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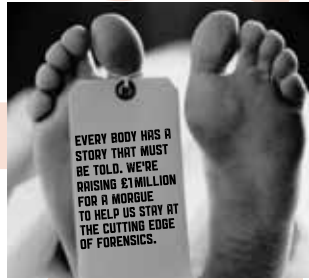
The magazine of the University of Dundee • September 11



Million for a morgue

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from the principal...

With alarming speed we find ourselves once again at that time of year when we welcome new students to the University. And of course we welcome back returning students ready, after what I hope will have been a refreshing break, to pick up the rigours of their study. It's wonderful to see the campus buzzing with activity again after the summer break, and to recognise afresh the importance of the rich diversity of the University community, staff and students, to the success of our endeavours, whether in teaching or research. The beginning of the academic year is a time of excitement and anticipation for the new challenges facing us all.

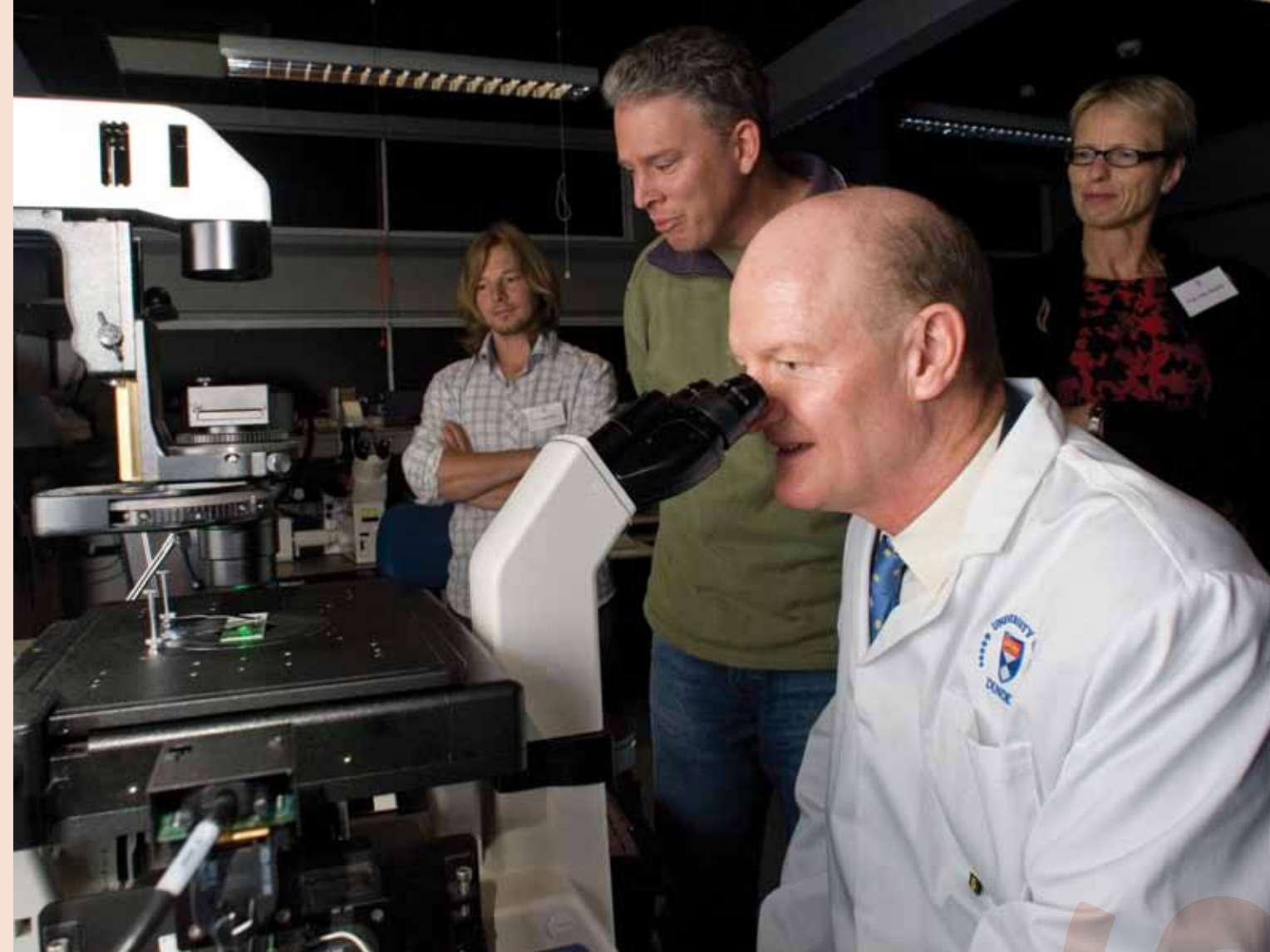
One of the major issues facing the University at the moment is our response to the Scottish Government's proposal that Scottish universities be permitted to charge tuition fees to students from other parts of the UK. Given the intention to introduce the relevant legislation for entrants in September 2012, there isn't much time. At the time of writing, only the University of Aberdeen had so far published its plans; but by the time you read this column, it's possible that Dundee along with others will have made its intentions known. It will involve difficult decisions and will need to balance a number of factors: our commitment to Scottish students; the degree to which any fees can recoup income lost as a result of funding reductions; the effects on the recruitment of English, Welsh and Northern Irish students as well as on the wider access agenda and our ability to maintain a solid sense of community for all our students. The changes do, however, provide the University with an excellent opportunity to re-examine teaching provision, in terms of both organisation and content, to ensure it is appropriately aligned to benefit from the changing markets. The University Court discussed this issue long and hard when it met for its annual retreat at the beginning of September.

At that retreat, the Court also kickstarted the process of developing a new University strategy, to build on what was achieved by the Strategic Framework to 2012. It will have at its core the three pillars of excellence, focus and impact that I have talked about on other occasions, but it must also encompass and promote what makes us distinctive and resonate across the University, helping us to build on our tremendous achievements of the recent past to become the great University that I know we can be. Amongst other things, it will need to celebrate our relationship with the City, ensure the high quality of the student experience remains at the forefront, and continue the successful exploration of new connections through our proven interdisciplinary approach. I am adamant that the new strategy will be subject to wide consultation over the next academic session, with the intention that the Court will formally approve it at its meeting in June 2012. Expect to hear more about this as the academic year progresses.

We lost two familiar faces over the summer. Our Vice-Principal (Educational Development), Professor James Calderhead, retired from the University at the end of August after a significant period of distinguished service not only as the champion of teaching and learning, but with stints as Acting Dean of Education, Social Work & Community and Acting Head of the College of Art, Science & Engineering on top. We also said goodbye to Rob Kennedy, the Director of Finance, who has left the University to continue his career in the private sector. We wish them both well for the future.

I look forward to seeing and talking with colleagues and students as the semester gets underway. I have also launched a new blog, where I will be posting regularly. You can find it at: <http://blog.dundee.ac.uk/principal/>

Professor Peter Downes • Principal and Vice-Chancellor



UK Minister given insight into Dundee excellence

David Willetts MP, Minister for Universities and Science, gained an insight into Dundee's standing as an internationally renowned centre for innovation in life sciences when he visited the University last month.

Mr Willetts was given a tour of the research facilities at the College of Life Sciences and met with the University Principal, Professor Pete Downes, and senior researchers from Life Sciences and Medicine. They were also joined by senior figures from the pharmaceutical industry.

After completing his tour, Mr Willetts said:

"Dundee has a worldwide reputation for carrying out research which combines academic curiosity with practical application. It is very important for the Government to continue to back world-class facilities like this one I have seen today, and we are committed to doing that. Here in Dundee they have established a model which I think we can learn from and apply across the UK."

Mr Willetts tour included the Drug Discovery Unit, which provides a bridge from basic biomedical research to candidate medicines for neglected diseases and also provides industry with innovative opportunities in cancer, skin diseases, antibiotics and other areas; the Division of Signal Transduction Therapy, one of the UK's biggest collaborations between academia and the pharmaceutical industry; and Health Informatics, an area where Dundee is leading in the use of co-ordinated medical information to improve patient care and identify new therapeutic opportunities

The University has won two of the three major prizes at the 2011 BBSRC (Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council) Impact Awards, which were presented by Mr Willetts in March this year.

The College of Life Sciences at Dundee won the award for 'Greatest delivery of impact' while Professor Jason Swedlow was named 'Innovator of the Year'.

Dundee in world top 200 universities



The University has been ranked in the top 200 of universities worldwide in a new survey.

The QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) World University Rankings placed Dundee at 199 in the table, up from 201 last year. QS examined 2,919 of the world's 20,000 higher education institutions to establish a ranking of 712 top centres.

The survey rated universities in several areas including academic reputation, employer reputation, faculty-student ratio, citations, and faculty areas. The University was ranked 58th in the world for Medicine and 66th for Biological Sciences, and also performed strongly in the international faculty and international student areas.

University Principal Professor Pete Downes said he was pleased to see Dundee move into the top 200 bracket and that he hoped to see continual improvement in coming years.

"Whilst it is gratifying to see Dundee recognised as one of the world's top 200 universities, we are still striving to improve our standing across the globe," he said.

"A lot of hard work is taking place across the University to build on our areas of international strength in teaching and research, and it is our ambition to continue our progress and our reputation around the world."

This year's ranking includes the opinions of 34,000 academics and 17,000 employers globally to make up 50% of the weighting. The other 50% is drawn from hard data indicators.

Dundee shortlisted for University of the Year



The University has been shortlisted as University of the Year in the prestigious Times Higher Education Awards 2011. Dundee is one of only six institutions in the running for the award.

This is the third time in seven years that Dundee has been nominated for the award, having previously been shortlisted in 2005 and 2008.

"We are delighted that the University has been shortlisted for the University of the Year award," said Principal Professor Pete Downes.

"This recognises the work being carried out across the University to build on our existing reputation for excellence in teaching and research. Dundee is making a significant global impact in many areas, and this is something we are striving to build on across the board as we seek to establish ourselves as one of the top 100 universities in the world.

"The award does not only recognise our achievements in these activities, however, and the past year has seen us demonstrate many other ways in which we contribute in economic and cultural terms, locally, nationally, and internationally.

"This nomination is testament to the hard work of thousands of students and staff who have helped make Dundee the university it is today. The fact that Dundee has regularly featured in this shortlist over the years shows the esteem it is held in, and we are hoping to go one better this time and win the award."

Dundee was shortlisted following a year in which the University achieved widespread social, cultural and economic impact in many ways including. These included a double win for Life Sciences at the 2011 BBSRC Awards. Dundee was first for 'Greatest delivery of impact' while Professor Jason Swedlow was named 'Innovator of the Year'.

The University is also a lead partner in the V&A at Dundee, which has grown from initial conversations between the University and the V&A to a multi-partner project at the heart of the £200million regeneration of Dundee's central waterfront.

