



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

bulletin



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THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH STAFF MAGAZINE



Building on the legacy

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editorial

This edition of *bulletin* is another reminder of the diverse fields of work in which University staff continue to make their mark – and perhaps none more so recently than Peter Higgs, Emeritus Professor of Theoretical Physics. Being named the joint winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics has brought him the highest accolade in science and helped focus global attention on physics and the University's achievements in the subject. Read more about his success opposite and overleaf.

The University supports new voices as well as established talent. On pages 8–9 we hear from novelist and poet Jenni Fagan, who has taken over from Alan Warner as the University's Writer-in-Residence. Ms Fagan describes the response to her critically lauded debut *The Panopticon*, and her hopes for nurturing creative talent around the campus.

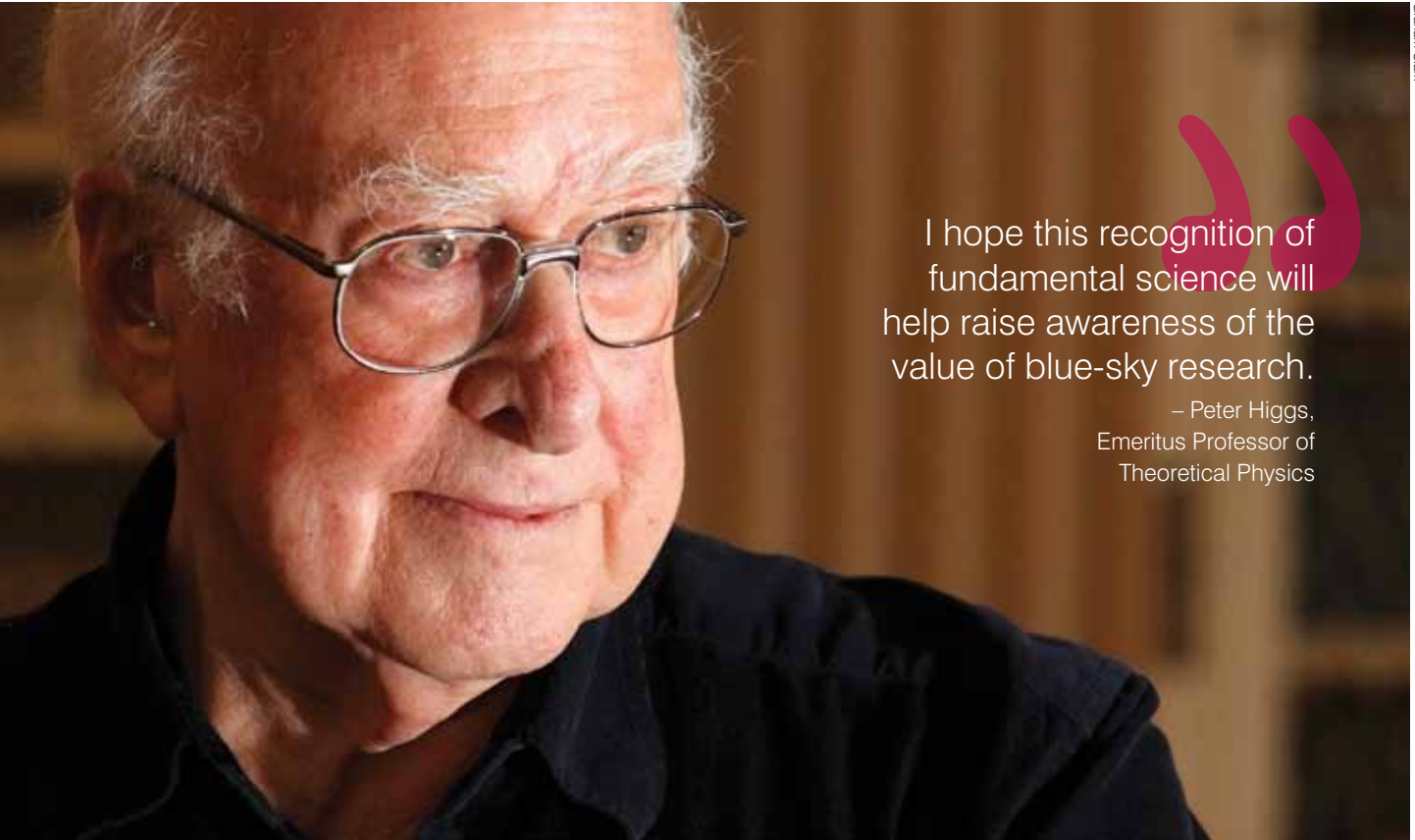
Edinburgh's remit reaches beyond the academic sphere – on pages 10–11 we profile a unique Widening Participation programme that sees staff working with football clubs in local communities to improve outcomes for teenage boys.

In 2013 there is a renewed concentration at Edinburgh on ensuring that the student experience is as good as it possibly can be. On pages 12–13, Dr Sue Rigby, Vice-Principal Learning and Teaching, observes that student expectations are changing – but that the quality of interaction between student and staff remains as important as ever. As Dr Rigby states, it's important to remember that University staff can make "all the difference in the world".



John Bellamy, Two Girls by Harbour (2006). Oil on canvas © The artist's estate

Nearly 12,000 digital images can now be viewed online at the Centre for Research Collection's Images Collection. Turn to pages 14–15 for more details on this archive, and for a round-up of exhibitions and events on around the campus.



I hope this recognition of fundamental science will help raise awareness of the value of blue-sky research.

– Peter Higgs,
Emeritus Professor of
Theoretical Physics

Nobel Prize for Peter Higgs brings boost for physics

As Emeritus Professor Peter Higgs shares his delight at receiving science's top accolade, plans are unveiled to build a dedicated new home for the research centre bearing his name.

Following the award of a Nobel Prize in Physics to Professor Peter Higgs, the University is to further enhance its expertise in theoretical physics.

At a press conference that was webcast live shortly after the announcement, the Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, launched a fundraising campaign for a second phase of development of the Higgs Centre for Theoretical Physics, including a dedicated new home for the centre at King's Buildings.

"Our plans centre on a new building that creates a unique environment to bring the brightest students from around the world together with academics, international researchers and innovators from industry

to develop and apply new mathematical and computational approaches to solving the complex challenges we face," the Principal said.

The Principal confirmed the Scottish Government had committed to back the project, "which will allow us to support a new generation of Higgses to do world-quality research." Private support has also been offered, including a £100,000 pledge from Edinburgh alumnus Professor Walter Nimmo.

Professor Higgs, Emeritus Professor of Theoretical Physics, was awarded the Nobel Prize on 8 October. The Royal Swedish Academy made the award for "the theoretical discovery of a mechanism

that contributes to our understanding of the origin of mass of subatomic particles, and which recently was confirmed through the discovery of the predicted fundamental particle, by the Atlas and CMS experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider."

The prize is shared with François Englert, a retired professor at the Free University of Brussels, who separately produced a theory about how fundamental particles achieve their mass, at around the same time as Professor Higgs.

Professor Higgs said: "I'm obviously delighted ... I'm overwhelmed to receive

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Austin Smith-Lord



An artist's impression of the new centre.

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this award and thank the Royal Swedish Academy. I would also like to congratulate all those who have contributed to the discovery of this new particle and to thank my family, friends and colleagues for their support.”

He added: “I hope this recognition of fundamental science will help raise awareness of the value of blue-sky research.”

Professor Higgs’s links with Edinburgh date back 60 years. In 1954 he moved to the University for his second year as a Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 Senior Student. He took up a lectureship at the Tait Institute of Mathematical Physics in 1960. Four years later, his paper “Broken Symmetries and the Masses of Gauge Bosons” demonstrated how elemental particles achieved mass by identifying a new particle, which went on to acquire his name.

The announcement in 2012 that a particle consistent with the boson had been found ended the decades-long hunt for a ‘missing piece’ of the Standard Model of particle physics and sealed Professor Higgs’s worldwide reputation.

The Nobel Prize in Physics will be officially awarded in Stockholm at a ceremony on 10 December.



Watch a video of the recent press conference: www.ed.ac.uk/news/2013/higgs-091013.

A seven-week Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) about the discovery of the Higgs boson has been developed by the University and will become available to subscribers around the world in February 2014.

Callum Bennetts/Maverick Photo Agency



Author JK Rowling talks to the University’s Chancellor, HRH The Princess Royal, at the official opening of the Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic at Little France.

Chancellor opens Anne Rowling Clinic

A multiple sclerosis (MS) research clinic founded by author JK Rowling has been opened at the University.

The Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic was officially opened by the Chancellor, HRH The Princess Royal.

The clinic will research new treatments to slow the progression of neurodegenerative conditions including MS, motor neurone disease, Parkinson’s disease and Huntington’s disease. It will also study autism and early-onset Alzheimer’s disease.

