



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

bulletin*

SPRING 2015

STAFF MAGAZINE



Engaging with equality

Jane Norman on enhancing
Edinburgh's inclusive culture

Playing our part

We celebrate Edinburgh's
REF 2014 success

Closing the circle

Introducing newly elected
Rector Steve Morrison

Believe it ... or not

The spooky science
of parapsychology

Competition & giveaway

Win a meal for two or
a photography session

Contact us

bulletin

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welcome

Diversity is one of the cornerstones of the Edinburgh community, and in this edition of *bulletin* we talk to Professor Jane Norman, Vice-Principal Equality & Diversity, about the University's commitment to enhancing its culture of inclusivity (pages 8–9).

The benefits of such a varied and collaborative staff body are reflected in the University's outstanding Research Exercise Framework 2014 performance. On pages 10–13 we review the results and reveal the many ways in which our pioneering research impacts on society around the world.

Also in this edition, we present the highlights of this year's Innovative Learning Week, the University's annual festival of creative learning (pages 18–19), and hear from newly elected Rector Steve Morrison (pages 14–15).

As usual, there are chances to collaborate with colleagues and get involved in campus life (pages 24–25), and you'll also find reports on the latest staff achievements and awards (pages 20–21).

Keep up to date with the latest staff news at www.ed.ac.uk/news/staff or follow [@EdinUniStaff](https://twitter.com/EdinUniStaff) on Twitter.



Diverse Edinburgh: staged by the International Office, the 2014 Photography Competition for international students asked entrants to illustrate the meaning of diversity in Edinburgh, using themes such as campus life, culture, people, city and studying abroad. Pictured is 'Calton Hill' by Witiwat Thitasiri.

🔗 See all the winning entries at www.ed.ac.uk/photo-competition.

Delegation of 40 celebrates links with India

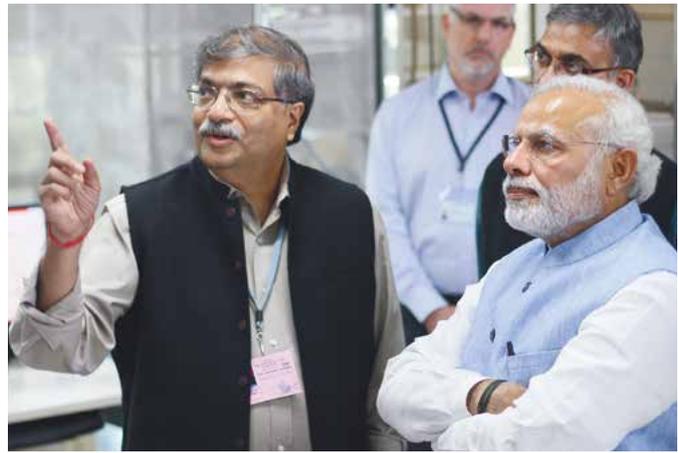
More than 40 Edinburgh academics representing all three colleges recently took part in events across India to encourage new research and teaching links.

Topics as diverse as clean energy, genetics and the position of women in higher education were examined at conferences, talks and school visits, while senior colleagues, including the Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O’Shea, signed agreements with a number of institutions.

The delegation visited Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Mumbai and Bangalore, where researchers at the Institute of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine (inStem) hosted a visit from India’s Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, and outlined their advances in the treatment of autism and dementia.

A key conference, entitled ‘Nation Building in India’, examined the role of government in relations between India and the UK, while Senior Vice-Principal Professor Charlie Jeffery delivered a talk to several audiences on the upcoming general election and the aftermath of the Scottish referendum.

The position of women and migrant workers in the Indian economy was also assessed, while a conference in Delhi



Above: India’s Prime Minister, Narendra Modi (right), travelled to Bangalore to meet with researchers from Edinburgh and India. **Left:** the position of women in higher education was on the agenda.

saw experts from the Roslin Institute, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies and Scotland’s Rural College discuss the challenges facing farmers in India and how Edinburgh’s expertise could raise welfare standards and rates of production.

Colleagues from Moray House School of Education, Chemistry, Physics, Engineering, Biological Sciences, and Social & Political Science were also involved in a series of events, organised in conjunction with various Indian partners.

www.ueindia.wordpress.com



New era for Easter Bush estate

An artist’s impression of the Easter Bush Innovation Centre.

The start of work on the Easter Bush Innovation Centre, which will amalgamate the University’s veterinary teaching, research and enterprise activities, was recently marked with a visit from the Chancellor, HRH The Princess Royal.

Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies and Roslin Institute staff and students were on hand to provide the Princess

with an overview of their work in animal health and welfare.

The occasion marked the beginning of the third phase of development for the Easter Bush campus, which also includes the building of an Energy Centre and extensive infrastructure work.

www.ed.ac.uk/easterbush

Edinburgh MOOCs hit the million mark

More than one million people have now signed up to study one of the University’s Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

These free short courses, with no formal entry requirements, allow learners to access courses developed by academic staff, and they are taught and quality assured to the same standards as credit-bearing courses.

Edinburgh offers 21 MOOCs at either undergraduate or postgraduate level, on subjects ranging from animal welfare, artificial intelligence and Andy Warhol to football, philosophy and the Higgs boson.

www.ed.ac.uk/moocs



First new University websites go live

The first 15 websites to start using EdWeb, the University's new content management system (CMS), have successfully migrated.

The University Website Programme, Communications and Marketing, the Chaplaincy and Printing Services were among the first transfers.

EdWeb is a Drupal-based, centrally managed CMS, which is replacing the current Polopoly system. Transferred sites use a responsive design, which resizes to display on any screen including mobile phones and tablets.

There are 300 sites remaining in Polopoly, which are all scheduled to be migrated by December.

www.ed.ac.uk/website-programme

WWII student architect honoured, 70 years on

A 94-year-old architect who was denied a prestigious student award during World War II because of his German origins was recently honoured by the University.

After fleeing his homeland in 1937 in the face of Nazi oppression, Berlin-born Antony Wolffe received an annual scholarship of £80 to study at ECA. Placing top in his final year in 1944, he won the City of Edinburgh Civic Design Medal – only to have it revoked due to wartime sensitivities.

Earlier this year – more than 70 years later – the University acknowledged Mr Wolffe's efforts, by staging a retrospective exhibition of his student drawings and presenting him with the award, which was cast in silver from the original medal's mould.

"I'm chuffed. I never thought this would happen. It's wonderful and extraordinary," said Mr Wolffe. "To see this exhibition of my work and to finally receive this medal, it's quite exciting."



Worth the wait: seven decades on, Antony Wolffe celebrates his prestigious medal win.

Mr Wolffe spent the majority of his career based in Gatehouse of Fleet, in Dumfries and Galloway, only retiring in 2012, aged 92. In 1994 he was made an MBE in recognition of his services to architecture.

The exhibition of his work was organised by ECA and trainees from the Heritage Lottery-funded Skills for the Future project at the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. The exhibition showcased an impression of architectural education in the 1930s and '40s.



Small world: Edinburgh academics took part in more than 60 events at the recent Edinburgh International Science Festival. Among the activities were 'Understanding our World' drop-in sessions at the National Museum of Scotland, where youngsters learnt about the planet and the various steps being taken to protect it.

www.sciencefestival.co.uk

Library to launch new search service

Information Services will launch a new service this summer allowing library users to search print collections and online resources simultaneously.

Combining the functionality of the current Library Catalogue and Searcher into a single search tool, the new service, DiscoverEd, will feature a state-of-the-art, single search interface and single EASE sign-in, enabling users to access their library account, renew and request loans and save search results.

Users will be able to search for printed books and journals, e-books and e-journals, article-level content and other library resources, and be able to request material from the Library Annexe and other closed-access collections.

edin.ac/198X1HR



Sir John Leighton, National Galleries of Scotland Director-General, and the Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, look to the future after signing a landmark agreement.

Pact strengthens ties with Galleries

The University and the National Galleries of Scotland have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that will extend both institutions' aspirations and resources.

Under the terms of the new partnership, the signatories will collaborate on academic endeavours and take advantage of their shared objectives and distinguished histories. Potential developments include joint research projects and exhibitions and the pooling of resources for the study of Scottish art.

The agreement also aims to encourage Edinburgh students and staff to make more use of the Galleries' collections.

"Recent projects between the two institutions have helped to illuminate the Galleries' fantastic collections and added a valuable dimension to the University's insight and learning," said the Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, at a signing ceremony earlier this year. "I look forward to greater collaboration, which will produce significant benefits for our students, staff and the wider public."

The University has enjoyed a long-standing association with the National Galleries of Scotland. Since the Galleries' foundation in 1850, there have been countless formal exchanges between the two organisations, with shared enterprises and representation in governance.

£25.7m boost for biological research

A £25.7 million award will enable the University to establish a world-leading biology complex and a new Centre for Tissue Repair.

The two projects are the only Scottish bids to secure funding in a fiercely competitive round of awards from the UK Research Partnership Investment Fund.

An investment of £15m will help to create a research complex that will focus on infection and global health, synthetic biology and epigenetics, and house laboratory space for 350 researchers. A second investment of £10.7m will enable the coming together of experts in inflammation and scarring, and tissue regeneration.

in brief

Annual Review out now

The *Annual Review 2013/14* is now available in print and online. It showcases the University's work during the last academic year, highlighting our achievements. Printed copies are available from Communications and Marketing and it is online alongside pictorial and video highlights.

www.ed.ac.uk/annual-review

Committed to research support

The University has retained its European Commission HR Excellence in Research Award, following a four-year external review. The award acknowledges the University's commitment to enhancing support, recognition and reward for early-career researchers, and highlights that forward planning in this area represents best practice. Edinburgh is one of only 10 UK universities and one of the first institutions in the EU to advance to this step in the awards process and then retain its status.

bit.ly/1EAWvTI

New name for SASG

The Student & Academic Services Group (SASG) has been renamed the University Secretary's Group (USG). The name change follows the transfer of Human Resources and Internal Audit to the Group in August 2014, further strengthening its people focus and governance elements.

www.ed.ac.uk/university-secretary-group

Ethical efforts recognised

Edinburgh has achieved an upper second-class award in People & Planet's University League 2015. The independent league table is compiled annually by the UK's largest student campaigning network, People & Planet. It ranks UK universities on their environmental and ethical performance. Edinburgh maintained its 2:1 score achieved last year, while improving its position by two places to 44th out of 151 UK institutions.

