Enlightenment in the digital age

FT Magazine editor John Lloyd looks to the future

+ Precious Time
Jennifer Trueland meets
Professor Alexander McCall Smith

+ Lessons from the American intelligence community
Professor Rhodri Jeffreys-Jones investigates

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Welcome to the new issue of Edit. My thanks to all of you who returned the questionnaire enclosed with the Summer 2003 issue. As you'll see, we've already implemented a number of changes, giving the magazine a fresh new look while, at the same time, keeping the features that have made Edit such a success over the last decade.

I hope you continue to enjoy the magazine, but please do let us know what you think of it. You can send your comments to: Edit Editor, Communications & Public Affairs, The University of Edinburgh, 7-11 Nicolson Street, Edinburgh EH8 9BE, or email Edit.Editor@ed.ac.uk

Clare Shaw
Editor, Edit

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Alumnus of the Year

The University of Edinburgh/The Royal Bank of Scotland Group Alumnus of the Year 2003 is Duncan MacLaren, Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis – one of the largest international aid and development agencies in the world.

Duncan MacLaren was presented with the award, at a ceremony on 3 December in McEwan Hall, by Sir George Mathewson, Chairman of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group.

Mr MacLaren studied for the MTh in Theology and Development at the University of Edinburgh in 1992, whilst serving as Executive Director of the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund.

He was chosen as Alumnus of the Year in recognition of his contribution to the global community through exceptional service to international aid agencies.

Chancellor presentation for award winners

The inaugural Chancellor’s Awards were presented by HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh at a dinner held in the Palace of Holyroodhouse in August.

The awards recognise excellence in vital academic areas such as teaching and research and are awarded to members of staff on the basis of innovation, relevance, creativity and personal dedication. Nominations were sought from across the disciplines covered by the University, and the awards made on the recommendation of the Principal and Heads of Colleges.

The winners were Professor Ian Deary, Professor of Differential Psychology in the School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences, and Professor Peter Ghazal (pictured receiving his award), Professor of Molecular Genetics and Biomedicine and Director of the Scottish Centre for Genomic Technology and Informatics.

Professor Deary’s principal research interest is human cognitive abilities, especially the origins of individual differences and the effects of ageing and medical conditions. His best-known research programme studies several hundred Scottish octogenarians known as the Lothian Birth Cohort 1921.

In the wake of the completion of the Human Genome Project in 2003, Professor Ghazal’s research explores the phenomenal opportunities for the medical and scientific communities to reduce human suffering by revolutionising the diagnosis of disease.
Our times are changing
From September 2004 the University of Edinburgh's academic year will be divided across two semesters rather than the current structure, which is based on three terms.

The new structure will relieve a current problem of examinations clashing with teaching periods and will allow courses to be offered on either a full-year or a half-year basis, creating uniformity across the University.

This structure is becoming the norm in Scotland's universities. Stirling, Strathclyde and St Andrews have long been on similar systems, while Dundee and Glasgow are also in the process of changing.

The University of Edinburgh: An Illustrated History, written by three of the University’s eminent historians, is now available for purchase through the University of Edinburgh Centre (for details see page 15). The book covers the history of the University since its origins in the late sixteenth century.

The authors of the book are: Robert D. Anderson, Professor of Modern History; Michael Lynch; Sir William Fraser, Professor of Scottish History and Paleography, and Nicholas Philipson, Reader Modern History, University of Edinburgh.

Gordon Brown’s hat trick

During the summer graduation ceremonies, the Right Honourable Gordon Brown returned to his alma mater to receive his third degree from the University – an Honorary Doctorate. VP Professor Michael Anderson paid tribute to Gordon Brown’s academic history, his political career, and his days as a student. “In conferring an honorary degree upon Gordon Brown, the University acknowledges his intellectual stature, and celebrates the achievements of a remarkable man who is one of the leading politicians of today,” Professor Anderson said. “He is a historian who himself has made history, and has sought not only to interpret the world but also to change it.”

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was one of 2003’s 18 honorary graduates. Also included in the list were Susan Rice, who was the first woman to head a UK clearing bank; Dr Lindiwe Mabuza, the High Commissioner of the Republic of South Africa to the UK; and one of the most acclaimed artists of the 20th century, musician and poet, Alan Davie.

Bursary Awards support wider access

Recipients of this academic year’s Royal Bank of Scotland Access Bursaries and their families met with representatives of the bank and the Principal at a reception in Old College, as they received their awards.

Since the Royal Bank of Scotland’s University Access Programme was launched in 1999, the Bank has awarded 15 new Access Bursaries each year as part of the University’s widening participation programme, and also supports the LEAPS Summer School, in which the University is a partner. The students, from families with no history of higher education, will receive £1,000 a year for the duration of their course.

Smart show from Edinburgh spin-outs

University spin-out companies won 40% of the awards made to science-based start-up companies at the 2003 Smart:Scotland Awards. The nine companies were presented with their awards by Deputy First Minister and Minister for Enterprise and Lifelong Learning, Jim Wallace. The awards recognise ideas that have high potential for commercial success, and provide additional funding to help them on their way.

The awards were made to: Axiope Ltd, CriticalBlue Ltd, DEM Solutions Ltd, Ingenza Ltd, LinearB Ltd, LUX Biotechnology Ltd, Renewable Devices Ltd, Simulistics Ltd and Stem Cell Sciences (UK) Ltd. In advance of the award ceremony, presentations were given by previous award winners, including Wolfson Micro-electronics Ltd and Rhetorical Systems Ltd, from the University of Edinburgh.

Commenting on the successes, Nigel Paul, Director of Corporate Services at the University and Chairman of Edinburgh Research and Innovation, said: “These awards are a great recognition of the quality of our research at the University, and the effort and commitment of many people to look for and develop commercialisation ideas.”
Books for Baghdad

Last year the University launched its Books for Baghdad appeal to collect books for the Iraqi universities whose holdings were subjected to looting and vandalism following the collapse of the Saddam regime.

The aim of the appeal, launched in partnership with the Sunday Herald, is to collect between 50,000 to 100,000 items in English to restock Iraqi universities’ libraries. Major donations have been received from Edinburgh University Press, Taylor and Francis, Routledge Publishers, Elsevier Science Books International, St Jerome Press and Cannongate Press in Edinburgh. Sizable individual donations of books have also been made to the appeal. The British Council has undertaken to receive the books in Baghdad and distribute them to the Iraqi universities.

The campaign team hope that some Edinburgh alumni may be able to contribute to this campaign in the following areas: medical and veterinary science; engineering; computer science; physical sciences; biological sciences; mathematics; management and business studies; social sciences; linguistics; English language and literature; Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies. Non-humanities and non-social science books should be recent (post 1990) because of the rapid advances in these areas.

Individuals wishing to contribute can contact Dr Ian Revie at ian.revie@ed.ac.uk

New phase for University activities in America

The development of Edinburgh’s network in America entered a new phase during the summer, when Principal Timothy O’Shea, accompanied by Joanna Storrar, Development Director (North America), spent a week meeting US-based alumni.

As well as providing a focus for raising the profile of the University and its fundraising campaign to American alumni, the trip also marked the formation of a new structure for the American Friends of the University of Edinburgh (AFUE).

A busy schedule included meetings with influential alumni, a meeting of the North American Development Committee, and a private viewing of the “The Legacy of Genghis Khan” exhibition at Los Angeles County Museum of Art. This was followed by a special lunch where former and current Directors of the AFUE were presented with awards to recognise the important contribution they have made to the University’s alumni community in the US. The AFUE has been reorganised to function solely as an alumni group. Fundraising will be undertaken by the University of Edinburgh USA Development Trust, an independent organisation incorporated in Virginia.

Joanna Storrar said: “There is a huge reservoir of goodwill towards the University in North America. We had a wonderful response from our alumni who are very keen to help us raise our profile and to raise funds. We look forward to working with them to develop an active and sustainable programme.”
Keep up-to-date with news from the University online. The eBulletin, published monthly, carries news of staff and student achievements, current research, alumni news from around the world and much more. Visit it at www.ed.ac.uk/news/ebulletin.

Prize Draw
Please help us update your details. We are currently updating our database of alumni to make sure that we keep you informed of the latest news and the services we can offer to help you to stay in touch with old friends.

Fill in your details using the enclosed questionnaire and you will be entered in a prize draw, with the lucky winners receiving a case of champagne donated by Great Grog, Independent Edinburgh Wine Merchant, 33-41 Ratcliffe Terrace, Newington, Edinburgh www.greatgrog.co.uk

For a full list of wines phone: 0131 662 4777 or e-mail: richard@greatgrog.co.uk. Free delivery anywhere in Mainland UK, minimum order one case/mixed case.

James Tait Black winners announced

In September the University announced the winners of the 2002 James Tait Black Award – thought to be the oldest literary award in the world. The judges awarded the fiction prize to Jonathan Franzen for his novel The Corrections and the biography prize to Jenny Uglow for The Lunar Men: The Friends who made the Future.

The James Tait Black Memorial Prizes are awarded annually for the best work of fiction and the best biography (or work of that nature) published during the previous year. Previous winners have included D.H. Lawrence, E.M. Forster, Evelyn Waugh, Iris Murdoch, William Golding, James Kelman, Doris Lessing, Graham Swift, Beryl Bainbridge and Peter Ackroyd. The 2001 winners were Sid Smith and Robert Skidelsky.

New student accommodation will rival best in Europe

The University launched its new flagship accommodation development when Principal Professor Timothy O’Shea formally opened the building at the end of September. The multi-million pound complex, situated on the Pollock Halls residential campus, provides 526 bedrooms and is one of the largest student residences in Europe.

Each bedroom has en-suite facilities and is provided with a television set. Beds are capable of being separated into two, allowing rooms to be converted to twin beds for commercial letting. Students in Chancellor’s Court are connected to the personal data and telephony service, ResNet, which enables them to contact other students in University accommodation, free of charge.

The five entrances to the complex are protected by swipe card locks and monitored by closed circuit television linked to a central monitoring station. The incorporated café bar, Absorb, is open to all residents, guests and staff on the site.

Director of Corporate Services Nigel Paul said: “The University of Edinburgh has always been in the forefront of providing good quality accommodation for its students. Scotland’s first hall of residence was created in 1887 when Patrick Geddes founded University Hall in Mound Place, which later became part of the Mylne’s Court complex. Now, in 2003, we have Chancellor’s Court, a prestigious development designed to meet the University’s needs for both student and commercial business.”
The 2003 Edinburgh-Glasgow Universities Boat Race, which took place in May on the River Clyde at Glasgow Green, saw victory for the Edinburgh teams in four out of a total of seven races.

Edinburgh won a closely fought Women’s Race, although the Glasgow men’s first eight took first place in the flagship race. The event was again sponsored by Walter Scott & Partners. The 2004 Boat Race will take place on Saturday 15 May.

Boat Race Battle

A collaborative initiative has been set up between the Universities of Edinburgh and Florida enabling students to benefit from an e-learning programme in forensic science and medicine.

The course will enable forensic experts to share knowledge and research and build up key skills for use in crime detection, investigation, prosecution and prevention.

Forensics is big business on both sides of the Atlantic, employing several thousand scientists, plus many more in related disciplines who require an understanding of forensic medicine and science for their work.

The University of Edinburgh is internationally recognised as one of the leading centres for forensic medicine. It brings its extensive pathology expertise, based on professional practice and academic excellence, to this joint programme. Police officers, lawyers, prosecutors and others will all be able to participate in the programme and benefit from the specialist skills of both institutions.

Both Universities hope that if the initial collaboration on the Masters course is successful, it could lead to new and exciting opportunities in the provision of forensic science and medicine education and training.

Professor of Pathology David Harrison, from the School of Molecular and Clinical Medicine, welcomed the link with the University of Florida, saying: “This is an exciting development as the Forensic Medicine Section at Edinburgh approaches its 200th anniversary.”

Strong case for forensic links

Photo: Sherlock Holmes casts an eye over Dr William Riffee, Associate Provost, Distance Continuing and Executive Education Dean, College of Pharmacy at the University of Florida (left), Principal O’Shea, and Professor Ian Teibelt, of the University of Florida College of Pharmacy (right).
Informatics Campaign launched in style

A high-profile event at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, hosted by the Chancellor, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, marked the latest stage in the development of The Edinburgh Campaign, the University’s major fundraising initiative.

The Campaign is promoting specific fundraising initiatives throughout the University with a view to enlisting the support of businesses, funding organisations and individuals – many of them alumni of the University. Money raised will go to key projects aimed at ensuring that the University is at the cutting edge of research and education well into the 21st century (see page 12).

Edinburgh’s School of Informatics is considered the best in Europe and is aiming to consolidate its position with a £40m custom-built centre which will bring together researchers, students and industry under one roof. It is predicted that the centre will create thousands of jobs in the future.

A number of major IT and finance companies attended the launch of the project, including Samsung Electronics; Sony Business Europe; Hewlett-Packard; Toshiba Information Systems (UK) Ltd; IBM; Sun Microsystems; Intel Corporation (UK) Ltd, Wolfson Microelectronics, Microsoft Research UK, Perot Systems, and Citigroup Corporate and Investment Bank.

