

Bulletin

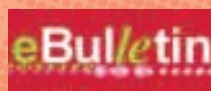
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This Issue • University Forges New Alliance • Degree Celebrations • Clouds Reveal Europe's Ozone Future



WORLD CLASS SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

► International sculptors working in Pietrasanta, Tuscany, are taking part in a unique sculpture exhibition at the University's Harold Martin Botanic Garden displaying their works alongside UK artists. Pietrasanta may be described as the heart of the world's marble industry and has traditionally attracted artisans and sculptors alike to work with the marble from the neighbouring quarries of Carrara – as it attracted Michelangelo. The exhibition features 49 pieces by 22 artists, including honorary graduate Helaine Blumenfeld and Emeritus Professor Bill Forster OBE. It is free and open to the public, from 10am-4pm each day, until September 20. 📍



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University of
Leicester



UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER AND H.E. COLLEGES IN NEW MIDLANDS ALLIANCE

▶ Three higher education institutions in the East and West Midlands are creating a strategic alliance in order to collaborate on new initiatives and enhance educational opportunities in the region.

The University of Leicester, Bishop Grosseteste College in Lincoln and Newman College of Higher Education in Birmingham have announced they plan to work together in partnership.

Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leicester, Professor Robert Burgess, said: "This new educational alliance will bring benefits not only for the partners, but for the thousands of students seeking to gain a higher education in a more accessible way.

"Both Newman College and Bishop Grosseteste College are well-established church colleges of higher education with excellent reputations and we look forward to building on our mutual strengths. We will work closely together in order to provide a range of courses for students with different aspirations and needs, while respecting the separate and distinct identities and characters of each institution. This is a key strength of the collaboration.

"In collaborating, we will provide new educational opportunities from the West Midlands to the Wash."

The Principal of Bishop Grosseteste College, Lincoln, Professor Eileen Baker said: "The new alliance with the University of Leicester has been welcomed by staff and students. The University's excellent standing and its interest in widening access to higher education will make for a very productive partnership."

The Principal of Newman College of Higher Education, Pamela Taylor, said: "Birmingham will benefit from the additional strength which this alliance brings to Newman College. The alliance also supports our individual mission to contribute positively to widening participation in higher education across the Midlands."

The University of Leicester already has links with HE and FE colleges – but this new collaboration aims to strengthen existing ties, forge new partnerships and develop innovative initiatives within the HE sector. The University also has a link, through its Medical School, with the University of Warwick, linking the East and West Midlands. This has helped to

create one of the largest medical schools in the UK.

Among the opportunities likely to emerge from the extended partnership is the development of new Foundation Degrees. Leicester was chosen as one of the pilots for the delivery of the new-style degree and it already offers the Foundation Degree (two years) in Educational Studies for Classroom Assistants in collaboration with Bishop Grosseteste College.

Professor Burgess said the new partnership would:

- Widen participation in higher education by improving access
- Facilitate curriculum development and the development of innovative programmes
- Provide opportunities to develop new educational programmes
- Increase student choice and opportunities

- Commit to the highest possible standards of education

"The Government's recent White Paper has pointed to this as the future of higher education in this country. The University is looking to the future – we recently announced a £300 million development plan to enhance our facilities in Leicester – and this alliance across the Midlands means there is a broad base of support sharing our vision of success."

Under the new arrangements, academic benefits arising from the partnership include the sharing of good practice and expertise in teacher education, distance learning and other degree programmes.

The alliance also increases the possibility of making joint bids to external bodies, as appropriate, to provide new streams of education in line with local needs. 🗨

'This new educational alliance will bring benefits not only for the partners, but for the thousands of students seeking to gain a higher education in a more accessible way.'

VICE-CHANCELLOR PROFESSOR ROBERT BURGESS

ENHANCED FACILITIES FOR LEADING CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT

▶ The University has opened the newly refurbished Chemistry building, which includes state of the art laboratories, write-up areas, offices and facilities for people with disabilities such as a new lift, ramps, toilets and automatic doors.

The George Porter Building, which houses the department, has been renovated to incorporate all scientific research work by students in addition to its existing resources which have been greatly improved.

Work was completed by the main

contractor, Phoenix Contracts, shortly before Easter 2003.

Funding for this project has been partly provided by the Higher Education Funding Council, England, (HEFCE) through the Science Research Investment Fund (SRIF). The initial budget of £3 million was increased to take account of the facilities for people with disabilities.

Previously the Chemistry Department had been spread between two buildings, both of

which have been refurbished. The George Porter Building will now house the Chemistry Department and the former Chemistry Research Building will become home to the School of Archaeology and Ancient History at the start of the new academic year.

The University of Leicester Chemistry Department has been consistently highly rated in university guides, and was ranked number 13 in the UK in The Times Good University Guide of 2002.