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www.ed.ac.uk/news/staff/subscribe

research in focus

From garlic to GPS technology, the latest academic studies by staff are helping advance our understanding of science, medicine and the arts.



Online archive to document Britain's high-rise heritage

Social and architectural historians at ECA are creating a visual archive of every tower block in the UK.

Tower Blocks, Our Blocks! is intended as a Domesday Book of Britain's post-war reconstruction, and the three-year, Heritage Lottery-funded project will digitise 3,500 images taken in the 1980s. The archive will include pictures of every multistorey public housing project in the UK, including Glasgow's Red Road and Gorbals schemes.

"Council tower blocks were once the most prominent and dramatic legacy of the post-1945 reconstruction drive," said Professor Miles Glendinning, Head of the Scottish Centre for Conservation Studies at ECA. "Mass demolitions over the past 35 years have depleted this vast heritage at a time when popular interest in post-war modernist heritage is increasing. We hope this project will help contribute to that ongoing shift in attitudes."



Garlic extract 'fights cystic fibrosis infection'

Researchers in the Centre for Infectious Diseases and School of Chemistry have discovered a chemical in garlic that can kill drug-resistant bacteria.

The new joint study shows that allicin, which is produced naturally in garlic bulbs, could be an effective treatment for a group of bacteria that are highly resistant to antibiotics and cause life-threatening lung infections in cystic fibrosis sufferers.

Researchers found that allicin – which can be extracted by crushing raw garlic – inhibits the growth of bacteria and, at higher doses, kills the plant pathogens.

Dr Dominic Campopiano, of the School of Chemistry, said: "The medicinal power of garlic has a rich history that dates back thousands of years but the chemical structure of allicin was only revealed in the 1940s. Our work suggests that modern methods should be used to further expand our knowledge of this enigmatic molecule and rejuvenate its potential applications."

awards news

Highlights of research funding that has been awarded recently to Edinburgh academics.

Boost for WWI records

Scotland's War, a multipartner initiative that seeks to reveal and record people's experiences of the First World War, has been awarded a £75,000 Heritage Lottery Fund grant. The project was created by the University in 2008 and now features more than 20 partners including the National Library of Scotland, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and local councils. It will use the funds to paint a fuller picture of Scotland's contribution to WWI and create a national digital archive. "The award will enable us to preserve and share a richer heritage of Scotland's

War," said Yvonne McEwen, Project Director and School of History, Classics & Archaeology Outreach Officer.

DNA decoding grant

Researchers at the Roslin Institute and the Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology have been awarded a £1 million grant. The funding from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council will be used to examine whether genetic factors contribute to how mentally sharp people stay as they age. More than 1,000 Scots will have their DNA genetically sequenced as part of the research.

£1.5m for HMB study

Professor Hilary Critchley, Head of the School of Clinical Sciences, has received a £1.5 million National Institute for Health Research grant to study the long-term effects of ulipristal acetate or UPA, a new drug for the treatment of women with heavy menstrual bleeding (HMB). HMB is the commonest gynaecological problem in women of reproductive age and has a profound impact on their health-related quality of life. If proven more effective than current methods, UPA could revolutionise their treatment.



GPS collars: new tricks for old dogs

Dog collars fitted with GPS technology have been used by researchers from the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies to monitor the benefits of canine painkillers. Using the collars to track the movements of dogs suffering from osteoarthritis, the researchers compared the dogs' physical performance against information from healthy animals, and learned the impaired dogs could run just as fast but were significantly held back when accelerating or decelerating. When treated with an anti-inflammatory painkiller, their performance was restored to a level comparable with that of healthy dogs. Dr Dylan Clements said: "GPS collars were a sensitive way for us to measure how well dogs recover from a disease that affects activity. We hope to use the collars to understand more about how activity might contribute to or help prevent diseases in the future."



Researchers hope the collars will aid better understanding of how activity links to disease.

What I'm discovering



Dr Laetitia Pichevin is a Senior Researcher in Palaeoceanography and Palaeoclimatology in the School of GeoSciences. She studies the effects of the ocean's chemistry and biology on climate change and on greenhouse gas concentration in the atmosphere.

"Using marine sediment cores from around the world, I reconstruct the history of marine nutrients, such as nitrate and iron, by measuring the chemical composition of diatom remains – a major algae group particularly efficient at fixing carbon. The cycling of these nutrients directly influences the efficiency of

the oceanic biological pump, which stores CO₂ in the ocean and can help reduce greenhouse gas concentration.

"Understanding how the availability of marine nutrients has related to climate change and atmospheric CO₂ levels in the past is crucial to predicting how the ocean will regulate atmospheric CO₂ in our warming world.

"My research has shown that constraints imposed by marine nutrient limitation on the biological CO₂ pump were fundamentally different in the glacial ocean 20,000 years ago. The implication is that important changes in marine nutrient cycles are likely to occur in a warming world, with potentially dramatic feedback effects on biological productivity, the marine CO₂ pump and the climate."

edin.ac/1FYNilk

making headlines

A selection of research milestones that have been reported in the media recently.

Smoking thins brain, study reveals

Professor Ian Deary, Director of the Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology, has discovered detrimental effects of smoking on the brain. Analysis of more than 500 MRI scans revealed smokers tend to have a thinner cortex, the brain's outer layer. The results also suggest giving up smoking could reduce this thinning. The story was covered extensively in Australasia, North America, Europe and Africa.

Car-sized carnivore's fossil found

School of GeoSciences palaeontologists have unearthed the remains of a giant carnivorous amphibian that patrolled ancient lakes and rivers more than 200 million years ago. Led by Dr Stephen Brusatte, the Edinburgh team identified the new species, *Metoposaurus algarvensis*, from bones excavated in Loulé in the Algarve, Portugal. The salamander-type predator grew to the length of a small car and lived "long before the glory days of T rex", Dr Brusatte said. The story made headlines across Europe, Asia and North America.

Bacteria jump breakthrough

Bacteria may have the ability to jump between species more easily than previously thought, say Roslin Institute researchers. By studying a type of bacteria that is responsible for widespread epidemics in the global rabbit farming industry, the scientists concluded that the strain most likely evolved as the result of a host jump from humans to rabbits around 40 years ago. The discovery transforms our understanding of the minimal genetic changes that are required for bacteria to infect different species, they say. In addition to UK coverage, this story attracted media attention in Argentina, Spain, the US and India.

Dementia rates 'higher in north'

Media outlets in Australia, China, India and Europe reported on Edinburgh research that revealed the risk of developing dementia depends on how far north someone lives. Researchers mapped the disease in two studies – one in Scotland among people born in 1921 and the other in Swedish twins. The results suggest that environmental factors, such as sunlight levels, may influence adults' risk of developing dementia. The project was led by Dr Tom Russ from the Division of Psychiatry and Alzheimer Scotland Dementia Research Centre.



Sam Sillis/Whitedog Photography

Engaging with equality

Enhancing an inclusive culture for staff and students is key to the University's success, says Professor Jane Norman, Vice-Principal Equality & Diversity. She shares her vision with Rob Tomlinson.

How would you define equality and diversity, and what does it mean to you?

It's about everyone being treated fairly and equally, and recognising, respecting and valuing differences. For me, this means not just eliminating prejudice and discrimination but also being proactive to create an inclusive culture and to enable all staff and students to develop to their full potential.

Why is it important?

Firstly, because it's fair. I believe that for the majority of staff and students the 'wish to be fair' is a good enough reason. But it also helps the University with its aspirations around excellence in teaching, research and innovation. People can only perform at their best if they're treated equally and fairly.

Which issues come to mind when you're trying to promote these values at Edinburgh?

I think the majority of people in the University do their best to be fair and to act without discrimination or prejudice. But the University is a microcosm of society, and we struggle with the issues that society as a whole struggles with. There's increasing evidence about the adverse effects of 'unconscious bias', which is the possession of involuntary attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions and decisions in an automatic and/or unconscious manner. The University has done a lot of work to help staff become aware of their own unconscious biases.

How do you help persuade staff to engage with issues around equality and diversity?

Equality and diversity is an issue that the majority of people are engaged

with – people want to be fair to others, and they want to work in an organisation that's fair. The challenge is to get people to appreciate the importance of these issues. One way is to show some of the data from the Equality and Diversity Monitoring and Audit Research Committee. For example, in Edinburgh (along with many other universities), women are under-represented at the higher career grades.

What are your main goals in this area?

The University has some clear objectives around gender equality (with gaining institutional Athena SWAN silver and reducing the gender pay gap being a key goal in the University's *Strategic Plan*) so much of my time over the past year has been spent working with others to achieve this. Last year's 'Inspiring Women, Inspiring Change' exhibition was a good example of how a relatively simple idea can have a big impact. We've also taken the opportunity to participate in the pilot of the Equality Challenge Unit's Race Equality Charter Mark – this has been really helpful in determining what some of the issues are, and in suggesting ways in which race equality could be improved.

How do you coordinate the differing needs of staff and students?

The need to be treated with dignity and respect and the responsibility to treat others with dignity and respect is the same for everyone. So there are probably more similarities than differences among the needs of staff and students. There have been some differences in emphasis until now, for example, widening participation [WP] has traditionally been seen as a 'student' issue, but I think this is changing, and there will be more emphasis on WP initiatives for staff over the next few years.

Equality and diversity is an issue that the majority of people are engaged with – people want to be fair to others, and they want to work in an organisation that's fair.