Speaking to assembled guests, the Principal, Professor Timothy O’Shea, said: “The combination of scientific, academic and economic progress promised by this project makes it a very exciting prospect for The University of Edinburgh. This is the first in a new generation of facilities, where industry and academia are brought together under one roof to deliver economic and scientific benefit.”

Gift encourages creative coffee drinking

An appreciation of the role of the humble cup of coffee as a catalyst to pushing forward the frontiers of medical science has led one Edinburgh graduate to make a substantial donation to the University. And the purpose of the donation is to make sure that coffee drinking is positively encouraged at the new Research Institute for Medical Cell Biology.

Gina Fyffe, who graduated from the University in 1979 with a BSc (Hons) in Physiology, recently gifted £100,000 to the Institute, for an informal meeting area where scientists from three areas of research within the building can talk and exchange ideas. The Institute, scheduled for completion in 2005, will bring together three work-related centres under one roof: the Centres for Reproductive Biology; Inflammation Research; and Cardiovascular Science.

Mrs Fyffe said: “Communication between disciplines is so important and so difficult to achieve. Perhaps by providing a desirable environment, people will want to go there and will mix, and who knows what ideas will be sparked over a decent cup of coffee? Meetings are often so formal and people communicate ideas better in a relaxed environment.”

Left to right: Professor Malcolm Atkinson, Director, National e-Science Centre; Lisa Pavey, Director of Networking Technology & SunLabs Europe, Sun Microsystems; HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor.
CREATOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLING NO.1 LADIES’ DETECTIVE AGENCY, PROFESSOR ALEXANDER McCALL SMITH, TAKES TIME OUT TO TELL JENNIFER TRUELAND ABOUT HIS WORK.
If Edinburgh had a competition for a literary corner, Alexander McCall Smith’s address would certainly be a contender.

Situated where the leafier part of Polwarth melts into Merchiston to the south west of the city centre, it’s home to more than one illustrious author.

Asked if he lives near Harry Potter creator JK Rowling, McCall Smith says matter-of-factly: “She lives round the corner. I sometimes see her walking along the road to collect her daughter from school. “And that’s Ian Rankin’s house over there,” he adds, gesturing out of the window to the home of the author of the Rebus novels – who is also a University of Edinburgh alumnus.

McCall Smith himself has been best known around the University as professor of medical law. He also holds a number of influential positions on UK organisations, including the vice chairmanship of the Human Genetics Commission. But he is increasingly garnering fame of a more international nature as a writer.

His series about the No.1 Ladies’ Detective Agency, based in Botswana, has sold millions of copies and won him fan letters from across the world – including America’s First Lady, Laura Bush.

The books are about Precious Ramotswe, a Botswana woman (although she’d probably prefer to be called “lady”) who decides to set up as a detective after the death of her father. In the first five novels, Mma Ramotswe’s agency deals with anything from unfaithful husbands and wives to finding out which finalist in a beauty pageant has a moral character and deserves to win.

All the cases are solved using a judicious mix of common sense, intuition and an innate feeling for what is morally right, washed down by copious cups of bush tea. So you can’t help feeling that an academic career grappling with questions of right and wrong must have been a good preparation. “I suppose there’s quite a lot about responsibility in human action,” he muses. “Some of these issues come out.”

McCall Smith first met the inspiration for Mma Romotswe in 1980 when he had been seconded by the University of Edinburgh to teach in Swaziland. Staying with some friends in Botswana, he saw “a large woman in a red dress, chasing and killing a chicken”. The idea came to him that he’d like to write something about a cheerful Botswana woman, but it wasn’t until 1997 when he actually got down to it, writing a three-page short story. When on holiday in France, he turned it into a novel, which was published by Polygon.

“ I saw a large woman in a red dress, chasing and killing a chicken “
Although the book was well-received, it took time for his work to become as hugely popular as it is today – he’s rarely off the bestseller lists. But it was in America that they really made a breakthrough. “It’s been organic, they call it a publishing phenomenon,” says McCall Smith, explaining that Random House, a major publisher, is now on board. “It’s been quite unsettling. I have found that I’ve been catapulted into prominence. I get some very fancy invitations, particularly in the US. I go to a lot of events. It’s remarkable seeing places and meeting people.”

Perhaps the reason Americans love the books so much is their straightforward morality, which seems to hark back to a simpler sense of rightful retribution. For humans get up to and she doesn’t rush to judge. She also has a strong sense of rightful retribution. For example, one man, who has since grown rich, stole a radio in his youth. Mma Ramotswe comes up with a fitting response – he has to make it up to the victim of his theft, including giving money for a child with Aids.

So is this McCall Smith himself talking? “The author doesn’t stand in a position of total neutrality to his or her characters,” he says carefully. Do his students read his novels? “Yes, a few of them have spoken to me about them,” he says.

McCall Smith has actually written more than 50 books, including specialist tomes such as Forensic Aspects of Sleep, children’s novels and a new series of “entertainments” about a Professor Dr von Igelfeld. Next year we can also expect to see the first in a new series, based in Edinburgh and about a Sunday philosophy club. The heroine will be one Isabel Dalhousie – perhaps a Scottish Mma Ramotswe?

But fans of the Botswana books will be delighted to hear that the sixth in the No.1 Ladies’ Detective Agency series, called The Night-time Dancer, will also be out next year. McCall Smith is happy to give a few hints about what’s to come. “Something nice is going to happen for Mma Makutsi,” he says, referring to Mma Ramotswe’s assistant, who, despite scoring 97% in her examinations at Botswana Secretarial College, found all the jobs went to the pretty girls. “She’s had quite a hard life,” says McCall Smith. “But she goes to a dance class and meets someone… and it turns out he has a lot of cattle (which is Botswana shorthand for being well off).” He practically chortles at the thought of making something good happen to a character of whom he obviously feels fond.

But then, he seems to like most of his creations and to adore Botswana, where his work has been very well-received. “I feel really privileged to write about these people. I’m proud and I’m humbled by it. It sounds corny, but it’s true.”

“I enjoy my work at the University, working with the students and my colleagues,” he says, “but I have got one foot in another world. Being part-time means that I can divide my time – and it gives me the opportunity to help the University when I am in that other world.”

So what would Mma Ramotswe say about his current hectic life? “She’d say ‘you’re chasing shadows, sit under a tree for a bit,’” he says. And drink some bush tea? “Almost certainly,” Alexander McCall Smith will be the after-lunch speaker at the General Council Lunch on Saturday 14 February – see page 40 for more details.

Jennifer Trueland is a freelance journalist. She graduated in English from the University in 1988.
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Enlightenment in the digital age

by John Lloyd

We cannot use the word enlightenment too easily. The Scottish enlightenment was an extraordinary phenomenon, whose scope surpasses most Scots’ too modest understanding of it. Its most recent historian, the US scholar Arthur Herman, wrote of it (The Scottish Enlightenment, 2002) that ‘before the 18th century was over, Scotland would generate the basic institutions, ideas, attitudes and habits of mind that characterise the modern age. Scotland and the Scots would…open a new era in human history’. Not many (Scots) people know that.
Herman believes that the Scots enlightenment thinkers, who included philosophers, economists, lawyers, divines, medical scholars, chemists and geologists, taught the world to think both socially and historically in ways it had not before. For the half century between about 1740 and 1790, Edinburgh really was the heart of Christendom’s intellectual life: it is obvious why the University is now seeking to re-invoke it with pride, and to yoke its achievements to its own search for pre-eminence in the field of Informatics.

But here comes the caution against too great ease of association – a necessary caution, if the University is to get the most out of the parallel. The 18th century enlightenment was a vast and broad intellectual exploration, both into existing knowledge and into unknown speculative territory. It was a series of descriptions of society and economy which were revolutionary because they gave theoretical shape and practical guidance to new movements – as, above all, in Adam Smith’s early description and endorsement of capitalism in *The Wealth of Nations*.

The University’s search for enlightenment in the linked fields of computer science which make up Informatics is different – the largely enclosed societies of the 18th century are, in the 21st, linked together in a global web. Knowledge has increased exponentially. Specialisation is all. But we can understand the present a little better if we measure it against the past, so long as we respect the large differences while doing so.

One common feature is an appetite for crossing boundaries, and for bringing into the study not just the computational sciences, but disciplines as distinct as engineering and physics, medicine and the humanities – especially philosophy and linguistics. The University’s ambition to house the Informatics’ disciplines in one large building in the heart of its campus is a recognition that proximity helps synergy and cross-fertilisation – just as the relatively restricted society of Edinburgh’s professional and intellectual community in the 18th century allowed its leading lights to argue and stimulate each other across boundaries which would have remained otherwise impermeable.

Another is openness. The Scots enlightenment sprang from a deeply religious society – one which could be, and remained for many decades, intolerant and bigoted by modern lights. But of its time, it was sometimes shockingly experimental: Presbyterianism, though punitive, also had the seeds of a radical democracy embedded within it because of its suspicion of earthly monarchs. The recent union
with England had spurred the Scots to match the industry and wealth of its neighbour-cum-partner: the relatively huge English economy provided new fields for Scots talents, and the talented Scots who stayed attracted the attention and the participation of large parts of educated Europe.

Informatics is one way of describing the human mind and discovering how it works. The science of artificial intelligence, in which Edinburgh was a world pioneer and remains the European and a world leader, was an attempt to develop ever more intelligent machines, which would then take over more and more of the tasks which required human labour, and which gave to humans a range of new devices and possibilities. These include ‘intelligent’ homes in which appliances would respond to spoken commands, or to intelligent deduction of needs or dangers. A few of these have been realised; more remain possibilities.

Edinburgh will remain at the cutting edge of these sciences and applications only if it embeds itself in networks of knowledge and development. If the 18th century enlightenment was an example of an intelligentsia that could revolutionise the way in which people thought about the world, the economy and even themselves because they could comprehend almost all of human science, the 21st century search for intelligence in machines works in a corner of human intellectual endeavour. But work in this corner can spread its practical outcomes through disciplines and branches of industry and creative work which presently know nothing of Informatics. Just as the work of David Hume and Adam Smith, Frances Hutchesen and Lord Kames, William Robertson and William Patterson, Robert Adam and Adam Ferguson was influential because it gave new ways of understanding trends and movements and events yet to happen, so Informatics aspires to revolutionise the way in which both knowledge is gathered and understood, and in which machines and appliances work and communicate.

The most evident common denominator is practicality. Smith, when he proposed the division of labour, was perfectly aware that the nail-making factory which he used as an example of efficiency (where every worker performed a limited, endlessly repeatable task) would bring a different kind of monotony and drudgery to that which already existed: but he, and Hume and others, believed the rational ordering of societies was worth the loss. They thought – and they were right – that these principles when turned into applications would benefit a larger number of people than the few who had access to wealth and comfort.

Talk to the practitioners in the sciences which make up Informatics, and you will find men and women who understand the suspicion, sometimes amounting to fear, which surrounds their work – the potential which many laypeople see for their work to bring forth monsters from Frankensteinian fantasies.

A computer has beaten the word chess grandmaster (Gary Kasparov): though chess is one of the easiest of mind games to teach a computer to play, the fact that a machine can match the brilliance and unpredictability of one of the game’s kings sends a premonitory shiver down the spines. But the applications are not the stuff of fantasies. In medicine; in food production; in environmental control; in education; in transport – the gains for a world facing the problems of a larger population than it can presently sustain outweigh the nebulous nightmares of popular science fiction. Adam Ferguson, in his Essay on the History of Civil Society, wrote that ‘the boasted refinements... of the polished age are not divested of danger’. No more are the refinements, or new applications, of the information age: but we have even less choice in developing what the human mind can envisage than did the mid-18th century illuminati.

The enlightenment to which Edinburgh's science can contribute can bring as much relief to human suffering as did its greater forebear. If neither can be divested of dangers, these dangers speak to the use of a human, rather than an artificial, attribute – that of conscience, in making not cowards of us all but kin of mankind. To serve that – another insight of the Edinburgh intellectual revolution – would be worth all the effort, and more, which the University is now devoting to its new ventures.

John Lloyd is currently editor of The Financial Times Magazine. He graduated in 1967 from the University of Edinburgh with a degree in English Literature.
ANNUAL REPORT

The University of Edinburgh’s Annual Report for the year August 2002 to July 2003 is now available. In it you will find a full report of the highlights of last year including the University’s successes in research and commercialisation, fundraising, financial information and lots of useful facts.

The report can either be read online at www.ed.ac.uk/annualreport/

or you can request a printed copy from Communications and Public Affairs

0131 650 2252/2250
JANICE McNAB 17 January – 21 February
The work of Janice McNab shows isolation and stillness. People, objects and interiors are transformed in her paintings through cropping and abstraction, forcing the viewer to consider narrative and meaning. Her subject matter has varied from an almost politically driven study of individuals who have suffered from chemical sensitivity to discarded objects related to the leisure industry, empty television sets and broken props. The exhibition will show a new series of work by McNab and make reference to her contextual research.