The facility is located in the Chancellor’s Building at the University’s Little France medical campus, alongside the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

“I am moved and elated to see the Anne Rowling Clinic formally opened,” said Ms Rowling, who donated £10 million towards establishing the facility.

“Having observed the plans for the clinic develop and expand to fulfil the needs of patients, clinicians and researchers, I am now very proud to see the building finished and operating as the beating heart of this centre for excellence.”

Ms Rowling, whose mother, Anne, died of MS aged 45 as the author was beginning work on the Harry Potter novels, thanked those who were involved in the creation of the clinic.

An estimated 10,500 people living in Scotland have MS. The disease causes myelin, a protective layer surrounding nerve cells in the brain, to break down, leading to symptoms that can include fatigue and numbness.

Professor Charles ffrench-Constant, Clinic Co-Director and Director of the University’s Medical Research Council Centre for Regenerative Medicine, said the clinic’s location at the Little France campus would allow it to draw on the University’s world-class strength in neuroscience, stem cell research and regeneration.

“Because of the Anne Rowling Clinic’s unique capacity for bench-to bedside research, in time we expect to be able to translate laboratory discoveries into real benefits for patients,” he said.

For more information, visit www.annerowlingclinic.com.



From left: Olympic rower Sir Steve Redgrave, Formula 1 driver Susie Wolff, tennis coach Judy Murray and film director Lynne Ramsay celebrate the conferment of their awards.

Honorary degrees for inspiring leaders

The University has awarded honorary degrees to high-profile figures including education campaigner Malala Yousafzai, former US President Bill Clinton and sporting and cultural leaders.

Ms Yousafzai, the 16-year-old Pakistani girl who was shot last year by the Taliban and has since campaigned for universal access to education, was guest of honour at the inaugural meeting of the Global Citizen Commission in October.

The Commission was led by former Prime Minister Gordon Brown, who is UN Special Envoy for Global Education. It was hosted by the University's Global Justice Academy, a new interdisciplinary network supporting research and teaching in global justice.

Awarded an honorary Master of Arts for her efforts to improve global educational opportunities, Ms Yousafzai said: "We will continue our struggle. We will work hard for it, and we will work with unity and togetherness."

Earlier this year Bill Clinton received an honorary doctorate in recognition of his charitable work.

Honorary doctorates were also presented to five-time Olympic rowing gold medallist Sir Steve Redgrave, tennis coach Judy



The Principal presents former US President Bill Clinton with his honorary degree.



Gordon Brown with Malala Yousafzai.

Murray and film director Lynne Ramsay, while Formula 1 driver Susie Wolff received an honorary fellowship.

See Ms Yousafzai speak at www.ed.ac.uk/news/2013/malala-211013.



Edinburgh rises to 17th on global rankings table

The QS World Rankings has placed the University 17th in the world, the highest position Edinburgh has ever reached in the table. The 2013–14 rankings, announced in September, mark a rise of four places from the previous year and further confirm the University as a world-leading institution.

Judges singled out the University's research for particular praise, and described its graduates as "some of the most employable in Europe". Edinburgh was the highest rated Scottish university, joining six British institutions in the QS top 20, with four among the best ten.

The news coincided with the announcement of record levels of investment to help fund the University's pioneering research work.

According to figures published in September, the University was awarded £300 million in competitive research grants in 2012–13, 20 per cent more than the £250 million it secured in the preceding year.

The Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, said he felt the ranking underlined Edinburgh's growing reputation and its ability to attract investment in research.

"The news about our research funding figures, and our continued rise in the various world league tables, is very welcome and reflects the quality, hard work and dedication of our staff and students as well as the highly strategic support we receive from the Scottish Government," he said.

With such support, the University could go on producing world-leading research with the potential to change lives for the better, he added. The investment supports work across medicine, science, engineering, humanities and social sciences.


research in focus

From literary voyages to computers that crack jokes, the latest academic studies by staff are helping advance our understanding of science and the arts.

A Twitter feed, Facebook page and website have helped recreate the 1618 London to Edinburgh 'foot voyage' of famous poet and dramatist Ben Jonson. The project, run by the University's School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, followed the 2009 discovery of a 7,500-word manuscript detailing Jonson's journey by James Loxley, Professor of Early Modern Literature. Using extracts from the account, and linking them to houses, towns and villages he visited and the people he encountered on the way, Professor Loxley traced Jonson's journey in real time, with at least one tweet for each day recorded between July and October. A fully annotated modern-spelling edition of Jonson's account of the journey will be published by Cambridge University Press.



 @BenJonsonsWalk

 www.facebook.com/BenJonsonsWalk

Reitael Barbizan Stühs



Pollen 'key' to global climate change prediction, study finds

Ancient pollen preserved in lake sediment in Brazil's Atlantic Forest could enable scientists to better predict the effects of global climate change. Studies of more than 140 types of the pollen are helping scientists understand how past changes in climate have affected the environment. The findings, from researchers at the Universities of Edinburgh and São Paulo, could help predict how plants and animals will react to future climatic shifts. Antonio Alvaro Buso Junior, a visiting research student at the School of GeoSciences and one of the study researchers, said: "Our study shows how plants responded to shifts in conditions and I hope we can now make the case for these precious ecosystems to receive greater protection."



ROBOTICS RESEARCH BOOST

Edinburgh computing scientists are partnering Heriot-Watt University colleagues in a £6 million research centre. The Edinburgh Robotics and Autonomous Systems Interaction Research Facility has been made possible as part of an £85 million investment by the UK Government. Scientists and engineers will seek to apply robotics research to problems in industry and society, with experts at the University focusing on robot-robot interaction. "This new centre builds upon Edinburgh's reputation as an international hub for robotics research and prepares us for new challenges where humans and robotic systems must work together," said Professor Dave Robertson of the School of Informatics.

GRANT BOLSTERS FIGHT AGAINST HEART DISEASE

Scientists at Edinburgh have been awarded £3 million funding from the British Heart Foundation. The grant, made to the University's BHF Centre of Research Excellence, aims to boost research into the causes of heart disease and help uncover new ways to monitor heart conditions using imaging techniques. The funding will result in more investigations into how to repair damaged hearts using stem cell treatments. Professor John Mullins, Director of the Centre, said: "The award will support the next generation of young researchers and enable them to make key discoveries in the fight against heart and cardiovascular disease."

PRIZE WILL HELP PROMOTE IMPACT

Edinburgh Research and Innovation (ERI) has won the £50,000 top prize at the inaugural Activating Impact Competition, run by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC). The Edinburgh team saw off competition from 41 of the UK's leading universities. The award supports efforts to turn research into real-life applications. A recent example has seen ERI and the Roslin Institute work with Landcatch Natural Selection, a salmon breeding company, to improve the disease resistance of farmed salmon. Dr Wendy Nicholson, ERI's Head of Business Development, said: "Winning against some tough competition is fantastic."

...awards news...awards news...awards news...awards news...awards news



What I'm discovering...



The School of GeoSciences' Dr John Stevenson is studying the effects on the UK of Icelandic volcanic eruptions. His latest project asked members of the public to collect ash samples.

"The 2011 Grímsvötn eruption was the biggest explosive Icelandic eruption since 1918, producing twice as much material as Eyjafjallajökull in 2010, in around one 10th of the time.

"After Eyjafjallajökull, we found that it was hard to say exactly where ash had fallen in the UK, or when, because we only had data from a few samples. This time we decided to get the public involved and organised a citizen tape-sampling exercise with the British Geological Survey. We put a video online showing people how to collect samples by using sticky tape and plain paper to make 'slides'. We used Twitter and Facebook to spread the word and got 130 samples from across the UK, from individuals and whole school classes.

"We checked the samples under the microscope and found that the northern UK (mainly Scotland) received a light dusting of ash in the 48 to 72 hours following the beginning of the eruption. The amount of ash in each location was very small (Grímsvötn is more than 900 kilometres from north-west Scotland), but in Thurso, Shetland and Orkney, it was thick enough to make cars look dirty. The ash grains themselves were tiny, just 25 millionths of a metre.

"Our sticky tape results agreed with data from rainwater samples, which also contained volcanic ash grains, and from the UK's network of air pollution sensors.

"Overall, the Grímsvötn eruption caused minimal disruption or damage to the UK: there were little or no health or environmental problems and the greatest impact was the disruption to aviation. By improving our ash monitoring ability during eruptions with small effects, we increase our ability to cope when a larger eruption comes along."

✉ The results of this project were published in the *Journal of Applied Volcanology*. To find out more, email john.stevenson@ed.ac.uk.

In the spotlight

bulletin highlights some of the University's research milestones that have been hitting the headlines recently.