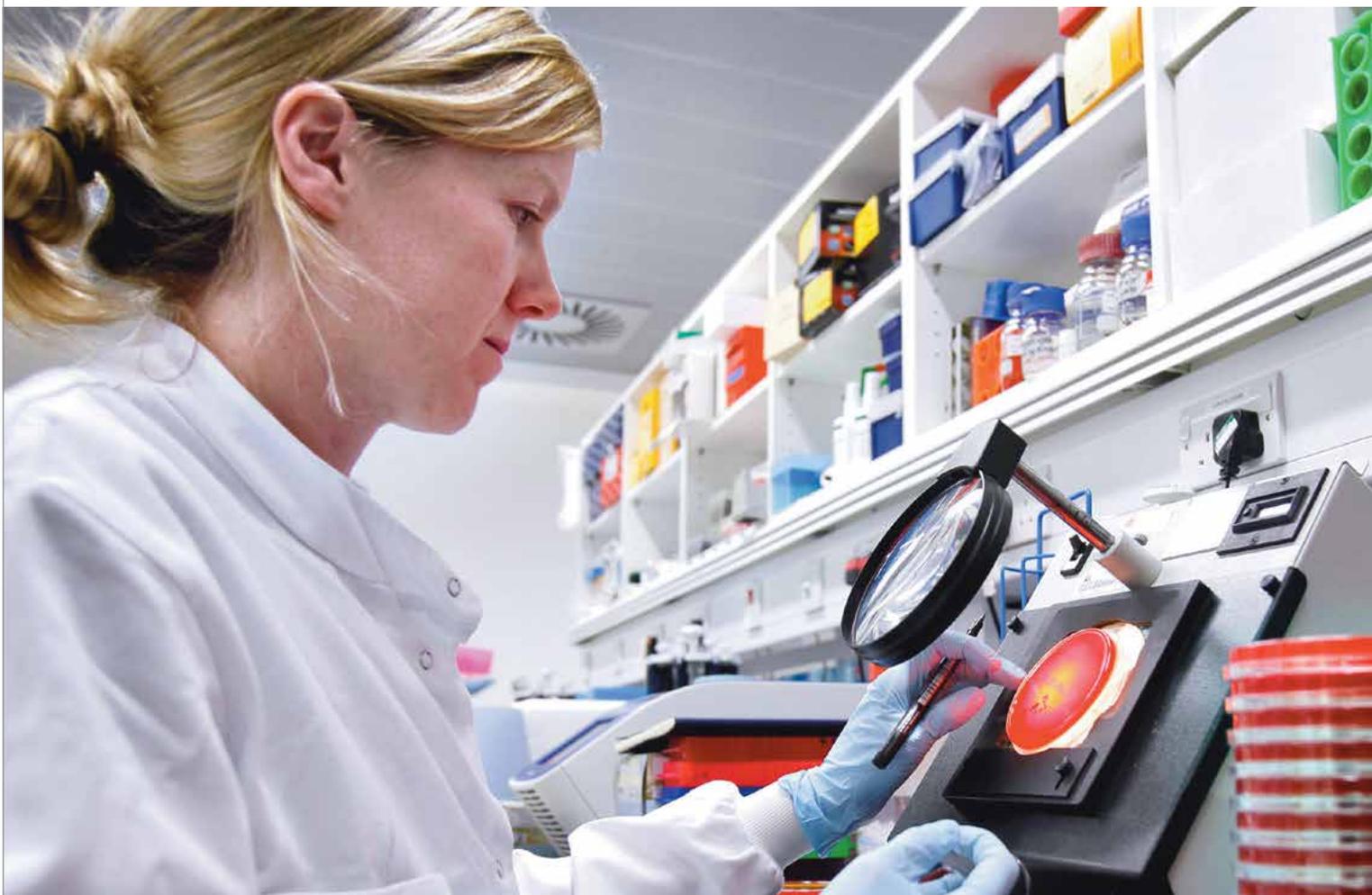
Tell us about the other part of your university life.

I'm Director of the Tommy's Centre for Maternal and Fetal Health, and my research group aims to address the major pregnancy problems of preterm birth and stillbirth. We do this by trying to understand the fundamental biological processes behind these events and by testing new treatments in collaboration with pregnant women. I'm still in clinical practice as Consultant Obstetrician at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

How do you juggle your academic work and the promotion of equality and diversity?

I've got a great research team, and I've worked with many of them for a long time. I also work with some really inspiring and effective people in the equality and diversity area. I'm hugely enthusiastic about the promotion of equality and diversity – for me there's a growing realisation that if we do what we've always done, we'll get what we've always had, and not all groups will be able to contribute as much as they'd like. If we turn this around, this will help individuals and the University as a whole. ✖

In addition to her current role, Professor Norman was recently made Vice-Principal People & Culture.



All playing our part

Research and support staff across the University worked together to ensure an outstanding outcome in the REF 2014. Here, we reflect on the results.

Earlier this year, Edinburgh staff received a note in the internal mail. The communication wasn't a monthly payslip or news signalling pension changes – it was a simple message of appreciation, in the form of a personally addressed postcard – and it was sent from the Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, following the University's outstanding performance in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF).

Replacing the Research Assessment Exercise, last conducted in 2008, the REF is the new system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. Based on the quality and breadth of its research, Edinburgh was ranked fourth in the UK and by far the most successful university in Scotland.

The Principal's message of thanks echoed the sentiment of media coverage of the results – that the REF reaffirmed Edinburgh's standing as one of the leading research universities in the UK. And that, the Principal noted, was testament to the diversity and commitment of the University's 12,500-strong staff body.

"I would like to pass on my personal thanks and appreciation," his message read. "These results are extremely important in confirming our research reputation and also have a significant impact in maximising our funding associated with research.

"We all played our part in this fantastic success and it is a real tribute to everyone working at the University."

Edinburgh's submission was one of the largest and most comprehensive in the UK: a total of 1,852 individuals – 83 per cent of the University's academic workforce – had their research assessed across 31 disciplines.

The results reveal that 83 per cent of Edinburgh research is in the highest categories – 4* and 3* – classified as 'world leading' and 'internationally excellent', respectively.

Each of the University's three colleges achieved at least one research area ranked best in the UK, based on breadth and quality of research. UK-leading submissions included those in Sociology, Earth Systems and Environmental Sciences, and Computer Sciences and Informatics. Edinburgh also achieved



Our research impact showcased online

The University's website features a series of new research case studies, viewable online and available for download in PDF format.

The case studies showcase the variety of work conducted by Edinburgh researchers and its impact on people's lives at local, national and international level. Further case studies will be added in the coming months, building a bank of resources for use by academics, the media and the general public.

In the following pages we've distilled seven of the case studies to give a flavour of the pioneering work that led to Edinburgh's REF 2014 success.

To view these and further case studies in full, visit www.ed.ac.uk/research/impact.



We all played our part in this fantastic success and it is a real tribute to everyone at the University.

top rankings in joint submissions, in Agriculture, Veterinary and Food Science with Scotland's Rural College, and in General Engineering with Heriot-Watt University.

"Research at the University of Edinburgh is constantly expanding the depth of human knowledge and making an impact on the wider world," the Principal said in response to the results. "Our outstanding researchers enable us to forge links with charities, business, policy makers and other universities, so that together we can tackle long-standing challenges at home and overseas."

The four UK higher education funding bodies will use the REF 2014 results to inform the allocation of grants for research, with effect from 2015–16.

Having children after cancer treatment

Edinburgh researchers have helped establish new techniques to preserve fertility in women and girls who undergo radiotherapy or chemotherapy.

Cancer treatment can cause infertility, and traditional IVF methods for extracting reproductive cells for later use can take too long for patients who need urgent cancer treatment, and are inappropriate for young patients.

Researchers including Professors Richard Anderson, David Baird and Hamish Wallace were the first to show that ovarian tissue obtained by keyhole surgery can be frozen for long-term

storage and used to restore fertility when transplanted back into a patient after cancer treatment.

The researchers helped develop efficient protocols for the cryopreservation of ovarian tissue, which has become widespread clinical practice globally.

The first birth enabled by the new procedure was in 2004 in Belgium. Professor Anderson says: "When the first baby was born from this, it was a great moment. It was nice to prove that this really could help women have babies." >>

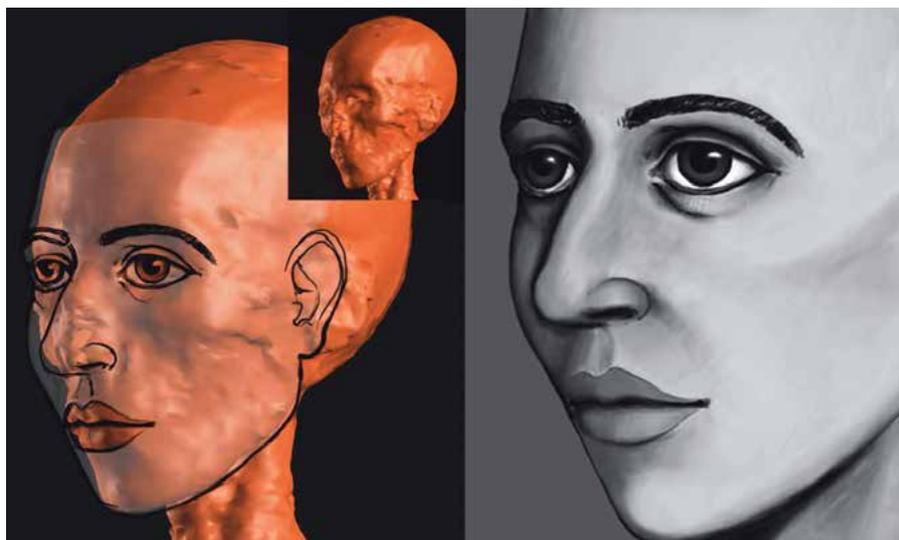
Saving savannas by using satellite

Building on existing research that revealed the global significance of the Belize savannas, Dr Neil Stuart showed that savanna habitats can be mapped in detail using satellite data.

Dr Stuart led the first comprehensive mapping and botanical assessment of savannas in Belize, and the results, published in 2011, revealed that 10 per cent of the savanna had been lost in the previous 20 years. The study guided a nationwide programme of plant collecting that led to the identification of 54 new species and the data was combined with historical collections to produce the first comprehensive botanical checklist of Belize's savanna flora.