LOUISE HOPKINS 17 January – 21 February
The work of Louise Hopkins is a challenge to our normal understanding of painting. Using everyday printed surfaces she strives to contradict and confuse our reading of imagery with overpainting and concealment, fixing and replacing cognition of maps, floral print, newspaper text and sheet music. Her work has subtle beauty and mystery as the viewer contemplates her intricate painted and drawn lines revealing and hiding their image.

MERLIN JAMES: Easel Paintings 6 March – 8 April
The works in the exhibition are in the tradition of western easel painting. Beginning to map out the perimeters of the artist’s practice, the paintings are diverse and unpredictable – varying in degrees of abstraction and representation, apparently resistant to stylistic coherence – yet concerned precisely with what it is that unifies them as the artist’s own. Merlin James was born in Cardiff in 1960. He has exhibited widely in recent years, including solo exhibitions in New York and Bergamo. The present semi-retrospective survey, however, of paintings and works on paper, is his first public-venue show of such scope.

ELLEN MUNRO 6 March – 8 April
Working with a wide variety of materials including fabric, threads, paint and light the artist will create a new intervention for the round room. Ellen Munro is currently completing her Master Degree at Edinburgh College of Art.

TREASURES FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH'S FINE ART COLLECTION 24 April – 29 May
Hope Montagu Douglas Scott was a member of the Younger family of Scottish brewers and wife of the grandson of the 5th Duke of Buccleuch. Her art collection was bequeathed to the University of Edinburgh in 1888 and falls into three groups: works by notable international artists Picasso, Bonnard, Max Ernst, Van Dongen and Utrillo. 20th century Scottish painting including work by Gillies and Dave. The last part of the collection consists of a large group of works by William Johnstone, the innovative Scottish abstract painter.

VIRTUAL OBJECT LESSONS www.objectlessons.lib.ed.ac.uk
Take a virtual tour of the exhibition which was recently shown at the Talbot Rice Gallery in 2003. View high quality images and find out more about the University’s rich and diverse collections. Don’t miss Robert Bartlett’s Panorama of Edinburgh, a phial of Alexander Fleming’s penicillin, the only authentic painted portrait of John Knox and Charles Darwin’s class card.
1 Tank 1, river, 2003
   JANICE McNAB
2 Partly erased map, 2003
   LOUISE HOPKINS
3 For Thomas Jones, 2003
   MERLIN JAMES
4 No-eye-deer, 2003
   ELLEN MUNRO
5 Georgian Gallery
6 Object Lessons
Lessons from the American intelligence community

The Hutton enquiry reveals that the British intelligence system is in some disarray. Many people believe that fear of Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction was the prime cause of our recent war against that nation, and the discovery that MI6 was somehow involved in the process that “over-egged” or “sexed-up” the evidence on the matter has been a shock.

How did the over-egging and sexing-up come about? Does it mean that the British intelligence service is no longer able – or inclined – to tell the unvarnished truth when the chips are down? Have we lost one of our unique, prized assets?

Lessons from America are sometimes advanced in facile or opportunistic ways, but it is just possible that we can learn something from the sad tendency of American intelligence to succumb to the wiles of the confidence man.

The CIA has long been indebted to the confidence man. In his different guises, the intelligence confidence man has publicised and sometimes conjured up one scare after another in order to boost spending on the CIA, FBI and the “community” of sister agencies. In 2001, even before September 11, America spent five times as much on intelligence as the whole of Europe combined, and more on intelligence than Russia spent on its entire military. Since the attack, the intelligence budget has undergone a further 15 per cent increase. The efficacy of all this spending is open to question. It could be argued that the assurance of escalating financial support has made the CIA and the rest of the intelligence community intellectually soft and institutionally flaccid.

The confidence man’s tools of trade – hyperbole, exaggeration, public relations, propaganda, deception – have been in evidence in US intelligence history over the past 150 years. Yet, as Lincoln observed, “you can not fool all of the people all of the time.”
Certainly, it was a mistake to try to fool Lincoln. He dismissed the Gorbals-born Allan Pinkerton from his intelligence service for exaggerating Confederate strength. Eighty years later, British Director of Naval Intelligence Rear Admiral John Godfrey noted that, in all branches of US intelligence, there was a “predilection for sensationalism.” Such evidence is testimony not just to healthy skepticism, but also to the enduring nature of the observed phenomenon, intelligence hyperbole. The wiles of the confidence man have left a deep imprint on US intelligence history. His success stems in good measure from a cultural tradition. In 1857, Hermann Melville popularised the concept in his novel The Confidence-Man, a satire on social mores in the era in which Pinkerton achieved fame as a private detective. Some of Melville’s observations could have served as a primer for the 1950s CIA. For example, the CIA’s Big Lie technique relies on the principle behind Melville’s fictional “World’s Charity” scam – if you are going to tell a lie, tell the truth most of the time, and then make it a big one.

The collapse of Communism in eastern Europe was at first a boost to the CIA. “Victory” mania took hold in America, with the CIA praised for having helped to overcome the Soviet Union. More plausibly, one could argue that the CIA’s “Health Alteration Bureau” and other “dirty tricks” were a godsend to Soviet propaganda and prolonged Communism’s miserable lifespan. But the problem for the CIA was not skepticism about its former mission but the very fact that it was believed – for, if it had accomplished its goal, it now seemed sensible to disband it. One factor in the survival of the CIA and in its ultimate return to expansionism was the support of President Bill Clinton. Clinton had an underlying respect for the CIA that stretched back to the 1960s. For in 1969 the future president, then a Rhodes scholar in Oxford, had appealed to the CIA to help him avoid military service and possible exposure to combat in Vietnam. The request suggests that Clinton was already sold on the agency.

The outcome of the post-Cold War intelligence debate may to a certain extent be summed up as the reward of failure. For example, in January 2000, the National Security Agency’s computers crashed and America had to rely on GCHQ for 72 hours. NSA chief Michael V. Hayden said more money would fix the problem. Elaborating, he said a lot more money. His campaign and those of other expansionists paid off. Although the Washington Post in May 2000 reported that the once-again-secret intelligence budget had increased for the fifth year in a row, both the House and the Senate intelligence committees concluded that intelligence was underfunded. The Senate committee said its “number one priority was the recapitalisation of the National Security Agency.”

Currently, the intelligence community faces a “political correctness challenge.” This dates back to 1991, when a CIA “Glass Ceiling Study” found that 45 per cent of the CIA’s female personnel complained of sexual harassment, and of being denied promotions. In 1995, CIA director John M. Deutch promised to “make the glass ceiling the glass floor.” Meantime, the CIA was showing increasing sensitivity to racial issues, and a more open attitude to gays. All this seemed to be cast to the wind, however, in the Wen Ho Lee case, in which, as the result of “racial profiling,” an American scientist of Chinese extraction was falsely accused of betraying the technology of US mini-atom bombs to Beijing.

If such racial prejudice prevailed, what were the hopes for international intelligence co-operation? President Clinton, at least, showed some commitment to this principle. He issued a directive promising that the United States would “share information, as appropriate, while ensuring full protection of sources and methods.” United Nations peacekeeping forces benefited from this. There were, however, obstacles to the UN’s fulfilment of its potential. One was the abiding belief, within the UN, that spying is a dirty business and that it should not be allowed to contaminate the noble UN dream. There was also strong domestic US opposition to the idea of a UN intelligence service.

9/11 stimulated spooky greed and provoked a renewed debate on racial matters. Expansionists in the White House and in Congress blamed the intelligence lapse on a shortage of money, thus complementing the work of boosters within the intelligence community. Others had different thoughts. National security adviser Condoleezza Rice thought a crucial FBI memo warning about Al Qaeda plans has been missed because there was “a lot of chatter in the system”. This is reminiscent of historian Roberta Wohlstetter’s classic interpretation of what went wrong at Pearl Harbor: In the parlance of SIGINT, or Signals Intelligence, intelligence had failed to distinguish the vital
signals from the noise of millions of daily electronic communications. Or in the today’s parlance, US intelligence had plenty of data, but “had not connected the dots”.

Socially conservative critics saw another failing in the system, political correctness. They argued that over-sensitive attitudes had prevented officials from narrowing their lists of terrorists to focus on young Arab men. But then, there was the contrasting charge that US intelligence was too insular to learn about foreign languages and cultures. Notoriously, when the CIA tried to take a leading role in the effort to root out the Al Qaeda network in Afghanistan and to arrest or kill bin Laden, it turned out that the agency had no capability in Pashto or other local languages – in spite of having helped train local, Al Qaeda-sustaining Taliban fighters in the 1980s.

To lay the surprise assault at the door of the CIA and the rest of the intelligence community is, however, problematic. The episode was an attack waiting to happen. No amount of moralising about extremists can undermine the fact that widespread terrorism reflects a deep-seated sense of injustice – the IRA, Irgun, the Mau-Mau and Hamas never operated in a vacuum.

Intelligence agencies cannot, as a general rule, predict where and when the river will burst its banks. Like generals who are good at fighting the last war, they can devise systems to cope with the last surprise attack. But surprise attack is deliberately non-systemic. Pearl Harbor and 9/11 will never be repeated. The next nasty surprise may have nothing to do with Al Qaeda. It does not take a pessimist to conjure up alternative scenarios, now that eight powers can wage nuclear war and others are lining up to emulate them.

The challenge to the American intelligence community must be understood in a context of expectations. Like the police, who can solve only a minority of crimes yet still provide a comforting illusion of protection and security, intelligence agencies largely have a psychological role to play. To shower the CIA or the new Department of Homeland Security with tax-payers’ money is to drop pennies into the wishing well – it may make you feel better, but only if you are superstitious. Money cannot buy that quality now urgently needed by American intelligence, cosmopolitanism.

How many of these pitfalls has British intelligence avoided? In the light of American experience, here are some questions that invite discussion. Is our intelligence community in the hunt for new jobs now that the Cold War is over? If so, is that compatible with telling the truth to the politicians who “task” it, or will job-creation lead to threat-creation? Is it reassuring or otherwise that our spooks are now PR-minded? Will HM Government reward intelligence failure and solicit what the Americans call “intelligence to please”? How appropriate to our security needs are the current ratios of black, brown and yellow personnel in the intelligence agencies?

Rhodri Jeffreys-Jones is Professor of American History at the University of Edinburgh.

a question of identity

I related to Catherine Laughlin’s letter (Edit, volume 3, issue 2). At least more people know where Scotland is compared to Wales; I’m Welsh-born British and Australian by choice.

British Australians refer to England when they mean Britain and may be confused that Wales is a separate country. European, Asian, American and African Australians also don’t know where Wales is. In addition, I’ve heard English people referring to Welsh towns as being part of England! Few know the difference between Britain, United Kingdom or the British Isles.

I’m becoming less comfortable about the modern (Australian) use of the terms like ‘ethnic’ and ‘culture’, because apparently I don’t have any of these!

Sarah Berry, by email

where is scotland?

Catherine Laughlin’s letter, A question of identity, brought a wry smile to my lips. Delving into my memories of 40 or more years ago, I remember the German girl who told me that she thought the nicest part of England was Scotland. Another, this time elderly, German, when I remarked to him that I came from Scotland, said: “You fought on our side in the war, didn’t you?” It turned out that he had confused Scotland with Finland. Well, he got the latitude about right.

It works both ways. Here in the Netherlands, there are quite a few people with Scots names, like Stuart or McGillivray and others, sometimes with archaic spellings. I was introduced once to a lady called McGillivray and so I said: “Ah, you are Scots.” It turned out that her ancestor had come over here in the 16th century, as near as she could make out.

JP Ward, the Netherlands
**edit** wants to hear your views on the issues raised by contributors. The writer of the most distinctive letter to the next issue will win a prize for their efforts. All letters are welcome and should be addressed to The Editor, **edit**, Communications & Public Affairs, The University of Edinburgh Centre, 7-11 Nicolson Street, Edinburgh EH8 9BE. Email edit.editor@ed.ac.uk

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**looking deeper**

I thought I would drop a quick note to say I entirely approve of the recently announced changes to admissions policy. I don’t know if you are getting any adverse reactions, but as a graduate of the University, I am extremely pleased to see that you will look deeper than just exam grades when selecting future students. Relatively modest grades achieved by students who have not had an expensive and intensive education may indicate greater talent than straight A grades from someone who has had these benefits.

My recollection of the students I met was that very often the most dedicated were those who had come in the ‘hard way’, especially as mature students. They may not have had top grades but they benefitted a great deal from their time at Edinburgh, and enriched the University by their presence and experience as well.

Please don’t be talked out of this move by people or groups with vested interests.

**Archie Flockhart, by email**

**an encouraging liaison**

As one Editor to the other, I send congratulations on your appointment to **edit**. Your questionnaire is an exciting venture which should enable you to initiate new ideas in response to reader demand. Wearing my graduate’s hat I will complete my own copy.

I note that you publish twice a year. Perhaps readers would be interested to note that our Association publish the Edinburgh University Journal twice yearly. We actively encourage liaison between **edit** and the Association.

**Valerie D Robertson BEd MEd**

Editor, EU Journal

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**consider the practicalities**

We both did BSc Hons at Edinburgh and have always been proud of the University’s high standards. It was especially precious to me to go there coming from Zimbabwe.

