

THE UNIVERSITY *of York*

April/May 2012

magazine

*A little
night music*
**Nocturnal
celebrations
for York's
Gamelan**

**INTERVIEW WITH
ECONOMIST DIANE COYLE**

**YORK CHEFS GET A
TASTE OF CHINA**

**FILM STUDENTS JOIN
THE CGI GENERATION**

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Cover image: Music student Jade Flahive-Gilbert on York's Gamelan Sekar Petak, the first ever full Javanese gamelan in a British institution. The instrument was commissioned in 1981 by Neil Sorrell and its arrival in York 30 years ago is marked with a major international symposium: The Gathering of the Gamelans. The event culminates in the premiere of *Wayang Lokananta – the Gamelan of the Gods*, an all-night shadow puppet play on 28 April, in the Roger Kirk centre. Visit www.york.ac.uk/concerts
Photo by John Houlihan

MESSAGE FROM...

Professor Brian Cantor Vice-Chancellor

In August, the University of York will become a member of the Russell Group. It is an honour and a privilege to have been invited to join. The invitation recognises our excellent research, our outstanding teaching and learning, and the impact of our work with business and the public sector. The Group's objectives are well aligned with our own, so accepting the invitation is a pleasure, and a natural step for us to take. Like the other Russell Group universities, York already plays a major role in the intellectual, cultural and economic life of the UK.



Our invitation to join the Russell Group is yet another sign of the great progress we have made since our inception in the 1960s. We are not yet 50 years old, but our research has a worldwide reputation for excellence, and the quality of our teaching and student experience is acknowledged throughout the UK and beyond. We will take our place in the same group as the strongest universities in the UK, including Oxford, Cambridge, UCL and Imperial. Moreover, York joining, along with Durham, Exeter and Queen Mary, will reinforce the Russell Group, making it even stronger, and an even more powerful voice for its members' interests.

Membership of the Russell Group will allow us to compare notes with a powerful group of other universities, share good practice and lobby for common interests. It will also have a positive impact on our marketing. Our increasing global reputation, allied with Russell Group membership as an additional marker of international quality, will help to support our ambitions to develop national and international research collaborations and attract the highest quality students.

What will membership of the Russell Group mean for our students? Most importantly, it will help to enhance their employment opportunities worldwide. Staff, too, will benefit from being able to draw on the enormously powerful combined expertise and know-how of our new collaborating partner institutions.

Our move to the Russell Group does, however, come with an element of regret, as it coincides with our resignation from the 1994 Group which represents smaller research-intensive universities. We are sorry to leave the 1994 Group of which we were a founder member. The 1994 Group universities have been friends and colleagues for many years, and we are very grateful for their long-standing support. We wish them all well in the future.

Mummifying Alan wins Royal Television Society award

A documentary featuring the mummification of taxi driver Alan Billis, using research by Archaeology Fellows Dr Stephen Buckley and Dr Joann Fletcher, has won a Royal Television Society Award.

Dr Buckley and Dr Fletcher spent nearly two decades uncovering the secrets of the mummification process used during the 18th dynasty 'Golden Age' of ancient Egypt. In *Mummifying Alan: Egypt's Last Secret* they replicated this process on the body of Alan Billis, who volunteered after being diagnosed with terminal lung cancer. The Channel 4 documentary beat David Attenborough's *Frozen Planet* and Professor Brian Cox's *Stargazing Live* in the Science and Natural History category.



Dr Stephen Buckley applying a resin-based mixture to secure the wrappings of Alan Billis' mummified body, overseen by senior anatomical pathology technician Maxine Coe at Sheffield's Medico-Legal Centre. Photo copyright of the University of York Mummy Research Group/Dr J Fletcher

Commitment to women in science

Three York departments have received awards from the Athena SWAN Charter in recognition of their support for women in science.

The Departments of Physics, Psychology and Computer Science have all been granted awards under the national scheme, which recognises and celebrates good practice on recruiting, retaining and promoting women in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) in higher education.

Physics has received a Silver award, while Psychology's Silver award – held continuously since 2007 – has been renewed. Silver department awards recognise that in addition to institution-wide policies, the department has a significant record of activity and achievement in supporting the careers of female scientists and can demonstrate their impact so far.

Royal recognition for Archaeology

Pictured below is the Head of the Department of Archaeology, Professor Julian Richards, with the Duke of Edinburgh at the reception for Queen's Anniversary Prizewinners on 24 February in the Picture Gallery at Buckingham

Palace. The University was awarded a prize for the Department's 'Leading-edge work in archaeology from prehistory to the modern age' in the 2010/12 Diamond Jubilee round of Queen's Anniversary Prizes.



“We have many excellent female staff... and I am delighted that our efforts to support them... have been recognised”

The three departments have introduced a number of different measures to support the development of all of their academic staff. These include flexible and part-time working; events focusing on early years careers, skills and work-life balance issues; mentorship programmes; and deputy roles for key departmental committees, which give academic staff managerial experience to boost their prospects of promotion.

Professor John McDermid, Head of Computer Science, which won a Bronze award, said, “Women are under-represented in computer science across the UK, with typically only ten per cent of academic staff being female. We have many excellent female staff in the Department, and I am delighted that our efforts to support them, and to encourage others into the discipline, have been recognised.”

The University as a whole already holds a Bronze award, while Chemistry at York is the only department in the UK ever to receive a Gold award. The Department of Biology also holds a Silver award.

Innovation and the power of 8

York is a member of the N8 Research Partnership, a collaboration of northern research intensive universities recently highlighted by the Government's Department for Business as an exemplar model for creating innovation and research clusters.

Earlier this year, the Minister for Universities and Science, David Willetts, launched the N8's new Industry Innovation Forum, to bring senior figures from industry together with leading scientists.

Through the Forum, the N8 aims to encourage collaborations and relationships between companies of all sizes and world-leading researchers to create a catalyst for economic growth and development.

The first forum focused on advanced materials technologies, an area with a broad range of sectors, including aerospace and consumer goods, where research and innovative technology could be translated into commercially-viable products and services.

The Forum is a partnership with the Technology Strategy Board and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). Other universities in the N8 are Durham, Lancaster, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle and Sheffield.

For more information visit www.n8research.org.uk.

Jacques Berthoud memorial event

The Department of English and Related Literature is holding an event to celebrate the life and work of former Head of Department Jacques Berthoud, who died in October 2011.



Friends, current and former colleagues, and former students are invited to the Berrick Saul Building on Saturday 19 May from 2pm to 7pm. Max Saunders of King's College London will deliver the Jacques Berthoud Lecture in Modern Studies on 'Double acts: Conrad, Ford, and the romance of collaboration'. Please email jacquesberthoudevent@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

York takes sport to the top

To the accompaniment of the skirl of the bagpipes, a topping out ceremony marked the start of the final phase of the construction of the £9m York Sport Village on the University's campus expansion at Heslington East.

The centrepiece of the development, which is funded jointly by the University and City of York Council with support from Sport England, is a competition-standard, eight lane 25-metre pool.

As well as the swimming pool, York Sport Village will feature a learner pool, 120-station fitness suite, three studios for dance, spin and aerobics, full size 3G astroturf pitch and three further five-a-side pitches. All facilities at the complex will be available for use by students, staff and the public.

The University is contributing £5m and the Council is contributing £3m, with the balance coming from a grant from Sport England.

The complex will be run by a limited liability partnership company called York Sport Village. Any surpluses will be ring-fenced for re-investment in the facilities which are expected to create up to 30 new jobs, both full- and part-time.



Vice-Chancellor Professor Brian Cantor and the Sir Robert McAlpine Limited Works Manager, Jimmy Walker, follow the pipes heralding the new York Sport Village

Torchbearers for the Olympics

Three York students and a member of staff are among the country's 8,000 people selected to carry the Olympic flame in the lead up to the international event in London. Torchbearers Peter Thompson, senior lecturer in Psychology, Claire Chappill (Nursing), Grace Oyesoro (Politics) and the York Sport Union President, Sam Asfahani, will join the Olympic Torch Relay route on its 70-mile journey around the UK from Land's End to its final destination in the Olympic Stadium in July.

Celebrating Jane Moody

Family, friends, colleagues and former students gathered in York Minster on 9 March to celebrate the life and achievements of Professor Jane Moody, of the Department of English, who died in October last year.

The service, led by the Dean of York, the Very Rev Keith Jones, included contributions from Professor Jeffrey Cox, Professor Felicity Riddy and Jane Moody's close friend, Sinead

Smith, as well as the Bishop of Warrington, the Rt Rev Richard Blackburn.

Afterwards there was a series of events and displays in the Berrick Saul Building celebrating Professor Moody's passionate advocacy for the humanities. The Jane Moody Scholarship Fund has been established in her memory to support the work of the most promising young researchers in the arts and humanities.



Jane's husband Greg and nephew Jake unveil a plaque for the Jane Moody Boardroom in the Berrick Saul Building

Photo by Ian Martindale

Conflicts put education under fire

A University of York research programme exploring the role of education in addressing violent conflict and humanitarian emergencies was launched at a York alumni event in New York in February.

The launch was part of a week-long visit to deepen relationships with a range of senior international policy-makers and York alumni in New York and Washington DC. Representatives from York met senior academics and officials from Columbia University and NYU – who have strong research interests in this area, the UN, the World Bank, the British Embassy and the British Council, as well as other leading international organisations working in the field of conflict and natural disasters.

"Today's wars are characterised by high levels of civilian casualties, the widespread displacement of populations and the intentional targeting of civilian infrastructure, including schools. This has had a severe impact on access to education," says Professor Sultan Barakat, who co-founded the project with Dr David Connolly from PRDU, and Professor Frank Hardman from the Institute for Effective Education.

Education in Conflict and Emergencies

brings together an interdisciplinary team to study the part education can play in responding to violence, post-conflict recovery and building lasting peace. Based on several studies and publications, it has already demonstrated its ability to build theory and to shape the policy and practice of leading international agencies and non-governmental organisations.



Education is accepted internationally as the 'fourth pillar of humanitarian aid', along with food and water, shelter and health care. It provides a safe space and a sense of normality during situations of instability.

