



## Celebration!

Individuals and teams  
recognised by new awards

CENTRE PAGES



### CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE AGENDA

An interview with  
Peter Knight

PAGE 7



### FIVE NOMINATIONS FOR THES AWARDS 2006

Imperial candidates  
announced

PAGE 3

100 years of living science

# 100

## in brief

### Innovative Indian link

In advance of the India-UK investment summit, the Rector and Mr R. Seshasayee, President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) signed a Memorandum of Understanding linking the two organisations on 10 October. The initiative, signed in the presence of UK Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Alistair Darling, and Indian Minister for Commerce and Industry, Kamal Nath, acknowledges the importance that each government attaches to the development of close links in the fields of science and innovation. The CII and Imperial will cooperate and collaborate in various sectors. In addition, the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship will be created and hosted by Tanaka Business School. Named after the former Indian Prime Minister and Imperial alumnus, the new Centre will help Indian and British companies improve performance in innovation management.



### Student numbers

Online registration was introduced last month for all continuing students at the College. The new system made the usual queues outside the Registry much shorter and has led to many students registering earlier than in previous years. Final student numbers for 2006-07 will be available on 31 December 2006 but were as follows on 24 October 2006: Full-time undergraduates: 8,238; full-time postgraduates: 3,658; and part-time postgraduates: 812. The overall total, 12,708, is up 8.7 per cent on last year's figures at this stage and is already higher than the final total for 2005-06 which was 12,297.



### Under the Titan microscope

The UK's first FEI Titan 300-80 S/TEM microscope was unveiled at Imperial on 19 October. The ultra-high performance nano-analytical transmission electron microscope allows scientists to look at materials on the atomic scale and enables spectroscopy to be carried out with unprecedented energy resolution allowing atoms to be identified and their local environment investigated. The project is led by Dr David McComb, Materials, for the London Centre for Nanotechnology (LCN), an interdisciplinary collaboration between Imperial and University College London.

### \$2 million scholarship donation

Chemical Engineering alumnus, Wilfred J. Corrigan, has donated \$2 million to create scholarships for research fellows and PhD students in nanotechnology research relevant to the semiconductor/microelectronics industry. The research is directly related to Wilf's own interests.

For more than 40 years he has made a vital contribution to the business and technical growth of the semiconductor industry. The awards will be administered by Professor Chris Toumazou, Director of the Institute of Biomedical Engineering.



## Cracking the Code

The College has launched its Equality Code of Practice for RAE 2008, which sets out our intention to secure the best possible outcome for the College, whilst at the same time ensuring that we adhere to all relevant current equality legislation.

The Code has been developed as a result of a detailed consultation process and describes the process for making decisions, the mechanisms for handling any complaints and outlines the key times at which academic staff will be informed whether they are likely to be selected for return into RAE 2008. Academic staff will first be informed of their RAE status in December this year.

Deputy Rector, Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz said: "It's important that decisions are made in a fair and transparent manner and I hope all academic staff will take the time to become familiar with the code."

— MICHELLE COUPLAND, STRATEGY AND PLANNING

► Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/rae/equality](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/rae/equality) to read the Code or contact Kim Everitt or Michelle Coupland at [rae@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:rae@imperial.ac.uk).



On Wednesday 25 October, the Royal Albert Hall was packed with graduating students from across the Faculties of Engineering, Medicine and Natural Sciences.

## Major milestone for AHSC

A joint application by St Mary's NHS Trust and the Hammersmith Hospitals NHS Trust to become a Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) was submitted to the Department of Health (DoH) on Friday 13 October. The final application marks another major milestone as the two organisations, in association with Imperial, move towards becoming the UK's first Academic Health Sciences Centre (AHSC) on 1 April 2007.

Around the UK, there will be only 10 National Institute for Health Research BRCs, comprising five specialist and five general centres. Selection as a BRC will guarantee significant research funding for an NHS organisation for five years and is a major benefit of the creation of the AHSC. Changes to the allocation of funding for NHS research mean that NHS research organisations have to bid for funding instead of the current system where all research-focused trusts receive annual funding. The DoH will announce its decision early next year.

A small programme team is now in place to implement the creation of an AHSC, overseen by a Joint Steering Committee chaired by Lord Tugendhat, who is currently Chairman of Lehman Brothers' European Advisory Board, a former Chairman of Abbey National plc and Blue Circle plc, and a former Vice President of the European Commission.

Trust Chief Executives Julian Nettel and Derek Smith, and the Rector, Sir Richard Sykes, said: "We are delighted to have secured the services of a Chairman of such calibre. Lord Tugendhat's knowledge and experience at a national and international level, combined with his financial acumen, gives us every confidence that he can lead this process successfully."

NHS London Chairman, Dr George Greener, added: "The AHSC is an innovative idea and one we are encouraging all three organisations to explore further. We recognise that an AHSC has the potential to deliver innovation healthcare at the same time as providing first class patient services. We will want to be involved at every stage to make sure that London's wider healthcare can be enhanced."

— TOM MILLER, COMMUNICATIONS



Lord Tugendhat will chair the AHSC Joint Steering Committee



One unforgettable moment of the afternoon ceremony saw Reema Gondhia, Winner of the John McCombie Memorial Prize, producing her camera whilst on stage collecting her prize from the Rector (inset). Chemistry prizewinner, Reema, said: "Unfortunately my memory card had run out, so I didn't get the picture, only the desired effect!"

## EQUIS accreditation for Business School

Following the successful launch of its new weekend stream of the Executive MBA programme and the MSc in Actuarial Finance, Tanaka Business School has received confirmation that it has been awarded EQUIS (European Quality Improvement System) accreditation by the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD).

The accreditation, added to its existing accreditation by the Association of MBAs, is recognition of the School's international appeal and the quality of its programmes. David Begg, Principal of Tanaka Business School's noted that the market for business education is a global one, and successful business schools need to attract top students, faculty and corporate sponsors from all over the globe. He said: "More than 70 per cent of our students and faculty come from outside the UK. We work closely with some of the world's leading companies, such as BP, Shell, Pfizer, GSK, and Laing O'Rourke. We are delighted that the EFMD is recognising our international excellence in teaching and research with the EQUIS accreditation."

Tanaka Business School recently announced the launch of a Risk Management Lab to showcase research in quantitative finance and work closely with financial institutions; the creation of the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (see News in Brief) to work with India to codevelop research, education and practice for the knowledge economy; and a number of major projects in healthcare management, from bespoke training for London hospitals to major research grants on innovation in healthcare delivery and its infrastructure.

— EGIN BEDFORD, TANAKA BUSINESS SCHOOL

# Climbing up the tables

Imperial's excellent international reputation in science, technology and biomedicine was confirmed last month with the announcement of *The Times Higher Education Supplement's* 2006 World University Rankings. Following its overall institutional ranking of ninth, the College rose up the tables, commanding improved positions in the top 10 in all three individual categories.

The ranking of the world's top 100 biomedicine universities lists Imperial in fourth place, a climb of two places from last year. In the technology category Imperial has climbed to fourth best in the world from its fifth place ranking last year, and in the table of the world's top universities for science, the College has moved up to ninth from tenth place.

Professor Steve Smith, Principal of Imperial's Faculty of Medicine, said he was very proud of the pioneering, world class work carried out in the Faculty of Medicine. He welcomed the new ratings confirming the Faculty's excellent international standing, saying: "The fact that we have climbed from sixth position last year to fourth this year proves that our research and teaching is getting better and better, and I would like to congratulate all our staff for this achievement and thank them for their hard work."

Professor Dame Julia Higgins, Principal of the Faculty of Engineering, said: "Imperial's move up the list of the world's top 100 technology universities is testament to the outstanding research and teaching that is carried out in our engineering departments. It's a huge achievement for all of our staff and students, and shows that we're going from strength to strength in all our key areas."

Professor Sir Peter Knight, Principal of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, added: "Moving up in the rankings of world top 10 science universities is a brilliant achievement for science at Imperial. The Faculty of Natural Sciences has an outstanding international reputation for both research and teaching and it's good to see that we're continuing to exert pressure on our competitors both at home and abroad."

Earlier in the month *The Times Higher Education Supplement* released an overall list of the world's top 200 universities. In this general ranking Imperial made an impressive leap up to ninth in world, an improvement of four places from its 13th position last year.

— DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS



Imperial improves across the board in THES rankings

## Academic promotions

Following the 2006 Academic Promotions exercise, Imperial has named 32 new professors, 34 readers, 21 senior lecturers and one principal research fellow, effective from 1 October.

Congratulating all those newly recognised, the Rector said that those recognised in the latest round of academic promotions were not only talented researchers in their own right, but were also "helping to produce the next generation of scientists, engineers and medics. Their influence will be great and far-reaching, and I am proud to congratulate them all."

— ABIGAIL SMITH, COMMUNICATIONS

► For a full list of the promotions visit

[www3.imperial.ac.uk/portal/pls/portal/portal/docs/1/7290076.pdf](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/portal/pls/portal/portal/docs/1/7290076.pdf)

# media mentions

—LAURA GALLAGHER, COMMUNICATIONS

BBC NEWS ONLINE

## Frogs on last legs thanks to deadly fungus

Climate change in Europe is worsening the impact of a deadly disease that is wiping out vast numbers of amphibians, according to new Imperial research. It shows a correlation between significant warming of the local climate in Spain between 1976 and 2002 and the emergence of the fungal disease *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* (BD) in the area. Dr Matthew Fisher, from the Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, warns *BBC News Online*: “This is a wake-up call that we are losing biodiversity fast. Climate change appears to be changing patterns of disease, and previously resistant species are becoming highly infected—even, in a number of cases, becoming extinct”.



REUTERS

## Sharks at risk from hungry human jaws...

Now it's the sharks who should be afraid to swim in the sea, according to a new Imperial study. The research reveals that up to four times more sharks than previously thought are being slaughtered to fill the increasing demand for shark fin soup. The researchers estimate that each year between 26 million and 73 million sharks are killed for their fins. “Our findings confirm that a far larger number of sharks are being caught every year than current databases indicate. The fin trade is continuing to expand and thus the pressure on shark populations is constantly increasing,” Dr Shelley Clarke, from the Department of Biology, tells *Reuters*.



THE INDEPENDENT

## ... and fish at risk from fishing

Controls on commercial fishing may not be enough to ensure the sustainability of exploited species, according to Imperial research. An analysis of fish populations by Professor John Beddington, Division of Biology, found serious fluctuations in the population levels of exploited species, probably because heavily-fished populations are unlikely to contain any fish older than a few years. This makes the population reliant on the growth of larvae into baby fish (recruits) to maintain population numbers. “There is always the danger that some kind of environmental factor will devastate the recruits in one season,” Professor Beddington explains to *The Independent*. “This would leave the population close to collapse, with very few young fish coming into the group to replace those being caught.”

BBC NEWS ONLINE

## Professor gets his head round mental health problems

Mental health patients face inadequate community services, extremely long waiting times and some may never get specialist care, according to a new report by the think-tank Reform. The report blames the problems on the fact that too much money has been spent on long term hospital stays and compulsory treatment. Author Professor Nick Bosanquet, from the Department of Bioengineering, tells *BBC News Online*: “Mental health services have been left out of the mainstream of NHS policy for too long. Modern thinking has not been applied to a key illness of modern society”.

THE TIMES

## New science GCSE has issues

A new GCSE science syllabus designed to engage pupils by replacing traditional biology, chemistry and physics teaching with an issues-led curriculum has been criticised by leading figures in the science community, including Imperial's Rector, Sir Richard Sykes. The new course content would incorporate issues such as GM crops and the MMR vaccine, with the aim of making science more relevant to teenagers. “A science curriculum based on encouraging pupils to debate science in the news is taking a back-to-front approach. Science should inform the news agenda, not the other way around,” comments Sir Richard in *The Times*.

# Changes to reception services

Changes to reception desks and mail deliveries will come into force at South Kensington Campus on 1 November. The current 13 building reception desks will be reduced to seven and those buildings without a reception service in the future will benefit from improved arrangements for handling post.

The new set-up follows a month of consultation with staff across the campus in August. Considerable feedback was received on a proposal to have only one reception desk in the Main Entrance servicing the whole campus, and many staff signed a petition against this. Concerns raised included the management of post, the delivery of perishable goods and the inconvenience to visitors.

Mr Ceri Davies, Head of Security, said: “The consultation period was a true consultation, not only with staff in Reception Services but also with the wider College community, who would be affected by the changes. We listened to the opinions expressed and used these to develop a revised plan, which is now being implemented”.

A key justification for the original proposal was the long term vision for the South Kensington Campus to have a secure boundary and a single point of entry for visitors. Mr Davies noted that discussions with the local authorities were taking place about the denial of public access to Imperial College Road, which cuts through the centre of the South Kensington Campus. He said: “A secure perimeter cannot be achieved while members of the public have the right to pass through the middle of the campus. Increased levels of theft during the quieter holiday periods are a particular problem and we hope that cutting off the through-route would go some way to addressing this”.

Reception desks will be retained in the College Main Entrance, Biochemistry/ Chemistry Building, Blackett Laboratory, Faculty Building, Huxley Building, Skempton Building and the Sir Alexander Fleming Building. A ‘concierge style’ service will continue at 170 Queen's Gate and 58 Prince's Gate. Swipe card access will be introduced to the Royal School of Mines for building occupants and to the Roderic Hill Building (Aeronautics) for all members of College with a valid security card.

— CAROLINE GAULTER, COMMUNICATIONS

► Details of how postal services, couriers and visitors will be affected by the changes to reception arrangements can be found at [www.imperial.ac.uk/spectrum/about/alerts/recchanges.htm](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/spectrum/about/alerts/recchanges.htm)

### Sign up for Imperial news

Join our mailing lists that bring regular Imperial news, information and website alerts to all subscribers.

To sign up, please visit:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/aboutimperial/news/newsandpremailservices](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/aboutimperial/news/newsandpremailservices)



## THES Award nominations

Imperial boasts an impressive five nominations in this year's Times Higher Awards which are to be announced on the 15 November.

### Business Initiative of the Year

Professor Sir Ara Darzi and surgical trainee, Omar Aziz, SORA, have been nominated for their development of the 'smart bougie', a device that dilates a narrow area, such as a blood vessel, and monitors the pressure applied to reduce the risk of tearing.

### Research Project of the Year

Professor Sir John Pendry, Physics, and his American collaborators have been nominated for their demonstration of theoretical research using new materials to cloak an object to make it invisible to microwaves.

### Outstanding Support for Early Career Researchers

Imperial has been recognised for its measures to give its training policy a strong research base, particularly in the area of transferable skills. Imperial's Bernie Morley, Medicine,

Esat Alpay, Graduate Schools, and Dame Julie Higgins, Engineering, are nominated for their contributions to championing a culture in which skills development is recognised as a key part of career progression.

### Outstanding Contribution to Innovation and Technology

Imperial spin-out company software, InforSense KDE (Knowledge Discovery Environment), is nominated for its ability to offer high-volume data analysis in a range of areas, including giving medical staff access to patient information from different sources via the web. Computing's Yike Guo and Moustafa Ghanem are credited for their role in developing the technology that originated within the Data Mining Group at Imperial in the late 1990s.

### Lifetime Achievement Award

Professor of Chemistry, Charles Rees, who died in September, is nominated for this award. Throughout his varied research career, Charles Rees retained a love of teaching and it was a former student who nominated him for this award.

## Fighting diabetes in Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi's new state-of-the-art diabetes centre was officially opened in August this year. The Imperial College London Diabetes Centre is the United Arab Emirates' largest multidisciplinary diabetes facility and it sees researchers from the UAE working in partnership with researchers from Imperial.

Communications' Laura Gallagher spoke to Professor Steve Bloom from the Department of Investigative Science, whose research group is working closely with the Centre, to find out more.

### The Diabetes Centre is based in Abu Dhabi—how did Imperial come to be involved?

One of my PhD student trainee doctors, Dr Maha Barakat, came from the region and was told of their interest in setting up a bespoke diabetes facility, given the considerable needs of the local population. It was felt by the authorities in Abu Dhabi that it was important for local organisations to have connections with external bodies so they could help sustain an exciting, innovative service and maintain standards.

### What areas are being investigated there?

The Centre is looking into the causes and treatment of diabetes in the locality and the possible part that lifestyle might play.

### Why is diabetes such a pressing issue in Abu Dhabi?

With the improvement in nutrition there, there has been a problem with increasing weight gain. Type-2 diabetes is a result of being overweight and has followed as an inevitable consequence. Diabetes is now increasing rapidly and the longer term complications are becoming much more serious and threatening the life expectancy of the local population.

