Teaching Awards
Outstanding staff celebrated by their students

East meets west
Our ambitious project with Zhejiang University

Space to grow
Learning and teaching rooms reimagined

Out & about
Don’t miss these upcoming University events

Spot the difference
Win a gym membership at the Pleasance
Welcome to the summer edition of your staff magazine. Our cover stars this issue are Eleri Connick, President of Edinburgh University Students’ Association, and Professor Charlie Jeffery, Senior Vice-Principal, who won an Outstanding Achievement Award for Championing Students at the Teaching Awards in April. We celebrate him and his fellow winners on pages 8 and 9.

In March the Principal officially opened the Zhejiang University-University of Edinburgh Institute. On pages 12 and 13 we look into this ambitious collaborative project.

One of the core elements of the student experience is the classroom. We find out from Estates how they’re working to improve learning and teaching spaces across our campuses on pages 10 and 11.

On pages 14 and 15, you can see all the upcoming events in the next few months as the University gets ready for Edinburgh’s busiest season. Plus, read our nine-to-five feature with Stacey Johnstone on page 19, and don’t forget to try our competition on page 20 for the chance to win a great prize.

If you would like to submit ideas or feedback to bulletin, please contact us at bulletin@ed.ac.uk or +44 (0)131 650 6508.

For regular updates, visit Staff News at www.ed.ac.uk/news/staff and follow us on Twitter @EdinUniStaff

Lights illuminate Old College Quad

March saw the Old College Quad host an art installation to honour Ellie Maxwell, an inspiring student who died from cancer 10 years ago. She launched the charity Firefly International while she was studying English and philosophy here at Edinburgh. The charity provides artistic and educational programmes to young people in Bosnia, Syria and Turkey.

Hundreds of fibre optic flowers lit up Old College to honour her and celebrate the charity’s 20th anniversary. The installation, Fireflies, was created by artist Bruce Munro.

As part of the celebrations, the University also launched the Ellie Maxwell Award, a £500 grant for students who manage charities.
Looking to the future
by Professor Peter Mathieson, Principal and Vice-Chancellor

As I approach the end of my first year and a half as Principal, I am pleased to take this opportunity to thank everyone for everything they do for the University of Edinburgh. Although these are uncertain times for higher education in the UK, there have been many positive milestones to celebrate this year.

I have particularly enjoyed honouring the people of our University in recent months, in our annual student and staff awards. In April we launched our new Student Awards, in which fellow students and staff recognise major student achievements over the past year. Later in the month students were able to applaud staff in their dedication to improving the student experience at the Teaching Awards. Both events were organised by the Students’ Association and I thank them for the opportunity to celebrate these wonderful contributions to the University community.

Looking ahead to the next few months, we will finalise and publish our new strategic plan. In compiling it we have reflected deeply on our values as we lay the foundations for the next phase in our history. The challenges facing our world now are significant and complex: climate change, political complexity, mass displacement of people, the potential of artificial intelligence and big data; all these are challenging old certainties in societies, democracies and the global economy. We will need to evolve to meet the expectations of future generations, working in new ways across old boundaries to respond to these issues.

The strategic plan is aimed at the next decade: in fast-changing times it would be presumptuous to think that we can plan much further ahead than that. However, we firmly believe that an articulation of our values, a restatement of the civic leadership mission for which we were founded and articulation of the changes we will deliver will combine to provide the right basis for the University’s activities well into the future.

I have referred before to the people focus of our future plans. In the various consultation fora, I have had the opportunity to outline that our leadership philosophy will have values at its heart; in my view, a firm basis on which to build a lasting collective for change. We have many challenges ahead. However, I am confident that by prioritising our activities around the things that have the greatest impact on staff and student experience, and make the biggest contributions to making our world a better place, for example, aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, we will continue to strengthen as one of the world’s great universities.

All that remains is to wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer as we all look forward to beginning a new academic year come September.

Student Immigration Service is live

One of the key improvements delivered by the Service Excellence Programme (SEP) was combining the Immigration Compliance team and the International Student Advisory Service team. Now the new Student Immigration Service (SIS) is live and fully operational, providing excellent immigration services to our international students. Under new Head Dawne Hodkinson, SIS means that anyone with an enquiry about student immigration whether staff, students or applicants can contact one team to get their question answered or problem solved.

Having everything in one place means less duplication of effort and makes it easier for SIS to provide an expert service. The project has also delivered a new website and introduced an enquiry management system to let staff manage queries more effectively. It’s just one of the ways SEP are helping to make the University a great place to study and work by making services consistent and easy to access.

The team is now working on further improvements to immigration services over the next 12 to 18 months including the recent appointment of a new Compliance Officer. This will mean SIS will be able to engage more with Schools and provide more direct support at a local level to staff and students when they are looking for guidance.

New updates to our people policies

As part of the University’s commitment to being a great place to work, 10 leave and family friendly policies have been updated and include increased pay entitlements for maternity, adoption and shared parental leave. The new policies have been reviewed and benchmarked, keeping us in line with other Russell Group universities.