Head of Department Professor Eric Hope commented: "We are delighted with the state-of-the-art facilities that the renovation has provided, as it will allow us to deliver internationally competitive research and high quality teaching in one unified building."

The refurbished George Porter Building was formally opened on Friday, June 27 by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leicester, Professor Robert Burgess. 🗨



A NEW GENERATION OF SCIENCE LEADERS

► The University of Leicester has announced an exciting innovation in science HE, designed to address the fading interest of students in science. The degree programme is designed for students who may not want to enter the rarefied spheres of academic research but wish to take on more general roles such as R&D, teaching and science-related management, marketing or media work.

The programme offers a potent mix of scientific knowledge and transferable people skills, and has elicited a great deal of excitement from employers and scientific societies across the country.

The new Leicester BSc and MSci in Integrated Science are unique in that they are wholly interdisciplinary, using only teaching material and projects dedicated to the i-Science degree, and not involving a patchwork of existing courses from across the Faculty of Science.

Modules are taught by problem-based learning. A typical example might be the construction and significance of Stonehenge, and among the skills students will need to use are Physics, Archaeology, Astronomy and Mathematics in their quest to explore why, when and how it was built and the controversies surrounding its use.

Students will work in groups, and will not necessarily all have to work on each aspect of the problem, but will build on their strengths and interests. Each team must understand finally how the problem has been solved, so they will learn about a vast range of science, and, although they will not acquire specialist expertise in every area they will have the opportunity to explore one or two specialities in more depth.

Other topics draw on skills applicable to Biology, Chemistry, IT, Geology and Geography and will feature problems on, for example, space travel, the

origins of life and the environment.

Dr Derek Raine, i-Science Centre Director, commented: "As a preparation for interdisciplinary research in say climatology or biophysics, or for a teacher, a science-based manager, press or marketing officer, the i-Science degree offers a realistic training for graduate level employment. At the moment companies may prefer to recruit management trainees, for instance, from arts graduates because they have been taught the relevant skills of presentation and communication. One of our aims is to give that level of skill to graduates with a science background. We want graduates who are both numerate and literate.

"We are opening up graduate level science education to a new cohort of students. We will recruit science leaders and managers and we will attract a new brand of potential science teachers who will regard the prospect of teaching across the boundaries of physics, chemistry and biology as a fantastic opportunity."

While it is the University of Leicester that is breaking new ground in this way, Dr Raine expects the initiative to take off on a national level. Other higher education institutions are exploring the concept in a more limited form, but Dr Raine believes the time is right to move away quite radically from the tradition of single-subject degrees. The new degree will have the same degree-level status as a single subject science degree but will bring a whole range of students into science who are excited by the concept and relevance of inter-disciplinary study.

The development of problem-based learning for i-Science is supported by the HEFCE fund for the development of teaching and learning (FDTL4).

The Leicester i-Science degree, which is recruiting now for September



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DR DEREK RAINE, I-SCIENCE CENTRE DIRECTOR

2004, has been designed following consultation with teachers and science employers. It has made use of professional market research commissioned from the Institute of Physics, and is in part a response to the 2001 inquiry carried out by the Institute.

Prospective students for the 4-year MSci degree will need 320 A Level

points (equivalent to ABB) and those for the 3-year BSc will need 260 points (equivalent to CCC). A and AS Levels will have to include at least one science and students will have to have GCSE Mathematics. Where necessary students will be taught more advanced Mathematics in context on a 'need to know' basis. ④



CLOUDS REVEAL EUROPE'S OZONE FUTURE

► Forget blue skies research, it is clouds that have focused minds at the University of Leicester where scientists are tackling the causes of ozone depletion.

Atmospheric scientists in the Department of Physics and Astronomy are spearheading the MAPSCORE project, a European Commission Environment project which investigates a major cause of ozone depletion – high altitude polar clouds which activate the chlorine

originally from CFCs and lead eventually to severe ozone destruction.

Leicester researchers have discovered it is possible to map the global distribution of polar clouds from space, and to determine their composition.

For the first time, scientists can see maps of clouds around the globe, via the internet, as soon as the ESA ENVISAT satellite detects them. This knowledge has already been put to good use in examining

clouds and ozone loss near Europe during the last winter. Now the Leicester scientists are observing the evolution of the Antarctic ozone hole which last year behaved in an unprecedented fashion and showed that there are still surprises in the ozone story.

University of Leicester scientist Dr John Remedios, who is coordinating the MAPSCORE project, said: "ENVISAT makes it possible for us to map Polar Stratospheric

Clouds in 'near real-time' for the first time. We have unprecedented detail and can even define the types of cloud that are driving ozone loss. This information guides our atmospheric modelling of how these polar stratospheric clouds form and their influence. This is important because we need to be able to predict how much ozone will be depleted in future years and polar stratospheric clouds are a key part of the problem". ☺

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER RESEARCH IS PRAISED IN HOUSE OF LORDS

► A guidance document on reducing the risk of student suicide written for Universities UK by Dr Annie Grant, Director of the University's Educational Development and Support Centre, was commended by The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health, Lord Hunt of Kings Heath.