### How can Imperial researchers contribute directly to the health of people in another part of the world?

There is an ongoing joint research programme involving the exchange of ideas and personnel between the Centre and the diabetes group at Imperial College, and projects are being initiated in epidemiology, diabetes and the medical treatment of obesity.

— LAURA GALLAGHER, COMMUNICATIONS

## Calling all entrepreneurs

### Brush up your entrepreneurial skills at the new IC Entrepreneurs society

Set up by students, the society is open to all, from students and staff to alumni.

The society was launched on 17 October at Tanaka Business School, with Dr John Hassard of the Department of Physics as the guest speaker. Much of Dr Hassard's work in the field of high energy physics has been spun out into a company, deltaDOT, which now has partnerships with pharmaceutical and biotech companies, as well as government agencies in the EU, US and Japan. He gave an inspirational lecture on his experiences and students were given the opportunity for questions.

Business School postgraduate, Ross Richardson, one of the cofounders of the society, explained that the idea behind the new society is to create a diverse community of people within the College, who have an interest in entrepreneurship and the commercialisation of their research. He concluded: "IC Entrepreneurs aims to facilitate cross-disciplinary interaction, to encourage the discussion of entrepreneurial ideas and to stimulate the creation of new ventures."

IC Entrepreneurs has 15 committee members, mainly PhD students, and already has over 300 people who have registered to become members. The new society also provides an opportunity for members to find partners to build a successful business team.

— NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

► Visit [www.ic-entrepreneurs.com](http://www.ic-entrepreneurs.com) for more information.



Kyle Tang, Seifan Kasem, Ross Richardson, Toby Ferenczi, Paula Rzepa, Bobby Goulding and Nimi Iti

# All the fun of the fair

Imperial College Union's annual Freshers' Fair heralded the start of the new academic year on Tuesday 3 October.

Hundreds of stalls were set up around the South Kensington Campus promoting the wide range of clubs and societies available for new students to join. From the Imperial gliding club, to the cheese society and the badminton club, there was something to suit every taste.

A special Centenary stand gave students the opportunity to find out more about the forthcoming Centenary celebrations. Over 400 students signed up to receive the fortnightly e-bulletin about forthcoming Imperial events and over 300 students posted Centenary postcards for free to addresses all around the world.



Flying high: learning to glide was one of the many things on offer at this year's Freshers' Fair

## Wedding first at Wye

Romance is alive and well at Wye Campus with two members of staff recently becoming the first to hold their marriage ceremony in the campus cloisters.

Professor Rob Fraser and Dr Janet Haddock both teach on the popular Applied Business Management degree programmes. Professor Fraser, who specialises in agricultural economics, moved to Wye from the University of Western Australia in 2000 and Janet, a Senior Lecturer in business management and the environment, joined the campus staff in 1998. This year, Janet was also appointed Director of Postgraduate Studies at Wye.

Their marriage ceremony in the cloisters was conducted by the Chaplain and Vicar of Wye, the Reverend John Richardson. He said afterwards:

"We are delighted that Janet and Rob chose to have their marriage blessed here at Wye where they first met and where they have worked together since. For me, it is particularly poignant that their marriage has taken place as Imperial and University of Kent join forces in teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students at Wye. Rob and Janet's marriage is an important milestone for both their future relationship and the two institutions."

Wye Campus has been a popular venue for wedding receptions for many years – 26 celebrations have taken place so far in 2006 – and the College cloisters and Old Hall received licences for Church and civil ceremonies this summer.

– WENDY RAESIDE, COMMUNICATIONS

► To find out more about facilities for weddings and other special occasions at Wye, visit [www.weddings-at-wye.com](http://www.weddings-at-wye.com) or telephone 01233 811711.



Wye Campus plays host to its first staff wedding

## Mary Seacole remembered for Black History Month

*Imperial as One*, the College's race equality advisory group, paid tribute to Mary Seacole, the pioneering nurse and heroine of the Crimean War, at a reception on 19 October.

Imperial's inaugural Black History Month event included musical performances by the London Community Gospel Choir and a one woman show, *Forgotten Woman*, by actress Cleo Sylvestre, which brought to life the remarkable experiences of Mary Seacole.

Black History Month highlights and celebrates the achievements of the black community and aims to uncover hidden community histories.

Known as 'Mother Seacole' on the battlefield, Mary Seacole funded her own trip to the Crimea, where she established the British Hotel near Balaclava to provide 'a mess-table and comfortable quarters for sick and convalescent officers'.

Despite having extensive experience of the pathology of cholera and yellow fever, and excellent references, she had been refused interviews with the war office to serve as a nurse.

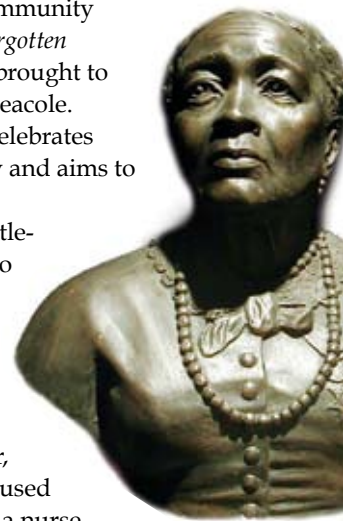
However, acting on her own, she established herself as a pioneer of the nursing profession. Despite huge public acclaim at the time, including being awarded a Crimean medal, Mary spent the last 25 years of her life in obscurity.

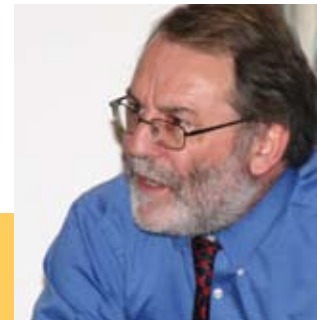
Christine Yates, Imperial's Diversity and Equal Opportunities Consultant, welcomed the chance to put Mary Seacole back in the spotlight. She said: "We are proud to have hosted an event that serves to help revive the memory of such a distinguished black female role model. Mary Seacole was someone who refused to allow prejudice to prevent her being the first woman to enter Sevastopol when it fell, and give aid and succour to the wounded."

*Imperial as One* assists the College in setting priorities by raising the profile of equality issues, and ensuring the experiences, views and talent of black and minority ethnic staff are represented.

– NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

► Visit [www.ic.ac.uk/spectrum/hr/hr\\_info/equality/race/imperialasone.htm](http://www.ic.ac.uk/spectrum/hr/hr_info/equality/race/imperialasone.htm) for more about *Imperial as One*.





## Stepping up the fight against climate change

Last month Imperial announced its plans to create a multi-million pound research centre to tackle climate change. The new initiative, spearheaded by Professor Sir Peter Knight, Principal of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, will create a focal point for research related to climate change at Imperial, and will bring together researchers from across all faculties to identify, measure and tackle the problems caused by global warming.

Communications' Danielle Reeves caught up with Sir Peter to find out what he's hoping the centre will achieve, and why it's being set up now.

The announcement of the Centre for Climate Change Research coincided with the launch of a high profile international recruitment campaign to find a Director and a Chair to lead the initiative. In the coming months, a further professor, three readers and five lecturers will also be recruited. The research centre itself will have two roles: it will collect evidence of climate change and will also investigate ways of managing the effects of climate change.

"There's already a great deal of outstanding research into climate change going on at the College, and this new research centre will build on our strong record in this field," said Sir Peter. "There's so much work to be done to gather evidence of climate change's effects on our planet, and to provide governments and policy makers with the

right information to make decisions for the future – we want Imperial's scientists to play a key role in this process."

"The problem with trying to plan for climate change at the moment is there's a certain amount of uncertainty as to how much the climate is going to change, and what the impact will be," explained Sir Peter. "We want our researchers to narrow down this margin of uncertainty and draw up a timescale for change so that governments, industry and people can prepare for inevitable change, and act to minimise it where possible.

"There's so much more to climate change than just melting ice caps and flooding lowlands, and Imperial has the research expertise to tackle all the possible effects. These might range from medics looking at controlling the spread of tropical diseases like malaria in previously temperate places like Europe, to engineers planning flood defences in response to rising sea levels and ecologists working to protect animals and plants threatened by increasing temperatures."