Photo by Dr David Connolly

STAFF NEWS



Dr Bob Phillips (Centre for Reviews and Dissemination) was awarded Faculty Member of the Year in the recent Faculty of 1000 awards, for his work in the Faculty of Research Methodology.



Dr Koki Imada (Physics) has been awarded European Fusion Development Agreement (EFDA) Fellowship which will study the polarisation Current and its influence on the Neoclassical Tearing Mode threshold.



Heidi Fraser-Krauss has joined the Information Directorate as Deputy Director of Information and Director of IT Services.



Heather Cork has joined the Department of Mathematics as Undergraduate Admissions and Student Services Administrator.

Professor Helen Weinstein (Institute for the Public Understanding of the Past) has been appointed to the Advisory Board of BBC Worldwide, the commercial arm of the BBC.



Two new research staff join the Department of Mathematics: **Dr Miklos Hartmann**, from the Bolyai Institute, University of Szeged, Hungary, is working as a Research Associate with Professor Victoria Gould on Representation Theory of Semigroups. **Dr Benoit Vicedo** joins the EPSRC-

funded project Non-ultralocality and new mathematical structures in quantum integrability to work with Dr Niall MacKay and Professor Evgeny Sklyanin FRS.



Dr Roberto Beneduci from the University of Calabria, Italy is visiting the Department of Mathematics this academic year to work with Professor Paul Busch on the characterisation of a particular kind of semispectral measures and on some topics of quantum information theory.

yorkconcerts

The **Spring Festival** (9 to 13 May) features a sprinkling of York alumni including music commentator and critic **Tom Service** and up and coming composer **Christian Mason**, as well as the members of vocal trio **juice** and musical stand-up **Jay Foreman**. The Festival also welcomes the German group **El Perro Andaluz**, making their UK debut, and Department of Music lecturer **Martin Suckling** who gives a solo violin recital. The Festival takes music into the city with events in City Screen Basement, the National Centre for Early Music and – a first for the concert series – on board a river boat. Full details can be found on www.yorkspringfestival.co.uk.



Cellist and former York Minster chorister **Tim Lowe** (above) plays sonatas by Mendelssohn, Beethoven and Brahms, accompanied by James Baillieu, on Wednesday 16 May. Tim comes from a cello-playing family with University connections: his father is a Social Policy senior lecturer and his mother teaches the cello. Two popular student ensembles: **Zamar** gospel choir and **Gamelan Sekar Petak** perform on 18 May and 23 May respectively.

Folk group **Nish as Rish** – all former York music students – make a welcome return on 8 June playing music with a Celtic influence. Following the success of last year's two-nighter in the Department of Music's intimate Rymer Auditorium, the **University Jazz Orchestra** plays Brazilian jazz on 14 and 15 June.

Two keynote concerts end the season: the **Sir Jack Lyons Concert** on 20 June showcases some of the outstanding student performances of the year and features the first performance of the 2011 Lyons Celebration Award piece. And the **University Choir** and **Symphony Orchestra** bring the season to a close on 27 June with a performance of music by Puccini and Verdi in York Minster.

Box Office 01904 322439
boxoffice@york.ac.uk
www.yorkconcerts.co.uk

Library opens 24/7

Opening hours for the newly refurbished University Library have been extended to 24/7 as a pilot project until 2 July. If the trial period is successful there will be 24/7 opening all year round from 3 September 2012. Completion of the 20m refurbishment was also signaled by the opening of the brand new Library Café which replaces Fresher's. The new outlet offers a combination of catering, social and learning spaces, serves Costa coffee, along with a selection of light bites, and is open from 9am until 7pm.



President: Kallum Taylor

New YUSU officers

A new Students' Union team was elected in March and will take over from the existing officers in July. Politics and International Relations student Kallum Taylor, who is a member of Vanbrugh College, ran a 'Special K' campaign around the campus which helped secure his victory as President. All five members will occupy sabbatical positions for the next year.



Academic Officer:
Graeme Osborn



Student Activities:
Chris West



Welfare Officer:
Bob Hughes



York Sport President:
Charlotte Winter

IBM joins the University campus

We're delighted to welcome a team of software developers from IBM who have recently made the Department of Computer Science their new workplace.

The IBM team is dedicated to the support and development of IBM's Cognos Financial Performance Management (FPM) software – in particular, new modelling and monitoring tools for the TM1 OLAP database. TM1 is a multidimensional, in-memory OLAP engine which provides exceptionally fast performance for analysing complex and sophisticated business models, large data sets and also streamed data.

The team, led by Peter Thomas, has been settling in over the last few weeks and is enjoying the new facilities immensely, "Our new environment provides us with all the facilities we need in order to continue our successful research and development projects. Additionally, there now exists an even greater opportunity to extend our

working relationship with the University and possibly take our research in new directions," he said.

Both the University and IBM have long recognised the value of successful collaboration. For example, the Computer Science Department collaborates regularly with industry to ensure that our teaching is relevant but also regularly provides knowledge transfer to organisations and governments worldwide. Collaboration is a key tenet of IBM's Smarter Planet vision, literally developing ways to use technology to make the world work in a smarter way.

"We are delighted to welcome the IBM Lab into Computer Science. We see this as a major step forward in our strategic relationship with IBM. We look forward to identifying ways in which we can work with the IBM team, benefitting from their world-leading work on analytics and finding opportunities for research collaboration," said Professor John McDermid, Head of Department.

Young scientists take on MPs

Four pupils from St Michael's RC Secondary School, Billingham, helped the CIEC Promoting Science project to launch the Future Scientists programme at the House of Commons in January.

Esther McVey, Chair of the Chemical Industry All Party Parliamentary Group, hosted the event where members of both Houses and prominent industrialists were able to hear about the project and meet the

children involved. The Future Scientists pilot involved industry ambassadors from Johnson Matthey helping Year 7 children to carry out a comparison of two different catalysts, and is an extension of the *Children Challenging Industry* programme in primary schools.

CIEC is based in the Department of Chemistry and promotes science teaching in primary and secondary schools in the context of industry in the 21st century.



Esther McVey MP, with George, Max, Amanda and Ellie from Billingham

Storytelling promotes understanding

An anthology that celebrates the rich memories of older people living in care homes has been produced by nursing students in the Department of Health Sciences.

Lives Remembered: Telling Stories of Older People (Volume Three) is the third anthology to be produced under the undergraduate nursing module 'Understanding the experiences of older people through storytelling'.

Senior Lecturer Karen Spilsbury, from the Department of Health Sciences, said, "At the heart of nursing older people there is a recognition that the person has lived a full life with rich memories. Encouraging student nurses to understand these life experiences when providing care is crucial for preparing our future nurses as competent and sensitive practitioners."

Lives Remembered: Telling Stories of Older People (Volume Three) can be purchased from the University's online store at store.york.ac.uk. All proceeds will be used to fund future student-authored books.

New virtual centre makes first funding awards

Awards totalling £320,000 have been made by the University's new Centre for Chronic Diseases and Disorders (C2D2) to a wide range of departments across the disciplines.

The virtual centre co-ordinates the University of York's research on infectious and non-infectious chronic diseases and disorders (including mental health). As well as funding research, C2D2 promotes training through discipline-hopping internships, and sponsors outreach initiatives.

C2D2's work is supported by an Institutional Strategic Support Fund award from the Wellcome Trust which offers financial support for universities to enhance institutional strategies for the biomedical sciences.

For further details of funded projects, future research funding rounds, internship possibilities, and outreach funding visit www.york.ac.uk/c2d2.

Volunteers sought for HIV research

The Centre for Immunology and Infection (CI) is calling for female volunteers aged 18 to 45 to help to develop a new vaccine which could potentially save millions of lives from HIV.

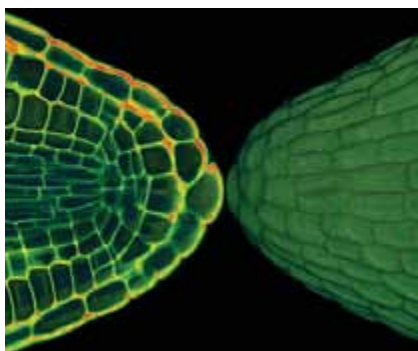
The MUCOVAC2 trial, funded by the Wellcome Trust, will evaluate a vaccine that contains the HIV trimeric gp140 protein CN54, representative of Clade C strains of the virus, the most prevalent type of virus in Sub-Saharan Africa and responsible for the greatest number of infections globally.

The study is being run in collaboration with St George's, Imperial College London, and the Medical Research Council Clinical Trials Unit.

For further information visit www.hymsemu.york.nhs.uk, call 01904 721893 or email emu@york.nhs.uk. Volunteers will be paid to cover time and expenses.

Science in the city

The historic streets of York will be showcasing the city's achievements in science and innovation in an exhibition displayed in prime locations around the centre during June, July and August.



One of the exhibits is an image of a perfectly intact root tip, just 150 microns (150 μm) across, produced using the £350,000 microscope in the Bioscience Technology Facility

York Science and Innovation Grand Tour will feature around 60 large-scale images and messages showing how these innovations have impacted on our lives. Many of the exhibits focus on work by University of York academics.

For more information visit <http://yorkgrandtour.co.uk>

Publishing prize for 'Next Great Novelist'

Sophie Coulombeau of the Centre for 18th Century Studies beat strong competition from other talented authors under the age of 30 to win Route's Next Great Novelist Award. Rebecca Pedley, a third year English and Linguistics student, also won a place on a mentoring programme for editors and helped bring Sophie's novel to publication.

Sophie said, "This is an incredible opportunity for a young writer in an industry that is notoriously hard to crack."

Rites tells the story of four teenagers who make a pact to lose their virginity. Ten years on, they look back on the events and unravel how it all went horribly wrong. Philip Pullman described the novel as, "Terrific. A story that's intriguing, puzzling and entirely gripping."



