Exploring our collections
Star items held by the University

EUSA Teaching Awards 2015/16
Celebrating staff members who won an award

Enhancing our campuses
An update on Estates’ current projects

At the heart of the festivals
Behind the scenes in the University’s Festivals Office

Competition & giveaway
Spot the difference to win a meal for two
From Adam Smith’s library to an ornate suffragette belt, the University’s collections are a fascinating resource for staff and students. Our cover story (pages 10–13) showcases a selection of treasured items.

Teaching is at the heart of the University’s ethos and each year the Edinburgh University Students’ Association holds its Teaching Awards. On pages 8–9 we celebrate the 2016 winners.

The University’s campuses are constantly evolving and on pages 16–17 you can read an update on the latest projects that the Estates team is working on.

As summer approaches now is the time to look forward to the many forthcoming festivals held across the city. In this issue we find out more about the University’s involvement and the key events to look out for (pages 18–20).

Keep up to date with the latest staff news at www.ed.ac.uk/news/staff or follow us on Twitter: @EdinUniStaff or Instagram: instagram.com/edinburghuniversity.
Inside Adam Smith’s library

A vast book collection belonging to renowned Scottish philosopher and economist Adam Smith has been reassembled in the Main Library. Smith, a key figure of the Scottish Enlightenment, wrote the landmark text, *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations* (1776).

The library of 850 books has recently been fully catalogued online for the first time. Students, researchers and the wider public can access detailed online descriptions of the books, which now form a single collection that provides a sense of Smith’s interests.

Pictured: University Conservator Emily Hick leafs through the pages of Adam Smith’s incredible book collection held within the Treasures Room in the Main Library.

EdWeb migration complete and teaching excellence resource launched online

The University website has now fully migrated to EdWeb. The new Drupal-based content management system has a fresh, responsive design, allowing it to adapt to a range of user devices.

This major project has been delivered collaboratively by teams in Information Services and Communications and Marketing, and with stakeholders from schools, colleges and business units around the University.

A design framework called EdGel (Global Experience Language) has been developed allowing University web content creators to maintain the look and feel of the rest of the University website.

Meanwhile, the University has also launched a new website called Teaching Matters, which contains case studies, features, blogs, videos and events for the University’s teaching community. The site is a space for debate about teaching and learning, sharing ideas and approaches to teaching, and for celebrating successes. Find out more at www.edin.ac/teaching-matters.
During February, March and April, the University held a series of events in India and the USA offering partners, colleagues, students and alumni the chance to come together.

The Edinburgh Global Pop Up was designed to deliver a slice of University life, comprising workshops, seminars and lectures, teaching, alumni events, student-led activity, industry engagement and recruitment activity.

In February events in India covered themes such as business, genetics and IT, and a demonstration by Professor Harald Haas (pictured above with students in India) of the potentially revolutionary LiFi, which uses LED lightbulbs to transfer data.

In March and April the University delivered a series of events in San Francisco covering big data, energy and technology.

A cclaimed writers, researchers and artists are among those taking part in an online forum called Dangerous Women.

Launched by the University’s Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities to coincide with International Women’s Day in March, the project has invited commentators to celebrate female achievement in the form of essays, images, poetry or other creative media. It has more than 1,000 Twitter followers.

Organisers say the initiative has been inspired in part by a front-page headline from last year that characterised the Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon as “The most dangerous woman in Britain”. Ms Sturgeon is one of many well-known figures to have written for the site. Former MI5 Director, best-selling author and Edinburgh alumna, Stella Rimmington (above), who recently spoke at the University’s annual literary Spy Week, has also made a contribution.

“We are committed to promoting active engagement between academic, creative and civic organisations and the public. Put simply, we aim to help ideas grow,” said Professor Jo Shaw, Director of the Institute and project leader.

Throughout 2016 the University is marking Nursing Studies’ 60th anniversary. In April, the Chancellor of the University, HRH The Princess Royal, visited the campus to acknowledge the occasion. In addition, the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) held its International Research Conference in Edinburgh to celebrate 60 years of nursing at the University and 100 years of the RCN itself. An alumni conference is due to be held on Friday 4 November. For more information, see www.edin.ac/leaps-dark.

For six decades, Edinburgh has raised the status and professionalism of nursing. It introduced the first Nurse Teaching Unit at a British university in 1956, the UK’s first nursing degree in 1960, along with the UK’s first nursing research unit, and Europe’s first Professor of Nursing Studies in 1971. The respected Guardian University Guide’s league table for nursing and midwifery ranked Nursing Studies at Edinburgh top in the UK every year from 2005 to 2015.

Staff and students at the University believe they have passed the Guinness World Record for the most cakes sold in eight hours for charity.

Fundraisers sold 18,195 baked goods around campus, beating the previous record of 14,534, and made more than £9,000 for the University’s Big Leap campaign, which supports good causes in and around Edinburgh. A total of 45 bake sales took place across University sites between 9am and 5pm on 29 February. The results are awaiting ratification by Guinness World Records.
Pioneering greener campus facilities

The University has recently been recognised for its pioneering work in dealing with the energy, water and waste footprints of its laboratories.

It was announced as the runner-up in the Guardian’s University Awards’ Sustainability category, which was won by the Royal Agricultural University.

The judges praised innovative measures such as recycling disposable gloves and pipette tips, and a project to recover and recycle helium.

A peer-to-peer audit system, whereby lab users visit other laboratories and share best practice, has also led to the identification of energy efficiency measures that could save £200,000.

Dave Gorman, Director of Social Responsibility and Sustainability, said: “As a university we are constantly looking for ways to make our work better for the environment. This recognition highlights the progress we are making and the hard work of staff in laboratories.”

Principal’s Teaching Award Scheme Forum

The Principal’s Teaching Award Scheme (PTAS) offers staff at Edinburgh the opportunity to apply for grants for pedagogical development or research projects, which will make a significant contribution to enhancing teaching, learning or assessment practices.

More than 200 members of staff have been involved in successful PTAS projects since the start of the scheme across 20 different schools.

The forum offers the chance to learn about some of the successful projects and to meet grant holders, as well as hear inspiring keynote speakers.

Wednesday 15 June, 9.30am – 4.30pm at Moray House (room tbc).