Sir Peter adds that he recognises that a large part of the battle with climate change is about engaging with the general public, to make sure they've got accurate information about the science and the issues, without falling prey to scaremongers. "It's really important that scientists work together to get accurate information about the situation our planet is facing out to the public. There is a definite consensus in the international

**"We want our researchers to narrow down this margin of uncertainty and draw up a timescale for change"**



Imperial's new research centre will investigate ways of managing the effects of climate change

scientific community that man-made climate change is happening. And yes, it's true that some dramatic changes are upon us; even if we cut all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions immediately, it would take more than 100 years for our atmosphere to return to the state it was in before the industrial revolution.

"But no rational scientist would peddle the idea that 'we're all doomed' which can be portrayed by the media and sensationalised by Hollywood films. We need to look at the consequences of these changes and find ways to adapt to them, whilst making necessary alterations to our lifestyles to try and minimise the rate at which our planet is warming up."

The Centre for Climate Change Research has already prompted interest from researchers across the College who want to get involved with tackling these serious issues. Sir Peter welcomed their interest saying: "I think that climate change and global warming are the biggest challenges that modern science has to face. Although there can't be a 'quick fix' solution I'm proud that Imperial is taking the step to expand and build on its existing research in this very important area."

— DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS

► Go to [www.imperial.ac.uk/climatechange](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/climatechange) for more information.



Increasing temperatures due to climate change threaten plants and wildlife

# Celebrating our staff

## Awards ceremonies



From left to right, Judy Barnett, Ken Haynes, Kim Everitt, Juliet Allibone, Alison Aherne, Julia Anderson, Chris Gosling, Jenny Nelson, Russell Sese, Christine Yates, Subo Shanmuganathan, Charlotte Bevan

The high calibre of Imperial staff has been recognised with the Rector's Awards ceremony on 18 October and the Research Excellence Award winners announced yesterday.

## And the award goes to...

The commitment and talent of Imperial's staff were recognised at this year's Rector's Awards ceremony, on Wednesday 18 October, which saw three new awards presented.

Dr Sunday Popo-Ola, an active member of *Imperial as One*, the College's black and minority ethnic race advisory group, won the new Equality Excellence Award, established to recognise the effort and commitment of College staff to eliminating discrimination, promoting inclusion, and bringing added value to Imperial's working and learning environment.

"I try to take a long view about my equality work and want to help *Imperial as One* develop a 'future proof' agenda, so that any new members have a clear idea of what the group needs to do in terms of activities, events and discussions," Sunday explained. The afternoon saw him putting this into practise at the Creative Futures event aimed at encouraging black and minority ethnic pupils to think about science and higher education (For full details see page 11).

Juliet Allibone from Investigative Science and Russell Sese from Human Resources were the other award winners recognised for their commitment to equality.

The Rector, Sir Richard Sykes, emphasised the importance of the awards stating that "there can be no greater recognition than that of one's peers and

**"There can be no greater recognition than that of one's peers and team members"**



Sunday Popo-Ola accepts his award from the Rector

team members" and welcomed the opportunity to publicly thank all those involved.

Those nominated for the new Excellence in Leadership and Management Award were judged to have made a significant impact on colleagues and the College. The two winners, Julia Anderson from the Faculty of Medicine and Alison Aherne from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, were selected because their impact was judged 'transformational'.

Ken Haynes, from the Division of Molecular Microbiology and Infection and Jenny Nelson from the Department of Physics, both received the new Mentoring Award, which celebrates mentoring as a key support mechanism. Charlotte Bevan from Medical Oncology was highly commended for her mentoring work.

The ceremony also rewarded the achievement of staff who over the past year have gained qualifications through internal accredited programmes and through the sponsored study scheme, all run by the Staff Development Unit.

Judy Barnett, Staff Development Manager, explained: "The Awards Ceremony makes a wonderful occasion where staff effort in a very wide range of areas can be celebrated. The nominations for the three new Rector's Awards show some of our excellent role models, who are working hard to truly promote equality and diversity, excellent leadership and mentoring practice throughout the College."

—NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS



From left to right, winners Jenny Nelson, Ken Haynes, Julia Anderson and Alison Aherne





Above left to right: Saif Haque, Thomas Anthopoulos, Ray Murray, Donal Bradley, Ruidong Xia, Mariano Campoy Quiles, Paul Stavrinou and Lichun Chen of the Molecular Electronic Materials and Devices team  
 Left: Professor Guang-Zong Yang and Professor Sir Ara Darzi of the Robotic Surgery team

## Rewarding excellence in research

The winners of the College's inaugural annual Research Excellence Awards were announced as *Reporter* went to press. The awards, designed to reward some of the College's most outstanding research teams, are in the region of £150k, which it is hoped will enable innovative research that may not otherwise have been possible. The full story on the science behind the awards will appear in a future edition.

### Molecular Electronic Materials and Devices

Team leader: Professor Donal Bradley, FRS, Physics. Team members: Dr Jenny Nelson, Physics; Dr Ray Murray, Physics; Dr Thomas Anthopoulos, Physics; Dr Paul Stavrinou, Physics; Dr Mariano Campoy-Quiles, Physics; Dr Lichun Chen, Physics; Dr Xuhua Wang, Physics; Dr Ruidong Xia, Physics; Professor James Durrant, Chemistry; Professor Andrew de Mello, Chemistry; Dr John de Mello, Chemistry; Dr Saif Haque, Chemistry.

### Robotic Surgery

Team leader: Professor Sir Ara Darzi, Surgery, Oncology, Reproductive Biology and Anaesthetics (SORA). Team members: Professor Guang-Zhong Yang, Biomedical Engineering; Dr Danail Stoyanov, Computing; Mr George Mylonas, Biomedical Engineering; Dr Parv Sains, SORA; Professor J. Cobb, SORA; Dr Michael Lambert, Mechanical Engineering; Professor B. Davies, Mechanical Engineering.

Deputy Rector, Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, explained that the awards have achieved the objective of recognising the contribution made to Imperial by research teams, not just individuals, and welcomed the chance to: "showcase some of the outstanding research that underpins our activities at the College."

**"the awards have achieved the objective of recognising the contribution made to Imperial by research teams, not just individuals"**

The impressive team of external judges, responsible for choosing the winners, was headed by the Rector and included Professor John Bell, President of Academy of Medical Sciences; Lord Broers, President of the Royal Academy of Engineering; Professor Sir John Enderby, President of Institute of Physics; and Professor Sir Aaron Klug, former President of the Royal Society and winner of the Nobel Prize for chemistry.

The formal presentation of the Research Excellence Awards will take place during the Postgraduate Awards Ceremony on 9 May 2007.

—ALEXANDRA PLATT, COMMUNICATIONS



Philippe Froguel (left) and Alex Blakemore of the Genetic Epidemiology team

### Genetic Epidemiology

Team leader: Professor Philippe Froguel, Medicine. Team members: Dr Alexandra Blakemore, Medicine; Prof Marjo-Riitta Jarvelin, Epidemiology, Public Health and Primary Care (EPHPC); Prof David Balding, EPHPC; Prof Paul Elliott, EPHPC.

### Reconfigurable Supercomputing

Team leader: Professor Wayne Luk, Computing. Team members: Prof Peter Y.K. Cheung, Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE); Dr George A. Constantinides, EEE; Dr Paul H.K. Kelly, Computing; Dr Philip Leong, EEE; Dr Oskar Mencer, EEE.



From left: Reconfigurable Supercomputing's Wayne Luk, Oskar Mencer, Peter Cheung and George Constantinides

# Commemoration Day honours

Distinguished figures from the worlds of science and medicine were recognised by the College on 25 October at the annual Commemoration Day ceremony in the Royal Albert Hall.

Admitted to the Fellowship of the College, was Sir Brian Bender, Permanent Secretary to the Department of Trade and Industry.

The ceremony also included the award of honorary degrees to Lady Helen Hamlyn and Professor Michel Kazatchkine, and members of the College community were honoured for their contributions and achievements, with Associateships of Imperial College conferred on Deputy Academic Registrar, Nigel Wheatley, and Anthony Rippon, Academic Laboratory Manager in the Department of Endocrinology and Metabolic Medicine.

— AMANDA CERNY, COMMUNICATIONS

## Sir Brian Bender

Sir Brian Bender graduated from Imperial with a BSc and PhD in Physics. He was appointed Permanent Secretary to the Department of Trade and Industry, with effect from October 2005. His portfolio includes the majority of Imperial's own strategic research agenda, such as promotion of biotechnology and nanotechnology, pharmaceuticals, electronic energy construction and aerospace.



