

"I hope you too will take pride in your studies here and remain proud to be students and eventually, graduates, of this University. It is a university of opportunity where we emphasise two fundamental values - the merit of striving for success and the need for all students to realise their full academic potential."

DUSA President Craig Kelly added, "The year ahead will be an exciting opportunity for students to meet lifelong friends and take decisions that will shape the rest of their lives.

"Freshers' Week will be the students' first chance to see what's on offer and meet thousands of people from all over the world. My advice is to get involved at every stage with the wide range of opportunities we provide for our members.

"Regardless of the subject they study, I'd like to wish our new students the best of luck in everything they do at the University and their student association."

Traditional Freshers' week activities were organised by DUSA, and a large number of enthusiastic student peer connectors were on hand to provide valuable help and advice to students as they settle into University life.

Meanwhile the PLUS@Dundee - short for Personal Learning for University Success at the University of Dundee - initiative organised Welcome Week, a range of social, cultural, sporting and academic events to help all students to quickly and effectively become part of the University community, regardless of field of study, nationality or age.

Further information is available at www.dundee.ac.uk/welcome2010 and www.dusa.co.uk/freshersweek2010.

£4.8 million Wellcome-Wolfson award

The University has been given a grant of £4.88million from the Wellcome-Wolfson Capital Awards initiative to help expand its life sciences base.

Over £30 million is being invested into large-scale university infrastructure projects courtesy of the Wellcome-Wolfson Capital Awards initiative.

The scheme is intended to facilitate internationally competitive, leading-edge biomedical research in a way that would not otherwise be possible. The projects that have been funded include both new buildings and refurbishment.

The Dundee award is to Professor Mike Ferguson, to establish a new Centre for Translational and Interdisciplinary Research at the College of Life Sciences.

"Our Centre for Translational and Interdisciplinary Research will do two things," said Professor Ferguson.

"It will double our capacity in drug discovery, allowing us to translate more basic biomedical research towards real patient benefit, and it will bring mathematicians, physicists and computational biologists and computational chemists into immediate contact with each other, and with our experimentalists, to bring interdisciplinary solutions to biological and medical problems."

The Centre is expected to cost around £12.5million in total. The University is currently developing proposals to complete the funding package needed. The planned centre would sit alongside the impressive Life Sciences complex at Dundee which already includes the Wellcome Trust Biocentre and the Sir James Black Centre.

The biennial Capital Awards initiative was launched in 2007 to follow the successful Joint Infrastructure and Science Research Innovation Fund partnerships. It provides funding to successful applicants for large scale projects in partnership with the host institution.

ILA boost for adult courses



A wealth of courses from art and computing to history and fashion are included in the University's Continuing Education Courses for Adults Programme which begins this Semester.

For the first time the majority of courses now on offer can be paid for with Individual Learning Accounts, a Scottish Government scheme which provides up to £200 towards a variety of courses for those on an income of less than £22,000 a year.

"That is certainly the biggest change this year," said Kaye Stevenson, Head of Continuing Education. "Until now only a few of our classes qualified but we've worked hard to persuade ILA Scotland to include more courses and now more than 60% of those we offer are eligible."

"It has already had an impact as we have noticed an increase in the number of new enrolments and they are also coming from a broader age range and from a more diverse geographical area."

Kaye added that some courses have already sold out with others filling fast.

"Our jewellery and sculpting courses filled in a week and our creative writing courses are always very popular."

With 140 courses to choose from, however, plus workshops, lecture series and field trips, there are still plenty of opportunities to sign up to something new over the coming year.

Covering literature, art and design, art history, music appreciation, history and archaeology, science and nature, social studies, film and media and personal and professional development, the courses last for between four and ten weeks and run in the autumn, winter and spring terms between September and June.

Computing is also back on the programme this year with a range of courses on offer including Web Programming, Building Web Pages from Scratch, a Beginners Guide to Word Processing and Computing and Microsoft Excel for the Terrified. All these courses are eligible for ILA funding.

Although most courses take place in Dundee a number are also offered in Perth and Angus.

"We have put together a fascinating programme which we hope will offer something for everyone," said Kaye. "We are committed to providing opportunities for new learning within the local community and this year is no exception."

If making a choice is proving difficult a new lecture series offering a preview of some of the courses planned for later in the year may help. *A Taste of Things to Come* features different specialist lectures each week for four weeks. Each speaker will deliver a one-hour introductory lecture to their full length course.

The series starts on September 9 with Tanja Stephen, who will be presenting a course on *Scottish Countryside Detectives* in April.

Other talks include *Wild Men, Holy Places: The Arrival of Christianity in Scotland* by Stephen Clancy, on 16 September, *The Faraway War: Terrorism in the 21st Century* by Christopher McKinley and *An Introduction to Philosophy* by Dr Adam Bissett on 23 September and finally on 30 September *Costume in Portraiture* by Lydia Edwards and *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: An Introduction to Environmental Design*.

For more information on the Courses for Adults Programme visit the Continuing Education website at www.dundee.ac.uk/conted/ or look out for the red programme booklets around campus.

University tops Europe workplace poll again

The University has been voted Europe's 'Best Place to Work in Academia' in the 8th annual worldwide survey compiled by The Scientist magazine.

Readers of the influential magazine voted Dundee third in their list of international institutions (outside of the USA), behind The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia and the Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel.

"It is extremely satisfying to once again see our international reputation reflected in this poll, which gathers the views of researchers working in major institutions all around the world," said Principal Professor Pete Downes.

"Dundee has performed consistently well in this poll over several years and it is a reflection of one of our great strengths, as an international centre of excellence in life sciences and medical research.

"We continue to attract people from all over the world to come and work in Dundee, where they join an extremely strong research base at the University."

Dundee was also voted third internationally in an earlier poll this year, also carried out by *The Scientist*, on the best places to work for post-doctoral researchers.

In this latest poll, readers of *The Scientist* ranked Princeton University as the top institution in the U.S. and The University of Queensland as the top international academic institution.

The full article with detailed survey results can be found in the July issue of *The Scientist* and is available online at www.the-scientist.com/bptw

Engineering teaching award for Dr Smith



A senior lecturer in the School of Engineering has had his "outstanding teaching" recognised in this year's Higher Education Academy Engineering Subject Centre Teaching Awards.

Dr Fraser Smith was shortlisted as a finalist in the UK-wide awards for his teaching methods in the Software for Engineering Module in the second year of the Civil Engineering BEng and MEng courses.

In the module students are tasked with using spreadsheets to tackle real-world, open ended structural modelling problems in the design of complex, non-standard structures.

They are also asked to work in pairs and fill in time sheets. Feedback from students taking the module indicated that it had helped improve not only their IT and problem solving abilities but their team working, time-management and organisational skills.

A member of the awards assessment panel praised Dr Smith for "managing admirably to tackle a number of different aspects including the use of software, problem-based learning and group work while teaching many of the more intangible aspects of engineering associated with professionalism."

Dr Smith was presented with his prize, which included a monetary award and publication of his case study, at an awards ceremony at the Engineering Education 2010 conference at Aston University in Birmingham in the summer.

Dr Rod Jones, Dean of the School of Engineering, Physics and Mathematics praised Dr Smith's achievements.

"Civil Engineering is one of Dundee's 'jewels in the crown' and I would like to congratulate Dr Smith on winning this latest award," he said. "Dr Smith's on-going development of e-learning tools have helped students understand the complex issues of Structural Engineering design and analysis.

"It also underlines the importance we attach to excellence in teaching, as well as our research. In a competitive world, the 'added value' that Dr Smith and his colleagues provide to the civil engineering graduates ensures that they are well equipped to become leading engineers both in the UK and indeed internationally."

Award highlights outstanding teaching



Professor Martin Pippard



Dr Dick Brown

The winners of this year's Chancellor's Award for Lifetime Contribution to Teaching are Professor Martin Pippard, Emritus Professor of Haematology within the College of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing and Dr Dick Brown, senior lecturer in Accounting & Finance within the College of Arts and Social Sciences.

Professor Pippard, who retired as Dean of the Medical School last year, and Dr Brown received their awards at this summer's graduation ceremonies.

The Chancellor's Award for Lifetime Contribution to Teaching was created last year to acknowledge and reward senior teachers for outstanding achievement in teaching over many years and for leadership in teaching and mentoring new teachers.

Professor Pippard said he was "delighted" to have won the award.

"It means a great deal to me to see the University recognising the innovations in teaching within the Medical School, and the huge effort by the very many individuals upon whom the high reputation of medical education in Dundee depends," he said.

