

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007

NEWSLETTER

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



**Age of change:
The Chancellor writes**

SPECIAL PULL-OUT SECTION: Newcomers' Guide to the University

SNAP SHOT

The sky's the limit Earth from 32km won the Department of Engineering's 2007 Owlstone Photographic Competition. The contest aims to find images highlighting the research being undertaken by engineers, both in the lab and in the field. This image was taken from a space craft launched by a team of undergraduates, Henry Hallam, Robert Fryers, Carl Morland, Daniel Strange and Iain Waug, using a high altitude helium balloon. For more images, visit www.eng.cam.ac.uk/photocomp/2007.



Beautiful tourney Inter-Library Loan Officer and mid-fielder John Clarke proudly displays a medal following the inaugural Copyright Cup football tournament. A Cambridge University Library team competed in the tournament, held in Edinburgh in early June. The National Library of Scotland invited its counterparts in Ireland and Wales and the Cambridge library to represent England for a weekend of football revelry. Cambridge tied for third with Ireland, while top honours in the tournament went to Wales.



Raise a glass Friends of Cambridge University Botanic Garden gather in one of the Garden's newly-restored glasshouses this July. The party was one of several events to be held this year celebrating the Friends' 25th anniversary. The Friends' efforts have significantly enhanced the Garden's ability to provide learning and leisure opportunities for all visitors. A new Friends 25 Fund will build on that tradition of philanthropy. To join the Friends, email friends@botanic.cam.ac.uk.



Weathering storms Fun was not forgotten at the many summer schools that took place at Cambridge over a very wet summer. Well over 1,000 pupils, most from state schools, benefited from schemes organised by colleges, departments and the Cambridge Admissions Office. Pictured here are sixth-formers from state schools in East Anglia taking part in a summer school hosted by St Catharine's College. Their programme included a Frisbee tournament as well as an introduction to medieval Welsh.



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Prince Philip on a 17 April visit to Hughes Hall. Photo: Nigel Luckhurst

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NEWSLETTER

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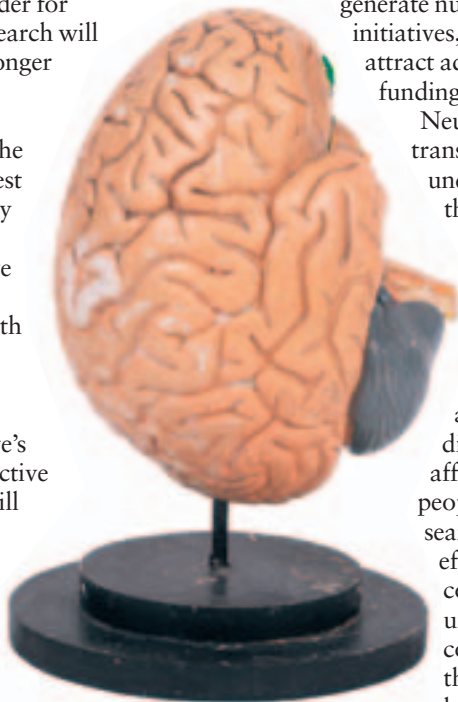
Newsletter online

www.admin.cam.ac.uk/univ/newsletter/

Combining brain power

CAMBRIDGE'S position as an international leader for neuroscience research will become even stronger this autumn. Cambridge Neuroscience – the University's largest multi-disciplinary research and teaching initiative – will launch on 19 September with a three-day international symposium.

At the initiative's heart is an interactive website which will facilitate collaborations across disciplines. With a searchable database of over 350 members, the virtual centre's directory provides an easily accessible resource of all neuroscience activity within Cambridge and its affiliated institutes. The new resource will promote both local and external



collaborations and should generate numerous other initiatives, as well as attract additional funding to the field.

Neuroscience has transformed our understanding of the healthy brain and promises new treatments for devastating disorders such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, which affect millions of people. As the search for more effective therapies continues, unravelling the complexities of the brain has become a multi-disciplinary enterprise. The new centre will build upon 50 years of neuroscience research at Cambridge, during which significant contributions from a broad range of areas have been made.

→ www.neuroscience.cam.ac.uk/

800th anniversary events take shape

IN 2009, numerous events will celebrate an institution whose ideas, people and achievements have transformed and benefited the world for 800 years.

Planned celebrations include a major music event involving current Cambridge musicians and well-known alumni in London in July 2009; a day at the Botanic Garden for all staff and their families; and a final outdoor event involving University and community partners and sponsors in late Michaelmas 2009. In addition, special exhibitions, concerts, podcasts, academic conferences and lectures will be on offer.

As well as the bicentennial Darwin Festival and exhibitions, many recurring events such as the Science Festival will have tie-ins to the 800th celebrations.

University, college and student groups will be encouraged to work in partnership with the 800th Anniversary Steering Committee, chaired by Jeremy Sanders, Deputy Vice-Chancellor. A partnership fund for celebratory activities will launch in autumn 2007, and information on this and the initial programme of events will be posted on the 800th website soon.

→ www.cam.ac.uk/800 or email ideas@800.cam.ac.uk

ALL NEW...

Race survey results



Huen Swee Kim

A report of an inaugural Race Equality Survey of all staff is now available at www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/personnel/equality/race/06outcome.html. The survey was carried out in November and December 2006 by the Personnel Division's Equality and Diversity Section on behalf of the Staff Race Equality Advisory Group (REAG). The survey's aim was to elicit information on: integration and social cohesion; race equality in recruitment, employment and promotion; the incidence of race discrimination; and the promotion of race equality. "The findings will underpin our race equality work in the immediate future," says Huen Swee Kim, Equality and Diversity Projects Officer. "We'd like to express our thanks to the more than 800 staff who took part in the survey and its focus groups."

→ To join REAG or a new Race Equality Network, to be set up in Michaelmas term, call 64091 or email equality@admin.cam.ac.uk

Bits into bytes

Help is available for large research projects requiring computer support. A number of different departments and groups across the University pool their computer resources to provide one large resource for their members at no additional cost. CamGrid, coordinated by the Cambridge eScience Centre, gives the users access to the sort of computing power they couldn't hope to get using just their local resources. Users praise the system for helping to greatly reduce the time it takes to complete complicated research tasks. CamGrid was recently granted £450k by the University in the Science Research Investment Fund (SRIF) allocation to purchase machines and distribute to member departments.

→ www.escience.cam.ac.uk/projects/camgrid/

F-Word challenge



Good food is on the agenda when College and University Centre chefs mix it up for a cooking contest this autumn. The Cambridge Colleges Chefs' Competition will be held Wednesday, 24 October at Girton College. Chefs will compete in five categories: cold starter, main course, cold sweet, vegetarian dish and under 21's poultry dish. Staff are welcome to view the entries from 11am; an awards ceremony will take place at 3pm.

→ 34960 or e-mail kjk31@cam.ac.uk.

Vice-Chancellor calls for strong UK universities

VICE-CHANCELLOR Professor Alison Richard was asked recently to give evidence before the Education and Skills Select Committee in the House of Commons.

The Committee, which was conducting a wide-ranging inquiry into the future sustainability of the higher education sector, sought her perspective of the UK's international position. Members questioned the Vice-Chancellor on how UK higher education should be progressing in an increasingly global university sector.

Professor Richard is well placed to contribute to this enquiry not only because of her role as Cambridge's Vice-Chancellor but also because of her 30 years of experience in the American higher education system. She was Provost of Yale prior to coming to Cambridge in 2003.

Giving evidence alongside Professor Georg Winckler, Rector of the University of Vienna and President of the European University Association, Professor Richard stressed the high quality of UK universities. Comparing UK and US higher education, she said, "The UK's university system is much smaller but, in my estimation, punches far



Vice-Chancellor
Alison Richard

above its weight and outperforms every other nation except the US."

She added, "We are also the only country other than the US to have universities, Cambridge and Oxford, in the top 10 in the world according to the Shanghai Jiao Tong World League table."

However, she also warned that this global pre-eminence was "ours to lose" and posed the question: "What will it take to keep the UK

system as a global centre of excellence, respected and admired around the world?"

She offered four points in answer:

- We must stay focussed on quality, not on volume.
- We must price the education we offer competitively, particularly at the postgraduate level where international competition for talent is intensifying.
- At the national policy-making level, we must remain joined-up and sensitive to the knock-on effects for student recruitment of policy decisions in other areas.
- We must consolidate the UK's role as a major hub in the emerging global network of universities.

At the session's end, the Committee Chair, Labour MP Barry Sheerman, thanked Professor Richard and said the Committee members had learnt a great deal.

Professor Richard concluded by saying: "We need strong universities otherwise we will not meet the challenges of the future, and universities need to be autonomous with institutional strategies."

→ A full transcript of the evidence session can be found at www.parliament.uk.

STEVE FORREST INSIGHT VISUAL

Your degree of influence

STAFF ARE BEING encouraged this year to make nominations for recipients of honorary degrees. Have your say on which persons of distinction in scholarship, public life, or performance deserve the highest accolade the University can bestow. Depending on their accomplishments, recipients are granted doctorates honoris causa of Divinity, Law, Science, Letters or Music.