I am (still) a Science teacher and Head of Biology at a comprehensive school and my husband is a farmer. Like many of our Edinburgh friends, we have worked hard to send our children to independent school to give them the best chance of getting the exam results they need to get to Edinburgh and other leading universities. We are the alumni the University is asking to donate funds and we are shocked and insulted by this policy which is discriminatory against our children. Do you not want them because their parents are graduates?

Please consider the practicalities of the policy to real people, and what is said in Ruth Wishart’s article, which looks superficially so politically correct.

I have taken down the posters advertising Edinburgh always displayed round my laboratory and will not promote it again to my A level students until I have an assurance that Edinburgh welcomes applications from all students whatever their background.

**Mrs Lucy Lloyd**

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**it’s all in the delivery**

Dr Sandeman’s letter (**edit**, volume 3, issue 2) brought back memories. I too was in the Usher Hall when Alistair Sim charmed and cheerfully controlled us all. If I remember correctly his topic was ‘Words’. The written text didn’t amount to much but his delivery and personality made it seem as if his message was profound.

**RM Strang, BSc [For.],1950, PhD [London]1965.**
The University of Edinburgh and Brussels appear from many perspectives to be a match made in heaven. A renowned university with worldwide reputation for excellence, and a broad expatriate community in a city driving change at the heart of Europe.

On 26th June 2003, the two came together in one place and one time. After months of fact-finding and correspondence, Edinburgh alumni Gabriel Goldberg and Simon Zekaria co-organised, under the patronage of Scotland Europa, the launch of Edinburgh University Brussels Society (EUBS) at Scotland House in Brussels. The event was a great success, with over 80 graduates of all ages and backgrounds, from sectors including industry, journalism, consultancy, government and law, coming from far and wide all over Belgium to share drinks and memories of the Scottish capital.

Donald MacInnes, Chief Executive of Scotland Europa, and British Ambassador to Belgium, Gavin Hewitt, gave warm speeches (liberally garnished with true Scottish humour) at the reception, before the evening was rounded off with a vigorous ceilidh – hastily choreographed to (near) perfection after two days rehearsal!

EUBS is a society hoping to tap into the considerable links of Brussels, as political capital of the EU, to connect the University to the city and to Europe. It is a non-political, open-forum society based on the sharing of ideas and the liberal learning for which the University is famous. Through partnership with other Scottish associations, Goldberg and Zekaria – joined by alumna Claire Schonbach – hope to organise events, public debates and lectures to promote the University’s position and Scotland’s place in Europe. Not forgetting of course the many fine watering-holes of the city!

“We wanted to recreate the fantastic spirit we were fortunate to experience,” said Zekaria at the launch. Goldberg also added that it is a society aiming for an active membership. “Everybody who wants to actively contribute to EUBS development will be able to participate and help the society at some level,” he said.

It is fortunate that the launch of the society coincides with one of the most influential and dynamic periods in Scottish political history. Devolution and the creation of the new, avant-garde Scottish Parliament at Holyrood is bringing Scotland into a new and brave political reality – and it is a reality shaping the nation’s place in Europe.

Watch out for EUBS events – and if Edinburgh alumni ever find themselves in the Belgian capital, be sure to check us out and share a couple of the nation’s famous beers with us...!

Simon Zekaria, MA 2001
Organising a Reunion – a brief guide

Get Started
Team up with a few fellow graduates to spread the workload.

Choose a Date, Time & Venue
Think carefully about the date, as it will influence the type of venues available; also, you may have to take things as school holidays into consideration.

London? Paris? Town or country? University facilities or someone’s home? Weekend or midweek? Evening, all day or full weekend?

The possibilities are endless and limited only by your budget and your ambition.

Put Together a Programme
Consider ideas such as a meal and a chat; a tour of “old haunts” (academic and not-so-academic!); formal tours of the University and the city of Edinburgh; a sports event; visits to places of interest; seminars; invited speakers; an archive exhibition; a separate programme for spouses or partners.

Decide Who To Invite
Your class, fellow graduates from a particular year, fellow members of a sports club or society, fellow residents in a student house.

Set Your Budget
Calculate the ticket price per head. More and more reunion groups are choosing to think imaginatively about how they can support the University through their get-together.

Make Contact With Your Reunion Group
Development & Alumni can help with this and, if you wish, we will undertake the initial mailing for you.

More details of the services we provide can be found in our free booklet Guidelines on Organising a Reunion. Why not request a copy today?

See page 27 for contact details.

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Reunions in 2004

1944 MB ChB
5th July 2004, Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh
Contact: Dr John S Milne, 8 Macnair Avenue, North Berwick, East Lothian EH39 4QY
Tel: 01620 895 448 (Home)

1954 MB ChB
28th-29th May 2004, Royal Colleges of Physicians & Surgeons, Edinburgh
Contact: Dr Margaret Hope, Birdsmill House, Birdsmill, Broxburn, West Lothian EH52 5PB
Tel: 01506 853 063 (Home)

1956 Classics
5th July 2004, Old College, Edinburgh
Contact: Mr Iain R Macaskill MBE, 17 Carmichael Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5M 2W5, Canada
Email: n.allman@simpatico.ca

1956/57 Chemistry 3
September/October 2004, venue tbc
Contact: Mrs Dilys Jeffrey Smith, 27 Woodhall Bank, Edinburgh EH13 0HL
Email: dj Jeffrey Smith@tiscali.co.uk

1959 MB ChB
7th-9th September 2004, Banff, Canada
Contact: Dr Iain Weston, 521 100th Street, North Battleford, Saskatchewan, S9A 0T3, Canada
Email: lweston@lilsaotbel.net

1959 BSc Chemistry
September 2004, Edinburgh
Contact: Dr J David R Vass, Guschet Neuk, 33 Ochlochy Park, Dunblane, Perthshire FK15 0DX
Email: David.Vass@btinternet.com

1963-65 BSc Geology
Date & Venue TBC
Contact: Ms Nean Allman, 10th-12th September 2004, 1959 BSc Chemistry
Email: rhol@bgs.ac.uk or marysia.kh@yahoo.co.uk

1965 MB ChB
1st-2nd October 2004, Peebles Hydro Hotel
Contact: Dr J David R Vass, Guschet Neuk, 33 Ochlochy Park, Dunblane, Perthshire FK15 0DX
Email: David.Vass@btinternet.com

1969 MB ChB
10th-12th September 2004, Edinburgh Graduate Theatre Group
Contact: Dr Tom Kennedy, Four Winds, Langholm, Dumfriesshire DG13 0EE
Email: TKLlangholm@aol.com

1970 BSc Agriculture
Date & Venue TBC
Contact: Mr David Pollock, 6790 Old Westover Marion Rd, Marion, SC 29105-3804, USA
Email: dlp_greygables@hotmail.com

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Reunions in 2005

1960 MB ChB
September 2005, Venue TBC
Contact: Dr Tom Kennedy, Four Winds, Langholm, Dumfriesshire DG13 0EE
Email: TKLlangholm@aol.com

1963 MB ChB
2nd-4th July 2004, Peebles Hydro Hotel
Contact: Mrs Bridget Taylor, 8 Holding, Cowbrook Lane, Gawsworth, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 1JJ
Email: bdgite.taylor61@hotmail.com

1992 Economics & Related Subjects
6th March 2004, Venue TBC
Contact: Miss Anne McCluskey, 60 East Hermitage, Restalrig Road, Edinburgh EH6 8DR
Email: anniejmccluskey@hotmail.com

1994 MA(SS)/BSc Geography
May 2004 (actual date TBC), Venue: Central Edinburgh - drinks & dinner
Contact: Mr David R Walker
Email: david.r.walker@barclays.co.uk

1994 MBA (Full-Time)
10th-12th September 2004
Contact: UEMSAlumni@ed.ac.uk

1995 MB ChB
29th-30th May 2004, Edinburgh
Contact: Mrs Margaret Marr (née Henderson), Tel: 0131 443 3159
Email: mickeyandrolly@York1925.freeserve.co.uk
Children’s Holiday Venture

In order to celebrate 40 years of CHV, past members were this year invited to join the current students at their Annual Ball. Two tables of alumni attended and were made to feel very welcome. We were greatly impressed by the organisation, the dedication and, above all, the professionalism of today’s society members, but we were totally unprepared for the amount of interest expressed in learning about the society’s history. There gradually dawned the slightly uncomfortable realisation that we were the history! Following the ball, a small local group has completed a short history of the early years and is looking at ways of expanding this and of supporting the present group. We are also exploring alumni website possibilities.

If you have received a CHV questionnaire, please return it! If you were a member of CHV and would like to be in touch, please contact May Cruickshank (née Meiklejohn), 20 Alnwickhill Gardens, Edinburgh, EH16 6NF. Tel: 0131 664 7909 or email maydotty21@hotmail.com.

Edinburgh Global Partnerships

E.G.P, formerly H.E.L.P (Scotland), is currently working to set up an alumni club for past volunteers, hoping to inform you of our development as an organisation and to hear any feedback you may have. If you would be interested in joining our alumni and receiving our newsletter please send your details to: EGP, 60 The Pleasance, Edinburgh, EH8 9TJ.

Calling former members...

Calling all former University musicians...

Were you a member of the University Wind Ensemble (now Wind Band) in its earlier days? Old Blowers, the alumni association of Edinburgh University Wind Band, aims to put former band musicians in contact to organise re-union events and catalogue the history of the band to date.

The band itself, now its 22nd year, continues to thrive with over 100 members, two annual concerts and an annual overseas tour! (most recently to Dublin). We are very interested in learning about the band’s previous members and exploits and look forward to hearing from our former players.


Pictured: Edinburgh University Wind Band - Museum of Scotland Concert, Easter 2003 (prior to Dublin tour)
For further information on Alumni events, please contact:
Development & Alumni
The University of Edinburgh,
Charles Stewart House,
9 - 16 Chambers Street,
Edinburgh EH1 1HT
Tel: 0131 650 2240
Fax: 0131 650 2239
Email: development@ed.ac.uk
Website: www.dev.ed.ac.uk

Edinburgh University Club of London
The Edinburgh University Club of London is delighted that the General Council has chosen to meet in London. It is organising a programme of events to follow the meeting and lunch on 26 June 2004 and hopes that those attending General Council and Club members will enjoy the remainder of the day together.

During the afternoon there will be a flight on the London Eye. As well as being one of the most visually striking structures in the world, the London Eye offers a new perspective on the capital’s famous streets, churches, palaces and monuments and, on a clear day, views that stretch 25 miles to Windsor Castle.

Those who would prefer will be able to visit the Gilbert Collection. This is beautifully housed in newly-restored Somerset House, one of the country’s finest and largest 18th century buildings. The collection comprises 800 works of art formed over the past 35 years by Sir Arthur Gilbert.

In the evening, there will be a dinner for everybody at a nearby venue. Details of booking arrangements will be available in due course.

Quarterly Dinner
First Thursday of the last month in each quarter
Caledonian Club, 9 Hakin Street, London
All members are invited to dine at the Caledonian Club. No need to book. Meet in the bar at 7.30pm for 8pm. Jacket and tie are required for entry into the Club. Cost to be shared on an agreed basis at the end of the evening. Transport to Victoria, Paddington and various points west can be provided afterwards.

Edinburgh University Club of Manchester
Burns Supper
Friday 23 January 2004
Freemasons Hall, Bridge Street, Manchester
Michael Gourley tel: 0161 330 5000, email: mahrgourley@ntlworld.com

American Friends of the University of Edinburgh
Burns Supper
Monday 26 January 2004
6pm for 7pm
Clancy’s (2nd Ave between 51 and 52 Streets)
Cost: $20 per head. Those interested in attending should contact Simon Cunningham: cunningham@un.org

University of Edinburgh Club of Toronto (EDUCT)
Burns Night Supper
Saturday 24 January 2004, 6pm to 11.30pm
Old Mill Restaurant
Cost: $75 per person
Contact Maggie Armitage: Tel: 416 207 2004

Tour of Queen’s University
Summer 2004, Time TBA
Cost: TBA
Guided tour of the architecture and history of Queen’s University, a river cruise, and overnight stay in the dorms.
Contact Liz McBeth: liz@mcbeth-media.com, Tel: 416 291 9400

Music Faculty Event
4 April 2004
A voluntary multi-art project will be taking place over the coming months aiming to familiarise students and alumni with the sounds, images and traditions of the Eastern Mediterranean region. Through music, acting, dancing and painting, the project will create a dialogue between western and eastern culture, and a celebration of the universals of music. Weekly workshops will lead up to a performance of a music theatre piece involving up to 70 participants. Musicians, actors, dancers and painters are required, and, above all, people with a passion to share a unique experience of artistic interaction and communication. The workshop will be conducted by Dimitra Trypani, a Greek composer and conductor, who is currently completing her PhD studies at the University’s Music Department, with the support of Reid Professor of Music, Nigel Osborne, and director and choreographer, Roxanna Pope. Alumni interested in participating in this project are invited to contact Dimitra: D.Trypani@sms.ed.ac.uk
Tel: 0044 7906 404 232.