"I was also delighted as it allowed me the opportunity to take part in the graduation ceremony of the first cohort of students to pass through the new integrated curriculum introduced by the Medical School in 2005."

Professor Pippard's interest in medical education was stimulated during his time as Clinical Director for Haematology at Ninewells Hospital and Medical School.

As well as being responsible for the development and expansion of clinical haematology services for Tayside he also led the overhaul of haematology system teaching as part of the undergraduate curriculum changes required by the General Medical Council.

He then became convener for the clinical years of the undergraduate curriculum. During this period the School of Medicine implemented a mix of core clinical attachments, including pre-registration apprenticeships, and student selected components, and developed (uniquely for UK undergraduate education) a final assessment which had a portfolio of reflective student work at its heart.

He then became Teaching Dean with responsibility for a comprehensive curriculum review involving University and NHS staff and students, and the implementation of a new more integrated curriculum in which the relevance of basic sciences to clinical studies could be more readily understood.

Professor Pippard was then appointed Dean of the Medical School, where he helped to coordinate a year-long review of the Dundee medical course by the GMC, who praised the professional approach of Dundee medical students. He was also Chair of Haematology with an international reputation in iron metabolism and in particular, problems of iron overload disease. He retired in September of last year.

Dr Dick Brown, a statistician in Accounting & Finance, said he too was "delighted" to have won the award.

"It means a lot to win but just as much to have been nominated by my colleagues," he said. "They are a great bunch of people within the department and I feel very grateful that they should think of me as the kind of person who could win this award."

Like Professor Pippard, the opportunity to take part in the graduation ceremony alongside many of his students was a highlight of winning the award.

"There was a big cheer from the accountancy students when I went up on stage to receive my award from the Chancellor," said Dr Brown. "It was great to be able to share the day with them."

Dr Brown has been a member of staff at the University since 1968. After a maths degree at Durham, an MSc and PhD from Newcastle and two years predicting electricity demand at the Central Electrical Research Lab in the south of England Dr Brown arrived at Dundee as a teacher and researcher in the maths department.

He also ran a counselling service offering statistical advice to colleagues. As a result of a request from information by a Professor of Pathology he carried out collaborative work with the Department of Pathology for a number of years.

He also began teaching maths to accountancy students for which he received continually good reviews. In 2000 he was invited to transfer from maths to accounting and finance.

"My interests at that time were moving towards finance as it was becoming a hot topic in terms of statistical research," he said.

Dr Brown now teaches a number of courses within Accounting & Finance and still runs his consultancy service.

"I love teaching," he said. "I get a real buzz from it particularly when a student who has been struggling with something suddenly says yes I get that now. I like the challenge of thinking in unconventional ways to teach a subject that some people may think of as difficult."

As well as winning a certificate of recognition Dr Brown and Professor Pippard can now use the title of Chancellor's Award Fellow.

For more information on the Chancellor's Award for Lifetime Contribution to Teaching and other teaching awards visit www.dundee.ac.uk/library/teaching/apd/awards.htm

Dundee project puts Cystic Fibrosis on the map

An ambitious project led by the University's Centre for Cardiovascular and Lung Biology to map Cystic Fibrosis across 35 European countries has been awarded a "Best in Europe" prize and hailed as an exemplar for other rare diseases.

Led by Dr Anil Mehta, Reader in Molecular Medicine at the School of Medicine, the project was ranked first ahead of 70 other submissions to win the accolade from the European Rare Disease Conference held in Poland this summer.

"This prize is the culmination of a decade long effort," said Dr Mehta. "The project has now mapped Cystic Fibrosis from Iceland down to the shores of the Black Sea and across to Russia and the Eastern States of Europe.

"It covers almost 30,000 CF patients in 35 different countries and has enabled these countries to match their survival performance against the European average and is also being used to plan new therapies."

The pan-European project compared health outcomes for CF patients born in long-standing EU member states with those born in countries who joined the EU after expansion in 2003.

The resulting paper, which appeared in the *Lancet* earlier this year and is available as a podcast, showed that despite similar population sizes and underlying gene frequencies, there were fewer CF children in the post-expansion states.

Dr Mehta argued that the reason for this stark reality is that CF patients in those countries are dying as babies because of a lack of adequate health care.

"We know this disease occurs randomly in about 1 in 4000 children born to healthy parents across Europe," he said. "Despite this we encountered many fewer teenagers and females with CF in these poorer countries.

"Without appropriately targeted treatment these CF children will continue to die in childhood in these new member states."

Dr Mehta, who worked as a clinician in the treatment of CF before focussing on research, added that similarly tragic outcomes were common in the UK and other EU countries three decades ago.

"Years ago there were very few adults with CF in this area either because so many died as children. Back in the early 1980s the outlook for people with CF was bleak. The difference in outcomes now is unrecognisable. Child mortality in the UK used to be as high as 50% whereas now it is less than 5%."

It was Dr Mehta's work with young CF patients and their parents that provided him with the inspiration to begin work on a Scottish CF database, a project which laid the foundations for the pan-European initiative.

The success of the Scottish register led to an expansion of the database to cover the whole of the UK. In 2006 the European Union provided funding for the development of the European database. Hopes are now high that a global registry linking European data with that from Australia and North America will become a reality.

"It was the generosity of a local mother affected by CF in her children who donated a lap-top to me in the early 1990's that facilitated all of this work," said Dr Mehta. "Shirley Wilson asked me to help her. One of her daughters had died of CF and she had another daughter with the disease. She asked me to help because she couldn't bear to lose another child. I knew I had to do something."

Both he and the rest of the project team are now hoping the research will help bring about the kind of health care improvements which have taken place in the UK and other EU countries over the past two decades by engaging with EU Parliamentarians.

"We have to redress the imbalance," said Dr Mehta. "We need our politicians to act to end this death sentence for CF sufferers in the newer EU states."

Dr Jonathan McCormick, a senior clinical fellow in paediatric Respiratory Medicine at the Medical School's Centre for Academic Clinical Practice and a lead author of the *Lancet* paper, said the aim was to raise awareness of the imbalance in health outcomes and help those who can campaign for change.

"The *Lancet* paper gives a voice to people particularly in Eastern Europe where outcomes for CF are similar to the UK 30 years ago," he said. "It attracted a huge amount of media interest and that is very important because it raises awareness of the issue. We're hoping it can be used to lobby on behalf of patients and as leverage for greater resources."

He added that although the *Lancet* paper was written by a team of six clinicians and researchers it represented the work of thousands of people all over Europe.

"Every time I see a patient in clinic I fill in forms and that data is put into the system. This happens in clinics all over this country and other countries too. It is a huge collaborative effort with thousands of people involved at all levels.

"The register has become a very powerful tool and the more data we have the more powerful it becomes. The database allows us to look at trends, ethnicity, rare complications, genetic variations and distribution. It also allows us to share information more easily with patients and their families."

Dr Mehta added that evidence from the Register was one of the driving forces behind the introduction of newborn screening for CF in the UK and work is now underway to seek funds for a new project to add a genomic scanning aspect to the database.

"We hope that a thorough understanding of the genomic background to CF could yield clues as to the reasons why the loss of one amino acid in a difficult to detect protein can cause so much devastation to the lives of over 30,000 patients across Europe.

"A parallel development in the next phase of work is to create the global registry. It is sobering to think that Patrick Geddes, a former Professor here at the University, who coined the phrase "act local, think global," should have that sentiment echoed in the modern era by the work we're doing."

“The project has mapped Cystic Fibrosis from Iceland down to the shores of the Black Sea.”

A Winning Partnership

A new partnership between the Institute of Sport and Exercise (ISE) and the Sports Union is promising an exciting future for sport at the University.

Dundee University Sport has been established to maximise the strengths of each partner to enhance the provision of sport for students and staff.

ISE Assistant Director Paul McPate said the move follows a similar, highly successful collaboration at national level.

"The national association for student sport and the equivalent for university sports department staff amalgamated in 2005 to form Scottish Universities Sport," he explained. "It has been an outstanding success and the model was recognised here as one we should move towards."

"We carried out a benchmarking exercise and visited institutions in England and Scotland to look at best practice and we found there was huge merit in this kind of partnership.

"It includes a single infrastructure for the delivery and development of sport and a coordinated approach in terms of resources and the provision of high quality sport. The aim is to improve the quality and experience of sport across all levels."

Paul added that the strength of the new organisation lay in the mixing of skills and talent from both ISE and the Sports Union.

