



The School of History, Classics and Archaeology

Postgraduate Newsletter, Issue 18, May 2009



**Professor Bob
Morris**



**Professor Jill
Stephenson**



**Professor Frank
Cogliano**



**Dr Ewen
Cameron**

rae2008
Research Assessment Exercise

The School's scores in the RAE 2008 ensured a clear third place in the UK after Oxford and Cambridge, and first place in Scotland, for the quality and volume of our research assessed by the History and Classics panels

Changes to Key Personnel

2009 is a landmark year for our postgraduate activities. It marks changes to the roles, or departures, of a number of staff who have been key to the success of the School's postgraduate operations in the past few years. Professor Bob Morris (PG Director 2003/04 and 2004/05) and Professor Jill Stephenson (PG Director 2005/06 and 2006/7) retire, while Professor Frank Cogliano (PG Director 2007/08 and 2008/09) and Dr Ewen Cameron (Deputy PG Director 2007/08 and 2008/09) move to new School Administration roles in August, as Deputy Head of School and Head of History respectively.

During this six year period, the School's postgraduate activities have seen a period of unprecedented redevelopment and growth, examples of which include:

- Establishing a highly successful central Postgraduate Office with dedicated professional administrative staff and academics responsible for the recruitment, management, development and pastoral care associated with all PG programmes, taught or research.
- A favourable quinquennial review in 2005.
- Massive growth in PG student intakes through the ongoing expansion of a suite of taught masters programmes now numbering twenty seven in all. In 2002/03, the new student intake numbered 41 students (all research), which had grown to 120 by 2008/09, some 76 of which are on taught programmes.
- Successful integration of a new Subject Area into the School following the move of Archaeology to HC&A in 2007 which further added to our postgraduate portfolio.
- Ongoing development and refinement of systems, policies,

- procedures and resources/facilities to support the postgraduate function in the most effective way.
- Integration of a new student system of record, EUCLID, into postgraduate processes, most notably in terms of a move to online study applications.

On behalf of the School, therefore, I wish to warmly thank Bob, Jill, Frank and Ewen for the major parts they have played in the transformation of this vital aspect of our academic activities.

Professor Tom Devine,
Head of School

Archaeology Student wins Carnegie Medal

Research student Laura Bonsall has received a prestigious award from the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland.

Carnegie Scholarships are the gold standard in Scotland for postgraduate studentships and competition for them is very intense – to be recognised as the very best across all subjects, and all Scottish universities, is truly an exceptional achievement.

Laura, who has been studying for a PhD in Human Osteoarchaeology since September, has been presented with the Robertson Medal. Laura's PhD is entitled "A biocultural perspective on the health and socio-economic status of women in two Romano-British communities".

Student Funding Successes for 2009/10

College Studentships (EU rate fee, stipend and research allowance):
Megan Ledford.

College Scholarships (EU fee rate and research allowance): Louise Settle,
Anthony Ellis.

ORS Awards (difference between EU and overseas fee rates): Tanya Cosentino, Hao Gao, Megan Ledford.

School PhD Award (EU rate fee, stipend and research allowance): Anthony Ellis.

School MSc Awards (EU fee rate): Iain Maciver, Robbie Maxwell, Robert Waters, Belinda Washington, Isaac Tabor, Harry Stopes.

American Friends of the University of Edinburgh Awards: Charles Bow. Two awards were available, one of \$5000 and one of \$2000 and Charles was given the higher of the two awards.

McFarlane Scholarship (EU rate fees, stipend and research allowance):
Halley Choiniere.

Invitation for Professor Paul Bailey (below left)

Professor Paul Bailey, Director of the newly launched taught MSc in History and former Director of the MSc in Gender Studies, gave a public lecture in Chinese to all history students at China's premier University, Beijing University, in early May 2009.



Martin Chick wins Economic History Society Teaching Prize (above right)

Dr Martin Chick is the first winner of the Economic History Society's Teaching Prize. This £1,000 prize is intended to recognise the importance of teaching in economic and/or social history. It will be awarded annually to the individual

who is judged to be making the most significant contribution to the teaching of that discipline.

Historians win prestigious Leverhulme Fellowships



Dr Monica Azzolini and Dr Paul Quigley have been awarded Research Fellowships for 2009-10 by the Research Awards Advisory Committee of the Leverhulme Trust. The competition for these awards is intense; only one other historian in a Scottish university was successful in this year's competition and the success rate across all subjects was around 15 per cent. The School warmly congratulates Monica and Paul on their achievement.

US Fellowship Award

Yvonne McEwen, Honorary Fellow in The Centre for the Study of the Two World Wars has been awarded the 2009 Women in Medicine, Gloeckner Summer Fellowship. Competition for this annually awarded Fellowship is very fierce and the calibre of candidates is outstanding.

The award is made by the Drexel-Hahnemann University School of Medicine Archives, Philadelphia. The archives hold some of the oldest and rarest acquisitions on the history of women in medicine in the United States.

Last summer the British Army commissioned Yvonne to write the Official Histories of The Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps. The Gloeckner Fellowship will allow her

to research the work of the American Women's Hospital and the part it played in the medical and nursing allied war effort in the Two World Wars.

Head of School invited to give keynote address at British Scholar Conference - USA 2010



Professor Tom Devine (above right, with Professor Frank Cogliano) is to be the keynote speaker at the Second British Scholar Conference at the University of Texas at Austin in March 2010. The British Scholar Society was established to promote British Studies in the USA and to publish the new academic journal "British Scholar". Professor Devine follows Professor Linda Colley of Princeton who gave the keynote address in 2009.

Notable Success for the Scottish Centre for Diaspora Studies

Universities Scotland, the body representing all Scottish HE institutions, is mounting a photographic display on Innovation as its contribution to the 2009 Homecoming Scotland Exhibition. The Scottish Centre for Diaspora Studies is one of only two selected from the University of Edinburgh (of twelve activities submitted) for this profiling. SCDS is also the only Humanities 'Innovation' from any of the Scottish universities to be showcased, with almost all of the others from medical and scientific disciplines.