***Rites* is published by Route on 25 June. A launch event will be held at Waterstones, York on 16 June at 6.30pm, and Sophie will be taking part in New Writers' Day at the York Festival of Ideas. Visit www.yorkfestivalofideas.com for details.**

Professional society seals partnership with Electronics

The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), one of the largest professional societies for those working in electronics and technology, has accredited the Department of Electronics with academic partner status. This new association will bring a range of benefits to both students and staff in the Department on top of regular IET membership.

The Department will now receive promotional support at events and public speaking forums, opportunities for schools outreach, professional registration for academics, careers information, fellowships and access to the IET's expansive library of education and technical research.

Says Noel Jackson, "The local IET partnership and the regional IET representative visit the campus regularly to give seminars and lectures. We are kept informed of the latest policy changes and the IET facilitates international recognition of our courses alongside forming relationships with other key educational bodies. There are other benefits to student membership such as awards and scholarships, the graduate advantage scheme, understanding academic publishing and technician registration to this professional body."

Look out for information on IET activities on notice boards and electronic screens.



Head of Department Professor David Howard, with staff members Tim Clarke, Professor John Robinson and Noel Jackson

IN THE COMMUNITY...

Teenagers on the trail

Young people put their bug-spotting skills to the test at the University's Science Trail on Thursday, 22 March.

Nearly 200 teenagers from 11 schools across Yorkshire and the Humber sampled activities including an Open Air Laboratories Network (OPAL) Bugs Count Survey, with students trying to find as many invertebrates as they could within a set period of time. Other highlights included a session looking at the process of DNA fingerprinting with the Department of Biology and an investigation of the types of cells found in the body with the Centre for Immunology and Infection.

At the Hull York Medical School, students demonstrated how to conduct a series of diagnostic tests when someone collapses. Other teenagers made plastic at the Green Chemistry Centre, created chemical 'clocks' that change colour on cue, learned how to build usable, interesting interfaces for the web and mobile phones, and explored intriguing mathematics questions such as 'can a piece of paper have only one side and one edge?'



Photo courtesy of The Press, York

Fulford School pupil Ruby Hutson studies ladybirds as part of the OPAL Bugs Count Survey

Resolving workplace disputes



Mediation is increasingly used, across a range of professions and situations, as an alternative to more traditional ways of resolving disputes between colleagues in the workplace.

The University's mediation service, launched a year ago with a small group of trained mediators, is now being offered to staff in all areas of the campus.

"Formal ways of resolving conflict, typically through a grievance procedure, often leave both parties damaged, and can make it hard for staff to return to work afterwards," says Paula Tunbridge, Mediation Co-ordinator. "Mediation avoids that by building communication and understanding between the two parties. It is also completely confidential, non-judgmental, and outside of any formal procedures."

"Formal ways of resolving conflict... often leave both parties damaged"

Paula can advise on whether or not the situation is potentially suitable for mediation. If it is, two of the University's trained mediators will be assigned to follow up the case. They will see each party separately, and then, if there is scope for progress, bring the two parties together. "No notes are retained and nothing which is disclosed in the mediation process can subsequently be used in any other form of proceedings," she explains. "Where appropriate, the parties to a dispute may sign a written agreement, but they are never pressurised to do so."

If you would like to find out more about mediation contact Paula Tunbridge on ext 4838, email mediation@york.ac.uk or visit www.york.ac.uk/mediation.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Carolyn Dougherty (Railway Studies) has won the York Georgian Society's Patrick Nuttgens Award for her PhD research on the operation of the carrying trade in England in the 18th and early-19th centuries. Patrick Nuttgens was founding Director of the University's Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies and President of the York Georgian Society.



Carolyn Dougherty (centre) with Patrick's widow Bridget Nuttgens (left) and daughter Peg Alexander (right)

The **Department of Health Sciences** has opened a quiet room where staff and students can nurse their babies. The private, self-contained room is located in the Seebohm Rowntree Building opposite the Student Information Services (SIS) office, and provides comfy chairs, music and a selection of reading material. The room key can be collected from the SIS office with no prior booking during office hours.

The **Staff Cricket Club** is calling for players for the new season. The division two York Vale League team plays 40-over innings games on Saturdays. It welcomes all keen players of any ability and you don't have to be a member of the University to join. Email jim.brannigan@york.ac.uk or visit www.uniofyorkstaff.play-cricket.com.

University of York Music Press has signed a publishing contract with James Weeks, described by the *Guardian* as 'one of the most inventive young composers and conductors out there'. James has a growing international reputation both for his own music and for his consummate performances of contemporary repertoire.

York Conferences has bucked the local trend for a downturn in conference business this year, with a 12 per cent increase on sales from August to January in comparison to the same period last year. They are holding an Open Day in the basement of Grimston House on Thursday 10 May from 10am to 4pm.

York gears up for the Alumni Weekend

A packed programme of events has been organised for this year's Alumni Weekend which runs from 15 to 17 June and includes a gala dinner hosted by Vice-Chancellor Brian Cantor and Chancellor Greg Dyke.

Among the well-known alumni taking part are author Anthony Horowitz, political commentator Steve Richards, media executive Denise O'Donoghue, and Chief Operating Officer of the BBC, Caroline Thomson.

Events include talks by international authors, debates with experts on topical issues, a range of masterclasses, and the opportunity to connect with alumni, students and colleagues, or relax during the informal social events.

"The programme reflects what alumni associate with the University: a mix of intellectually engaging activity and lively social events," says Nik Miller, who co-ordinates the annual event. "One of the main strengths of the event is the increased involvement of departments, colleges and students."

To get involved with the Alumni Weekend, or to find out more visit www.yorkspace.net or contact Nik at nik.miller@york.ac.uk.

Award winning writer
Anthony Horowitz

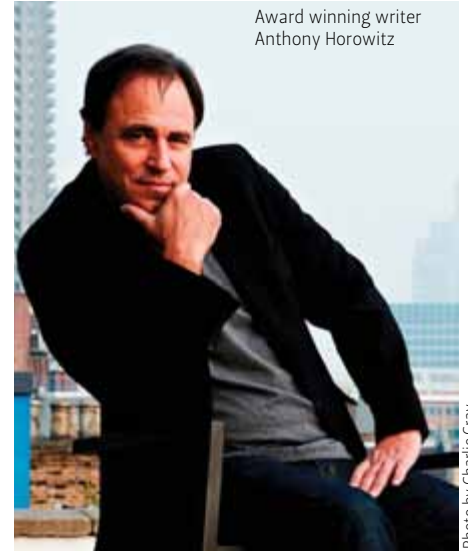


Photo by Charlie Gray

Emerita Professor Felicity Riddy has been appointed as an Ambassador for the Development and Alumni Office's new legacy group, the Heslington Circle.

Lessons from industry

York Mathematics alumnus Stephen Parfett returned to the University in February to talk to Management students about converting his family company A G Parfett & Sons to employee ownership.

Under Stephen's direction, the wholesale business – which has outlets in Merseyside,

Greater Manchester, and North Derbyshire and employs nearly 600 staff – started to convert to employee ownership four years ago, and is now majority-employee-owned.

His talk was of particular interest to final-year students taking the Employee Ownership and Governance module.



Research accolade for tissue engineers

A team of scientists from the Jack Birch Unit recently received a top award in recognition of its research on bladder tissue engineering.

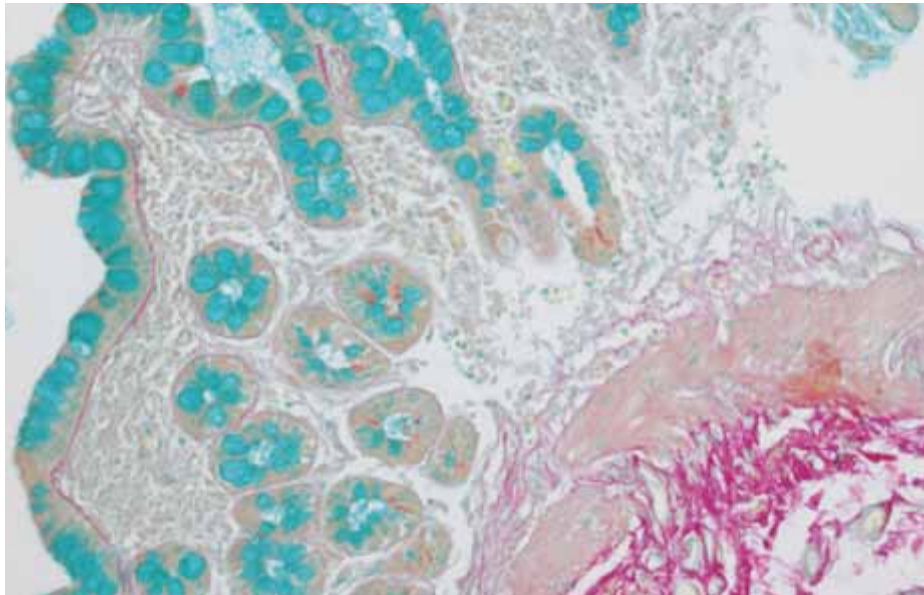
The researchers' paper, describing an improved tissue engineering technique which aims to replace a diseased bladder using a patient's own cells grown in a laboratory, was selected as the Best Fundamental Research Paper by a young urologist published in *European Urology* in 2011.

Research in the Jack Birch Unit at York concentrates on epithelial tissues, which give rise to more than 80 per cent of all adult human cancers. Its main focus is on bladder cancer which is the UK's seventh

most common cancer, with over 10,000 new cases diagnosed each year. A particular focus of research is tissue engineering, whereby functional tissue is grown in the laboratory for use in reconstructive surgery.

"Tissue engineering is no longer a theoretical exercise but is beginning to be used clinically to treat an array of medical problems, and this research will be particularly encouraging for those with major bladder abnormalities," says Alex Turner who was the paper's lead author.

Alex is now a Specialist Registrar in Paediatric Urology at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital.



Most cells are colourless and transparent, so histological sections have to be stained to make the cells visible. Here a section through the colon has been stained with Alcian Blue and van Gieson

Jack Birch Unit's new histology service

Through its pioneering work, the Jack Birch Unit has developed particular expertise in histology, the study of microscopic anatomy.