"ISE has extensive professional expertise and management experience in relation to sports development and that is now married to student enthusiasm and a substantial volunteer base," he said.

"New students bring fresh ideas and renewed enthusiasm and these are major strengths but it also means that as committees hand over and new students come in some of the knowledge base has to be revisited every year.

"We can offer a level of continuity and that is one of our strengths. We can offer help in terms of hand over, inductions etc when new committees come in and we'll have a development role for clubs assisting the volunteer base which the clubs rely on to function."

Earlier in the summer members of the Sports Union unanimously approved a proposal to establish Dundee University Sport.

Sports Union President Graeme Spowart said the initiative was the logical next step to develop sport at the University.

"The Sports Union has existed since 1967 and has brought a continual flow of different ideas but it has sometimes lacked the year on year continuity needed to support clubs in their long-term development.

"Now the clubs will continue to have the representation, guidance, student knowledge and support given by the sports union but they will also have the expertise and consistent professional support from ISE.

"Dundee University Sport gives us a better platform to promote the successes of our sports teams and clubs through wider avenues and champion the close-knit sporting community we have at the university."

Graeme, in his role as President, will be a member of the new body's management committee as will the Sports Union's vice-presidents and secretary and members of ISE staff.

"This will strengthen the student voice by giving them direct input into the decision making process," said Paul. "The potential in this is very exciting. We expect that within three years our competitive success will have improved and that opportunities for taking part in sports will be greater for students and for staff.

"Sport is a great way for staff and students to become part of and take pride in the University community and both ISE and the Sports Union are confident that Dundee University Sport will deliver a high quality sporting experience for the university community."



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"We visited Tianjin University which is a separate entity from Tianjin Medical University and which already has strong links with Dundee in terms of joint courses," said Professor Corner.

The project, which is supported by Scottish Health Innovations, involves developing ultrasound equipment to help doctors guide anaesthetic injections in medical procedures.



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In collaboration with colleagues at the Universities of Newcastle and Royal Holloway London, the Dundee team will investigate the potential damaging effects of such agents on bee performance in learning visual and olfactory skills, foraging, navigation and communication.

For more information visit www.bbsrc.ac.uk/pollinators.

Sir James Black Honoured On Royal Mail Stamps



Former University Chancellor Sir James Black, who made medical history when he synthesised the first heart-regulating beta-blocker, has been honoured on the Royal Mail's newest First Class stamp.

Nobel Laureate Sir James, who sadly died earlier this year, is one of six scientists celebrated in the 'Medical Breakthroughs' series of stamps, which mark the huge contribution of British scientists to the health of people worldwide. Since Sir James developed propranolol, a drug which revolutionised the treatment of angina and high blood pressure in 1962, beta-blockers have helped save hundreds of thousands of lives across the world.

His widow, Lady Rona Black, joined Professor Pete Downes, Principal of the University, to launch the stamp, which displays an artistic interpretation of the invention. Fittingly, this event took place at the Sir James Black Centre, the building named in his honour which is home to hundreds of scientists carrying out interdisciplinary research in the College of Life Sciences.

After Lady Black met PhD students from the College of Life Sciences, she and Ian McKay, Director of Scottish Affairs at the Royal Mail Group, were taken on a tour of the Drug Discovery Unit by Professor Downes.

Lady Black said that she was delighted to see that the spirit of research and discovery that her husband held so dear was so evident at Dundee. "I am so delighted to launch these stamps which pay an immense tribute to my late husband," she said. "It is wonderful to see the work of Jim and that of the other scientists celebrated in this way. He would have been deeply touched by this event today here in Dundee where he spent many days working and as Chancellor."

Sir James was also an alumnus of the University, and was a much loved and respected member of the University community who remained in regular contact with friends and colleagues at the institution up until the time of his death.

In addition to the invention of propranolol, he also made hugely significant discoveries in the development of drugs to treat heartburn and ulcers. Sir James' contribution to science was recognised at the highest level in 1988 when he was awarded (jointly) the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine. In 2000 he was awarded the Order of Merit by The Queen - the highest honour which can be bestowed on an individual personally by The Queen. In 2005 he was named the first recipient in the University's history of an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science.

Professor Downes said everyone at the University was delighted to see Sir James Black honoured in this way. "As an alumnus and former Chancellor of this University, we are immensely proud of all he has achieved," he said. "I am particularly pleased that Lady Black has been able to attend this event at the centre which was named in his honour.

"Sir James' work with beta blockers is rightly celebrated as one of the most significant ever medical breakthroughs – one that has touched the lives of millions. Sir James Black took a keen interest in the development of our research here at Dundee and inspired many people, from students to senior academics and industrialists.

"It is right that he continues to be honoured for his contribution to medicine and it is wonderful that the Royal Mail has chosen to recognise him in this way. He was a first class scientist and a first class man whose work, fittingly, will now be honoured on first class stamps."

Ian McKay said "Propranolol invented by Sir James Black, is considered to be one of the greatest achievements of modern Scottish medicine. Sir James' highly original research has inspired others to develop specifically targeted drugs, making a huge difference to people all over the world. This striking set of stamps highlights six excellent examples of how, science and scientists have risen to the challenges of mass health care, and in doing so transformed the lives of people around the globe."

“Sir James' work with betablockers is one of the most significant ever medical breakthroughs...”





MSc for Naeto C

All students know how difficult it can be to juggle coursework with other commitments but few will have faced the same time pressures as Naetochukwa Chikwe, a postgraduate student with the Centre for Energy, Petroleum, Mineral Law and Policy.

Apart from writing up his Masters dissertation the 27-year-old Nigerian has also been working on the release of a follow up to his multi-million selling first album, flying all over the world for festivals and promotional events and doing charity work to help some of the world's poorest children.

As well as being a student, Naetochukwa – or Naeto C to use his stage name – also happens to be Africa's hottest hip-hop star. His 2008 debut album *U Know My 'P'*, sold more than three million copies in Nigeria alone and led to him being named Best New Artist at the MTV Africa awards in 2009.

Despite the lure of fame and fortune, Naeto decided to pursue his studies and settled into life in Dundee just like any other student, with tutors and classmates largely unaware that they had a superstar in their midst.

"I came here for the course so my focus was on going to school and getting my Masters," Naeto explained. "I didn't tell people what I do in addition to my studies because all I wanted to do was get on with things."

"I'd be working on my studies for a while and then I would have to fly somewhere for something to do with the music - it was kind of a double life, which wasn't easy to keep up."

"I just wanted to concentrate on my studies but, as the year progressed, I had to tell the programme director as it was getting harder to balance my music and studies and I needed to rearrange things as a result."

"It's not just about music for me. Music began as a hobby which became much bigger than I'd ever imagined it would, but there's more to me than that. I think what's important is what you use the music to do."

"I can't say what will happen with my music but getting my masters will give me something to fall back on. This is my Plan B."

Naeto, who has been dubbed the most educated entertainer in Africa, obtained his undergraduate degree from George Washington University in the US. He has performed at festivals and concerts across the globe and was a media panellist at the Harvard Africa Business School's Annual Conference 2010. He is due graduate with his Masters in Energy Studies next month.

Winter GRADUATION 2010

The University's first autumn graduation ceremony takes place in November at the Caird Hall in Dundee city centre.

The decision to include an additional graduation outwith the traditional summer ceremonies followed successful representation from a number of Schools and with the encouragement of the University Senate.

Director of Registry Paula Elliott said the ceremony is designed to give students who are traditionally awarded at the October Senate the opportunity to graduate as soon as possible after confirmation of their award.

"Most typically these students will comprise research and taught postgraduates as well as undergraduates who are eligible to be awarded following a late summer examination board," she said.

"Importantly this will provide an opportunity for those of our students who graduate with a postgraduate certificate or diploma to attend a ceremony for the first time."

The ceremony will take place on Wednesday 17 November and will be followed by a Winter Wonderland themed celebration in a specially constructed marquee on Campus Green between 7pm and 10pm.

Musical entertainment will be provided by acclaimed Jazz musicians the Martin Waugh Band.

Tickets for the Winter Graduation evening celebration will be priced at £10 each. For more information visit the Registry website at: www.dundee.ac.uk/registry/main/com/grad/autumn2010.htm

www.dundee.ac.uk/wintergrad2010

Top jewellery award for Elizabeth



A Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design (DJCAD) graduate has won one of the UK's most illustrious awards for emerging jewellery designers.

Elizabeth Humble (22) was selected to take part in the prestigious New Designers exhibition in London along with fellow graduates from the Jewellery & Metal Design

programme. After impressing judges with her exhibit, Elizabeth was announced as the winner of the New Designers Goldsmith's Company Jewellery Award.