## Lady Helen Hamlyn

Lady Hamlyn is chairman of the Helen Hamlyn Trust which initiates medium and long term projects linked to the shared interests of herself and her late husband, Paul Hamlyn, publisher and philanthropist. The Trust works in



the fields of medicine, the arts, culture and heritage and conservation in India.

Her innovative sponsorship of collaborative links with the College has involved work with Professor Sir Brian Jarman and more recently with the development of the robotically enhanced operating theatre. She supported the appointment of Professor Sir Ara Darzi to the Paul Hamlyn Chair of Surgery at Imperial College London, which is held in association with the Royal Marsden Hospital and the Institute of Cancer Research.

## Professor Michel Kazatchkine

Professor Michel Kazatchkine is a clinical immunologist with a most distinguished



academic career in research and administration. His list of accomplishments includes a postdoctoral fellowship at St Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, now part of Imperial.

He has worked to ensure international efforts to fight AIDS meet the highest scientific standards. Since 2004, he has also served as Chair of the World Health Organisation's Scientific and Technical Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS. He is currently France's global HIV/AIDS ambassador. Professor Kazatchkine continues to direct the research agenda across the European Union and still collaborates with researchers at St Mary's Campus.

## Anthony Rippon

Anthony Rippon obtained his HNC in Chemistry in 1961 and has worked in academic biochemical laboratory research throughout his career, developing skills in steroid biochemistry which have been greatly valued in the research units where he has worked, and in particular since 1965 at St Mary's Hospital Medical School and subsequently Imperial College London.

He has contributed hugely to the success of the academic groups with which he has been associated; these have included the Steroid Research Unit, the Department of Chemical Pathology and in his later years, the Department of Clinical Endocrinology and the Division of Medicine. He received a Rector's Award for Excellence in 1995.



## Nigel Wheatley

Nigel joined Imperial in 1980. He has been Deputy Academic Registrar since 1991 and has overall responsibility for Student Records and Higher Degrees. Nigel has played a leading role in a number of crucial initiatives at the College: the first international student recruitment visit; the development of the Student Online Evaluation (SOLE) survey; and the creation of the Graduate School of Life Sciences and Medicine and the Graduate School of Engineering and Physical Sciences, formed in 1999 and 2002 respectively.

He has officiated at nearly all graduation ceremonies since 1981, usually on the opposite side of the stage.



# Creative Futures

## Achieving Your Potential

A day designed to help young black and minority ethnic pupils achieve their full potential and encourage them to think about science and higher education, was held at the College on Wednesday 18 October.

Hosted by *Imperial As One*, the College's black and minority ethnic race group, 'Creative Futures: Achieving Your Potential' was an interactive learning day for 11-12 year old pupils, their role models and mentors.

The day focused on aspirations, collaboration, and team working, with visitors having the opportunity to take part in a demonstration of a glass bridge construction. In addition, the pupils were invited to build clever structures, which were light but strong enough to withstand pressure through heavy loads.

Dr Sunday Popo-Ola, Research and Teaching Fellow, in the Faculty of Engineering, hosted the day. He is the inaugural winner of the Equality Excellence Award made at the annual Rector's Awards at the College (see centre pages).

A number of invited guests including primary school teachers and pupils; the Mayor of Brent, Councillor Bertha Joseph; Deputy Principal of the Faculty of Engineering, Chris Hankin; Mark Richards, an active member of *Imperial as One* and the Rector, Sir Richard Sykes, gave a series of speeches focusing on their own experiences.

Christine Yates, the College's Diversity and Equal Opportunities Consultant, said: "Our Widening Participation and Outreach teams, and indeed many individual staff such as Sunday, proactively work to forge closer links with the wider communities."

— NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS



# Awards and honours

## Liege honours Gelenbe

Professor Erol Gelenbe of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering was awarded an honorary doctorate for his pioneering research on probabilistic models of computer systems and networks during a ceremony held at the University of Liege earlier this year. The event held a special significance for him, as Professor Gelenbe was awarded his first chair in Liege when he was 29 years old and taught there from 1974 to 1979.

## Crystal clear appointment for Chayen

Professor Naomi Chayen from the Biological Structure and Function Section of the Division of Biomedical Sciences, has been elected as the president of the International Organisation for Biological Crystallisation (IOBC). The IOBC aims to promote science, engineering and practical application of biological crystallisation.

## Young history scholar award

Dr Abigail Woods of the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine has been awarded the Young Scholar Award by the World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine. The €1,000 award was founded to encourage promising young veterinary historians.

## Institute of Physics medals

Professor Michele Dougherty from the Department of Physics, has received the 2007 Chree Medal from the Institute of Physics. The medal was awarded for the discovery of a dynamic and exotic atmosphere around Enceladus, one of Saturn's icy moons. Professor James Roy Taylor from the Photonics group in the Department was awarded the Young Medal and Prize for his contributions to the development of modern solid state lasers, including the pioneering of lasers that generate ultrashort pulses of light that can help understand how light travels along optical fibres.

## Professor Hand's appointment adds up

Professor David Hand, Department of Mathematics, has been elected president of the Royal Statistical Society, for the 2007–2009 period. This position sees Professor Hand taking office at the head of one of the premier statistical societies in the world.

## Read all about it – Student wins *Daily Telegraph* competition

Leili Farzaneh, a Biology student at the College, has been named one of Britain's outstanding young science writers after winning The *Daily Telegraph's* science writing competition. Leili's winning piece centred on the idea of using a bacterium's natural method of genetic modification to adapt plants, enabling them to work as a factory to produce different substances.

## Wiseman wins Halliday Fellowship

The Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council (PPARC) has awarded the first Halliday Fellowship to Dr Toby Wiseman, a particle physicist who has recently taken up a PPARC Advanced Fellowship at the College. Dr Wiseman spent the previous three years as a post-doctoral researcher at Harvard University in the US. The Halliday Fellowship provides an additional £50k which can be used for non-staff costs, such as more advanced equipment, visiting other national and international laboratories, and for public outreach work.

# Imperial Ambassadors

Academics from across the College came together on Thursday 14 September to formally launch the Imperial Ambassadors scheme. The scheme, run by the Office of Alumni and Development in collaboration with the International Office, has been put in place to match up the travel plans of certain senior staff with the activities of the College's international alumni groups.

Its purpose is both to formalise what is already happening – many academics travelling on College business include local alumni in their plans – and to encourage Ambassadors to use some of their spare time while travelling to supplement the activities of the international alumni groups. Initially 21 Ambassadors have been recruited, including the College's senior officers and academics nominated by their faculties.

There are clear advantages to the scheme for both parties. Rather than spend time alone in an unfamiliar city, Ambassadors have the chance to spend time with alumni of the College. Equally, overseas alumni are given increased exposure to life at Imperial today.

The first Ambassador to visit an alumni group was Professor David Nethercot, Head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. He was the guest speaker at a dinner for the Hong Kong Alumni Association on 9 October, an event attended by around 40 alumni. During the dinner Professor Nethercot shared the College's latest news, including information about *EnVision 2010*.

— LIZ GREGSON, ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT

► Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/alumni/ambassador](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/alumni/ambassador) for more details.



Young Londoners learn the science behind colour with Imperial's chemists

## The science of colour

Academic staff and recent graduates from Imperial's Department of Chemistry treated school students and their teachers to a day of colourful science last month at the *Colour Chemistry* event held at Chelsea College of Art and Design.

The Imperial team worked together with art staff from Central St Martin's College of Art and Design to deliver a day of hands-on workshops on the theme of colour. Dora Tang, an Imperial graduate now at the Slade School of Fine Art, took the 41 Year Nine pupils from across London through a workshop on chromatography, using solvents to split dye mixtures into their component colours. Chemistry's Dr Alan Taylor then built on this practical work to introduce the school students to the diffraction of light by demonstrating how white light can be split into the spectrum of its component wavelengths.

“the enthusiasm of these young students... reminded me of exactly why I got involved in teaching in the first place.”

The pupils then selected colours from the spectrum and used them as the basis for a second seminar with the staff from St Martin's.

The art and science teachers completed the same workshops as their students to help them investigate ways of bringing together disciplines that are typically taught separately in schools.

Dr Alan Taylor said: “The day was a tremendous success. It was very encouraging to see both students and teachers getting stuck in, showing that science and art can be brought together to create new ways of learning.”