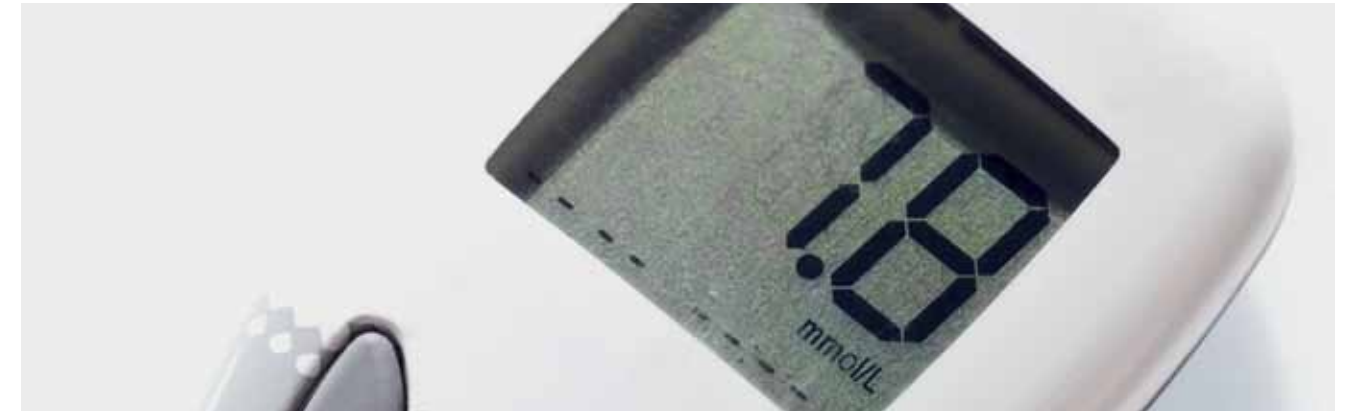
It has also created an 'open campus' ethos by welcoming well over 20,000 visitors through a rich programme of public events. The architect of the V&A at Dundee, Kengo Kuma, drew an unprecedented 1500 people to two public lectures at the University, while the 2011 Degree Show at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design welcomed over 10,000 people in one week, generating over £1.5million for the local economy. Café Science and Café Arts public outreach events are bringing the work of researchers closer to the public than ever before.

The Medical School was ranked best in the UK for training future doctors in the Goldacre Survey. An innovative new approach to internationalisation with a new initiative with the Dasman Diabetes Institute and Ministry of Health in Kuwait has led to the development of the Kuwait Scotland Health Innovation Network. This builds on Dundee's immense strengths in health informatics, which have contributed greatly to what Sir Mark Walport, Director of the Wellcome Trust, hailed as a 'medical revolution' in Dundee.

This all complements the University's core academic and research activity, which itself has drawn major accolades - one of the world's top 150 universities (Times Higher Education), 1st in Scotland and fifth in the UK for student experience (Times Higher Education), and ranked top University in the world for pharmacology research (Thomson Reuters).

The Times Higher Education Awards 2011 take place in London on Thursday November 24th. For more information on the awards see www.timeshighereducation.co.uk

Scottish expertise backs major diabetes programme in Kuwait



Scottish expertise in diabetes care and education is being used to deliver a major new education programme for health services in Kuwait.

The Masters programme in Diabetes Care and Education is the first major educational programme being delivered as a result of agreements signed last year between the University, NHS Tayside, Aridhia Informatics, and the Dasman Diabetes Institute and the Ministry of Health in Kuwait.

Diabetes is a significant problem in Kuwait, where it has been estimated that up to 1 in 4 of the adult population suffers from the disease. This equates to almost 700,000 Kuwaitis.

The mission of the Dasman Diabetes Institute - which is based in Kuwait - is to prevent, control and mitigate the impact of diabetes in Kuwait through effective programmes of training and education.

The Scottish partners involved in the collaboration have world-renowned expertise in tackling the disease. Tayside is now internationally recognised as having arguably the best information and knowledge of a diabetes population anywhere in the world and the clinical network model developed in the region has consistently demonstrated improved outcomes for people with diabetes.

"The joint development of a programme that combines education, research and enhanced clinical care for patients with diabetes between Kuwait and Dundee is extremely exciting - it offers real prospect for innovation and quality enhancement that will be to the benefit of all partners in the enterprise," said Professor John Connell, Dean of the School of Medicine, who launched the new Masters programme at the Dasman Institute last month.

The Masters in Diabetes Care and Education is aimed at all healthcare professionals in Kuwait and is designed to help them develop specialised knowledge of diabetes and provide them with educational and management training so they can communicate more effectively with colleagues and patients.

Approximately, 100 healthcare professionals representing the multifunctional medical team required to manage a chronic disease such as diabetes are enrolled in the programme.

The course is designed to be flexible with students choosing modules most relevant to their professional needs. To pass the course students are expected to apply classroom learning in a project designed to improve an aspect of their current job. In this manner the training received can have an immediate impact on healthcare provision to patients.

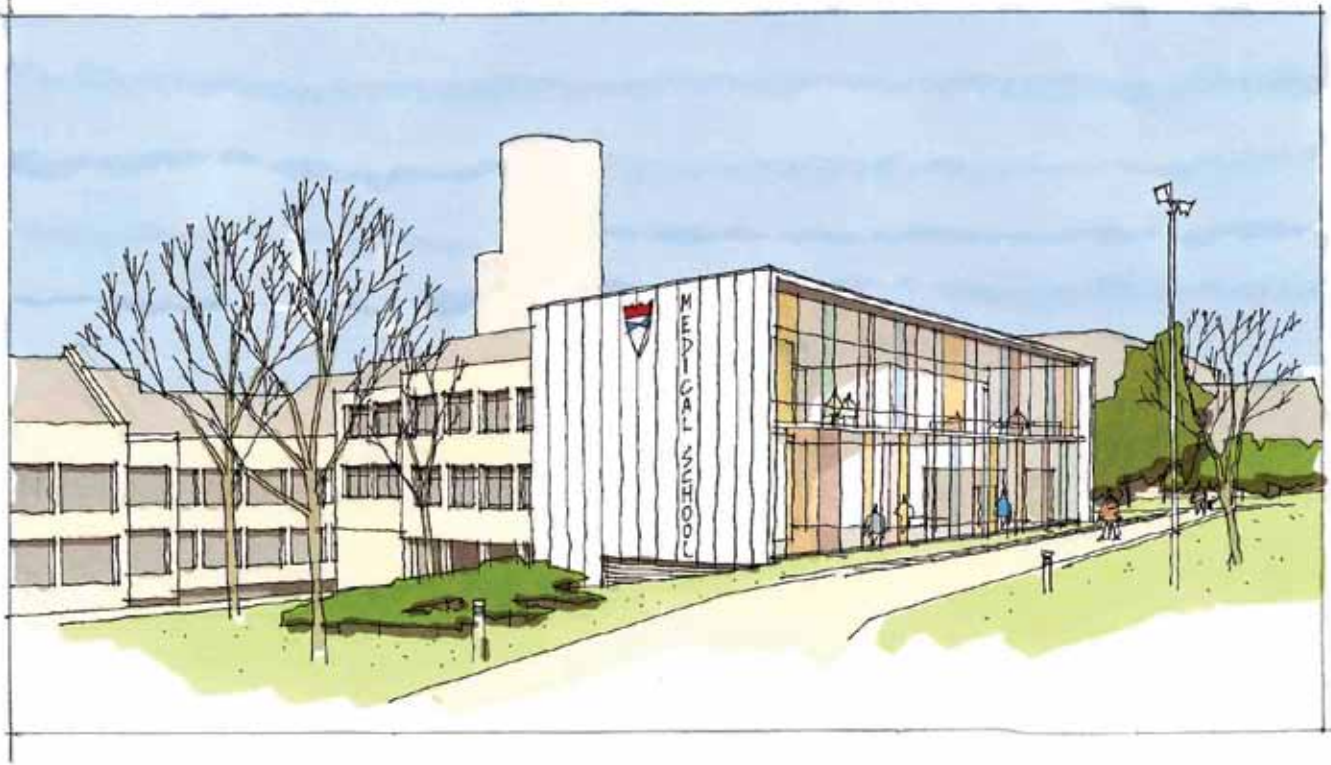
To support the students through their project the KHN Learning Zone has been launched as part of the Kuwait Health Network (KHN) informatics system. The Learning Zone provides the students with on-line educational support through the use of additional teaching material such as recorded lectures and discussion forums with their teachers.

The Learning Zone includes an Open Zone which is accessible to all healthcare professionals in Kuwait providing links to the latest news in Diabetes and clinical decision making tools. It is hoped the Learning Zone can become a useful and active forum to link health care professionals across Kuwait, sharing knowledge to enhance the speed of change.

Dr Kazem Behbehani, Director of the Dasman Diabetes Institute, announced another landmark for the collaboration - all primary health care clinics and hospitals in the capital region have now been linked to the Kuwait Health Network, bringing the benefits of an electronic health record to a population of 600,000 potential patients.

For more information on the KHN learning Zone, see: <https://e.health.org.kw/learning/>

“Outstanding” pledge for Medical School



A £1 million funding pledge from the Tayside NHS Board Endowment Fund to aid the redevelopment of educational facilities at the School of Medicine has been welcomed as an “outstanding contribution” by Dean Professor John Connell.

The redevelopment programme is aimed at upgrading teaching facilities at the Medical School to match the new demands of the profession by providing better use of space, provision for IT-based teaching, e-learning, small group work and student self-directed learning.

Earlier in the year the University launched a fundraising drive for the £4.5million required to complete the £11.2 million transformation of the Medical School site, which will take place in three phases.

“This outstanding contribution from NHS Tayside will help us significantly as we seek to match the reputation for excellence in medical education with high quality facilities.

“We are delighted that the NHS Endowment trustees have made this very generous pledge, which reflects the very close relationship between NHS Tayside and the University in professional undergraduate and postgraduate education,” he said.

“We will continue to seek to raise funds from a range of sources, including an active public campaign, to bridge the final gap in our fundraising efforts, in order that we can complete our renewal and refurbishment project in a timely manner.”

Sandy Watson, Chairman of Board of Trustees, said, “Many of NHS Tayside’s consultant medical staff are actively engaged in delivering the undergraduate curriculum.

“Patients in NHS Tayside benefit from this close association as there is a natural symbiosis between the effective delivery of highly rated undergraduate curriculum and the delivery of an effective and high quality healthcare service to patients.

“That is why Board of Trustees are delighted to pledge this £1m. It will ensure Tayside patients continue to receive the highest standards of care.”

Prize time for Ageing and Health researchers



Picture (L to R): Dr Angela Wilkinson, Mrs Roberta Fulton, Dr Ian Logan, Dr Miles Witham and Professor Marion McMurdo.

Researchers from Ageing and Health, in the Division of Medical Sciences, are celebrating a haul of prizes from recent conferences. Research nurse Roberta Fulton won the Ferguson Anderson prize for best scientific poster at the recent British Geriatrics Society national scientific meeting in Liverpool.

Her poster, describing the results of a randomized controlled trial of exercise in over 100 older, frail heart failure patients, also won the prize for best poster at the Scottish School of Primary Care conference, held in Edinburgh earlier this year.