A new website has been launched examining the lasting legacy of the world’s most famous sheep.

Dolly, the first mammal to be cloned from an adult cell, was the result of research at the University’s Roslin Institute. Her birth showed that specialised cells could be used to create a copy of the animal they came from – opening up a range of new possibilities in biology and medicine. The impact of her existence still resonates around the world today.

Events celebrating Dolly’s 20th birthday are taking place throughout the year.

New name for the Office of Lifelong Learning

The Office of Lifelong Learning is now called the Centre for Open Learning (COL). COL will continue to provide English Language Education, the International Foundation Programme, short courses and languages. The part-time Access programme is being redeveloped and will be introduced from 2017/18.

Easter Bush campus successes

The University’s Easter Bush campus recently received the Community Engagement Award at the annual Scottish Life Sciences Award, for its involvement in the Midlothian Science Festival and its outreach work with local schools.

Easter Bush has also been awarded the Investors in Young People Silver award, the first university campus in the UK to hold a silver award. The accolade demonstrates Easter Bush’s commitment to providing opportunities and experience to young people within our community.

Dolly the sheep at 20

The University is committed to sustainability on campus. It has invested more than £20 million in combined heat and power energy centres to reduce carbon emissions by almost 10,000 tonnes annually. It is also meeting its public commitments by divesting from the worst fossil fuels as well as announcing the recent creation of a conflict minerals policy.

in brief

Bursaries boost

A record number of bursaries will be awarded to undergraduate students from low-income households in the current academic year. The University will award more than £8.5m through the bursaries – its highest total to date.

Edinburgh has also launched 20 new UK Masters Access Awards for postgraduate students worth £10,000 each for 2016 entry. The awards are available to support new or recent Edinburgh graduates who have taken part in a widening participation programme, been in care before entering the University or have received an undergraduate bursary.

Finance Team of the Year

The University’s Finance team have been named Finance Team of the Year – Public and Voluntary Sector in a national competition run by Business Finance Awards in conjunction with Financial Director magazine and Accountancy Age magazine. A selection of the Finance team was there to collect the award.

The team has also been shortlisted for Outstanding Finance Team in the Times Higher Leadership and Management Awards 2016.

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www.dolly.roslin.ed.ac.uk
Women with endometriosis – a painful, debilitating disease linked to infertility – are being invited to join a research project that aims to shape possible future treatments.

The initiative aims to identify the top 10 leading challenges that women with endometriosis face and influence the prioritisation of research in this area.

Professor Andrew Horne, who is leading the research at the University of Edinburgh’s MRC Centre for Reproductive Health, said: “It is important that we ensure medical researchers are focusing on the issues that really matter for women living with this debilitating condition, and deliver treatments that make a genuine difference to their quality of life.”

Endometriosis affects an estimated 176 million women worldwide. It occurs when tissue similar to the lining of the uterus is found elsewhere – most commonly in the abdomen, on the ovaries, bladder and bowel – and causes bleeding every month and local inflammation.

The project is being run in partnership with the James Lind Alliance, and is supported by the World Endometriosis Research Foundation.

Anyone affected by endometriosis – patients, carers, employers and professionals – is invited to contribute to the project through a survey at www.bit.ly/endometriosis-survey.
Photos that soothe

C

Clinical psychologists at the University have created an online image bank to help improve people’s mental wellbeing.

Dr Stella Chan and Professor Matthias Schwannauer of the School of Health in Social Science launched Project Soothe in March 2015 to investigate the interaction between imagery and how it makes people feel.

More than 300 photographs have been collected from people asked to submit an image they find comforting. Feedback is now being collected from visitors to the site about the calming effects of the photos, and further research is planned to establish which of the photographs are most suitable for use in psychological therapies.

“A soothing image can help people on two levels – a person may have an image which is linked to a memory, so the memory associated with the images helps them feel comforted. But on another level there may be some universal elements in images which people are more likely to find reassuring,” says Dr Chan.

Researchers say that the ability a person has to self-soothe when distressed helps them stay well, and a bank of calming images could help some people to achieve a more relaxed state.

To view the gallery, submit a photo or take part in the survey see: www.projectsoothe.com

What I’m discovering

Deborah Fry is a Lecturer in Child Protection in the Moray House School of Education. She carries out research to measure the magnitude and drivers of violence against children, barriers and enablers to appropriate response systems including in school settings and the effectiveness of existing interventions.

“I have always been passionate about preventing violence and translating research into effective policies and programmes. I’ve been lucky to do just that here at the University as the academic lead for the UNICEF and University of Edinburgh Multi-Country Study of the Drivers of Violence Affecting Children. This study analyses how interpersonal and structural factors – the social, cultural, economic, legal, or policy responses – interact to affect everyday violence in children’s homes, schools and communities in four countries.

“In early 2015, we submitted evidence to the Peruvian Congress that violence in schools has a significant negative impact on learning and educational outcomes for children. We also worked closely with the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations and the National Institute for Statistics and Informatics to publish this data. In December 2015, the law prohibiting corporal punishment in schools was passed in Peru with the government citing this evidence and the collaborative partnership as instrumental in driving change.”

making headlines

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

Fossil link to T rex

A study of a new species of dinosaur has revealed how Tyrannosaurus rex became one of Earth’s top predators. University researchers studied a collection of fossils found in the Kyzylkum Desert, northern Uzbekistan. The species’ small skull indicates that it did not grow to the same size as T rex. However, key features suggest that its senses were already highly developed, which enabled the species to climb to the top of the prehistoric food chain. The new species – named Timurlengia euotica – fills a 20-million year gap in the fossil record of tyrannosaurs. The study was reported widely in national and international media.

Salt gene could help cut heart disease

Researchers are learning more about how the brain controls our appetite for salt, and how it impacts on blood pressure levels. Scientists modified mice to remove a gene, linked to high blood pressure in humans, which caused them to develop a strong appetite for salt. When offered a choice of normal drinking water or salt water, they consumed three times more salt water than unmodified mice and experienced high blood pressure while drinking it. The team will now research whether an affordable drug – already used to treat heart failure. The study was covered in the national press, including The Times, the Scotsman and the Herald.