The Council's Honorary Degree Committee will meet in late



Ann Cotton and Dr Hans Blix proceed to the 2007 Honorary Degree Congregation

September to consider nominations for 2008 and beyond. Make your suggestion by submitting a nomination letter or email (v-c@admin.cam.ac.uk) to Vice-Chancellor Professor Alison Richard. Nominations should include a paragraph giving, briefly, the case for consideration.

In 2007, the honorary degree of Doctor of Law was given to the former Iraq weapons inspector and Swedish diplomat Dr Hans Blix; to Cambridge-based charity founder

and entrepreneur Ann Cotton OBE; to philosopher and President of the British Academy Baroness O'Neill; and to the Government economic adviser Sir Nicholas Stern. The honorary degree of Doctor of Science was awarded to palaeoanthropologist Richard Leakey and to pioneering biologist Sir John Gurdon, whilst the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters was conferred upon artist David Hockney and biographer Claire Tomalin.

Getting down to business

A CAMBRIDGE Enterprise programme aims to connect University start-up companies with local entrepreneurs, who can give free advice on how to move research from the laboratory to the commercial sector.

David Gough, an entrepreneur based in Cambridge, believes that mentoring is essential for early stage businesses. He became a mentor after being approached by Cambridge Enterprise, which is responsible for commercialising University technology.

“Mentoring is an essential part of life in the emerging business community and I enjoy the challenges that this presents,” says David, who has been credited with co-founding seven technology based companies.

As part of the mentoring programme, which has been running for six years, Cambridge Enterprise has linked him with several start-up companies taking part in the annual Cambridge University Entrepreneurs (CUE) business plan competition. Since 1999, this student-run competition, supported by Cambridge Enterprise, has awarded over £280,000 in grants to 31 business ideas from staff and students at the University.

One University business David has successfully mentored is 2006 competition winner CamStent, which was set up by former students studying on a Master’s in BioScience Enterprise course. The business – which aims to revolutionise the treatment for coronary artery disease by developing a ‘non-stick stent’ to hold the heart artery open – is still at an early stage but moving forward steadily. In June, it was awarded a further grant from the East of England Development Agency (EEDA).

Staff who have inventions in

“Researchers who network are most likely to succeed commercially”

the early stages of technology can also attend ‘mentoring breakfasts’ run by Cambridge Enterprise, where they can meet potential mentors with relevant backgrounds.

“The way to find a mentor is by networking with like-minded people at events we run and those held by the Cambridge Network – an organisation that links local people from business, finance and academia,” says Shirley Jamieson, Head of Marketing at Cambridge Enterprise. “We’ve found that often researchers who network are most likely to succeed commercially.”

→ For details on the mentoring programme, email Shirley Jamieson at shirley.jamieson@enterprise.cam.ac.uk.



Entrepreneur David Gough

ALL NEW...

Rewards for play



The Universities Holiday Playscheme was recently successfully reviewed by the Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills (Ofsted). The government agency inspected the Chesterton School playscheme during the May half-term and awarded an ‘outstanding’ outcome to the scheme for ‘helping children to enjoy and achieve’ and ‘helping children make a positive contribution’. The remaining three judgement areas received ‘good’ outcomes for ‘helping children to stay healthy,’ ‘protecting children’ and ‘the organisation of childcare.’ The playscheme provides childcare for the children of Cambridge University and Anglia Ruskin University staff and students during the state school holiday periods, excluding Christmas and Bank Holidays.

Diverse voices



All staff are invited to hear the Chief Executive of Stonewall, Europe’s largest gay equality organisation, give a public lecture. Ben Summerskill will speak on “From Carrying an Umbrella to Changing the Weather – Making Difference Matter in 21st Century Britain,” at 5pm on 9 October in the Keynes Lecture Theatre, King’s College. Summerskill was closely involved in the successful campaign to introduce civil partnership in Britain and is a former assistant editor of the *Observer*. The lecture is organised by a new steering group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual staff, formed under the auspices of the Personnel Division’s Equality and Diversity initiatives.

→ Free tickets are available from Equality.And.Diversity.Administration@admin.cam.ac.uk.

Fare changes for buses

University staff will no longer be able to benefit from 50p fares on every Citi bus service. Stagecoach ended the trial fare scheme on 30 June, advising that it was not financially viable, or close to becoming financially viable. However, University Card holders who ride the Citi 4 Service between the City Centre and the West Cambridge site will still only be charged a 50p fare. The Citi4 combines with the Uni4 bus to provide a 10-minute service frequency between Trumpington Street and the West Cambridge Site. The 50p fare remains on the Uni4 bus service, which operates between Addenbrooke’s and Maddingley Road Park and Ride.

His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh has served the University of Cambridge as Chancellor since 1977. In this essay written specifically for University staff, he reflects on the changes – institutional and cultural – he has witnessed during the past three decades.

Chancellor reflects on an age of change

THE THIRTY YEARS during which I have had the honour to serve as Chancellor are like the blink of an eyelid in the long history of the University, yet I suspect that there have been more radical changes in Cambridge during that time than in all the previous 770 years.

The University has always been gradually increasing in size, but in recent years there has been a veritable explosion in the academic population, the accommodation for graduate and undergraduate students, in the number of faculty buildings and in the teaching facilities.

Women

It is worth bearing in mind that, while women gained the right to take the tripos examinations in 1881, it was only in 1947 that they were granted full membership of the university. In 1965 the statute prohibiting mixed colleges was repealed, and in 1987 the university fully adopted the policy of equal opportunities. It all seems like ancient history now, but it means that the full consequences of this major change were only felt in the last 30 years.

Governance

Probably the most far-reaching change took place as a result of the Wass Report of 1989. This initiated a major restructuring of what was, admittedly, a not very coherent form of governance.

The most significant innovation was the appointment of the first

Cambridge has succeeded in retaining its own very special ethos

‘permanent’ and full-time Vice-Chancellor in 1992. One of the consequences, unintended I suspect, was that the Vice-Chancellor became both Chairman of the Council and – in effect – the University’s Chief Executive Officer.

Various other reforms created a more coordinated system of committees.

Access

The large-scale introduction of comprehensive schools in 1965 increased the pressure to admit more students from state schools. The discussion about wider access continues, although opinion seems to be divided between achieving a proportional balance of numbers from state and private schools and spreading the net wider while maintaining the demand for the highest standard of qualifications regardless of scholastic origins.

The principle that the State should fund tertiary education may have been generally accepted, but the problems of its practical application have never been entirely satisfactorily resolved. One, not entirely unexpected, consequence of state funding was the significant growth in the number of school-leavers who qualified for places at universities.

Buildings

This, coupled with the gradual disappearance of the traditional ‘digs’ offered by landladies, meant that all universities had to provide much more student accommodation. In Cambridge, this sparked a massive building programme among the colleges so that today the majority of students of all years can find accommodation in their colleges.

Apart from the massive growth in total student numbers from 11,000 in 1977 to 18,000 today, there has been an even greater proportional explosion in graduate students. Thirty years ago there were some 1,900 while today that number has grown to more than 6,000. The demand for accommodation has risen accordingly, which resulted in the founding of six ‘graduate’ colleges and a substantial increase in the number of Fellows in all colleges.

Teaching space has had to expand, and the previously vacant Sidgwick Site has become home for the humanities and social sciences. Altogether the physical presence of the University has grown by 20%.

Revolution

In the academic field, things have also changed dramatically. The post-war technological revolution stimulated demand for appropriate courses, while these in turn triggered further advances. The electronic



“I am also touched and flattered that you should want to celebrate my thirty years as Chancellor. As I joined the Navy in May 1939, the war rather interfered with the hope of my attending any university. Later on, circumstances dictated that, when I did eventually become involved in the university world, I was to begin my university career at the wrong end – as it were.”

Address to the Senate House, 17 April, 2007

revolution followed, which created yet another area of demand, both for courses and for teaching and research facilities. Science parks appeared, the fields of west Cambridge suddenly blossomed with huge new buildings and there was considerable redevelopment in the city itself. The new technology has had an impact on budgets, too. For example, the newer scientific subjects are a great deal more expensive than the more traditional ones. This has meant that in each of the last three decades the University's research budget has doubled.

All this very rapid academic and technological development created a new problem for all universities. In effect, the rate of progress in technology was now outstripping the rate of turnover of academic staff. Students were beginning to feel that their professors were getting out of date. I suspect that much of the student unrest of the late 1960s was due to this phenomenon. Fortunately Cambridge remained largely immune to this situation thanks to its supervision system, and the quality of its academic staff.

Post-war education in schools had also become more serious. Parents could see that good jobs depended on good academic credentials. Pressure on schools, by parents and by league tables, to achieve better

academic results had the effect of increasing the demand for university places, but it also meant reducing the time available for sport and other extra-curricular activities, both in schools and in universities.