The prize comprises £1000, 10 years registration at the Goldsmiths' Company Assay Office, a place on the company's 'Getting Started' business course and access to the Astley Clarke mentoring scheme. She has also won the opportunity to design an exclusive collection for Astley Clarke.

Drawing is a key element of Elizabeth's practice, which is heavily influenced and inspired by landscapes. Using precious metals, her designs feature details and elements of a landscape to create elegant jewellery.

Elizabeth, originally from Argyll, graduated with a 2:1 degree in the summer. 'The Fragile Landscape', her exhibit at New Designers, proved to be a popular display at the Dundee Degree Show in May.

Elizabeth said the money would be used to purchase precious metals to enable her to continue her practice, and that she was both delighted and surprised to have won.

"I'm absolutely over the moon, but still can't really believe it," she said. "I honestly didn't expect to win, and was completely shocked when they read out my name."

"This prize gives me the funding to continue the development of my collection. It is a great opportunity and a platform for me to break into the jewellery world, which is what I'll be using the prize money for."

This is the second year in a row in which a DJCAD graduate has won the Goldsmith's Company Jewellery Award. Hannah Livingston won the award in 2009, and the Jewellery & Metal Design programme has established a strong reputation for generating individual and innovative new designers in recent years.

Jewellery & Metal Design programme director Dr Sandra Wilson congratulated Elizabeth on her award, and praised her for the high standard of her work.

"This really is the biggest jewellery award in the UK, and for Elizabeth to have won it is wonderful," she said. "We weren't surprised that Elizabeth won, even if she was. Her work is fantastic, and this award is the perfect way for her to launch her career as a jewellery designer."

"It is also a fantastic reflection on the degree programme, and we're delighted with Elizabeth's achievements, particularly given the fact that Hannah Livingston won the same award last year."

"The past couple of years have seen out students and graduates produce some truly exceptional and highly innovative work. They have gone on to win several prestigious awards and really make their mark in the professional world. They are an inspiration to current students, and show what can be achieved with hard work."

Three cheers for architecture graduate Alan

Architecture graduate Alan Keane rounded off a summer of celebrations this year by winning the UK's most prestigious student architectural competition.

Alan (33), originally from County Waterford, beat off competition from architecture students across the country to be awarded first place in the 3DReid Student Prize 2010. He received £1,500 as a reward for his winning project, which examined theatre design.

The impressive win was one more reason for Alan to celebrate this summer. In June he achieved his lifelong dream of becoming an architect when he graduated with a Master of Architecture degree and just weeks later his wife gave birth to their second child.

3DReid is one of the country's leading and largest architectural practices, with studios in London, Glasgow and Birmingham. Their annual Student Prize is regarded as the most prestigious award for young architects to win.

"I'm absolutely delighted and more than a little surprised," said Alan. "I had been shortlisted for the award, but I genuinely didn't expect to win. I went along to the award ceremony in Glasgow thinking that it would be a good chance to network more than anything else."

"My project concentrated on theatre design, and testing a number of ideas I had developed when I was writing my thesis. It was good to test these out and develop them further."

Alan is the fifth winner of the 3DReid Student Prize, which is run in conjunction with the *Architect's Journal*. The invitation is extended to all schools of architecture in the UK.

A record number of nominations were made in 2010 and, after a shortlist was compiled by a combination of a public vote and judges from 3DReid, an esteemed panel of industry professionals then identified Alan's project as the best from an exhibition of the shortlisted entries.

Becoming an architect has been a lifelong dream for Alan, who first came to Dundee to study the discipline in 1996. Ill-health forced him to leave his studies three years later but Alan's desire to study architecture refused to fade, and he began the course again in 2004.

"I've always wanted to be an architect and had regretted having to give up my course so it came to the point when I just thought 'I've got to go back and do this'. I'm delighted that I did, and graduating and winning this award vindicated my decision."

Graeme Hutton, Dean of the School of Architecture, congratulated Alan, saying, "The 3DReid award is undoubtedly the UK's biggest and most prestigious student architectural competition and we are delighted that it has been won by one of our graduates this year."

"Alan's excellent project makes him a worthy winner, and the fact he was up against entries from almost every other architecture school in the UK makes it a very significant achievement of which he should be very proud."

Since he graduated in the summer Alan has landed a job with Feilden Clegg Bradley, one of the UK's most highly regarded architecture firms and past winners of the Stirling Prize.

DUNDEE MASTERS SHOW 2010

“ This Masters show exhibited an incredible range of strong ideas and an enormous amount of talent. ”

Postgraduate students at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design put on a vibrant and fascinating display of creativity and talent at this year's Dundee Masters Show.

Exhibits included a study of how design can be used to prevent suicide, analogue twitter for grandparents, an E-learning tutorial for Cystic Fibrosis patients using i-Pad technology, and prototype designs that explore how outdoor exercise spaces can connect people, nature and wellbeing.

The Masters Show featured students' work from five Masters programmes including Design, Fine Art, Media Arts & Imaging, Medical Art and Forensic Art.

Running for a week at the end of August Dundee Masters Show 2010 included talks, screenings, tours and workshops.

Jeanette Paul, Head of Postgraduate Studies at DJCAD, said, "Every year, the exhibits at the Masters Show demonstrate the rich diversity of the work that students undertake at postgraduate level in art, media and design and the 2010 show continued this trend.

"The creative practice has a strong research foundation which infuses the work, resulting in focussed, intelligent and thought-provoking work that has allowed our students to build upon their creativity and technical ability.

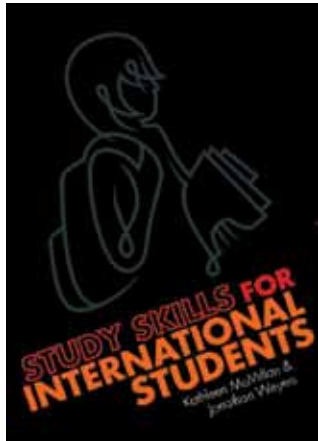
"From multimedia, time-based and animation work through art installations and painting to innovative design solutions to contemporary issues, this Masters Show exhibited an incredible range of strong ideas and an enormous amount of talent."



images courtesy of Shahbaz Majeed

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New study guide for international students



Two University academics with a combined total of more than 60 years teaching experience have written a timely guide for overseas students aimed at easing the transition to studying in the UK.

Academic Skills Advisor Dr Kathleen McMillan and Director of Quality Assurance Dr Jonathan Weyers have had their book *Study Skills for International Students*

published just as thousands of overseas students arrive in the UK to begin university courses.

“Whatever their age, experience and background, learning at a UK university marks an exciting new phase in the life of international students, but it is also a challenging time,” said Dr McMillan.

“There is a lot of information to gather, filter and make into some sort of sense. Students are arriving in a new country and becoming immersed in a new higher education culture. They need to adapt quickly to different learning and teaching approaches and assimilate all sorts of new jargon.

“Universities work hard to support international students and help them settle into this new life. With this book, we are looking to give students a resource that they can dip into whenever they need academic advice.”

Dr Weyers said the book was informed by the authors’ knowledge of the many challenges faced by new students.

“Learning at university in the UK builds on one basic notion - that students, regardless of age or experience, are good at organising themselves and so will quickly conform to the standards that the university community expects,” he said. “As professional academics we know that this is not achieved quite as quickly as everyone - staff, students and their families - might wish, partly because there is so much to learn how to do.

“Hopefully our book will help students get to grips with their new life more quickly and, in the end, perform better as a result.”

Murder mystery wins Dundee Book Prize

A dramatic murder mystery set in a Lancashire town during Victorian times was unveiled as the winner of the Dundee International Book Prize this summer during the University’s Dundee Literary Festival.

Wigan teacher Alan Wright (59) was awarded the £10,000 prize, the highest in the UK for an unpublished writer, and a publishing deal for his debut novel, *Act of Murder*.

The book is set in Alan’s home town in 1894, and centres upon the fictional gruesome murder of entertainer Richard Throstle, who came to town with his wife Georgina and their ghoulish magic lantern show.

More than 110 writers from across the globe submitted manuscripts for this year’s prize which is a collaboration between the University, Polygon and Dundee City Council.

“We had entries from New York, Florida, South Africa and all over Europe this year,” said Anna Day, Director of the Dundee Literary Festival.

“*Act of Murder* will appeal to anyone who loves a good crime book. It is gritty, historical, fast paced and brilliantly plotted, and we are sure it will do very well.”