Edinburgh-led research directly influenced the creation of the Environmental Research Institute at the University of Belize, where local professionals, trained by UK scientists, are now able to fulfil monitoring requirements, for example to the United Nations, and to influence government biodiversity initiatives.

Also, Belize Zoo has opened a network of savanna trails inspired by the Darwin Initiative research findings.



Secrets of an Egyptian mummy revealed

Research by forensic anthropologist Dr Elena Kranioti has given the world a never-before-seen view inside a 2,000-year-old mummy.

Excavated from a tomb in Egypt, the Rhind Mummy was brought to Scotland by archaeologist Alexander Rhind in 1857 and is now part of National Museums Scotland's collection.

A team led by Professor Edwin van Beek from the University's Clinical Imaging Research Centre used a CT scanner to explore the mummy without disturbing its wrappings, and Dr Kranioti used her forensic expertise to interpret the findings: the mummy is an Egyptian woman aged

25 to 29 who died around 10BC. A scroll discovered under her leg is thought to contain information on her identity and cause of death.

Dr Kranioti worked with National Museums Scotland on the Fascinating Mummies exhibition in 2012, and held sell-out public lectures at the Edinburgh International Science Festival. The virtual unwrapping of the Rhind Mummy received widespread media coverage.

Dr Kranioti says: "The potential applications of this technology are infinite. I'm currently involved in several projects in collaboration with radiologists, forensic pathologists, archaeologists and artists."

Transforming youth justice policy and practice

The Edinburgh Study of Youth Transitions and Crime (ESYTC) has led to reform in youth justice policy and practice in Scotland and has had international influence.

Led by Professors Lesley McAra and Susan McVie, the ESYTC is a prospective longitudinal study of pathways into and out of offending among more than 4,300 young people. Its findings provided evidence for the Scottish Government's recent reforms to youth justice, including the Early and Effective Intervention Programme for under-16s and the Whole System Approach for under-18s.

The effectiveness of these reforms is indicated in the Policing Performance Framework data, which shows that recorded offences committed by children and young people (aged 8 to 17) decreased by 32 per cent between 2008–09 and 2011–12.

John Drew, retired Chief Executive of the Youth Justice Board, says: "It's my personal belief that the Edinburgh study is the most significant large-scale piece of work in this area undertaken in the last several decades."



Hope of Rett syndrome cure underpins fundraising and trials

Edinburgh researchers have shown that Rett syndrome, a severe autistic-spectrum disorder affecting girls, is potentially reversible, prompting major fundraising campaigns and new clinical trials.

Affecting one in 10,000 girls, Rett syndrome is regressive and causes loss of speech, an undersized brain and growth retardation.

Therapy was previously thought unlikely, but researchers led by Professor Sir Adrian Bird developed a mouse model for Rett syndrome, and later Dr Jacky Guy and others showed that symptoms could be reversed through the expression of a particular protein in the mouse model. Today, multiple clinical trials are under way in Europe and the US in the hope of improving symptoms.

As a result of this research, a parents' group formed the Rett Syndrome Research Trust (RSRT), which has raised \$US25 million, and in the UK, the charity ReverseRett has been established.



Reducing childhood pneumonia mortality

Professors Harry Campbell and Igor Rudan have led research that has driven childhood pneumonia up the global health agenda, contributing to a major reduction in child mortality, one of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals.

Professors Campbell and Rudan are founding members and the pneumonia technical experts of the Child Health Epidemiology Reference Group, established jointly by the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund.

An extensive review by Professors Campbell and Rudan of international data

showed that although pneumonia was the largest single cause of death in children under five, it had received considerably less investment and attention than other conditions such as HIV and malaria.

Their work contributed to the establishment of the Global Action Plan on Pneumonia, and has accelerated vaccination by the Global Alliance on Vaccines and Immunisations.

Deaths of children under five have fallen from 9.7 million in 2000 to 6.3 million in 2013, and in that time mortality from childhood pneumonia has shown one of the fastest rates of reduction among all of the causes of death worldwide.

Listening to wartime voices

The re-examination and publication of 1940s government reports on public morale have transformed perceptions of the mood in Britain during the early part of the Second World War.

The Home Intelligence reports, compiled daily by the Ministry of Information, confirm a belief in ultimate victory, but also reveal that people were highly critical of government and military officialdom, suspicious of 'outsiders' and susceptible to anxiety and defeatism.

A 2010 book by Dr Paul Addison and Dr Jeremy Crang, *Listening to Britain: Home Intelligence Reports on Britain's Finest Hour, May–September 1940*, received critical and popular acclaim. It informed the Green Party's 2011 'New Home Front' campaign, which aimed to harness the lessons of Britain's wartime past to mobilise the nation to confront the challenges of climate change and energy supply.

A Channel 5 documentary, *Secrets of the Blitz*, featured Dr Crang's expert commentary and was described by the *Telegraph* as telling "a deeply moving and important story". ✦

To view these and further case studies in full, visit www.ed.ac.uk/research/impact.

Closing the circle

For newly elected Rector Steve Morrison, an ambition that first sparked back in his student days has finally ignited. He tells Edd McCracken how and why.

One winter's day in 1968, some 2,000 people crammed into St Giles' Cathedral to hear a denunciation of free contraception.

The orator was Edinburgh's then Rector, journalist and commentator Malcolm Muggeridge, who had taken to the pulpit to condemn a Student Representative Council request to make contraception freely available from the campus health centre. He had used his sermon to resign as Rector in protest against the students' culture of "pot and pills".

As young student Steve Morrison stood at the back and listened, goose bumps formed on his skin. Not in reaction to the Rector's soaring oratory or the cavernous church's mid-winter draught, but because, as the University's Director of Student Publications, he had helped to promote the request in the *Student* newspaper.

"I was sure that someone would blame me for provoking this controversy," recalls Mr Morrison, who himself was elected as University Rector earlier this year. But as he watched the speaker stand down from both the pulpit and the rectorship, Mr Morrison says his mind was whirring.

Since the position was created in 1853, one of the Rector's key roles has been to convey staff and student interests and concerns to the University Court, the institution's highest governing body. "And rather than convey, Mr Muggeridge chose to denounce," says Mr Morrison, who recalls that the 1968 episode in St Giles' made him question what the post was for.

From St Giles' he walked the short distance to the National Library of Scotland, where he requested a copy

of the original Act of Parliament that established the position of the Rector, and got reading.

"I saw that University staff weren't allowed to be Rector, but there was no mention of students," he says. "I went back to my group and said, 'Instead of having all these eccentric celebrities coming in and out as absentee Rectors, why don't we elect a student?'"

And so, after this light bulb moment, Mr Morrison became the first student to run for Rector. He was ultimately unsuccessful – the broadcaster Kenneth Allsop beat him – but it opened a door that would eventually lead to the future Prime Minister Gordon Brown becoming Rector in 1973 while still a student. "I was his warm-up act," Mr Morrison quips.

After graduating in 1969, Mr Morrison began a successful broadcasting career, becoming Chief Executive of Granada Television and forming all3media, the UK's largest group of independent production companies. But the events in 1968 lit a long, slow-burning fuse which, after close to 50 years, finally ignited this February when Mr Morrison was elected as Edinburgh's 52nd Rector. He describes this moment as "closing the circle".

But it wasn't just his love of geometrical symmetry that inspired Mr Morrison to run again. For many years previously he had followed his curiosity down a rabbit hole, doggedly enquiring what universities were doing to produce graduates worthy of their Enlightenment foundations and who grasped the biggest issues of the day.

The origin of his quest came from a recurring lament he heard when working



with digital companies in all3media. They found it hard to source graduates whose skills crossed between the humanities and the sciences, the arts and technology – a highly desirable mix in the digital landscape.

"The more I got into it, the more fascinated I became," he explains. "And then the Rectorial Election came up and it seemed the perfect way to express my thoughts, test them against the reality of the student and staff experience, broadcast these ideas and engage people in discussing them."

During the short but intense campaign, Mr Morrison found he was "knocking at an open door" when he mentioned



A distinguished and unique history

The position of Rector is unique to the ancient Scottish universities. Elected by staff and students, the Rector presides at the University Court, and chairs the General Council in the absence of the Chancellor.

As Dr Mike Mitchell, General Council Secretary, explains, the role both reflects its unique origins and the time in which it operates.

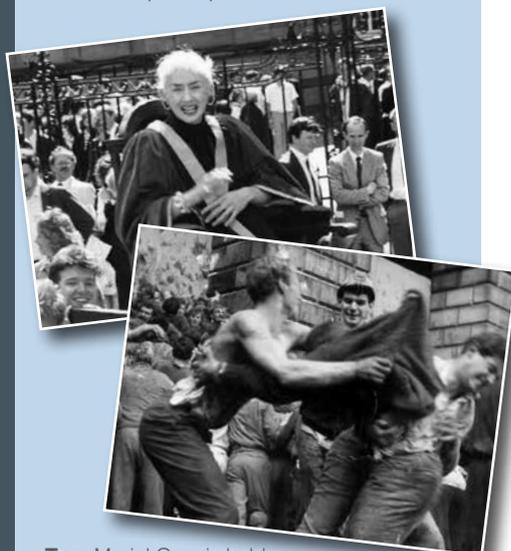
“The Rector and the General Council share their origins in the great Victorian improvements of University governance,” he says. “Both retain important roles today, even if they have changed their emphasis in reaction to all that has changed around them. The Rector is a vital part of our own business activities and we retain close links.”

The Rector’s role at Edinburgh has been held by prime ministers, Nobel Prize winners, writers, soldiers and scientists, as well as a professional footballer and a rock musician.

Last century, the Rector’s installation was associated with good-natured melees in Old College quad, complete with flour bombs and fish heads, and the occasional offbeat candidate. In 1994 a three-legged cat called Marmalade was put forward but disqualified because the paw print signature was deemed indistinct.