FACEBOOK 'RISKS FRIENDSHIPS'

Dr Ben Marder of the Business School received international attention after research he co-authored found that frequent posting of photos on Facebook can damage real-life relationships. The study, conducted by the Business School, Heriot-Watt University, the University of Birmingham and the University of the West of England, was reported in media including the *Times of India*, the *New York Observer* and *Silicon Valley Business Journal*. In light of the findings, Dr Marder advised: "Think twice and post once. Be cautious when sharing and think how it will be perceived by all the others who may see it."

COLD SORE GENE DISCOVERY

Discovery of the genetic key to why only a quarter of those carrying a herpes virus develop cold sores attracted wide press coverage. Jürgen Haas, Professor of Viral Genomics, found that people affected by cold sores have a mutation in a gene that means their immune system is not able to prevent the sores from developing. The discovery was reported in outlets ranging from *The Times* to Australia's *Herald Sun*.

GREEDY BEETLES BEWARE

Burying beetles have been found to eat larvae that try to outdo their siblings when demanding food from the parent. Research at the School of Biological Sciences suggested that the cannibalism encourages offspring to plead more honestly and leads to more equal sharing of food among the young. The BBC and *Daily Mail* were among the many news organisations that reported the findings.

COMPUTERS RAISE A LAUGH

Computer scientists at the School of Informatics have programmed computers to generate jokes that people found genuinely funny. The work was widely reported in the international technology press, as well as mainstream media. The jokes, which fitted a strict template, included: "I like my men like I like my monoxide – odourless."

One to watch

In the wake of a widely praised debut novel, rising literary star Jenni Fagan is looking forward to her new role as the University's Writer-in-Residence. She talks to Cate MacKenzie.

Jenni Fagan can't remember a time when writing wasn't part of her routine. From a very young age she has sat down every day with a notepad or laptop to "see what happens".

"It's always for the same reason – I love words," explains the 35-year-old Fife-based novelist and poet. "I can't imagine what life is like without that process. Writing is a way of being – and I like the fact that it's something that I can do any time, any age, any place."

For the next two years, that "place" will be the University of Edinburgh, where Fagan, author of 2012's critically acclaimed *The Panopticon*, has just begun her tenure as Writer-in-Residence.

"It's an amazing opportunity," she says of the two-year appointment. "I enjoy writing on location and getting access to places that may not normally be open to the public. And Edinburgh is a city rich in inspiration, so I'm sure I'll find ways to keep things interesting."

The Writer-in-Residence post sits within the School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures' English Literature department but serves the entire University community by seeking to forge links with the city of Edinburgh and beyond. Established in 1975, the position has been held by a roll call of celebrated writers and poets including Sorley MacLean, Norman MacCaig, Anne Stevenson and Liz Lochhead. Fagan takes over the mantle from Alan Warner, who this summer was awarded the 2013 James Tait Black Prize (Fiction) for *The Deadman's Pedal*.

Fagan will run fortnightly open workshops for any students or staff interested in writing fiction or poetry outside a formal academic environment. She will also coordinate the Visiting Writers Series, which brings distinguished authors to campus to give public readings. Fagan's versatility as a writer makes her the perfect fit for such a key ambassadorial role, says Edinburgh Lecturer in English Literature and Creative Writing Dr Allyson Stack.

"Jenni is not only an extremely talented and successful writer, but she's also an inspiring speaker with a tremendous amount to offer," she says. "Some of the people who come to her workshops will be trying their hand at writing fiction or poetry for the first time, while others will have been in workshop situations before – she'll have something to offer all of them."

Rich resources

Fagan's experience is wide ranging: she has written for the stage, screen and media, worked as Lewisham Hospital's Writer-in-Residence and led writing workshops for young offenders, women in prisons, the homeless and the visually impaired. A graduate of the University of Greenwich (Creative Writing BA) and Royal Holloway (Fiction MA), she is looking forward to engaging with aspiring storytellers at Edinburgh.

"Every time I work with any group of writers I come across people who have amazing, interesting stories. I love that," she says. "I've always been drawn to anyone who can tell a great story and I know I'll find some great writers who're

working hard to develop their style and skills. There are so many resources to tap into through the [Edinburgh International] Book Festival and all the great writers who live or read here."

Emerging talent

Fagan has already proved herself as one of the UK's most versatile emerging writers. She has twice been nominated for the US Pushcart Prize for her poetry and has won Scottish Screen, Scottish Arts and Dewar Arts awards, among others. Earlier this year, literary magazine *Granta* identified her as one to watch, including her in its decennial pick of Best of Young British Novelists. Among those previously singled out by *Granta* as rising stars are the likes of Julian Barnes, Iain Banks, Ian McEwan and Zadie Smith.

And the accolades for *The Panopticon* just keep coming. Recently featured on the front page of the *New York Times* literary section, the novel has been shortlisted for the Dundee International Book Prize, Desmond Elliott Prize and James Tait Black Prize, and in 2012 it claimed a spot on the Waterstones Eleven, the bookseller's annual selection of most promising worldwide fiction debuts.

The gritty, gripping tale is told from the viewpoint of teenager Anais Hendricks who, brought up in the Scottish care system, is transferred to the remote and imposing Panopticon, a young offenders' rehabilitation facility designed so that its residents can be observed at all times.

Anais' struggle to outsmart the system and preserve her sense of self has captured the imaginations of readers

around the world, and it's Fagan's ability to take risks while telling an emotionally rich story that makes her an exciting author, says the University's Dr Stack.

"Fiction that experiments with genre or form all too often leaves its readers feeling unmoved," Dr Stack says. "But Jenni's work is bursting with emotional complexity, compelling characters, and a passionate, original narrative voice. *The Panopticon* is a novel with a head and a heart."

Edinburgh is a city rich in inspiration so I'm sure I'll find ways to keep things interesting.

The Panopticon is a fictional tale, but having grown up in foster and residential care homes herself, Fagan says she was determined to give her narrator an authoritative and authentic voice. She explains: "I think this kind of story can only work if it comes from a true place. I really cared about the subject matter and the characters. I thought the most interesting thing about Anais Hendricks was that I hadn't seen her voice, in literature, or anywhere else really, so it was vital that this came from her viewpoint, not from the social worker's or policy-maker's."

The Panopticon has already been published in eight languages, with further translations lined up, and after a steady stream of offers, Fagan is finalising negotiations for a film adaptation (she'll write the script). But she admits the international buzz surrounding her story "hasn't sunk in much".

"In a few years' time I might sit down and think about it but right now it seems a little surreal," she says. "I'm really grateful for the response from readers and booksellers through to reviewers, across the world. They seem to take the book to heart and that's a great compliment." ✳

✉ Jenni.Fagan@ed.ac.uk





Staff are working with clubs in local communities to tap a passion for football – and boost prospects for teenage boys. Chris Small reports.

Going for goals

An estimated 3.5 billion people in the world play or watch football – and a tiny but vibrant proportion of them are Scottish teenage boys. For the past seven years, University staff have been using an inspirational project to work with some of these local players, tapping into passion for the “beautiful game” to boost confidence, hone skills and expand horizons.

Educated Pass, run by the University’s Widening Participation team, works with youth football clubs in Edinburgh and Lothians to nurture the education and football potential of boys aged 13 to 16.

The initiative grew out of a 2004 request from Ayr United Football Club, as project leader Dr Neil Speirs explains: “They wanted to create sessions outside of training that would address boys’ nutrition and their engagement with the local

college, putting together a package that was about more than just athletic development.”

Dr Speirs, himself a keen football fan and former player, arranged for the boys to work with University sports scientists and PE staff. The experience dovetailed with his thinking about the educational prospects of male youths.

“In terms of widening participation, the key variable is socio-economic status,” he says. “If you add gender on top of that in the particular communities we work with, then it really has an effect. I was thinking about what we could do to help those communities.”

Dr Speirs was convinced a more formal version of the project might make an impact and after collaboration with the National Youth Football Association, plans accelerated.

One hundred and fifty boys now take part annually and recent tracking of the first cohort shows that 51 per cent went on to higher education compared to the national average of 36 per cent.

Positive message

With funding from the Sutton Trust, the project has worked with local youth teams including Seton Boys, Edinburgh City and Musselburgh Windsor. The essence of the project lies in collaboration with young people, football coaches and parents at the heart of local communities. “We might be working in a local community club playing field in the snow in February,” says Kathleen Hood, Head of Widening Participation at Edinburgh. “It was very important to choose the clubs that were in low participation neighbourhoods.”

Working with the boys and their parents is an opportunity to articulate a positive



The key is the connection between the commitment the boys give to football and the fact that they can widen that out to commit to their education.

– Kathleen Hood,
Head, Widening Participation

message about taking part in education, says Dr Speirs. “The University is there alongside our local college partners, West Lothian College and Edinburgh College, and I think the parents sense that we’re genuinely interested in the outcomes of what their sons are doing.”