Alan, who has previously written plays and short stories, paid tribute to the organisers of the Book Prize for giving him the opportunity to fulfil a lifelong ambition to have a novel published.

“I suppose it’s only aspiring writers who can fully understand what winning such a prize means,” he said.

“It was much, much easier to become a published author seventy or so years ago, and it takes an act of great courage from the organisers and sponsors of the Dundee Prize to support new writing in such a positive way.

“Winning the Prize has not only given me the inspiration to continue to write, it has filled me with a deep sense of responsibility. I owe Dundee a great deal, and I’m determined to justify the faith it’s shown in me.

“As for my future plans, I’m writing another murder mystery set in Wigan, but I am also exploring another world from the late Victorian period - that of psychic research, séances and mediums, where murder and the growing fascination with the supernatural should prove an interesting background. The first draft of *Murder at the Séance* is already complete!”

Act of Murder is published by Edinburgh-based Polygon, an imprint of Birlinn Ltd (see www.birlinn.co.uk for details).

The competition is held annually, and the winner announced each year at the Dundee Literary Festival.

Forensic students write their own textbook



The 2010 class of graduates from the University’s highly regarded Forensic Anthropology course have set a new standard - by writing their own textbook for future students.

Final-year students on the honours degree course have written all of the chapters of

the newly published *Forensic Anthropology 2000-2010*. The book forms a guide to the subject which will be invaluable to successive cohorts of students.

“The book is a review of forensic anthropology of the last decade, written BY students FOR students,” said Professor Sue Black, Director of the Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification.

“The publishers, Taylor and Francis, tell us they have never come across an undergraduate class writing a new textbook on their subject, so this is a real first for the students and for them. It is a great accolade to the quality of our students that they graduated with an undergraduate degree and their first publication.”

Twenty one undergraduate students contributed to the book’s twelve chapters, with some additional input from postgraduate students and each chapter was assigned to a member of staff.

The text was based on coursework submitted by the students.

“The principle is to give future students a book that can act as a starting point for finding information and setting out on research projects,” said Professor Black. “I think our students have done a fantastic job on this and I can’t praise them enough.”

Eilidh Ferguson, one of the students who worked on the book, co-edited the publication alongside Professor Black.

“This has been an incredibly challenging year, trying to finish off our degrees while also putting together a book, but it has brought us together as a class,” said Eilidh (22), who is from Aberfeldy.

“Working together to create something that will not only serve us in our future career choices but will provide a real guide to future students has been a great experience. This book will hopefully give the students who follow us onto the course an initial point of contact with the vast literature that exists around the subject.

“Of course, it isn’t bad for our own CVs either, to have written a book before we have even graduated!”

The Forensic Anthropology course is run by the Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification (CAHID) at the University. CAHID is an internationally-leading centre in the fields of human identification, forensic anthropology, cranio-facial reconstruction and the study of the human body.

Conservators restore valuable maritime logbook

Experts from the University’s Book & Paper Conservation Studio have painstakingly restored the logbook from a celebrated warship which sailed during the era of the Napoleonic Wars.

The log, recorded aboard the HMS Medusa, a ship on which Nelson once sailed, dates from March 23rd 1802, when one of its sailors, Andrew Service, began the journal.

The past two centuries had taken its toll on the logbook which is held by the University of Glasgow’s Archives Services. The parchment cover and paper pages were coated with dirt while damage had also been sustained to the binding structure.

The Book & Paper Conservation Studio were called in to help restore the artefact to a condition approaching its original glory. Conservator Emma Fraser worked on the logbook.

“We looked at the fact the book was in its original binding and how to maintain as much of that original material as possible during the conservation work,” she said.

“In that respect, we were very successful. It was actually a well made book to start with, which helped as there was a lot of material left intact. This is perhaps surprising when you consider it was kept on a boat, and therefore there was the potential for damage from water and other contaminants.

“From the point of view of us, as conservators, what was interesting was the fact the logbook was still in its original binding. As it was not a re-bind, it also allowed us to learn more about how books were made in those times, and study the process for future restorations. For historians, the book reveals a lot about the time, and is a fascinating, first-person account of well known and vital incidents in the Napoleonic Wars.”

More information about the Medusa logbook, and the conservation project, can be found at www.gla.ac.uk/services/archives/exhibitions/onboardhmsmedusa/

court news

The June meeting of Court focussed on progress with the Strategic Review; it also considered the budget for 2010/11 and approved the appointment of three new lay members. In early September the Court also held its annual retreat.

Strategic Review

The Court received an update from the Senior Management Team on progress being made with the review and this included summaries from each of the Colleges and from the Student & Academic Support Services on the individual projects that were being developed. It also contained feedback on the level of consultation that had been undertaken so far. Discussion centred on the consultation process: the President of the Students' Association was concerned to ensure that students would have sufficient opportunity to be a part of the process as it developed over the summer, and other members questioned officers to reassure themselves that the consultation process had been inclusive and comprehensive. The Court noted the intention to open a new voluntary severance scheme in due course.

As part of the debate, it was agreed that the Court Retreat in September would provide an excellent opportunity for the Court to consider the branding and positioning of the University as well as to begin work on the development of a new strategic plan. The retreat would also consider the University's performance in a series of national league tables.

Finance

The Court received a detailed presentation from the Director of Finance which set out the budget for 2010/11 and considered the longer term financial issues facing the University in the context of a constrained public purse. Following the presentation, the Court approved the proposed budget for 2010/11 which forecast an operating surplus of £2m, despite a number of remaining uncertainties.

Governance

The Governance & Nominations Committee presented recommendations emanating from the search for new lay appointments to Court. Mr Iain Wright, who had convened the last meeting of the Committee, reported on the recruitment process for new members and noted the high quality of applications that had been received and the particularly pleasing response from the external advert. The Court approved the recommendation to appoint the following three new members with effect from 1 August 2010: 1) Christina Potter, currently Principal of Dundee College; 2) Jo Elliot, Executive Director of Quayle Munro Holdings plc in Edinburgh, and former governor of Edinburgh College of Art; and 3) Andrew Richmond, Director of Rushyglenn Ltd, and non-executive board member of both the Scottish Ambulance Service and NHS Tayside.

The Court approved the Committee's recommendations for the membership and convenership of Court committees for 2010/11. Richard Burns would now take over as convener of the Finance & Policy Committee and Howard Marriage would convene the Audit Committee.

The Court also confirmed its decision to amend Ordinances 18 (Election of Members of the Court and Senatus), 20 (Graduates' Council) and 45 (Election of Member of Court by the Non-Teaching Staff), and approved a change to Ordinance 39 (Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates), to be confirmed at a subsequent meeting and which would permit students receiving postgraduate certificates and diplomas to attend graduation ceremonies (visit: www.somis.dundee.ac.uk/court/notice/ for further details).

Sports Union

The June Court meeting, as usual, received the annual report of the Sports Union. Miss Sarah McMichael presented the report and highlighted a number of positive developments over the past year, notably the ever closer working relationships between DUSA, the Institute of Sport & Exercise and the Sports Union. Indeed, this had led to proposals to amend the constitution of the union and re-launch the union as Dundee University Sport, which the Court approved. She also noted the overall performance of the University within British Universities & Colleges Sport, where the University had slipped a few places on previous years, although there were nevertheless strongly improved performances from 20 of the University's 37 teams.

Farewells

Court paid tribute to three of its members for whom the June meeting would be their last. Andrew Smith would be stepping down as President of DUSA, Alison Newton had reached the end of her maximum period of office as a lay member of Court, and John Milligan was stepping down from Court following the end of his six-year tenure as Chairperson. Court paid tribute to the industry, dedication and commitment of all three, and in particular praised John Milligan on his skilful stewardship of the Court.

appointments



Professor Sandy Cochran

Chair in Biophysical Science and Engineering
Institute of Medical Science and Technology

Professor Sandy Cochran, team leader in Ultrasound for Medicine and Life Sciences in the Institute for Medical Science and Technology (IMSaT), has been appointed to a chair in Biophysical Science and Engineering.

Professor Cochran developed an early interest in ultrasound while studying for a BSc in Electronics and Computing at the University of Strathclyde. He went on to obtain a PhD in devices and systems for ultrasonic imaging.

Shifting focus from Engineering to Physics he worked on superconducting magnetic sensors while maintaining his interest in ultrasound, latterly with a BP/Royal Society of Edinburgh Research Fellowship.