Dr Angela Wilkinson, a senior trainee in Medicine for the Elderly, won the John Brocklehurst prize for the best Clinical Effectiveness poster at the BGS National meeting in Liverpool for her systematic review of tests to diagnose swallowing difficulties in older hospitalized patients.

Dr Ian Logan, another senior trainee in Medicine for the Elderly, completed the trio by winning the prize for the best review at the recent Medicine for the Elderly Evidence-based Medicine day in Glasgow. He presented results of a systematic review of treatments for orthostatic hypotension, a disabling condition that causes dizziness and faints on standing up.

“We are absolutely delighted with Angie, Bobbie and Ian’s well-deserved successes” commented Professor Marion McMurdo, head of department. “These awards highlight the strength and breadth of Ageing research in Dundee, and we are looking forward to supervising Bobbie as she undertakes an MSc with us later this year.”

First anniversary for Perth clinical research suite

THE GANNOCHY TRUST CLINICAL RESEARCH SUITE

The Gannochy Trust Clinical Research Suite at Perth Royal Infirmary celebrated its first anniversary with an open event in September.

The Perth facility operates as a satellite of the Tayside Clinical Research Centre, a collaboration between the University and the NHS. The Clinical Research Centre building at Ninewells Hospital was completed in December 2007 and officially opened the following year.

The Perth site was opened in August 2010 to improve accessibility to clinical trials and research for patients in Perthshire and to offer established and new researchers in Perthshire the same benefits of first class facilities and expert support staff that are available in Dundee.

At the open event last month researchers who use the facility were on hand to share their experiences and Tayside Medical Science Centre staff were available to answer questions and advise how research can be supported.

Lesley Peebles, Clinical Research manager at the Clinical Research Centre, said they had had “extremely positive feedback” from clinical researchers and users of the Gannochy Suite on the quality of facilities and the professionalism and commitment of the research staff.

“Most importantly, the patients and volunteers participating in clinical research studies have themselves commented on the comfort and cleanliness of the facility and the high quality of care they receive. They also value the benefit of having the facility ‘on their own doorstep’ saving them time and inconvenience by not having to travel to Dundee for study visits.”

Royal College of Surgeons honour for Professor Abboud



Professor Rami Abboud, Director of the Institute of Motion Analysis and Research (IMAR) and Head of the Department of Orthopaedic & Trauma Surgery in the School of Medicine, has been elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Honorary Fellowship is given to a limited number of individuals of outstanding academic merit,

or other outstanding contributions to the profession. Those who receive this accolade are usually world recognised figures in their particular specialty.

"I am delighted to receive this honour from the Royal College of Surgeons of England," said Professor Abboud. "This further adds to Dundee's reputation as one of the leading institutions for teaching, research and training in Orthopaedic & Trauma Surgery, and Biomechanics."

Professor Abboud will formally accept the Fellowship at a ceremony in London on 18th January 2012.

The Institute of Motion Analysis and Research is internationally renowned for its clinical services and research on biomechanics and how engineering applies to medicine in relation to motion, gait, stress and pressure placed on the body. The emphasis is placed on sports and disability with the overall aim of alleviating pain, correcting deformity and enhancing performance. The Department and IMAR have attracted students from around the world for over 20 years.

Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award for Professor Palmer



Professor Tracy Palmer, head of the Division of Molecular Microbiology in the College of Life Sciences, has been appointed a Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award holder.

Professor Palmer is one of 26 new Award holders named by the Royal Society, the UK's national academy of science. The scheme provides up to 5 years' funding after which the award holder continues with a

permanent post at the host university.

"I am honoured to receive this award from the Royal Society," said Professor Palmer, who holds a Chair in Molecular Microbiology.

"Our Division has done very well in recent months in winning recognition for the great work done here and I am extremely happy to add to that."

Jointly funded by the Wolfson Foundation and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), the scheme aims to provide universities with additional support to enable them to attract to this country or to retain respected scientists of outstanding achievement and potential. The focus of the award is a salary enhancement, usually in the range of £10,000 to £30,000 per annum.

The newly appointed award holders are working on a wide variety of projects including atmospheric aerosols, weather and climate; time and extra dimensions in space; early human evolution in Africa; and the impact of systemic infection and inflammation on the aged and diseased brain.

Dundee professor takes lead role at SULSA



The Scottish Universities Life Sciences Alliance (SULSA) has appointed Professor Andrew Hopkins FRSC FSB as its new Director.

Professor Hopkins is Professor of Medicinal Informatics and SULSA Research Professor of Translational Biology within the College of Life Sciences. His research in the fields of chemoinformatics, chemogenomics and drug discovery focuses on developing novel informatics and experimental methods to enable new, more effective, ways of conducting drug discovery.

Professor Hopkins succeeds Professor Mike Tyers, who has taken up a new opportunity at the University of Montreal in Canada.

Commenting on his appointment, Professor Hopkins said, "SULSA represents a research community of more than 11,000 life scientists in Scotland. I'm very privileged to be working with a talented Executive Committee to ensure we develop SULSA's role in fostering innovation in the Life Sciences in Scotland."

Professor Hopkins spent ten years in the pharmaceutical industry prior to moving to academia. He is well known in the UK, Europe, USA and internationally having authored some of the most highly cited papers in the field of Pharmacology in the last decade.

He has also previously worked closely with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OCED) and the World Health Organization Special Programme for Research & Training in Tropical Diseases (WHO TDR) on issues of collaboration and innovation in drug discovery.

"It is a tremendous coup for SULSA that Professor Hopkins is assuming the Directorship," said Professor Tyers. "He was nominated and unanimously approved by SULSA's Executive as the ideal candidate to lead the Alliance through its next crucial phases. Andrew's innovative research in drug discovery is of the highest international calibre and is acutely relevant to SULSA's mandate of translating biological discoveries into economic and health benefits for Scotland. His scientific vision and energy will underpin the strong leadership needed to foster the vibrant life sciences research community in Scotland."

As Director of SULSA, Professor Hopkins will be SULSA's figurehead and lead its Executive Committee made up of members from six of Scotland's leading Universities. He will set the strategic direction for SULSA's scientific, educational and networking activities.

"I'm very much looking forward to leading SULSA, to ensure Scotland's scientific excellence and innovation across the life sciences is recognized internationally," said Professor Hopkins. "I'm keen to see SULSA develop the scientific culture for researchers, through new ways of collaborating and networking, both within Scotland and between Scotland and the global scientific community."

Dundee trio join new RSE Young Academy

Three young researchers from the University are amongst the first members of the Royal Society of Edinburgh's new "RSE Young Academy of Scotland".

Dr Nicola Stanley-Wall and Dr Sarah Coulthurst from the Division of Molecular Microbiology in the College of Life Sciences and Dr Ben Tatler from the School of Psychology in the College of Arts and Social Science join 65 other young academics, entrepreneurs and professionals selected from more than 300 applicants from across Scotland.

The RSE has established the Young Academy to stimulate creative ideas and collaborative working that will help address some of the key challenges facing Scotland and contribute to solving some of the global challenges of the 21st Century.

It is the first of its kind in the UK and will be part of a growing movement of Young Academies across the world.

Dr Tatler is a Reader in the School of Psychology where he runs the Active Vision Lab (www.activevisionlab.org) and Centre for Oculomotor Research (www.core-dundee.org). He has established an international reputation as a leading researcher in the natural approach to vision and visual psychology. His work has revealed key insights into both why we look where we do and what we represent and remember about the world around us.

On his appointment to the new Academy Dr Tatler said, "The Royal Society of Edinburgh Young Academy is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in shaping the future of science in Scotland and to ensure that the public and policy makers are aware of the breadth and quality of science that is conducted in Scotland."

Dr. Nicola Stanley-Wall is a Lecturer in Molecular Microbiology whose research focuses on understanding the molecular mechanism of biofilm formation, investigating how molecular biology can be used to understand the signalling processes that control multi-cellular behaviours exhibited by bacteria.

She said, "I am very pleased to be appointed to the RSE young academy. I am looking forward to working with this inspiring group of people over the coming years."

Dr Sarah Coulthurst is a Royal Society of Edinburgh Research Fellow and studies bacterial pathogens and protein secretion systems. Her research is centred around elucidating how bacterial pathogens are able to cause disease, which could provide both an improved understanding of basic biological processes and, ultimately, contribute to novel therapeutic antimicrobial strategies.

She added, "I too am delighted to be included in this exciting new venture."

The RSE Young Academy of Scotland will be launched at a ceremony in Edinburgh in November.



Science Writing Prize for Student Amy

Amy Capes, a PhD student in the Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery in the College of Life Sciences, has won the Medical Research Council's 2011 Max Perutz Science Writing Award for her article 'Putting Sleeping Sickness on the Radar'.

In the piece, she described how her research could prevent the parasite which causes sleeping sickness from evading the immune system of the people it infects. As part of the prize, Amy's winning article was published in the Guardian newspaper last month (September).

Amy (30), who is from Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, said, "I am delighted but quite shocked to have won! The other essays on the shortlist were excellent, so after they had announced the commended finalists and the runner-up, I was sure I was going home empty-handed."

Amy originally studied Computer Arts the University of Abertay before going on to do a BSc Hons in Chemistry at Edinburgh University. She is now just finishing a PhD in Medicinal Chemistry at Dundee.

"I chose to go into science because I felt it offered greater intellectual challenges and more practical applications than art," said Amy. "Chemistry is particularly beautiful because it relates to everything from tiny organisms to the composition of stars."

The 2011 Max Perutz competition received over 100 entries from some of the UK's brightest PhD students, all eager to explain their research to a non-scientific audience.

The winner, chosen from a shortlist of 12 essays, was announced at an awards ceremony in London at an event attended by members of the Medical Research Council's Council, MRC chief executive Sir John Savill, and representatives from across the science community.

Minister of State for Universities and Science, David Willetts, had the opportunity to meet the shortlisted entrants and congratulate them on their success in the competition.

Mr Willetts said, "Communicating research effectively is a vital skill for any scientist, and great science writing helps provide the public with accurate, evidence-based information. I've been incredibly impressed by both the standard of the essays and the breadth of topics covered in this competition. The entries are testament to both the entrants' writing ability and their expertise as scientists."

Now in its 14th year, the Max Perutz Award encourages MRC-funded PhD students to communicate their research to a wider audience, asking them to describe the importance and excitement of their research in just 800 words. Since the competition started in 1998, hundreds of students have submitted entries and taken their first steps in science communication.

The award is named in honour of one of the UK's most outstanding scientists and communicators, Dr Max Perutz. Max, who died in 2002, was awarded the 1962 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work using X-ray crystallography to study the structures of globular proteins. He was the founder and first chairman of the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology (LMB) in Cambridge, the lab which unravelled the structure of DNA.



Green days ahead thanks to students

Students at the University have been earning cash and winning prizes with their eco-friendly efforts over the summer. And the green trend is continuing into the new semester as hundreds of students sign up for the Student Green Challenge aimed at reducing their carbon footprint.