He said: "The recommendations outlined in the report are aimed at the higher education sector as a whole and at individual higher

education institutions. It is an extremely useful report. My department will encourage the NHS to offer support to higher education institutions in taking the recommendations forward." Lord Hunt added: "I very much endorse the section of the report about good practice on how higher education institutions should respond to student suicides and attempted suicides."

During the debate on the subject,

Lord Hunt also added: "I certainly agree that the training of staff is very important. Personal tutors and counselling services have a big role to play in universities. The points made in the report on training and awareness-raising are particularly appropriate. I commend that to individual institutions."

Research by Dr Belinda Brooks-Gordon, formerly of the Department of Psychology, has also received Government recognition. Dr Brooks-

Gordon has been involved in briefing MPs and peers dealing with The Sexual Offences Bill 2003 on its passage through parliament. One of the peers with whom she had been working, the Lord Richard Faulkner, mentioned her work at the University of Leicester during a parliamentary debate.

• For more details see press release, *University of Leicester Research is Praised in House of Lords*, at <http://www.le.ac.uk/press/press/> ☺



ENGLISH PROFESSOR TUNES INTO CLUB CULTURE

► Medieval English Professor Greg Walker got in the groove with the word on the street to assess the literary merits of the latest club mixes.

The University of Leicester academic, from the Department of English, has just examined trance music hits for Mixmag – the world's biggest clubbing and dance magazine.

Professor Walker, Director of University of Leicester's Medieval Research Centre, had an article in the July issue of the magazine in which he reviews the lyrics of a number of songs.

"It's not often that a Professor of English finds himself in the pages of

a dance music magazine," says Professor Walker. "But when I was invited by Mixmag to review the lyrics of some recent trance-music hits, I was happy to oblige.

"The resulting feature 'What Do Trance Lyrics Really Mean?' appears in Mixmag's July issue. "I'm more of a Jethro Tull man, myself – but a couple of the songs that they sent me for 'marking' were really quite good."

Assessing the lyrics of Warrior, by Warrior, Professor Walker writes: "I like this one! Like the best medieval lyrics, it's simple. The subject matter is optimistic and uplifting." He graded this track a Merit.

However, he is a little more scathing of Matt Darey's 'Beautiful': "Hmm. Problematic on a number of levels – but not without its merits. This time the structure is rather more, er... experimental. You probably had to be there." He graded it as a Marginal Fail.

Angelic's 'It's My Turn' written by Judge Jules is graded a Pass. Professor Walker said: "Rather than simply tell a story, the author also tries to work in a poetic touch. I know being a judge can be



thankless, but one would hope for less bitterness from Julesey." ☺

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY VISITS CLMS

► Patricia Hewitt, Secretary of State for Trade & Industry and MP for Leicester West, visited the Centre for Labour Market Studies at the University on June 27.

Her visit was to one of the foremost global providers of long distance and e-learning higher degree courses. The Centre currently has over a thousand postgraduate

students, located in 12 countries, who are studying for diploma, masters and doctoral degrees.

The Secretary of State is very interested in the Centre's teaching and research programmes, which are of central relevance to government policies for employment, skills and work-based learning.

Centre Director, Dr Johnny Sung,

said: "Most of the Centre's students are 'high flyers' in professional and business careers, taking the chance to up-grade their qualifications, experience and knowledge. They are provided with opportunities to make connections with fellow students and academics via interactive web sites run by the Centre. As a result, although they are scattered across

the globe and may never meet face-to-face, our students form a virtual community of learners."

Patricia Hewitt said: "I am very impressed by what I have seen at the Centre for Labour Market Studies, and particularly by the international teaching that has put the University of Leicester at the centre of a network of professionals all over the world." ☺

CONCERT IN MEMORY OF SIR CHARLES WILSON

► A public concert is to be held in memory of the University's first Vice-Chancellor, Sir Charles Wilson.

As the last Principal of the University College (1952-57) and the first Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leicester (1957-61), he negotiated the transition from College to University.

Sir Charles, who died last November at the age of ninety-two, was also a keen lover of classical music and took an active part in promoting young artists, so it is

fitting that the University should honour him with a public concert in his memory.

This will take place on Saturday, September 27, 2003 at 7.30pm in the Richard Attenborough Centre, Lancaster Road, Leicester. Further information and tickets (£10, retired £9, concessions £7.50) are available from the University of Leicester Music Department, telephone 0116 252 2781, or the Richard Attenborough Centre, telephone 0116 252 2455.