The organs of our body such as the skin and bladder are made up of tissues, which are in turn made up of cells. Cells can be further divided into subcellular compartments, such as the nucleus, and components such as lipids, protein and DNA. At this microscopic level, very thin sections of tissue are stained or labelled with coloured dyes or fluorescent probes to identify tissue types, cells or subcellular components. Using these techniques we can study the organisation of our bodies down to this subcellular level. The many applications of histology include assessing how tissues change during the development of cancer or following exposure to a drug.

The Jack Birch Unit has now launched a histology service called Histotech to provide high quality consultancy and contract histology for internal and external customers. Histotech has already undertaken projects for companies in the regenerative medicine, diagnostic tools and chemical development fields.

For more information, visit histotech.com or email info@histotech.com.

Springboard – a catalyst for success

Springboard, York Science Park's dynamic incubation space for start-up businesses, celebrated its first graduates when almost half of the first resident companies progressed enough to move into new office space in The Catalyst.

Yatterbox, Ian Walker & Co Chartered Accountants, the Law Wizard, Inclusive Innovations Ltd and Inshightlytics have moved to York Science Park's space for more established businesses. Their success was celebrated at a 'graduation'-style event on Friday 16 March in The Ron Cooke Hub.

The University's Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Business and Community, Professor Colin Mellors said, "Embedding business space in the heart of the University, and supporting business growth through encouraging enterprise, innovation and knowledge

exchange, have been key elements in the University's vision for Heslington East from the outset."



Former University Vice-Chancellor Sir Ron Cooke presents a certificate to Tom Hiskey from the Law Wizard

Staff survey: taking action

A total of 67 per cent of staff took part in last year's employee opinion survey. The results highlighted what the University does well and potential areas for improvement.

An action plan to respond to the key findings has been developed and approved by the Employee Engagement Steering Group, whose membership includes Union representatives, Academic Co-ordinators and staff from a number of academic and support departments. Departments have also developed local action plans to respond to local issues highlighted by the survey.

The plan is structured around key areas for improvement and/or factors found to have a strong influence on employee engagement (ie levels of employee advocacy, employee commitment and discretionary effort). See www.york.ac.uk/staffsurvey/action_plans.

STUDENTS EXPERIENCE THE REAL WORLD

As Heslington Studios welcomes international film-makers to its state-of-the-art facilities, a ground-breaking initiative is providing York graduates with unparalleled opportunities to work in the media.



NCE OF CGI

academic film industry collaboration

MA graduate Andrew Manns is working as a visual effects artist on *The Knife That Killed Me*, gaining experience in every aspect of the film's production from storyboarding to visual effects post-production.

"Most people start work in the movie industry as a runner. Some places you even have to start in the kitchen. I was very lucky in that I managed to skip that stage entirely," he says.



The innovative partnership between Heslington Studios - the commercial arm of the University of York's Department of Theatre, Film and Television - and Green Screen Productions, is lowering costs and opening the door to the internationally distributed films market. It is also offering students and graduates the chance to work in a professional environment that is notorious difficult to enter.

The new model involves Heslington Studios providing post-production facilities, as well as recent York graduates working alongside well-established industry professionals at Green Screen Productions. These include Oscar-winning producer Stephen Evans (*Henry V*, *The Madness of King George*).

The partnership grew out of an earlier collaboration between the University and some of Green Screen's principals - Kit Monkman, Alan Latham and Tom Mattinson - on the 2006 film *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey*, featuring Joely Richardson and Tom Berenger. York Music Technology and Media Technology students carried out a significant portion of the visual effects work.

The University's Head of Film and Television Production, John Mateer, is the driving force behind the new business model and the visual effects producer for *The Knife That Killed Me*, the studios' first feature film.

"Although general industry collaborations in other disciplines are not uncommon at universities, they are rare in film and television. *The Knife That Killed Me* is particularly unusual in that it has the backing of a major studio.

"For the University there are obvious benefits in terms of raising its profile within the film industry, helping to keep our teaching and practices current, and providing revenue to maintain our excellent facilities and kit. It's a win-win arrangement," he says.

Post-production work will be carried out

on a further four films at the University's new £30m facilities over the coming year. In return, Heslington Studios receives a minimum fee for each project based on a Capital Investment Allocation.

Wholly owned by the University of York, Heslington Studios boasts two HD broadcast TV studios, a 140-seat preview cinema, a multi-purpose sound stage, as well as superb sound and picture post-production facilities.

Says Commercial Director for Heslington Studios, Carole Dove, "We have an excellent technical team who can provide support and advice, as well as competent, enthusiastic students willing to take on work experience to boost their chances of success in the production industry."

The Knife That Killed Me is at the late pre-production stage and will be distributed in the UK by Universal Pictures UK at the end of the year.

Based on the gripping thriller by the award-winning children's writer Anthony McGowan, *The Knife That Killed Me* is set in Yorkshire and chronicles a boy's spiral into knife crime. Green Screen Productions is shooting the film almost entirely on green screen at its new northern film studios at Bubwith, near York. Most of the action takes place in the principal character's head, so cutting-edge CGI techniques are being used to create a distinctive, stylised look. Since September, six graduates have been working on the film and more will be taken on later in the year.

John Mateer says, "Initially, it will be postgraduate students and recent graduates who will be the main beneficiaries. They will gain real-world experience working alongside highly creative established professionals, as well as a production credit. There is also the potential for undergraduates to gain work experience through the partnership during University vacations."

John Mateer is one of the founders of the Department of Theatre, Film and Television. Before joining York, he worked as a producer and director with companies including Jonathan Goodson Productions (in association with Paramount Studios), Gabriel Films Ltd, Ogilvy & Mather and LucasArts (as part of the First Cities project)



FOCUS ON... James College

James College was named after Lord James of Rusholme, who was the University's first Vice-Chancellor in post from 1963 to 1972. One of the largest colleges, James is home to around 600 resident students and is based in the southern part of the campus between Wentworth, Vanbrugh and York Sport Centre.

James recently benefited from a programme of refurbishment when it took over Goodricke College's former accommodation on Heslington West. Developments are still underway with the opening of its local bar, The Lounge, and the expansion of the Students' Union building. York Student Television's offices are based in James, and many other clubs and societies use the dining hall for regular practice. Resident and nearby departments include Psychology, Mathematics, Physics and Electronics.

With its central location, outdoor barbeques, grassy quads and lakeside location, James College's social life is particularly active. One of the highlights is the Quad Dash, featuring men and women's teams racing around the courtyard followed by the Quad Bash party in the city.

James also prides itself on its international outlook and has a unique student exchange agreement with Morningside College, the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The first Morningside students arrived at James in 2011, and students from James can apply to spend a number of terms in Hong Kong.

"James is a supportive college where everyone is encouraged to get involved and to help make it a great place to live and work," says Provost Neil Lunt who is also an academic in the Department of Social Policy and Social Work. "We take pride in our give-it-a-go ethos, offer diverse activities to suit all interests, and aim to create a supportive and fun atmosphere."



James College formal ball is held in the Roger Kirk Centre

Photo by James Thompson



Many of the kitchens and bedrooms have been refurbished



Provost Neil Lunt

Photos by Ian Martindale

INTERVIEW WITH...

Diane Coyle

Diane Coyle is vice-chair of the BBC Trust, and delivered this year's Joseph Rowntree Foundation Lecture hosted by the School of Politics, Economics and Philosophy. During her visit to York, she spoke about her faith in the power of innovation, the challenges facing the BBC and her belief that universities should strive to produce economics graduates who are more worldly-wise.

Communications are important to Diane Coyle. As a former journalist with a deep interest in the impact mobile telephony is having on developing nations, you would expect nothing less.

As vice-chair of the BBC Trust – the organisation which is both a voice for the public and guardian of the Corporation's independence – she is at the heart of the media and communications industry. As an economist, Coyle has trenchant views on the role that communications should play in that area of activity.

She runs a consultancy called Enlightenment Economics that examines fundamental long-term strategic issues facing businesses, governments and individuals. As well as gauging the impact of mobile telephony in emerging markets, it has looked at the use of new technologies and social networking in disasters, innovation systems, and the social impacts of information and communication technologies.

Enlightenment Economics organised a conference at the Bank of England earlier this year under the title 'What post-crisis changes does the economics discipline need: are graduate economists fit for purpose?' It is clear that Coyle believes that more work needs to be done to better equip economics graduates for the 'real world'.

"Even people in investment banks say they want graduates who are not so narrow in their perspective. They want graduates who know there's a world out there and who can communicate. But they're not getting that at the moment," she says. "They don't expect them to be oven-ready when they come



Photo by Kippa Matthews

out of university. They are not demanding ridiculous skills from new graduates."

She believes there should be modules that teach students communications skills in every economics course. Better still, would-be economics students should consider a joint degree as a way of giving them a broader world view.

New economics graduates, she says, are the people who will help to build the economy of the future, a process that Coyle acknowledges will not be easy. She suggests that it will require substantial institutional reform to eliminate the instability and

Coyle is critical of the way the banking system has been slow to innovate for the benefit of customers

inequalities of the present system.

"It will probably take a lot of experimentation before we find out what kind of institutional reorganisation addresses the challenges that face us," she says.

And rather than sweeping away institutions, she believes innovation offers the key to help finesse a more equitable economic landscape thus circumventing the vested interests that tend to inhibit reform. Coyle is convinced that there is plenty of innovation out there, though much is "under the radar".

As an example of the barriers to change, Coyle is critical of the way the banking system has been slow to innovate for the benefit of customers and points to the example of Kenya where a large proportion of the

population use their mobile telephones to carry out money transactions.

"It's extraordinarily successful but why don't we do that? Our banks just don't innovate in that way."

Ironically, Coyle herself is trying to safeguard one of the biggest institutions in Britain in the BBC. The Government, like many others before it, has called for root-and-branch reform of the Corporation. But Coyle says the biggest challenge facing the Beeb is technological rather than political.