A recycling scheme involving students living in residences over the past year brought a windfall of almost £1000 for the Student Halls committee to spend on projects and facilities.

The Recycle and Reuse scheme encourages students to donate unwanted kitchen items, clothing and duvets when they move out at the end of the academic year. These items are then offered to new students in September free of charge.

Clothing which could not be re-used was sent to Rag Bag, a scheme which pays the University for each kilogram recycled. As a result students earned themselves a total of £993.

Meanwhile the student allotment project won the Phin Cup in the Bonnie Dundee Garden and Allotments Competition run by Dundee City Council. The green-fingered students also won gardening vouchers to help their efforts blossom even more in the future.

In September more than 300 students signed up for the Student Green Challenge which was launched with a cookery demonstration of low carbon meals and a treasure hunt introducing new students to some eco-friendly locations in the town centre.

The Challenge is part of a wider project aimed at saving 2,755 tonnes of carbon per year.

"The project has proven very popular at Dundee, and we're delighted that so many students have signed up to the Challenge," said Trudy Cunningham, Environment & Sustainability Officer. "A lot of students will be taking part, and we hope even more will get involved as a result of seeing their flatmates and friends participating and showing them how easy it is to make small changes."

The challenges include reducing food waste and turning computers off when they are not in use. The idea is that by educating people to make minor lifestyle changes they will be empowered to significantly reduce their environmental impact.

"It's amazing how much carbon can be saved by such simple actions, and the students have been really enthusiastic about the project," said Susan Horsman from the Community Carbon Exchange. More information is available by contacting Susan on 01382 501730 or by emailing susan@solarcityscotland.org.uk.

Dundee to lead new multi-million knowledge exchange hub for the creative economy

The University has been selected by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) as one of four universities to lead prestigious new 'Knowledge Exchange Hubs for the Creative Economy' for the next four years.

Representing an investment by the AHRC of £16m over four years, the Hubs will be charged with the task of building new partnerships and entrepreneurial capacity in the Creative Economy and increasing the number of arts and humanities researchers actively engaged in research-based knowledge exchange.

The other three lead universities are the University of Lancaster, Queen Mary, University of London and the University of the West of England.

Scotland's Education Secretary Michael Russell said, "I am delighted that the University of Dundee is to be one of four institutions receiving funding to increase support for arts and humanities across the country. Scotland is a creative nation with a rich heritage, contributing to the world as a modern dynamic country.

"Culture and creativity deliver significant benefits for the people of Scotland. Our world leading creative industries support 60,000 jobs and generate £5.2 billion each year for the Scottish economy.

Iraq computing

The University is playing an important role in boosting the development of higher education in Iraq through a British Council-backed partnership with the University of Kufa.

The link has been formed between the Schools of Computing in Dundee and Kufa. Members of staff from Kufa's Computing department have been shadowing research and teaching teams in Dundee, to learn how to develop their curriculum and research activities.

As a result, it is expected that the Iraq university will develop new internationally relevant IT subjects and programs in computing, improve the quality of teaching and learning skills of staff, including the use of advanced e-Learning techniques, introduce more opportunities for female academics and advance the English language capabilities of staff.

Dr Janet Hughes, Dean of the School of Computing, said, "This is a project that will have a significant impact in developing the capability of Kufa to deliver high-level programs in computing, which in turn helps to re-establish higher education in Iraq.

I look forward to hearing more about the good work carried out by this project."

Dundee is leading a consortium that includes all of the Scottish art colleges and the University of Abertay Dundee and the University of St Andrews.

Like the other consortia, the Dundee-led project is supported by creative businesses, including SMEs, arts and culture organisations and other agencies. It is supported by over £4million funding from the AHRC and additional investment from other bodies.

"This is a project that will have a major impact on the creative industries and academia across Scotland," said Deputy Principal Professor Georgina Follett.

"It will push design into areas it has not traditionally been associated with, such as sport, wellbeing, rural economics, and food & diet. It will reinforce the idea that design is not just about a beautiful product, it is something that can effect change in wider society."

The project will eventually have a base in the V&A at Dundee where it will show examples of how design is working across society.

"It has also been immensely rewarding for our staff and students. There has been a real exchange of ideas and knowledge and I think it will ultimately be of real benefit to everyone involved."

The British Council is supporting the two-year project, which has seen groups of staff from Iraq coming to Dundee for two-week stints to be given research and academic management training and to develop their e-learning activities.

Dr Yahya Hadi, past Chair of the Computer Science department at Kufa, said, "This link with Dundee and the expertise they have across a wide range of computing and e-learning has been extremely valuable to us. This is work that will contribute to our own teaching programmes and enhance the progress of higher education in Kufa University."



Top teachers recognized with awards

Some of the University's most effective and talented teachers have been recognised with a series of teaching awards.

As well as the University's Honorary Graduates' Award for Innovative Teaching, the Senate Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Chancellor's Award for Lifetime Contribution to Teaching, this year also saw the first teaching awards presented by Dundee University Students' Association.

The new DUSA 'Inspire' awards aim to recognise staff and graduate teachers who have delivered excellence in learning and teaching and 'gone beyond the call of duty' to improve the student learning experience.

The University's Chancellors Award, which aims to acknowledge and reward senior teachers for outstanding achievement in teaching, effective leadership in teaching and mentorship for new teachers, was awarded this year to Dr Maureen Benwell, a senior lecturer in the College of Life Sciences, Heather Marr, Depute Dean of the School of Nursing and Midwifery and Dr Alex Wright, lecturer in Politics within the School of Humanities.

All three received their awards during the summer graduation ceremonies.

Dr Benwell's significant contribution to teaching was further recognised with the Senate Award for Excellence in Teaching, which aims to acknowledge and reward individuals for outstanding achievement in teaching and supporting student learning.

Dr Arun Chaudhri from the School of Medicine was highly commended in the Senate award.

The Honorary Graduate's Award for Innovative Teaching was this year awarded to Dr Aileen McGuigan and the Teaching Qualification for Further Education team within the School of Education, Social Work and Community Education. Team members include Lynn Boyle, Moira Glencorse, Glynis Gibbs, Lucy Golden, Lynn Gray, Danny McDougall, Carey Normand and Lorraine Syme-Smith.

Highly commended were Jonathan Baldwin and the Design Studies Team of Fraser Bruce, Brigid Collins, Christine Kingsley and Hamid Van-Koten at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design.

Winner of the DUSA Inspire award for most inspirational teaching was Dr Suzanne Zeedyk, former lecturer within the School of Psychology while the award for most innovative teaching went to Sharon Tonner in the School of Education, Social Work and Community Education.

Best student advisor or personal tutor was won by Dr Stephen Reynolds in the School of Engineering, Physics and Maths and best teacher for assessment and feedback was won by Dr Gerhard May from the College of Life Sciences.

For more information on teaching awards visit: www.dundee.ac.uk/library/teachingexcellence/supportingscholarship/awards.htm

TURNING TO CRIME FOR MILLION FOR A MORGUE CAMPAIGN

Some of the world's leading crime writers are lending their support to a major fundraising drive to build a new morgue for the University's Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification.

The Million for a Morgue campaign has already signed up eight best-selling authors with another two to be announced later this month (October) at the launch of a competition to name the new morgue.

Crime-writing fans will have the chance to vote for their favourite author with every pound donated counting as a vote. The author with the most votes will have the new morgue named in their honour.

Professor Sue Black and her colleagues at CAHID, who featured in the new BBC History Cold Case series which was broadcast in the summer, are building the new facility to allow them to adopt the Thiel method of embalming. This gives surgeons, dentists, students and medical researchers a more realistic method of testing techniques, practising procedures and developing new equipment and approaches.

The University has committed £1 million to the project but another £1million needs to be raised.

Bestselling author Val McDermid has been signing up her crime writing colleagues across the world to join the fundraising campaign. So far Kathy Reichs, Lee Child, Tess Gerritsen, Jeffrey Deaver, Mark Billingham, Stuart MacBride and Jeff Lindsay have pledged their support.

"We will be the first University in the UK to exclusively use Thiel embalming and it is an area where, working together with other colleagues in the University, we can make real breakthroughs and change the face of scientific, medical and dental research and training," said Professor Black.

The link-up between the morgue project and the crime writers has come about through the friendship between Val McDermid and Professor Black.

"I've known Sue for years and she has helped me tremendously with a lot of the grisly technical detail that goes into my books," said Val.

"When she told me about the project for the new mortuary I thought this was a chance for myself and other writers to give something back to a community that is of tremendous value to us.

"All crime writers rely on the help of professionals like Sue to make sure we get the details right. Giving a bit of help back in return is the least we can do."

Stuart MacBride commented, "I've been very lucky to pick the brains of some of the UK's top forensic experts: their support and advice has been invaluable in making sure that what goes on in the books is as close to what really happens as possible.

"It's not often that crime writers get to give something back to that community - other than buying them drinks, of course - so I'm delighted to be involved in helping Sue raise money for a new mortuary.

And the fact that it'll help develop the next generation of experts who'll then help out the next generation of crime writers is a huge bonus too."

Tess Gerritsen added, "I write merely fiction, but these scientists work in the very real world of death investigation, a field that is sadly underfunded. How wonderful that that my fictional detectives can now help support the true detectives."

Professor Black is delighted to have the crime writers on board for her fundraising project.

"This is an amazing group of people, who are among the most popular novelists in the world," said Professor Black. "The work I have done with Val has always been very interesting and I am always happy to have been able to help. To receive such enthusiastic support from Val and her fellow writers is tremendously gratifying and I cannot thank them enough for lending their support to this project."

For more on the Million For A Morgue campaign see: www.millionforamorgue.com

HELP THE UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE RAISE £1 MILLION TO BUILD A WORLD-LEADING FORENSIC CENTRE. FOR NEWS ON THE CAMPAIGN LAUNCH, AUTHOR ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMPETITIONS AND PRIZES, FILL IN YOUR NAME AND EMAIL AT MILLIONFORAMORGUE.COM. YOU WILL ALSO BE ENTERED INTO A PRIZE DRAW TO WIN A SIGNED FIRST EDITION OF VAL MCDERMID'S CRIME NOVEL A PLACE OF EXECUTION.

Literary festival boost for morgue campaign



Proceeds from three top-line events at this year's Dundee Literary Festival will be going to support the Million For a Morgue campaign.

Best-selling crime-writer Val McDermid and the University's Professor Sue Black will be teaming up to discuss their working relationship in a session entitled Criminally Good at the Dalhousie Building at 5pm on 29 October.

This darkly comic double act will also be exploring the scientific accuracy of Val's work and how their collaboration may lead to exciting scientific discoveries with the launch of the Million For a Morgue campaign. Tickets cost £5.

Earlier in the day husband and wife writing team Nicci Gerrard and Sean French will discuss their new novel Blue Monday.

Writing as Nicci French the pair have twelve books to their name and many millions in sales.

Their talk takes place at 4pm in the Dalhousie Building and tickets are priced at £4.