Concerned about the time needed for superconducting sensors to have practical impact, Professor Cochran returned full time to ultrasound, pioneering new devices for enhanced image resolution, along with work on a range of other projects.

He was appointed as the first Research Manager of the Centre for Ultrasonic Engineering at the University of Strathclyde then won an EPSRC Advanced Research Fellowship. Around the same time, he completed his MBA, with a particular focus on organisational structure and behaviour and a thesis on Scottish universities as part of an enterprise network.

Professor Cochran's first permanent academic appointment was in Physics at the University of the West of Scotland, where he began work in Microscale Sensors, with Prof Katherine Kirk. This led him to develop his interest in medical ultrasound, culminating in a move to Dundee in 2007 to work with Professor Andreas Melzer to realise IMSaT.

"Seeing the institute develop from an empty shell into a community of more than 50 people has been an interesting experience," said Professor Cochran, who has also maintained his academic activity, working on a range of topics in ultrasound including manipulation of cells and particles, high resolution imaging, and focused ultrasound surgery.

"There's so much potential for more research, more than there is time to carry it out so my aim is to grow ultrasound research further, particularly with more staff, and balance activity in life sciences and medicine, linking effectively with more imaging and interventional techniques."

Nursing appointments boost cancer care

The School of Nursing and Midwifery has made a number of key appointments to boost research into cancer care.

Nora Kearney has been appointed as Professor of Nursing and Cancer Care, and brings with her a team of experienced researchers. In a separate appointment, Dr Alison Harrow has taken up a post as Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse.

"We are delighted to have Nora and her team, and Alison, joining us," said Professor Margaret Smith, Dean of the School of Nursing and Midwifery. "This is an exciting time for the School with the creation of the Dundee Cancer Research UK Centre, in association with Cancer Research UK, and these appointments will add considerably to the University's expertise in this area."

The Dundee Cancer Research UK Centre was launched in February as Scotland's first link in a UK-wide chain of CR-UK centres.

Professor Kearney is a highly respected clinical academic with an excellent track record in research into the experiences of the people affected by cancer. She has held a range of senior appointments in both clinical and academic settings and, most recently, was the Director of the Cancer Care Research Centre at the University of Stirling.

"The focus of our research is to improve the experiences of people affected by cancer and I believe the appointment of the team is a wonderful opportunity to fully integrate patient-focused cancer care research in the Dundee Cancer Centre," said Professor Kearney. "I am very much looking forward to working in the School and enhancing further the excellent research activity at Dundee."

Dr Alison Harrow has been involved in breast cancer research in a number of capacities since 2002. She completed her PhD in 2006 where she examined the experience of breast cancer from the male partners' point of view. Her post doctoral work was partly undertaken in Australia and involved examining how visual images influenced women's experiences of cancer.

She recently relocated back to Dundee from Australia to take up the post of Cancer Research UK Research Nurse in the Dundee Cancer Centre. "I am excited to be here and promoting the work of Cancer Research UK with the public, patients and health care professionals and developing and supporting cancer nursing research as well as enhancing clinical research across the Dundee Cancer Centre," said Dr Harrow.

Ladies Club help buy new Chaplaincy harp

Members of the University of Dundee Ladies Club presented Chaplain Rev Dr Fiona Douglas with a cheque for £750 during the summer, to fund a new harp for the Chaplaincy.

The Club, which celebrates its 80th anniversary this year, has regularly donated funds and gifts to the University over the years including donations to the student hardship fund, the provision of benches in University grounds and equipment for the Chaplaincy.

This latest donation came about after the Rev Douglas spoke at a meeting of the Club earlier this year.

"We currently have around 85 members who pay a subscription, and when excess money builds up in our account we like to donate to the University," explained Andrea Subedi, current club President.

"We are delighted to be able to help in this way. All our members are either ex-members of staff at the University, or the wives of ex-staff. We feel that the University was a huge part of our lives and we are delighted to still be able to support it.

"We chatted with the Chaplain after she spoke at one of our meetings and told her that we would like to donate some money and asked if there was anything suitable which she could recommend."

Rev Douglas accepted the cheque during the Club's AGM at Bonar Hall.

£3 million Wellcome Trust grant for life sciences

Professor Angus Lamond, Director of the Wellcome Trust Centre for Gene Regulation and Expression within the College of Life Sciences has been awarded a research grant of over £3 million by the Wellcome Trust.

The five-year grant is to support Professor Lamond's research programme which examines the expression and function of human genes. It will support eight members of staff in his laboratory and cover costs for new equipment.

"I am delighted that our work has been so favourably reviewed and this generous new grant from the Wellcome Trust will allow us to expand our research and make further advances in future," said Professor Lamond.

"It is a great tribute to the excellent reputation that the University has established in Life Sciences research that we are still able to compete successfully for such major awards in this difficult economic climate."

Professor Lamond was this year elected to the Royal Society, the highest accolade for British scientists. He was elected in recognition of his seminal work on the structure and functional organisation of the nucleus of mammalian cells. He has also been awarded the 2011 Novartis Medal from the Biochemical Society.

Professor Lamond's ambitious and innovative research programme uses novel combinations of advanced microscopy and proteomics technologies to analyse human cells and proteins. He and his team are also developing new 'PepTracker' software to enable the management and quantitative analysis of large-scale proteomics and gene expression data.

Professor Lamond's research is aimed at understanding how the cell nucleus works and how the different components within the nucleus are organised to help it to function efficiently.

"We study the nucleus using both advanced light microscopes and mass spectrometers to see where protein molecules are located and to record how they move under different conditions," said Professor Lamond. "We know that many forms of human disease, including viral infections, malignancies and inherited genetic disorders, can all cause profound changes inside the cell nucleus.

"We therefore study the changes that occur in the nuclei of cells taken from human patients to try to understand better the relation between these specific changes and the mechanism of disease. In this way our research studies the biology of human cells in such a way that it is highly relevant to understanding human disease and to the future development of new therapies and improved diagnosis and screening procedures."

Prof Mike Ferguson, Dean of the School of Research in the College of Life Sciences, said, "This is a very large grant from the Wellcome Trust that speaks volumes for the talent, drive and innovation of Angus Lamond and his excellent research group. As well as performing internationally acclaimed science, Angus and his colleagues in the Wellcome Trust Centre for Gene Regulation and Expression contribute hugely to the infrastructure and collective success of the College."

Dundee tour scoops video competition

A 90-second journey around Dundee, culminating in a fish supper from the Deep Sea Restaurant, has won first prize in the University's video competition.

Alan Ferrier, a factory worker and student at Dundee College, won Best Overall Entry and Best Student Entry for his submission to the 'What's worth discovering @ Dundee' competition.

Amateur filmmakers were challenged to capture on film any aspect of the city they thought may interest new students.

The competition attracted dozens of short films, animations and photo montages.

Alan's video The Search takes in a number of well-known Dundee landmarks including the Discovery, Sensation, Dundee Contemporary Arts, and Dundee Rep before ending in one of the city's most famous eateries.

Alan, who is from Forfar, received £350 for Best Overall Entry and £50 for Best Student Entry. Other winners in the competition included George Massie (runner up prize), Andrea Santoni (most original entry), Pat Lawrence (People's Choice and Theatrical Dundee prize) and Erica Waters (Active Dundee Prize).

The winning entry was used to launch the University's new YouTube channel in the summer.

Judith Barnard, Director of External Relations at the University and one of the competition judges, congratulated all the winners and praised the high quality of entries.

"We received dozens of high quality, innovative, and entertaining entries, so choosing one which stood apart from the rest was a difficult task.

"In the end, we chose Alan's video because, in a playful way, it showcased Dundee's cultural heritage, its natural and built environment, and a legendary local haunt in the Deep Sea fish and chip restaurant!

"The entrants were asked to present their own personal picture of the city and let others know what's worth discovering here - and Alan certainly did that."

All winning videos, as well as some shortlisted ones, can be seen by visiting www.youtube.com/dundeeuniv

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Dundee professor hits right note



Professor Andy Evans, Professor of Breast Imaging at the University's Centre for Oncology and Molecular Medicine, has proved he's a man of many talents after winning a competition run by the National Gallery of Scotland and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra to compose a piece of music.

His composition "Danse," written for flute, clarinet, trumpet, viola and cello, took first place in the unpublished amateur section of the iCompose competition.

It was performed by members of the SCO at the National Gallery in the summer and recorded at City Halls Glasgow by Linn Records.

Professor Evans, who carries out research into breast cancer, began composing music in 1999. Since then he has written more than 20 works.