Social media causes self-censoring

Researchers have found that Facebook users are self-censoring their activities as mobile cameras make them feel under surveillance. Interviews with a group of 19 to 22 year olds revealed that respondents would hide cigarettes at parties and not stand next to certain people if photos were being taken to avoid disapproval from online friends. Some would also avoid having photos taken while sunbathing at the beach to avoid attracting unwanted attention online. The research, carried out by the University of Edinburgh Business School and the universities of Bath and Birmingham, appeared in the Sun, Scottish Daily Express and Edinburgh Evening News.
The EUSA Teaching Awards

Every year the Edinburgh University Students’ Association (EUSA) honours staff at the University with its Teaching Awards. The awards recognise the teachers, support staff and peer support leaders who make an enormously positive impact on students’ learning experiences.

In a student-organised ceremony on Wednesday 20 April in Teviot Row House the winners were announced. Here we celebrate these staff achievements and share comments made by nominating students.

**Best Personal Tutor Award**

Dr Jamie Cole  
School of Physics & Astronomy  
“He is genuinely interested in his students and is much more than a personal tutor, he’s like a friend. More recently, Jamie helped me through a difficult time and without his help and support I don’t think I would still be at this University.”

**Best Feedback Award**

Mal Burkinshaw  
School of Design, Edinburgh College of Art  
“Mal’s written and verbal feedback is always informative and helpful and shows that he is really interested in our work. He helps us to feel confident in our work and guides us to better solutions and research ideas.”

**Best Student Who Tutors Award**

Paul Archibald  
Reid School of Music, Edinburgh College of Art  
“Paul is always keen to help and provides detailed, high-quality answers, taking no shortcuts and always working hard to ensure we understand the material. He creates a positive atmosphere in all his tutorials. I truly feel Paul has been a source of inspiration.”

**Best Support Staff Award**

Lee Gaedtke  
School of Health in Social Science  
“Lee will always have a smile on her face, or will always lift your mood with her happy emails. She is a very caring person and she will go out of her way to solve any problems or concerns you may have.”
**The EUSA Teaching Awards 2015/16**

**Best Course Award**

*Dr Meryl Kenny and Professor Fiona Mackay*  
School of Social & Political Science  
(for: Social & Political Science in Practice)

“The course has involved a lot of group work, and my group have become some of my best friends. I think courses like this, that encourage students to have a bigger role in the University life, are an amazing idea.”

**The Kendell Award for Teaching in Medicine**

*Professor Jamie Davies*  
Edinburgh Medical School: Biomedical Sciences  

“Jamie offered to mark mock essays and also provided us with podcasts, which lasted the length of time walking from Pollock Halls to the Old Medical School. He provided all this material in many different formats allowing ease of use for everyone.”

**The Award for Teaching in Veterinary Sciences**

*Julie Dickson*  
The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Medicine

“Julie took the time to make 3D models of a dog to help the students visualise the bones, joints and muscles. She put every minute of her day into our course, not only making it interesting but making sure we all had enough resources to succeed.”

**The Van Heyningen Award for Teaching in Science and Engineering**

*Dr Ahmad Mejbas Al-Remal*  
School of Engineering

“Not only does he put in a lot of effort to prepare engaging lectures that students can follow easily... he is always willing to put in hours outside of allocated course time to explain concepts students have difficulty with.”

**The Ian Campbell Award for Teaching in the Humanities and Social Science**

*Marwa Mouazen*  
School of Literatures, Languages & Cultures

“She uses lots of different materials to help us learn – reading texts, audio files, PowerPoint, even songs! She has encouraged us to seek extra-curricular opportunities and takes an interest in how our learning is progressing outside the classroom.”

**Best Innovative Assessment Award**

*Dr Isla Myers-Smith and Dr Aidan Keane*  
(for: Conservation Science)

“For the majority of the assessments we had the chance to choose our own topic – having this freedom was an outstanding opportunity as we could work on an issue we feel passionate about.”

For more information about the EUSA Teaching Awards, visit: [www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/teachingawards](http://www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/teachingawards)
Jeremy Upton holding an 18th-century tenor trombone in the Treasures Room in the University’s Main Library.
Exploring our collections

Director of Library and University Collections
Jeremy Upton takes us on a tour of some of the star items within the exquisite, eclectic and intriguing collections held at the University.

When I was thinking about applying for the position of Director of Library and University Collections at Edinburgh, one of the things that encouraged me to go ahead was knowing the richness and depth of heritage of the library and museum collections held by the University.

As a music student in Edinburgh in the 1980s, I had some knowledge of the musical instrument collections and a little of our diverse music special collections. We are very fortunate to be able to provide access here in Edinburgh to such a wide range of unique collections. They allow us to support learning and research in ways not possible at many other institutions.

As we move further into the digital age, there are new opportunities for us to use technology to break down the barriers which can make it difficult to access and interpret our collections and to use our collections together. The digital world will allow us to create a new, virtual museum of curiosities. We see very exciting times ahead. Here are just some of the star items in our impressive collections. For more, see: www.collections.ed.ac.uk

1 Tenor trombone, Huschauer, Vienna, 1794.

I have played the trombone since the age of 11. It has brought me much enjoyment over the years and taken me to some interesting places. Having access to these historic instruments (and the support of a team who are keen where possible to see the instruments played) provides an opportunity to hear music from earlier times being played on instruments from that time. When you play this instrument, you can hear a gentler, softer sound compared to the trombones being manufactured today.

2 Harpsichord by Francis Coston, 1725.

In November 2016, we will reopen St Cecilia’s Hall after the completion of a £6.5 million redevelopment project. The hall will provide a home for this intricately decorated double-manual English harpsichord, one of 600 instruments which will be on display. The University’s historic musical instrument collection is one of the most important found anywhere in the world. At St Cecilia’s Hall, it will be possible to perform 18th-century music on 18th-century instruments (40 per cent of the instruments in the collection are still playable) in an 18th-century building. The instruments are providing focus for University collaboration and engagement activity with a wide range of groups from the Scottish Chamber Orchestra to local community groups in the Cowgate.