But Educated Pass (the name refers to the opportunity open to a midfielder with a wide view of the pitch) is not just a chance for staff to demonstrate commitment to these communities. The project ensures that current students can contribute too, with undergraduates helping youngsters develop a broader view of sport and study, and showing how life changing it can be.

“The role models for the boys we work with are in the main the football team here at the University,” says Dr Speirs. “Sometimes the boys will expect that all the undergrads involved are doing sports courses and ask them about it – and they’ll then say, ‘No actually I’m doing philosophy or law or medicine.’

“The boys look at the undergrads and say, ‘that could be me’, and the footballers say, ‘I recognise myself in some of the guys in the team.’ That’s very powerful.”

Combining education with sport

Despite its attention on local neighbourhoods, Educated Pass gives the young participants a sense of the game’s international texture. Activities include De Toekomst (Dutch for ‘the future’, and the name of AFC Ajax’s Amsterdam training ground), which challenges the cultural perception that football and education can’t mix, and Le Tournoi – a one-day


tournament celebrating the boys’ participation.

Since it launched, the scheme has gained further credibility through the backing of pivotal figures in Scottish football, including former national team manager Craig Brown and ex-Scotland international Pat Nevin, while Hibernian FC have contributed what Dr Speirs describes as “fantastic support”.

Endorsements from the professional world are important, but staff and students involved are careful to be realistic with the boys about their chances of breaking into the country’s top footballing tier. Instead of hyping expectations, the emphasis is on giving youngsters positive attitudes and parallel dreams of success.


Ms Hood explains: “All the evidence we have is that the boys can keep going at a level of football but that a tiny percentage ever make it to the professional level. The key for us though is the connection between the commitment the boys give to football and the fact that they can widen that out to commit to their education.”

Nineteen-year-old Andrew Munro may be proof that the approach is working. An enthusiastic participant in Educated Pass while a pupil at Musselburgh Grammar, playing for Seton Boys, in September he began at Edinburgh as a physics undergraduate. He describes the experience of Educated Pass as being about “helping kids focus on combining education with sport instead of homing in on one of them.”

Although studying now takes priority, Mr Munro says that sport will remain a “constant part” of his life. 

A brighter future for young people

The University’s Widening Participation (WP) staff try to reduce discrepancies in the take-up of higher education opportunities between different social groups. WP takes many forms, from residential visits to overseas trips. The key projects include:

- **LEAPS** (Lothian Equal Access Programme for Schools) aims to boost progression to higher education in south-east Scotland. In 2012, 361 students entered the University through the scheme – the largest number of LEAPS students of any university in the country.
 - **Pathways to the Professions** encourages progression by under-represented school students into programmes in law, medicine, veterinary medicine and architecture. Students from all 46 secondary schools in Edinburgh and the Lothians are eligible to take part. Currently more than 500 pupils from S4 to S6 are registered.
 - **The Edinburgh Sutton Trust Summer School** is led by the College of Humanities & Social Science. Following a 2013 pilot where students attended two academic classes every morning in a range of subjects, an expanded summer school is planned for 2014.
 - **Part-time Access courses** are designed for applicants living locally who want to go back to education part time. They include the joint University/Edinburgh College part-time Access course.
 - **The primary and early secondary initiative** sees WP staff working with S1 and S2 groups in Wester Hailes Education Centre (WHEC), and with P6 and P7 in primary feeder schools for Liberton High School and WHEC. More than 400 pupils visit the University as part of the programme.
-  Find out more at www.ed.ac.uk/student-recruitment/widening-participation.

A close-up portrait of Dr Sue Rigby, a woman with short, curly brown hair and glasses, smiling warmly. She is wearing a dark blazer over a dark top with white buttons and a necklace with a small pendant. The background is dark and out of focus.

A vision shared

Dr Sue Rigby, Vice-Principal Learning & Teaching, shares her vision of what makes a satisfied student community and outlines the collective effort to enhance the student experience. She talks to Claire Simpson.

In this year's National Student Survey (NSS), Edinburgh achieved an overall satisfaction rate of 83 per cent. What do these results tell us?

Results across the University are very variable. Overall they're lower than we wish, and we have detailed plans for improvement.

How have students' expectations of the university experience changed in recent years?

There's an awful lot in the media about whether students think of a degree as a commodity, but we see no sign of that. I don't think students have a changed expectation; they simply have a reasonable expectation that by coming to a university with such a good reputation they'll learn and feel like they belong. But our student demographic does change. English, Welsh and Northern Irish students are now paying fees, so maybe as a consequence of that we have a set of students who are more self aware about what their experiences might be. We also have increasing numbers of international students who add immeasurably to the richness of our university community but who also arrive with different expectations. So what the University has to do is make sure we're very clear about what our learning environment is like.

What can the University do to help meet some of those expectations?

There's a whole set of work going on around the Student Experience Project [SEP] to clarify the offering of the University. This complements the excellent work already being delivered by the well established support services. The SEP is also carrying out work that will help us select students from a wide range of different socio-economic groups or cultures who will do well with us. It's not about selecting one type of person, it's about selecting the people who will enjoy Edinburgh. We also need to support them with a whole load of online pre-arrival support and a huge amount of work around induction – not just during Freshers' Week, but all year round. So the SEP is delivering what we've dreamed of doing for a long time. A lot of good work was done in the past but the Project gives us the professional platform and support to do it better.

The student experience is composed of kind interactions – a smile, a chat ... It's easy to forget just how vulnerable and needy students are, and that's when staff can make all the difference in the world.

What has the Student Experience Project achieved since it was set up in 2012?

Concrete achievements are Student Information Points, a much stronger web presence, research into the selection of students in subjects of very high demand, and a much more joined-up process of induction than we've ever had before. The other major achievement is setting up the Internal Student Survey. For the first time we can start to see how our impact is being felt by first, second, third and fourth years. [NSS results only gather the views of graduating students.] But I think the Project's biggest achievement so far is in genuinely helping us to see from the students' perspective.

The Project will run until 2015. What ultimately would you like to see achieved by then?

A whole raft of new initiatives that support students and help them feel part of the academic community and all the other communities that go on within the rest of the University. I want students to be involved in every aspect of service design, and that goes from the design of degrees to the design of sports services to the design of catering services. Ubiquitously we need to be having students involved – not as one representative on a committee but as co-creators of the experience.

And if implemented, how would this affect our NSS standing?

The aim is that the student experience is excellent, and the follow-on will be changes in NSS results. There are proximal, quicker things we can do to help national survey results get better but student satisfaction is a long game. Students are sophisticated. You can't just snap your fingers and say, "Hey, everything is going to be fine" and

expect them to believe you. Research we've done looking at other universities' improvements in NSS scores suggests that if students correct their own learning, they don't criticise it in the NSS. If students feel part of a community, they're kind about that community in their analysis – kind but appropriate; they don't gloss over errors. Students are likely to have a better experience if they're deeply involved in that experience – if they're not passive.

Teaching contributes significantly to the student experience. What's being done to celebrate and nurture great teaching at Edinburgh?

I think there's a general perception among staff that teaching is less valued than research or knowledge exchange. But that's changing. I'm working with HR to make sure teaching is much more visible in processes like personal development reviews and promotions. The Institute for Academic Development is also building a whole set of courses for teaching and support staff to improve our interactions with students, which will be accredited through the Higher Education Academy.

In addition to academic staff, who else has a role to play in enhancing the student experience?

Every member of staff. The student experience is composed of kind interactions – a smile, a chat. I think most people interact very positively with students but sometimes, particularly in Freshers' Week, just with the volume of students who might be knocking around, it's easy to forget just how vulnerable and needy they are, and that's when staff can make all the difference in the world. ✚

✉ For further information, contact Dr Rigby at Sue.Rigby@ed.ac.uk.

Out & about

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

CERN

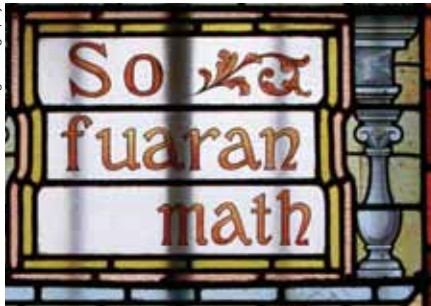


Rediscover the Higgs boson

From Maxwell to Higgs, a collaboration between the School of Physics and Astronomy and the Royal Society of Edinburgh, celebrates the Higgs boson and the historic discoveries and theories that have influenced modern physics. The exhibition is on permanent display in the James Clerk Maxwell Building.

www.ph.ed.ac.uk

Whitefog Photography



Get to grips with Gaelic

To mark the *Gaelic Language Plan 2013–18* launch, a Gaelic Fair will be held on 13 November (2pm–5pm, Informatics Forum). Features language/culture taster sessions.

www.ed.ac.uk/about/gaelic-language-plan/events



Experiment with teaching

Innovative Learning Week 2014 will be staged 17–21 February. Staff from all disciplines can experiment with alternative teaching methods instead of running regular labs, tutorials and lectures.

www.ed.ac.uk/innovative-learning

C. Humphreys



Contemplate in a spiritual place

While not owned by the University, the recently opened and award-winning St Albert's Catholic Chaplaincy (George Square) plays an active and welcome part in the staff and student community.