Another of his compositions "And Mary Said," which won a BBC competition, is being recorded by the Henschel Quartet and the Tolzer Boys Choir for their Christmas album this year.

For more information visit: www.andy-evans.info

Drug resistance danger for sleeping sickness treatments

Drugs used to treat African sleeping sickness must be used prudently to prevent the parasite acquiring resistance to current medicines, researchers within the College of Life Sciences have shown.

The World Health Organisation estimates that around 400,000 people are infected with the disease each year, with an annual death toll of around 50,000.

Last year a new treatment was introduced for the disease, a combination therapy of the drugs nifurtimox and eflornithine, which has shortened treatment times from two weeks to one, reduced costs, and made it easier to administer drugs to patients in rural regions of sub-Saharan Africa, where the disease is most prevalent.

However, tests carried out by a team led by Professor Alan Fairlamb has shown trypanosomes can quickly develop resistance to nifurtimox.

"This combination therapy has had some initial success but our tests have shown there is a danger, in that exposing the parasite to nifurtimox results in increased resistance to the point where the disease is no longer curable," said Professor Fairlamb.

"This means that nifurtimox should never be prescribed on its own, only as part of a combination therapy."

The Dundee team also tested an experimental drug, fexinidazole, which is currently in clinical trials as a new oral treatment for sleeping sickness, and found that it too can quickly cause the parasite to acquire resistance not only to itself, but also to nifurtimox.

"This is another potential treatment which should not be used on its own as we have seen the parasite can readily develop resistance. It is a very worrying issue because once resistance emerges, those drugs become redundant. We only have two treatments available for the late stage of the disease when the brain is infected: nifurtimox plus eflornithine or melarsoprol, an arsenic-based drug that kills 1 in 20 patients who receive it.

"This highlights important policy issues regarding drug treatment for this neglected disease and also points to the need for better and safer drugs which could be administered as combinations to reduce the risk of resistance emerging."

The Dundee team's research is published in the journal 'Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy'. The work was funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and the Wellcome Trust.

The Drug Discovery Unit at Dundee was formed in 2005 specifically to fill the void of research and development of drug targets for diseases of poverty like African sleeping sickness, leishmaniasis, and Chagas' disease that afflict the developing world.

Shedding light on nanoparticles

A researcher from the School of Engineering, Physics and Mathematics has been awarded almost £850,000 to investigate technology which could potentially be used in applications ranging from high-speed computing to contemporary jewellery design.

Dr Amin Abdolvand has been awarded a five-year Career Acceleration Fellowship by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

Worth £844,000, the Fellowship will see Dr Abdolvand investigate "metal-glass nanocomposites through nanoengineering to applications". The funding will pay for two PhD students to assist in the research as well as equipment, consumables and other expenses.

Metal-glass nanocomposites (MGNs) are glasses containing embedded metallic nanoparticles.

For many centuries, the presence of metal nanoparticles in stained glass has been evident because of the unusual colour effects associated with them. The red and yellow colours of many medieval church windows originated from silver, gold and copper nanoparticles embedded in the window glass.

The physics of the processes remained a mystery until the 19th century physicist Michael Faraday discovered that this effect was due to a new type of optical absorption in metal particles with dimensions substantially less than the wavelength of light.

The Dundee team will fabricate, design and develop new MGNs for use in optoelectronics applications including, computer chip design, circuit technology and the creative industries. Dr Abdolvand says the research should hopefully help to produce optoelectronics for faster computing and high-capacity optical-data storage media.

"The research is primarily motivated by a desire to access new applications in photonics and optoelectronics," he explained.

"In addition to computer chip industries, a number of other manufacturers will ultimately benefit from the work such as manufacturers of optical data storage devices for security applications, optical sensing devices, and display technology as well as artists and manufacturers of contemporary jewellery."

Dr Abdolvand and his team will look closely at the colour effects of metal nanoparticles when used for aesthetic purposes, in conjunction with colleagues from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design.



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New Masters Course in Forensic Toxicology

An international reputation coupled with a wealth of practical expertise has prompted the University's Centre for Forensic and Legal Medicine to offer a new masters course in Forensic Toxicology this autumn.

The one year, full-time Master of Forensic Toxicology programme will welcome its first cohort of students this month (September).

Aimed at graduates of chemistry, pharmacology, biochemistry and other related subjects the programme offers a unique mix of theoretical knowledge and hands-on practical experience.

"We are very much focused on case work at the centre," said Dr Peter Maskell, programme director. "We are one of the only places in the UK where toxicologists and pathologists work in the same office and so there is much more sharing of knowledge.

"We deal with all unexplained deaths in the Tayside, Fife and Central areas. The pathologists carry out the post-mortems and the toxicologists carry out whatever tests the pathologist requires.

"Students on the MFTox course will have the opportunity to see post-mortems taking place and specimens being collected. They will be working in a very active forensic environment and they will be able to follow individual case studies."

The course includes modules on forensic toxicology, forensic science, forensic medicine and a short research module.

Its aim is to provide students with the core knowledge, experience and intellectual skills in forensic toxicology with a particular focus on death investigations.

"It will also provide a very good grounding for further postgraduate study," said Dr Maskell.

For more information on the course visit the Centre for Forensic and Legal Medicine website at www.dundee.ac.uk/forensicmedicine/courses/MFT_guide.html or visit the Admissions and Recruitment website at: www.dundee.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/forensic_toxicology_msc.htm

Leading role for CAHID in new Interpol project

The University's Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification is playing a leading role in a new INTERPOL project to assist in the faster identification of disaster victims.

The CAHID team is working with four other European partners to help develop the Fast and Efficient International Disaster Victim Identification (FASTID) project, funded by the European Commission.

The three year project will be led in Dundee by Professor Sue Black, director of CAHID and Dr Caroline Wilkinson working with Dr Chris Rynn and Dr Jan Bikker. Their role will be to provide expert training.

CAHID's Disaster Victim Identification programme has already trained more than 500 police officers from around the UK as part of a UK Government initiative.

"The aim of the DVI programme is to provide a standardised response to any major disaster anywhere in the world, so that the people arriving on the ground know what is expected of them and can start working together quickly and efficiently," said Professor Sue Black.

"The spur for the international training programme came from the response to the Asian tsunami, which showed the need for improved methods of reporting and data handling, which are key in building the evidence base to make identifications of hundreds or thousands of missing people.

"Our entire programme is aimed at speeding up the ante- and post-mortem procedures so that we can get IDs to families as soon as is possible."

The FASTID project is aimed at providing a central resource for teams in the field responding to a disaster or national police trying to locate a missing person.

Professor Black and her team have extensive experience in DVI following deployments to incidents all over the world, including Kosovo, Iraq, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Egypt and Thailand.

Officers who attended the UK DVI programme attended a demanding week-long residential course in Dundee where they were trained in a variety of disciplines appropriate to working in a temporary mortuary, and also awareness of issues pertaining to forensic pathology, forensic anthropology, forensic odontology, forensic radiography, mortuary management and tissue sampling.

The Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification at the University of Dundee is an internationally-leading centre in the fields of human identification, forensic anthropology, cranio-facial reconstruction and the study of the human body. The Centre's work was recently featured in the major BBC2 series 'History Cold Case'.



New course to support police cell safety

A pilot system aimed at improving the care of people held in police custody in Tayside has prompted the creation of a new series of courses within the University's Centre for Forensic and Legal Medicine.

The certificate, diploma and masters courses in Forensic Custody Nursing are being developed to support the new system which provides 24 hour nursing care in police cells.

Until last year police officers were responsible for looking after those being held in the cells with doctors called in to deal with any health concerns, however trivial.

However since 2009 a new system run by Tayside Police, NHS Tayside and the University, has been piloted with nurses on hand round the clock to look after the health needs of prisoners.

The first of its kind in Scotland, the pilot system is, according to course director Dr David Sadler, proving to be a safer and far more effective way of caring for people in police custody.

"It will hopefully lead to fewer deaths in custody," he said. "It can be difficult, especially for police officers with no medical expertise, to decide whether someone needs attention. It is also very difficult to tell if someone who is drugged or drunk has, for example, a head injury.

"Police surgeons used to be called out for everything even if all that was needed was a couple of paracetamol. Then the service was outsourced and that was very expensive.

"The new system provides good value but also high quality. There are two nurses on duty at night and one during the day and they follow strict protocols, for example with drug addicts and people at risk of suicide.

"There are 11 nurses on the rota altogether and we are providing the teaching back-up to ensure they have the specialist skills and knowledge required. The new courses are as a result of that.