What has impressed me more than anything has been that, in spite of this dramatic growth and its consequential changes, Cambridge has succeeded in retaining its own very special ethos. So much, both in the country at large and in Cambridge, has undergone radical change, but the general atmosphere at Cambridge has remained much the same. The ancient buildings and customs continue to exert their peculiar edifying effect on all who choose to learn or teach at the University.

Benefactors

It is worth remembering that Cambridge is the creation of its benefactors over the last eight centuries. I think it is immensely encouraging that it continues to attract so many extremely generous benefactors today. I am perfectly confident that it will continue to do so for as long as it sticks to its prime concern, which has always been to help the most talented young people to make the utmost of their talents while basing their beliefs and behaviour on the highest standards of human civilisation.



Above, In photos from the University Archives, the Chancellor is shown visiting the Chemistry Laboratory in the 1980s, top, and at a 29 May, 1981, surrender of maces and presentation of the Royal Address with Her Majesty the Queen. Below, Prince Philip tours the Museum of Classical Archaeology with Professor Mary Beard on 8 June, 2005.



Professor Tony Minson, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Planning and Resources, and Peter Agar, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, discuss Cambridge's £1 billion fund-raising Campaign

Investing in Cambridge's future



Peter Agar



Professor Tony Minson

How is the current Campaign different from previous fund-raising efforts?

PA: The colleges and the University have of course been fund-raising for many years, but the Campaign reinforces that effort in a number of ways. This is the first time that the colleges and University have collaborated on a major fundraising campaign and shows very clearly to donors that we are working together to a common purpose. Organising a Campaign, as opposed to conducting individual fund-raising efforts, also makes the importance of donor support much more explicit to the overall future of Collegiate Cambridge. A Campaign energises support and helps create an environment in which existing donors are more focused on helping us seek new gifts from their peers.

When will the benefits of the Campaign be felt?

TM: Many donations are already providing tangible benefits to the Cambridge community, whether it be in the form of endowed professorships or new and refurbished facilities. How and when a gift is used depends on agreements reached with the donor.

What kind of gifts do we get and how do we spend them?

PA: Gifts come in three major categories: capital projects, which are mainly for new and refurbished buildings; current programmes, where the gift is used to support ongoing activity; and endowment, in which a trust fund is established for a specific purpose under regulations approved by the Regent House. In 2005-06, for example, around 50%

of gifts to the University went to endowment, and the remainder were divided fairly evenly between current use and construction.

How are gifts allocated to projects?

TM: Each School, together with major institutions such as the Fitzwilliam and the University Library, have developed agreed lists of "funding opportunities" for which they seek resources. This menu of options provides the basis for discussions with donors. Some donors prefer to support projects which have a specific link to their interests whereas others want to look at a range of suggested options. A key part of our interaction with potential donors and benefactors is to match their wishes and interests with our academic priorities

Do gifts have to be large?

PA: No. We value all gifts to the Campaign because all donations make a difference. One of the aims of the Campaign is to increase regular giving by alumni, which even at a modest level can have a direct and immediate impact.

Why does Cambridge need extra funds?

TM: In order to remain one of the world's best universities, Cambridge must have more resources to invest in students, staff, facilities and programmes. For example, government grants currently cover about half the costs of an undergraduate degree, with an additional 20% covered by fees from home students. The remaining 30% is covered by income from college and University endowments

Many donations are already providing tangible benefits to the Cambridge community

and other sources of income, such as conferences. In such a tight funding environment, there is very little leeway for making long-term investments in our future. Donations are one important way in which we can ensure that these investments are made.

How do the colleges fit into the Campaign?

PA: The colleges and the University are equal partners in the Campaign, with gifts to either counting toward the Campaign total. In terms of governance, the Campaign is overseen by the Joint Committee on Development, which reports to both the University Council and the Colleges' Committee. This Collegiate Cambridge perspective is also reflected by the Campaign Board; its 18 members – all of whom have made seven-figure pledges – have supported both colleges and University through their personal gifts. At the operational level, each college has its own Development Office, but liaises with CUDO under the arrangements agreed in a Campaign Memorandum of Understanding.

THE CAMPAIGN

The 800th Anniversary Campaign was launched publicly in September 2005 with the aim of raising £1 billion by 2012. The Campaign's four investment goals are: to invest in staff; support students; enhance the freedom to discover; and develop Cambridge's outstanding collections and architectural heritage for future generations. At its mid-point in February 2007, a total of just over £500 million had been raised.

→ For a Campaign Report, go to www.foundation.cam.ac.uk/uploads/file/800%20Report.pdf

NEWCOMERS' GUIDE TO THE UNIVERSITY



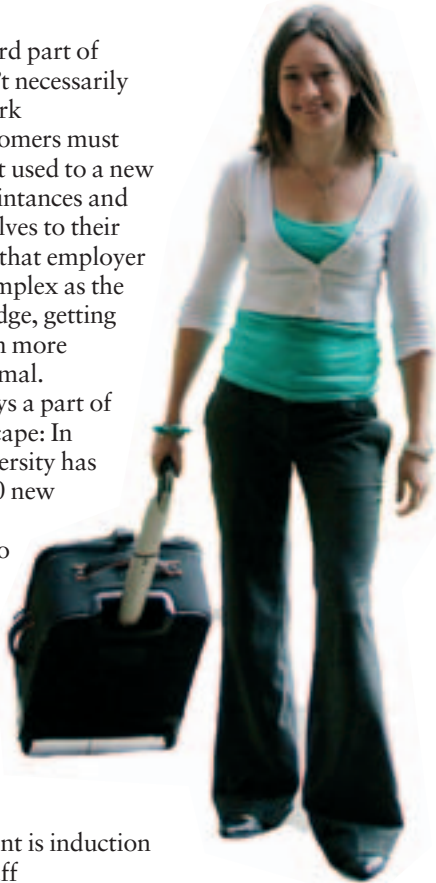
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Getting started

SOMETIMES, the hard part of starting a new job isn't necessarily the job. On top of work responsibilities, newcomers must find a place to live, get used to a new city, make new acquaintances and quickly orient themselves to their new employer. When that employer is an institution as complex as the University of Cambridge, getting orientated can be even more complicated than normal.

New staff are always a part of the Cambridge landscape: In recent years, the University has averaged nearly 1,700 new starters a year. In this 'Newcomers' Guide to the University', we've pulled together information to help them navigate Cambridge, but even long-term staff may find it helpful to have a refresher on University benefits.

A good starting point is induction courses offered by Staff Development. "Staff Development has a lot to offer new employees," says Lynne Blanchfield, Staff Development Officer. "We run a variety of interesting programmes and give tailored support to both individuals and departments. Staff are welcome at any point in their career to talk to a staff development



Lifelong Learning Day, a joint initiative between Staff Development and the Amicus Union, is planned for 21 May, 2008.



PHOTO BY NIGEL LUCKHURST

officer about their professional, personal or career development."

All new assistant staff are invited to a **Welcome to the University: Development Opportunities, Services and Benefits** session. Offered monthly, each session comprises a morning of speakers from different sections of the University who present key information about their activities.

All new teaching staff, contract research staff and academic-related staff are invited to an all-day **Welcome to the University: Cultures, Facilities and Opportunities** where presenters review the way the University works and offer newcomers an opportunity to meet the providers of key University services. An **Introductory Briefing for New Administrators** is a complementary course which identifies current strategic issues.

The **CareerStart@cam** programme for support staff offers professional and personal development and vocational training to employees who are new to the workplace, in their first main career post or returning to work after a career break for family or illness reasons.

Academic and academic-related staff may benefit from a series of lunchtime seminars on **Government of the University** led by expert speakers who talk from a personal point of view for 20 minutes and then chair a discussion. Staff Development also coordinates a professional development programme, the **Pathways in Higher Education Practice (PHEP)** for newly appointed University Lecturers with probationary appointments and College Teaching Officers.

→ For details, visit www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/personnel/staffdev/

SMART MOVES

Finding a place to live in Cambridge can be a highly stressful experience. Rents are high, city centre accommodation is limited and researching available properties can be very time consuming.

Help is available, however, through the friendly and knowledgeable team at the University's Accommodation Service. Staff and visiting scholars can benefit from access to listings of available properties owned by the University and by independent landlords, as well as advice on everything from local schools to purchasing a car.



Nicky Blanning

"We are here to help," says Nicky Blanning, Head of the Accommodation Service, which is based in Kellet Lodge on Tennis Court Road. "We try to make the move to Cambridge go as smoothly as possible."

The free service provides information on rented properties including flats, houses and rooms in shared houses, available on both long and short-term contract. Registration is easy and enables users to search an online database of available properties. It is available to all members – or verified incoming members – of the University.

"The most important thing to do is plan ahead," says Blanning. "We'd really like to see departments and offices encouraging new staff to get in touch with us as soon as possible so we can prepare effectively."

→ www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk

NEWCOMERS' GUIDE

Ten things every newcomer should know

1 Best buys. A good place to find inexpensive goods is a 'moving sales' section of the Accommodation Service website. Or, find information on numerous other discounts available to staff listed on the Personnel Division's web pages.
→ www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk/Content/Document.aspx?document_id=43
→ www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/personnell/staff/benefits/discounts.html

2 Visit a College. Your University or College ID can provide you with access to the grounds of Cambridge colleges. The colleges offer a stunning selection of architectural styles from the past 800 years and are home to some of the best gardens in England. Time your visit right and be treated to the harmonies of a college choir as they sing Evensong.