3 Choir books, Orlando di Lasso (from a series of part books dated 1573–1589).

This set of Lasso masses is one of my favourite items from our music score collection. They look impressive from the outside because of their size and binding, the printing looks clean even after more than 400 years of use and they have beautiful woodblock capitals at the start of each mass section. They are a great support for teaching people about Renaissance choral music and performance. You can still sing from them if you learn the unfamiliar clefs and are prepared to gather round the volumes with your friends as all the parts are printed so you can see them at one time from a double page opening.
The merger of the University of Edinburgh and the Edinburgh College of Art has resulted in a significant increase in academic engagement with the University art collections. This iconic item from one of the University’s historic art collections, the Torrie Collection, is an example of the University’s longstanding commitment to collecting and will be part of an exhibition focusing on the collection, to be hosted by the University in 2016/17. Organising the exhibition is involving students and staff working in partnership with the University’s Talbot Rice Gallery, the National Galleries of Scotland, University Art Collections and the Centre for Research Collections.

We continue to collect new items for our collections and this work by Jessica Harrison was acquired in 2015.

We have a Collections Development Group which considers the progression of new collections. Students are involved with this group which gives them an opportunity to be involved at every stage of this process so that they can get a truly unique experience in areas such as acquisitions proposals and logistics. This offers practical experience that is incredibly rare for emerging arts professionals and, as far as we are aware, this is a unique offer at a British university.

As well as art collections, we hold a number of very important scientific collections. This object is from our Monro Anatomical Collection, which contains more than 12,000 items, and is both an object for learning as well as an object of great beauty and delicacy. We cannot currently display it due to the need for specialised environmental conditions. The new Anatomy Museum, plans for which are at an early stage, will have the appropriate environmental conditions for displaying the wax heart and reinterpreting the story of the University’s contribution to anatomy.

The David Laing collection was bequeathed to the University Library in 1878 and remains our most important single manuscript collection, with about 500,000 documents. Much of the material has not yet been listed at a detailed level, which allows for major research discoveries.

In 2013 a visiting researcher uncovered this document, written in the 1640s, which describes seeing Shakespeare’s name cut into the wooden panels in the Tabard Inn at Southwark. This appears to confirm the tradition that Shakespeare and other playwrights used to congregate there. The manuscript has since gone on loan to an exhibition at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington DC.

The University Library has a rich collection of Shakespeare material, including numerous early quartos, as befits the library of the University where English Literature was first taught as an academic discipline.
8 Postcard from Lothian Health Services Archive (LHSA) HIV/AIDS collections.

These UNESCO-recognised collections cover the Edinburgh and Lothian response to the HIV epidemic in the 1980s and 90s, including the significant public health ‘Take Care’ campaign which was groundbreaking in its approach to disease prevention and community engagement.

These collections have attracted Research Resources funding from the Wellcome Trust and have allowed us to develop projects with a strong outreach and education focus (for example www.hiv-aids-resources.is.ed.ac.uk). The modern plastic materials held have also enabled us to develop conservation expertise in this field and disseminate that learning via a sector-leading, Wellcome-funded symposium. LHSA is curated by the University of Edinburgh on behalf of NHS Lothian, and was awarded Accredited Archive Status in 2014.

9 Glass slide from the archive of the Roslin Institute.

This rich collection of 3,500 photographic glass slides came from the pioneering Roslin Institute, which merged with the University of Edinburgh in 2008. The Roslin archives and rare books were transferred to Special Collections and have been catalogued and conserved with support from the Wellcome Trust in our Towards Dolly and Making of Dolly projects.

The slide collection has now been fully digitised and shows the international reach of science at Edinburgh in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The slides were a teaching collection and cover a wide range of subjects including photographs of indigenous peoples from around the world, international travel scenes, personal portraits (frequently of figures connected with the natural/veterinary/agricultural sciences), and images and portraits of domestic animals (chiefly sheep, poultry, cows and pigs). They are now all online as part of our ever-growing and freely accessible Images site.

10 Book from Clement Litill’s library.

The foundation bequest of 276 volumes from Edinburgh advocate Clement Litill was received in 1580 – before the University of Edinburgh itself had formally been constituted. The collection remains in our Treasures Room as the cornerstone of the Special Collections and the origin of the University Library. Many of the books were already rare and valuable in 1580. They are all stamped with the stern message in Scots ‘I am gevin to Edinburgh & Kirk of God be Maister Clement Litil – Thair to Remain’.

The collection is in good condition and is currently being recatalogued to the highest modern standards to improve accessibility for students and other users.

11 Edinburgh suffragette belt (recently purchased).

In early 2016 we acquired, from a bookseller, a beautiful and apparently unrecorded example of a belt which contains symbols of the campaign for women’s votes. The belt is made from a strip of ribbon, embroidered with enamelled motifs in the colours of white, green and purple associated with the suffrage movement. It has a pink lining on the reverse and a gilt buckle fastening.

The belt may date from around 1909 – but, as with many of the unique items in our collections, more research is needed. It has great potential to be used for research and teaching on political history as well as textile design. The purchase has attracted great interest on social media and we hope to put it on display soon.

We live in a complex and interconnected world and, to drive success, we will always be able to achieve more when we work with others.

Life notes

- Susan graduated in Social Policy and Politics, and later gained an MBA, from the University of Edinburgh.
- Her early career was in local government, followed by management training and consultancy in the private sector, and later in higher education as MBA Director of Programmes at Edinburgh Business School, Heriot-Watt University.
- Susan was a member of the Scottish Parliament from 1999 to 2007 and Scotland’s first Cabinet Minister for Health and Community Care following devolution.
- Since then she has served on the boards of a number of companies and charities, and as an adviser to leadership teams in business and the public sector.
- In addition to her part-time role with the University, Susan is a Non-Executive Director of ScottishPower, Lothian Buses and the Institute of Occupational Medicine, and is Chair of the Institute of Directors in Scotland.
- She has recently been appointed as Chair of the Edinburgh Festivals Forum.
Assistant Principal External Relations Susan Deacon talks to bulletin about the benefits of having strong relationships within and beyond the University.

Tell us a little about your background
I don’t fit neatly into a box! My career has spanned the private, public and third sectors, local government, higher education and national politics, as well as boardrooms of businesses and charities. A key component of my work has been the study and practice of leadership and strategic change – looking at how to make change happen, how to tackle silos that keep people apart, and how best to address complex issues and problems. Much of what I do is at the intersections of business, government and academia – ‘matchmaking’ sectors, key leadership figures and organisations.