Particularly inspired by the fact that students gave their time to the project voluntarily, he continued: “Watching all the enthusiasm of these young students, who had given up their Saturday to be here, reminded me of exactly why I got involved in teaching in the first place and clearly shows the value of working with schools in the community to raise aspirations. Hopefully we will see some of these students applying to Imperial in a few years' time.”

*Colour Chemistry* was organised by Aimhigher, a national programme supported by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

— DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS

## archive corner

### Imperial's Blaschka glass models



The glass models of marine animals and molluscs which reside in the Imperial Archives are both exquisite objects of art and valuable teaching tools, as they are completely correct anatomical representations.

The collection was made to order by the father and son team of Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka, who were nineteenth-century Bohemian glass specialists. Originating with the Science and Art Department, (precursor of the Department of Education and Science) the models would have been used in labs to illustrate lectures between 1880 and the turn of the century.

There are several Blaschka collections in the UK and abroad, some of which include items such as glass flowers, the most famous of these being at Harvard.

The College Archives department recently contributed to the first international meeting on the models, which brought together diverse curators and institutions to discuss scholarship, aesthetics and preservation, the latter being an important issue as the models can be very brittle. Research into how best to preserve them continues. Difficulties include the replacement of materials used in the original process which have deteriorated with time. Paint, copper wire and gelatine-based glues used at the time have unknown recipes and modern components can differ dramatically. Some work has been done on the College collection by the Department of Materials and, more recently, students from the Department were given the chance to run an analysis project on the Blaschka collection at the Natural History Museum.

The College collection has only been on display once as it is so fragile—this was at the Science Museum for our joint exhibition for the centenary of T.H. Huxley in 1995.

— ANNE BARRETT, ARCHIVES AND CORPORATE RECORDS



Blaschka glass models of marine animals used in teaching up until the 1900s



The challenge of protecting these beautiful objects increases as they become more brittle with age

## a word with...

# Martin Blunt



Professor Martin Blunt became Head of the Department of Earth Science and Engineering in August. He was previously head of the Department's Petroleum Engineering and Rock Mechanics research group and his research interests include improved oil recovery, carbon dioxide capture and storage, and how to extract low carbon energy from fossil fuels.

*Reporter's* Alexandra Platt went to meet him.

### What's your background?

I completed a first degree and PhD at Cambridge and then spent four years working for BP as a reservoir engineer. This involved developing computer programmes to work out how to improve oil recovery from hydrocarbon reservoirs. After this I returned to academia, becoming a faculty member in petroleum engineering at Stanford University in California. I then joined Imperial in 1999 after a sabbatical here the year before.

### What tempted you back to academia?

I was interested in real problems, natural systems and how the real world works. Working in academia allows you to explore these in a greater depth than industry. I also really enjoy teaching; I found I had missed it.

### How has your job changed since becoming Head of the Department?

For one, I'm much busier and I'm learning new things, like how to understand budgets! It's very interesting to have the chance to set the strategic direction for a department. It's a learning curve too supporting the careers of the rest of the faculty as it's incredibly wide-

reaching. We have scientists and engineers working together which makes for a very interesting environment.

### What particular area are you and your team working on at the moment?

Our main interest at the moment is in understanding how fluids move underground through porous rock. We are aiming to establish both the science and design processes for getting as much oil out of the earth as possible. We look at microscopic grains, but apply this to huge areas, for example, the oil fields under the North Sea that are so vast they would cover London! We're also concerned with the process of collecting carbon dioxide and injecting it underground to flush oil out. This is an incredibly important process economically as the world's demand for oil is undiminished.



Martin's research may start small but is applied to vast areas, for example oil fields under the North Sea the size of London

*"Just two of the things on this agenda are water and energy, and these are at the heart of what we do here."*

### What's the best thing about working for Imperial?

The best thing is we have students from all over the world. The diversity of people here is quite something. I guess along with the best comes the worst thing, and that's something that affects higher education as a whole. Lacking the funds that are available in industry does mean we spend too much of our time scrabbling for money.

### What interests you scientifically that isn't officially your patch?

These would be the broad issues in earth science, understanding the world's natural systems and our effect on them, for instance, climate change. Another issue that isn't in my remit is the resource issue in world agriculture. This is the most significant thing affecting the world today in my opinion.

### What does the future hold?

The future for the Department looks good. The main technological challenges of this century are working out sustainable methods to support a growing population. Just two of the things on this agenda are water and energy, and these are at the heart of what we do here. We're unique in the UK, as we have pure earth scientists and engineers here, and as a mix I find this very exciting. We're also full of very bright students who want to use their skills to make an impact and we must support them in this.

### How do you spend your time off?

I spend a lot of time reading literature, not science, and really enjoy my commute to work as it's a chance to indulge with no interruptions. I also enjoy gardening and regular holidays hill walking in the Lake District.

✦ Is there someone you'd like to see *Reporter* have a word with?

Contact the editor Alexandra Platt.  
Email [a.platt@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:a.platt@imperial.ac.uk)

# centenary update

## Looking back as we move forward

Imperial's Centenary will be showcased at the historic City of London Lord Mayor's Show on Saturday 11 November. Following the show's theme of 'the global learning curve', the Faculty of Engineering Student Union will celebrate our heritage by creating a special Centenary float charting the achievements of College Nobel laureates, Sir Alex Skempton, Sir Alexander Fleming, Sir Ernst Chain and Dennis Gabor.

There's no chance you'll miss the float – the centrepiece is a model of the Queen's Tower, all that now remains of the Imperial Institute, which stood at the heart of South Kensington Campus in the nineteenth century.

Accompanying the float will be three vintage vehicles: Boanerges, a 1902 James and Browne car; Jezebel, a 1916 Dennis 'N' type fire engine; and Clementine, a 1926 Morris 'T' type truck. All are maintained by current students and arrived at the College between 1934 and 1960.

► Go to [www.lordmayorsshow.org](http://www.lordmayorsshow.org) for more information about the Lord Mayor's Show route.

## Buy Imperial's history

The first major history of Imperial has been written by Dr Hannah Gay of Imperial's Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine. The book chronicles both the governance and academic activity of the College in the context of twentieth-century Britain from our nineteenth-century roots to the present day. It will be published in spring 2007, but you can pre-order it now at [www.icpress.co.uk/books/histsci/p478.html](http://www.icpress.co.uk/books/histsci/p478.html)

— PAMELA MICHAEL, COMMUNICATIONS

► Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/centenary](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/centenary) for more Centenary information



## Obituaries

### Dr Tessa Addenbrooke

Imperial learnt with sadness of the death of Dr Tessa Addenbrooke on 11 October 2006. Tessa joined the College as one of the founding partners of the Health Centre in 1978. She retired from general practice in 1994 to work part-time as an assessor on Disability Benefits Tribunals and to realise her long-desired wish to learn the cello. Tessa combined clinical acumen with great care for her patients.

► The Editor is pleased to accept brief appreciations in remembrance of colleagues, reserving the right to edit these before publication. Please email [a.platt@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:a.platt@imperial.ac.uk)

### Professor Edward Newlands

The death of Professor Edward Newlands, who retired in 2004 and worked within the Charing Cross and Hammersmith Hospitals for 30 years, was announced last month. Professor Newlands pioneered the development of Temozolomide, the first major chemotherapeutic advance in the treatment of gliomas, a common form of brain tumour. He also ran the national, and world's largest, service for the treatment of gestational trophoblastic neoplasia, a rare but highly treatable cancer of pregnancy, which nevertheless still kills some women. Edward made substantial contributions to international cancer medicine and will be sadly missed.

## inventors corner

### Caro's creations

In this edition, HeliSwirl founder Colin Caro shares his experiences of advancing science.



Imperial spin-out company HeliSwirl recently won the 2006 Amec Award for Innovation and Excellence in SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises) at the prestigious Institute of Chemical Engineers (IChemE) Gala Awards.

Founder, Professor Colin Caro from Imperial's Department of Bioengineering, has been an academic for over fifty years, but had never seriously attempted to commercialise his research until the 1990s. He explained: "Previously, it wasn't seen as the proper thing to do—it was a common belief that you should not make money from your research".

The recent change in attitude, as well as easier access to commercialisation resources, both within Imperial and the academic world at large, has led Professor Caro to take on more work than in his previous eighty years. He said: "The satisfying feeling of truly advancing science and doing some good has always been my main motivation".