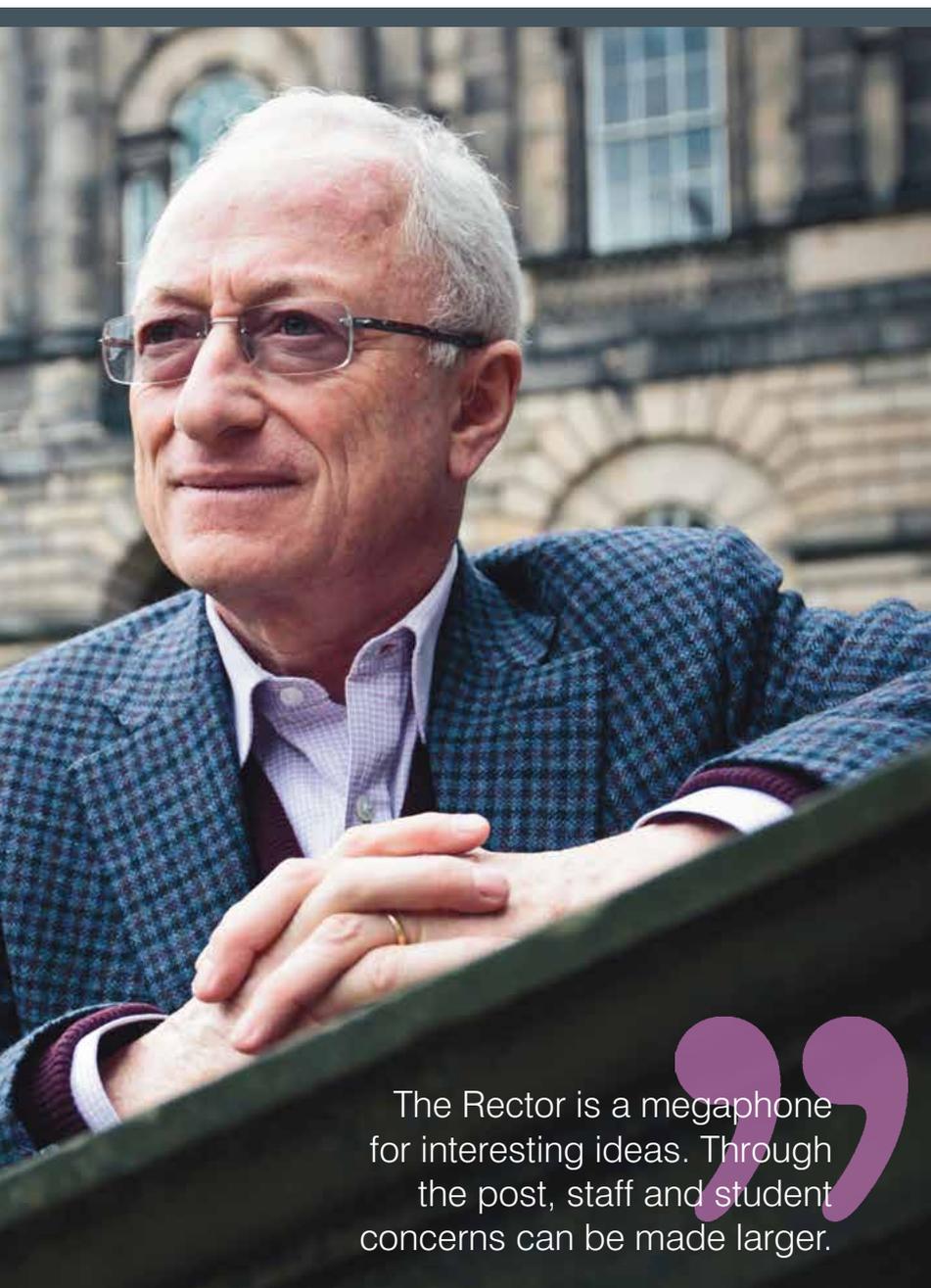


The Rector’s role: www.ed.ac.uk/news/2014/rector2014.



Top: Muriel Gray is held aloft at her 1988 installation.

Above: A 1960s quad battle.



The Rector is a megaphone for interesting ideas. Through the post, staff and student concerns can be made larger.

encouraging more interdisciplinary practices. He cites Design Informatics, a collaboration between the School of Informatics and ECA, Innovative Learning Week, EUSA’s CLICs experiment and the Business School as hotbeds of such practices.

Mr Morrison’s campaign also focused on increasing student feedback and staff satisfaction, and more alumni taking on an active role mentoring current students.

Freshly elected, he plans on pushing forward his ideas to “make education more fitted for the future and modern world”. But he also wants to hear from staff and students: he sees the Rector as “a lightning rod”.

“The Rector is a megaphone for interesting ideas,” he says. “Through the post, staff and student concerns can be made larger. I want to meet as many people as possible and convey very fairly their thoughts and interests to the University Court.”

Mr Morrison pauses, before referencing the man who inadvertently inspired his journey to the rectorship.

“Unlike Malcolm Muggeridge who refused to convey what the students of the 1960s wanted,” he says, “I’m delighted to convey what the students and staff want.” *



Watch an interview with Steve Morrison at www.ed.ac.uk/rectorial-election.



Believe it... or not

As the Koestler Parapsychology Unit prepares for its 30th anniversary, founder member Dr Caroline Watt shares her thoughts on the spookiest of sciences.

About a quarter of people worldwide believe they have had a paranormal experience, such as having a dream that seemingly came true, or apparently knowing who was phoning them before answering the call.

Parapsychology is the scientific investigation of such phenomena and involves, for example, attempting to uncover the psychological mechanisms that may underlie these strange experiences, or conducting laboratory experiments into the possible existence of psychic ability.

Given the nature of the work, it perhaps isn't surprising that this research has often attracted the attention of both academics and the general public. A few

may be surprised though, by the wider benefits such investigations can yield.

The roots of the University's Koestler Parapsychology Unit (KPU) can be traced back to the philosopher John Beloff. Starting in the early 1960s, Dr Beloff spent much of his career at Edinburgh conducting parapsychological research and exploring how this work helped inform philosophical debate about the fundamental nature of mind.

His work caught the attention of one of the key writers and thinkers of the mid-20th century, Arthur Koestler, who had a lifelong fascination with dualism and the paranormal, and whose will, on his death in 1983, provided for the establishment of a chair of

parapsychology at a British university. Dr Beloff was instrumental in bringing the chair to Edinburgh and American parapsychologist Robert Morris took up the first Koestler Professorship in 1985.

Much of the KPU's research concerns the psychology of seemingly psychic experiences. Current work focuses on people who claim to have dreamt about the future, and has revealed some of the psychological factors that underpin these experiences. For instance, people experiencing precognitive dreams are especially likely to remember dreams that appeared to predict the future and forget those dreams that did not.

Another strand of this work, conducted by Dr Peter Lamont, examines how people

Illustration by Felix Meil, a third-year ECA illustration student



use language to construct and justify their beliefs about the paranormal. Dr Lamont and I both teach undergraduate students, who learn much about critical thinking, methodology, and historical and conceptual issues in psychology.

Another strand of KPU research examines the possible existence of extrasensory perception (ESP). Much of this work involves volunteers undergoing mild sensory isolation, and then attempting to describe a remote image or video.

Subsequent systematic reviews of studies using this method, known as 'meta-analyses', led some researchers to argue that the results support the existence of ESP. However, the work has attracted a considerable amount of debate, with other researchers arguing that the findings may have been falsely inflated by several types of bias, including the non-reporting of negative studies.

To help prevent such bias, in 2012 I established a system that enables researchers to register their studies and deposit planned methods and analyses in a public website prior to data collection.

The challenge of studying controversial claims has often driven methodological advances that have later been incorporated into mainstream psychology and science.

The challenge of studying controversial claims has often driven methodological advances that have later been incorporated into mainstream psychology and science. Indeed, debates surrounding the meta-analytic reviews of ESP studies helped pioneer statistical techniques and procedures that were subsequently integrated into many areas of psychology. More recently, psychology journals have begun to encourage researchers to register their studies. I have published recommendations for improving registration practices in psychology based on our experience of study registration in parapsychology.

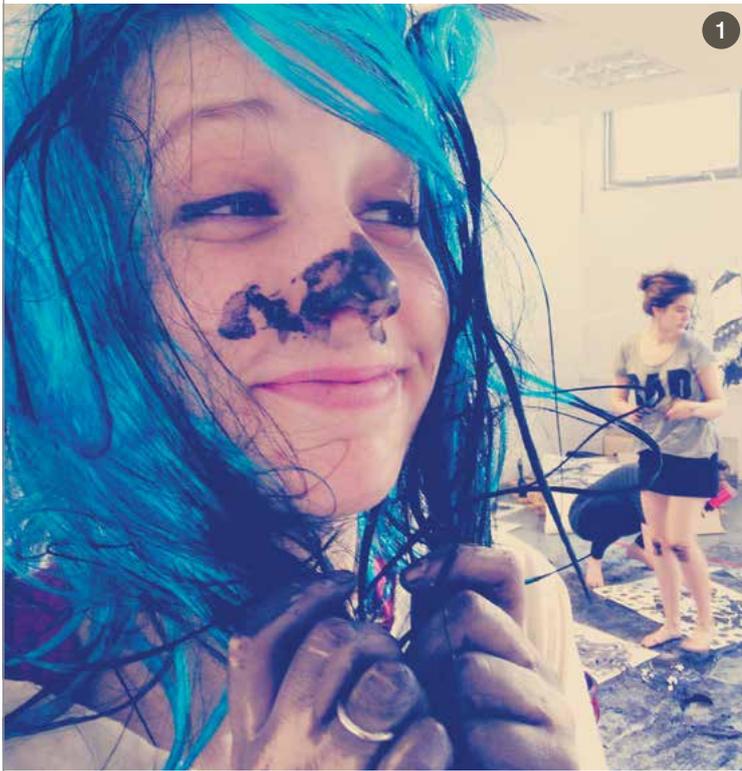
The public often struggles to find balanced and informed material about alleged paranormal phenomena and experiences. I help address this issue through the KPU's website and blog,

and by running a 10-week online course. To mark the KPU's 30th anniversary year, I have been interviewed for *New Scientist* and BBC Radio Scotland. I have also developed 'The Science of the Paranormal', an interactive workshop that helps participants understand how parapsychologists scientifically investigate seemingly paranormal phenomena. This workshop is being presented at science festivals across the UK, culminating in a run at this year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe. ✚

Dr Caroline Watt is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences.

www.koestlerunit.wordpress.com





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Creative community

Replacing the regular academic timetable, Innovative Learning Week (ILW) is the University's annual festival of creative learning. Now in its fourth year, the event brings staff, students, alumni and the general public together to develop skills, dip in to new disciplines and celebrate innovation within Edinburgh's academic community. This year saw the biggest ILW yet, with more than 300 events staged – from TEDx and community architecture projects, to science ceilidhs and underwater archaeology expeditions. More than 50 events were run by students and 60 collaborative activities spanned the disciplines across all three colleges. On these pages, we highlight a selection of memorable moments from ILW2015's varied programme. 

 www.ed.ac.uk/innovative-learning



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Joanna/folkstudio; Callum Bennetts/Maverick; Photo Agency; Norrie Russell/The Posin Institute; ILW team; Paul Dodds



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Stay up to date

If you have an innovative idea or want to get involved in future events, contact the ILW team, and stay up to date with developments on social media.