Why are external relations important?
Effective relationships are deep, multi-faceted and people centred. They need to be nurtured so that mutual understanding, respect and trust are established. The University has a range of engagement activities – with communities, industry, government, international research partners and others – the key is to build on these, to foster interdisciplinarity and to go beyond transactional interactions to deeper, more enduring bonds. By strengthening these bonds and promoting collaborative effort we can achieve shared goals.

What does your role as Assistant Principal involve?
Internally, it’s about advising and supporting the University on how it can build effective relationships with external groups and organisations, as well as providing practical support to individuals and projects to build connectivity in ‘real time’. Much of my work is externally facing, bringing together the University with people and partners to encourage greater collaboration, for our own and the wider good. Recently, for example, I’ve been involved in deepening and developing the University’s links with other leaders and stakeholders in the city of Edinburgh – which is key to ensuring the city and the University continue to punch above their weight on the world stage. I spend two days a week working for the University and the rest of my time in a range of external board and advisory roles.

What are the main goals in this area?
At its simplest, it is about helping to ensure that the University has the breadth and depth of relationships in place to continue to be successful and, crucially, to extend our reach and impact. We live in a complex and interconnected world and, to drive success, we will always be able to achieve more when we work with others – sharing knowledge, ideas, networks, experiences and resources.

What types of external stakeholders does the University have relationships with?
There are key groups and sectors that will always matter to the University – alumni, donors, major research partners, both in industry and other universities – and, of course, government and funding bodies. We need also to think creatively to identify the people and organisations that will enable us to achieve our key strategic objectives both now and in the future. The key is to foster relationships with a purpose, that give tangible benefits to the University, our partners, the economy and society.

Can you give an example of an external relations success story?
There are so many examples and approaches – and that’s what makes the University so good at what it does. The Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation is an interesting and effective model. It acts as a hub to connect the academic research community, policymakers and industry to address the major energy and environmental challenges we face – both locally and globally. On a different level, the University’s work with the city’s festivals brings benefit to all. Similarly, the University’s longstanding relationships with, for example, the NHS, major research charities and a number of key industry partners have supported leading-edge research which has been transformative.

How do staff and students benefit from the University having strong relationships with external stakeholders?
It’s a virtuous circle. By building strong external relationships we can enrich teaching and the student experience. Enduring partnerships also create the conditions to lever investment and resource into the University. Increasingly, access to research and other funding depends on strong relationships and collaborative effort with external partners. Connecting through knowledge is important too – the University’s knowledge exchange activities and wider ‘thought leadership’ events are crucial to building our links with a wide range of groups, leaders and organisations.

Why do you enjoy working at the University?
This University has played a very important part in my life over many decades – variously as a student, an Edinburgh politician and Health Minister, and most recently in my current role. I feel immensely privileged to work for such a successful and special university. I am inspired, stimulated and energised daily by the people who work here and the things that they do.
Enhancing our campuses

Gareth Overton talks to some of the staff and students involved in the latest Estates’ projects, which are shaping our campuses and community.

A public meeting was held recently about the redevelopment of the 1960s Darwin Building, which will be at the heart of a new biology complex, and the wider scheme to transform the whole science and engineering campus at King’s Buildings over the next 15 years.

“Everybody came along, from people who walk their dogs through King’s Buildings to students and academics,” says Anna Stamp, the University’s Head of Capital Projects. “The master plan for King’s Buildings is stunning,” she continues. “It will have shops, cafes, gyms, places where the community are going to want to come. It will be a place to spend your Saturday.”

Investing in the future

The ambitious plans for the new biology complex are just one of several major projects happening or planned across the University. The current 10-year programme of new buildings and refurbishment, running to 2025, is costed at £1.5 billion.

“This investment will make sure that our five campuses are all world leading with the student experience at the core,” Anna says. “The Capital Programme is an ambitious plan to get us to a certain level – there is huge excitement.”

Anna is quick to put the vast sums into context. The 10-year plan consists of around 120 individual capital projects which range in value between £1 million and £60 million. She says: “When you break it down, it’s all very sensible.”

The plan will involve more than doubling the current rate of investment in the University’s physical estate from around £60 million a year in 2014/15 to nearer £150 million each year over the coming decade. This step-change in the amount of construction work, especially in the city centre, needs very careful management.

Anna, who has worked at the University for 12 years, says this was the driver for the creation of three new roles, including her own, at the beginning of 2016. As the new Head of Capital Projects, Anna works alongside Jane Johnston, Head of Estates Planning and Special Projects, and Tommy Angus, Head of Small Projects and Minor Works.

“We’re going to have to do things differently,” she says. “If you think about having two projects in the Central Area, then suddenly perhaps you have five or six. That’s a logistical challenge that can have an impact on the whole experience of coming to Edinburgh for a generation of students.”

However, with the energy and expertise of the qualified construction professionals within the Estates team, these projects are in safe hands. “They’re a fantastic group of staff – full of creativity and enthusiasm,” Anna says. “It’s my job to push that enthusiasm in the right direction, making sure the team use their skills to deliver what the University needs both safely and effectively.”

Enhancing the student community

While construction may temporarily bring some disruptions to daily life on campus, the end result promises first-class facilities that create a renewed sense of community.

One major project offering this is the redevelopment of the Pleasance complex – the longstanding hub for student societies and home to several Festival Fringe venues including one of the biggest, the Pleasance Grand theatre.

To enable the use of theatres and bars during the Fringe, the Pleasance redevelopment has been split into two phases, straddling August.

The project also aims, like the plans for King’s Buildings, to link spaces together coherently. “We’re building a big open entrance with lots of signage, to create a thoroughfare so people can leave the gym and go into the Pleasance. This will encourage a more interwoven community between sports and societies,” says Andy Peel, Edinburgh University Students Association’s Vice-President Societies and Activities. Andy has been heavily involved in the planning of the redevelopment.

“It will be a dramatic transformation,” he says. “There will be lots of social spaces, which it is missing currently.”

Future-proofing is part of the planning, so that today’s new facilities don’t soon tire and date. Andy explains: “For our social spaces, we’re looking at trends across the city of Edinburgh, but they are going to change in coming years, so we’re building in a strategy to help move with those trends without having to spend a lot of money.”