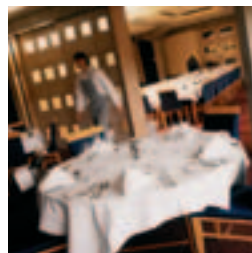
3 Continue your education. The Institute of Continuing Education in Madingley Hall offers a large and flexible programme of part-time learning opportunities for adults. Courses are available for personal enrichment as well as for formal qualifications.
→ www.cont-ed.cam.ac.uk/

4 Reach out. Join the more than 8,000 staff and students who partner with the public each year. Community Affairs offers ways to help

you set up a public initiative, grants for volunteering endeavours and opportunities for involvement in the Cambridge Science Festival and the new Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Festival.
→ www.cam.ac.uk/cambforall/univ.html

5 Socialise. Monthly pub quizzes, ballet and Tai Chi lessons, beer festivals, clubs for angling, crickets, darts, swimming and soccer: the University Social Club on Mill Lane provides a friendly gathering spot for staff. The Club is home to a restaurant offering hot meals and baguettes for lunch, as well as an inexpensive function room available for hire. A ground floor bar is open nightly on weekdays.
→ www.ussc.cam.ac.uk/

6 Help for parents. Cambridge staff have access to some of the best university-provided childcare in Britain. The University operates two nurseries and a holiday playscheme and there are three college-run nurseries. Staff can join a staff parent email list and take advantage of salary sacrifice schemes to save tax and NI payments on childcare costs.
→ www.cam.ac.uk/cambuniv/childcare/



Elegant meals are served in the University Centre's Riverside Restaurant

7 Enjoy good food. Situated on a prime spot on the River Cam, the University Centre offers scenic views for staff. The Centre has three restaurants available for lunch or dinner or staff can enjoy a drink in the recently refurbished Granta Bar. The Centre has rooms available for TV-watching, computer-use, and reading newspapers and magazines. Membership is free for all University employees and their spouses. Accompanied guests are welcome.
→ www.unicen.cam.ac.uk/

8 Informative surfing. When and how are you paid? What are the pension plans? How do you get around Cambridge? Sports, safety, chaplains, counselling, health care, mentoring ... the Personnel Division has designed its web pages for new staff to be a comprehensive guide to all things Cambridge.
→ www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/personnell/jobs/living/
→ www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/personnell/staff/new/

9 Where to people watch. King's Parade, the stretch of road in front of King's College, is very aptly named 'Parade.' It is one of the best areas in the city to observe a mix of tourists, students and staff rubbing shoulders.

10 Ride a bike. A Park and Cycle facility provides 292 parking spaces and 300 personal lockers for bike storage, all for a one-off payment of £1. The secure facility is located at the West Cambridge Site. All cyclists are also eligible for a Travel to Work loan (available for bus and rail tickets, as well) to help with the cost of buying a bike. Call 32348 for loan details.
→ www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/embs/travell/cycle/



Trinity College's Great Court is the largest in any Cambridge College

Learn the lingo: Cambridge-speak for beginners

Newcomers will discover very quickly that the University has developed its own vocabulary and, in some cases, unusual pronunciations. (Be sure to say 'maud-lynn' for Magdalene and 'Keys College' for Gonville and Caius.) We've compiled a quick reference guide to some of the most common terms. For a more comprehensive list, visit www.cam.ac.uk/cambuniv/pubs/works/.

Backs: The lawns and grounds behind Queens', King's, Clare, Trinity Hall, Trinity and St John's Colleges on both sides of the River Cam.

Cantab: A term used to designate that a degree was earned at Cambridge. The word is an abbreviation of Cantabrigiensis, the adjective from the Latinised name for Cambridge.

Council: The executive and policy-making body of the University comprised of the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and 21 elected and appointed members.

Esquire Bedells: Best known for being the two robed individuals carrying large silver maces who walk in front of the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor at



ceremonial occasions. The list of holders dates back to 1250; the maces they carry to 1616 (pictured).

Graces: Motions on University business put forward for decision by the Regent House, normally by the Council. They are published in the University Reporter and may be approved without dissent if no

opposition is raised within ten days. A ballot on a Grace takes place if requested by Council or 25 Regent House members.

Grad pad: Slang for the University Centre.

Granta: Another name for the River Cam, flowing above the Silver Street Bridge.

May Week: Neither in May, nor really a week, May Week activities

include student concerts and plays, College rowing competitions on the Cam, elaborate balls held at each College, and general merriment. It is observed in June.

Old Schools: Refers to the buildings next to the Senate House which are home to the University's central administration, including the offices of the Registry and the Vice-Chancellor. The odd name refers to the 14th century, when University lectures took place in rented 'Schools' in the area.

The other place: Oxford University.

Regent House: The University's governing body and legislative authority. There are roughly 3,800 members, primarily University Officers, Heads and Fellows of Colleges.

Reporter, The: The University's official journal, published every Wednesday in full term, which contains all university reports and announcements and lists events, Graces, lecture lists, vacancies and appointments.

UL, The: The University Library.

WELL-CONNECTED

Building relationships is one of the best ways to get settled in a new place. The University offers numerous opportunities to meet people, whether through societies, social centres like the University Centre or sporting clubs. As a starting point, here is a sample of University-wide organisations open to staff.

The Newcomers and Visiting Scholars Group is a useful way to get acclimatised to Cambridge quickly. Senior members of the University, academics here on sabbatical, graduate students and

post-docs – and their families – are invited to a range of activities to help build friendships. Coffee mornings are held from 10:45am-noon on Tuesdays during term time in the University Centre. ➔ www.admin.cam.ac.uk/univ/newcomers/

A Women's Network gives all staff the opportunity to find support and to discuss issues from women's perspectives. Events are advertised on the ucam-women email list. To subscribe, visit <https://lists.cam.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/ucam-women>

➔ www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/personnellequality/network/

The Women in Science, Engineering and Technology Initiative (WiSETI) supports women working in science, engineering and technology (SET) through networking events. The group also works to promote an inclusive culture in SET departments, through workshops and the University's participation in the SWAN Charter scheme. ➔ www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/personnellequality/wiseti/

The LGBT Network is a new group formed to help lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual staff meet one another. The group is hosting a social gathering at 5pm in the top bar of B-Bar, Market Passage, on 19 September. ➔ www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/personnellequality/sexuality/

Post-Docs of Cambridge (PdOC) meets on a monthly basis as well as for special events and provides an opportunity to meet researchers from outside of your department. ➔ www.cam.ac.uk/societies/pdoc/

NEWCOMERS' GUIDE

Add some spice to your life

Want to hear some Bach or see a lecture on barbarian architecture? The University runs a vast array of events not only for University members but also the public. All are listed in the *What's On* guide, currently undergoing a major revamp



ONE OF THE unique aspects of living in a University city is the extraordinary quality of the cultural events on offer. Cambridge is a place of ideas – their creation and their sharing – and is full of people with high levels of curiosity. And this curiosity does not stop in the lab or seminar room but extends itself to all kinds of art, music, sport and lectures on sometimes highly specialist subjects.

So how do you get to hear about what's on? The Communications Services team who produce the University's *What's On* guide have recently reviewed the current brochure, distributed once a term.

Their survey confirmed that, while people really like it, it is not seen round town enough.

So now *What's On* will move from termly to monthly, relaunching in October. (A copy is included in this *Newsletter*). By coming out more frequently, more events will be able to be included. The format is changing, too, from brochure to poster, both A2 and A3 sizes. There will also be a folded, take-away version of the poster for the public to pick up. Distribution will be expanded, with 10 times the amount of *What's On* appearing in the city centre, including in cafes and shops. It will also be distributed to

departments, faculties and colleges. The design of the *What's On* web pages is also being improved to make it easier to find events.

Staff across the University are asked to help with the new poster by displaying it prominently in departments, colleges and venues. Anyone organising an event is invited to submit details via an email form. (An automated, online form is being developed.) To receive the poster, or to submit events, email claire.edwards@admin.cam.ac.uk. The November edition deadline is 7 October.

Ten times the amount of *What's On* will appear in the city centre, including cafes

HOW ABOUT ...



Swimming sessions

The University Social Club invites adults and children to join them weekly at the Leys School. £3/£1.50. Free trial swim.

When: Every Tuesday evening, 7.15–8.15pm

Where: Leys School Pool, Trumpington Road

Contact: Mike Buttress, 32237, mjb49@admin.cam.ac.uk



Norwegian folk songs

The world-famous trio of Scandinavian sopranos, Trio Mediaeval, is joined by percussionist Birger Misteregg to perform traditional Norwegian folk songs and medieval ballads.

When: 27 October, 7.30pm

Where: Trinity College Chapel

Contact: 01223 847330, info@cemss.org



Contemporary Muslim cosmopolitans

Conference aimed at broadening our understanding of the Muslim world.