The policies have been rewritten in clear language, making them easier to follow and consistent across the University. The updates were made in response to staff feedback about usability and the policies have been developed with input from line managers and union representatives. As well as the policies, there are new processes for joiners and leavers, including new webpages, guidance and templates designed to make everyone’s lives easier, and helping to ensure a great employee experience.

The policies went live on 1 June and can be accessed on the HR webpage.

edin.ac/hr-policies
Student and staff experience

A key priority for the University is staff experience. Conversations responding to the recent staff engagement survey are well underway across the University, with managers leading on these discussions with their staff. HR are supporting the leadership team to make effective changes in their area, including training sessions to improve CPD (Continuing Professional Development) and personal development, local workshops on bullying and harassment, and activities which celebrate staff achievements and successes. An Engagement Champions network has been established to further support local activities focused on staff engagement.

Over the past few months a student experience action plan has also been agreed. The plan has identified key themes to focus on: excellent teaching, support, facilities and transport; smooth-running services; a strong student voice; an inspiring and challenging curriculum; and a strong sense of community.

Much of the work in the plan is already underway, for example: work on teaching and academic careers; on reviewing joint degree programmes; on inter-campus transport options; and on a number of service excellence initiatives. Some elements are new, including: a review of workload allocation models; work on fostering a sense of community; on curriculum review; and on communications and leadership. The plan brings these existing initiatives together into a single framework that is ambitious and intended to be genuinely holistic in its approach to addressing student experience issues – and related staff issues – at the University.

Targeting University waste

The University’s Waste Strategy was published in autumn 2018, and encourages staff and students to contribute to our vision to become a zero-waste institution by embedding circular economy thinking, and putting waste prevention, reuse and recycling at the forefront of our relationship with resources.

The University academic estate produces nearly 3,000 tonnes of waste a year but none gets sent to landfill: 54 per cent is recycled or composted; three per cent reused; and 43 per cent is sent for energy recovery. The strategy sets ambitious targets for 2022/23: a 10 per cent reduction in waste arising per capita; increase in reuse to 10 per cent; and increase in recycling or composting to 80 per cent. More information can be found in the strategy and accompanying action plan on the Waste website.

The Estates Waste team is responsible for the management of all University waste streams. They need your help to reduce the amount of waste we produce and to maximise reuse and recycling: become a Waste Coordinator (contact the Social Responsibility and Sustainability team for more information); use a reusable water bottle and coffee cup; or make the most of Warp-It (the internal online reuse network which allows you to redistribute surplus goods).

If you are looking for advice for an office move or clear out, guidance on how to use the bins, have an excess amount of waste for reuse, recycling or disposal, or just want to know more about our waste, the Waste team are here to help.

✔ Visit www.ed.ac.uk/estates/waste-recycling
or contact waste@ed.ac.uk
Celebrating the Edinburgh Seven

During the Medical School graduations in July the University will commemorate the achievements of seven remarkable women. In the 150th anniversary year of the first ever female students to study for a degree at any British university, Edinburgh will award honorary, posthumous degrees to seven of these women, who became collectively known as the Edinburgh Seven. The awards will be collected on behalf of the women by existing medical students.

Throughout the autumn, a series of events are planned to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the women’s matriculation and commencement of studies. This will be an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of these women and those who supported them in pioneering women’s access to university. It will also mark the University’s ongoing commitment to ensuring that all students who have the ability and willingness to study are able to take up a place here at Edinburgh.

Remembering women pioneers

On International Women’s Day, the Information Services Group renamed its Argyle House boardroom after Brenda Moon (pictured), who in 1980 became the first woman to head up a Scottish research university library. Brenda played a major role in making Edinburgh one of the first university libraries in the UK to deliver a computer-based service. Brenda’s colleague, Sheila Cannell, former Director of Library and University Collections at Edinburgh, officially opened the Brenda Moon Boardroom in March.

On the same day, Wikimedian in Residence, Ewan McAndrew, hosted a Wikipedia Edit-a-thon to add more notable women associated with Edinburgh to Wikipedia, and Equality and Diversity Images Intern, Francesca Vavotici, hosted a Sketch-a-thon using images from the Centre for Research Collections' Special Collections.

Celebrating 100 years of business

In 2019 we celebrate 100 years of business at the University. The founders of the Edinburgh Business School were keen to write the future: in 1919 they raised substantial funds to start a business and accounting degree in the city.

Today the Business School continues to honour the legacy of its founders who carved this entrepreneurial spirit into the School. They are piloting some of the most ambitious projects the University has set for the future, including MicroMasters and Distance Learning at Scale, which you can read more about on page 7.

Read alumni stories about the Business School at www.business-school.ed.ac.uk/writingthefuture

News in brief

Sleep in the Park success

Last year the University raised more than £60,000 for homeless charity Social Bite when staff and students slept overnight in Princes Street Gardens. As a result, the University is now able to sponsor two homes in the Social Bite Village, a low-cost, safe living environment for those in need. The village helps transition someone from a situation of homelessness to an independent member of society.