"The real challenge is how to maintain this Reithian organisation that's done so much good for the people of this country, in an era when the use of technologies and distribution networks are subject to so much change," she says. The Corporation is having to look into its crystal ball and make substantial investments now in new technologies just to stay ahead of the game.

"That's just strategically a very hard challenge," she admits.

Nevertheless, she acknowledges that engaging with Ministers is less daunting with the substantial political operator in Lord Patten chairing the BBC Trust. So what does a working-class woman from Ramsbottom, near Bury in Lancashire, think of the former Conservative Cabinet Minister as a colleague?

"He's terrific," she says. "He's an incredibly smart, cultured, funny person and great to work with. He has a very strong sense about the BBC's role as an institution which is, I suppose, what you would expect from a One Nation Conservative. I share that perspective despite coming from a completely different kind of experience. I grew up in the North-West in a working-class background.

"The BBC at its best is a fantastic institution for the British people. It allows us to punch above our weight in the world."

MEDIEVAL CHARTERS

European medieval charters existed long before records such as censuses or birth registers and they provide one of the richest sources of historical information on the life and times of people from the 12th to 16th centuries.

Now an international team of historians, archivists and experts in computer science from the Universities of York and Brighton, with colleagues from Canada, the United States and the Netherlands, are joining forces to develop tools to allow people to work effectively and efficiently with the vast amounts of historic material currently being digitised.

Their project, ChartEx - charter excavator - has won over £420,000 of funding in the prestigious international grant competition Digging into Data Challenge, which was launched to promote innovative humanities and social science research using large-scale data analysis.

Charters are one of the few archival sources to survive from the medieval era in significant quantities. They recorded legal transactions of property of all kinds: houses, workshops, fields and meadows and describe the people who lived there. They also provide evidence of how and why cities, towns and villages developed over time, allowing researchers to track the ownership of individual parcels of land over centuries and connect them to the histories of the people who lived there.

The project is particularly exciting for York researchers as 2012 is the 800th anniversary of York becoming a self-governing city. On 9 July, 1212, King John signed a special communal charter allowing York's citizens, rather than the sheriff, to collect and pay the annual tax to the Crown, to hold their own courts and appoint a mayor.

"The ChartEx tools will enable users to really dig into these records, to recover their rich descriptions of places and people, and to go far beyond current digital catalogues which restrict searches to a few key facts about each document," said Dr Sarah Rees Jones, of the University of York's Department of History.

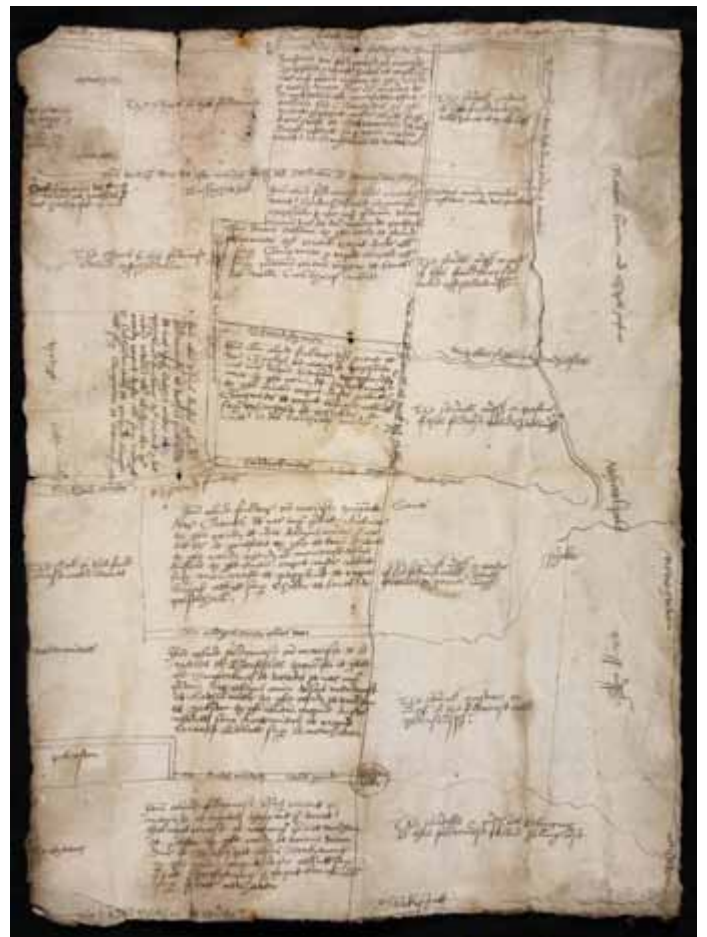
"It is both relevant and exciting to have received funding for a project to work on charters in the year that York celebrates the 800th anniversary of its founding civic charter. York is marking this important anniversary with York 800, a year-long programme of events for residents, visitors and businesses."

Professor Helen Petrie, from the Human Computer Interaction Research Group in the Department of Computer Science at York, said, "Using our expertise in human-computer interaction, we will build a 'virtual workbench' for historians, allowing them to work much more easily with digital records than currently."

Charters also provide an interesting linguistic resource. "By applying modern language processing techniques to medieval Latin and English, we will be able to unlock much more detail about the lives and affairs

of people 800 years ago," says Dr Roger Evans, from the University of Brighton's Natural Language Technology Group.

The Digging into Data Challenge is funded by eight international organisations from four countries, including JISC, the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) from the UK.



An early mapping of properties described in deeds and charters. Photo courtesy of The National Archives UK

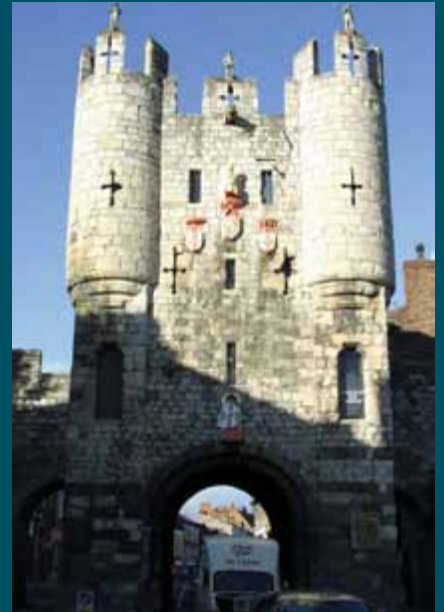
YORK 800

Citizens buy their freedom for £200 and three horses



King John

For most of the Norman period York was governed by the Sheriff of Yorkshire. He was based in York, but had responsibility for the whole county and wasn't accountable to the citizens. As York's merchants grew richer, they resented the Sheriff's dominance and the wealth he acquired from their businesses. Disastrous and expensive military campaigns left King John in need of funds, and one way to raise them was to allow a town's citizens to buy the right to rule themselves. In 1212, the King granted a royal charter which gave York the chance of self-government, in return for £200 and three horses. He had made a good bargain, substantially increasing his annual income from the city. In return, the citizens gained emancipation from the Sheriff and managed the city's finances themselves. York's first known mayor was a wool and wine merchant called Hugh Selby.



Visit the [York 800 website](http://www.york800.com) for more information about events celebrating the royal charter: www.york800.com



Three medieval deeds and indentures, 1353-1422. Photo courtesy of York Archives and Local History

A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

YORK'S CHEFS TASTE THE FLAVOURS OF CHINA
BEHIND THE SCENES IN A UNIVERSITY KITCHEN



At Nanjing, Andrew is given in lesson in how to cook dumplings in a bamboo steamer basket while Ian shows the Chinese chefs how to make pizza



Andrew Wood, the University's Executive Chef and his Deputy, Ian Dickson, have just returned from a two week trip to the Universities of Zhejiang and Nanjing as part of a unique exchange project.

York has already forged strong relationships with the two Chinese universities as partners in the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN), and our academics are involved in joint research across a range of disciplines. This is the first time that a non-academic exchange has been organised and it came about after a visit to Hong Kong and China last year by Head of Hospitality, Phil Kember and Head of Campus Services, Sue Johnston. They wanted to find out how to enhance the experience of international students coming to York.

The aim of our two senior chefs was to get a crash course in authentic Chinese cuisine and come home with a collection of 15 to 20 recipes that could be incorporated into the repertoire of campus cuisine for special occasions such as Chinese New Year.

In China students eat all their meals in university dining outlets whereas Chinese students coming to York tend to opt for self-catered packages. One of the main reasons for this, according to a recent focus group, was that they miss the taste of genuine Chinese home cooking.

Vanbrugh College used to serve Chinese dishes, but they were not popular with Chinese students, says Andrew Wood who introduced food with an Asian flavour a few years ago. "We made the mistake of using Indian rice which is quite different to the fatty short-grain rice in Chinese food." Another culinary faux pas was the York method of cooking dumplings, arguably the most important traditional Chinese dish. "We were deep frying them," he admits. "Turns out that real Chinese dumplings are poached."

So, with a couple of translators standing by to help with communications, Ian and Andrew joined the university cooks in Zhejiang and Nanjing behind the scenes to learn some of the tricks of their trade. There were misunderstandings, such as the

time one of the translators appeared with a bunch of flowers after being asked to find some flour. There was also confusion over the Yorkshire pronunciation of 'duck'. As for cooking techniques, one of the challenges was wielding a huge and lethal cleaver: "I kept getting it stuck in the wooden block!" says Andrew.

They also learned that the ingredients in many of the dishes bear little resemblance to the Chinese food we eat in the West. There were no saturated fats or dairy products; instead, they found a lot of fresh vegetables, pork and seafood. Another discovery was that cooking styles were very diverse depending on the region. "In the campus canteens students could choose from 100 dishes from all areas of China," he says.

Both chefs agree that the experience formed a lasting impression and one that will give them a better insight into the culinary

customs of other cultures. "The most important thing we discovered was that food – and sitting down together to have a meal – is central to Asian culture," Andrew says.

Armed with a sheaf of new recipes, photos and sketches of how to present the dishes and a good supply of herbs and spices, Andrew is now well prepared to produce the real deal in terms of authentic Chinese fare for the next important campus event at York.