✉ ilw@ed.ac.uk, [@InnovLearning](https://www.facebook.com/ILWUoE), www.facebook.com/ILWUoE

1 Graphic Design student Ioanna Kyrtatou gets crafty at an openstudio collaborative and creative workshop. 2 Stand-up mathematician Matt Parker in action at 'Things to See and Hear in the Fourth Dimension'. 3 Surveying a mock shipwreck at the 'Splash into the Past' underwater archaeology event. 4 Exploring horse anatomy through art. 5 Play and learning outdoors at Preston Street Primary School. 6 A tango session provides lessons in leadership. 7 Building a rainwater harvester at King's Buildings. 8 Creating calculators from Lego – yes, Lego! 9 A live falconry display delights the crowd during 'Exploring Animal Senses'. 10 The ILW2015 team.



10

people news

A selection of achievements, accolades and appointments.

in brief

Genetics impact recognised

Professor Brian Charlesworth from the School of Biological Sciences has been awarded the Genetics Society of America's Thomas Hunt Morgan Medal for lifetime achievement in the field of genetics.

The award, whose namesake was a Nobel laureate and geneticist, recognises Professor Charlesworth's profound impact on our understanding of population genetics and evolutionary biology.

Accolades for student-designed Path course finder

The Path course selection tool, created by two colleagues when they were Edinburgh mathematics undergraduates, has won the 2014 Award for Excellence from the Universities and Colleges Information Systems Association (UCISA). Path was designed in 2012 by Paul Horrocks and Greg Tyler who, after graduating, took roles in Information Services. Now part of Student Systems, Path has since been scaled up and migrated to the University's corporate infrastructure and it is expected to be in use by all schools by August. To date it has been used by 10,000 students.

EDINA's excellence awarded

EDINA was recently presented with the Royal Scottish Geographical Society's 2014 Bartholomew Globe award, in recognition of its services to geography. Part of Information Services, EDINA develops and delivers shared services and infrastructure to support research and education in the UK. The Bartholomew Globe is awarded for excellence in the assembly, delivery or application of geographical information through cartography, geographical information science and related techniques.

Prestigious prize for first book

Dr Alasdair Raffe, Chancellor's Fellow in History in the School of History, Classics & Archaeology, has won the Senior Hume Brown Prize for his book, *The Culture of Controversy: Religious Arguments in Scotland, 1660–1714*. The prestigious award is made biannually for the best first book on any aspect of Scottish history.



Professor Wendy Bickmore will take up her new post in August.

Key appointment in human genetics

Professor Wendy Bickmore has been appointed as Director of the University's Medical Research Council (MRC) Human Genetics Unit, which is a partner in the MRC Institute of Genetics & Molecular Medicine (IGMM).

The unit is at the forefront of research into the genetic mechanisms underlying human disease and associated biology, and the translation of this knowledge into patient benefit, and its work covers the themes of developmental genetics, common disease genetics, chromosome biology and models for human genetic diseases.

"This is an exciting time for human genetics, with large-scale genome sequencing set to impact on clinical practice," said Professor Bickmore, who will take up her new post in August. "It will be a privilege to lead the MRC Human Genetics Unit in its aim to understand how DNA sequence variation influences our biology and contributes to disease."

Professor Bickmore is currently Head of the Chromosomes and Gene Expression Section in the MRC Human Genetics Unit. She succeeds Professor Nicholas Hastie, who will step down as its Director but remain as Director of the IGMM.

Suite of staff induction videos now online



The University has produced a suite of short videos for managers and new staff to support the induction process. Featuring interviews with a range of senior, support and academic colleagues from across the campus, the videos include a Principal's welcome and cover topics such as how to induct new colleagues, overcoming challenges, contributing to University strategy, and learning and development.



www.ed.ac.uk/human-resources/recruitment

Green award for recycling pioneer

School of Chemistry Waste Management Officer Tim Calder has received a Kimberley Clark Greenovation Award for helping launch the UK's first scheme to recycle scientists' disposable gloves.

Mr Calder worked with the supplier to help the School become the first user of the Terracycle Nitrile/Latex recycling scheme. Since the scheme began in October 2014, more than 350 kilograms of used gloves have been recycled by the School instead of being sent to landfill.

"The School of Chemistry takes sustainability and waste management very seriously and I'm delighted that the initiative to recycle laboratory gloves has been so successful and that we're trailblazers for this scheme within the UK," said Professor Eleanor Campbell, Head of School.

Chemistry students and staff use around 400,000 individual gloves each year made from either natural Latex or synthetic Nitrile, and previously there was no way of recycling them.

Through Terracycle, the gloves are made into new products such as transportation pallets and garden benches. Mr Calder said that if other schools and the wider science community



School of Chemistry Waste Management Officer Tim Calder celebrates his success.

were to join the scheme, the potential for reducing waste to landfill "would be dramatic".

www.terracycle.co.uk

Science engagement efforts acknowledged

Sarah Keer-Keer, Outreach & Communications Manager for the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology in the School of Biological Sciences, has been awarded the 2014 Tam Dalyell Prize.

The annual prize is awarded for excellence in engaging the public with science, and Ms Keer-Keer (pictured) was acknowledged for her efforts in inspiring academics, businesses and the public.

Among Ms Keer-Keer's recent successes is the 'Life Through a Lens' project, which allows cell biologists to communicate directly with the public about their research through dramatic workshops

and information sessions in schools and at science festivals and Doors Open Day events. Ms Keer-Keer founded the Midlothian Science Festival and has also contributed to outreach projects as varied as science theatre, an epigenetics and glass-blowing collaboration with ECA, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh's 'Talking Science' events and local book group discussions.



To watch Ms Keer-Keer's Tam Dalyell lecture, visit edin.ac/1HnooC0.

New Year Honours recognise three

Three staff members were acknowledged in the Queen's New Year Honours list.

Bill Whyte, Professor of Social Work Studies in Criminal & Youth Justice in the School of Social & Political Science, was made a CBE in recognition of services to youth justice in Scotland.

Professor **Stephen Hillier**, who retired from his position at Edinburgh as Vice-Principal International in 2014, was made an OBE for services to international higher education.

During his time at Edinburgh, Professor Hillier led the Internationalisation Strategy, Edinburgh Global, and he continues his association with the University as an Emeritus Professor and Honorary Professorial Fellow, with a personal chair in reproductive endocrinology.

Professor **Nanette Mutrie**, Chair of Physical Activity for Health, was made an MBE for services to physical activity and health in Scotland. She directs the Physical Activity for Health Research Centre in the Institute for Sport, Physical Education & Health Sciences.

Childcare vouchers: changes to come

Members and potential members of the University's Childcare Voucher Scheme are advised that two significant changes are to be introduced shortly.

Colleagues who wish to stay with or join the scheme will be required to re-register or join it by 12 June through Edenred, the University's new voucher provider. From autumn, staff will also have the option of joining the UK Government's new Tax-free Childcare scheme, which will be available to eligible employees across the UK.

Further details about both schemes, including eligibility requirements and how to register with Edenred, can be found online, and staff with queries can contact HR Business Systems.

www.ed.ac.uk/human-resources/staff-benefits

In memoriam

We remember Edinburgh colleagues who passed away recently.

Stephen Bishop

A world-renowned and influential scientist, Steve was Personal Chair of Animal Disease Genetics at the Roslin Institute, and was a mentor to many postgraduate students and post-doctoral research scientists.

Stephan Zimmermann

Stephan was a Post-doctoral Research Fellow in the School of Biological Sciences and joined the University from Germany in 2013.

Marjorie Ritchie

Marjorie had a hugely successful career at the Roslin Institute and contributed to many projects, including creating Dolly the sheep. She was Roslin's longest serving staff member.

David Raffae

Recently retired Professor of Sociology of Education in the Centre for Educational Sociology, David was a long-standing, senior and well-respected member of the Moray House School of Education community.

Kevin Glenwright

Kevin was an Estate Worker within Estates & Buildings' Landscape Team. He was employed by the Landscape Department since 2001. He is survived by his three children.

Gordon Guntley

An Estates & Buildings cleaner, Gordon passed away suddenly on 23 December 2014. He is survived by his partner Sandra Sutherland, who is a Cleaning Supervisor at the Centre for Sport & Exercise. Gordon joined the University in 2010.

Susan Kivlin

A technician in the School of Engineering, Susan was much loved by students and staff alike and she was an active participant in the School community for 28 years.

William Crichton

William was employed at Accommodation Services for almost three years and was an integral member of the property team, based at Baird House.

Raymond McInnes

Ray worked as Deputy Animal Unit Manager for the Ann Walker Building. He will be sadly missed by colleagues within the School of Biological Sciences, some of whom worked with him for more than 20 years.

Mary Lyon (1925–2014)



Professor Mary Lyon was one of the foremost geneticists of the 20th century.