An opportunity to learn

The University is keen to involve students in Estates’ projects. Beneath
the scaffolding at the highest reaches of McEwan Hall Edinburgh students are working with conservation experts to revitalise the University’s historic graduation venue.

Completed in 1897, the Hall is built in Italian Renaissance style with vivid murals by artist William Mainwaring Palin painted throughout its interior. Anushka Desouza, Architectural Conservation student at Edinburgh, is one of the team helping to restore them. “It’s brilliant to get a hands-on experience of things that we are learning in class,” she says.

The unique student internship is part of the wider refurbishment plan to repair the building fabric, improve accessibility and add more public spaces. Gary Jebb, Director of Estates, is enthusiastic about the end result, due to be unveiled in 2017: “This sensitive restoration project will recapture the building’s former glory and make it an incredible venue at the heart of the University’s estate.”

With such skilled and keen staff and students shaping our campus, life beyond the hoardings looks bright.

This investment will make sure that our five campuses are all world leading.

Anna Stamp

Projects in progress

School of Law: This refurbishment project will celebrate the heritage of the School and create a welcoming and inclusive building.

Data Technology Institute: The Institute will act as a hub for data research and education and help to position Edinburgh as a world leader in the field.

Former surgical hospital: The A-listed building in the former Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh will be restored to bring together cutting-edge activities from across the arts, humanities, sciences and social sciences.

Buccleuch Place and Meadow Lane: This development will provide a mix of refurbished and new build postgraduate student accommodation.

For more information on Estates’ projects see: www.ed.ac.uk/estates.
At the heart of Edinburgh’s festivals

Edd McCracken meets Lorna Brain, Festivals Manager, whose team is behind the University’s involvement in many of the city’s much-loved and celebrated events.

Early in 2006, a playwright stood in the middle of a dark and time-worn car park. Tucked away at the top of one of Edinburgh’s lesser-explored back streets, it was a place for University staff to leave vehicles and never look back until the end of the day. This cavernous, unloved space set the writer’s mind racing.

The car park is the University’s drill hall on Forrest Hill. The playwright was Gregory Burke. What was coursing through his mind was the beginnings of his play, *Black Watch*. The end result was one of the most important works of art produced in Scotland in recent times, a play that launched the National Theatre of Scotland, has been performed at the opening of a Scottish Parliament, and is still touring the globe.

It was a perfect celestial alignment of University, artists, festivals and the wider world.

“And that is a great example of what we do,” says Lorna Brain, the University’s Festivals Manager. She opened the door to Gregory Burke that day. It is the kind of introduction that she and her team do most days.

“We are opportunists,” she says. “We are not facilities people; we are theatre people. We’re lucky in that we have a lot of freedom to entertain and find space for new projects. I love opening doors in University buildings I’ve never been in, seeing places and thinking of what kind of site specific theatre can be done there. I joke that there must be an alarm that goes off somewhere in the University when I open one of those doors, alerting people that that pesky festivals woman is at it again.”

The University has a long, fruitful relationship with Edinburgh’s world-famous festivals. Its official beginnings lie in two rooms in Edinburgh University Students’ Association (EUSA) buildings at the Pleasance. The Pleasance Theatre took residency in and its name from here in 1985.

Fast forward through 30 years and witness the academic collaboration that birthed last year’s Harmonium Project. This explosion of light and colour, blasted onto the Usher Hall’s exterior, launched the Edinburgh International Festival in front of 20,000 people and the world’s media in 2015.

It spectacularly underlined the University as now being part of the weave and weft of 15 of the city’s festivals, from the Edinburgh International Science Festival each spring to the city’s Hogmanay celebrations.

The figures are staggering. At last count, during the summer festivals the University was home to 55 individual theatre spaces, attracting more than 1.5 million visitors onto its estate.

And behind it all, checking the facilities, power supplies, noise levels, health and safety, and venue hire contracts, is Lorna and her team. No wonder when asked to explain her role, she instantly says, “professional cat herder”.

“I am also the litter picker, I am the bin spotter, I check the toilets. I have been boooed for moving on buskers. The team is both poacher and gamekeeper. We put on performances but are also mindful that the University needs to operate and people need to do their work without an oompah band outside their office at 2pm.”

All of which raises the ultimate existential question: Why? Why invite the world – tuba-wielding buskers and all – into the University’s back yard? As custodians of the UK’s oldest literary awards, the James Tait Black Prizes (see page 20), why does the University host it at the world’s biggest book event, the Edinburgh International Book Festival? Why hold film screenings in the Old College quadrangle in conjunction with the Edinburgh International Film Festival?

Lorna is visionary in her response. “Increasingly, it is reputational. It is about being associated with the largest arts festival in the world. Edinburgh has a reputation as a festival city, and the University sits right slap bang in the middle of that.

“It’s also about encouraging knowledge exchange, creating opportunities for students, and public engagement. Opening our doors and letting people see our buildings in a different light helps to make us part of the community. It’s the feel good factor of being associated with these things. That’s hard to measure, but they are all really important.”

(Continued overleaf)
Staff take to the stage to showcase research

If all the University is a stage, with Lorna Brain and her team the masters of backstage, staff such as Professor Lesley McAra are the players.

Last August, the Chair of Penology at Edinburgh Law School could be found with Professor Susan McVie and comedian Susan Morrison in a makeshift tent in St Andrew Square, holding an audience rapt as she advocated a radical overhaul of the prison system. "It was terrifying," says Professor McAra. "But also a lot of fun."

Penal reform is not the average subject for a Fringe show, but The Cabaret of Dangerous Ideas is far from the normal August diet of stand-up, book readings, contemporary dance and cutting-edge theatre.

Organised by the Beltane Public Engagement Network, which works with universities across Scotland to encourage more inventive forms of knowledge exchange, the Cabaret provides a 50-minute platform for academics to present their ideas to a paying, general audience. The only criterion is to be entertaining and be interesting.

Last summer, dozens of Edinburgh academics took part, from Dr Richard Weller arguing that people should ditch their sunscreen and embrace the sun’s health benefits to Professor Mary Bownes’ modest proposal that Edinburgh should ban students.

After several training sessions with staff from The Stand comedy club, Professor McAra found her headline role in the festivals to be an energising experience.