His research has advanced science in two very different areas and has resulted in the formation of two companies: Veryan Medical and HeliSwirl. Veryan Medical's development of stents and grafts helps lengthen the life of bypass grafts, whilst HeliSwirl uses the same technology to improve fluid flow, which reduces operating costs and energy use in a broad range of fluid handling industries and benefits the environment.

HeliSwirl's engineering application of Professor Caro's research was progressed by Imperial Innovations and Veryan Medical's CEO Philip Birch, through their knowledge and understanding of industrial markets.

Professor Caro explained: "Things are a little less hectic now the companies are maturing and have a well established and experienced management team to guide them forward". He feels that he is fulfilling his aim of advancing science in both medicine and the environment.

— CHARLOTTE STONE, IMPERIAL INNOVATIONS

► Imperial Innovations may be able to help you find an alternative commercial application for your research. For further information, please visit [www.imperialinnovations.co.uk](http://www.imperialinnovations.co.uk) or contact the technology transfer team on 020 7581 4949.

## Corrections and clarifications

In Issue 168, *moving in. moving on.* stated incorrectly that Anne Benjamin was leaving the College. In fact, Anne retired at the end of September but continues her association with Imperial as an honorary lecturer in Tanaka Business School.

The picture featured in the *Energy Futures Lab Links with Abu Dhabi* article on page 6 of Issue 168, was not in fact of the signing of the MoU, but of the opening of the Abu Dhabi Diabetes Centre (see page 5 of this edition).

# welcome

## new starters

Mrs Tamar Abrahamyan, Catering Services  
Dr Jun Akai, Clinical Sciences  
Dr Tim Albrecht, Chemistry  
Mr Constantinos Anastassiou, Bioengineering  
Mrs Feruza Asatullaeva, Catering Services  
Ms Mandana Baghai, Humanities  
Miss Clare Bain, Catering Services  
Ms Leanne Bajada, Faculty of Medicine  
Mrs Constance Bantman, Humanities  
Ms Hannah Barr, Sport and Leisure  
Ms Jacqueline Basquil, Business School  
Dr Ariel Benitez-Poliandri, SORA  
Ms Renee Best, Kennedy Institute  
Dr Kate Bishop, Business School  
Dr Sharon Bolton, ICT  
Mr Paul Bowyer, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Ms Andrietta Brenk, Humanities  
Ms Louise Briggs, Molecular Biosciences  
Mr Nicholas Brooks, Chemistry  
Dr Catherine Burton, Investigative Science  
Mr Matthew Cain, ICT  
Dr Charlene Calvert, NHLI  
Miss Janaina Carvalho Dos Reis, Catering Services  
Dr Wengang Chai, Medicine



**Professor Roger Evans** joined the Department of Physics at the start of October from the Rutherford Appleton lab. Based in the Plasma Physics Group his research focuses on using large computer models and ultra-high-intensity lasers.

Dr Sau Chan, SORA  
Miss Laura Cheetham, Kennedy Institute  
Dr Claudine Chen, Physics  
Dr Dongsheng Chen, SORA  
Dr Robert Childs, Medicine  
Dr Graham Cooke, Medicine  
Mr Brice Dattee, Business School  
Miss Sarah Davies, Humanities  
Dr Alessandra Di Pierro, Computing  
Mrs Vanesca Dominguez, Catering Services  
Mr Christopher Edmondson, ICT  
Professor Roger Evans, Physics  
Mrs Flore Faille, EEE  
Mr Zheng Fan, Mechanical Engineering  
Dr Louise Forster, Medicine  
Dr Bahaa Francis, Medicine  
Mr Michael Franjeh, Registry  
Dr Sabine Frenz, Aeronautics  
Ms Anna Furmanski, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Dr Axel Gandy, Mathematics  
Dr Nicole Gennet, Clinical Sciences

Dr Kaare Gether, CEP  
Dr Athanasios Gkelias, EEE  
Miss Louisa Gnatiuc, NHLI  
Ms Iria Gonzalez-Becerra, Humanities  
Mr Paul Griffiths, ICT  
Dr Ramon Grima, Institute for Mathematical Sciences  
Mr Xavier Guinchard, Chemistry  
Miss Ann-Marie Hanna, Faculty of Medicine  
Miss Jennifer Harper, Medicine  
Mr William Heaven, Computing  
Dr So-Jin Holohan, NHLI  
Dr Dagmar Iber, Mathematics  
Dr Stefan Iglauer, ESE  
Mr Andrew Ireson, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Dr Momi Iwata, Molecular Biosciences  
Dr Ajay Jasra, Mathematics  
Miss Anna Jedrzejewska, Catering Services  
Miss Rebecca Jeffree, Biology  
Miss Catherine Jury, Business School  
Miss Fatema Khatun, Chemistry  
Dr Louise Kim, Investigative Science  
Dr Jung-Sik Kim, Materials  
Mr Michail Kiziroglou, EEE  
Dr Elise Laird, Physics  
Dr Athanasios Laliotis, Physics  
Ms Poppy Lamberton, EPHPC  
Mr James Lazarus, Physics  
Mrs Niamh Lennox-Chugani, Business School  
Dr Andrew Leonard, SORA  
Miss Katie Lyne, Investigative Science  
Ms Yajie Ma, Computing

Ms Jacintha Mack Smith, Computing  
Ms Kyoko Makio, Humanities  
Miss Gemma Marsh, NHLI  
Dr Dario Martelli, Physics  
Dr Angela McDonald, Medicine  
Dr Arthur McKie, SORA  
Mr Shaun McMaster, NHLI  
Mrs Elena Merkeviciene, Catering Services

Mr Manuel Miguez Luis, Catering Services  
Mr James Minnion, Investigative Science  
Dr Paul Mintz, SORA  
Ms Miwa Mizushima-MacMaster, Humanities  
Dr Jassy Molitor, EPHPC  
Dr David Morris, EPHPC  
Miss Rudo M'Tandari, Faculty of Medicine  
Dr David Munns, CHOSTM  
Dr Venkata Nemani, Physics  
Dr Nikolay Nikolov, Mathematics  
Dr Jan Obloj, Institute for Mathematical Sciences  
Mr Didier Occhipinti, Humanities  
Ms Isobel Okoye, Investigative Science  
Dr Nicholas Oliver, Biomedical Engineering  
Ms Teena Ollington, Registry  
Mr Goodluck Orukpe, Library Services  
Miss Patricia Otero, Catering Services  
Ms Mar Ozores Santos, Humanities  
Dr Ambrus Pal, Mathematics

Mr Nikolaos Papadakos, Computing  
Miss Roberta Perelli, Kennedy Institute  
Ms Rachele Pierro, Humanities  
Mrs Alexandra Potier, Humanities  
Mr Oliver Priest, SORA  
Mr Jonathan Pymm, Strategy and Planning  
Mr Michael Ray, Biology  
Mr Thomas Reynolds, Registry  
Mr Riccardo Ricci, Institute for Mathematical Sciences  
Mr Ben Richens, Sport and Leisure  
Dr David Riley, Materials  
Mr Andrew Rochelle, Faculty of Medicine  
Mr Alexander Rodway, SORA  
Mr Alexis Rohou, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Ms Edna Russell, ICT  
Mr Kirti Sahu, Chemical Engineering  
Dr Gabriela Salejova, Chemical Engineering  
Dr Niels Schulz, Chemical Engineering  
Mr Jeremy Sheldon, Humanities  
Mr Alastair Smith, EEE  
Mrs Michelle Smith, Faculty of Engineering  
Mr Siarhei Sopach, Catering Services  
Mr George Souretis, EEE  
Dr Florea Stoica, Physics  
Mr Gao Sun, Medicine  
Miss Rachel Sutton, NHLI  
Mr Daniel Sykes, Computing  
Ms Nina Sylvester, Humanities  
Dr Gabor Szekelyhidi, Mathematics  
Mr Balint Takacs, EEE  
Mr Arthur Talman, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Dr Mark Tattersall, SORA  
Mr Mauro Tesei, Physics  
Mr Alexander Thomas, Physics  
Miss Emily Thompson, Investigative Science  
Mr Panumat Thongyoo, Chemistry  
Miss Rosemary Tipples, College Headquarters  
Ms Ioanna Tzoulaki, EPHPC  
Dr Mark Ungless, Clinical Sciences  
Mr Eugene Valkov, Medicine  
Ms Inna Vassiljeva, Catering Services  
Dr Nicola Walters, NHLI  
Dr Elizabeth Want, SORA  
Miss Samantha Westrop, Investigative Science  
Miss Carly Whittaker, Biology  
Miss Louise Willingale, Physics  
Miss Erika Wissinger, Kennedy Institute  
Ms Sarah Withers, Faculty of Natural Sciences  
Professor Alexander Wolf, Computing  
Mr Martin Wolf, Physics  
Mr Andrew Wright, Faculty of Medicine  
Mr Zhentao Wu, Chemical Engineering  
Dr Liming Ying, BMS  
Ms Anna Zecharia, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Dr Sarah Zerbes, Mathematics  
Ms Davia Zukiene, Catering Services