When: 19–20 October

Where: Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), 17 Mill Lane

Contact: www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/



Bach with Britten Sinfonia

Hear the University's Orchestra-in-Residence perform Bach's *Violin Concerto in A minor*, Hartmann's *Concerto Funèbre* and Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht*.

When: 22 October, 8pm

Where: West Road Concert Hall

Contact: 01223 357851, www.brittensinfonia.co.uk

Whether planning events for the public or finding new channels for funding, Liz Hide brings creativity and enthusiasm to her role as Museums Development Officer

Museums' hidden treasure

AN EARLY INTEREST in collecting has led to a lifelong passion for Liz Hide, Museums Development Officer for the University.

"I've had an interest in science and the natural world from an early age and as a child spent many family holidays collecting fossils and minerals on the beaches of Yorkshire and the hills of the Peak District and the Lake District," she says.

Liz trained as a geologist and palaeontologist, but found research to be quite isolating, realising that her real strength lay in enthusing others about her subject.

Although she has worked in museums for the past 10 years, first as a curator and more recently developing exhibitions, her role as Museums Development Officer is relatively new. She started in 2005 and is funded through a government project to revitalise regional museums.

She supports the work of the smaller museums of the University, developing ways in which all nine can work together, share skills and

resources and improve communication. Her activities range across a spectrum of work, both targeting the public and planning behind-the-scenes. In one day she might prepare a funding bid, coordinate publicity for a programme of family activities, discuss the installation of a new exhibition and meet with representatives from other museums in the region.

Liz is eager to show that our museums are far from the dusty old stereotypes: "Museums are the most remarkable and inspiring places. Where else can you learn first-hand from rich and remarkable collections such as Captain Scott's last letters home or specimens collected by Charles Darwin during the Beagle voyage?"

"They also provide a rare opportunity for members of the public to get involved in University research at many different levels, from family activity days to people sharing their enthusiasm and knowledge as volunteers."

She finds that helping colleagues



"I've had an interest in science and the natural world from an early age"

from the different University museums to collaborate is very rewarding. "When you put them together, all sorts of exciting and creative projects emerge," she says. One example is the 'Twilight at the Museums' event which took place during February half term, where families took museum tours by torchlight. The event pulled in more than 1,000 people, nearly half of whom were new to the museums.

Liz is now planning creative museums activities as part of the Big Draw, a nationwide drawing event held in October, including Cambridge's biggest ever game of consequences. Another project in the pipeline aims to attract more school parties into the museums and enhance their studies through creative workshops that bring the collections to life.

Funding is always a challenge, especially for long-term projects, but Liz is optimistic for the future of the University's fantastic range of museums.

"Though many of the museums are small and under-resourced, they have incredible potential and my role is to help them realise that," she says. "Nothing can beat the face of someone who's been inspired by something you've shown them – after all, who knows where a spark of interest might lead!"



Above, Liz Hide inside the University Museum of Zoology, one of nine museums she helps to promote. Left, visitors to the museum take a close look at a red deer skeleton.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Traditional inefficient household light bulbs could be banned in a few years following a ruling by the EU. At Cambridge, scientists already have an alternative solution that's keeping the future bright

Light fantastic

HOW MANY academics does it take to change a light bulb? According to the joke once sent to *New Scientist*, the answer is none (because they get their students to do it for them), but the truth is that here at Cambridge academics are busily changing the face of the light bulb as we know it.

In fact, research in the Department of Materials Science may soon lead to us using new kinds of lights in our homes or offices. A team led by Professor Colin Humphreys is developing new types of Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs).

LEDs are the little coloured lights used in electronic equipment or roadside signs, and are already a common sight in Cambridge because we use them on bicycles as well. They contain a carefully grown crystal substance (often gallium

nitride) which is connected to a number of tiny wires. When electricity runs through the wires, the crystal is excited and gives off energy that causes it to light up.

In fewer than five years the light bulbs sold on supermarket shelves could be made from LEDs as well. The European Union has announced plans to ban the production of traditional bulbs – perhaps as soon as 2010. These old-fashioned, tungsten filament bulbs are a huge drain on the environment because of the amount of electricity they require. The energy used to supply lighting throughout the world creates 1,900 megatonnes of carbon emissions every year – three times more than the emissions produced by the aviation industry.

Tungsten filament bulbs lose 95% of their energy as heat – meaning

With LEDs capable of lasting 100,000 hours, many people would only have to change the light bulb once in their lifetime

that only 5% of their energy is given out as light. The fluorescent tubes we use in our offices waste 85% of their energy in the same way. LEDs, however, stay cool, so 50% of their energy becomes light. Professor Humphreys, among others, believes this figure could be raised to 80%.

“We are hopeful that Cambridge can become a national research centre for LED lighting,” he says. “At the moment countries like America, China, Japan and South Korea all have national LED programmes, but Britain has none – even though, ironically, much of the breakthrough work is being done here at Cambridge.”

If LEDs are so much better for the environment, why not start installing them straight away? Surely Professor Humphreys has them in his house?

“No,” he says. “At the moment LEDs are fine for a torch, or the internal lighting in cars or buses. But for the home the quality of light is too harsh and cold – much worse than a tungsten filament bulb.

“It’s a question of whether when you switch the light on, your skin or clothes look a natural colour. Maybe this sort of thing shouldn’t matter to people, but it does.”

Later this year, Professor Humphreys will be joined in the department by another leading materials scientist, Professor Tony Cheetham, who works on phosphors that can manipulate the quality and colour of LEDs. Together, they hope to develop LEDs that mimic natural sunlight.

Add to that the fact that the best LEDs last for 100,000 hours –

LEDs PUT TO GOOD USE

→ In October 2006, it was announced that the front of Buckingham Palace would be illuminated at sunset every day since tourists had complained they could not see it after dark. Apparently the Queen herself requested that LEDs be used to light the building because of their energy saving potential.

→ The Australian airline, Qantas, is already one step ahead of the competition with LED mood lighting for its long-haul flights. Passengers are roused into wakefulness by a cabin bathed in blue-white, but the lights take on a reddish tinge when they want to go to sleep.



→ Denver, Colorado, was one of the first places to fit LED traffic lights. More than 48,000 of its traffic lights have now been converted to LEDs, which has saved the city more than \$800,000 per year in energy, labour and materials costs. It has also saved 3,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year.

→ LEDs are already widely used as backlighting in mobile phones, and as interior lighting in aircraft, cars and buses. Audi A6 and A8 cars are using white LEDs as front daytime running lights, and this year BMW will introduce white LEDs in its top-of-the-range headlamps.

→ For more stories about breakthroughs in the sciences and the arts by Cambridge researchers go to www.admin.cam.ac.uk/news



The largest LED display in the world is at Fremont Street, Las Vegas, where pedestrians on the covered walkway can look up to see a constantly changing overhead picture that measures 1,500 feet long. The display contains 12.5 million LEDs, and barely ever needs maintenance. Opposite page, green LEDs grown in Cambridge by Colin Humphrey's research group.

compared with the 1,000 hours offered by tungsten filament light bulbs and the 10,000 hours claimed for fluorescent tubes – and the future is looking even brighter for longer.

Cost is still a problem. A high-quality LED costs about £2, and bulbs using several LEDs would be far more expensive than the tungsten filament bulbs. At the moment, however, LED chips are grown on sapphire, which is expensive. Professor Humphreys is working on a new technique of growing them on silicon instead – which could reduce the cost by a factor of 10.

“You can buy a six-inch diameter

silicon wafer for less than £10 and on this you can grow about 150,000 LEDs,” he says. “It means an LED bulb containing a number of LEDs would end up costing about £1.

“That’s still more expensive, but then you consider that the average light-bulb in the average home is on for about four hours a day. With LEDs capable of lasting 100,000 hours, many people would only have to change the light bulb once in their lifetime. I think they would be happy to pay £1 for that, especially if it also provided them with perfect natural light and make large savings on electricity costs.”

OTHER RECENT FINDINGS

Self-diagnosis for cars

An intelligent system that could enable cars to tell mechanics which of their parts need servicing has been unveiled by engineers in the Institute for Manufacturing. Researchers have developed a specially-adapted Fiat prototype that can tell garage staff about the state of its components in seconds by using electronic tags inside its engine. In conjunction with computer software, it could be used to speed up servicing, and to identify which parts can be recycled or reused when the vehicle reaches the end of its life.



Building peace

A new research project led by scholars in the Department of Architecture is to investigate how cities that have been torn apart by ethnic unrest or war may regenerate. The Conflict in Cities initiative will examine how the built environment in contested and divided cities can contribute to how ordinary people live together – and apart – in times of violence and war. It will focus on Jerusalem and Belfast in particular, while also considering other cities including Mostar, Nicosia, Beirut, Kirkuk and Berlin.

Sealed with a hiss

Academics in the Institute of Criminology are gaining fresh insights into the mind of one of Britain's most notorious serial killers with the release of the letters of the acid-bath murderer. More than 100 letters and other documents written by John Haigh, who infamously dissolved his victims in sulphuric acid before pouring away the remains, have been given to the University for research. It is hoped they will provide fresh insight into his mental state and inform ongoing research into the assessment of potential reoffenders.