General Council Meeting and Lunch
Saturday 14th February 2004
The next Half-Yearly Meeting of the General Council will take place on Saturday 14 February 2004 at 10.30 am in Lecture Theatre G175, The School of Law, Old College.
Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available in the Moot Court Room from 10.00 am. The meeting will be followed by the General Council Lunch, which will take place in the Playfair Library Hall, to which all alumni and their guests are most warmly invited. Professor Alexander McCall Smith, Professor of Medical Law in the University of Edinburgh, and creator of Mma Precious Ramotswe and The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency, will give the after-lunch address. Please contact Jean Gibson, The General Council, The University of Edinburgh, Charles Stewart House, 9 – 16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1HT, Tel: 0131 650 2152
General.Council@ed.ac.uk

Edinburgh Dental Alumni Society
25 September 2004
The annual AGM, Scientific Meeting and Edinburgh Dental Ball will be held on Saturday 25 September 2004. Further details will be given in the President’s Newsletter (published in January), or from the Honorary Secretary, EDAS, at the Edinburgh Postgraduate Dental Institute, Lauriston Building, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh EH3 9YW. Tel: 0131 536 4965.
New scholarship for China

Students from China can now benefit from a scholarship initiative funded by alumni in Hong Kong, and supported by the Edinburgh University Association (Hong Kong). The scholarship, awarded annually, provides assistance towards the fees of a one-year postgraduate course.

Only residents of China (minimum three years) are eligible to apply for the award, which is offered on a competitive basis to students of outstanding merit and research potential.

The first student to benefit from the scholarship, Sandy Lai, recently completed an MSc in Computer Science and has now returned home to start a new job in Hong Kong. The most recent student to take up the scholarship is Jianrong Chen (right).

Student Profile

Name ‘Jacky’ Jianrong Chen
Age 25
Previous occupation Software engineer working on government commercial administration systems including e-commerce
Born and Brought up Guangzhou, China

What made you choose The University of Edinburgh?
I decided that I wanted to develop expertise in parallel computing. I did some research and discovered that Edinburgh is one of the best places in the world to study the subject. The Edinburgh Parallel Computing Centre (EPCC) has one of the biggest supercomputers in the world. It was important to me to find a university offering a combination of academic, practical and commercial aspects of the subject, with expertise in all these areas – which Edinburgh does.

What difference has the scholarship made to you?
Coming from China, it is expensive to study in Edinburgh. It is fantastic that my fees are paid for me as this cuts my expenses by half and makes things a lot easier for me financially. I was really lucky to get the scholarship as I had to compete against a lot of good candidates.

How will you benefit from doing the course when you go back?
I think that having studied at one of the top universities for Informatics will be a major selling point on my CV when I go back home. Edinburgh is a leader in the field of grid technology, the successor to the internet. I will be able to bring new skills in this latest technology back to China and I’m sure this will greatly improve my career prospects.

What are your first impressions of Edinburgh?
I think Edinburgh is one of the most beautiful cities I’ve ever seen. I’ve only been here for a month, but I’m really enjoying the life here. The people are very friendly too. It is very different culturally from China so it’s a totally new experience for me. I would highly recommend it.

More legacy pledgers join Carlyle Circle

More and more alumni and friends are pledging legacies to the University. With 70 new pledges in the last year, membership of the Carlyle Circle, which recognises legacy pledgers, has now reached 500. All members receive regular invitations to University lectures and events as a thank you for their support. Anyone interested in leaving a legacy should contact Martin Hayman on 0131 650 2240 or email martin.hayman@ed.ac.uk

New way to give

You can now give on-line to The Edinburgh Campaign by logging on to www.enlighten.ed.ac.uk

Prize Draw

Please help us update your details. We are currently updating our database of alumni to make sure that we keep you informed of the latest news and the services we can offer to help you to stay in touch with old friends. Fill in your details using the enclosed questionnaire and you will be entered in a prize draw, with the lucky winners receiving a case of champagne donated by Great Grog www.greatgrog.co.uk
With a long history that stretches back to 1889, The Edinburgh University Union is a place where many of you will have spent time during your student years. As a past student of Edinburgh you are also a past member of the Union. I hope it has a place in the hearts and minds of many of you, as it does in mine.

I once spoke to a student whose father had been at Edinburgh. He showed me the board in Teviot’s Sportsman’s Bar, with the names of all the winners of the historic boat race drinking competition, and said “that was my dad’s team”. Even if it is ability at speed drinking we all leave our own mark on the Union.

It is for that reason that as a Union we value our life members. I know that many of you will already be life members and I would like to invite you back, be it for a drink in the Union bar to see what has changed or perhaps for your wedding, as many have done before. All four Unions are available for life members; this includes the sports facilities at Kings Buildings, the Nightclub at Potterrow, the Cabaret Bar at Pleasance or the wide variety of facilities in Teviot Row House.

The Union also benefits from the experience of our life members with representation on the Committee of Management and the Finance Committee. These committee members offer a range of expertise and experience that is often not available in the student body.

We have been working with the General Council to offer more and better facilities to our life members. We are also looking at ways of improving communication with our life members through the channels of the General Council. This is an opportunity that I hope to be able to tell you more about in the future.

If you would like to know more about life membership of the Union, please write to me at the Potterrow Students Centre, 5/2 Bristo Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9AL. You can also email VPS@eusa.ed.ac.uk or telephone us on 0131 650 2649 for more information.

Neil Benny
Vice President Services 2003-04
30 World Service

1930s


Mrs Jean Gilland née Matthew BCom 1936 Awarded Certificate of Higher Education from the Department of Continuing Education, University of Oxford in March 2003 at age of 97.


1940s

Mr John Milnay MA 1940 Awarded the International Post of Merit award 2002. Two poems entitled 'Mayhem in Manhattan' and 'Eeney Allen' were listed in Best Poems of 2001 and 2002 books respectively.

Dr J H John Powell MB ChB 1941 'Scalpel and Spanner - a Doctor Remembers' published September 2003. All proceeds to be shared between caring for elderly parents, being on hand to Iran and other parts of the world in between.


Dr Raufu Balogun BSc 1954 Finally moved back to Scotland after 30 yrs as Diplomat concentrating on US-Asia relations, enjoying continuing working as a Counsellor attached to the Embassy in Tokyo and in 2003 visited Lesotho, Botswana & Namibia. Time now to enjoy retirement after over 40 years in teaching.

Mr Charles D Cooke MA 1952 Semi-retired from own business. Now a JP, Lay Magistrate, Board of Visitors at the Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre, which has been recently reopened after a disastrous fire.

Miss Judith Williams BDS 1957 Worked professionally in South Africa (Eastern Cape and Kwazulu Natal). Time now shared between caring for elderly parents, being on hand for grandchildren and occasional brief visits in Kwazulu Natal rural hospitals.

Dr Carola Hicks née Brown MA 1960 Retired and living happily in Turkey that teaches all its subjects in English.

1950s


Mr David G Blair MA 1954 Currently engaged in writing reflections, lessons learnt and pointers for the future.

Dr Sandra Wolfe-Coote née Fitch BSc 1962 Past retirement age but still working full-time and currently editing a book on ‘The Laboratory Primate’ for Academic Press/Elsevier. Would love to hear from any of the old crowd: David Young, David Maule, Ruth Ellis, Jane Brown, Marjorie Smith et al.

Dr Ian Campbell BSc 1963 Recently retired as Director of Undergraduate Programme, School of Environment, University of Leeds.

Dr Hamish Long BSc 1963 PhD 1966 Retirement activities include: Handbook Secretary for Castle Par SC, playing the Clauchan church bell ringing in St Mary's, Haddington; Tai Chi and learning Gaelic.

Dr Niall O’Loughlin MA 1963 Director of the Arts Centre, Loughborough University. Book published recently on 20th century Slovenian music, ‘Novejsi glasba v’s Sloveniji’.

Mr Douglas Addison BSc 1964 Retired, which means more time for cycling, painting and golf. Has sailed the Ketch to France and Spain. Are there any other sailing alumni in Dorset?"
Professor Dayaratna Wijayasuriya PhD 1969
The only Sri Lankan to hold the post of Vice Chancellor at two universities in Sri Lanka, having been in charge of the Open University of Sri Lanka for 9 years, and currently in his second term at the University of Moratuwa.

1970s

Mr PaulCraig BSc 1970 Currently managing an agriculture & rural development and project management company dedicated to challenge the causes of poverty worldwide.

Dr SusanCraig-James néeCraig MA (SS) 1970 ‘A Fractured Whole: The Changing Society of Tobago, 1630-1980; a history of Tobago, to be published in 2003. Has been invited by UNDP to coordinate, write three chapters of, and edit the National Human Development Report for Trinidad and Tobago.

Mr P K G Dunlop BSc 1970 Civil engineering projects in China, Thailand and Singapore. Still sailing, wrote, published and sold ‘Street Names of Singapore’. Committee Member, Singapore St Andrew’s Society.

Mr WilliamHolden MA 1970 Back teaching short retirement and crofting in lovely village of Cromore on the island of Lewis.

Dr Elizabeth Oatescu néeBradford BSc 1970 Recently retired from Department of Animal Science. Continues to teach a distance learning course on feline genetics.

Mrs Margaret Tong néeCowie MA 1970 Lives in California and Religion.

Miss CatherineMcCrindle BSc 1970 Runs an informative website on using OIOC resources.

Mr AndrewGibb MA 1967 Freelance writer and marketing communications consultant. Kern double bass student for the last 5 years.

Mr WilliamSalmon MA (SS) 1972颂Spent an exciting year spell as Head of English Department at Southampton University. Looking forward to more time for research into Medieval drama records in Scotland.

Mr DavidEasson MA 1969 Recently graduated with an MChem from the University.

Mr AlexanderStevenson MA 1970 Recently promoted to Senior Inspector of Schools in Northern Vancouver. Would like to mix well with raising a family late in life - now a massage therapist!

Mr WilliamDonald LLB 1972 Solicitor in private law firm in Stoneham, Massachussetts concentrating on commercial and residential property.


Mr RobertSpraul-Cran PhD 1979 Currently spearheading a unique international weekly television magazine programme showcasing Scotland to the world. Tartan TV has already broadcast a feature to the USA and Canada, on EU Technology and is currently working on features on ES and ETIC.

Miss MargaretBell MA 1974 Works in pharmaceutical industry. Active in Rotary and lives in Deep Love, a beautiful part of Northern Vancouver. Would like to find graduate students 1973-74.

Dr BarryEwan MA 1969 Recently promoted to Personal Chair of Italian Literature, University of London (Royal Holloway).

Mr RobertMason MTh 1974 Recently returned to UK after spell living in Hokkaido, Japan. Missionary work for UMF International.

Dr CareyBSingleton PhD 1974 Published ‘Reflections’, a poetry journey to different parts of the world where she has travelled. Illustrations are by her goddaughter Kikko-Huika Ranki, a professional Finnish artist.

Mrs SariR Taylor néeHanson MA 1974 Recently took over the heading of Filmstara Primary School in Wiltham.

Mr DouglasQuinn LLB 1975 Recently opened own law firm in Stoneham, Massachusetts concentrating on commercial and residential property.

Mr AlasdairG Foster BSc 1975 Recently elected President of Contemporary Art Organisations in Australia.

Mr DavidWFyfe BSc 1975 Retired after many years with Shell. Married to Anne with two daughters (21 and 19) and now working as part-time consultant. Still singing as well as ever.

Mr IanHarrower BSc 1975 Recently appointed Strategic Commodity-Purchasing Manager BAE Systems.

Mass KatherineMcCrindle MA (SS) 1975 Runs an English teaching business in the heart of Munich.


Mr GaryG Steel BSc 1976 Moved to Zurich with family in June, 2003 and working for ABT Ltd.

Rev StephenBlakey BD 1976 Set up own life coaching company and heads the professional body for life coaching in Scotland.

Dr StephenEdwards PhD 1974 Published ‘Reflections’, a poetry journey to different parts of the world where she has travelled. Illustrations are by her goddaughter Kikko-Huika Ranki, a professional Finnish artist.


Mr RobertSpraul-Cran PhD 1979 Currently spearheading a unique international weekly television magazine programme showcasing Scotland to the world. Tartan TV has already broadcast a feature to the USA and Canada, on EU Technology and is currently working on features on ES and ETIC.
World Service...continued

1980s

Mrs Barbara A Lee née Millar-Craig BMAS 1980 Recently moved to Wanaka, the most beautiful part of New Zealand. Working part-time in Invercargill to keep retired husband supplied with essentials like fishing gear!

Mr William McCrae BMAS 1980 Moved to Perth, Australia in August 2001. Not wanting to waste the opportunity we’ve been beachfront. Has taken up surfing and scuba diving.

Dr David Francis Urquhorns MMus 1980 Re-appointed to the teaching staff of Hong Kong Baptist University in 2001 teaching Sinology and Music Analysis.

Mrs Violet Alcroe née Noir MUS 1981 Full time student for a doctoral programme in Nursing at the University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Mrs Jessica Christian Stiller née Christian BA 1981 Joint Author (with husband, Charles Stiller) of ‘Iona Portrayed: a glimpse of Island life’. Has been based in Singapore for past 9 years.