"It is fantastic. You develop skills in confronting a public audience that makes your material accessible and funny. It is a very good way of taking difficult ideas and putting them into a different setting. Even if only one person went away thinking differently about the issues, I would consider that to be a great impact."

Professor McAra adds that the reaction of academics from other parts of the world to the University’s relationship with the festivals, be it in hosting a giant upside down purple cow on campus or in staff stepping under the spotlight themselves, is instructive.

"They are astonished that we have the nerve to do it. It is an amazing opportunity that you can do this on your own doorstep. To be able to go and do what I did, or even just to be able to be in the audience of something like the Cabaret, it is a great privilege. I’d love to do it again."

The Cabaret of Dangerous Ideas is set to return this August.
Sport update

Edinburgh swim stars making a splash

Athletes from our world-class Performance Swim programme were out in force at the Edinburgh International Swim Meet in March at the Royal Commonwealth Pool.

University swimmers excelled in several events. Yvette Man-yi Kong took home silver in the 100m and 200m Breaststroke, setting Hong Kong national records in the process. David Cumberlidge won the Men’s 50m Skins event and Corrie Scott claimed silver in the 50m Breaststroke Skins race. Scott also took home Bronze in the 100m and 200m Breaststroke races.

The University was a sponsor, partnering with the Scottish Amateur Swimming Association East District and Speedo.

Sports Union celebrates 150 years

In March, Edinburgh University Sports Union (EUSU) marked its 150th anniversary. The event welcomed back more than 100 alumni from all generations for a day of sport at Peffermill Playing Fields and a dinner gala in the evening. The event launched the 1866 Fund, celebrating the Union’s anniversary. The fund aims to match donations made during appeals in July 2016 and raise £60,000 for sport at Edinburgh.

Varisty Boat Race: 21 May
Watch the University of Edinburgh rowers take on their Glaswegian rivals on the Clyde at 12pm. The race begins near the Tall Ship and looks set to be an exciting one.

Summer Programme: 23 May
Our summer programme of classes kicks off, fitting our signature mix of high-intensity and relaxing classes into a convenient summer schedule to keep you happy, healthy and fit until September. Grab one of our competitive staff memberships, available in one, three, six and twelve-month blocks for the full Sport & Exercise experience.

Rio 2016 Olympics: 5–21 August
Look out for Olympic stars from the University at this year’s Olympic Games. We achieved first place in the UK university medals table in 2012 and hope to have just as much success this year.

Varsity Rugby Match: September
Our Men’s and Ladies’ Rugby teams will be taking on their old rivals, the University of St Andrews, at Murrayfield Stadium in September. More than 10,000 people flocked to the grounds to see a thrilling day of rugby last year. Check our website and social media for details of when this year’s tickets will be released.

www.ed.ac.uk/sport

noticeboard

Information security online training
Last year, there were nearly 80 known incidents of staff giving away their usernames and passwords to phishing attempts.
To help protect yourself and the University, Information Services offer an information security essentials online course. It takes less than an hour to complete and offers a short optional test at the end.
For more information and to enrol, see: www.ed.ac.uk/infosec

Property management service for staff
Did you know Accommodation, Catering and Events offers a full property management service for private landlords? If you have a student friendly rental property located in the city centre, please contact Gemma Gilmour on 0131 651 2113 or gemma.gilmour@ed.ac.uk.
Rent is guaranteed for the duration of the let and we are especially interested in properties in Newington, Sciennes, Marchmont, Bruntsfield and Morningside.
This year more than 280 students representing 50 nationalities entered the seventh annual photography competition run by the International Office.

Entries were invited from students in four categories under the theme ‘Unexpected Edinburgh’ – People, Places, Experiences and Edinburgh Abroad.

The photographs explore life in Edinburgh as well as experiences beyond the city. Here we showcase the winning entries.

Find out more
To view the gallery online or download a free calendar, see: www.ed.ac.uk/photo-competition.
1. Adam Baxter, from UK – First prize, Edinburgh Abroad, Saudades do Brasil
2. Shalini Dhir, from Canada – Second prize, Edinburgh Abroad, Northern Lights in March, Canada
3. Watson Shang, from China – Principal’s Choice winner, Places, Old College
4. Martina Kotseva, from Bulgaria – People’s Choice winner, Places, Bruntsfield Links
5. Andrei Dumitriu, from Romania – Experiences winner, The Harmonium Project
6. Qianwei He, from China – People winner, dancer in Mary King’s Close
7. Marco Aqil, from Italy – Edinburgh Abroad winner, Crater Lake, USA
8. Weijia Tian, from China – Places winner, New College
A selection of achievements, accolades and appointments.

in brief

New Royal Society of Edinburgh Fellows

Seven members of University staff have been made Fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, joining around 1,600 individuals who have each demonstrated significant achievements in a range of fields.

The seven are: Professor David Argyle, Head of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies; Annette Ferguson, Professor of Observational Astrophysics; Stuart Forbes, Professor of Transplantation and Regenerative Medicine; Lynn Jamieson, Professor of Sociology of Families and Relationships; Cait MacPhee, Professor of Biological Physics; Jon Oberlander, Professor of Informatics; and Professor Igor Rudan, Joint Director, Centre for Global Health Research.

Top brain research prize awarded

Professor Richard Morris has been jointly awarded the most valuable research prize for brain science for his research on the mechanisms of memory. He shares the €1 million prize with fellow neuroscientists Tim Bliss and Graham Collingridge, who have helped better understand complex brain conditions such as autism, schizophrenia, depression, chronic pain and epilepsy.

Reaching for the stars

Professor Jim Dunlop, Head of the University’s Institute of Astronomy, has been awarded the Royal Astronomical Society’s Herschel Medal for his pioneering research into galaxy formation. He leads an ambitious international programme to discover and understand the first galaxies, at epochs when the Universe saw its first light.

in brief

University welcomes philanthropy leader

Chris Cox took up the position of Vice-Principal Philanthropy and Advancement and Executive Director of Development and Alumni in the University Secretary’s Group in February 2016.

He joins the University having spent the past 10 years as Director of Development and Alumni Relations at the University of Manchester. Chris said: “I look forward to learning from the University’s key supporters in Scotland, across the UK and the world in the coming months and years and to working with colleagues across the University to build on the many excellent programmes which are already in place.”