Sustainability Awards

The 2018 Sustainability Awards were celebrated in March where 26 staff teams were recognised. This year the awards were split into five categories: staff offices; labs; student residences; community partnerships; and SRSChangemakers, a new award for staff who show exceptional leadership in sustainability outside of their formal role. More than 200 staff and students are contributing to make a difference within the University. You can register your interest for the next awards online.

Lecture theatre renamed

A lecture theatre in the Chancellor’s Building has been officially renamed Shirley Hall after Dame Stephanie Shirley. This recognises her support of the University’s Patrick Wild Centre, which works to investigate the neurological basis of autism spectrum disorders, fragile X syndrome and intellectual disabilities.
Research in focus

Smartphone device developed to detect heart conditions

Each year thousands of people visit emergency departments complaining of heart palpitations. Often, the conditions are harmless, but it is possible that they can point to underlying heart rhythm disorders that need to be treated. It’s often difficult to tell which, as by the time the patient has got to a hospital, they have normally recovered and electrocardiogram (ECG) recordings of their hearts appear normal.

Researchers led by the University and NHS Lothian have carried out the first controlled trial of AliveCor® KardiaMobile, a heart rhythm device that attaches to a smartphone. More than 200 people complaining of palpitations across the UK were given a device to take home. The AliveCor® KardiaMobile can be activated when the patient experiences symptoms such as flutterings and the ECG result can be sent electronically to a doctor.

Researchers gave one group of patients a device to use at home while the other group were instructed to go to their GP or local hospital if they experienced further symptoms. After 90 days the device helped doctors to diagnose 56 per cent of patients in an average of 9.5 days, while 10 per cent of patients were diagnosed in standard care in an average of 43 days.

These results suggest that it’s possible this technology could help emergency departments working within the NHS save time and money. The device also cut the cost of an average diagnosis by more than £900. The researchers say the results suggest emergency departments around the country should consider incorporating the device into standard care.

Evolution of peace deals

A new study suggests that women’s rights are slowly receiving more attention in peace processes. The University’s Political Settlement Research Project created an online database, called PA-X, that records more than 140 peace processes, with more than 1,500 agreements since 1990, including conflicts that involve Bosnia, Colombia, Northern Ireland, Yemen, Syria and Sudan.

Analysis of these peace settlements shows one fifth included a reference to gender between 1990 and 2015 whereas by 2015, almost half of the peace processes made provisions for women. The study shows that the United Nation’s call for a gender perspective in peace agreements in 2000 has made an impact.

Climate change targets obstructed by land-use delays

A team of Edinburgh researchers, led by Dr Peter Alexander from the School of GeoSciences, has found that climate change targets laid out in the Paris Agreement may not be met as land management changes are not happening fast enough.

Although many countries are working to combat deforestation or are trying to establish new forests to absorb carbon dioxide, the demolition of tropical forests in Brazil, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Indonesia has accelerated again after previously slowing down.

The Karlsruhe Institute of Technology in Germany has also found that the suggested changes in land use often take decades to occur. While these changes proposed to land management could remove a quarter of greenhouse gases released through human activity every year, the slow rate of progress will obstruct aims to limit average global temperature increases to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The team suggests the delays are due to disconnected political priorities.
Teaching in focus

New podcast released

The Teaching Matters team have released a new podcast to complement their blog. The podcast episodes will align with the blog’s mini-series, adding multiple dimensions to the discussion, and extending the conversation across and beyond the University.

The first three episodes were informed by the mini-series exploring social responsibility and sustainability in learning and teaching practices. The blog posts discussed a range of topics including highlighting the student pathways scheme which encourages students to get involved in extra-curricular activities, such as acting as auditors in the annual Sustainability Awards. The posts also included an exploration into embedding sustainability into the curriculum, and an insight into the University’s strategy for biodiversity.

The podcast episodes accompanying this mini-series saw Polly Wells, MSc student in Environmental Sustainability host conversations with groups of staff and students around how to get involved in sustainability at a university level, the role of sustainability in the classroom, and the most effective ways of teaching and talking about climate change issues.

For more information on the new podcast or course co-creation, visit www.teaching-matters-blog.ed.ac.uk

MicroMasters: new pathways to credit

More than 7,000 students globally have benefited from the opportunity to study a degree online since the University launched its first online degrees in 2005, and a further 2.5 million learners have engaged with free educational content online.

Soon a new postgraduate-level credentials course, called MicroMasters, will be launched in partnership with edX, one of the world’s leading online education platforms. Evolving from massive open online courses, MicroMasters enable learners to obtain masters-level education without the time or cost commitment of a full masters degree. Learners self-assess their ability to undertake any programme and are able to access free content to try before they buy. Learners who successfully complete the MicroMasters programme will receive 30 postgraduate credits, which will be recognised when applying for a related masters degree.