Mr George Apperson MMus 1986 Organist of St Mary’s Collegiate Church, Haddington, East Lothian.

Ms Claudia Ingham MA 1987 Currently teaching English, Physics & Science at an Arts Magnet School. Also instructs horseback riding. If UoE alumni are in the Portland, Oregon area, she would be interested in hearing from them.

Mr David McGrath MBA 1987 Has set up Sigem Ltd, Scotland’s first commercial fuel cell company. www.sigem.co.uk

Ms Sarah Newman MA 1987 After a varied career as a parliamentary researcher, lobbyist, BBC policy adviser, research director, producer of television programmes and web editor, most recently wrote a microhistory of the Moorgate area of London. Married with one daughter, Isla Helen Wood, born 22 January 2002.


Mr Andrew Flynn BA 1984 Recently appointed Chief Director of Ecology Laboratory in the Tunisian central area - Sousse.

Rev Spencer D Sheenmore BD 1981 Busy raising funds for suffering Christians in Zimbabwe. He is also fundraising for self-help initiatives for unemployed Christians in Bulgaria.

Mr Michael Hawkins MSC 1982 Ordained Deacon, Church of England, June 2002 and now serving in 5 rural parishes in Cumbria.

Mrs Pauline Kaye née Weight BMAS 1982 Has been working for the Medical Research Council in The Gambia for three years.

Mr Narayanan R Unnithan BMAS 1982 After retirement, engaged in philanthropic activities. Working with a charitable organisation for rehabilitation of children suffering from cognitive and communicative disorders like autism, mental retardation, learning disability, etc.

Mr Robert Vigers MPH 1982 Established own company, SVA Property Acquisitions Ltd. Currently hold five/six auctions per year.

Mr Philip Coutts MA 1984 Recently appointed Chief Sub Editor of the Scottish Daily Mail following the closure of Business AM newspaper.

Mr Nicholas G Woodger BMAS 1989 Vel Investigator for Veterinary Laboratories Agency. Gained Royal College of Pathologists Diploma last year and first child, a girl, Keira Louise, born December 2002.

Mr Nigel A Hawkins MSC 1982 Ordained Deacon, Church of England, June 2002 and now serving in 5 rural parishes in Cumbria.

Mrs Pauline Kaye née Weight BMAS 1982 Has been working for the Medical Research Council in The Gambia for three years.

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Ms Emma J McKechnie MA 1997 Currently teaching Modern Studies at Alba Academy.

Dr Laura Miller BSc 1997 Moved to Nebraska, USA for job as post-doctorate for USDA. Got married to Ian January 2000.


Mr Piero Peppoloni BEng 1997 Started large animal vet. Working on a programme for the BBC combining veterinary work and country cooking, called ‘From Stable to Table’.


Mr Keith J Scott BEng 1997 Currently working in South Wales. Has been married to Lisa for 2 years and they recently had their first child, Iona.

Mr Robin Softerniet BCorn 1997 Currently working for a German car manufacturer and studying personnel management.

Mr Thomas M Stengel NGU 1997 Recently moved to Belgium.

Mrs Rachel Armstrong née Fawcett BSc 1996 Currently working and living in Edinburgh. Married to Simon and had beautiful baby boy, Nathen, in July 2003.

Mr Antoine Bouniu NGU 1998 Has been working in Tanzania for the last 4 years, a wonderful experience but is looking forward to moving to a different country.

Miss Elizabeth Brannie MSc 1996 Recently returned under a career change from internet developer to teacher of high school sophomores (age 15-17) at a prestigious private school in the USA.

Ms Susan Cheyne BSc 1998 Currently in Indonesia. Borneo working towards a PhD at Cambridge University, collecting behavioural, social, ecological and vocal data on gibbons undergoing rehabilitation with a view to returning them to the wild.

Ms Catherine Cosgrave LLM 1998 Currently on-year leave from work to travel around New Zealand.

Mr Colin Davey BSc 1997 Recently worked as a Postdoctoral Research Assistant in the Department of Solar Physics, Royal Observatory of Edinburgh.

Dr Jonathan Goulding MSc 1998 in Melbourne from August, 2003 working in ASE, returning to UK in 2004 for OSH KO Medicine rotation.

Miss Nicola Hendry BSc 1998 Currently working for South Ayrshire Council as a Community Education Worker - one Post Grad Diploma later! Living with Paul and daughter Kimberly and currently completing out-building project!

Mr Jeremy Hopkins MA 1998 Currently based in Southern Georgia - weather project with a government for 12 years. Job is challenging but fun and extremely interesting.

Mr Jem Kudner LLM 1998 Admitted to the Bar (District Court Stuttgart) last year.

Dr Paolo Magni LLM 1998 Currently Consultant in the RED area of the Department for Innovation & Technology, Italy. Area of expertise: experimentation.

Miss Ruth O’Connell MA 1998 Currently taking a year’s sabbatical to improve languages and travel in South America.

Mrs Sarah Rose née Parson BD 1998 Completed MTh (Ministry) and now studying for MSt/Dip Childhood Studies.

Mr Robert J Currie MA 1997 Assistant Professor at Dalhousie Law School, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. He and wife Donna have now had two children, Meg (3 1/2) and Katherine (born Jan 03). Rob can be reached at robert.currie@dal.ca.

Mr Marcia Fernandes Currently working as a Lecturer at UFMG, a Brazilian University.


Miss Lisa Hargrett BSc 1999 Married Andrew Hwang on 21st December 2001 in Greenswhich, London. Currently working as a freelance consultant. Andy works in publishing and photography.

Ms Dawn Hartmann née Mackay MA 1998 Married a Canadian on 18th January 2003 and planning to move to Vancouver in 2004. Plans to use graduate qualification in multimedia.

Mr Christopher Johnson MA 1999 Completed first version of ten minute video showcase under stage name Ian Inversion and the Headstanding Song in February 2003.

Ms Caroline Martin BSc 1999 Currently in Stratford Upon Avon with the RSC playing Lucy in ‘The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe’. Also appearing in two BBC dramas.

Mr Ewan McIntosh MA 1999 Currently teaching the students of tamarow as a French Teacher at Muckleburgh Grammar School. Engaged to Morgane from Le Harve, France.

Ms Laura Rennie BSc 1999 Recently returned to university to study veterinary medicine. Direct entry into second year.

Miss Emma Swainson BSc 1999 Currently a year into Asylum Seeker work at the University of Jordan in Amman, prior to a posting in the Middle East for the FCO.

Miss Sarah Tweedie BSc 1999 Ran the 2003 London Marathon for MS.

Mr Ari Altibab MA 2000 Recently awarded Bedfiding Scholarship to finance BSc from Gray’s Inn. Has secured place which commenced September 2003 with Hollis Whiteman Chalmers.

2000s

Miss Louise Armitstead MA 2000 Living in London and working for the business section of the Sunday Times.

Miss Caroline Aspinwall BSc 2000 Currently living in London whilst undertaking a PhD in microbiology of photosynthetic prokaryotes at UCL.

Miss Ines Fialho Brandao BSc 2000. Currently studying for MSc Archaeology at the University. Involved in local community affairs and wider issues of drugs awareness and rehabilitation, disabled access to buildings and transport and Scottish politics.

Miss Laura Hutchings MA 2000 After graduating, planned and executed a mokarola and sidder-pediction expedition from London to Beijing via Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines and South Korea. Two of ten of us were also Edinburgh graduates, Rory Fyfe and Sarah McVittie.

Miss Catherine Kane BA 2000 Woman Connect is a new project working with Women’s organisations in England to provide access to the internet and overall development of the women’s voluntary sector. Website: www.womenconnect.org.

Mr Stephen Marks MA 2000 Now in third year Doctorate on Clinical Psychology Course. Would be happy to be contacted by undergraduates interested in a career in clinical psychology.

Miss Eleanor Maxwell MA 2000 Selected for Bertlemann Fellowship - one of 5 successful candidates worldwide. The Reinhard Mohn Fellowship - enables her to spend a year in Europe/Asia/US working on executive project - defined by chairman + CEO which will be presented to Bertlemann AG Executive Board.

Mr Alastair Mitchell BSc 2000 Recently returned from 3 month sabbatical in Whistler, Canada, training to become a snowboard instructor. If anyone even has an inkling to do something like that, he can highly recommend it.

Miss Rizana Mohamed Mahroof BSc 2000 Currently working which product development at the Department of Entomology at Kansas State University.

Miss Lucy Monhemius BSc 2000 Recently obtained an MSc in Conservation at UCL. Since then, has worked for the Bat Conservation Trust, and as a Ranger for two local councils.

Miss Sadie Speers MA 2000 Working in theatre, mainly West End tourism venues as a technician/stage manager. Taking time off to go back to college - has just got back from working in New York City.

Mrs Elisabeth Steenhouwer née Grant BD 2000 Recently accepted as a candidate for ministry in the Church of Scotland.

Dr Suyati Anmor PhD 2001 Head of Soil Conservation, Jakarta - closely watches tropical rain forest extraction as extraction without careful operation could cause soil and forest degradation and, in turn, desertification to occur.


Miss Lara Baxten BCorn 2001 Trainee with Wikins Kennedy. Awarded the ATTI (Association of Tax Consultants) Louis Ness Prize for attaining the highest overall mark in its annual examination.

Ms Anna L Bedford MA 2001 PhD scholar and Assistant to the President at St. Mary’s College, Maryland, USA. Taught a 3rd year undergraduate course at the college in the summer – you’re the youngest ever-updivision faculty to do so, at age 23. Married Josh Davis at Arth Castle, Scotland, in December 03.

Mr Bradford Berger MSc 2001 Recently a book published based on his Master’s Thesis. Treadmill Dynamics and Evolution of a Survivability-Based Multi-Level Food-Web Model in Volume 16 of the International Journal of Modern Physics B; which$$$$ Mr Christopher Bollo at Heriot-Watt University.

Miss Catherine Eagles MA 2001 Returned to university to study Broadcast Journalism. The course lasts until May and she has already made her debut on Virgin Radio!

Miss Elizabeth Elliott MA 2001 Currently studying for a PhD in English Literature at the University.

Miss Anja Fiedler MA 2001 Recently completed an MA in Politics and Administration at the College of Europe and is now working there as an assistant tutor.

Mr Justin Kasper Dip 2001 Recently completed a PhD at the University of Giessen on nineteenth-century food safety related disputes. Has moved back to the US.

Miss Katherine Keen MSc 2001 Moving Mr Richie Sandis, a graduate of Naper & Hertford Universities, to London on 8th May 2004.

Mr Maxim Orkoshlavl MSc 2001 Lives and works in Georgia developing lectures at Tbilisi State University.

Miss Panipitis Papadopoulou MSc 2001 Has been working in the International Payments Department of Probank S.A. in Athens, Greece since June 2002.


Mr Taimin Blyth BSc 2002 Won the British Pharmacology Society Award for the best Pharmacology student last year. Now studying Veterinary Medicine.

Miss Lauren Brown MSc 2002 Currently in Beijing for a year to teach English and has joined two fellow University of Edinburgh graduates at a school called Gun Mao.

Mr Charles Campbell JTA 2002 Graduated from the University of Chicago in June 2003.

Miss Sarah Hart MA 2002 Moved to London, started working for an international development charity and hopes to apply for a Masters in development studies in a few years time.

Miss Miranda Lindsay-Fynn BSc 2002 Recently qualified as a Facs Technologist at Unit-Harbor in the Atlantic in spring 2003 from Cape Town to Martina on St Helena & Ascension. (1500 nautical miles). She is currently in the Mediterranean skimming sardine fisheries.

Ms Maha Mahyuddin EEd 2002 Currently serving government as payback for scholarship (in Malaysia). Would love to return to Edinburgh for future studies.

Mrs Malm Mastersen BSc 2002 Currently studying ethics for one year as she can in January 2004 she can start a PhD in bioethics in Uppsala.

Dr Helen Mcbrine PhD 2002 Worked as a Research Associate at COO before moving to Osaka, Japan to continue entrepreneurial research with a two year old Japanese startup, Digital Fashion Ltd, designing cutting edge software for the fashion industry. Exciting job and fantastic cultural experience.

Miss Gemma Perkins MA 2002 Currently studying for a PGCE at Jordanhill.

Mr Roberto Bertol MSc 1998 Currently working at the Department of Psychology (UEMs/Funedi). Also coordinates a mental health project in Minas Gerais (City Jeram). Just starting on a PhD at the University of Minas Gerais in a postgraduate scheme at the same university. Misses Edinburgh and its people and culture.
I am looking forward to seeing you at the Half-Yearly Meeting of Council on Saturday 14 February, when we shall hear the Principal’s annual address on the state of the University as he presents the Annual Report for the session 2002/2003. The meeting will be followed by the General Council Lunch in the Playfair Library Hall, when our Guest of Honour and after-lunch speaker will be Alexander McCall Smith, Professor of Medical Law at the University, and creator of Mma Precious Ramotswe and The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency. This promises to be a most enjoyable occasion.