HONORARY DEGREE CEREMONIES IN 2004

► During the Autumn term the Honorary Degrees Board will consider nominations for the award of Honorary Degrees in the academic year 2003/4. Degree ceremonies will be held on February 5, 2004 and July 14, 15 and 16, 2004. Members of the University are, therefore, invited to make nominations.

The Board will wish to have evidence that the nominee has a distinguished record in his/her field and has made a significant contribution locally, nationally or internationally.

Nominations must be made in writing and should include the nom-

inee's full name, title and address and be accompanied by a supporting statement and a brief CV if it is available. Nominations should be sent, in confidence, to the Vice-Chancellor by Thursday, October 2, 2003. ☺





Graduation Celebration and Jubilation

► Approximately 3,000 students celebrated success at the University of Leicester when they were awarded their degrees on July 9, 10 and 11. Friends and families from around the world were present for

the ceremonies. A total of 2,000 undergraduate students received their Bachelor's degrees while higher degrees were also conferred on approximately 1,000 postgraduate students. Honorary

degrees were conferred on distinguished people who had achieved distinction in their respective fields and proved to be exemplary models for the University's graduands. 6

Stories of Success

► Final-year student at the University of Leicester, Sandeep Pahal, chose to study Law partly because she felt she had something to prove and, having achieved a first-class degree and several prizes, she has certainly more than risen to the challenge she set herself.



What is unusual in Sandeep's case is that six years ago, at the age of 16, she woke up one morning unable to see. Her sight loss is complete, but after the initial shock wore off she reassessed her life, abandoned plans to become a policewoman or scientist and enrolled at the RNIB Vocational College in Loughborough.

There she learned to study using non-visual methods, passed three A Levels, and was accepted to study Law at the University of Leicester.

► A Leicester man has voiced his thanks to all those who have enabled him to achieve his degree in Physics with Astrophysics from the University of Leicester.

Hamish Spence, of Hinckley Road, Leicester Forest East and a former pupil of Groby Community College, received his degree on July 11. He said: "I am a profoundly deaf student with Asperger's Syndrome. I am most grateful for all the support I received from the Physics and Astronomy Department and the University's AccessAbility Centre eg notetakers, specialist equipment etc, and also the support from Sara Cooper of Leicestershire County Council's Autism Outreach Team.



"It was a proud day for me and my family when I graduated – I enjoyed my time at University. I also joined the Astronomy club – Leicester quite literally helped me reach for the stars!"



Honorary Graduates

(Top row) – Professor Sir Peter Bell FRCS MD; The Honourable Lady Brooks; Ms Siobhan Davies CBE; Professor Sir Martin Harris CBE; Dr Adam Hart-Davis.

(Middle row) – Ms Patricia Hodge; Mr Anthony Howard CBE; Professor John Matthews; Professor Sir Paul Nurse FRS; Mr Peter Preston.

(Bottom row) – Dr June Scobee Rodgers; Dame Gillian Weir CBE.





Staff and Student Distinctions

Staff Distinctions:

▶ **Dr Laurence Howard** (Pre-Clinical Sciences) has been appointed as Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Rutland (see People section).

▶ **Dr David Lambert** (Anaesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Management) has been invited to lecture at Hirosaki University, in Japan, as a Visiting Professor.

▶ **Mr Colin Marshall** (Bookshop Manager) has been elected unopposed as President of the Booksellers Association.

▶ **Professor Karl Nicholson** (Microbiology and Immunology) has been elected as one of eleven non-executive members of the newly-established Health Protection Agency (HPA).

▶ **Professor Nigel Scrutton** (Biochemistry) has been awarded the Charmian Medal for Enzyme Chemistry by the Royal Society of Chemistry.

▶ **Professor Joanne Shattock** (English) has been elected a Fellow of the English Association.

▶ **Professor Graham Shipley** (Archaeology and Ancient History) has been elected Chair of the Sparta and Laconia Committee of the British School at Athens.

▶ **Mrs Maureen Strange** (Engineering) and **Mrs Margaret Crawford** (Personnel) have achieved NVQ Assessor Awards and were both complimented by the External Verifier on the quality of their work.

▶ **Dr Nicholas Watkins** (History of Art) was invited to give the opening lecture in the keynote session of the

NYU Conference on American Post-Impressionism and Early Modernism in Context held at New York University in mid-May.

Student Distinction:

▶ **Ibiba Don Pedro** (MA Mass Communications) has been nominated by CNN as one of thirteen finalists from nine African countries for the African Journalist of the Year Awards by CNN.

As reported to Senate. 📌

Queen's Birthday Honours – Leicester connections

▶ Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire since 1989 and an Honorary Graduate of the University of Leicester (Doctor of Laws, 2002), Mr Tim Brooks, becomes a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (KCVO) in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours. He has contributed to public life in Leicestershire over several decades, is a JP, and a former High Sheriff of the County. His wife, the Honourable Lady Brooks, is to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws at a University of Leicester degree ceremony this July.