"The first cohort of nurses is just about to complete the certificate in Forensic Custody Nursing and they will be going on to the diploma and then hopefully the masters course."

Dr Sadler also hopes that the courses will be opened to nurses from elsewhere in the UK and that the possibility of offering it as a distance learning package is also being considered.

The one-year part-time courses cover a wide range of topics including police powers, consent and confidentiality, injury patterns, trace evidence, sexual assault, child abuse and court procedures.

At diploma level the aim is to provide nurses with the skills and knowledge necessary to assist doctors in forensic examination and specimen collection while the Masters course is aimed at training nurses to take the lead in certain forensic examinations as well as being able to offer expert opinion.

"The courses and the pilot scheme open up a new career path for nurses," said Dr Sadler. "Forensic nursing is in its infancy as a speciality. It has certainly proved popular with nurses as it expands their role and responsibilities in an area that greatly needed it."

He added that the new nurse-led system also provided benefits for the police, doctors and prisoners.

"The doctors prefer it because nurse triage means doctors are now only called out when they are needed for some sound medico-legal or clinical reason.

"It is better for police officers as they are no longer baby-sitting detainees in custody and so can get on with their own police work. Most importantly, the availability of a nurse is safer for the detainees themselves. The new system provides better observation and more appropriate assessment, treatment and referral, which is better for everyone."

Research on show at Dundee Arts Café

Dundee Arts Café, a new venture showcasing the best of local research in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, opened its doors for the first time this month.

The Arts Café builds on the success of the Café Science events which have been running in the city for the past two years, showcasing the best of the scientific research that Dundee is internationally renowned for.

“The Café Science events have proved very successful in bringing scientific research to a public audience and now we want to do something similar across the arts and humanities,” said organiser Dr Jonathan Urch.

“Across the city, particularly in the universities, there is a lot of tremendously interesting research and other work going on in these areas and we want to highlight some of that.

“I am absolutely delighted that we are able to host Dundee Arts Café in The McManus Galleries. The redesigned McManus Café is an exceptional venue that gives the public a comfortable and relaxed setting to enjoy the event.”

The first Arts Café featured a talk by Dr. Jon Rogers, from the College of Art, Science and Engineering, who discussed his work with some of the most disaffected communities in the UK.

His talk entitled “Twisted By Design: Who do we think we’re designing for?” looked at efforts by designers, technologists and journalists to rethink how communities can be strengthened in the age of the digital economy.

Upcoming events in the series include Mike Galloway, Director of City Development with Dundee City Council, speaking about the Waterfront project and the V&A effect on the 5th October, a look at the art and science of believable facial animation in “Avatars have Emotions too” by Robin Sloan of Abertay University on 2 November and “Filming the Thoughts of Philosophy” by Dr John Mullarkey on 7 December.

The events are free and no pre-booking is required. Seats are limited to sixty people, allocated on a first-come first-serve basis. Doors will open at 5:30pm. For more information visit: www.DundeeArtsCafe.co.uk

New Scrymgeour Seminars this Autumn

The Honourable Lord Alan Turnbull, a judge in the Court of Session, gave the first talk in the new series of Scrymgeour Seminars hosted by the School of Law this month.

His talk looked at whether aspects of the criminal trial process have kept pace with developments in the criminal law.

The seminar series will continue next month with a seminar on 13 October by Dr Laura Piacentini from the University of Strathclyde looking at how Russian imprisonment is responding to rights-based penal governance.

On 10 November Professor David Kershaw from the London School of Economics will give a talk entitled “The Determinacy of the Conception of the Corporation: The Case of Takeover Defences” while Advocate General Eleanor Sharpston from the European Court of Justice will discuss “Clear Language in a Multilingual and Multicultural Judicial Environment” on 19 November.

Professor Joanna Gray from Newcastle University will give the final seminar of the year on 1 December with a talk on “Macro prudence and micro laws.”

All seminars take place at 4pm in the Moot Court Room in the Scrymgeour Building.



School of Law



Scrymgeour Seminar Series

Autumn 2010

Wednesday 22 September
The Hon Lord Alan Turnbull (Court of Session)
'Whether Aspects of the Criminal Trial Process Have Kept Pace with Developments in the Criminal Law'

Wednesday 13 October
Dr Laura Piacentini (University of Strathclyde)
'Condemned, Rewarded, Punished: How Russian Imprisonment is Responding to Rights-Based Penal Governance'

Wednesday 10 November
Prof David Kershaw (London School of Economics)
'The Determinacy of the Conception of the Corporation: The Case of Takeover Defences'

Friday 19 November
Advocate General Eleanor Sharpston (European Court of Justice)
'Clear Language in a Multilingual and Multicultural Judicial Environment - A (Personal) View from the Court'

Wednesday 01 December
Prof Joanna Gray (Newcastle University)
'Macro Prudence and Micro Laws'

All seminars will take place at 4pm in the Moot Court Room (Room 4.08, Scrymgeour Building) unless advised otherwise

ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND

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what’s on...

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29 September to 4 November

University of Abertay Library, Bell Street

The ‘V&A at Dundee - Making it Happen’ exhibition features work from the six shortlisted teams of architects and designers who have put forward their ideas for a landmark building to house the V&A at Dundee. The exhibition, at the University of Abertay Library in Bell Street, will be open from 9am to 9pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, between 9am and 5pm on Wednesdays and between 10am and 5pm at weekends. Admission is free. For more information visit www.VandAatDundee.com

Thursday 30 September

A Way With Words - Jonathan Falla

5pm to 7pm, DCA, 152 Nethergate

Writer Jonathan Falla will read from a variety of his current work at this latest Literary Salon event. Tickets are free and will be available on the night on a first come first served basis. For more information visit www.literarydundee.co.uk/salons.htm

Thursday 21 October

The Strength of Opinion - Elisa Seagrave and Gabriel Josipovici

5pm to 7pm, DCA, 152 Nethergate

A discussion between internationally acclaimed critic, fiction writer, aesthete and Emeritus Professor of Literature at the University of Sussex, Gabriel Josipovici and Faber published and broadcasted diarist and journalist Elisa Seagrave. Tickets are free. For more information visit www.literarydundee.co.uk/salons.htm

Thursday 21 October

University Challenge – Staff v Students

6pm to 7pm, Dalhousie Building

All money raised from this year’s challenge will go to the Disasters Emergency Committee. A drinks reception will follow the challenge which is now in its third year. Tickets are free and available from the online store.

Wednesday 27 October

Dundee Literary Festival – Alan Warner

4pm to 6pm, Baxter Suite, room 1.36, 1st Floor, Tower Building

Alan Warner, recently long-listed for the Booker Prize, returns to Dundee to read from his striking new novel Stars in the Bright Sky. Entry is free. For more information visit: www.literarydundee.co.uk/festival.htm

Thursday 28 October

Dundee Literary Festival – Creative writing

10am to 12 noon, Bonar Hall, University of Dundee

Learn the basics of creative writing with the help of tutors from the University’s Creative Writing programme. Places are strictly limited. Tickets are priced £5. For more information visit www.literarydundee.co.uk/festival.htm

1 - 14 November

Dundee Science Festival

Venues throughout Dundee

From food, fossils and forensics to dinosaurs and debates - the biggest celebration of science in all its forms is heading to Dundee. For more info visit www.dundeesciencefestival.org

Until 6 November

Sketching the Universe exhibition

Lamb Gallery, Tower Building

From major figures of 20th century modernism to today’s art students this exhibition covers a wide range of media and styles, all linked by the writings and collections of D’Arcy Thompson, whose 150 anniversary is celebrated this year. For more information visit www.darcythompson.org/index.html

Thursday 11 November

Literary Salon - New Reading, New Voices

5pm to 7pm, DCA, 152 Nethergate

Enhanced Editions’ Peter Collingridge and David Graham will discuss the latest developments in the publishing world. There will also be the chance to hear from the bright new voices of the Creative Writing programme at the University. Tickets are free. For more information visit www.literarydundee.co.uk/salons.htm

Friday 3 December

Dundee Christmas Lecture – Alexander McCall Smith

6pm to 7pm, Dalhousie Building

Best-selling novelist Alexander McCall Smith will give this year’s Dundee Christmas Lecture, which was first inaugurated in 2007 in partnership with Dundee City Council to celebrate the University’s 40th anniversary. A book-signing and drinks reception will follow the lecture. Overflow theatres will be in use. Free tickets available from the online store.



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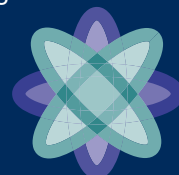
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