PRIZES AWARDS & HONOURS

Teaching excellence rewarded

Lecturers who have made outstanding contributions to the development of teaching in their departments and faculties were recognised at the 2007 Pilkington Prizes awards ceremony on 20 June. The 11 lecturers were honoured for their excellence in teaching.

→ **Dr Toke Aidt** is a Lecturer in the Faculty of Economics who has transformed several undergraduate courses at the Faculty.

→ **Dr James Paget** is a University Senior Lecturer in New Testament Studies in the Faculty of Divinity who was nominated for his commitment to new ways of teaching his subject.

→ **Dr Neil Dodgson** is a Reader in Graphics and Imaging in the University's Computer Laboratory who has been nominated for his innovative courses in computer graphics.

→ **Professor Charlie Ellington** is a Professor of Animal Mechanics in the Department of Zoology who has made an invaluable contribution to undergraduate teaching for more than 30 years.

→ **Dr Mike Hobson** is a University Reader in the Department of Physics and one of the most successful lecturers in the Department who consistently receives excellent feedback from students.

→ **Dr Tom Hynes** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Engineering who for many years has been one of the most dependable, flexible and successful Department lecturers.

→ **Dr Gabriel Paternain** is a Reader in Geometry and Dynamics, in the Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics, and a remarkable lecturer. His talent for communicating mathematics has brought to life even the most complex aspects of the undergraduate syllabus.

→ **Dr Jonathan Silverman** is Associate Clinical Dean and Director of Communication Studies in the School of Clinical Medicine. He has played a major role in the development of medical education in Cambridge.

→ **Dr Helen Thompson** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Politics who has led the design and delivery of a new undergraduate programme in Politics.

→ **Dr Dan Tucker** is a Director of Studies in the Department of Veterinary Medicine and has played a key role in



Pilkington Prize winners with Vice-Chancellor Alison Richard

modernising the teaching of veterinary public health at Cambridge.

→ **Dr James Warren** is an inspiring University Lecturer in the Faculty of Classics who consistently receives high praise from his students, whether addressing a mixed class of Classics and Philosophy students or contributing lectures on the History and Philosophy of Science.



Professor Paul Binski

British Academy announces new elections to fellowship

The British Academy, the national Academy for the humanities and social sciences, recently elected 48 new scholars into the Fellowship for their academic achievements. New scholars with Cambridge affiliation:

→ **Professor Paul Binski**, Professor of the History of Medieval Art, specialises in the art and architecture of Western Europe in the Gothic period. His fields of interest include manuscript, panel and wall painting, sculpture and architecture, patronage and the relationship of art and ideas. He is a

Fellow of Gonville and Caius College.

→ **Professor Robert Foley**, Leverhulme Professor of Human Evolution, is concerned with understanding the pattern of human evolution in terms of evolutionary processes. This work has focused on evolutionary ecology, social evolution, community ecology and biogeography. Professor Foley is Director of the Leverhulme Centre for Human Evolutionary Studies and is a Fellow of King's College.

→ **Professor Christopher Hill** is Director of the Centre of International Studies and a Fellow of Sidney Sussex College. He specialises in teaching Foreign Policy Analysis and the International Politics of Western Europe, as well as Research Methods in International Relations.

→ **Dr Boyd Hilton** is a historian and a Fellow of Trinity College. His research interest is British history from the late eighteenth to the late nineteenth centuries. He has recently completed a large volume on the period 1783-1846 for the New Oxford History of England series.

→ **Professor Ian Roberts**, Professorial Fellow in Linguistics at Downing College, specialises in comparative and historical syntax, using and developing



Professor Christopher Hill

the 'principles and parameters' approach to cross-linguistic variation. In this context, he has worked on the synchronic and diachronic syntax of a wide range of Germanic, Romance and Celtic languages.

→ **Professor Richard Smith** is Professor of Econometric Theory and Economic Statistics in the Faculty of Economics and a Fellow at Gonville and Caius College. His research interests primarily concern theoretical issues associated with estimation and inference in econometric models.

→ **Dr Zara Steiner**, an esteemed historian and an Emeritus Fellow of New Hall College, was elected to a Special Fellowship. She specialises in aspects of British foreign policy from the late nineteenth century to the beginning of the Cold War.

→ In addition, **Professor Sir Geoffrey Lloyd**, FBA, former Master of Darwin College and Emeritus Professor of Ancient Philosophy and Science at the University, has been awarded the Academy's Kenyon Medal for Classical Studies.

Royal Society recognises new Fellows

The Royal Society has recognised 44 scientists in 2007 by electing them to the Fellowship of the Royal Society. Fellows are elected for their contributions to



Professor Michael Bickle



Professor William Harris



Professor Peter Littlewood

science, both in fundamental research resulting in greater understanding, and also in leading and directing scientific and technological progress in industry and research establishments.

The new Cambridge Fellows:

→ **Professor Michael Bickle**, Personal Chair, Department of Earth Sciences, has made major contributions to understanding the evolution of the Earth through geological and geochemical research.

→ **Professor Barry Everitt**, Professor of Behavioural Neuroscience, Department of Experimental Psychology, has helped to introduce a new way of addressing the neural basis of motivated behaviour by linking learning theory with the methodology of systems neuroscience. He has been Master of Downing College since 2003.

→ **Professor William Harris**, Head of the Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience, is distinguished for his fundamental contributions to developmental neuroscience, including molecular genetic analysis of signal transduction; growth and guidance of developing axons; and the genesis of neurons in the vertebrate central nervous system.

→ **Professor Peter Littlewood**, Head of the Department of Physics, Cavendish Laboratory, and Fellow of Trinity College, has made seminal contributions in the theory of collective phenomena in condensed matter physics.

→ **Professor Robert Mair**, Professor of

Geotechnical Engineering, Head of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Master of Jesus College, has pioneered work on the development and application of soil mechanics theory and the latest laboratory and field research to the practice of geotechnical engineering and underground construction.

→ **Professor Daniela Rhodes**, Senior Scientist, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology and Official Fellow of Clare Hall, has made many fundamental contributions to the understanding of nucleic acid structure and function.

→ **Dr William Amos**, Senior Research Staff Member, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, is distinguished for his role in the development of the confocal laser scanning electron microscope.

→ **Dr Richard Leakey**, Honorary Doctor of Science, University of Cambridge, is a renowned palaeoanthropologist and environmentalist, who has made international headlines for his work in Kenya.

→ **Baroness Onora O'Neill**, elected as an Honorary Fellow, is a former Principal of Newnham College and current member of the Faculty of Philosophy. She is distinguished for her outstanding contribution to the defence of reason and her rigorous philosophical and ethical analyses of controversial topics in science, and particularly in the biosciences.

OTHER AWARDS

→ **Professor Ian Hutchings**, GKN Professor of Manufacturing Engineering, was recently awarded the Staudinger-Durrer Prize and Medal. The prize is given by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich and honors those who have rendered outstanding services to materials science.

→ **Professor Alastair Compston**, Head of the Department of Clinical Neurosciences, was awarded the 2007 Charcot Award for lifetime achievement in research into the understanding or treatment of multiple sclerosis. This biennial award is presented by the Multiple Sclerosis International Federation's.

→ **Professor Donald M. Broom**, Department of Veterinary Medicine, received the RSPCA Michael Kay



Dr Peter Lawrence

Award "in recognition of services to European Animal Welfare". His 35 years of animal welfare research has established animal welfare science as an academic discipline and that scientific information has been used to improve the welfare of as many animals as possible.

→ **Dr Peter Lawrence**, Department of Zoology, won the Prince of Asturias Prize, a prestigious Spanish prize for scientific and technological research. Dr Lawrence was honored with Spaniard Gines Morata for their work showing that fruit flies and humans have much genetic material in common.

→ **Dr Mark de Rond**, University Senior Lecturer in Strategy at the Judge Business School and Fellow at Darwin College, has been awarded one of only two Fulbright Distinguished Scholar

Awards for 2007-08. Each award of £15,000 enables the recipient to spend a period of time researching or lecturing in the US.

→ **Dr Richard Layfield**, Department of Chemistry, has been awarded the prestigious Meldola Medal and Prize for 2006 by the Royal Society of Chemistry. The award is presented to a young British chemist for promising original investigations in chemistry.

→ **Professor Steven Ley**, Department of Chemistry, has been awarded the 2007 Paul Karrer Medal. Professor Ley received a gold medal and gave an award lecture on 20 June. The medal was given in recognition of Professor Ley's contributions to chemical synthesis as related to natural and biologically active molecules.

Continued on next page ...

PEOPLE

PEOPLE GOING



MR ANTHONY BOWEN will retire from his post as University Orator on the 30 September, after 14 years in office. Mr Bowen is the 51st individual to serve as Orator, a position founded at the University in 1522. He has composed and presented approximately 120 speeches in Latin, primarily to honor recipients of honorary degrees, but also as addresses for presentation to other universities and institutions. "Latin is a great public language – wonderful as an out loud noise," Bowen says. "I can't think of a better language for this type of thing." He has been elected an Emeritus Fellow of Jesus College and will remain as Praelector at the College for one year's time.