Leading historian of British

architecture Emeritus Professor Joseph Mordaunt Crook, is now a Commander of the British Empire (CBE). Joe Crook taught Victorian History for a time in the 1960s at this University. He recently retired from Royal Holloway College, University of London.

Open University Professor Colin Pillinger, who heads the Beagle 2 Mission to Mars, receives a CBE. Beagle 2 – partly built by University of Leicester scientists – blasted off this month to search for life on the Red Planet. Dr Mark Simms, Beagle 2 Mission Manager based at the

University of Leicester, highlighted Colin Pillinger's exceptional skills: "Colin is a brilliant scientist and a very intelligent man who is interested not only in science but in culture as well. It is fair to say that without him the Beagle 2 mission would never have existed."

Sir John Robertson (Sir Rob) Young, KCMG, British High Commissioner, New Delhi, a University of Leicester graduate (BA French, 1967) and honorary graduate, receives a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St Michael and St George (GCMG). His distinguished diplomat-

ic career has included roles of Deputy Under Secretary of State, Eastern Europe, Russia and the Middle East, at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office; and Deputy Under Secretary of State and Chief Clerk at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London. He was awarded the CMG in 1991 and Knighted in the New Year's honours list in 1999. On receiving the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Leicester in July 2001, he said: "The University has had a very formative influence on my life and career." 📌

Highest Accolade for University of Leicester Professor

▶ **David Mattingly**, Professor of Roman Archaeology in the School of Archaeology and Ancient History, joins a distinguished group to be elected as a Fellow of the British Academy. He is the third academic currently at the University of Leicester to have achieved this accolade.

The British Academy, established by Royal Charter in 1902, is the national academy for the humanities and the social sciences - the counterpart of the Royal Society which covers the natural sciences. The Academy is an independent and self-governing fellowship of scholars, elected for distinction and achievement in their respective fields.

Professor Mattingly is among a select group of leading academics associated with the University of Leicester to have received this honour. He joins Professor Chris Dyer of

English Local History and Professor Graeme Barker, also a Professor of Archaeology and Graduate Dean of the University of Leicester, in holding this distinction.

Professor Robert Burgess, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leicester, said: "Professor Mattingly's election to the British Academy brings great distinction to the University as a whole and to the School of Archaeology and Ancient History in particular."

Professor Mattingly said: "I am delighted and honoured to be elected as a Fellow of the British Academy. It means that my research in Roman archaeology, which draws inspiration and strength from the enthusiasm and talent of my colleagues, has been recognised by Britain's premier academy of humanities researchers."

Professor Mattingly was elected



Fellow of the British Academy at the 101st annual general meeting on July 3. Other Fellows associated with the University include Professor AM Everitt, Hatton Professor Emeritus of English Local History, who was elected in 1989; Dr Joan Thirsk, elected in 1974, was a senior research fellow in Agrarian History in the Department of English Local History

from 1951-65; the late Professor Ralph Davis, elected 1973, Professor of Economic History from 1964; and the late Professor W G Hoskins, elected 1969, the founding father of the English Local History Department at the University of Leicester.

Professor Mattingly teaches Roman archaeology and history, landscape archaeology and practical archaeology and has published extensively on olive cultivation in the ancient world, the olive oil trade, Roman Africa, the Roman economy, the Roman army and Roman Britain. He has most recently been involved in two landscape archaeology projects in the Libyan Sahara and the Jordanian desert. He has recently held a British Academy Research Readership award to complete publication work on the Garamantes of Fezzan, an ancient Saharan kingdom. 📌



Major Award for Psychologist


▶ Alice Sluckin, Visiting Fellow in the University's School of Psychology, and President of the Selective Mutism Information and Research Association (SMIRA) has won the major award for research and practice in communication presented annually by Human Communication International (HCI).

HCI is an educational charity that aims to raise awareness of the importance of communication at school and in work.

Alice was nominated for her work with children who are known as Selective Mutes. These children can talk in familiar situations but find the formal communication in school

a daunting and frightening experience. SMIRA has done much to help parents and children with this distressing problem and runs very successful conferences and workshops to inform and support.

She was presented with her award at the annual conference, Communication Without Words.

She is presently involved in a research project with Dr Rosemary Sage of the School of Education, funded by DfES to develop good practice for children who are silent in school. Both have been asked to present their findings at universities in the Czech Republic in October 2003. 

Top Ten Rating for University Academic

▶ A University of Leicester academic has been identified as being among the top 10 in the country in his discipline.


Professor Clive Hollin, of the University's Division of Forensic Mental Health, is cited by the Independent on Sunday as being among the ten leading forensic

psychologists in Britain.