She graduated from Edinburgh with a PhD in genetics in

1950, and then was on staff until 1954. She went on to conduct research that had a fundamental impact on our understanding of mammalian genetics and human medical genetics.

Mary's greatest achievement was to propose the theory of X chromosome inactivation. This process, now known as Lyonisation, suggested that one of the two X chromosomes in the cells of female mammals is randomly inactivated during early development. The theory greatly advanced the understanding of X-linked, inherited diseases, including Duchenne muscular dystrophy and haemophilia, and remains relevant to contemporary research.

Mary's interest in biology began when she won books on wildflowers, birds and trees in a school essay competition. She read zoology, physiology and biochemistry at Girton College, Cambridge, before beginning her PhD

there. She transferred her research to Edinburgh where she studied under the supervision of Douglas Falconer, and was afterwards offered a position in Toby Carter's research group, studying the genetic hazards of radiation.

She left the University in 1954, moving with the research group to the Medical Research Council (MRC) Radiobiological Research Unit at Harwell, Oxfordshire.

Mary took over the Unit's genetics division in 1962. It was there that her curiosity and fascination with the extraordinary number of mouse genetic variants led to her many discoveries.

She retired in 1990 but continued her academic work until 2012. She was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1973 and won numerous awards and honours during her career including the Royal Medal in 1984.

The MRC Harwell Mary Lyon Centre, a national facility for mouse functional genomics, opened in 2004, and the UK Genetics Society created the Mary Lyon Medal in her honour.

Colleagues, the School of Biological Sciences

Sylvia Izatt (1961–2014)



Sylvia joined the University in 2007, working as a chef within a number of different units before becoming Chef Supervisor

in the production kitchen, which supports catering outlets around the University.

Her love of cooking started when she was just 15 and working in her parents' fish-and-chip shop, where she was known for trying new things to tempt the customers in.

Upon leaving the family business, she worked all around the UK, in hotels, restaurants and for an agency, before joining the University.

Highly thought of for her professional attitude and 100 per cent commitment to her work, Sylvia would regularly go the extra mile for her team – even with a last-minute phone call, she could be relied upon to jump in the car and head to work. She was a team player who was always there for her friends.

Sylvia had a very active life and was often out with her dogs, the late Mac and new young spaniel Duffy. A strong and independent woman, she was very passionate about food and enjoyed eating out with friends to gain new recipe ideas she could recreate at work.

Sylvia will be sorely missed by her close friends and her team in the production kitchen.

Colleagues, Accommodation Services

my nine-to-five

As Edinburgh's Market Insight Manager, Russell Bartlett advises colleagues on how best to capture or interpret information that helps them meet their marketing or strategic objectives. Here, he shares a few facts about his working day.

Can you explain your job in a nutshell?

I'm a problem solver. You come to me with a problem, I find the answer – either by looking at existing evidence (the internet, previous research etc) or by talking to people.

What projects are you managing at the moment?

I'm interrogating the results from the Race Equality Survey for Professor Jane Norman [Vice-Principal Equality & Diversity and People & Culture]. The survey is designed to capture student and staff perception of how the University deals with equality, thereby allowing the Equality & Diversity team to make improvements where necessary. Also, I've just received an eyetracker that Edinburgh Neuroscience recommended. Very exciting.

Who do you usually deal with week to week?

I tend to talk mainly to programme directors about competitor reviews and demand surveys; to event organisers about evaluations; to service managers about evaluating their service; to marketers about reputation trackers; and to students about the University. I also provide strategic reports to senior management.

Can you describe your typical day?

Tea, coffee, toast. Cycle. Browse... Chew some fat. Look at some stats. Take four million words and turn them into 10.

How long have you worked at Edinburgh, and have you seen any big changes or improvements over the years?

I've been here eight years. I really like the fact that Golden Boy is golden now. No, seriously, as an institution we really have become more interested in whether our service meets the needs of the user – be it students, staff or associated partners. I now run annual satisfaction surveys for Estates & Buildings, Finance and the Student Disability Service. There's room for more, and I think an all-staff survey would be hugely beneficial – how can we improve if we don't know how we're doing at the moment?

What have been the highlights during your time here?

I've enjoyed meeting up with the 200-odd marketing folk around the University; it reminds me there are other people pushing in the same direction. I try to keep this community going with the UoE Insights Mailer, which staff can sign up to if they email me. Other highlights are the annual Decliners' Survey, introducing demand surveys and competitor analyses, and collating the University's brand values (they're 'accessible', 'excellent', 'global', 'innovative', 'influential' and 'stimulating', if you were wondering...).

📧 To subscribe to the UoE Market Insights mailer, email Russell.Bartlett@ed.ac.uk.



Get organised...

Desk: organised or a beautiful mess?

It's made up of one-third storage, one-third tech and one-third food and drink: not what you'd call particularly aesthetic.

Routine, or take it as it comes?

I actively shun routine.

Are you a list person?

I love a list. It's the only way I know of keeping all the information I come across in some sort of order. Did I mention the UoE Market Insights mailer? You can sign up for it, you know, if you're interested in marketing in HE...

Daily staples?

Coffee. Withering remarks. Sarcasm.

Favourite lunch spots?

Palmyra, the Mosque Kitchen, Blackwell's, Union of Genius, seventh floor of the National Museum of Scotland.

...and now relax

Favourite pastimes?

Annoying my wife, Emma, mainly. And poking around in the garden.

Best time of year, and why?

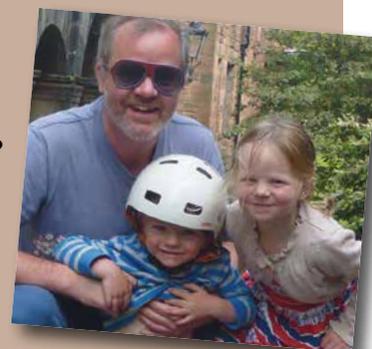
Summer – I can't think of anything better than still being in the garden, reading a book, at 11pm.

Perfect Sunday afternoon?

In a park somewhere warm. Or on a beach in East Lothian.

Ideal holiday?

Anywhere that involves exploring with Em, and that has great produce and enough room to run around with our kids, Chloe and Gus.



out & about

There's a great mix of exhibitions, events and information sessions to experience around the University over the next few months – so take time out to explore and be inspired.



Behold the colour blue

Celebrating the colour and concept of this captivating hue, '...Something Blue' showcases a mixture of interesting and thought-provoking items from the University Collections. Main Library Exhibition Gallery. Now until 27 June.

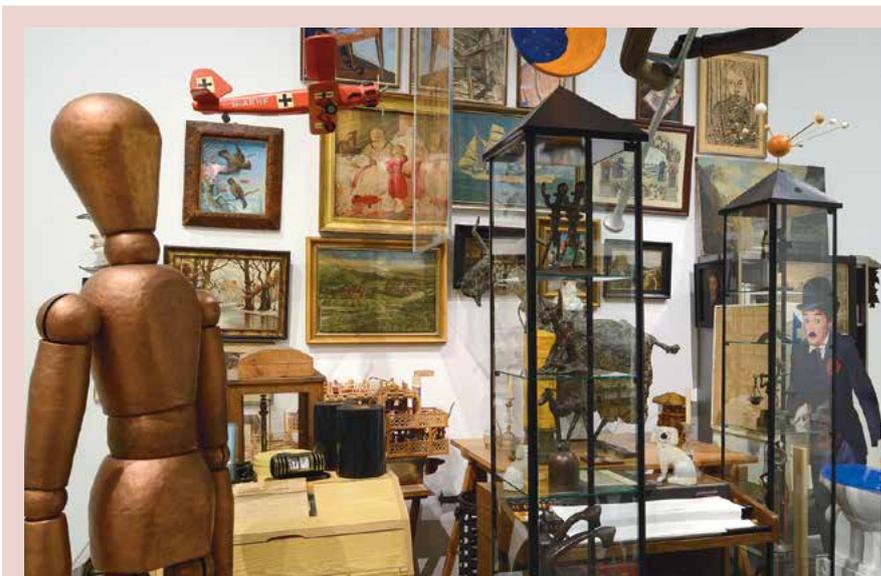
www.ed.ac.uk/crc



Celebrate ECA's artists

Marvel at the intricate and innovative creations of the UK's next generation of artists, filmmakers, designers and architects at ECA's 2015 Degree Show. ECA Main Building, 30 May–7 June.

www.eca.ed.ac.uk



Mark a milestone

From May 2015 to May 2016, Talbot Rice Gallery will celebrate its 40th anniversary with a number of events and exhibitions, including bespoke archival projects, keynote lectures, discussions and artistic commissions.

www.ed.ac.uk/talbot-rice



Connect with colleagues

New staff can get to know colleagues and learn about the University's history and current operation at an informal Welcome Event presented by senior staff from across the campus and coordinated by University HR Services' Learning & Development team. 4 June, 9.30am–12.30pm, Playfair Library. Book online.

www.events.ed.ac.uk



Aim high

Head to Peffermill Playing Fields on 3–5 July to support a number of Edinburgh staff and students competing at the Senior Commonwealth Euronations Archery Competition.

www.sport.ed.ac.uk



Focus on equality

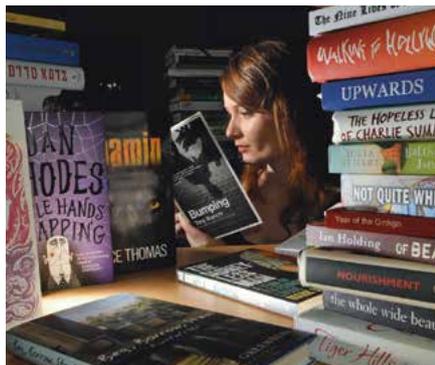
Learn about equality and diversity at this 'Introduction to Equality & Diversity in the Workplace' session. Objectives include improving understanding of what is meant by 'diversity' and 'equal opportunities' and how equality legislation affects staff. 17 June, 9.15am–1pm, Main Library. Book online.

www.events.ed.ac.uk

Offer a helping hand

Deliver a talk, work at an information desk or simply help visitors find their way around campus at the University's next Undergraduate Open Day, on 19 June. Don't forget to wear your welcome badge, available from the Student Induction team.