Our first MicroMasters in Predictive Analytics for Business Applications will be launched by the Business School in Semester 1 of 2019/20 and will introduce learners to the major concepts used in predictive modelling, using a range of statistical and machine-learning methodologies on a variety of real-life datasets. Wendy Loretto, Head of the Business School, commented: “Our new MicroMasters enables us to provide learners with key skills that are in high demand in the age of big data, and to reach out to learners who might not otherwise be able to study with the Business School.”

https://uoe.sharepoint.com/sites/DLAS

Co-creating courses with students

Co-creation of the curriculum means working in collaboration with students, thinking of them as partners, rather than consumers. Dr Meryl Kenny, Senior Lecturer in Gender and Politics in the School of Social & Political Science, has put this into practice by working with students on the Social and Political Science in Practice (SPSP) course to create Understanding Gender in the Contemporary World. The new course was open to students across the University and was designed as an introduction to the interdisciplinary study of gender from a social science perspective.

SPSP students fed back that they had found developing the Understanding Gender course a rewarding experience. Through engaging with pedagogical literature, they were able to develop different perspectives on the teaching and learning process.
The Students’ Association Teaching Awards 2018/19

The annual Students’ Association Teaching Awards is a chance for students to recognise and celebrate staff for their dedication to enhancing the student learning experience at the University.

This year the Students’ Association received more than 2,000 nominations and the ceremony was held in April at Teviot Row House. During the ceremony Senior Vice-Principal Charlie Jeffery was recognised with a special award for his exceptional contributions to the student experience.

We’ve shared the other winners here, alongside some of the many positive comments from the students that nominated them.

Nominations for next year’s awards open in August for postgraduate students and November for everyone else.

**Best Assessment Feedback Award**

*Lev Sarkisov*  
School of Engineering  
“He offered individual feedback sessions, where he discussed the marked assignment one-on-one, trying to help us to see where our strengths and weaknesses are and gave us tips to improve our skills... He held a help session for the entire class, where he addressed general mistakes.”

**Best Personal Tutor Award**

*George Palattiyil*  
School of Social & Political Sciences  
“He pushed me to believe in myself and my capabilities when most needed... My achievement on this programme will in no small part be due to George’s efforts – his generosity in sharing his knowledge.”

**Best Practice in Inclusive Learning and Teaching Award**

*Katie Monk*  
School of Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences  
“Katie Monk was brilliant! She taught topics in the Philosophy of Gender and Race (a course that is by its nature, a very challenging course to teach) with extreme sensitivity and made sure everyone’s voice was heard.”

**Best Course Award**

*Mark Sprevak*  
School of Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences  
(for: Ethics of Artificial Intelligence)  
“The course explores a new and exciting area of philosophy... It is delivered in a new and refreshing way.”

**Best Implementer of Student Feedback Award**

*Fumiko Narumi-Munro*  
School of Literatures, Languages & Cultures  
“She oversaw the complete reform of the pre-honours Japanese language courses... phasing out the former Japanese Language 1 and 2 courses with immediate effect was the product of huge work and effort on her part to listen to student feedback.”

**Best Supervisor Award**

*Juliet Kaarbo*  
School of Social & Political Sciences  
“Her supervision was always supportive of my intellectual and professional development as a researcher, but never directive... giving students room to find their personal, most suitable approach to learning and research.”
Thalia Blacking
The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

"Her lectures were clear and informative and help was always offered in the practicals... Not only was her teaching brilliant but she also made us practice papers, ran tutorials and extra learning resources for areas of the course that we didn’t feel as comfortable in."

Augusto Voltes-Dorta
Edinburgh Business School

"He has a pedagogical talent, he explains the abstract content in a straightforward way by connecting the theory with practical examples and videos. He is very enthusiastic about his subject and he spreads this enthusiasm in the class."

Richard Milne
School of Biological Sciences

"Richard is a hero... his incredible use of animation... made each lecture engaging, surprisingly entertaining and memorable. As well as that, he related seemingly trivial information to the way in which plant science can be used in today's world to solve global issues."

Charlie Jeffery
Senior Vice-Principal

"Charlie has been a staunch supporter of student voice, and we’re so pleased to be able to celebrate all the work he’s done. Charlie has championed a university which is open to everyone who wants to study here, and where students’ ambitions to change the world will be supported, nurtured, and celebrated. Charlie has been at the forefront of the University’s most exciting and innovative projects. From his role as lecturer, to his current role as Senior Vice-Principal, Charlie has consistently shown that he really cares about students, and supporting us at every step!"

Diva Mukherji
Vice President Education

Rhodri Leng
School of Social & Political Sciences

"He consistently responded to any and all my questions with genuine care and effort... In the classroom, Rhodri always facilitates a positive, even humorous, atmosphere which is engaging, educational, and builds a community in the tutorial group."

Mike Grieve
The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

"To say that Mike Grieve is passionate about enhancing the vet school student experience would be the understatement of the century... he has gone above and beyond his academic and administrative support role."
Space to grow

The classroom is an essential part of the student experience. To make improvements, the Estates team has been enhancing our learning and teaching spaces across the University. bulletin reports.