The report, published in June, was based on information provided by the British Psychological Society. Under the headline, The Top Brass, the report states:

Clive Hollin (50) is Professor of Criminological Psychology at the University of Leicester. He has

worked as a psychologist in the prison service and the youth treatment service, and is the author of Psychology and Crime, a best-selling text-book on the subject. He is reported as saying: "To make a difference and to reduce offending is not a bad thing to want to achieve in one's career."

Professor Hollin joins another University of Leicester academic to have received this accolade. Professor Eileen Hooper-Greenhill, former Head of the Department of Museum Studies, was also listed among the ten leading people in the museum sector by the Independent on Sunday. 

University Staff are Recipients of Royal Society of Chemistry Awards 2002

▶ The RSC's Council was recently pleased to announce the second year in the fourth cycle of awards made possible by the generous assistance of a number of industrial companies and other organisations:

- The Bioanalytical Chemistry Award,

sponsored by Whatman plc, went to Professor Peter Farmer, joint Director of the MRC Cancer Biomarkers and Prevention Group and Honorary Professor in Biochemistry and Chemistry at this University.


- University of Leicester Professor

Nigel Scrutton, Lister Institute Research Professor, received the Enzyme Chemistry – The Charmian Medal, sponsored by Lilly Research Centre Limited.

- University Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor John Holloway, OBE, received


the Service to the Society Award.

The award winners travelled to London for the awards ceremony on June 4.

For full details of these awards see <http://www.le.ac.uk/press/ebulletin/people/universitystaffrecipients.html> 

Teaching Excellence Recognised

▶ Four University of Leicester academics are winners of the first Teaching Awards at the University. At the second annual University conference to support initiatives in Learning and Teaching in July, Heather Crick (Pre-Clinical Sciences), Nick Everitt (English), Emma Parker (English), and Chris Willmott (Biochemistry) received their awards.

Jane Wellens, Teaching Enhancement Officer, said: "The day showcased examples of good practice and innovative teaching methods from within the University and beyond. The theme, Enhancing the First Year Experience, generated ideas which it is hoped will feed into induction activities and courses for students starting in the next academic year. 



PRESENTATION: Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Burgess presents Emma Parker with her Teaching Award certificate.



Obituaries

The University has learnt, with regret, of the death of the following:

► Dr C H James

Dr Clifford James, Head of the Department of Geology from 1973-76, died on June 8, 2003, aged 72. In 1965, Cliff was appointed Lecturer in Economic Geology in the Department to plan and develop with Tony Evans and Aftab Khan a new MSc course in Mining Geology and Mineral Exploration. He was responsible for the MSc and BSc courses in Geochemical Prospecting, Mineral Exploration, Photogeology and Remote Sensing, and Mineral Economics, but also contributed to courses in Surveying, Mine Surveying, Mining, Mineral Dressing, and Ore Geology. He led an annual imaginative integrated exploration field course to some part of the UK. The MSc course soon built up an international reputation and attracted students from all over the world. A consequence of the demand was the emergence of separate MSc courses in Mineral Exploration and in Mining Geology and a BSc in Mining Geology.

Cliff was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1970. In 1973 he was made Head of Department, one of the first non-professorial members of staff to be so appointed in the University. He left the University in 1982 to take up an appointment as Head of the Department of Mining Geology in the Western Australia School of Mines (WASM) in Kalgoorlie, which is now part of the Curtin University of Technology.

Cliff attended Worthing High School for boys and then obtained a choral scholarship to Lancing College. After two years of National Service training as a Telecommunication Mechanic with REME, he emerged with the rank of Craftsman of the highest class attainable by a National Serviceman. To pursue his long-standing interest in geology he went to Imperial

College to read Mining Geology, and graduated in 1954, winning the Cullis best student award in the process.

He stayed on at Imperial to achieve a PhD in Applied Geochemistry, a subject in which he was a real enthusiast and in which he built up a high international reputation. In 1957 he joined the Rhodesian Selection Trust Exploration as a geologist-geochemist for three years with his first wife Cynthia as an assistant. He set up laboratories for the new exploration section of the company at its bases in Salisbury and Francistown as well field laboratories near their field operations. He was involved in gold exploration, and masterminded their geochemical exploration programmes for copper and other base metals. He researched the geochemical dispersion of arsenic and antimony in relation to gold exploration and prospecting for chromite in the Great Dyke. He returned in 1961 to the Imperial College Geochemistry group as a DSIR Fellow and also taught and supervised graduates on exploration projects in Australia, the Far East, and Ireland. He undertook pioneering work on the application of gaseous dispersion in prospecting, and patented a widely used mercury vapour meter able to detect 10-10 gm per litre of air.

At Leicester he extended his research into the methodology and the interpretation of geochemical data in the exploration for base metals in Greece, Turkey, many parts of the UK, and for bauxites in Guyana. He developed special interests in the errors inherent in geochemical data from a variety of environments and in applying new statistical methods like Cluster Analysis to aid their interpretation.