Says Harriet Cross from the International Relations Office, who helped to organise the exchange, "Serving authentic Chinese cuisine will help many of our international students feel more at home, but more importantly it will make the campus a more international place for all our students." Both Zhejiang and Nanjing Universities were very keen on the idea of doing service level staff exchanges and plans are in the pipeline for a return visit from Chinese chefs.



Ian and Andrew prepare a dessert for the English banquet on their last night in Nanjing

IN MEMORIAM...

Mike Hardey

Mike Hardey, a member of the Science and Technology Studies Unit (SATSU), based in the Department of Sociology, died on March 27.

Mike was a gentle and collegial man who joined SATSU in 2008 as a Co-Director of the Unit. More widely he had been, since 2005, a Reader in Medical Sociology based at the Hull-York Medical School, producing work of a high quality that explored the world of Medicine 2.0 and the relationships between health and lifestyle.

His work on social media and doctor-patient relations was ground-breaking, publishing in 1999 the first article about medicine and the internet in the leading international journal, *Sociology of Health and Illness*, which later used his paper as a springboard for a special issue on the web and medicine. He was interested in exploring the ways in which the web

might empower patients and challenge professional authority. He was inspired by the potential democratising effects of social media and indeed practised this in regard to his own work, using Slideshare as much as possible to make his papers and presentations available to all.

Mike will be a great loss to his daughter, Dr Maz Hardey, whom he brought up as a single parent and whose relationship was as much that of co-conspirators in life as it was father and daughter, and our deepest sympathies go to her.

Mike had much still to contribute. He was playing a key role in helping shape the agenda of the forthcoming SATSU/iCS Conference on social media and STS and the construction of evidence and knowledge. The closing Keynote will be dedicated to his contribution to the field.

Andrew Webster
Director, SATSU

Taeko Midorikawa Crump

Taeko Midorikawa Crump, who has died following a long illness, was instrumental in building the University's links with Japan in the early years of the former International Office.

Born in Tokyo in 1941, Taeko came to England in the late 1960s to teach Japanese language at Sheffield University. There one of her pupils was John Crump, who was studying for his PhD in Politics, whom she later married. They settled in York, where John held a post in the Department of Politics, and Taeko developed Japanese classes in the then Language Teaching Centre. In the early 1990s, as the University began to explore institutional links with Japanese colleges and universities, Taeko acted as an interpreter and advisor on many occasions when we were receiving visitors from Japan. In 1992 Taeko and John and their two young daughters, Emily and Erica, spent three months in Japan (1992) while John was on sabbatical leave at Keio University in Tokyo. During this time and for several years afterwards, Taeko visited numerous

institutions to introduce the University and recruit students.

Always entirely professional, Taeko was also great fun to work with: she had a lively sense of humour. She gave great service to the University, helping us to navigate deftly the sometimes choppy waters of protocol and cross-cultural understanding and many of the relationships which she built last to this day.

Simon Willis
Director of Student Recruitment and Admissions



AT THE CHALK FACE

Biology

Dr Dani Ungar gave a presentation to paediatricians in Hull about the family congenital disorder of Glycosylation which affects children and is largely under-diagnosed in clinics.

Professor Henry Leese gave a talk on 'Metabolic biomarkers of the preimplantation embryo' at a Serono Symposia International meeting on 'Individualised controlled ovarian stimulation and objective gamete and embryo selection' in Yokohama, Japan.

Chemistry

Professor Richard Taylor lectured on 'New approaches to heterocyclic diversity' at UCB-Celltech, Slough, and the Freie Universität, Berlin. He also visited start-up company Analyticon to work on research collaborations in the area of obtaining new drugs from plant sources. 'Tandem oxidation processes for the preparation of nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic and heterocyclic compounds', a paper by Professor Taylor, Dr Steve Raw and Dr Cecilia Wilfred, published in the RSC journal *Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry* in 2004, has been named one of the journal's top ten most-cited.

Professor James Clark, Dr Mark Gronnow and Dr Avtar Matharu gave four talks at the Industrial Green Chemistry World meeting in Mumbai including Professor Clark's keynote 'Waste to wealth using green chemistry', and ran an exhibition on the work of the Green Chemistry Centre of Excellence.

The Green Chemistry curriculum initiatives within the Green Chemistry Centre of Excellence and the Chemical Industry Education Centre have been selected as one of the 2012 recipients of the ACS-CEI Award for Incorporating Sustainability into Chemistry Education sponsored by the American Chemical Society's Committee on Environmental Improvement.

The Atmospheric Research Group has won major funding from the NERC totalling around £900,000 to support three research projects on atmospheric chemistry.

Dr Gideon Grogan and Professor Neil Bruce (Biology) have been awarded £650,000 by the European Union to co-ordinate the Marie-Curie network project P4FIFTY with collaborators from universities in Germany, France, Denmark and the Netherlands, as well as industrial partners.

Professor Duncan Bruce was invited by the British Embassy in Moscow to the UK-Russia Expert Innovation Round Table in Ekaterinburg, Russia, where he spoke about the use of nitrogen heterocycles in materials chemistry, in particular relating to liquid crystals.

Professor Jane Thomas-Oates gave a seminar in Hull on 'Mass spectrometry: a postgenomic journey through time', and a plenary on 'Dinosaurs and other farm animals' at the COST Farm Animal Proteomics meeting in Vilamoura, Portugal.

Computer Science

Dr Rob Alexander has been awarded two grants by the Ministry of Defence SEAS DT. The first is to create a lightweight process for security analysis of autonomous vehicle architectures. The other is to scope the safety research needs for the MoD's Unmanned Air Systems Pipeline research programme, and will involve the BAE Systems Advanced Technology Centre.

Peng Ren, supervised by Edwin Hancock, received the Department's annual Best PhD Thesis Award 2011.

A recent collaborative proposal to the EPSRC on the Autonomous and Intelligent Systems Instrumentation call has been successful. NEWTON (Novel Sensing Networks for Intelligent Monitoring) brings together expertise in distributed 'cloud-based' diagnostic software architecture at York with the expertise of electromagnetic NDE and communications at Newcastle and nonlinear system identification and robotics at Sheffield, to provide a revolutionary solution for infrastructure operational condition and health monitoring.

Professor John Clark was one of four contributing authors (led by Professor Mark Harman at UCL) of the successful Dynamic Adaptive Automated Software Engineering programme grant proposal to EPSRC. Funding for York's envisaged work is approximately £1.1m (€900K RC contribution) of a programme total of £6.65m.

'Quantum reading capacity', a recent paper by Dr Stefano Pirandola and Professor Sam Braunstein, was one of only five quantum physics papers selected for the *New Journal of Physics* 'Highlights of 2011' collection.

Economics

Professor Mike Wickens presented 'On the use of dynamic stochastic general equilibrium models' to the European Commission's Workshop on 'Methodologies for long-term modelling', Seville.

Education

Professor Chris Kyriacou gave the keynote address at the 'Exploring social pedagogy in mainstream education and social care' conference, Leeds.

Dr Sarah Olive was awarded WUN funding to travel to the University of Bergen. She will give a day workshop for Bergen school teachers, co-author an article for the British Shakespeare Association publication *Teaching Shakespeare*, and develop a third year empirical dissertation topic on Shakespeare for English as an Additional Language students. Dr Olive also gave a paper on 'Using contemporary culture to teach Early Modern Drama: Shakespeare v Lady Gaga' at the British Shakespeare Conference, Lancaster.

At the East China University of Political Science and Law in Shanghai, Professor Ian Davies lectured on 'Researching citizenship education' to an audience of academics and 'Teaching citizenship education' to teachers and other professionals.

At the Association for Science Education Annual Conference, University of Liverpool, Professor Robin Millar gave the Presidential Address on 'Rethinking science education: facing the challenge of "science for all"' and a presentation with Mary Whitehouse on 'An outcomes-led approach to curriculum planning'. Rachael Sharpe and Dr Ian Abrahams gave a paper on 'Getting Practical: an evaluation' and Dr Abrahams gave another paper on 'The "Getting Practical" evaluation and its relevance to initial teacher education in science'.

Leah Roberts presented 'Establishing referential dependencies in real time second language processing' at the Behavioural Science Institute, Radboud University Nijmegen.

Paul Wakeling co-hosted and gave the opening presentation at the Widening Participation to Postgraduate Education: Access after the White Paper conference, held at the Royal Institute of British Architects, London.

Dr Annie Hughes gave a talk entitled 'How can we find out what is really going on in our young

English learner class?' at the English Teachers' Association of Switzerland's AGM and Convention in Yvverdon-les-Bains.

Danijela Trenkic gave a talk on 'Errorless vocabulary learning' at the 'Second language acquisition: A view from Europe' conference, University of Essex.

Martin Braund gave an address on 'Learning outside the classroom' and a research seminar on 'Drama in science teaching' at the University of Londrina, Brazil.

Effective Education, Institute for

At the Conference on Development Policy Options with Special Reference to Education and Health in Myanmar, held in Naypyitaw, Professor Frank Hardman presented the initial findings of a UNICEF commissioned baseline study of pedagogic practices and learning achievement in Myanmar primary schools.

Dr Tracey Bywater presented at the Centre for Evidence Based Early Intervention South Wales conference, the Delivering Quality Parenting Services mini-conference at Wrexham University and the North Wales Incredible Years conference. She co-wrote 'Behavioural and cognitive-behavioural group-based parenting programmes for early-onset conduct problems in children aged 3 to 12 years', a new systematic review for the Cochrane Collaboration, and a new chapter on 'Developing the Incredible Years programs in Wales' for *The Incredible Years Parents, Teachers, and Children Training Series: Program Content, Methods, Research and Dissemination*.

Dr Mary Sheard shared the findings of the IEE's evaluation of PATHS NI (formerly Together 4 All) – a social-emotional learning programme for primary pupils – at a seminar for Barnardo's Northern Ireland personnel and to primary school principals in Northern Ireland.

The latest edition of the IEE's magazine, *Better: Evidence-based Education*, focuses on evidence-based policy and practice. See www.betterevidence.org.