Planning is now at an advanced stage for the summer half-yearly meeting on Saturday 26 June 2004 when, for the first time, we hold a meeting of Council outwith Edinburgh. It will be held at Birkbeck College, University of London, which is within easy reach of King’s Cross and Euston railway stations. We are delighted that another of our most distinguished members, Sir Malcolm Rifkind, who is also currently President of the University’s Development Trust, has agreed to be Guest of Honour and after-lunch speaker. While I am sure that the occasion will appeal to our many members in the south of England, mainland Europe and North America, I hope that many living in Scotland and the north of England will also come and support us in London. Please put the date in your diary now. Further information can be found on page 39 of this Billet.

The Business Committee is picking up the threads of business after the University’s long hot summer vacation, and is looking forward to the beginning of the next session, which will be the first of its newly-structured sessions beginning in mid-September, with the Annus Academicus beginning on 1 August. The Business Committee has unanimously agreed by resolution that Council should move with the University Court and adopt the new academic year now. It also agreed that its present members, and those elected in February 2004 under the present constitutional arrangements, should be deemed from 2004 to take up their terms of office on 1 August and to demit office on 31 July. The Business Committee also lays before you a motion that tidies up future election procedures for Council’s Assessors on the University Court and for members of the Business Committee. I should like to thank most sincerely the members of the Constitutional Standing Committee, and especially its Convener, Sheila Kirk, for their extremely hard and detailed work in this regard. The Standing Committees have reviewed their roles and remits in the light of the restructured University.

At meetings with the Principal and the Officers of the Students’ Association (EUSA), the General Council Officers have emphasised the need for more and better communication from the University and its Colleges on events that members of Council can support by their attendance, and the continuing need for improved communication and facilities for Life Members of Teviot House. I hope to be able to report further on these matters in February 2004.

I record my sincere thanks to our outgoing Court Assessors Robert Bertram and Christina Vaughan-Griffiths, Standing Committee Conveners John Cameron and David Lamb, and Business Committee members Norma Allen, Jane Cheape, Niall Martin, Fiona Rait, John Mayer and Leon Pompa. Their commitment to, and work for, the Business Committee has been greatly appreciated. In their places I welcome to the Business Committee, Court Assessors Robin Blair and Gavin Scott, and Committee members George Allen, William Bowie, Carole Clarke, Gavin Douglas and Anne Paterson. I am grateful to John Manson and Ian Smith for assuming the roles of Conveners of (respectively) the Academic and the Finance and Services Standing Committees for the new year, and to Sheila Kirk and Ann Sutherland for continuing as Conveners of the Constitutional and the Public Affairs Standing Committees. Margaret Tait continues as a Court Assessor for a further two years.
The General Council will meet in Room G175, School of Law, Old College, on Saturday 14 February 2004 at 10.30am.

SUMMARY AGENDA
1. Result of the Election of Members of the Business Committee
2. Minutes and Matters Arising from the Last Meeting of the General Council held on 28 June 2003
3. Report of the Business Committee
4. Motion
5. Dates of future meetings of the General Council
6. Presentation by the Principal of the Annual Report of the University
7. Any other competent business
8. Adjournment

A full Agenda is given on pages 37 to 39.

MEET OLD FRIENDS - MAKE NEW FRIENDS: SATURDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2004
10am to 10.30am Coffee, tea and biscuits in the Moot Court Room, School of Law, Old College
10.30am General Council Meeting in Room G175, School of Law, Old College
After the meeting Lunch in the Playfair Library Hall (see page 40 and inside of rear cover for details)

POSTAL ELECTION

CANDIDATES FOR POSTAL ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The following nominations have been received for the election of five members to serve until 31 July 2008:

**Dr Frances Dow, MA 1969**

Proposed by Peter Freshwater, MA 1964, MCLIP, FSA Scot
Seconded by Professor (Emeritus) R E Asher, DLitt 1992, BA, PhD, FRSE, FKSA, FRAS

A graduate and member of staff for nearly 30 years. I was Dean of Arts and Vice-Principal. I currently serve on the Marshall Scholarships Commission and the Council for the Regulation of Healthcare Professionals. I am committed to the highest academic standards and to fostering the alumni community worldwide.

**Mr Neil R Hynd, BArch 1969, LVO, FRIAS, FSA Scot**

Proposed by Peter Freshwater, MA 1964, MCLIP, FSA Scot
Seconded by Alan M Johnston, MBA 1989

Currently serving the University Business Committee as a co-opted member, I now welcome this opportunity to serve a fully elected term. My experience within the Scottish Executive and other public committees gives me a useful perspective on the University, its development and its contribution to Edinburgh city life.

**Mr Charles Frederick Yeaman Lawson, BSc 1963, CA, FSI**

Proposed by Neil R Hynd, BArch 1969
Seconded by Alan M Johnston, MBA 1989


**Mr Lorimer David Maurice Mackenzie, MA 1964**

Proposed by William Alastair Paterson Weatherston, MA 1957
Seconded by A M Bell, BL 1961

Thirty-seven years in public service in UK and Europe provide me with a large experience of the diversity and challenges of higher education. I still act in an advisory capacity on enterprise education. I wish to put this experience at the disposal of the University and General Council.

**Mr John Geoffrey Sharps, MA 1958, BTh, MED, MLitt, CPsychol, AFBPsS, FRGS, FRSAS**

Proposed by James Morrison Noble, MA 1958
Seconded by John MacArthur, MA 1958

A former member of the Business Committee, a life member of the Graduates’ Association, of the Union, and of the Library, I welcome and pledge my full support for the Court’s commitment to the Nolan Public-Life Standards and Principles (Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty, and Leadership).

**Mrs Patricia Spark, MA 1953**

Proposed by F Marion Firn, BCom 1963
Seconded by Sheena Margaret Gordon-Rogers, LLB 1968

Trained as a medical social worker and was a VSO in Africa in my youthful past. Married, and while bringing up two daughters, recent graduates of different universities, I did voluntary work interspersed with continuing education classes. Latterly, for nine years, I worked in a hospital community care team.

**Ms Diana Webster, MA 1971, Dip Lib, MCLIP**

Proposed by Ann M Sutherland, MA 1960
Seconded by Muriel J F Smith, BEd 1973

Worked in EU Library, Royal Scottish Museum and National Library of Scotland, becoming Head of Map Library in 1999 – the result of six lectures on map history at EU inspiring a passion for early maps. With less to juggle as family grows up, I have more time to offer.

**Mr Ian Wotherspoon, MA 1969, MBA, PhD, FSA Scot, MCM**

Proposed by Peter Freshwater, MA 1964, MCLIP, FSA Scot
Seconded by Dr Richard S Denison, MBChB 1965, FRCPG, DCH, DORCOG

A graduate in Scottish Historical Studies, Ian Wotherspoon has spent much of his life in Asia and the Pacific where he worked in change management and finance. He is now a volunteer manager with Barnardo’s Scotland in Edinburgh. His interests include the University’s past and present connections and influence abroad.

A Voting Paper is enclosed and should be completed and returned in the pre-paid envelope addressed to Development & Alumni. Please tick the box on the envelope flap to indicate that your Voting Paper is enclosed. Details of candidates appear on page 36.
FULL AGENDA FOR THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING ON 14 FEBRUARY 2004

1. Result of the Election of Members of the Business Committee

2. Minutes and Matters Arising from the Last Meeting of the General Council on 28 June 2003

Present: Mr Tam Dalyell, Rector, in the Chair; Professor Andrew A Calder, Head of the Division of Reproductive & Departmental Sciences, School of Clinical Sciences and Community Health, College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine; Dr Ann Matheson, Secretary of the General Council; Mr Peter B Freshwater, Convener of the Business Committee; and 65 other members.

The Rev. Russell Fountain, deputising for the Chaplain to the University, opened the meeting with prayer.

2.1 Minutes and Matters Arising from the Meeting on 8 February 2003

The Minutes of the meeting on 8 February 2003 were approved.

2.2 Report of the Business Committee

Mr Freshwater, Convener of the Business Committee, gave his report. He drew attention to the fact that this was the first meeting to be chaired by the new Rector of the University, Tam Dalyell MP, and on behalf of the members, he warmly welcomed him to the General Council.

The Convener referred to the Talbot Rice Gallery exhibition ‘Object Lessons’, which focused on the University’s museum, gallery and library collections built up over 400 years, and said that a very enjoyable private viewing had been held for members of Council and their friends on 26 June.

The Convener welcomed the appointment of Professor Helen Hayes, Vice-Principal (Information Services) at the University of Melbourne in Australia, to the post of Vice-Principal for Knowledge Management and Librarian to the University from September 2003. He also welcomed the proposal to create a post of Vice-Principal for Development and Director of Development & Alumni. The new Vice-Principal would also become Registrar to the General Council.

The Academic and Finance and Statistics Standing Committees had continued their rounds of briefing meetings and discussions with the Heads of Colleges and of University Support Services. The Constitutional Standing Committee was reviewing Council’s electoral procedures. The Public Affairs Standing Committee had been concerned with the University’s museum, gallery and library collections. All the approved Millennium Plaques had now been installed, and this was noted with pleasure, especially that in honour of Charles Barkla, Professor of Natural Philosophy. The reports by the Conveners of all four Standing Committees were included in the Annex to the Billet.

The Business Committee had continued to be actively concerned with the University’s strategy on student admissions, and had received an excellent presentation by Vice-Principal Gordon Kirk, Convener of the University’s Admissions Strategy Group, at its May meeting. The Convener commended articles on the subject in the University Bulletin for April/May 2003 and June/July 2003, also available in electronic form in the eBulletin (issues for March and June 2003) on the University’s website.

The Business Committee had taken an interest in the proposal to transfer the Reid Music Library from Alison House in Nicolson Square to the Main Library in George Square. Plans, in consultation with music staff and students, were in hand to enable the Music Collections to be brought together in the Main Library, and to be used in soundproof rooms with recordings and with musical instruments. The Convener referred to the Talbot Rice Gallery exhibition ‘Object Lessons’, which focused on the University’s museum, gallery and library collections built up over 400 years, and said that a very enjoyable private viewing had been held for members of Council and their friends on 26 June.

The Convener welcomed the appointment of Professor Helen Hayes, Vice-Principal (Information Services) at the University of Melbourne in Australia, to the post of Vice-Principal for Knowledge Management and Librarian to the University from September 2003. He also welcomed the proposal to create a post of Vice-Principal for Development and Director of Development & Alumni. The new Vice-Principal would also become Registrar to the General Council.

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The Officers of the General Council had been honoured to represent the University and the Principal at the Edinburgh Science Festival Service in the High Kirk of St Giles on Sunday 6 April. The Officers also planned to seek a meeting with the Principal to identify other ways in which Council could be seen actively and positively to support the University in the City and elsewhere.

Plans for the Half-Yearly Meeting on 14 February 2004 in Edinburgh were in place. The guest speaker at the General Council Luncheon would be Alexander McCall Smith, Professor of Medical Law in the University, and creator of Mma Precious Ramotswe and The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency. Plans for holding the June 2004 Meeting in London were also well under way. The meeting was likely to be held in the new conference suite at Birkbeck College London. The proposal to hold a London meeting had been enthusiastically welcomed by the Edinburgh University Club of London. It promised to be a great occasion.

The report of the Business Committee was approved.

The full text of the Convener’s remarks, and the discussion following the presentation, are contained in the Annex to the Billet.

2.3 Dates of future meetings of the General Council

The 2004 General Council Meetings would be held in Edinburgh on Saturday 14 February and in London on Saturday 26 June 2004. Any motions for discussion at the General Council Half-Yearly Meeting on 14 February 2004 should be received in the General Council Office by 26 November 2003, and any motions for discussion at the General Council Half-Yearly Meeting on 26 June 2004 should be received in the General Council Office by 7 April 2004.

2.4 Dates of forthcoming Elections

The election of five members of the Business Committee to serve from 1 September 2004 to 31 July 2008 would take place in February 2004. Nominations on forms available from the Secretary of the General Council should be received in the General Council Office by 26 November 2003.
NEW BEGINNINGS

2.5 Presentation by Professor Andrew Calder, Head of the Division of Reproductive & Departmental Sciences, School of Clinical Sciences and Community Health, College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine

I am delighted to be able to welcome you here to Little France to the new Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, our new home. If I have a theme for you this morning, it is the theme of change. The Medical School in Edinburgh is proud to acknowledge the links in its origins with the University of Leiden. It was from Leiden that four of Herman Boerhaave's pupils came back to Edinburgh to join with Alexander Monro (Primus) to establish the Medical School in 1726.

The very first building to accommodate the Infirmary was in Robertson's Close, before moving to a purpose-built infirmary in Thomson's Yards. This hospital served for a considerable time until it was replaced in 1870 with the Infirmary, with which I am sure we are all familiar, and which we rather sadly parted company with just over a month ago. The Veterinary School was originally a private institution set up by William Dick in 1832 in St Andrews Square. The University began offering degrees in veterinary science in 1911, and Summerhall was built and opened in 1917, with formal affiliation with the University in 1934, and the establishment of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in 1964.