The Elliot Room in Minto House.
Over the past few years the higher education sector has seen a rise in new thinking around learning and teaching, coupled with rapidly changing teaching technologies. To utilise these innovative new ways of knowledge exchange, and the resources available to support this, the spaces in which staff and students gather should reflect the flexibility needed to make the most of learning and teaching.

The University boasts more than 450 teaching rooms across its campuses, managed centrally by the Estates, Learning Spaces Technology and Timetabling teams. These teams make sure that our physical and digital estates support high quality learning and teaching interaction between staff and students by reviewing and enhancing them regularly.

In 2017/18 the Space Strategy Group launched surveys asking both staff and students about existing learning and teaching spaces across the estate. Their responses have determined how Estates, Learning Spaces Technology and Timetabling can design and provide fit-for-purpose 21st century teaching spaces. Pictured here are some of the projects delivered through the Teaching Accommodation programme, and through larger capital funded projects. They show a range of teaching spaces, which provide a mix of traditional layouts with tables and chairs for didactic learning, and some more innovative layouts that promote collaborative learning. Flexible spaces allow staff and students to break into various groups to support specific learning activities. Recent projects include: Minto House, High School Yards Teaching Centre, the James Hutton Lecture Theatre, Lister Learning & Teaching Centre and Murchison House.

The Learning Spaces Technology team have rolled out a list of audio-visual equipment criteria dependent on size and capacity of teaching venue. This means users can expect the same audio-visual setup for any 20-seater venue, regardless of location. Similarly, Estates have produced a design guide to set a minimum standard in terms of finishes and furniture for each teaching space.

Despite the matching criteria, the rooms have all been decorated to give them an individual look, drawing on the history of the building, an image to relate to the school occupying the building, or as a nod to the surrounding landscape. This approach to design promotes a community identity and aids navigating teaching rooms in buildings across the campuses, rather than adopting a sterile white wash through them all.

Looking to the future, Estates and Learning Spaces Technology colleagues have been working through various large refurbishment and new build projects, including the Nucleus building development at the King's Buildings, and the Edinburgh Futures Institute at Quartermile, with regard to teaching spaces. For example, the lecture theatre layouts at the Nucleus building will be a mix of collaborative and flexible spaces offering 150, 300 and 400 plus capacities, alongside two new flexible teaching studios with capacities of 60 and 132.

Further work is also underway to identify improvements to teaching accommodation that will be carried out over the next five years. In order to provide the appropriate buildings and teaching facilities, Estates will continue to consult with staff and students to enhance the student experience in learning and teaching spaces.

www.ed.ac.uk/estates/campus-development
In March the Principal travelled to China to formally open the University’s largest partnership project to date. bulletin reports.

Zhejiang University is one of China’s oldest and most prestigious higher education institutions. In 2014, Zhejiang began to build a new International Campus on a 200-acre wetland site in Haining. Now it’s home to a range of ambitious collaborations with universities across the globe in specific research subjects, including the University of Edinburgh.

In March, Professor Peter Mathieson, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University, travelled to the International Campus to formally open the Zhejiang University-University of Edinburgh Institute (ZJE). The partnership focuses on biomedical sciences and is Edinburgh’s largest overseas educational and research partnership in China and globally.

Professor Sue Welburn, Executive Dean of ZJE, explains: “This unique and very special partnership, formed between two research intensive universities, prioritises research-led teaching and aims to grow the next generation of biomedical science researchers.”

The partnership incorporates the best of east and west pedagogy and is built on the foundations of innovative and engaging education. The programmes, unique in China, have been specifically co-created to benefit from the strengths of both institutions. The dual award BSc (Hons) Integrative Biomedical Sciences was launched in 2016, and, following its success, BSc (Hons) Biomedical Informatics and an International Biomedical Science PhD with integrated study took their first cohort of students in September 2018. All programmes are four years long and taught in English, with a high staff-to-student ratio.

The Institute boasts more than 80 academic research and teaching staff from across the two universities, working together across key biomedical areas including: regenerative medicine and stem cells; inflammation and immunology; infection and molecular medicine; neuroscience; cancer and oncology; and biomedical informatics. At capacity, ZJE will host 600 national and international undergraduate students and 300 PhD students. The demand for these programmes is high with student numbers increasing from 89 undergraduates beginning their studies in 2017/18 to 175 undergraduates and 20 postgraduates in 2018/19.

Professor Mike Shipston, Dean of Biomedical Sciences at the University of
This unique and very special partnership prioritises research-led teaching and aims to grow the next generation of biomedical science researchers.

Professor Sue Welburn
Executive Dean, Zhejiang University-University of Edinburgh Institute

Edinburgh, says: “Our students recognise this unique model of collaboration and have enthusiastically and actively engaged with our programmes, and their continued co-development, from day one.”

The staff and student bodies at the International Campus are diverse; more than 10 per cent of ZJE students are international (non-Chinese) and bilateral exchanges of staff (including support staff) are encouraged. In the next few years, students based at Edinburgh will also have the opportunity to attend ZJE as part of their study abroad programme or postgraduate study. Research scholarships are available in the summer at both institutions.