<http://scotland.op.org/edinburgh/>

Elizabete Rancane



See High School Yards transformed

Student Elizabete Rancane's photography exhibition, *The Transformation of High School Yards*, is on show in the new Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation (ECCI). Also on display are works by ECCI Artist-in-Residence, Jennie Speirs Grant.

www.edinburghcentre.org/Photography-project.html

Courtesy National Museums Scotland



Observe a community's impact

Edinburgh Jews offers an introductory overview of the contribution Jewish people have made to the development of the city. The exhibition includes personal stories, photographs and migration maps. Weekdays, 9am–5pm, at New College, until 6 December.

<http://jewishstudies.div.ed.ac.uk>



Chris Paik/Talbot Rice Gallery

Celebrate outstanding women

To mark International Women's Day (8 March 2014), a unique photographic exhibition will celebrate the University's outstanding women. Further details, including venue and opening times, TBC.

📍 www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/equality-diversity



Appreciate artistic flair

Based in Old College (but now operating within Edinburgh College of Art), Talbot Rice Gallery has several new exhibitions on show until 15 February, including *Mark Dion: 200 Years, 200 Objects*, and *Claire Barclay: Another Kind of Balance*.

📍 www.ed.ac.uk/talbot-rice

Add an extra dimension

An animated 3D hologram of the human body is on display at the University's Anatomical Museum (last Saturday of month, 10am–4pm). The world's first anatomy teaching tool of its kind, the hologram will tour various sites across the campus in the coming months.

📍 www.anatomy.mvm.ed.ac.uk/museum/findus.php



School of Biomedical Sciences

Re-examine history

A collaboration with Surgeon's Hall Museums, *Words and Deeds: Women, Warfare and Caregiving* highlights the role of women in wartime. Runs through military surgery and features research from the University's Centre for the Study of Modern Conflict. Until 1 December.

📍 www.museum.rcsed.ac.uk/exhibitions-collections.aspx

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps Archives



Chris Scott



John Bellamy, Two Girls by Harbour (2006), Oil on canvas © The artist's estate

View it all virtually

The Centre for Research Collections, based in the Main Library (sixth floor), forms the principal physical point of access to the University's varied collections. For a virtual visit, nearly 12,000 digital images can be viewed online at the Images Collection (requires EASE login).

📍 <http://images.is.ed.ac.uk>



Be inspired by the experimental

Dedicated digital art venue Inspace has hosted more than half a million visitors since it opened in Crichton Street four years ago. Until the end of 2013 it hosts the 10th Dialogues Music Festival, a series of experimental and electronic concerts performed by ECA students and emerging and established international artists.

📍 Tickets: www.mediascot.eventbrite.com

Labelled for life?



In recognition of their groundbreaking research project, which tracked schoolchildren's and young adults' behaviour over 15 years, Edinburgh Professors Lesley McAra and Susan McVie were awarded the 2013 Howard League for Penal Reform Research Medal. They explain the project and its impact on penal policy and practice.

In the autumn of 1998, we began a longitudinal research project to survey all new secondary schoolchildren across Edinburgh, about their involvement in offending. The Edinburgh Study of Youth Transitions and Crime (ESYTC) tracked the lives of more than 4,000 young people, with the purpose of examining a phenomenon known as the 'age crime curve'. The curve sees offending behaviour rise during the early teenage years and then decline as young people reach late adolescence. Key questions for us were why some young people engage in offending and others don't, and why, for some, offending is a transitional phase while for others it becomes a sustained and chronic pattern of behaviour.

Both the scale and design of the ESYTC have made it one of the most influential criminological studies in the UK, and the wider world. Along with the repeated testimonies of more than 4,000 young people themselves, we also collected data from parents, carers, teachers, official records from schools, social workers, children's

hearings and the police, and we went on to track the criminal convictions of the children up to age 25. By exploring the relationship between young people's offending behaviour and a range of other developmental processes, environmental influences and interactions with agencies of law enforcement, we built up a complex picture of their lives. This has gone on to shape the Scottish Government's approach to youth justice in Scotland.

Among the many findings arising from the study are four key 'facts' that we argue apply to any youth justice system.

The first fact is that those young people who engage in persistent serious offending, particularly violence, are also the most disadvantaged youngsters in society, who experience a far higher than average range of social, environmental and emotional adversities, including early experience of violent victimisation.

The second fact is that strategies that aim to identify at-risk children at an early stage in their lives, and intervene to prevent later offending, are often misguided and run



the risk of labelling and stigmatising young people, resulting in greater risk of criminalisation in later life.

The third is that there are critical points in the early teenage years which mark the divergence between those who go on to have criminal careers and those who desist from offending. Chronic pathways of conviction are more closely connected with the way troublesome young people are dealt with, such as by excluding them from school, than they are to their actual behaviour.

The final fact is that certain groups of youths become the principal focus of agency attention, which results in repeated recycling and labelling of young people. This places serious limitations on the capacity of the youth justice system to reduce crime because it damages young people in the longer term. In fact, diversionary strategies are better placed to facilitate the natural process of desistance that occurs for most young people during adolescence.


One of the most shocking study findings was that those young people who were

excluded from school by the age of 12 were at four times greater risk of being imprisoned by the time they were age 24, compared with non-excluded children.

When presented to the Scottish Parliament Justice Committee in December 2012, these figures caused such concern that the Committee requested they be taken into account in the drafting of the new Children and Young People Bill, which is due later this year.

The study findings have also now been used to underpin the Scottish Government's new 'Whole System Approach' to young people who offend, which was rolled out nationally in September 2011. This multiagency partnership approach to youth justice aims to achieve positive outcomes, including educational outcomes, for young people, through early and effective intervention, increased diversionary activities, and keeping 16 and 17 year olds out of the adult criminal justice system.

After years of interviewing this special cohort of young people about their experiences and views, we are delighted that the study has had such an impact on both policy and practice in Scotland.

And, while it remains to be seen what the outcome of this new approach will be on school exclusions and the longer term outcomes for young people, any activities that retain young people in school as far as possible and find new ways of inspiring them away from a life of crime are to be welcomed. 



Professor Lesley McAra (left) is Head of the University's School of Law. Susan McVie (right) is Professor of Quantitative Criminology in the School.

Illustration by Ailsa Johnson, a third-year Edinburgh College of Art Illustration student (ailsajohnson.tumblr.com).

people news

Aiming to embed sustainable practices

Dave Gorman has been appointed the University's first Director of Social Responsibility and Sustainability. He started work in July as the Head of the new department, which looks to actively promote and embed sustainable practices, such as energy efficiency, recycling and ethical procurement, around the University and in the community. Mr Gorman was formerly Head of Environmental Strategy at the Scottish Environment Protection Agency.

www.ed.ac.uk/about/sustainability/about/overview

Neuroscience honour

Dr Jane Haley, the University's Neuroscience Scientific Coordinator, has been awarded the 2013 British Neuroscience Association (BNA) award for the Public Understanding of Neuroscience. Since 2007, Edinburgh Neuroscience has created a broad programme of activities which have directly reached more than 4,600 school pupils and 3,600 adults. Edinburgh Neuroscience members also regularly contribute to science festivals, reaching an estimated 35,000 people.

Awards haul for CSE

The Schools of Informatics, Engineering, GeoSciences and Mathematics in the College of Science and Engineering have received Athena Swan awards, which recognise commitment to advancing the careers of women in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM) academia.

www.athenaswan.org.uk

Medals acknowledge 'exceptional' efforts

The University has awarded two staff members with a 2013 Principal's Medal, in recognition of their "exceptional achievements" in their respective fields.

Professor Scott Murray, St Columba's Hospice Chair of Primary Palliative Care in the Centre for Population Health Science, was awarded the Principal's Medal for Outstanding Service.

The Outstanding Service medal honours staff members who have made a major contribution to the University community. It reflects Professor Murray's commitment to palliative care research, and recognises the work of members of his Primary Palliative Research Group Dr Elizabeth Grant, Dr Kirsty Boyd and Dr Marilyn Kendall.

Professor Murray and his team have been at the forefront of efforts to extend palliative care so that it no longer focuses on terminal care of cancer patients in economically developed countries.

The Principal's Medal for Service to the Community was awarded to Rebecca MacKenzie, Pro Bono Coordinator and Senior Teaching Fellow in the School of Law's Centre for Professional Legal Studies.

Staff or students who make an impactful contribution to the wider community outside the University are considered for the Service to the Community award.