DR LAURIE FRIDAY is stepping down from her role as Secretary of the Board of Graduate Studies on the 28 September to move to a new position as the Administrator of the Graduate School of Biological, Medical and Veterinary Sciences. Since Friday was appointed in June 2000, the volume and complexity of graduate administration has increased greatly: applications have grown by 15 percent; the Board has adjusted to new legislation, for example, regarding data protection; and has made the transition to a new student record system, CamSIS, including an online application process. Dr Friday studied as an undergraduate at Clare College and holds a PhD from the University of Exeter.

OBITUARY

Dame Anne McLaren

(26 April, 1927–7 July, 2007)

DAME ANNE MCLAREN was tragically killed in a car accident on 7 July, together with her ex-husband Donald Michie. Two Memorial Funds have been established by their families. The Fund in her name will support women scientists while the fund in Donald's name will fund research in Artificial Intelligence, the field in which he was a world-renowned expert. Contributions can be sent to: Jonathan Michie, The Garden House, Apley Park, Norton, Shropshire WV15 5NE. Cheques should be made payable to "The Anne McLaren Memorial Fund" or "The Donald Michie Fund". A Fellow of King's College and Fellow Commoner of Christ's College, Dame Anne was an authority on mammalian genetics.



IN BRIEF

Architect **Ravinder Dhillon** joined Estate Management and Building Service (EMBS) on 2 July in the new post of Head of Projects, overseeing all construction and refurbishment projects as part of the Senior Management Team. Mr Dhillon trained as an architect and then a project manager, and has worked for several well known consultancies on projects in the UK and around the world.

Dr David Skinner is the new Director of Music at Sidney Sussex College. He has previously served as Academic Adviser and Music Editor to a number of vocal ensembles including the Hilliard Ensemble and several Cambridge College choirs. Primarily known for his combined role as a researcher and performer of early music, Dr Skinner has had an extensive career as a record producer, working on several award winning projects.

PRIZES AWARDS & HONOURS

OTHER AWARDS

... continued from previous page

→ **Professor Ken Smith**, Cambridge Institute for Medical Research, and **Dr Fiona Wardle**, Wellcome Trust/Cancer Research UK Gurdon Institute, were awarded two of the three 2007 Lister Institute Research Prize Fellowships. The Lister Institute provides awards of £200,000 to individuals to be spent on any aspect of their biomedicine research activities.

→ **Professor Michael Majerus**, Department of Genetics, **Dr Oliver Rackham**, Fellow of Corpus Christi



Professor Eric Barnard

College, and **Sir David Attenborough**, Honorary Fellow of Clare College, each recently received a Life Fellowship in the British Naturalists' Association. Sir David also received the British Naturalists' Association's most prestigious accolade, the Peter Scott Memorial Award, for his contributions to natural history.

→ **Professor Eric Barnard**, Department of Pharmacology, received the prestigious Thudichum Medal of the Biochemical Society. The Thudichum Medal was established to honour eminent scientists who had made

outstanding contributions to neurochemistry and molecular neuroscience. The award is made every four years. Professor Barnard is a Fellow of the Royal Society and a Foreign Academician of the Polish Academy of Sciences, and has earlier received a number of international awards.

→ **The Cambridge Science Festival** has won the Public Body Award at the inaugural Directory of Social Change Awards Ceremony. The DSC awards aim to recognise the contribution individuals, companies, NGOs and public bodies have made to the community.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertising on this page is open to University staff. The cost is £15 for a single insertion or £75 for six insertions (six for the price of five). The deadline for the November/December issue is 24 September. Maximum 70 words; we reserve the right to edit. Send your copy to the Editor at newsletter@admin.cam.ac.uk or call (3) 32300.

HOUSES TO RENT

→ France, Brittany (St. Malo)

Farm Cottage in Brittany with two spacious bedrooms to accommodate 4 persons set in small rural village close to the sea. Very quiet area, ideal for writing up and for holidays. Good area for walks, sea swimming and cycling. Close to the historic walled city of St Malo with excellent restaurants. Available all the year round, reasonably priced. Contact: 07770 693726 or davidphb2837@yahoo.co.uk

→ France, Cevennes

Mediterranean climate, dramatic mountain scenery, superb walking/riding/river-swimming. Convenient Roman Provence/Rhone vineyards. Two spacious, refurbished, c/h apartments with covered terraces in stone 'mas' near Mont Lozere; sleeping 8 and 5/6. Shady gardens, quiet hamlet – near shops. N/s, please. Available separately but particularly suitable for families wishing to holiday together but retain independence. From £245 per week. Easy access via cheap flights Nimes/Montpellier. Contact: 01527 541360

→ France, Nice

Two-room apartment sleeps up to four. Available for short lets. Quiet but central location near beach and town centre.

Contact: Robin Spence on 07808 932943 or rspence@carltd.com

→ Germany, Black Forest

Traditional wooden house at the foot of the Feldberg Mountain in one of the prettiest valleys of the Black Forest. Sleeps up to 10. Idyllic setting, suitable for families. Ideal for walking, skiing and relaxing. Close to Basel-Mulhouse, Karlsruhe-Baden and Friedrichshafen airports (direct Ryanair and Easyjet flights from Stansted and Luton). £275-£375 per week (depending on season). Photographs and fuller details available on request. Contact: blackforestholidays@googlemail.com

→ Greece, Alonissos

Unwind in our lovely three bedroom villa, with spectacular sea views, on tranquil Greek island in the Northern Sporades. Peaceful hillside position, convenient for shops, tavernas, beaches etc. Well equipped and comfortably furnished, garden and balconies to three sides – perfect for relaxing summer holidays or winter retreat. Short ferry/hydrofoil ride from Skiathos airport. Summer rates £600- £900. Pictures and details available. Contact: Philippa Smith at ps420@cam.ac.uk

→ Italy, Canino

Situated between Lake Bolsena and the sea, 1 large and 1 small flat in the small town of Canino. 90 minutes north of Rome and within easy reach of Orvieto & Viterbo.

For more details, visit www.casacanino.com
Contact: 01223 522938

→ Italy, Rome

One-bedroom luxury flat available for short rentals. Air conditioning, cable television, fully networked, vast terrace. £450 per week all inclusive. Further info available on request.

Contact: car37@cam.ac.uk

→ Italy, Tuscany

18th-century farmhouse with east-facing studio available September to May. Restored to high standard, with writers, artists, academics in mind. Central heating; mod. cons; broadband. Beautiful situation above small hamlet 10 miles from Lucca. Sleeps 5. Long term rent discounts. Further information and photographs available.

Contact: r.gooder@btinternet.com

→ North Yorkshire Moors

Cottage in Low Mill, Farndale, with sitting room, dining room, play room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and garden with lovely views. Sleeps 7. All mod. cons. Fabulous walks in all directions. Near Rievaulx, Castle Howard, Runswick Bay. 2007 rate: £350/week.

Contact: Horace or Miranda Barlow on 01223 366618 / 333867 or hbb10@cam.ac.uk

→ Northern Guatemala

Situated on the shore of the picturesque and tranquil Lake Peten Itza and surrounded by jungle, Gucumat is a friendly, family run pension, offering a restful holiday coupled with swimming and boating, guided tours of exotic fauna and flora, Spanish lessons, visits to amazing ruined Mayan cities like Tikal, and even voluntary work in the nearby indigenous village. English spoken. Individuals/small groups welcome. For more information: www.gucumat.com
Contact: moyastenton@hotmail.com

→ Slovakia

A timber cottage deep in unspoilt forests surrounded by medieval castles. Near a medieval town on the UNESCO World Heritage list with a leisure centre, tennis courts, swimming pools. Over 40% of Slovakia is covered by forest, more than Switzerland or Norway. Ideal for walking holidays, bird watching, fishing, photography. Sleeps 4 to 6 in 2 bedrooms, each with en-suite bathroom. Cottage from £250-£390 per week.

Contact: 01844 339754 or www.SlovakiaHolidays.org

→ Southwest Cornwall

Granite cottage in peaceful countryside between St Ives and Penzance. Sleeps 5 in 3 bedrooms, with comfortable sitting room, kitchen-breakfast room and bathroom. Sunny garden and off-road parking. Ideal for families and couples. Easy reach of wonderful beaches, coastal path, many sub-tropical gardens. 45 minutes

Newquay airport. Visit www.tinminerscottage.co.uk
Contact: Penny Barton on 01638 507192 or pb29@cam.ac.uk

→ Spain, Andalucia

2 bedroom, 2 bathroom villa with air-conditioning in Nerja, Costa del Sol, 45 minutes Malaga airport. Wonderful sea views, south facing terrace and garden, large communal pool. Near mountains, cliffs and sandy coves. Granada one hour, Seville and Cordoba two hours. Low Season £345. Mid £395 or High £445 per week.