In the old Royal Infirmary there was a continued need to try to improve the fabric and the accommodation. The Infirmary had all sorts of little additions and things squeezed into every conceivable nook and cranny in order to continue to function because there had been a great expectation going back decades for a new Royal Infirmary. What did happen eventually was the construction of what was to be phase 1 of a new Royal Infirmary on Lauriston Place, which remains. The Eye Pavilion remains, but the rest of the site has been sold off.

The Western General Hospital will continue to be a very important component of the Medical School. The Lauriston Building will remain as a Lauriston Clinic, the Eye Pavilion and, for the time being, the Sick Children's Hospital and Summerhall.

The construction on this site has been very different in that the Infirmary component has been constructed as a private finance initiative, costing £180M. The hospital is owned and run by the Consortium, and the Lothian University Hospitals NHS Trust effectively rents the premises from that Consortium. That has been controversial. The Chancellor's Building was built with a direct grant of approximately £50M from the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council. In addition, the University has recently been re-organised into three Colleges. Our College is the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine with Professor John Savill as the Vice-Principal and Head of College. The Faculty of Medicine has disappeared after 276 years, and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine has disappeared as well. The College is made up of four Schools, and there are also four directorates that cross the Schools.

Next month we will have the graduation of the first cohort of students who have been through the new Edinburgh Medical Curriculum. The philosophy of the new curriculum is for core knowledge but a much greater emphasis on clinical and communication skills.

Together we have very nearly 1,200 medical students and more than 500 veterinary students, with an additional 1,000 postgraduate students in research and taught degrees. In the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) we have continued to enjoy the highest possible rating, and in the most recent exercise in 2001, hospital-based clinical medicine got the 5* rating, shared with only two other medical schools in the UK. So, there is a huge emphasis on research. We take the view in Edinburgh that in both medicine and veterinary medicine we teach these clinical subjects in a research-rich environment. We now have eight interdisciplinary research centres, with an annual SHEF funding budget of just over £36M. They form a critical mass of property, research-driven clinicians and scientists, who work together in an integrated way within the clinical setting here in the Royal Infirmary and in the Vet School, supported by the very latest technology. There will also be a new Institute for Medical Cell Biology here at Little France, which will bring together the Centre for Reproductive Biology, which has within it the Medical Research Council Human Reproductive Sciences Unit, the MRC/University Centre for Inflammation Research and the Centre for Cardiovascular Science, which has a Wellcome Trust Cardiovascular Research Institute. These three have been put together in the belief that these are our three stars in the firmament of Edinburgh medicine and research. The Institute is costed at £52M, and I am delighted to say that not only are we nearly there with the research fundraising, which has been principally driven by Professor Sir David Carter and the past Dean of Faculty, Professor Colin Bird, but the University has given the green light to the construction of the entire Institute as planned.

I hope you will have a chance to enjoy the facilities of the Chancellor’s Building, which we think is really a wonderful facility. In the foyer there are three splendid portraits of Sir James Young Simpson, Lord Lister and Dr Andrew Duncan, remembered in Edinburgh in the context of the Andrew Duncan Clinic. The commission to create the tapestry, ‘To a Celtic Spirit’, by the artist Alan Davie, with funds from the Morton Trust led to the re-opening of the Dovecot Studio within Donaldson’s School for the Deaf. I thought it appropriate to finish my talk by mentioning the tapestry because in a sense it symbolises the tapestry of all the different components that come together to form our objectives in medical and veterinary education: the scientists, the clinicians, the laboratory technicians and the patients. That tapestry is something that we are enormously proud of in Edinburgh. We have a very great opportunity to do very good work here, and I think that ‘To a Celtic Spirit’ is quite a good title for this, because what we will continue to try and do is to embody the great Scottish traditions for education, for compassion and for service to the community.

A full text of Professor Calder’s presentation, along with questions and answers, is contained in the Annex to the Billet.

2.6 Any other competent business

No matters were raised.

2.7 Adjournment

The Motion by the Convener of the Business Committee that, for the purpose of considering matters which may be transmitted to the General Council by the University Court or any other business of a competent nature, the Business Committee be empowered to act on behalf of the
Council, and that this meeting be adjourned to a date to be fixed by the Business Committee, was approved.

The Rev. Russell Fountain closed the meeting with a benediction.

3. Report of the Business Committee

4. Motion

Preamble: The Business Committee on the advice of the Constitutional Standing Committee has revised Section 5 of the ‘Constitutional Arrangements’ (February 2003) of the General Council. The objectives of the revision have been:

1. to clarify and update General Council election procedures in line with current best practice as advised by the Electoral Reform Society and the Electoral Reform Ballot Services.

Nomination Forms have been amended to include a warning that false statements could render a nomination invalid, and provisions have been made in Section 5 for appropriate action to be taken in such circumstances.

2. to harmonise the provisions of Section 5 with the new academic year which takes effect from 2004.

Periods of office of members of the Business Committee have been amended to begin and end concurrently with the relevant academic year, which now begins on 1 August and ends on 31 July.

3. to clarify that the procedures for amendments to the ‘Constitutional Arrangements’ apply to the whole of the ‘Constitutional Arrangements’, and not solely to Section 5.

The clause that was previously 5.13 has been removed from Section 5, and forms a new section on its own (Section 8).

Motion: The General Council approves the amendment of Section 5 of the ‘Constitutional Arrangements’, and the creation of a new Section 8 to the ‘Constitutional Arrangements’, all as tabled at the meeting.

Proposed by the Business Committee

Additional Constitutional Matters: Council’s attention is drawn to a further change in the ‘Constitutional Arrangements’ in Section 4. Section 4 is an extract from University Ordinance No.198, and cannot be amended without amendment of that Ordinance.

As a consequence of changes in the academic year, the University has in this academic session required to amend other parts of that Ordinance that do not form part of the ‘Constitutional Arrangements’. In the normal course, the University informed us that this Ordinance was being changed. The procedures for changing ordinances are that a new Ordinance, approved by the Privy Council, is required. This is a significant and lengthy process.

At the time of intimation, the Constitutional Standing Committee was in the process of updating the ‘Constitutional Arrangements’, as outlined above. It is desirous to have continuity in Nominations Forms for election of Business Committee members and Assessors. Altering the Nomination Form for Assessors (which effectively forms part of Ordinance No.198) would require a new Ordinance, and since the University was already embarked upon amending Ordinance No.198, we thought it expedient to include our desired amendments within the University’s own procedures. Some urgency attached to the matter. As the University has taken some significant steps towards implementing the new academic year, we did not wish to delay the University, and, therefore, relying on Section 2.1. of the ‘Constitutional Arrangements’, whereby the Business Committee is empowered to act on behalf of Council, we requested that a change to our ‘Constitutional Arrangements’ to include the new Nomination Form, with related procedures, be included in the University’s new Ordinance No.205. This has been done, and the full text of all the requested amendments is available as shown below.

The full text of the amendments is mounted on the General Council’s website at www.general-council.ed.ac.uk, and may also be obtained, on request, from Mrs Jean Gibson, Assistant to the Secretary of the General Council, The University of Edinburgh, Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1HT. Tel: +44 (0) 131 650 2152.

Email: General.Council@ed.ac.uk. Copies of the full text will also be available on the day of the General Council Half-Yearly Meeting on Saturday 14 February 2004.

5. Dates of future meetings of the General Council

6. Presentation by the Principal of the Annual Report of the University

7. Any other competent business

8. Adjournment

The Annex to the Billet contains supporting papers for the Agenda, including communications from the University Court, full Standing Committee reports, a transcript of the presentation, and the Business Committee’s report to the meeting on 26 June 2003. General Council members may either collect the Annex from half-an-hour before the Council meeting or request it by post from: Mrs Jean Gibson, General Council Office, The University of Edinburgh, Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1HT.

Tel: +44 (0) 131 650 2152;

Email: General.Council@ed.ac.uk

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING IN LONDON
SATURDAY 26 JUNE 2004

The Half-Yearly Meeting in London in June 2004 will be an historic event, since it will be the first occasion on which the General Council of the University of Edinburgh has met in a location outside Edinburgh. A warm welcome is extended to all members of the General Council.

The Meeting will take place in the new Conference Centre of Birkbeck College, University of London, on Saturday 26 June 2004. The Centre is easily accessible from Euston and King’s Cross railway stations. The Meeting will begin at 11am, preceded by coffee from 10.30. Lunch will be held at 1pm, following a sherry reception at 12.30, and a warm welcome is extended to members of the General Council, other alumni, partners, family and friends. We are delighted that the after-lunch speaker will be Sir Malcolm Rifkind, President of the University’s Development Trust, and that Principal Timothy O’Shea has agreed to attend the Meeting and Lunch. The Edinburgh University Club of London, through its President, Ms Rosalind Topping, is kindly arranging a programme for the rest of the day, and details of this can be found elsewhere in the current issue of Edit (page 27). Further information about the General Council London Meeting, and precise details of location, will be mounted in due course on the General Council website at www.general-council.ed.ac.uk, so please keep a regular eye on the website.

Detailed information will also, of course, appear in the summer 2004 issue of the Billet within Edit. We greatly look forward to welcoming you to the London Meeting.
Officers

Chairman: His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, KG, KT
Secretary: Ann Matheson, OBE, MA, Dip.Scottish Studies, MLitt, PhD, Hon DLitt 2005
Registrar: Joanna Storrar, BA, MBA, Acting Director of Development and Acting Secretary of the Development Trust ex-officio

General Council Assessors on the University Court:

Margaret Tait, BSc 2005
Robin Blair, MA, LLB 2007
Gavin Scott, BCom, CA, MBA 2007

Business Committee:

Convener: Peter B. Freshwater, MA, MCLIP, FSA Scot 2004
Vice-Convener: Alan Johnston, MBA, CChem, FRSC, CBiol, FI Biol 2004
A Convener of Academic Standing Committee:
John Manson, BSc, MS(Calif), PhD 2004
F Convener of Standing Committee on Finance and Services:
Ian Smith, MA, DipMS, MIMIS 2004
P Convener of Public Affairs Standing Committee:
Ann Sutherland, MA 2004
C Convener of Constitutional Standing Committee:
Sheila Kirk, BA, LLB 2005

Members

‘A’ denotes a member of the Academic Standing Committee, ‘C’ a member of the Constitutional Standing Committee, ‘F’ a member of the Standing Committee on Finance and Statistics, and ‘P’ a member of the Public Affairs Standing Committee:

Chancellor’s Assessor:
The Rt Hon. Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, MA, LLB, QC, FRSE, FRIAS ex officio
C Sir Kenneth Scott, KCVO, CMG, MA 2004
P Neil Hynd, LVO, BArch (co-opted) 2004
A David Burton, BSc 2005
P Helen Campbell, MA 2005
F T Finlay Marshall, MA, FFA 2005
F Ian Miller, OBE, LLB 2005
A R E Asher, FRSE, DLitt, BA, PhD 2006
P Michael Conway, MA 2006
C Ralph Parkinson, MA Geography (Hons) 2006
C Graham Rule, BA, FRAS, FRSSA, FRMetS, FSA (Scot) 2006
P Roger Windsor, MBE, MA, BSc, BVMS, MRCVS 2006
C George Allen, BL 2007
F William Bowie, BSc 2007
A Carole Clarke, MA 2007
F Anne Patterson, BSc 2007

Assistant to the Secretary: Jean Gibson

Before the General Council Lunch on 28 June 2003, left to right:
Mr Alan Johnston (Vice-Convener of the Business Committee), Dr Michael Shea, CVO, DL, who gave the after-lunch address, Mr Tam Dalvall (Rector), Professor Andrew Calder (Head of the Division of Reproductive & Departmental Sciences, School of Clinical Sciences and Community Health, College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine), Mr Peter B Freshwater (Convener of the Business Committee), and Dr Ann Matheson (Secretary of the General Council).

The February 2004 General Council Lunch

Following the statutory meeting, members of the General Council, other alumni, partners, family and friends are cordially invited to the General Council Lunch on Saturday 14 February 2004 in the Playfair Library Hall, Old College. Professor Alexander McCall Smith (above) will give the after-lunch address.

Tickets at £13 include pre-lunch sherry and a three-course meal in the Playfair Library Hall. Table wines will be available for purchase. Tickets can be obtained from:
The General Council Office,
The University of Edinburgh,
Charles Stewart House,
9-16 Chambers Street,
Edinburgh EH1 1HT

If you would like to attend the next General Council Lunch, please complete and return the form on the inside of the rear cover no later than Monday 9 February 2004.
The February 2004 General Council Lunch

Please send me _____ tickets for the General Council Lunch.

A cheque for £_____ is enclosed, payable to The University of Edinburgh.

Name

Address

Postcode

Name(s) of guest(s)

Please return to: Mrs Jean Gibson, Assistant to the Secretary of the General Council, General Council Office, The University of Edinburgh, Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1HT.

www.general-council.ed.ac.uk
Have you completed your General Council Voting Paper, included with this issue?

Nominations for the election of five members of the Business Committee are given on page 36 of Edit. Please ensure that you use your opportunity to vote in the interests of the General Council and the University.

The enclosed Voting Paper should be returned, by noon on 12 February 2004, in the pre-paid envelope addressed to Development & Alumni.