Journalists turned novelists Andrew Nicoll and Mark Douglas-Home have also pledged their support to the campaign. They will be reading from their novels, discussing their work and talking about crossing the line from fact to fiction in Chasing the Story at 3pm on 29 October. Tickets cost £3 or £2 for concessions.

Tickets for all three events can be obtained from the University's Online store at www.buyat.dundee.ac.uk/ or via www.literarydundee.co.uk, by email at literarydundee@gmail.com and from DCA and the Overgate Shopping Centre ticket booth.

Music for a morgue

A comedy review featuring the music of singer songwriter Tom Lehrer is also being held to aid the fundraising campaign for Million for a Morgue.

Tomfoolery will take place at 7.30pm on Friday 14 October in the Bonar Hall. Tickets are priced at £10, £8 (concession) and £5 (student) and are available from the online store at www.buyat.dundee.ac.uk/

Badge of support

The Million for a Morgue campaign is also raising funds through the sale of University lapel pins. Priced at only £2 the badges are an inexpensive way of pledging support to the campaign and also make a great gift for staff, students and visitors to University labs and departments.

They are available to buy from the University's online store at www.buyat.dundee.ac.uk/

Dundee debut for Royal exhibition

A stunning exhibition by the V&A showcasing portraits of the Queen by celebrated photographer Cecil Beaton was officially opened at the McManus, Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum last month (September) by TV presenter and former University rector Lorraine Kelly.

The city is the first location in the UK to host the exhibition which depicts the Queen in her various roles as princess, monarch and mother. It will run until Sunday 8 January before moving to the V&A in London and then touring to Leeds, Norwich and Newcastle.

Entitled "Queen Elizabeth II by Cecil Beaton: A Diamond Jubilee Celebration," the exhibition is the first in a series of partnership projects between the McManus and the V&A, as part of the pre-opening programme for the V&A at Dundee.

Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs Fiona Hyslop said, "Part of the £5 million of Government funding I announced in January included support for the pre-opening programme of exhibitions that begins with this outstanding selection of Cecil Beaton's royal photography.

"The V&A will be a stunning landmark building on Dundee's waterfront, and the funding is a reflection of the significance we attach to this project as a showcase for our creative industries and as a magnet for visitors, enhancing Scotland's reputation as a creative nation.

"I am delighted the programme is starting with such an appealing free exhibition that provides just a foretaste of the unparalleled shows that Scotland will enjoy in future from the V&A."

Lesley Knox, Chair of Design Dundee Ltd, the company delivering the V&A at Dundee, added, "We are looking forward to an exciting and varied range of exhibitions from the V&A over the next four years as we work towards opening our new building."

The exhibition explores Beaton's long relationship with the Queen who was a teenage princess when she first sat for him in 1942. Over the next three decades, Beaton photographed The Queen on many significant occasions including her Coronation Day.

The exhibition also charts how the representation of the Royal Family has changed and also examines Beaton's working methods, styles and approaches, revealing him as one of the 20th century's masters of photography. His royal portraits were among the most widely published photographs of the 20th century.

The exhibition in Dundee will feature over 60 items, from wartime photographs of Princess Elizabeth with her family, to tender images of The Queen with her own young children and official portraits that convey the magnitude of her role as Britain's monarch. It will show elegant and highly-staged photographs alongside informal moments of the royal family at home, interspersed with film and radio footage from the time.

To accompany the exhibition V&A Publishing has produced a hardback book authored by Susanna Brown, Curator of Photography with the V&A, and including contributions from Sir Roy Strong and Mario Testino.

Also marking the Dundee debut of the exhibition, acclaimed biographer Hugo Vickers travelled to the University this month to deliver a fascinating lecture exploring Beaton's development as a royal photographer, the role he played in portraying The Queen and the long relationship between photographer and regal model.

An expert on the Royal Family and on Cecil Beaton, Hugo Vickers gave five years of his life to reading all 150 of Beaton's diaries. He is Cecil Beaton's authorised biographer and literary executor.

His talk took place at the Dalhousie Building on 8 October.

For more information on the V&A Exhibition and lecture visit www.VandAatDundee.com/your-future/whats-on/



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V&A at Dundee appointments made

V&A AT DUNDEE MAKING IT HAPPEN

Three key appointments to the V&A at Dundee project were made during the summer. Mr Sandy Richardson was named as Development Director while Alasdair Locke and Tim Allan were appointed to lead the fundraising campaign for the project.

£45million of funding is required to establish an international centre for design housed in a world-class building at the heart of Dundee's waterfront. A third of that is anticipated to come from the Scottish Government, a third from statutory bodies such as the Lottery and European funding streams, and a third from individuals, trusts, foundations and companies.

Mr Richardson, a highly experienced fundraising professional who has been Head of Development at National Museums Scotland for the past seven years, will take up his as Development Director on 31st October.

Alasdair Locke, a former merchant banker and oil industry leader, becomes Chairman of the recently formed Fundraising Board whilst Tim Allan, founder of Unicorn, a property business with a commercial and residential portfolio across the country, becomes Deputy Chairman.

The V&A at Dundee will be an international centre for design housed in a world-class building at the heart of Dundee's waterfront. It will celebrate Scotland's design heritage, showcase contemporary design talent, and encourage design innovation for the future while providing a venue for major international touring exhibitions from the V&A and other providers.

The project 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 Dundee City Council, the Universities of Dundee and Abertay Dundee, and Scottish Enterprise.

World architecture award for V&A at Dundee



Architect Kengo Kuma's design for the V&A at Dundee was last month named by leading journal World Architecture News as the best 'Unbuilt' project in the Civic Buildings category.

The V&A at Dundee project beat off competition from five other shortlisted projects from around the world to win the award.

The judges said the design was a classic example of architecture that goes beyond the brief.

Philip Long, Director of V&A at Dundee, expressed his delight at the design being chosen for the WAN award, saying, "Our congratulations to Kengo Kuma on winning this award for such an outstanding design, even before its construction has begun!

"V&A at Dundee's vision is to be an international centre for design, and we are delighted that the building Kengo Kuma is creating for us is in itself an expression of design of the highest quality."

Kengo Kuma's design for the V&A at Dundee was chosen after an international design competition which attracted more than 120 entries from around the world. The WAN award demonstrates the significant global impact that the project is already having.

For more on the V&A at Dundee see: www.VandAatDundee.com

Nursing an ambition to succeed



Aromatherapy oils, shark attack wounds and aboriginal liaison officers may not feature much on the curriculum for most nursing students at the University but for one group the experiences have formed part of their summer work experience.

Eleven students in the second and third year of their nursing studies have spent the summer in Australia, Austria and Germany as part of an exchange programme designed to boost their employability and broaden their knowledge of different health care systems.

Now back on campus the students are full of enthusiasm for the programme and a heightened passion for their chosen profession.

Leigh Nugent, who travelled to Australia with fellow third year student Joanna Morgan described her placement at John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle in New South Wales as "the best experience ever."

"I worked on a trauma unit and while I was there someone came in with serious injuries from a shark attack," she explained. "That's obviously not the kind of thing I'm likely to see here. I was also given the opportunity to see cardiac surgery and visit a different hospital that specialised in toxicology.

"The staff were very encouraging about me seeing different procedures and it has really boosted my confidence. It was also interesting to see a different system. There was a real team spirit amongst the staff. It was much less hierarchical and there was a social worker and an aboriginal liaison officer as part of the ward team."

Leigh's fellow traveller Joanna was equally impressed by her experience of Australian hospital life.

"I have gained so much from this," she said. "I worked mainly in a coronary care ward at the John Hunter which is the principal reference centre and teaching hospital in Newcastle. It has the busiest emergency department in New South Wales.

"Before we could start working in the hospital we had to take part in two day orientation course which was very informative and included lectures on infection control, fire safety and cultural awareness.

"I have really grown in confidence as a result of this and I would certainly recommend it to other students."

For many of the students including Samantha May, Rachael Drummond and Louise Stoner, who worked in hospitals in Stuttgart, and Hayley Cuthill and Janine Johnstone who travelled to Perth in Western Australia, the opportunity to see different approaches to healthcare has provided an insight beneficial to their own practice.

"I worked in an intensive care unit and the nurses had a very task oriented way of working," said Samatha. "Everything was very evidence based. They used aromatherapy and massage because their research evidence showed it worked. They also used duvets to prevent pressure sores rather than turning patients as we do here.

"I think the ability to adapt to a new nursing culture will definitely help my career," added Louise.

"It was really interesting to see different ways of doing things," said Hayley. "The nurses tended to use algogel for hand hygiene rather than washing hands but they have less of a problem with infection."

Many of the students have also returned to Dundee with a renewed career focus and a clearer idea of what they want to do post graduation.

"I knew I wanted to work in the community once I graduate and this has confirmed that for me," said Rachael. "It has also made me much more appreciative of the NHS."

"The exchange made me realise I really enjoyed working in critical care," agreed Samantha. "It also made me realise how much I love nursing."

Exchange organiser Alasdair Nicolson explained the exchange programme is a continuation of long tradition of student exchanges dating back to the Socrates and Erasmus schemes of the early 1990s.

"The exchanges are aimed at improving the employability of students," he said. "The experience they gain is invaluable, it is something they can add to their CV and it provides great life skills too. The feedback we have is that it is a real confidence booster too and it gives them a chance to compare health care systems."



Visual Effects Lab

A major new lab facility that will bring scientists, artists, clinicians, and filmmakers together and promote interdisciplinary research was officially opened by University Rector and Hollywood star Brian Cox (pictured) during the summer.

The Visual Effects Research Lab in the Matthew Building at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design is part of the EU funded North Sea Screen Partners Project and has been created to produce cutting edge visual effects and new and innovative research. It is also the focus for the new Visual Effects Research Network.

The 6 million euro project aims to help companies produce, shoot, and learn across all media. The partners enjoyed Oscar success this year with 'In a Better World', which was supported by Film Fyn in Denmark. Dundee itself is already a hub for the games industry.

The Lab offers companies the chance to work with the latest technology and the network is helping post-production companies to network and collaborate so they can get involved in larger and more lucrative projects.

VERL has already been nominated for the Best Collaboration Award 2011 by Creative City Challenge.

VERL Project Leader Peter Richardson said, "The initial three-year project will challenge established notions of visual thought. Interdisciplinary research will be promoted, and researchers will be encouraged to share methodologies.

"We aim to create new synergies between scientists, artists, clinicians, and filmmakers and demonstrate the potential of them combining their respective expertise. The skills of artists and other practitioners in the creative professions can be of immense value in a wide range of other areas, and I am sure that work carried out at VERL will go on to have a significant impact in scientific and medical research and industry.

"I think the fact that we have already been nominated for an award shows just how groundbreaking this project is, and how strong the culture of collaboration is."

The lab offers a custom-built environment to realise projects with state of the art compositing, editing, animation and visualisation software. Breakout spaces and meeting rooms are also available for academics and partner organisations.

A world of discovery at Dundee Science Festival



Zombie science, fantastic fossils, robotic women and a whole host of other scientific celebrations will be taking place across Dundee this month and next as part of this year's action packed Dundee Science Festival.