Chris will lead ambitious programmes for alumni engagement and philanthropic impact to support the University’s global ambitions. This will include capitalising on the University’s international reach and ensuring the success of development activity within the University’s overall strategy.

New Head of the Medical School

Professor Moira Whyte has been appointed as Head of the Medical School. She succeeds Professor John Iredale, who has been appointed as a Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Bristol.

The Head of the Medical School provides academic leadership to the School and develops and delivers key strategic objectives for teaching, research and knowledge transfer.

Prior to taking up this role, Professor Whyte was appointed as Professor of Respiratory Medicine at Edinburgh in 2014 and became Director of the MRC University of Edinburgh Centre for Inflammation Research in 2015.

Academic named in most influential list

Professor Mona Siddiqui OBE was named in the Sunday Times/Debrett’s top 500 Most Influential People in Britain list.

Professor Siddiqui is a renowned public speaker and regular commentator in the media, known especially for her appearances on BBC Radio 4’s and BBC Radio Scotland’s Thought for the Day.
From Tam Dalyell Prize to *Robot Wars*

Professor Sethu Vijayakumar was awarded the University’s Tam Dalyell Prize 2015. The prize recognises an individual or group’s work in fields including hosting school visits, talks and other public events or through publishing and broadcasting.

The world-renowned roboticist has also been selected to appear as a judge in the return of the popular television series *Robot Wars*, which sees the creations of amateur robot makers go head to head. Filming began in March in Glasgow and the series is due to air on BBC 2 later this year with Dara O’Briain as host.

In addition to receiving a medal and a small financial reward as part of the Tam Dalyell Prize, Professor Vijayakumar gave a lecture at the Edinburgh International Science Festival in April, looking at how humans and robots will work together in the future.

**Farewell to our long-serving colleagues**

Pat Fisher, Principal Curator at the University’s Talbot Rice Gallery, is due to retire in October. She has played an important role in the success of the gallery over the years. Her colleagues wish her all the best.

Evelyn Bain, Procurement Manager, retired in March. She offers her friends and colleagues her best wishes, and the University is very grateful for her 29 years of service.

Joanna Wardlaw, Professor of Applied Neuroimaging, has been appointed CBE for her services to neuroimaging and clinical science. She is the Director of the Brain Research Imaging Centre in the Centre for Clinical Brain Sciences at the University and is an honorary consultant neuroradiologist at NHS Lothian.

Susan McVie, Professor of Quantitative Criminology, has been appointed OBE. She has been recognised for her services to social services. Professor McVie is also the Director of the Applied Quantitative Methods Network and Co-Director of the Edinburgh Study of Youth Transitions and Crime.

**New Year Honours**

Three staff members at the University were recognised in the Queen’s New Year Honours list.

Cait MacPhee, Professor of Biological Physics, has been appointed CBE. She has been recognised for her services to women in physics.

Evelyn Bain, Procurement Manager, retired in March. She offers her friends and colleagues her best wishes, and the University is very grateful for her 29 years of service.

**Eminent historian honoured**

Sir Tom Devine, the Sir William Fraser Professor Emeritus of Scottish History and Palaeography at the University, was recently awarded the American-Scottish Foundation’s Wallace Award at a reception in New York. Established by the Foundation in 1970, the Wallace Award is given annually, recognising the contribution of Scots around the world.

**From Tam Dalyell Prize to *Robot Wars***
Niall Bradley is Head of Marketing in the Communications and Marketing department. Here he shares a few facts about his busy working day with bulletin.

Please explain your job in a nutshell.
Among other things I am the University’s brand guardian. I look after its rights and responsibilities. So how it looks, what it says, where it goes, who it goes with and how it will grow.

What are you main goals?
To ensure consistency of the brand across a very large and diverse institution. I want people who interact with the University at all levels to have a positive understanding of who we are and the positive impact we have locally, nationally and internationally.

What projects are you working on at the moment?
Too many but place branding, staff and student recruitment, corporate publications and website, CMA (that’s the Competition and Markets Authority and their guidance on consumer protection law as it applies to applicants and students).

Who do you deal with week to week?
Staff from all across the University asking for advice or support on brand or marketing, lots of advertising calls, organisations that misuse the University logo or name.

Please describe a typical day.
A typical day would involve no lunch (probably no bad thing), lots of emails and phone calls, and meeting after meeting.

How long have you worked at the University and what do you enjoy most about working here?
I’ve worked here for more than 15 years now but I’ve been with Communications and Marketing (CAM) for just over two years. I enjoy working with very bright and engaged colleagues who want to do positive things. I used to work in student recruitment and no longer have as much direct contact with prospective students, which is a shame, but the work we do here in CAM has an impact on the choices they make.

What is the most satisfying aspect of your job?
It’s great to be able to say to people I work at one of the best universities in the world and to play a part in promoting that message. I’m lucky to have lots of people within the team here with a creative vision and a desire to make things better.

Get organised…
Desk: organised or a beautiful mess?
Just a mess at the moment. I was aiming for a paperless office but my failing eyesight is telling me to spend less time staring at screens.

Are you a list person?
Oh yes.

Daily staples?
Coffee.

Favourite lunch spots?
Ha.

…and now relax
Favourite pastimes?
Pretty much anything as long as I can be outside.

Best time of year, and why?
I really like summer graduation time. I love the buzz and summer holidays are just around the corner.

Perfect Sunday afternoon?
Walking somewhere with family and dogs – a cuppa on the beach/up a hill.

Ideal holiday?
Sailing somewhere warm.
Can you spot the difference?

The prize on offer in this edition is dinner for two (starter, main and a bottle of wine) at The Makar’s Rest on Bank Street in Edinburgh.

To enter, compare the illustration on the right to the one on the left. You’re looking for five differences. Circle each one and send your entry no later than 6 June 2016 to the address on page 2. Correct entries will be entered in a draw and the winner will be selected at random.
Alice Neel: The Subject and Me
29 July – 8 October 2016
Talbot Rice Gallery

In summer 2016 the University’s Talbot Rice Gallery presents the first exhibition in Scotland of legendary American painter Alice Neel (1900–1984). The Subject and Me tells the story of the turbulent events that shaped Neel’s life, through a retrospective of drawings and a selection of late paintings.

www.ed.ac.uk/talbot-rice