✉ Induction@ed.ac.uk



Stay informed

Hear about the procedures involved in processing freedom of information requests at this Access to Information briefing session run by the Records Management Section. Offers an overview of legislation, how it affects staff and how to handle a request. 29 June, 1pm-2pm, Charles Stewart House. Book online.

✉ www.events.ed.ac.uk

Learn about literature

Winners of the James Tait Black Prizes, judged by English Literature staff with assistance from postgraduate students, will be awarded at a special ceremony on 17 August at this year's Edinburgh International Book Festival. Full event details will be announced in June.

✉ www.ed.ac.uk/news/events/tait-black

Cheer on the champions

Cheer on the best of the best, including first-year geography student Chloe Carruthers, at the Women's U18 and U19 Lacrosse World Championships. More than 500 athletes from 30 teams worldwide will compete at the tournament, which will be held 23 July-1 August at Peffermill Playing Fields.

✉ www.sport.ed.ac.uk



Get on your bike

Fix niggling problems and get advice at a free bicycle safety and maintenance session with the Bike Station's Dr Bike. Show staff ID card. Workshops will be held at various times and locations around the campus over the summer.

✉ www.ed.ac.uk/cycling



Explore art education

Offering a behind-the-scenes look at the curatorial process, the postgraduate student exhibition 'Teaching an Artist: Evolution of Art Education at ECA' explores how art education developed at the College during the 20th century. Includes audio guide, research and blog. Moray House, September 2015.

✉ www.eca.ed.ac.uk/history-of-art/news-events

health & wellbeing

A round-up of the people, policies and activities that are here to help keep you well at work. For more information, visit www.ed.ac.uk/staff/health-wellbeing.

in brief

Mindfulness meditation

Colleagues interested in incorporating mindfulness into their everyday life are invited to attend lunchtime Mindfulness Meditation classes at the Chaplaincy Sanctuary, Bristo Square. Open to staff and students, the sessions are held during term time on Fridays 1.10pm–1.50pm and are led by Dr Avinash Bansode, a GP and mindfulness teacher and instructor. Morning and lunchtime sessions are also run by Associate Chaplain Ali Newell at Easter Bush and Little France at various times. For more information, visit www.ed.ac.uk/chaplaincy.

Bike Buddies available

Cyclists who wish to gain more confidence while commuting to work or study can take advantage of the Transport & Parking Office's Bike Buddies system. Bike Buddies are volunteer Edinburgh staff and students who offer to accompany less confident cyclists on a number of routes around the city. For more information or to volunteer to be a Bike Buddy, email the Transport & Parking Office team at transport@ed.ac.uk.

Project to get students moving

The Healthy University Project has teamed up with the Centre for Sport & Exercise and the Sports Union to create the Support for Physical Activity (SPA) programme for students. Aimed at students who are currently undertaking less than 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity per week, the free programme offers participants support with their first steps towards being more physically active. Participants meet an SPA Programme Officer to set goals and then attend four follow-up appointments to discuss challenges and successes. Students can make an appointment with an SPA Programme Officer by emailing spa.programme@ed.ac.uk.

Gym memberships on offer

The Centre for Sport & Exercise offers a range of gym memberships for colleagues of one, three, six or 12 months. Memberships for spouse, partner and children are also available. For more information, visit www.sport.ed.ac.uk.



I would walk 500 miles... members celebrate the launch of the new Pleasance cardio gym.

Cardio gym launches at Pleasance centre

More than 100 staff, students, alumni and guests gathered at the Centre for Sport & Exercise's Pleasance Sport Complex & Gym recently to celebrate the launch of the University's new cardio gym.

Attendees were challenged to walk, run, stride or cycle as far as they could, with the aim of collectively reaching 500 miles.

Following a £500,000 refurbishment, the new facility is open to all members and features a suite of 102 state-of-the-art items of PRECOR cardio kit, including treadmills, cross-trainers and bikes.

The gym has been rewired to support network connectivity, and it also has a refreshed layout to provide more logical equipment clusters and improve member flow.

"We continually seek to enhance member experience and provide the highest level of fitness provision for our student, staff, and graduate and community users," said Jim Aitken, Director of Sport.

On hand to help officially open the gym was Rhona Auckland, Edinburgh student and 2014 European U23 Cross Country Champion.

Scottish Running Clinic open on Fridays

Staff and students who are looking to prevent and treat running-related injuries can now access treatment at the University's newly launched Scottish Running Clinic. Based at the Fitness Assessment & Sports Injuries Centre (FASIC), the clinic is open every Friday afternoon. It offers access to coaches, sports medicine doctors, physiotherapists, sports massage therapists and podiatrists, who can assess, diagnose and treat running-related problems and help with training and rehabilitation programmes. Runners of all abilities can make an appointment by contacting FASIC on (0131) 650 2578.



competition

Can you spot the difference?

Two prizes are on offer this edition: studio portraits or landscape photos worth £100 taken by photographer Anne Skinner for the winner, and dinner for two plus cocktails from Paradise Palms for the runner-up. To enter, compare the photograph on the right to the one on the left. You're looking for five differences. Circle each one and send us your entry by **Friday 15 May 2015** to the address on page 2. Correct entries will be entered in a draw and the winner will be selected at random.



Vibrant and varied: fairy tales, family photographs and space-age holidays influenced some of the designs unveiled on the catwalk at ECA's recent runway shows. Featuring pieces from Fashion, Performance Costume and Textiles students, SHOW 2015 mixed the familiar with the fantastic, giving audiences a glimpse of Scotland's next generation of talent. Pictured are designs by Imogen Wooley (fourth-year Performance Costume).

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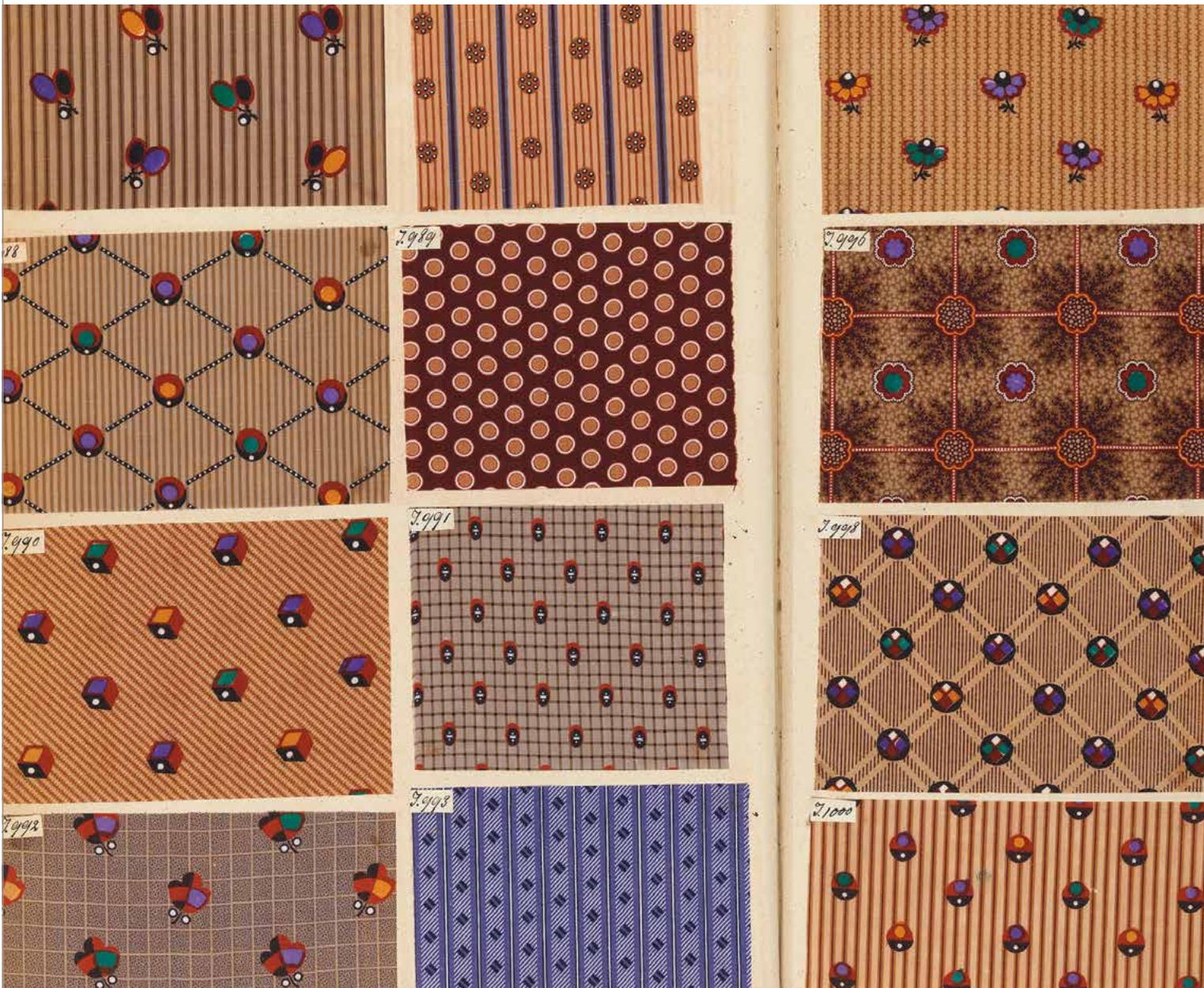
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showcase

In every edition of *bulletin* we highlight a piece of history from the University of Edinburgh Library and Collections.

Rare French album

Within the ECA Rare Books Collection are three late-1860s French albums of calico samples. The contents of the pictured album (above) are made by manufacturers from Mulhouse, the Alsace, which was a great centre of printed cotton manufacture. The album would have been compiled for a client in the textile or clothing trades as design intelligence.

Each item in the ECA Rare Books Collection now carries a specially designed 'Ex Libris ECA' bookplate (right), which was designed in late 2014 by ECA Illustration Programme Director Jonathan Gibbs.



 www.ed.ac.uk/is/crc