From 29 October to 13 November almost 60 different events from schools workshops and family fun days to lectures, debates and exhibitions will be showcasing the scientific discoveries and innovations for which the city and the University, in particular, are now renowned.

Festival patron Sir Philip Cohen, Director of the MRC Protein Phosphorylation Unit within the College of Life Sciences and Director of the Scottish Institute for Cell Signalling, described the event as a "fantastic celebration of science."

"Dundee holds the rightful claim of being a city of notable scientific discoveries and innovation, which have been acclaimed around the world," he said. "Dundee Science Festival offers an exciting platform from which we can all share cutting-edge developments in science that will be showcased.

"The rich and varied programme of events will capture the imagination of our community in Tayside, as well as visitors to the festival from further afield.

"Dundee Science Festival will also demonstrate how science contributes positively to the culture of our city. Finally, it should be noted that science is one of the city's major industries employing thousands of people. Stimulating their children's interest in science is therefore one of the best ways for parents to increase the probability that their children will be able to work and live in Dundee in the future."

More than half of this year's events are run by the University and many will be taking place at venues across the campus.

Highlights in this year's programme include Zombie Science in the Dalhousie Building and DUSA on 29 October offering a spoof lecture and multi-media presentation on the science of the undead, It is Rocket Science in the Carnelley Building on 4 November when David Wharton will be demonstrating the science behind fireworks and Robot Women of the Future in the D'Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum on 7 and 8 November when comedian Helen Keen will look at the way "cutting edge" science has changed the world we live in.



The University's 7th annual culture day on 9 November also forms part of this year's science festival and will feature talks and presentations on the theme of place, space and time.

On 29 October the Department of Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgery at Ninewells Hospital will be opening its doors for a series of presentations and workshops exploring why exercise is so important to health. Visitors will have the chance to see state of the art movement and gait analysis systems and fitness equipment in action.

Also at Ninewells, on 1 November, medical curator Dr Graham Lowe and leading cardiologists Professor Chim Lang and Professor Stuart Pringle will be talking about the evolution of cardiology in Tayside in an event entitled Mending the Broken Heart. Meanwhile the Botanic Garden will be holding an interactive workshop on Champion Trees on 29 and 30 October and hosting workshops for children across the city while the School of Computing will be conducting tours of their research in the Queen Mother Building on 2 November.

Louise Smith, Chair of the Dundee Science Festival Partnership and CEO of Dundee Science Centre, paid tribute to the University's support of the event.

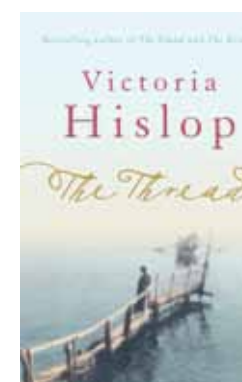
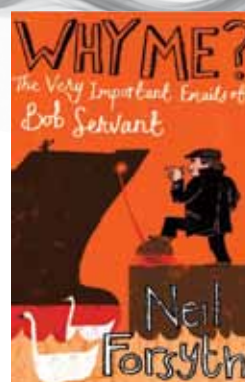
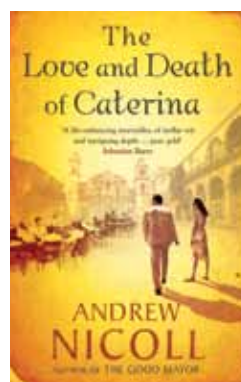
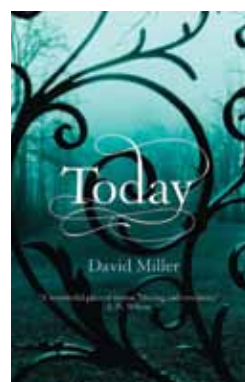
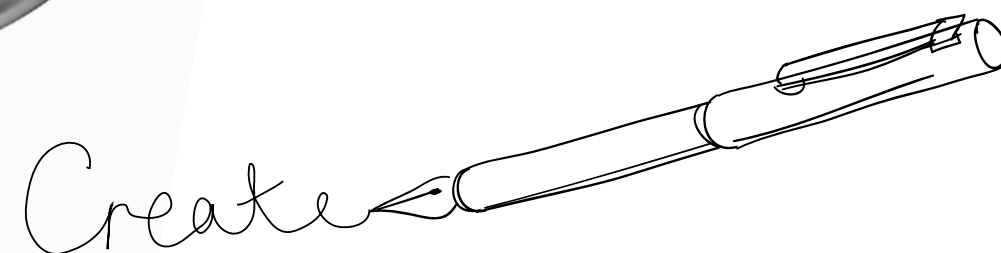
"The success of the festival is due to the participation, enthusiasm and commitment of the partners - none more so than the University of Dundee," she said. "Whether providing wide ranging activities from the School of Computing, helping audiences understand what scientists do, or organising a lecture on Zombie science - the support we have received from the University has been tremendous."

Elsewhere in the city festival goers will be able to find out about the science of hair at McIntyres Hair salon in Union Street, discover who can boast the smartest science brain in the city at Dundee Science Eggheads quiz show at Abertay University, explore Fantastic Fossils at the McManus in Albert Square and discover the science of happiness with Robin Ince at Dundee Science Centre.

An interactive exhibition exploring Dundee's Waterfront project will also be on display at the Science Centre on 8 November while family fun and discovery events are planned for Discovery Point on 5 November, the Mills Observatory on 10 November and Dundee Science Centre on 30 October and 13 November.

For a full programme of events visit www.dundeesciencefestival.org

Literary stars head for Dundee



This year's Dundee Literary Festival kicks off at the end of the month (October) with a tantalising mix of best-selling authors, book launches, journalism, music, science and crime.

Running from 27 to 30 October at various venues in Dundee, the festival brings together established stars of the literary world with exciting new talent and aspiring authors.

This year's bestselling writers include Alexander McCall Smith, author of the 44 Scotland Street series, Victoria Hislop, whose new book *The Thread* is published at the end of the month, award-winning author Meaghan Delahunt and star-crime-writer Val McDermid who will be in conversation with Professor Sue Black, Director of the University's Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification on Saturday 29 October.

Also on the Saturday journalists turned novelists Andrew Nicol and Mark Douglas Home will be joining forces to talk about their work while on the Friday Simon Stephenson, a doctor and new voice in memoir writing will be discussing *Let Not the Waves of the Sea*, his account of losing his brother to the Tsunami disaster in Thailand. Friday will also see Sarah Gabriel talk about her award-winning memoir *Eating Pomegranate*, a devastating account of her cancer diagnosis.

For aspiring authors and writers interested in honing their craft this year's festival features a number of workshops including writing fiction with novelist Cynthia Rogerson, a look at publishing and a three day creative writing course.

The festival will also mark the launch of the latest edition of *New Writing Dundee* and the much-anticipated *Parlour Café Cook Book*. Both launches take place on Saturday 29 October and include a buffet of delicious delights cooked up by the Parlour Café and an evening of music.

The final day of the festival is dedicated to the Comic Conference which will run all day.

Festival Director Anna Day said this year's festival was designed to cater for all literary tastes.

"There's something for every reader and writer, whatever their age and ambition," she said.

For more information and a full programme of events visit www.literarydundee.co.uk/festival.htm

Dundee International Book Prize winner announced at festival



The winner of this year's Dundee International Book Prize will be announced at the Literary Festival in October.

This year's competition attracted a total of 120 writers from around the world, all hoping to win a publishing deal and the £10,000 first prize – the highest offered by any UK prize for unpublished authors.

A short-list of ten debut novelists was announced last month. The final ten include Irish actor Simon Ashe-Browne and award winning artist Adrian Wisziewski, who was part of the 'New Glasgow Boys' group of the 1980s and whose figurative work is collected by, among others, Madonna.

Extracts of the top ten have been published online at www.literarydundee.co.uk/bookprize/ to allow book-lovers to pick their own favourites for the Prize, a collaboration between the University, Cargo Publishing and Dundee City Council's 'One City, Many Discoveries' campaign.

The top ten will be whittled down to a final three books and the eventual winner will be picked by judges Anna Day of Literary Dundee, Head of Cargo Publishing, Mark Buckland, and Emily Dewhurst of Dundee City Council.

The winner will be announced during the Dundee Literary Festival held between 27 and 30 October.

Anna Day, Director of the Literary Festival and one of the competition judges said, "The shortlist reflects a wide variety of styles of writing from debut authors across the world – we received entries from France, USA, Canada, Australia, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Ukraine, Italy and Switzerland – and this demonstrates the esteem the Prize is held in, and how attractive an award it is.

"There are some fantastic stories in the top ten, and I'm sure people will enjoy reading extracts from them. It's going to be tricky to choose a winner but as always we're looking for a creative, innovative new voice who's demonstrated their ability to create a real page-turner."

Last year, Wigan author Alan Wight secured a publishing deal and the £10,000 prize for his debut novel, *Act of Murder*, a dramatic murder mystery set in his home town during Victorian times.

Dundee Remembrance Lecture with Sir Max Hastings

Sir Max Hastings, one of the foremost historians of the Second World War, will be at the University in November to deliver the Dundee Remembrance Lecture, a joint venture between the University and Dundee City Council.

Based on his major new book *"All Hell Let Loose: The Experience of the Second World War,"* his lecture on Saturday 12 November will look at the course of events of the war but will also focus on the human experience, which varied from campaign to campaign and continent to continent.

He will examine the impact of war upon hundreds of millions of people around the world – soldiers, sailors and airmen; housewives, farm workers and children.

As a foreign correspondent Max Hastings reported from more than sixty countries and eleven wars for BBC TV and the London Evening Standard. After ten years as editor and then editor-in-chief of the Daily Telegraph, he became editor of the Evening Standard in 1996. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, he was knighted in 2002.

He has won many awards for his journalism. Among his best-selling books 'Bomber Command' won the Somerset Maugham Prize, and both 'Overlord' and 'Battle for the Falklands' won the Yorkshire Post Book of the Year Prize.

His lecture at the Dalhousie Building takes place at 6pm on Saturday 12 November, the day before Remembrance Sunday. It continues the annual lecture inaugurated by the University and Dundee City Council in 2007 to mark the University's 40th anniversary.

Each year since then a lecture has been held to celebrate the University's close relationship with the city of Dundee and its people.

The Dundee Remembrance Lecture is free and tickets are available from The Tower Building reception, via www.dundee.ac.uk/tickets or by telephoning 01382 385564.

Overflow theatres may be in operation. A booksigning will follow the lecture.

Winter GRADUATION CELEBRATION 2011

The University's winter graduation ceremonies will take place at the Caird Hall in Dundee city centre on Wednesday 16 November.

Two ceremonies will take place with students from the Schools of Humanities, Law, Graduate School, Business, Environment, Computing, Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design and Engineering, Physics and mathematics graduating in the morning.

The afternoon ceremony will feature the Schools of Education, Social Work and Community Education, Psychology, Life Sciences (Learning and Teaching) and Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing and Midwifery.

Following the ceremonies there will be a Winter Graduation Celebration for graduates and their families and friends at Dundee University Students Association. Entertainment will be provided on all floors of the DUSA building between 4pm and 9pm.