Importantly, as Dr John Menzies, Director of Undergraduate Programmes in Biomedical Sciences, is keen to emphasise: “Our students have access to outstanding educational and recreational facilities within which we have embedded student support structures, to facilitate their academic and personal development; notably an academic families’ system, originally developed in Biomedical Sciences at Edinburgh and a bespoke residential college system at the International Campus.”

The future is promising for this partnership. Since the International Campus opened in 2016, Zhejiang University has risen more than 50 places in the QS World Universities rankings.

ZJE also won the China-Britain Business Award for Education Institutional Partnership of the Year in 2018.

Professor Welburn adds: “We are now taking our partnership to the next level, building a suite of entrepreneurial postgraduate programmes and engaging in cutting edge postdoctoral training to provide highly skilled researchers that are able to contribute to both local and global economies.”

Alongside developing more teaching programmes, ZJE will continue to grow joint research proposals with an impressive global research agenda. The Institute is already working with UK and Chinese national research bodies on key challenges such as diabetes and antimicrobial resistance.

As well as this, ZJE has recently established the Biomedical Translational Research Centre in the Juanhu Lake International Science Park that encircles the International Campus. The Centre will be the interface between ZJE and the Science Park and will work to utilise new technologies and solutions that can inform healthcare innovation and drug discovery.

Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon recently witnessed a Memorandum of Understanding with Cao Guolaing, Mayor of Haining Municipal Government, between the University of Edinburgh and Zhejiang University to work together on this exciting new project.

edin.ac/zje-institute
There’s a great mix of exhibitions, events and festivals to experience around the University over the next few months – so take time out to explore and be inspired.

Go back in time
Delve into the archives of Dunfermline College of Physical Education, Scottish Gymnastics, and the influential dance pioneer Margaret Morris (1891–1980), and discover Scotland’s significant contributions to movement and dance. The Body Language exhibition will run from 26 July to 26 October in the University Main Library Exhibition Gallery. Admission is free.

Find a feast
The end of July sees the Assembly Food Festival return to George Square Gardens. Since launching in 2014, the festival has grown immensely boasting an impressive display of Scotland’s tastiest food and drink. You can also enjoy foodie talks, debates and demos, running from 19 to 28 July. Admission is free.

March with Pride
Edinburgh Pride has been a huge day of celebration since it began in 1995. Although going through a few alterations, the celebrations are as popular as ever. On Saturday 22 June the University’s Staff Pride Network will be marching with a banner to show their support. To stay up to date with the latest information, including plans for the Pride event, visit @uoeastaffpride on both Twitter and Facebook or sign up to their forum.

Investigate sound
Talbot Rice Gallery presents Hong Kong artist and composer, Samson Young’s first major solo exhibition in the UK. At the heart of the exhibition is an ambitious collaboration with the University’s Next Generation Sound Synthesis research group, who have developed pioneering software that can generate the sound of virtual instruments. Young’s 16-channel sound garden with mixed media sculptural forms will evoke a gigantic brass instrument, pushing the parameters of sound technology. The exhibition will run from 24 July to 5 October.

Catch a show
For the first time Levels Café and Lounge will become a venue for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Site-specific masters and seven times Fringe First winners Grid Iron, in co-production with SDTN (Scottish Drama Training Network) and Pleasance, will transform Levels for The Brunch Club, a vibrant exploration of the continuing need to label ourselves in uncertain times. The show will run throughout the festival.
Celebrate a centenary

This year is the 100th anniversary of the James Tait Black Prizes. To celebrate the centenary, a creative writing prize for students has been created. The Janet Coats Black Prize will be presented alongside the James Tait Black awards at the Edinburgh International Book Festival in August. More details will be announced on their website. The Book Festival runs from 10 to 26 August in Charlotte Square.

www.ed.ac.uk/events/james-tait-black

Open your eyes

This year the city welcomes the 16th edition of the Edinburgh Art Festival. Bringing together talented artists from across the globe, the festival will be showcasing a range of visual arts in venues across the city. Edinburgh College of Art will play host to a range of exhibitions including its Masters Degree Show. The festival will run from 25 July to 25 August.

www.edinburghartfestival.com

Visit new venues

The University welcomes ZOO Venues to our family of Fringe partners. They are one of the leaders in dance and physical theatre in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and have been operating successfully for many years. The newest addition to their venues is ZOO Playground – three small but perfectly formed studios in High School Yards Teaching Centre. The Edinburgh Festival Fringe runs from 2 to 26 August.

www.zoovenues.co.uk

Be inspired

This year’s Edinburgh International Festival will take audiences across the globe with a new programme of theatre, dance and music. You Are Here events feature work from Nigeria, Belgium, Scotland and North America and include insightful talks and panel discussions on questions affecting our lives and communities. The events include a whole host of Edinburgh academics through a partnership with the Edinburgh Futures Institute.

www.eif.co.uk

Cheer your team

On 21 September the Scottish Varsity Rugby Matches return to BT Murrayfield. Believed to be the oldest varsity rugby match in the world, the event sees both the men’s and women’s teams from the University of Edinburgh compete in an ancient rivalry against the University of St Andrews. Alumni, supporters, friends and family of both universities are invited. Tickets are released in early July.

www.scottishvarsitymatch.com

Book a conference

To celebrate the John McIntyre Conference Centre’s 10th birthday, Edinburgh First are hosting a drinks reception and offering discounts throughout the year on conferences or events up to March 2020. Staff are invited to the celebrations on 13 November to see what the venue can offer. Visit the Edinburgh First social media channels and website closer to the time.