Miss Astrid Authier, Investigative Science  
Dr Jung-Wook Bang, Computing  
Ms Amy Barnes, Faculty of Medicine  
Dr Robert Brightwell, SORA  
Mrs Monica Chohda, Finance  
Dr Taane Clark, EPHPC  
Dr Norman Cobleby, EPHPC (5 years)  
Dr Susan Connolly, NHLI  
Dr Patricia Da Silva-Buttkus, SORA  
Dr Justin Davies, NHLI  
Dr Kenneth Duncan, Investigative Science  
Mr Phil Evans, Estates  
Mr Ugur Evin, ICT  
Mr Adam Faulconbridge, Biology  
Dr Julia Ferrari, Biology (5 years)  
Miss Jennifer Fish, Medicine  
Miss Joanne Fitzpatrick, Student Residences  
Miss Evangelia-Ourania Fourkala, SORA  
Miss Jozella Hart, EPHPC  
Mr Antony Hartley, Finance  
Ms Elizabeth Ivory, SORA  
Mr Bayu Jayawardhana, EEE  
Ms Sarah King, Chemistry  
Mr John Land, Security Services (12 years)  
Mr Stuart Marchant, Physics (13 years)  
Mr Robert McCarney, Neurosciences and Mental Health  
Ms Chloe Morris, EPHPC  
Dr Hinke Mulhaupt, BMS (5 years)  
Miss Xuan Nguyen, NHLI  
Dr Suneat Pranonsatit, EEE  
Mr Sanjay Purkayastha, SORA  
Professor Roger Reed, Materials  
Mr Ronald Reid-Edwards, Institute for Mathematical Sciences  
Dr Colin Richardson, Computing  
Mrs Sukhraj Saini, SORA (15 years)  
Miss Lauren Schwertz, Kennedy Institute  
Mr Tim Southerwood, Computing (6 years)  
Dr Mark Sutton-Smith, Molecular Biosciences (6 years)  
Miss Kit-Mill Tang, NHLI  
Miss Jessica Thompson, Investigative Science  
Dr George Tranter, BMS (8 years)  
Ms Eleni-Kyriaki Vetsika, Medicine  
Dr Krisztina Vogl, SORA  
Dr Hongyan Wang, Investigative Science (5 years)  
Dr Bonnie Webster, EPHPC  
Dr Zachary Whinnett, NHLI

**Phil Evans, Estates**, has recently moved on from the College after three years as Energy and Environmental Manager. He was voted Hero of the Year by *Felix*, the student newspaper, for his work with the Student Environmental Society on a number of initiatives including Green Week. Colleagues wish him all the best for the future.



# farewell

## moving on

Miss Jolanta Adacha, Molecular Biosciences (5 years)  
Miss Victoria Adewole, Conference Office  
Dr Ravi Assomull, NHLI

This data is supplied by HR and covers the period 1–21 October 2006. It was correct at the time of going to press. Years of service are given where an individual has been a member of College staff for over five years.

Asterisk (\*) indicates where an individual will continue to play an active role in College life.

••• Please send your images and/or brief comments about new starters, leavers and retirees to the Editor, [a.platt@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:a.platt@imperial.ac.uk) who reserves the right to edit or amend these as necessary.

moving in. moving on.

### what's on

1 NOVEMBER 2006 17.30-18.30

#### Hidden Treasure, Beachcombers and the Dead Man's Finger

Professor Sue Grimes, SITA/Royal Academy of Engineering Professor of Waste Management

INAUGURAL LECTURE

» Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley Building

2 NOVEMBER 2006 17.00-18.30

#### Translating for International Organizations: professional challenges and career opportunities

Dr Luis Perez Gonzalez, Centre for Translation and Intercultural Studies, University of Manchester, presents this MSc Translation lecture.

» Room 664, Mechanical Engineering Building

8 NOVEMBER 2006 17.30-18.30

#### Steroid Insensitivity in Asthma and COPD

Professor Ian M. Adcock, Professor of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology, NHLI, presents his professorial lecture.

» Paul Wood Lecture Theatre, Guy Scadding Building, NHLI

8 NOVEMBER 2006 16.00-17.00

#### Lipid Rafts in Membrane Trafficking and Disease

Professor Kai Simons, of the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics, Dresden, presents this cell club seminar.

» Lecture Theatre G34, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

10 NOVEMBER 2006 17.00-18.00

#### Simulating Complexity: challenges and progress in atomistic materials science simulations

Michele Parrinello, ETH Zurich

» Lecture Theatre G34, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

15 NOVEMBER 2006 12.30-13.30

#### Hurricane Katrina: a study of geosystems in crisis

Professor Tom O'Rourke, Cornell University

» Room 201, Skempton Building

16 NOVEMBER 2006 17.30-19.30

#### Complementary Medicine: the truth

Professor Edzard Ernst presents the GLSM Winter Guest Lecture

» Lecture Theatre G16, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

*All events are at the South Kensington Campus unless otherwise stated.*



### classifieds

Reporter now includes a regular classifieds section.

If you have something for sale, property to let or are looking for someone to share a lift to work with, this is the perfect place to advertise. Please submit no more than 50 words to the Editor, Alexandra Platt, by email at [a.platt@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:a.platt@imperial.ac.uk) for a chance for your advertisement to appear. The Editor reserves the right to edit these as necessary.

**Bike for sale.** Light aluminium frame road bike, 24 gears, one year old, good working order.

Reason for sale—was stolen then recovered but not before replacement bike bought. Offers please. Telephone 020 7594 5744 or email [s.bastians@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:s.bastians@imperial.ac.uk) for more information.

### volunteering

#### This week's project...

##### Befriender

Project ID: 1795

For Befriender, Staying Put Services (SPS)

Ongoing

Location: Across Kensington and Chelsea, and Westminster

Volunteers needed to visit SPS's elderly clients in their homes for conversation and companionship with small tasks like reading post or going for a walk. By visiting an elderly person on a regular basis, you can support them in maintaining their independence and be part of their community. Befrienders will visit clients in their own homes and all clients live in Westminster or Kensington and Chelsea. Staying Put Services will endeavour to match you with a client living in your local area, or an area convenient to where you study or work.....

To take part in this scheme or to hear more about volunteering in general, contact Minna Ruohonen on 020 7594 8133 or email [m.ruohonen@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:m.ruohonen@imperial.ac.uk).

Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/volunteering](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/volunteering) for full details of over 250 volunteering opportunities. You can also subscribe to the weekly newsletter by emailing [volunteering@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:volunteering@imperial.ac.uk).

### take note

#### Book your own meeting rooms and catering at South Kensington Campus

Following a successful pilot, a new website has been launched enabling College staff to view the availability of a wide range of meeting rooms at South Kensington Campus, book rooms for internal meetings and order selected catering items for delivery online.

» Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/roomsandcatering](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/roomsandcatering) or email [roomsandcatering@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:roomsandcatering@imperial.ac.uk) for more information.

Reporter is published every three weeks during term time in print and online at [www.imperial.ac.uk/reporter](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/reporter).

The copy deadline for issue 170 is Friday 10 November. Publication date is 22 November. Contributions are welcome (no more than 300 words). Please note the editor reserves the right to cut or amend articles as necessary. Information correct at time of going to press.

#### Editor

Alexandra Platt

Tel +44 (0)20 759 46715

email [a.platt@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:a.platt@imperial.ac.uk)



#### Photography

Cheryl Apsee

Emma Bowkett

Jan Chlebik

Ralph Hodgson

Neville Miles

Edwin Pennicott

Alexandra Platt

Danielle Reeves

Pedro Rodriguez

Abigail Smith

Charlotte Stone

Naomi Weston

Tom Whipps