Winter graduation was introduced last year following successful representation from a number of Schools and with the encouragement of the University Senate.

For more information visit: www.dundee.ac.uk/registry/main/com/grad/20112/nov/venues.htm

court news

The April and June meetings of Court focused on continued discussion of the Strategic Review as well as wide-ranging changes to the governance instruments of the University.

April in Brief

At the April meeting, the Court received an update on the implementation of the Review. At that point, £8.7m of savings had been achieved towards the £10m target. The Court welcomed the progress that had been made, noting that it was important for the University not to become complacent. The Court discussed the likely outcomes of the Scottish parliamentary elections in May, and what they might mean for university funding.

The Court discussed in depth the issue of the proposed revision of Statute 16, which deals with academic staff. The Director of Human Resources set out the case for change, and a healthy debate ensued with a number of very helpful suggestions, including the development of a new Ordinance specifically to deal with cases connected to the infringement of academic freedom.

At the April meeting, the Court approved the University’s risk register, noting that further revisions would be made in due course following a series of recommendations from the internal auditors.

Finance and the Budget

As usual the June meeting saw the Court formally approve the proposed budget fro 2011-12 along with the financial forecasts for submission to the Funding Council for the period to 2013-14. On the pensions front, the Court also learnt that proposed changes to the University of Dundee Superannuation Scheme had been approved and would be implemented with effect from 1 August 2011. Changes to the Universities Superannuation Scheme would be implemented from 1 October 2011.

Governance

The June meeting saw a bumper crop of changes to the governing instruments of the University. The majority of the proposed changes had emerged as a result of the Court Effectiveness Review which had reported in autumn 2009, and had been further developed by the Governance & Nominations Committee in the early part of the 2010-11 session. The major changes which the Court approved are as follows: the Charter is to be amended so that decisions to amend the Charter, Statutes or Ordinances will no longer require to be approved at two successive meetings, although all must be approved by a 3/4 majority; a new Ordinance has been introduced to regulate the appointment process of the Chancellor, the Principal and the Secretary, and a term of office has been introduced for the Chancellor of 5 years (renewable for a further 5); a new Ordinance

has been created to deal with cases of infringement of academic freedom; and Court also approved a revised Statute 16, which will now regulate the employment of all staff of the University. All of these changes were ratified by the Court at its annual retreat in early September, and are now with the Privy Council, which must give its approval to the changes to the Charter and the Statutes.

Dasman Diabetes Institute

The Court was very interested to hear an update on an ongoing project to develop closer collaborative links with this institute in Kuwait. Kuwait was experiencing a huge growth of diabetes cases, and the University’s expertise in this field would enable local education programmes to be set up as well as the cementing of close research collaborations. The Court supported the project and looked forward to further updates.

Comings and Goings

The Court said goodbye to Ian Ball, Kirsty Brown and Chris Browne, all of whom had been committed and industrious Court members, the last two in particular representing the views of students in exemplary fashion. Court also paid tribute to Professor James Calderhead and to Rob Kennedy (Director of Finance) who were leaving the University, the former into retirement and the latter into a private sector role.

Bruce Johnston

The University sadly learnt in May that long-serving Court member, Bruce Johnston, had died following a short illness. Court members recalled fond memories of Bruce, on whom the University had conferred an honorary degree in June 2010, and the Court observed a minute’s silence in his honour.

Winter Contact

The next edition of Contact will be published in December. The copy deadline is Tuesday 1 November. Submissions should be sent to h.mcnally@dundee.ac.uk by that date.

Dundee Policing and Criminal Justice Research Network launched

A new network designed to bring together researchers with interests in policing and criminal justice has been established at the University.

The Dundee Policing and Criminal Justice Research Network held its first meeting early in the summer and saw academic staff, research assistants and postgraduates from the Schools of the Environment, Humanities, Law, Psychology, the Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification, and Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design come together to provide snapshots of their work.

Topics discussed ranged from contemporary studies of antisocial behaviour in rural Scotland and counter-terrorism policing to historical analyses of crime and disorder. Other ongoing research includes the representation of policing in detective fiction to the use of jewellery for purposes of identification in missing persons investigations and the design of ballistic vests for police officers.

Professor Nick Fyfe, Director of the Scottish Institute for Policing Research, who initiated the network, said,

“We now have a community of around 40 researchers across the university working on a wide range of fascinating topics related to crime, justice and security but until now there has only be limited knowledge of shared interests.

“We hope that establishing this network will encourage much greater dialogue between researchers in different disciplines and also provide an environment in which new opportunities for collaborative research and knowledge exchange will emerge.”

The network plans to hold at least one seminar each semester at which researchers will present findings from recent and current research projects. The first presentation, by Professor Sue Black and Professor Caroline Wilkinson on the research being undertaken by CAHID, will be on Friday 25th November, Lecture Theatre 1, Dalhousie Building, from 1 - 2 p.m.

Anyone interested in joining the network should contact Professor Fyfe at n.r.fyfe@dundee.ac.uk

New training unit aims to boost development

Two University departments are pooling their resources to create a new training unit devoted to providing on-going development for all staff and PhD students.

The new Organisational and Professional Development Unit is being hailed as a major investment in the University’s staff and postgraduate students.

Dr Christine Milburn, head of the new unit, said the aim was to support individuals become more “effective, efficient and employable.”

“With a Professional development remit spanning the remits previously covered by Generic Skills Dundee and Management and Personal Development and an Organisational Development remit of supporting departments, key strategies and cohort training for staff this new unit aims to support individuals in becoming effective, efficient and employable while supporting the whole organisation in a time of change,” she said.

Dr Lisa Anderson, planning and programmes manager, added that the new unit will also be able to tailor courses and workshops for different groups.



“We can also provide cohort training so for example we could organise training for individuals from common roles (e.g. School Secretaries, deans, directors), from common locations (e.g. particular departments) and those with a contribution to make to a particular strategic aims,” she explained.

“The new unit will also provide progression through all levels of employment.”

Leaflets outlining the courses and workshops available are being sent to staff. Further information and online booking will be available at the new website at www.dundee.ac.uk/opd

appointments



Professor Rod Jones

Personal Chair of Civil Engineering

Professor Rod Jones is a Chartered Civil Engineer and began his professional career as a materials engineer. As a junior engineer he worked on the construction of the M27, before moving to a major national contractor as a site engineer.

He came to the University to undertake a PhD and was subsequently appointed lecturer, senior lecturer and reader and was Head of the Division of Civil Engineering from 2001, before being appointed to his current post as Dean of Engineering, Physics and Mathematics.

Professor Jones is also Director of the Concrete Technology Unit (CTU). His research concerns the development of high performance cementitious construction materials and in particular concrete.

Over the past 20 years he has been at the forefront of the development of foamed concrete. With his colleagues in the CTU, research is now being directed at producing ultrahydrophobic surfaces on porous materials, chemical sensors for understanding the nature of the concrete cover in ageing infrastructure and the thermo-acoustic performance of foamed concrete.



Blair H. Smith MD Med FRCGP FHEA FRCP Edin

Professor of Population Science

Professor Smith Blair is a general practitioner and comes to Dundee from the University of Aberdeen where he was Professor of Primary Care Medicine.

He is co-applicant on research grants totalling more than £12 million and

has authored more than 70 peer reviewed research papers and several book chapters mainly in the clinical area of chronic pain epidemiology and management. He is looking forward to further developing this research, in partnership with new colleagues at Dundee and existing national and international collaborations.

As one of the Chief Investigators of the Generation Scotland genetic epidemiology programme, he will use this, and existing resources at the Health Informatics Centre, as a platform to examine biological mechanisms of chronic pain, and related clinical problems, aiming to translate clinical implications from the laboratory to the general population, and back again.



Professor Pieter H.F Bekker

Chair in International Law, Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy (CEPMLP)

Professor Bekker combines his research and teaching in International Law with an active practice as an advocate before the International Court of Justice and other courts and tribunals.

A former member of Columbia Law School's adjunct faculty, Prof Bekker's scholarship focuses on the law of international organizations, cross-border investment and dispute resolution between foreign investors and host States through arbitration.

His research concentrates on the question of what informs the status and content of norms of international law and how such norms influence law-making in other legal systems.

Pro. Bekker earned his Master of Laws degree from Harvard Law School and basic and doctoral law degrees from Leiden University in his native Holland.



Professor Caroline Wilkinson

Person Chair of Craniofacial Identification

Professor Wilkinson joined the Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification in 2005. Since then she has helped develop unique taught Masters courses in Forensic Art, Medical Art and Forensic Facial Identification, and headed the Facial Anthropology Research Group.

Her research focuses on craniofacial analysis and facial depiction from skeletal and partially decomposed human remains for application to forensic and archaeological investigations.

She is author of Forensic Facial Reconstruction and was the first woman President of the International Association of Craniofacial identification (IACI) 2008-10.

Professor Wilkinson has been involved in many archaeological investigations and her work is exhibited in museums around the world. She has also appeared on a number of popular television programmes including Meet the Ancestors (BBC2), Secrets of the Dead (Channel 4) and History Cold Case (BBC2).

Professor Wilkinson gained her PhD from Manchester University in 2000 and was Manager of the Unit of Art in Medicine at Manchester Medical School from 2000 to 2005.



Professor Mark Hector

Dean of Dentistry and Professor of Oral Health of Children

Professor Hector was born in Nairobi, Kenya, and first graduated in Physiology, then in Dentistry in 1981 from Guys Hospital. There followed three years at the University of Bristol and Kings

College, London, after which he received his PhD.

Following three years in oral medicine and pathology at Guys Hospital Dental School he was recruited to The London Hospital Medical College as a lecturer in Child Dental Health. He gained his Readership in 2001 and in 2002 became Professor of Oral Health of Children at Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Between 2009 and 2011 he was President of the International Association of Paediatric Dentistry.

His research interests are broadly in the area of Oral Biology and have recently concerned how salivary proteins manage calcium to protect teeth. Future work will address how synthesises proteins can be used in dental products to prevent and manage dental disease.

"I am absolutely delighted and very proud to be the new Dean and to be joining a very skilled and committed staff. I look forward to working with them on a number of important new initiatives to build on the Dental School's fine reputation for teaching and research," said Professor Hector.



Professor Terence Dawson

SAGES Chair of Global Environmental Change

Professor Dawson graduated with BSc Honours in Computer Science from the University of Exeter before going on to complete an MPhil in Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing at the University of Cambridge and a PhD in Remote Sensing and Forest

Ecology at the University of Southampton.

His previous early posts include Fellow at Green College, Oxford, Programme Leader at the Terrestrial Ecology and Biodiversity Group at Oxford and research lecturer at the Environmental Change Institute.

He then moved to the University of Edinburgh where he was Director of the MSc in Environment and Development in the School of Geosciences and Senior lecturer at the Centre for the Study of Environmental Change and Sustainability.