If you would like to secure a place or find out more, contact helen.tweedie@ed.ac.uk
Jane Norman moves to University of Bristol

As of 1 June, Professor Jane Norman, Vice-Principal People and Culture, has begun her new post as Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Bristol.

Professor Norman studied at Edinburgh as a medical student, becoming a research fellow and then clinical lecturer. After moving to Glasgow in 1993, Professor Norman returned to the University in 2008 as Professor of Maternal and Fetal Health and Director of the Tommy’s Centre for Maternal and Fetal Health. She became Vice-Principal Equality and Diversity in 2014 and a year later the role was expanded into Vice-Principal People and Culture. She will be hugely missed and we wish her the best for her new role.

Archbishop of Canterbury recognises Divinity professor

Mona Siddiqui OBE, Professor of Islamic and Interreligious Studies in the School of Divinity, has received the Hubert Walter Award for Reconciliation and Interfaith Cooperation from the Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby. The award recognises an outstanding contribution to understanding and developing relationships between faiths and was first awarded in March 2016. It is named after the Archbishop of Canterbury, Hubert Walter, who served from 1193 to 1205 and developed a dialogue with non-Christians at a time of interfaith conflict.

“It’s an honour and very humbling to receive such a significant award. While I don’t see myself as a campaigner or catalyst for interfaith reconciliation, I hope that my academic and public discussions around Islam and Christianity, and religion and ethics more broadly, help people of all backgrounds to find a greater and more nuanced understanding of some of the most pressing social and political issues today,” said Professor Siddiqui.

New RSE Fellows

The Royal Society of Edinburgh has appointed the following 13 staff members as new fellows: Professor Linda Bauld, Bruce and John Usher Chair in Public Health and CRUK/BUPA Chair in Behavioural Research for Cancer Prevention for Cancer Research UK; Professor Christine Bell, Co-director of the Global Justice Academy; Professor Luke Bisby, Chair of Fire and Structures; Professor David Fitzpatrick, Group Leader at the MRC Human Genetics Unit; Professor Elizabeth Grant, Co-director of the Global Health Academy; Professor Mirella Lapata, Personal Chair in Natural Language Processing; Professor Stephen Lawrie, Head of Psychiatry; Peter Nienow, Professor of Glaciology; Professor Dónal O’Carroll, Group Leader in the MRC Centre for Regenerative Medicine; David Price, Professor of Developmental Neurobiology; Professor Sarah Reece, Chair of Evolutionary Parasitology; Professor Philippa Saunders, Chair of Reproductive Steroids; and Stephen Wigmore, Professor of Transplantation Surgery and Honorary Consultant Surgeon.

Leadership changes

In February the University’s Principal, Professor Peter Mathieson, undertook to clarify the senior leadership of the University by defining the make-up and remit of the Senior Leadership Team. Nine Vice-Principals and the Director of Finance report to Professor Peter Mathieson as part of the Senior Leadership Team. Joining this team in October will be Professor Colm Harmon as Vice-Principal Students. All other thematic Vice-Principals report to the Senior Leadership Team.

edin.ac/organisational-structure
Farewell to Charlie Jeffery

Professor Charlie Jeffery, Senior Vice-Principal has been appointed as the next Vice-Chancellor of the University of York. He will be leaving the University to take up his new post on 1 September 2019.

Professor Charlie Jeffery joined the University of Edinburgh in 2004 as a Professor of Politics and became Head of the School of Social & Political Science in 2009. In 2012 he was appointed Vice-Principal for Public Policy and in 2014 he became Senior Vice-Principal.

“I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Charlie on his appointment as the next Vice-Chancellor of the University of York. We will all be very sorry to lose him from Edinburgh but we look forward to working with him in a spirit of collaboration with York in the future. Charlie has been a loyal and distinguished academic leader here at Edinburgh and the University staff, students, alumni and friends owe him a considerable debt of gratitude. On their behalf and my own, I wish him all the very best for the future,” said Professor Peter Mathieson, Principal and Vice-Chancellor.

Scientist to attend Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting

The Council for the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting has selected Dr Carlo Bruno, Postdoctoral Research Associate in the School of Physics & Astronomy, to attend its 69th meeting. Dr Bruno will be among 580 young scientists from 88 countries traveling to Lindau, Germany to meet with 42 Nobel Laureates this summer. The meeting this year is dedicated to physics. The event encourages top scientists to inspire and network with one another.