Mrs MacKenzie leads the School's evolving portfolio of pro bono services, including the Free Legal Advice Centre and the Child Advocacy Centre.

She was honoured for her outstanding contribution to the School of Law and the wider University's civic mission relating to sustainability and social responsibility.

www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/principals-office

Heads of School and Service welcomed

The University has appointed a number of new Heads of School and Service. Taking up their new roles in 2013 or early 2014 are, clockwise from top left: Professor Ian Ralston, Head of History, Classics and Archaeology; Tracey Slaven, Deputy Secretary, Strategic Planning; Dr Rowena Arshad, Head of Moray House School of Education; Dr Paul Foster, Head of the School of Divinity; and Professor Fiona Mackay, Head of Social and Political Science. All new Heads will attend, or have already attended, an induction course aimed at helping to introduce them to their new roles.



Three honoured for excellence, innovation

Three staff members have been named 2013 winners of the Chancellor's Awards, which reward excellence and innovation in teaching and research.

Professor Agata Smoktunowicz, Dr Helen Cameron and Dr Catherine Heymans were congratulated by the Chancellor, HRH The Princess Royal, at a gala dinner held at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

The awards are presented in three categories: Research, Teaching and Rising Star, an honour given to an early-career academic who has demonstrated great potential in their field of work.

The Research Award was made to Professor Smoktunowicz of the School of Mathematics, in recognition of her groundbreaking work in resolving outstanding problems in non-commutative algebra.

"Agata's talent is huge and her success is dazzling," said Iain Gordon, Professor of Mathematics. "For the last decade she

has led non-commutative algebra, not only in opening up new areas of research, but also by resolving some of the 20th century's most stubborn and difficult problems in the field."

Teaching Award winner Dr Cameron, Director of the Centre for Medical Education in the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine, was honoured for her contribution to transforming the education of medical students in Edinburgh, Europe and Africa. The Centre develops the Bachelor of Medicine degree and has built an academic profile supervising higher degrees for clinical educators.

Dr Heymans, Rising Star Award recipient, has been a lecturer in the School of Physics and Astronomy since 2010, and is internationally renowned for her work in the area of cosmological gravitational lensing. She has become a major presence in leading cosmological survey projects worldwide.

Douglas Robertson



The Chancellor, HRH The Princess Royal, congratulates Professor Agata Smoktunowicz.



Dr Catherine Heymans, left, and Dr Helen Cameron.

Long-serving staff members to gather

The contributions of nearly 100 long-serving Edinburgh staff members will be acknowledged at a reception in December. Seventy-eight staff who hold a minimum of 25 years service, along with 14 who hold 40 years, will be honoured.

Among those in attendance will be Brian Cameron, who this year celebrates 50 years with the University. Mr Cameron, a Senior Technical Officer in the School of GeoSciences, started in 1963 as an electronics technician. His primary focus is now on outreach work, and in 2012 he received an MBE for services to science engagement in Scotland.

Mr Cameron started at Edinburgh on the same day as Gordon Turnbull, a former technician in the School of Physics & Astronomy, who retired this summer after 49 years of service.

catwalking.com

Graduate Fashion Week triumph



Edinburgh College of Art students walked away from this year's Graduate Fashion Week in London with a swathe of awards. Lauren Smith (Fashion), pictured centre, won the prestigious £20,000 George Gold Award for Best Collection. Shauni Douglas (Fashion) and Olivia Creber (Jewellery) won the Best Menswear Collection prize for their collaboration, while Morwenna Darwell was awarded second place in the David Band Textile Award.

In brief

bulletin highlights a selection of new faces, appointments and individual and group achievements from around the University.

COURT MEMBER ELECTED

Angi Lamb, Senior Computing Officer, has been elected to the position of the University's Non-Teaching Staff Assessor. Every four years a non-teaching member of staff is elected to join the University Court, the governing body and legal persona of the University. Ms Lamb, who has been employed at the University since 1990, took up the position on 1 August after winning the most votes in July's online election. She will serve for four years.

FORGING NEW RELATIONSHIPS

The internationally recognised conductor and violinist Peter Manning has been made Professor of New Work, a joint appointment between the University and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Professor Manning curated *Oxygen*, a programme of dance shows performed at Paterson's Land as part of the 2013 Edinburgh Festival Fringe. The role represents the newly formed relationship between two of the country's leading arts establishments.

ROYAL SOCIETY HONOUR

Three distinguished Edinburgh academics have been made Fellows of the Royal Society. They are Bill Earnshaw, Professor of Chromosome Dynamics in the University's Institute of Cell Biology; Sir John Savill, Professor of Experimental Medicine, Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine; and Paul M Sharp, Professor of Genetics and Alan Robertson Chair of Genetics in the Institute of Evolutionary Biology. The Royal Society is a fellowship of many of the world's most eminent experts drawn from science, engineering and medicine.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE BOOST

The University has appointed a new Deputy Secretary – Student Experience. Grant Douglas, formerly Head of Student Recruitment, Admissions & International Relations at the University of Sheffield, joined the University in September. In his new role Mr Douglas will concentrate the efforts of staff throughout the University to enhance the student experience. He will be working closely with Dr Sue Rigby, Vice-Principal Learning and Teaching.



Procurement in spotlight

The University's Procurement team has been awarded the *Times Higher Education* Leadership and Management Award for Outstanding Procurement Team. The award specifically recognised the achievement of delivering savings to the University of approximately £12 million over 12 months to March 2013. The team (some of whom are pictured with awards hosts, above) has also consistently been given the highest rating in the Scottish Government's Procurement Capability Assessment, and its sustainable approach to procurement strategies has been made into a case study, which has been shared on the Universities UK efficiency exchange.

OBE for 'remarkable' cancer surgeon



Professor of Surgery Mike Dixon has received an OBE for services to the treatment of breast cancer and for charitable services. He

was recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours, announced in summer.

Professor Dixon (above), Consultant Surgeon at the Western General's Breast Unit, and an Edinburgh alumnus, is widely regarded as one of the UK's leading breast surgeons.

James Jopling, Director for Scotland at Breakthrough Breast Cancer, the UK's key charity dedicated to stopping women dying from breast cancer, said: "Mike has made a remarkable contribution to the treatment of women with breast cancer and he has also furthered our understanding of the disease not just in Scotland but across the UK."

In collaboration with his research team at the Western General, Professor Dixon is currently working to understand how the most common form of breast cancer becomes resistant to drugs.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of both Edinburgh and England and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

stop press...

Nursery taking enrolments

A new nursery, which is to open at King's Buildings in summer 2014, is taking enrolments. Designed by Malcolm Fraser Architects, Arcadia will accommodate children aged six weeks to five years and will be open to both University staff and the public.

 www.arcadianursery.co.uk



Professor Sir Kenneth Murray

FRS, FRSE, BSc, PhD
(1930–2013)

Professor Mary Bownes, Senior Vice-Principal External Engagement, pays tribute to one of the UK's most distinguished scientists.

Ken Murray was one of the most eminent scientists in the UK and an international leader of scientific innovation. He developed the first vaccine against viral hepatitis B, which has saved countless lives worldwide.

Ken was one of the earliest workers in genetic engineering, which has opened a new avenue of scientific research and has led to new treatments for diseases and genetic disorders. He was co-founder of the first European-based biotechnology company, Biogen. Most of his commercial income was used to found the Darwin Trust in 1983. The trust has supported the education of many young scientists, and helped to fund cutting-edge research and improved facilities at the University. His generosity also supported activities to inspire the next generation of potential scientists.

Ken was born in Yorkshire and brought up in the Midlands. He left school at the age of 16 to become a laboratory technician at Boots in Nottingham. After part-time study he obtained a first-class honours degree in chemistry and a PhD in microbiology from the University of Birmingham. It was in Birmingham that he met his wife, Noreen, who was to become a close scientific collaborator. They were married in 1958.

Ken continued his research at Stanford University and returned to the UK in 1964 to work in the Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology. He joined the University of Edinburgh in 1967 in what was then the only department of molecular biology in the country. He went on to become Biogen Professor of Molecular Biology in 1984 and together with colleagues made the University a

“He was an inspirational teacher and collaborator who was always very supportive of colleagues and friends.

leader in the molecular biology revolution. He went on to become Head of Molecular Biology from 1976 to 1984. Following his retirement in 1988 he continued to come to the laboratory every day, leading further scientific endeavours. Increasingly, he spent more time on his philanthropic support of others through the Darwin Trust.

Ken received much recognition for his outstanding work. He was elected to the Royal Society in 1979, received the Willem Meindart de Hoop Prize in 1983, and in 1992 was given a Saltire Society Scientific Award. He was awarded a knighthood in 1993 and a Royal Medal by the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2000. In 2010, Ken and Noreen jointly received a lifetime achievement award from Nexus Life Sciences.