The Coalition for Evidence-based Education (CEBE), initiated by the IEE, is an alliance of researchers, policymakers, and practitioners interested in reforming the way research evidence is used in policy and practice. Policymakers, journalists, educators and researchers attended a parliamentary event to hear more about the new Education Media Centre (EMC), a CEBE project. The EMC aims to spread knowledge about what works in education, by directly supporting the national media. Stephen Twigg, the Shadow Education Secretary, recently mentioned the CEBE in a speech and article in *The Times*.

E-Learning Development Team

Dr Richard Walker presented a paper on 'Blended problem-based learning: designing collaboration opportunities for unguided group research through the use of Web 2.0 tools' at the Eighth International Conference on Networked Learning, Maastricht, Netherlands.

At the Blackboard Europe Teaching and Learning conference, Antwerp, Dr Chris Sparks presented a paper with Chris Simpson (Careers Service) on 'Innovative e-learning as an agent for institutional change: York's Employability Tutorial' and Simon Davis delivered a paper on 'Developing and delivering video feedback for students through Blackboard'.

Electronics

Dr Adar Pelah gave a lecture on his research in

sensory motor interactions and rehabilitation technologies to clinicians at the Yorkshire Stroke Research Network (YSRN), St James Hospital, Leeds, and a demonstration of StroMoHab, a virtual reality real-time visual feedback system developed in the Department.

The Department co-hosted with Physics a York-Nanjing Joint spintronics workshop, part of the activities of the York-Nanjing Joint Centre in Spintronics and Nanoengineering.

English Language Teaching, Centre for

Bill Soden and Helen Alcelik gave a presentation on tracking international students' experience, with particular reference to their academic skills development, at a national gathering of lecturers in English for Academic Purposes at the University of Kent.

Paul Roberts joined a UKTI trade mission to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Dubai – led by Amanda Selvaratnam (Continuing Professional Development) – looking at possible links to regional HE institutions and at ways of increasing the University's influence in the Gulf area.

English and Related Literature

Professor John Barrell has published *The Complete Writings of William Fox* (Trent Editions, 2011), co-edited with Tim Whelan. Professor Barrell lectured on 'The landscape of Wales in wartime: 1794' at Berkeley, on Edward Pugh at the University of Glasgow and "'I know where that is': the Place of Edward Pugh' at the University of Cambridge.

Dr Ziad Elmarsafy presented 'Lusting after novelty: fictions of upheaval in Egypt, 1971-2011' at the University of Lancaster, "'I hope we're not too messianic": Predecessors of the Arab Spring', at Queen Mary, University of London and 'All Passion – Gespenst: What Haunts the 2011 Egyptian Revolution?' at Wadham College, Oxford.

Professor Lawrence Rainey, Dr Bryan Radley and Dr Peter Fifield (St John's, Oxford) produced a special issue of *Modernism/modernity* dedicated entirely to the work of Samuel Beckett and based on the Out of the Archive conference held at the Humanities Research Centre. See: www.outofthearchive.com.

History

Professor Guy Halsall presented a public lecture on 'Rethinking the age of King Arthur' and graduate seminar on the barbarian migrations at the University of Florida. He also gave the second annual Lincoln Medieval Lecture at the University of Lincoln, on the same subject.

Professor Richard Bessel delivered a public lecture in Bad Rappenau, Germany, to mark the opening of the historical exhibition 'Jüdisches Leben im Kraichgau'. He is currently a Fellow at the Freiburg Institute of Advanced Studies.

History of Art

Dr Jason Edwards gave a paper on 'For beauty is a series of hypotheses: Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's bodhisattva fractal world' at the University of Manchester.

Health Economics, Centre for

Bernard van den Berg participated in a meeting of the Health Foundation on 'Personal health budgets: learning lessons from the Dutch experience', London.

Susan Griffin, Richard Cookson, Miqdad Asaria and Mark Sculpher held a one-day workshop on 'Incorporating inequality concern into cost effectiveness analysis'.

Richard Cookson gave a talk on 'Competition and equity – experience from the UK' at the TILEC-Tranzo conference on 'Does competition in healthcare harm solidarity?' in Tilburg, The Netherlands.

Dr Andrea Manca has been appointed as member of the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence Technology Appraisal Committee.

Professor Mike Drummond attended a meeting of the CONSORT Group to discuss the reporting of quality of life data in clinical trials, in London. At the 'Sustaining and implementing universal health coverage: 4 perspectives for 5 continents' conference, Milan, he addressed the area: 'Assessing the added value of health technologies: reconciling different perspectives'.

Dr Rowena Jacobs presented a paper (with Anne Mason, Sungwook Kim and Dr Rossella Verzulli) on 'Variations in efficiency in mental health services in the English NHS' at the World Psychiatric Association conference in Granada, Spain. She also gave a talk to Medi-Clinic Southern Africa in Cape Town on 'The economics of funding flows in the English NHS: Payment by Results (PbR)' and a training session with a psychiatrist for the Retreat Hospital in York on 'Payment by Results (PbR) for mental health services'.

The Centre for Health Economics, HYMS and the Health Sciences Mental Health Research Group have won an NIHR SDO bid for a project, led by Dr Rowena Jacobs, to examine whether higher primary care practice performance scores predict lower rates of emergency admissions for persons with serious mental illness.

Andrew Street gave a talk on NHS Productivity to the Association of Clinical Pathologists and was a course tutor on Patient Classification Systems International Winter School, Dublin.

Health Sciences

Dr Julie-Marie Rhodes ran a two-day Socratic Dialogue workshop as part of her final assignment to become a qualified Socratic Dialogue Facilitator for the Society for the Furtherance for Critical Philosophy.

Students have launched NurSoc to fulfil the academic, social and political needs of nursing students and act as a liaison between staff and students.

Anne Phillips has edited *Principles of Diabetes Care* (Quay Books, 2012), a new diabetes textbook with 29 evidence-based practical clinically-focused chapters to help practitioners in their care and partnership working with people with diabetes. Jerome Wright, Clare MacArthur, Carole Gelder and Lorna Storr have also contributed chapters to the book. See www.quaybooks.co.uk.

Professor Karl Atkin launched his co-edited book *Understanding 'race' and ethnicity: theory, history, policy and practice* (Policy Press, 2012) in London.

The BSc (Hons) Health and Social Practice (Psychosocial Interventions) and Diploma Health and Social Care Practice (Psychosocial Interventions) have been accredited by Thorn for five years. Thorn status is awarded to psychosocial intervention courses that reach the strict criteria set by the National Thorn Steering Group. See www.thorn-initiative.org.uk.

Dr Rob Newton has been appointed as Senior Visiting Scientist at the International Agency for Research on Cancer based in Lyon, France.

Professor Bob Lewin has been granted a three-year extension worth £544k for the British Heart Foundation Minimum Dataset National Audit of Cardiac Rehabilitation.

Dr Victoria Allgar has been appointed as a

member of the Chartered Society Physiotherapy Charitable Trust Scientific Panel.

Dr Yvonne Birks has been appointed as a panel member for the NIRH Programme Grant Board.

Noreen Dadirai Mdege participated in the establishment of a link between the University of York, the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the Pharmaceutical Society of Zimbabwe and the International Pharmaceutical Federation.

Housing Policy, Centre for

Nicholas Pleace spoke at a public seminar on Women and Homelessness in Ireland at Trinity College Dublin. He also gave a presentation on 'Application of the Housing First model in EU contexts' at the event 'Housing First: a key element of European homeless strategies', Brussels.

Joanne Bretherton has joined the research network 'Women and Homelessness in Europe'.

Professor Rebecca Tunstall lectured on 20th-century UK housing and housing policy at Renmin University in Beijing, Northeastern University in Shenyang, Renmin University in Suzhou and at Zhengzhou University in Zhengzhou. She also met representatives of Beijing Housing Fund Management Centre and the Chinese Philanthropy Research Institute at Beijing Normal University.

Hull York Medical School

Dr Marjan van der Woude was the guest interviewee for February's podcast by the Society for General Microbiology. Her talk, entitled 'Hide, cheat, gang up: the survival tactics of microbes', explored some ongoing areas of research in bacterial pathogenicity and York's part in this.

A project involving Dr Mark Coles, to develop innovative laboratory-based methods for testing drugs, was one of the recipients of the 2011 NC3Rs 'Crack It' Challenge which rewards initiatives to replace, reduce and refine the use of animals in scientific research.

Dr James Fox delivered a poster on his research into the retrovirus Human T Lymphotropic Virus (HTLV), which can cause debilitating disease or blood disorders, and the new therapeutics being developed to treat it at the SET for Britain annual science competition at the Houses of Parliament.

The Centre for Immunology and Infection hosted a stand at this year's Science Discovery Event at the National Railway Museum, with activities and games relating to the Centre's research, including fishing out bad bugs with white blood cell magnetic rods.

Language and Linguistic Science

At the British Association of Academic Phoneticians colloquium, University of Leeds, presentations were given by Natalie Fecher, Professor Paul Foulkes, Professor Peter French, Dr Sam Hellmuth, Vincent Hughes, Dr Carmen Llamas, Professor John Local, Louisa Stevens and Dr Dominic Watt.

Professor Paul Foulkes presented a paper on 'Applications of sociophonetics to the forensic domain' at the Social Side of Speech, a one-day conference on experimental sociophonetics at the MARCS Auditory Laboratories of the University of Western Sydney, Australia. Natalie Fecher is currently on a two-month secondment to MARCS as part of her fellowship on the Bayesian Biometrics for Forensics (BBfor2) network.

Management

Alex Gillett wrote an essay for the liner notes in Thunderstick's *Echoes from the Analogue Asylum* CD album, detailing the history of Thunderstick the drummer and the band in the context of the New

Wave of British Heavy Metal (NWOBHM) movement of the late 1970s/early 1980s.

Mathematics

Professor Tony Sudbery gave a series of lectures on 'Quantum entanglement' for the International School on Quantum Information in Bhubaneswar, India and a talk on 'The geometric measure of multipartite entanglement and the singular values of a hypermatrix' at the accompanying conference. He took part in a seminar on 'The nature of reality' at the Indian Institute for Advanced Study, Shimla, and gave a talk on 'Einstein and Tagore, Newton and Blake, Everett and Bohr'. He also gave a talk on 'Local invariants of multi-qubit states: a lattice gauge theory approach' at the S N Bose National Centre, Kolkata.