His memory was phenomenal and his wide knowledge of mineral

deposits world-wide was a great asset in teaching and in discussions at scientific meetings. He was invited to do the Annual Review of Exploration for the Mining Journal which he did with Aftab Khan throughout his time at Leicester. He served for many years on the Editorial Boards of the Journal of Applied Geochemistry and the Applied Earth Science Section of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy. His exploration expertise was highly respected in the mining industry and his advice was sought by many international mining companies and organisations including the World Bank.

Cliff developed a strong interest in the mineral deposits of Western Australia which began in 1963 when he paid the first of his many visits to Kalgoorlie to do special projects with the Western Mining Corporation with his friend, Roy Woodall, who later became a Director of the Corporation. It was a part of the world he liked and where he became well-known. He was therefore delighted to receive the offer to go there in 1982. He went with his second wife Carmel, at a time of major change in education for the minerals industry. He used his extensive experience at Leicester to develop a four-year Bachelor of Engineering in Mining Geology to complement the existing BSc degree. There he also set up an exploration geochemistry laboratory for teaching and research. Near the end of his career he was heavily involved with a major Australian Government project to provide assistance to the Hanoi University of Mining and Geology in Vietnam where he developed close personal relationships with his fellow Vietnamese academics, and the people in general. He retired in 1994 and returned with Carmel to reside in the Isle of Wight.

Cliff's sense of fun was greatly

missed when he left Leicester. His classes were usually enlivened by amusing stories of his experiences. He loved playing games and organising social events. He was the driving force behind the annual Bennett Balls and Christmas parties, usually with a Jazz Band and a cabaret in which he had a leading role. His performance singing falsetto, and in costume the role of Zerlina, in the seduction scene from Mozart's Don Giovanni, is unforgettable. He had a versatile singing voice and was often heard leading his students singing rugby songs in pubs and organising staff-student darts and cricket matches after field trips. The team spirit he generated between the various categories of staff and the students contributed in no small way to the success and happy atmosphere of the department.

Cliff is survived by his wife Carmel, and his children Howard and Kate by his first wife Cynthia.

Professor Aftab Khan

► Professor Paul Hirst

Considered one of the most inspiring political and social thinkers of his generation, Professor Paul Hirst, died on Tuesday, June 17. Though he began as a Marxist, his ideas helped to provide the intellectual scaffolding for New Labour.

Paul Hirst graduated from the University of Leicester in June 1968 with first class honours in Sociology. On the staff of the Department of Sociology at that time was Elia Neustadt and Norbert Elias – contributing to what turned out to be the most ground-breaking sociology department in the country.

Following the award of an MA from Sussex University, his first post at the early age of 23 was as a lecturer in Sociology at Birkbeck College, London, where he joined his former



Leicester teacher, Sami Zubaida, eventually helping to set up a department of politics and sociology which has grown and flourished ever since. He was a generous and gifted teacher. He was later appointed a Reader in Social Theory and a Professor in 1985 – a post he held until his death.

His publications were distinctive for their richness and vitality. Starting with *Durkheim, Bernard and Epistemology* (1975), they included *Law, Socialism and Democracy*, *After Thatcher and War and Power in the 21st Century*. He and his wife, sociologist Penny Woolley, co-authored *Social Relations and Human Attributes* in 1982. He leaves his wife, Penny, and a son, Jamie.

► **Miss Emma Lister**

The University has learnt, with regret, of the death on Saturday, May 3 of Emma Lister, aged 24. Emma Lister died during an unsuccessful liver transplant operation at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge.

A graduate from this University (History of Art, 2001), she had suffered from Cystic Fibrosis and its consequences since birth. She had been studying for an MA degree at the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London.

During her final year at the University of Leicester she not only coped with a liver transplant, but went on to achieve a first-class degree. Further evidence of her outstanding academic performance were the awards (shared with a fellow student) of the Luke Herrmann Prize (for Best Graduate in History of Art) and the Hilda Willis Memorial Prize (for Best Final-Year History of Art

Dissertation). Head of Department Dr Phillip Lindley said at the time: "We are all full of admiration for her tremendous achievement".

Emma's parents, Alex and Richard Lister, have written to the University to express their thanks for the many tributes and messages of support from her University friends and teachers, some of whom attended her funeral.

► **Dr C Sharp**

Clifford Sharp, who died on Wednesday, July 16, is fondly remembered by those who remain in the Department of Economics from the time he was here. Dr Sharp joined the Department in May 1965, became a Senior Lecturer in October 1968, and was promoted to Reader in Transport Economics in October 1973. He retired in 1983 but continued as an Associate Teacher until 1986.

He was fully involved with the Department and was always there to help students and to give full efforts to his teaching. At a time when few in the Department were involved with research, he was a leader of the Department's research efforts, supervising PhD students and conducting his research into Transport Economics.