Recently the Noreen and Kenneth Murray Library was built at King's Buildings, recognising the couple's distinguished careers and their commitment to the advancement of science and engineering.

Despite the wealth from his vaccine and various successes, Ken remained a very modest and approachable person. He was an inspirational teacher and collaborator who was always very supportive of colleagues and friends and quick to praise success.

His scientific interests lay in methods for sequencing, or deciphering, strands of DNA code. He developed methods based on new ideas, to isolate specific genes, and so began genetic engineering. Along with Noreen and others, he developed recombinant DNA technology, or gene cloning. This represented a revolution for scientists in terms of understanding how cells work, how genetics work and how the development of organisms is controlled and how it can go wrong.

Ken immediately put these ideas to a practical task – how to create a vaccine for hepatitis B. This condition lacked reliable treatment and led to deaths among the 300 million people around the world infected with the virus. Ken found a way to identify the hepatitis B virus and then produced a man-made vaccine. This was done under very difficult conditions, as people were scared of new genetic engineering technology, and so he had to work in secure facilities.

By 1978, Ken and colleagues had created the vaccine and later proved that it was effective in treating hepatitis. He was involved in the establishment of Biogen, which commercially developed the vaccine for use. The vaccine is used around the world.

Ken had suffered from ill health for a number of years, yet remained very active intellectually. He survived Noreen in 2011. Although they had no children, Ken and Noreen leave behind a large community of colleagues, students and friends whose lives they have touched. This includes the many people who did not know Ken but whose lives were improved because of his work. He will be sadly missed.

Professor Susan Manning (1953–2013)



The death of Professor Susan Manning on 15 January 2013 elicited tributes to her scholarship, her teaching, her administrative skills and her singular capacity for friendship from colleagues around the globe, many of them former students. As a scholar at the forefront of the fields of Scottish and American literature and trans-Atlantic literary history she was and will remain renowned.

Well beyond her community of expertise, she will be remembered for her extraordinary range of achievements as Grierson Professor of English Literature from 1999 and the Director of the University's Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (IASH) for eight years.

Susan was one of the world's leading exponents of English literature in the widest sense, and an international figure in the area of transatlantic studies, with her focus on transactions between Scottish and American literature. Generations of postgraduate students, first at the University of Cambridge and then at Edinburgh, have found their scholarship inspired and transformed by working with her, and she was pivotal to the research culture of Edinburgh's department of English Literature.

Under her leadership, IASH has become a vibrant workshop for interdisciplinary research, and she widened the Institute's reach to make it a global research centre. At the same time she greatly strengthened IASH's engagement with the various units and departments of the University, and increased considerably the number of post-doctoral fellowships offered.

Susan had a capacious intellect; a rare agility and empathy in engaging the ideas of others; a critical acumen that enabled so many people to find new meanings in the words on the page. She was not just a brilliant conversationalist in the usual sense; she opened your mind and led it down new paths.

Susan's forthcoming book explores the meanings of character in trans-Atlantic literature. Her friends and colleagues know what she was too modest (and too busy) to realise: that she herself epitomised the woman of character in the best senses, for all occasions and all seasons.

Professor Anthony La Vopa
IASH Fellow 2006–07 and 2013

 *The Susan Manning Postdoctoral Fellowship has been established in Susan's memory. For more details, visit www.iash.ed.ac.uk/smfellowship.html.*

John Gifford (1946–2013)



One of the greatest contributions to Scottish architectural history is that of our respected friend and colleague, John Gifford.

John came to Edinburgh in 1972 as researcher on *The Buildings of Scotland* series (*BoS*), under the editorship of Colin McWilliam, who taught architectural history at Edinburgh College of Art, and directed its pioneering postgraduate Architectural Conservation programme.

During a brief interlude from 1976, as a Senior Historic Buildings Investigator at the Scottish Development Department, John established the principle that the List of Buildings of Architectural and Historical Interest should be based on meticulous documentary scholarship, and helped formulate more systematic

criteria for listing. In 1980, he returned to lead the *BoS* Research Unit housed in ECA's new Hunter Building, where he began teaching on the Conservation programme. Colin died in 1989, and succeeding him as guiding force and principal author of *BoS*, John came close to completing the series.

He departed from the research criteria of the parent *Buildings of England* in two ways: extending the consultation of primary sources; and the inclusion of every church and school, irrespective of perceived aesthetic merit.

The result is an unparalleled resource for information on Scottish architecture and has ensured the volumes' contents against premature obsolescence. It is a mark of John's achievement that *BoS*'s younger siblings, the *Buildings of Ireland* and *Buildings of Wales*, and the second generation of English volumes, have all followed his lead.

His dedication to the *BoS* meant that we have unfortunately little else of his writing apart from his masterly study, *William Adam 1689–1748*.

Away from scholarship, John had a deep Christian faith, sitting on synods and committees of the Scottish Episcopal Church, and reformulating its regulations for interventions on church buildings.

His contributions were recognised with an MBE in 2005, and an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS) in 2012.

John died on 13 June 2013. He is survived by his partner, David Bassett, and four siblings.

Ian Campbell, Professor of Architectural History & Theory,
Miles Glendinning, Professor of Architectural Conservation, and
Margaret Stewart, Lecturer in Architectural History, ECA

Stewart Adams (1946–2013)



Stewart Adams was a servitor from 2001 until he retired in June 2013 after the summer graduation services. Prior to joining the University he had been with the Civil Service for more than 34 years and saw working at Edinburgh as the start of his second career.

He was primarily based at Old College, and also at Charles Stewart House, which has probably the biggest and heaviest mail load of any University building.

Stewart was a great character with a zest and enthusiasm for life, and he became an integral part of the Uniformed Staff. He was a great support at Charles Stewart House over the years. Nothing was too much trouble and his calm, reassuring presence gave

everybody the confidence that they were in good hands.

Stewart also played a major role at ceremonial events such as graduation services, royal visits and open days. He always conducted himself professionally and his friendly and welcoming nature at graduations in particular added to the enjoyment and sense of occasion for students and their families.

Stewart's funeral was held at Mortonhall Crematorium and the very large number of current and former staff in attendance showed how popular he had been at the University. He is survived by his wife Betty and sons David and Chris.

David Brook, Support Services Operations Manager, and

Peter Thomson, Assistant Support Services Operations Manager (Cleaning & Portering – Central Area), Estates & Buildings

David Hugo (1958–2013)



Friends and colleagues have been saddened by the death of David Hugo, Model-making

Assistant in Architecture at ECA, on 30 January 2013.

I met David in 1989 when we both had studios with the Delfina Trust in Stratford, East London. Around this period he had also become a studio assistant for Eduardo Paolozzi.

David was producing a dazzling collection of sculpture, with twisted metal and diodes and lacquer. His studio became a hub for other resident artists. His confidence and energy were infectious and generous, and he was always available. It was this spirit that made David such a welcome presence at ECA.

His brisk imagination was an asset to us all. Most recently he helped me with a quite complex motorised tripod head for a camcorder. The final object became for me a rather beautiful and poetic thing. A visit to his workshop at college reveals many such wonderful objects. David's loss will be felt deeply amongst the many staff and students, peers and friends that had the pleasure of knowing and working with him in London and here at ECA.

Michael Windle, Lecturer, ECA

David's arrival in 2004 saw an explosion in creativity. The quality and diversity of models and all manner of art objects produced by students increased enormously as David did his utmost to help them realise their conceptions. Both staff and students were filled with admiration for and gratitude to David and were shocked by his untimely death. We all miss him. May he rest in peace.

Ian Campbell, Professor of Architectural History & Theory, ECA

Mike Porter (1946–2013)



Mike Porter joined the Community Medical Care Research Unit as a researcher in 1970 and became a Lecturer in the

Department of Medical Practice in 1971, and a Senior Lecturer in 1991.

In the 1980s he began a collaboration with John Howie, then Professor of General Practice, on the effect of stress on quality of care, including general practitioner behaviour during the consultation process.

Mike was determined to provide students with a rounded, multidisciplinary perspective on health, illness and healthcare, incorporating social science (especially sociological) concepts and understanding.

He redesigned the curriculum and introduced highly innovative assignments. Community practicals

gave first-year students the opportunity to demonstrate the application of knowledge about the determinants of health and illness behaviour, and develop interviewing and communication skills. The Priorities Exercise provided students with a realistic and entertaining simulation exercise through which they could learn about the principles and processes for evaluating, prioritising and rationing health services in a local setting.

Mike was co-author of *Psychology and Sociology Applied to Medicine*, a widely used and critically acclaimed textbook.

He was an inspiration to a generation of students, who recognised and appreciated his availability, support, compassion and commitment to inculcating a more holistic appreciation of the patient's world.

Stephen Platt, Professor of Health Policy Research, School of Molecular, Genetic & Population Health Sciences

health & wellbeing

A round-up of the tips, policies and activities designed to keep you fit, healthy and well at work. Visit www.ed.ac.uk/staff/health-wellbeing for more advice and information.