Contact: villa@thesmys.co.uk

→ Spain, Barcelona

2 bedroom apartment near beach, sleeps 6, with balcony overlooking swimming pool. Prices start from £55 per night for 1-2 adults to £110 per night for 5-6 adults. Discounts for 6+ nights bookings. Special family rates available on request.

More information: www.barcelonabeach.com

Contact: Mary Aldridge at mea@eng.cam.ac.uk

→ Spain, Murcia region (Costa Calida)

Superb, 2 bedroom penthouse flat with magnificent views. Sleeps 6, secure grounds, private indoor and outdoor pools, spa, gym, sauna, children's play area, garage. On beach. Near golf courses, inc. La Manga, 30 mins from Murcia airport. Rent 240-530 euros a week.

Contact: 01480 455391 or beehouseuk@yahoo.co.uk

→ Suffolk, Butley

Comfortable, spacious, well-equipped cottage with piano in Butley, Suffolk. Available for Aldeburgh Festival, weekends and short breaks throughout the year. Close to Orford, Sutton Hoo, Snape and Minsmere. Sleeps up to 8. More information: www.butleycottage.co.uk
Contact: Miranda on 01223 357035 or info@butleycottage.co.uk

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

→ How much energy do I expend?

We are looking for volunteers to participate in research involving body composition, energy expenditure and metabolic measurements in healthy, normal individuals. Studies take place in the Clinical Research Facility, Addenbrooke's Hospital and last from either an overnight stay or up to four days. You will be compensated for participation and reasonable travel expenses are reimbursed.

Contact: Sam on 01223 596073 or crf-volunteer@medschl.cam.ac.uk

→ Helpers for Scouts

Scouting helps young people reach their full potential. But there are still some 30,000 girls and boys on the waiting lists due to a shortage of adult volunteers. Whether you can spare two hours a day or a day a month, volunteers are required as leaders, instructors, treasurers,

administrators, volunteer managers, and trustees. Being a part of Scouting means you can rediscover adventure while contributing to your local community and developing skills. You will meet new people and have fun.

Contact: Michael Rolfe 01223 882202

→ Young Enterprise

We are looking for volunteers in the Cambridgeshire region to support delivery of a wide range of Primary and Secondary school Young Enterprise programmes. No previous experience required, but volunteers for the Secondary school programmes need some business knowledge or work experience. Volunteers work alongside teachers and receive a briefing/training session and a volunteer pack containing what they need to know about the programme and how to present/facilitate it. The time commitment varies depending on the programme, from five or six sessions to an academic year.

Contact: Claire Gray 07815 905304 or claire.gray@yeee.org.uk

→ Pregnant?

Are you expecting a baby due between December 07 and March 08? Would you be interested in taking part in 'Preparing for Patients D', a programme for third-year medical students who visit and talk with women at home to learn about women's experience of pregnancy and childbirth?

Contact: 01223 769288 or jg239@medschl.cam.ac.uk

→ Healthy, over 40 years old

Willing to take part in a research study exploring hidden brain cell changes? Procedure involves 2 specialised brain scans in Addenbrooke's Hospital, lasting a morning or afternoon. The study is looking to map the hidden cell loss and cell inflammation in stroke patients, but we need healthy volunteers over 40 years old for comparison. You will be reimbursed for your time and trouble.

Contact: Dr Morris on 01223 217742 or rsm22@cam.ac.uk

→ Advice on financial management

The Humanitarian Centre is an innovative hub organisation for about 30 student and local initiatives engaged in international relief and development. In the process of registering as a charity, it is seeking a suitably experienced volunteer to provide occasional oversight and advice on financial management. We envisage this being an ongoing commitment of 1-2 hours per month after some initial input. Annual turnover is likely to be in the £40 – 50k bracket.

Contact: Ian Steed at ian.steed@humanitariancentre.org

→ Active Community Fund

The Active Community Fund is available to encourage volunteering by Cambridge University students and staff and is

open to projects within the University and external voluntary and community organisations. The deadline for Round 16 is Friday, 12 October 2007 at 17:00. For more information, please visit: www.cam.ac.uk/cambuniv/volunteering/activecommfund.html
Contact: Emma Wenborn on 01223 339666 or emma.wenborn@admin.cam.ac.uk

SERVICES

→ Antenatal classes

Experienced qualified nurse and midwife is establishing a business providing individualised antenatal classes for parents-to-be, either singly or as couples. Tailored sessions cover all essential topics. Held either in your home or at work if more convenient. Maybe you have been unable to book onto a group course, or would like a course catered specifically to your needs or even just one or two sessions.

Contact: Joannebrown807@hotmail.com

→ Free tennis coaching to females over 45 years

Six free coaching sessions for ladies at Cambridge Lawn Tennis club on Thursday mornings 9.30-11.00, commencing 7th June for 6 weeks and 13th September for 6 weeks. To apply please download an application form from www.cambridgeltc.com and return to the address on the form, indicating your preferred start date. All female Cambridge city residents that have not received free coaching at CLTC before are eligible.

Contact: 07749 713450 or info@cambridgeltc.com

→ Homepetpals

Your animals and pets looked after in your own home or premises. We cater for all sorts of pets and animals of the smaller variety from 1 day, weekends or holiday periods. Cambridge and district, and village areas. Established over 5 years, references available.

Contact: 07702 314 693 or homepetpals@aol.com or cw356@cam.ac.uk or cw271@newton.cam.ac.uk

→ The E-Admin – Virtual Assistant

A Virtual Assistant is a self-employed professional able to provide administrative and secretarial support via e-mail, telephone or post. We offer a selection of services including word processing, mail shots, audio transcription, and proof reading. With The E-Admin you only pay for the services you use without the added expense of a permanent/temporary employee. For more information, visit www.theadmin.co.uk
Contact: Sarah/Elaine on 07855 403386 or info@theadmin.co.uk

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MUGGLES FOUGHT DRAGONS LONG BEFORE POTTER

HARRY POTTER mania may mean that dragons are popular today but a Cambridge researcher says this phenomenon is nothing new.

“Dragons have always been a well-established feature of the supernatural imagination,” says Dr Monica White, a Junior Research Fellow at Clare College.

“They are recognisable in the ancient Near East, China and pre-Columbian South America. They also show up in the Old and New Testaments as well as 11th-century scientific and historic works.”

Her PhD on the cults of military saints in Byzantium and medieval Russia led Dr White to pursue post-doctoral research on the lives of dragon-slayers saints. She believes dragons, like dinosaurs, have always fascinated people because they are scary and other-worldly, yet not completely removed from reality.

“Dragons usually appear in texts because their authors believed that they were real, just as we believe that dinosaurs once existed,” she says. Rather than serving as symbols of evil or the devil, Dr White finds



dragons are more likely to function just as any other character might in a story.

Her research has particularly focused on the stories of a trio of dragon-slaying heroines, Saints

Dr Monica White will be a **Stanford University Humanities Fellow, effective September 1.**

Elisabeth the Miracle-Worker, Marina of Antioch and Perpetua.

Following the death of her parents, St Elisabeth entered a convent where she distinguished herself through self-discipline. Property owned by her convent was inhabited by a dragon but she disposed of the creature, making the sign of the cross over it, spitting on its head and trampling it underfoot.

The story of St George has traditionally been seen as the definitive dragon-slaying myth, however Dr White proposes a different slant. “My research suggests that he was actually influenced by the stories of his relatively unsung female counterparts,” she says.

Interest in George’s miracle may have overshadowed the accomplishments of his female predecessors. “In fact, these women were extremely cool and nonchalant,” White says. “Slaying dragons was all part of a day’s work for them. Unlike male dragon-slayers, they just got on with it and moved on to other miracles.”

ONLINE AND ON TIME

ebooks@cambridge eases demand for print books

The University Library has joined forces with ebooks@cambridge, the Cambridge colleges’ initiative, to provide access to electronic versions of more than 280 of the books most used by undergraduates.

The new service is ready for use this Michaelmas Term and expands a successful pilot project for the colleges. The pilot, which began in Lent Term 2006, made available three simultaneous electronic copies of 118 book titles, drawn from a list of the 1,000 most-heavily borrowed books in 13 college libraries.

The program has always been available to all University staff and students, but with the expansion, it is hoped more potential users will

become aware of the service.

“We are heavily dependent on recommendations for books and are very interested in receiving suggestions from academics,” says Sarah Stamford, Selwyn College Librarian and ebooks@cambridge Project Manager. “In turn, we’d appreciate help in getting the information across to students that the books are available.”

Using ebooks, it is possible to search, print and download sections of texts (subject to copyright restrictions). Readers with visual and mobility difficulties can enlarge the images. Finding an ebook is easy, identifiable by the classmark ‘Electronic Book’ in the Newton Catalogue and on the NetLibrary and/or MyiLibrary websites.



ebooks@cambridge adds to the University Library’s growing electronic resource provision which includes another 10,500-plus titles in the Early English Books Online and the full CUP Cambridge Companion series. → For details, email Sarah Stamford at ucam-lib-ebooks@lists.cam.ac.uk or visit www.lib.cam.ac.uk/ebooks.html

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