Professor Tom Inns

Dean of Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design

Professor Tom Inns has been appointed Dean of Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design. Tom started his career with Rolls-Royce PLC (Aeroengines). After completing his Masters at

the Royal College of Art in 1990 he worked as a designer and researcher on a variety projects.

He was appointed as Director of the Design Research Centre (DRC), Brunel University in 1996 where he worked extensively with small companies and developed a series of design audit methodologies with the Design Council, Business Links and DTI.

In 2000 he was appointed as Professor of Design at Dundee. Between 2001 and 2004 he was Head of the School of Design. In 2004 he was appointed as Director of the AHRC and EPSRC funded Designing for the 21st Century Initiative.

He has a strong research interest in the future of design and the way design is used as a strategic tool within business. Tom regularly designs and facilitates knowledge sharing events and workshops. Recent clients include NESTA, UK Design Council, ARDI Rhone Alps, UKERC, Institute of Materials and the Swedish Industrial Design Foundation.

From 2007 to 2011 he was Leader of the Global Environmental Change and Earth Observation Research Theme and then Professor (Chair in Remote Sensing) at the University of Southampton.

His research interests have included investigating conservation and policy responses to climate change impacts on the distribution of species, human-induced land use and land-cover change and novel computational techniques able to integrate the social and biophysical sciences, such as agent-based-modelling, and the investigation of social-ecological tipping points and critical thresholds.

Professor Dawson is a member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (MIET), Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society/Institute of British Geographers, Member of the British Ecological Society and Member of the Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry Society. He is also Trustee of the Galapagos Conservation Trust, associate editor of the Canadian Journal of Remote Sensing.



1st birthday success for Dundee University Sport!

Dundee University Sport – the partnership between ise and the student Sports Union – celebrated a successful first year of operation in September

The marriage of ise's professional expertise and management experience with the student energy, enthusiasm and substantial volunteer base within university sports clubs has delivered a number of impressive achievements.

These include a record number of Dundee University teams competing in inter-university sport, an increase in coaching provision across all clubs, a 20% increase in attendances at club training sessions, a 10% increase in sports club memberships, over 1300 different sports sessions being delivered for students and an increase of 12% in competitive success against other universities.

The partnership has also seen the relocation of the Sports Union office from the Dundee University Students' Association building to within the Institute of Sport and Exercise, a move which has supported the close working relationship of the two bodies.

University Sports Union President Sophie Warburton has described the new partnership's achievements as "outstanding" and believes it will bring more sporting benefits in the future.

"Dundee University Sport has demonstrated that the partnership has truly played to the strengths of both the Sports' Union and the I ise to successfully increase participation and competition," she said.

"The achievements of the partnership in 2010-11 were outstanding and I look forward to building on these successes in the next year.

"The move of the Sports' Union office to within the ise building provides huge potential to create a sporting hub on campus and enhance the partnership even further."

Paul McPate, Depute Director of the Institute of Sport & Exercise agreed.

"Our national reputation in sport has been further strengthened through hosting a highly successful British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) Conference Cup Finals in March with over 300 students from 11 institutions competing in 14 finals across 7 different sports," he said.

"The icing on the cake for this national event was Dundee University's success in winning an impressive four finals – men's basketball; men's football; women's hockey and men's rugby – the second most successful record in Scotland in this prestigious competition.

"The university's reputation for delivering a high quality Conference Cup Finals event has been recognised with the Finals returning to Dundee in 2012 for a third year running!

"The start of the new academic session brings renewed enthusiasm and hopes amongst the university's forty sports clubs and, with the support and resources of Dundee University Sport 2011/12 promises to be another bumper year of sporting success for the university."



Funding boost for ABC class

An innovative exercise class which supports women who have, or have had, breast cancer received a cash boost over the summer when it was awarded £15,000 in funding from the charity Breast Foot Forward.

The Active ABC programme at the University's Institute of Sport and Exercise is for women during and after their treatment for breast cancer.

"Research has shown that being active during and after treatment helps to counteract the physical and psychological side effects of breast cancer and its treatments," said Dr Anna Campbell, Lecturer in Sports Biomedicine.

"Issues such as muscle de-conditioning and weakness, general tiredness, depression, all of these can be helped by being active and doing exercise.

"We are working closely with the breast cancer teams in NHS Tayside to establish physical activity consultations and classes as one element of the wider treatment programme given to patients.

"This funding from Breast Foot Forward is a major boost for the programme."

The Active ABC class already has around 15 participants and the numbers are increasing on a monthly basis

Dr Sally Beattie from Breast Foot Forward presented the £15,000 cheque to the ise team in June.

Dr Beattie said, "We raise money through sponsored walks specifically to support projects in Scotland which provide support and care for people who have or have had breast cancer. This programme is one which has clear benefits for patients and we are delighted to give our support."

it's all go @ise this autumn!!



as well as the usual sport, swimming, exercise classes and the gym, we've got...

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- and our fantastic wear it pink fundraiser day on friday 28 october

for more info check out our website at www.dundee.ac.uk/ise and you can follow us on facebook at www.facebook.com/isedundee



MASTERS OF THEIR ART

A project to improve the accuracy of police drawings, a 3D method of visualising the development of cancer cells, and an innovative approach to cutting down on the number of tents thrown away after music festivals were just three of the exhibits on show at the Dundee Masters Show 2011.

The show featured work from around 50 postgraduate students in six Masters programmes at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design. The programmes showcased were MSc Animation & Visualisation, Master of Design, Master of Fine Art, MSc Forensic Art, MSc Media Arts and MSc Medical Art.

Amongst those exhibiting were Claire Priddle, a composite artist with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC) in Canada who has been researching how police drawings composed with witnesses vary according to the interview technique employed, Dylan Gauld, who has been working with mathematicians from the University to visualise the growth of cancer cells and Linsey McIntosh, a keen festival-goer whose ReTent project aims to prevent thousands of tents being thrown away.

Jeanette Paul, Head of Learning & Teaching at DJCAD, said the exhibition featured highly stimulating and thought-provoking work which demonstrated intelligent research applications, creativity, imagination and innovation.

"Students on our Masters programmes only have one year in which to develop their work to a new level or in a different direction," she said. "Therefore they work extremely hard throughout the year and their dedication is demonstrated in the work displayed in this year's Show."

She added that other examples of projects on display included the design of a Forensic Jewellery Classification System to help identify victims of international disasters; an audio quilt made up of stories gathered from people met by the artist while walking along the coast of Fife and the recreation of a fragment of a famous architectural landmark.

The Master Show 2011 ran from 27 August to 3 September. For more information visit www.dundee.ac.uk/mastershow



from the archives...



The Beatles: Revolutionary 1965

The Michael Peto collection is currently being displayed in Proud Camden gallery. The Beatles: Revolutionary 1965 features an intimate photographic portrait of The Beatles taken during one of the most significant years in The Beatles' history, 1965. Photographs of the event can be seen at: www.tatler.com/bystander/events/2011/august/the-beatles-exhibition-at-proud-camden#/4774/image/1

When Michael Peto died in 1970, just a few years after these photographs were taken; his family donated his archive of 130,000 prints and negatives to the University of Dundee which included more than 500 previously unseen pictures of The Beatles.

Peto spent a year photographing the group at a pivotal moment in their career, building up a close working relationship with them which is clearly shown in these intimate portraits. This exhibition is a testament to Peto's unobtrusive humanist approach to photography and includes images from this period of great change for the band; including the day when news broke that the band would receive an MBE, and in the studio recording Rubber Soul.

ARMMS is currently developing a marketing strategy for the collection with the aim of developing a major retrospective touring exhibition.

Kenya Visit

A group photo of all who attended the University of Dundee Health Symposium in Nairobi Kenya, 13 May 2011

The University's first Health Symposium organised as part of the Commonwealth funded Masters in Nursing (MN) and Masters in Palliative Care (MPC) programmes in Kenya took place in Nairobi earlier this year.

The symposium focused on the translation of evidence into practice and aimed to develop a mechanism for cascading learning in Kenya. It is hoped the symposium will become a biennial event.



what's on...

8 October

V&A at Dundee: Hugo Vickers – The Queen and Cecil Beaton

Public Lecture, Dalhousie Building, 6pm

This free talk by acclaimed biographer Hugo Vickers, explores Cecil Beaton's development as a royal photographer and the role he played in portraying The Queen. It accompanies the Cecil Beaton exhibition at the McManus.

25 October

Careers Fair

Ustinov Room, Bonar Hall, 11am to 2.30pm

The Dundee Careers Fair is open to all students, graduates and staff of the University. This free event will include over 40 recruiters – for an up to date list of those attending please visit: www.dundee.ac.uk/careers/fairs/main_fair.htm.



27 to 30 October

Dundee Literary Festival

Various venues

Internationally bestselling authors, workshops, poetry, prizes, local authors, debut authors, scientific events, crime writing, music book launches and a comic conference are all on offer at this year's four-day literary extravaganza. For a full programme of events visit: www.literarydundee.co.uk/festival.htm

29 October

Blue Monday with Nicci French

Dalhousie Building, 4pm

Husband and wife writing team Nicci Gerrard and Sean French will be discussing their new novel Blue Monday as part of the Dundee Literary Festival. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification's Million for a Morgue campaign. For more information visit www.millionforamorgue.com

29 October

Scottish Dimensions of Health Day of Public Engagement

Dundee Central Library, 10am to 4pm

Part of the ESRC Festival of Science this SDHI public engagement event aims to inform a wider audience about what SDHI does and how this may impact on the wellbeing and quality of life of individuals in the community.

For more information visit <http://sdhi.wordpress.com/>

29 October to 12 November

Dundee Science Festival

Various venues

This year's celebration of science includes exhibitions, lectures, talent contests, family fun days, workshops, comedy shows and a schools programme.

For a full listing visit www.dundeesciencefestival.org

12 November

Remembrance Lecture

Max Hastings – All Hell Let Loose

Dalhousie Building, 6pm

Sir Max Hastings is one of the foremost historians of the Second World War. In this lecture, based on his bestselling book 'All Hell Let Loose', he will describe the course of events of the war but also focus upon the human experience, which varied immensely from campaign to campaign, continent to continent.

16 November

Winter Graduation

Caird Hall, Dundee City Square and DUSA, Airtie Place

The second winter graduation gets underway with two ceremonies in the Caird Hall and a special evening celebration for graduates, families and friends in DUSA. For more information visit

22 November

V&A at Dundee

A Portrait of the future

Dalhousie Building, 6pm

As part of the pre-opening programme for V&A at Dundee and the Cecil Beaton exhibition at The McManus, internationally renowned artist photographer Calum Colvin will talk about his innovative and intriguing approach to portraiture.

For further details, please visit www.VandAatDundee.com

Until 8 January

Queen Elizabeth II by Cecil Beaton:

A Diamond Jubilee Celebration

The McManus: Dundee's art gallery & museum



A major exhibition of photographs of The Queen taken from the V&A Archives as part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations made its debut in Dundee in September. The portraits by Cecil Beaton show the Queen in her various roles as princess, monarch and mother. The exhibition forms part of the pre-opening programme for the V&A at Dundee.



picture this...

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61,694 delegates
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