Edinburgh earns Green League 2:1

The University has achieved an upper-second-class award in the People & Planet Green League 2013.

The League assesses all 143 UK universities annually, and placed Edinburgh 46th in the rankings – third among Scottish universities and fifth among Russell Group institutions.

The University was awarded full marks for its work on ethical investment, reflecting January's signing of the United Nations' Principles for Responsible Investment. Edinburgh was the first university in Europe, and second worldwide, to become a signatory of the international agreement.

"We're committed to improving our position in the Green League by continuing to drive change in policy and practice," says Professor Mary Bownes, Senior Vice-Principal External Engagement. "I'm delighted by our success in many areas and especially pleased that we have led the way in the UK by signing the United Nations' Principles for Responsible Investment."

Top marks were also awarded for fair trade and ethical procurement, environmental policy and environmental management staff.



Spotlight on sustainability

Staff can learn more about the University's efforts to create a more socially responsible community and sustainable campus at a November workshop. Hosted by the newly created Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability, the free workshop will explain how the University encourages the use of sustainable transport.

Also open to students, the workshop is part of a Sustainability in Practice series, which has already touched on subjects including encouraging biodiversity, promoting fair trade and waste and recycling.

To find out more and book a place, visit <http://sip1-eorg.eventbrite.co.uk/>.

Gold award for healthy working

Edinburgh has successfully renewed its Healthy Working Lives gold-level award.

The award programme supports employers and employees to develop health promotion and safety themes in the workplace. It is part of a national initiative run by the Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives.

The University initially obtained the gold-level award, valid for three years, in 2010, and the renewal highlights Edinburgh's continued commitment to promoting a safer, healthier workforce,

says Deputy Director, Health and Safety, Karen Darling.

"Renewing this gold-level award is acknowledgment of the wide range of health and wellbeing initiatives available to staff, many of whom continue to organise, promote and actively participate in the varied activities and events which take place throughout the year," she says. "This award recognises their effort and hard work."

To find out more, visit www.healthyworkinglives.com



Switch & Save reminder

As the Energy Office relaunches its Switch & Save campaign, staff are reminded that they can take a number of simple daily steps to help the University save energy.

To find out how you can help, visit www.ed.ac.uk/saving-energy.



Staff put through their paces

Staff from across the University were put through their paces over summer as they undertook an innovative fitness programme.

The Six-Pack Challenge saw staff take on six different fitness classes over a six-week period – disciplines of yoga, Pilates, Zumba, circuit training, kickboxing and t'ai chi were covered.

All proceeds from the challenge, organised by Janet Philp from the School of Biomedical Sciences (pictured, second from right), went to the Patrick Wild Centre. The Centre was established at the University in 2010 and focuses on research into autism, Fragile X Syndrome and intellectual disabilities.

www.patrickwildcentre.com

Adverse weather advice available

In the event of heavy snowfalls over winter, staff should consult the University's *Adverse Weather Policy* and guidelines. The guidelines cover common issues raised when bad weather hits and should form the basis of advice offered to staff who are experiencing problems brought on by extreme weather. The policy and guidelines can be found on the Human Resources Leave and Absence web pages.

www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/human-resources/policies-guidance/leave-absence/absence

It costs £5 to advertise in *bulletin*, which is published twice a year. Please email your ad to small.ads@ed.ac.uk and send a cheque payable to the University of Edinburgh to Small Ads, Communications and Marketing, C Floor, Forrest Hill Building, 5 Forrest Hill, Edinburgh EH1 2QL. Only current members of staff and students are eligible to place an ad. Ads are accepted in good faith and *bulletin* cannot be held responsible for inaccuracies in or problems caused by an ad.

WANTED: GUITARISTS
Do you play Spanish guitar? Amateur classical guitar ensemble **The Accidentals** is seeking new members. We rehearse on Monday evenings in Bruntsfield. For details please visit www.accidentals.org.uk/



For sale: Women's bicycle, nearly new
Red women's mountain bike from Edinburgh Bicycle Co-op. 17" frame. Hardly used. £90.
Contact: dagmar.weston@ed.ac.uk
Tel: 0131 667 6787

Home exchange
Wellington, New Zealand
New Zealand family intending stay in Edinburgh, looking for home exchange from approx. February 2015 to December 2015. Any period within this considered.
www.homeexchange.com/en/listing/439809/
Contact: janet.taylor@ed.ac.uk for more details, or register with site.

My nine to five: Liz Cooper

Fair Trade Coordinator Liz Cooper facilitates fair trade activities across the University. She encourages staff and student engagement through research, policy development, events, workshops, volunteer projects and web and social media. She shares some of her working day with *bulletin*.



The fair trade movement grew in the second half of the 20th century as a response to perceived inequalities and injustices in global trade. It's about improving working conditions and income levels for those currently disadvantaged by trade systems, notably small-scale farmers and manufacturers in developing countries.

In 2004 we became the first Fairtrade University in Scotland, and February 2014 marks our 10 years as a Fairtrade University (note Fairtrade as one word in this case as this is a Fairtrade Foundation initiative), following a student vote in favour of the accreditation. We'll be holding a formal event to highlight fair trade in the University and are encouraging staff and students to organise their own events too.

At Edinburgh, we're interested in exploring different approaches to the concept of fair trade through procurement initiatives and developing student and academic research on related questions.

As well as continuing to stock products labelled Fairtrade by the Fairtrade Foundation/Fairtrade International, we're also exploring other initiatives that support fair trade in general. We don't want to claim that buying fair trade products is the solution to global poverty, but we believe there are numerous ways in which fair trade initiatives can play a part.

This year we established our Fair Trade Academic Network and a national Fair Trade Community of Practice through the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) – staff can sign up to the email discussion list at www.ed.ac.uk/about/sustainability/fairtrade/news-events/2013/fair-trade-cop.

My job is quite unusual and varied and my days involve going to meetings, carrying out research, writing blog pieces, managing websites and social media, liaising with student volunteers, giving talks/holding workshops, planning student projects, organising events, producing communications materials, working on strategy and policy documents, attending external events and conferences...

I work with a very large number of people from all over the University – staff in Procurement, Social Responsibility and Sustainability, and the School of Social and Political Science, as well as EUSA staff and students, and external collaborators.

I spent four years working on fair trade projects in Senegal and India, and witnessing how our actions as consumers and

corporate buyers directly affect people's lives motivates me to continue to explore the relationship between trade and poverty.

I enjoy being able to explore potential solutions to the real-world problems of poverty through my day job. I'm happy if we can incite interest and debate across the University, to find potential answers together.

🔗 Find out more at www.ed.ac.uk/fairtrade.

Get organised ...

Desk: neat and tidy or beautiful chaos? It's pretty well organised. I don't like paper, and keep everything neatly in electronic folders.

Schedule: routine or go with the flow? A mix.

List person? Oh, yes! My task list in Outlook is always full.

Daily staples? Decaf coffee or Ovaltine, and periodic fresh air.

... and now relax

Favourite pastimes? Socialising, hiking, having a dance at a ceilidh.

Perfect Sunday afternoon? A hike and a picnic with friends.

Favourite time of year? Any time if it's a sunny day – whether beach weather or crisp and cold.

Ideal holiday destination? Places I've never been to and know little about, such as the Caucasus or any of the 'stans' (Uzbekistan or Kazakhstan perhaps).



Spot the difference

Paul Dodds

Two prizes are on offer this edition: a Castle Thai Spa massage (either 2x 60min or 1x 120min) for the winner, and a meal for two (plus complimentary small glass of wine or beer) at the Fountain bar for the runner-up. To enter, compare the image on the right to the one on the left. You are looking for five differences. Circle each one and send us your entry by **Monday 25 November 2013** to the address on page 2. Correct entries will be entered in a draw and the winner will be selected at random.



Newly-refurbished and just a stone's throw from Fountainpark — *The Fountain* exudes laid-back style. Bright and airy with a brasserie-style interior, The Fountain offers home-cooked seasonal food, craft beers, wines and proper coffee. With a toy box that children could only dream of, our doors are open to little people as well as big ones... four-legged friends are welcome too!

FOOD SERVED DAILY UNTIL 9.30PM

THE FOUNTAIN

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Showcase

In every issue of *bulletin* we highlight a piece of history from the University's Collections.

Persian-style painting

Late 18th or early 19th century.

This work comes from a collection of 29 paintings (Tasawir) by Indian artists working in the Persian style. It was donated to the University in the 19th century by Robert Blair Munro Binning (1814–1891) and is among the collection of more than 700 Oriental manuscripts, which includes finely decorated Korans and a magnificent scroll of the Mahabharata epic.

- www.ed.ac.uk/is/crc
- <http://images.is.ed.ac.uk>