Usefully, he was effective in getting others in the Department to start work in this area. This work led to other work done by him and by others in the Department in the area of Environmental Economics before this became popular.

He was an academic who chose to give full commitment to the University and his Department rather than using his appointment to promote his own self-interest or as a platform to move to more prestigious posts. ☺

*Derek Deadman
and Martin Hoskins*



University Academic is New Lord Lieutenant of Rutland

► The Sub-Dean of the University of Leicester Medical School, Dr Laurence Howard, has taken up his role as Lord-Lieutenant for Rutland. The appointment was made by Her Majesty the Queen.

Dr Howard, who was a serving Deputy Lieutenant, was appointed to the post on July 14 upon the retirement of Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Kennedy.

Dr Howard was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1979 and was made Chair of the Leicestershire Magistrates Association in 1986. He has been involved in prison visiting and other charitable work. He said: "I am greatly honoured to have been appointed Her Majesty's representative for Rutland and will endeavour to do all that I can to promote the welfare of the County and its community. The role of Lord-Lieutenant has long been associated with the Magistracy and I would wish to pay tribute to all Magistrates and court staff for their unstinting work in the administration of justice. I would also wish to record my

gratitude to the University and Medical School for their tremendous work, in all spheres, on behalf of the community."

The Office of the Lord-Lieutenant dates from the sixteenth century and has its origins in the military when the holder became responsible for local military defence and the maintenance of order and is derived from the position of Sheriff. In England and Wales Her Majesty the Queen appoints the Lord-Lieutenant for each county on the advice of the Prime Minister. The Lord-Lieutenant naturally attends any Royal visits to the county and for the presentation of awards to organisations (Queen's Award to Industry) and to individuals. The Lord-Lieutenant advises on honours nominations and represents Her Majesty the Queen at other events, as appropriate.

Close links are maintained with the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force and he has responsibility for overseeing the appointment of magistrates and General Commissioners of Income Tax. ☺



Design & Art Direction: Chris Bentley; Photography: David Fitchett; Digital Composition: The Magic Camera Company; Thunderbird 2 Model: Richard Gregory

► **(Top left)** A businessman and a University of Leicester student who were brought together 30 years ago as the mysterious figures for the box on the revolutionary new game Mastermind, were reunited for the first time since that historic day. Distinguished-looking Bill Woodward was then the owner of a chain of hairdressing salons and young Hong Kong born Cecilia Fung was studying for a computer science degree at the University of Leicester. Mastermind, the brain child of Israeli telecommunications engineer Mordechai Meirovitz, was rejected by a number of companies before Ted Jones-Fenleigh, founder of Invicta Plastics, saw its huge potential and developed and manufactured it. Mastermind, hailed as the world's game of logic has been produced in no less than 33 languages.

► **(Top right)** A University of Leicester

student has been acclaimed African Journalist of the Year 2003 and received first prize for Environmental reporting at a CNN award ceremony in Johannesburg, South Africa. Ibiba Don Pedro was one of 13 finalists from nine African countries nominated for the African Journalist of the Year Awards. Ibiba, who is studying for a masters degree in Mass Communications at the University, has worked as a journalist covering environmental issues, politics and human rights on the Features Desk of The Guardian, in Lagos, Nigeria. Ibiba still writes a column for New Age in Lagos, while pursuing postgraduate studies at Leicester.

► **(Bottom left)** A group of medical students graduated from the University of Leicester Medical School to become the first fast-track medical students in the country. The pilot cohort of 15 students began their

four-year course before the link between Leicester and Warwick Medical Schools began. A group of them are pictured here with Professor Stewart Petersen, Head of Medical Education, as the 'patient' and Professor Nilesh Samani, Professor of Cardiology at the University.

► **(Bottom middle)** In a series of demonstrations for local school students the University of Leicester Chemistry Department showed them just how magic Chemistry can be! Part of the programme of activities included demonstration lectures with a Harry Potter theme. Dr Paul Jenkins and Dr Jonathan Woodward ran two demonstration lectures daily with a Harry Potter theme for more than 800 Leicestershire school students. All schools in the area were invited to send their year six pupils to this exciting display of 'Amazing Energy,' sponsored by AstraZeneca

and the Royal Society of Chemistry. They took part in a series of demonstration experiments designed to show how energy is transformed from one form to another.

► **(Bottom right)** Gerry Anderson, Creator of Thunderbirds, gave a public lecture at the University with Lady Penelope, Parker and Captain Scarlet among the characters assisting him in the international event – The History of the Future: Visions from the Past. 'Brains' behind the conference was Professor Nick Cull, of the University of Leicester's School of Historical Studies. Film and communications historians from around the world converged on the University to discuss the ways movies imagined the future and the future of the media in the digital age as part of the twentieth biennial conference of the International Association for Media and History.

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