Academic selected for advisory group

Professor Francisca Mutapi, Personal Chair in Global Health Infection and Immunity, Co-director of the Global Health Academy and Senior Advisor to the Principal on Africa, has been appointed to a strategic advisory group that will advise on the development and delivery of the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF). The fund supports pioneering research that addresses challenges faced by low to middle income countries.

“Membership of this advisory group gives me the opportunity to use my knowledge and expertise to help the UKRI (UK Research and Innovation) GCRF deliver significant impact and progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,” said Professor Mutapi.

Apprentice of the Year

Lewis Machin has been named one of six apprentices in Scotland to be recognised as Apprentice of the Year by PeoplePlus. He joined the Finance and Planning team in the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences as an Administration Assistant in early 2018. The award recognises his enthusiastic commitment to the apprenticeship programme.

“I have found the modern apprenticeship programme at the University to be a brilliant opportunity,” said Lewis.
Our Pleasance Sport Complex and Gym

Bells Brewery occupied the current Pleasance site from 1790 to 1935 until in 1938 Sir Donald Pollock, an Edinburgh alumnus and philanthropist, purchased the building and donated it to the University. In 1946 the building was partially converted to form the Pollock gymnasium and marked the start of sport at the Pleasance. The current Director of Sport & Exercise, Jim Aitken MBE, took up the role in 2002 and is the sixth Director of Sport.

In 2005 the facility benefited from a huge upgrade and the creation of the Cardio Gym having, for the first time, TV screens on each of the 100 cardio gym machines. Membership that year grew by almost 1,500. Today Sport & Exercise at the Pleasance offers members a gym experience like no other, with more than 20 gyms, sport and studio spaces there really is something for everybody.

Regular exercise is key to maintaining physical and mental wellbeing. The state-of-the-art gym and sport facilities allow you to stay active, have fun and try new things all while helping you feel your best. This June and July all University of Edinburgh staff have the chance to discover what’s on offer at the Pleasance with a free one-day pass.

To request your free one-day pass please visit or scan: www.ed.ac.uk/sport-exercise/staff-free-pass

What’s more, enter the competition on page 20 and you’ll be in with a chance of winning a full year staff membership.
Please explain your job in a nutshell
The Bayes Centre is the University’s Data Driven Innovation (DDI) hub for the College of Science & Engineering (CSE). As the Engagement Manager there, my role focuses on identifying areas in education, research and innovation that benefit or could benefit from data science activity. I then work with colleagues to support growing these areas to their full potential. I’m part of the Bayes Centre team supporting Schools to implement planning ambitions and, where necessary, gain access to DDI funding.

What are your main goals?
I’m looking to increase awareness and understanding of the Bayes Centre and the DDI programme, including the opportunities it presents. I’d also like to encourage and help more cross-School collaboration and engagement to build on existing strengths in the areas of education, research and innovation. Through this engagement, we can promote interdisciplinarity and hopefully streamline process improvement across Schools to benefit both staff and students.

What projects are you working on at the moment?
Currently I’m focused on reviewing our existing data science activity in CSE Schools in education (courses, programmes, Continuing Professional Development), research (grant and consultancy income) and innovation (spin-ins and spin-outs). By understanding where we are currently with our data science activity, I can identify how we can grow it, and prevent any gaps going forward. By sharing this with relevant colleagues, I can support the existing CSE strategic planning and resourcing priorities, ensuring School plans fit in with DDI expectations. The Bayes Centre approach is focused on supporting School plans and aims, meaning we’re doing what we can to facilitate these plans as part of the DDI programme.

Who do you deal with week to week?
I work closely with the Executive Group and Operations team at the Bayes Centre, as well as the other occupants. Going forward I will be engaging with CSE Schools regularly as well as University services such as Communications and Marketing, the Research Support Office and Student Systems.

Please describe a typical day
It’s still early days in my role but currently a typical working day consists of time spent at my desk doing research and catching up on emails as well as a variety of meetings with members of my team, CSE Schools or University services contacts. I’m also looking forward to getting out and about, and spending more time at the King’s Buildings to build relationships with colleagues there.

What is the most satisfying aspect of your job?
The opportunity to meet with such a wide variety of colleagues across the University and focus on streamlining and facilitating engagement. Also working with a lovely team in Bayes who are all fantastic at what they do.
spot the difference

Win a gym membership at the Pleasance

Spot the difference and win a full year staff membership to the Pleasance Sport Complex and Gym. For your chance to win, circle the five differences in the two images below and send your entry to us by **Friday 16 August**.

You can post your entry to bulletin Competition, Communications and Marketing, 5 Forrest Hill, EH1 2QL or email it to bulletin@ed.ac.uk. The draw will be made and the winner notified on Monday 19 August. For full terms and conditions visit: edin.ac/bulletin-competition

Last issue’s prize was won by Rowena Dalziel, Administrative Support Assistant.

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