Professor Paul Busch, Dr Stefan Weigert and Dr Irene D'Amico (Physics) organised a meeting of the White Rose Quantum Information Collaboration, with researchers and students from the Universities of Leeds, Sheffield, Bradford and York as well as a guest speaker from the Universidad de Concepción, Chile.

Music

John Potter and Neil Sorrell have published *A History of Singing* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), an in-depth perspective on singing from many cultures and periods: western and non-western, prehistoric to present. See: www.cambridge.org/gb/knowledge/isbn/item6580869/?site_locale=en_GB and www.john-potter.co.uk/blog.

Politics

Dr Adrian Leftwich led a research seminar on the politics of social sector reform in the Philippines in Manila, and directed an international workshop on the theory and practice of developmental coalitions in Sydney, Australia.

Dr Sofia Vasilopoulou presented 'The politics of anti-environmentalism: positional issue framing by the European radical right' with Kostas Gemenis and Alexia Katsanidou, and 'Greece in crisis: the populist response to Europe at times of austerity' with Theofanis Exadaktylos and Daphne Halikiopoulou at the Political Studies Association conference In Defence of Politics, and the Annual MPSA conference, Chicago.

Dr Martin O'Neill has co-authored a new report on how the system of flood insurance in the UK can treat vulnerable people more fairly in the future. The report is available at www.jrf.org.uk/publications/social-justice-flood-insurance.

Dr Chris Wylde presented a paper on 'The causes of the Argentine financial crisis: economic imbalance and social upheaval' at the Institute for the Study of the Americas, London. The paper contributed to a conference on 'Crisis, response and recovery: one decade on from the Argentinazo 2001-2010'.

Reviews and Dissemination, Centre for

The Centre hosted a workshop on maximising the impact of NIHR-funded evidence syntheses in NHS decision-making at the King's Manor. Participants included senior managers from Provider Trusts, Cluster Commissioning Boards and Directors of Public Health from across the North of England.

Social Policy Research Unit

Professor Bryony Beresford and Lucy Stuttard gave a plenary presentation 'The effectiveness of parent-training interventions to manage sleep and behaviour problems in disabled children' at the Child

and Adolescent Mental Health Services national conference, London.

Anne Corden gave a plenary presentation on 'Bereavement and workplace well-being' at 'The impact of death: policy implications in the 21st century', the British Sociological Association Social Aspects of Death, Dying and Bereavement Study Group conference, London.

Professor Caroline Glendinning gave an invited presentation on 'What works for carers?' at a seminar 'Assessing the impact of ICT-based solutions for caregivers on the sustainability of long-term care in an ageing Europe' held at the European Commission, Brussels, organised by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre Institute for Prospective Technological Studies and Information Society Unit. She also presented 'Home care re-ablement: who benefits and how? Evidence from research and practice' at the Home Care Reablement Roadshow held in York and Birmingham, organised by Pavilion Publishing.

Professor Gillian Parker presented 'Drawing on the evidence for integrated working' to the NHS Confederation and National Institute for Health Research Service Delivery and Organisation Network Regional Membership Meetings in Coventry and Leeds.

Professor Mike Stein gave a keynote presentation on 'Care less lives: the story of the rights movement of young people in care' at the University of Cambridge Humanities Day for Care Leavers, Peterhouse College, University of Cambridge. He also chaired a panel of speakers at the National Care Leavers Conference in London, organised by the National Care Advisory Service.

Jim Wade gave an invited presentation on 'Young people leaving care: a research overview' at 'Making a connection: a focus on the needs of young people leaving care', Cardiff, organised by Action for Children.

A team from the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Directorate visited Professor Roy Sainsbury, Professor Nina Biehal and other academics in the field of welfare and employment.

Sociology

Professor Paul Drew led a five-day training workshop on Conversation Analysis, for faculty and post-doctoral researchers, at Osaka Kyoiku University, Japan.

Stockholm Environment Institute

Dr Lisa Emberson attended a UNECE Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution in Pasadena, California, to advise on applying methodologies for the assessment of ozone deposition.

Steve Cinderby, Howard Cambridge and Annemarieke de Bruin attended the Citizen Cyberscience Summit, London.

Dr Patrick Bükér, attended the UNECE International Cooperative Programme Task Force meeting on effects of air pollution on natural vegetation and crops in Brescia, Italy. He launched the latest interface version of SEI's dry deposition model D03SE and gave two presentations on 'Applying flux based ozone risk assessment methods in the UK' and 'Outreach activities of the ICP Vegetation in South Asia'.

Harry Vallack attended a kick-off meeting for a project entitled 'Developing a cereal straw bio-refinery using rice as a model and a feedstock' co-organised by Professor Simon McQueen-Mason (CNAP), funded by the UK/BBSRC and MOST/VN, and hosted in Hanoi by the Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Science. Harry gave a presentation

on 'The impacts of open-burning of rice straw on human health, crop yields and climate change' and facilitated a breakout session on the environmental/socio-economic aspects to be considered within the substantive project proposal.

Theatre, Film and Television

Professor Duncan Petrie gave a paper on 'British film schools and the transformation of practice-based moving image education' at Film Forum 2012, Università degli Studi di Udine, Italy. He also gave a paper on 'The struggle for a Scottish national film school', at 'The education of the film-maker: views from around the world', Lingnan University, Hong Kong.

Professors Mike Corder and Mary Luckhurst gave their inaugural lectures to a packed auditorium including Sir and Lady Ayckbourn. Professor Luckhurst gave a keynote paper at the Surveillance Studies conference at the University of Sydney, was an invited panel guest at Sydney Theatre's International Acting Symposium, and gave demonstrations directing workshops at leading Sydney conservatoires. Professor Luckhurst was also a key guest at the national discussion of women and the arts organised by the Arts Council, West Yorkshire Playhouse and Sphinx Theatre, and streamed live onto the internet by Pilot theatre.

MA in Digital Film and Television Production students Anastasia Sokolova and Camille Sainsbury were runners-up in the Mike Marlin Film Competition for their music video *Left Behind*. The film was shot and edited by fellow postgraduate students, Stuart Graham and Balam Herrera.

Cloud Nine was the Department's first student-run production.

York Centre for Complex Systems Analysis (YCCSA)

Dr Julie Wilson was invited by Professor Lawrence Patterson to the University of Bradford to give a seminar on 'Chemometrics: from archaeology to food safety and trading standards'.

Dr Jon Pitchford gave an invited seminar for the University of Durham's Department of Biology on 'Occam's Razor and models of ecological complexity'.

John Forrester spent three days at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ), Leipzig, discussing the collaborative application of YCCSA and UFZ ideas on ecological modelling protocols. The Stockholm Environment Institute, YCCSA and UFZ are working together on a modelling project to better understand the characteristics of societies that make them more resilient to natural disasters.

Dr Dan Franks gave a presentation on 'The impact of social influence structures on collective motion' at the International Network for Social Network Analysis Conference in California. He also gave a seminar on 'Collective motion and animal social networks' and a workshop on 'Animal social network analysis' at Lund University, Sweden.

At the Discrete and Topological Models in Molecular Biology conference, University of South Florida, Professor Reidun Twarock gave a presentation on 'Viruses and geometry - where symmetry meets function', Dr Giuliana Indelicato presented on 'Non-icosahedral pathways for the expansion of icosahedral viral capsids: a coarse grained model' and Dr Eric Dykeman presented on 'Using graph theory to identify genome organisation and packaging mechanisms in ssRNA viruses'.

Dr Fiona Polack talked about 'Fit for purpose simulation in scientific research' at the University of Queensland and Queen's University of Technology in

Australia, and Victoria University, Waikato University and Massey University in New Zealand.

Graduate student Celina Wong won the KM Stott prize for her PhD talk 'A coarsely discretised size-structured model for marine ecosystems'.

Dr Elva Robinson gave invited seminars at the University of Lincoln and University of Cardiff on 'Distributed decisions with radio-tagged ants'.

Professor Richard Law was co-author of Policy Forum on 'Reconsidering the consequences of selective fisheries' in *Science* with further analysis of the data in an *ICES Journal of Marine Science* article 'On balanced exploitation of marine ecosystems: results from dynamic size spectra'.

Professor Susan Stepney gave a seminar on 'Simulation as a scientific instrument' at City College, an International Faculty of the University of Sheffield in Thessalonika, Greece.

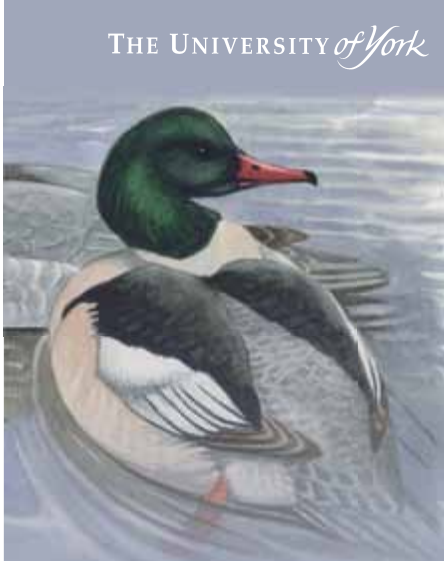
Dr Julie Wilson attended the UK-China Science Bridges Diagnostics Open Innovation Workshop in Guangzhou, China.

Professor Jon Timmis and Dr Mark Read visited Dr Vipin Kumar, an immunologist at Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies in San Diego, for collaborative work on EAE (mouse model for multiple sclerosis) and recent work on simulating a recently discovered regulatory pathway.

York Health Economics Consortium

Professor John Hutton presented a paper on 'The UK experience with the Quality and Outcomes Framework' at the EU InterQuality Project annual meeting in Hanover.

Julie Glanville provided training on advanced searching techniques and identifying economic evidence for health technology assessments to NHS Healthcare Scotland and NHS Education Scotland staff.



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