

## Beyond Books

Find out what Imperial's libraries can do for you  **CENTRE PAGES**

The examples illustrate that comparative studies of planets are far more effective than examining each body individually. Knowledge of Earth's atmosphere and environment helps us understand aspects of other planets, but we can only understand the evolution of our own atmosphere by studying those of other planets. Ultimately, the lessons learned within our solar system can also be applicable to the exploration of planets orbiting stars far from our solar system.

### References

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**IN 'OAR' OF NEW CLUB-ROOM**  
Bill Mason honoured  
PAGE 3



**MARATHON MAN CROSSES THE LINE!**  
Read Ben Ryall's story  
PAGE 13

100 years of living science

# 100

# in brief

## Engineering girl power

Inspiring female GCSE pupils was the aim of the *Women in Engineering* day, held on 5 March. The day gave them an insight into the diverse aspects of engineering and how they can enter a degree course in the field. The event was organised by the City and Guilds College Union and over 80 girls from all over London and the South East attended, tackling activities including designing and making an oil rig in groups, campus tours and laboratory demonstrations. Jonathan Crocker, Outreach Director at the CGCU, said: "I was very impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment of all the volunteers and of the calibre of the pupils attending. I think the day achieved its two aims of inspiring these girls in the field of Engineering and pushing forward core skills and a joy of Engineering".



## Business School scholarships

To celebrate the Centenary as well as aiming to attract top female and international candidates to its MBA and EMBA programmes, Tanaka Business School is offering a range of new scholarships. Among the awards on offer are three MBA scholarships for female students, who, the school says, remain under-represented in senior leadership positions. Five Rajiv Gandhi scholarships, each worth £20,000, will also be awarded to Indian candidates who demonstrate exceptional leadership and management skills.

## Acting head of Clinical Sciences

The Faculty of Medicine is pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Jo Hajnal as Acting Head of the Division of Clinical Sciences, which took effect from 1 April. Discussions towards the appointment of a Director for the MRC Clinical Sciences Centre and new Head of Division of Clinical Sciences continue, and Professor Hajnal will serve as Acting Head until the new appointee is in post.

## Excellent teaching recognised

This year the *EnVision 2010* project will present the inaugural Awards for Teaching Excellence in Engineering Education, to recognise and reward individuals or small teams who are renowned for the excellence of their teaching and make a significant contribution to the outstanding teaching and learning achievements in the Faculty of Engineering. There are three awards in total and each will comprise a certificate and £10,000. Prizes will be awarded at a ceremony to be held in June. The deadline for submissions is 11 May.

► Visit [www3.imperial.ac.uk/envision/activities/awardsandprizes](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/envision/activities/awardsandprizes) for further information.

Imperial College  
London

100 years of living science  
100

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A large selection of blooming marvellous Centenary gifts are now available to buy online or from the Imperial College Union shop on the South Kensington Campus walkway. Visit today!



Shop online: [www.imperial.ac.uk/Centenarygifts](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/Centenarygifts)

## AHSC news

- The Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC) consultation will run from 1 May–31 July. The full document will be available to download from the website from 1 May. Visit [www.ahsc.org.uk](http://www.ahsc.org.uk) for your copy.

- Staff meetings will be taking place at the Charing Cross, Hammersmith, St Mary's and South Kensington Campuses, and at the Western Eye Hospital, in late May/June. Look out for your mini consultation brochure being sent to you in mid-May.



- **HEALTH CHECK** Hammersmith Hospitals NHS Trust and St Mary's NHS Trust have been placed in the top three best performing Trusts for mortality rates in the 2007 Dr Foster report, *How healthy is your hospital?* Visit page 27 of [www.drfooster.co.uk/library/reports/hospitalguide2007.pdf](http://www.drfooster.co.uk/library/reports/hospitalguide2007.pdf) for more information.

- **HEALTH CHECK** At St Mary's, Julian Nettel has been appointed as Chief Executive of Barts and the London NHS Trust. Steve Smith, Principal of the Faculty of Medicine, says: "Julian has been a wonderful advocate for the AHSC and has driven forward with great vision and determination. I wish him all the very best for the future at Barts."

# China collaborations signed

Imperial is forging stronger links in China with the signing of two new Memoranda of Understanding with the Shanghai Jiao Tong University, and Tsinghua University in Beijing. The aim is to develop academic collaborations with the universities and promote cooperation through the exchange of information and staff and students.

Imperial and Shanghai Jiao Tong University will enter into an academic affiliation to promote the research and education mission of both institutions, building on a series of existing research links at departmental level across the College. This new collaboration will allow postdoctoral researchers and graduate students to travel between the two institutions and train at both universities.

The MoU between the College and Tsinghua University in Beijing focuses on academic collaboration through the exchange of staff and students. The two institutions will also explore future possibilities for

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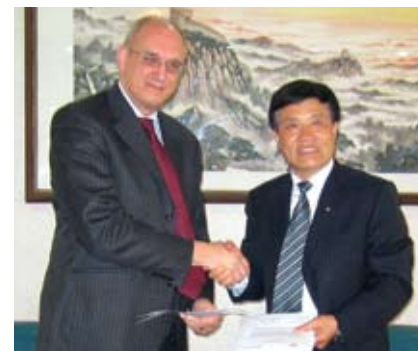
Understanding  
and respect

joint research projects.

To underline the College's commitment to collaborations with China, Deputy Rector, Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz travelled there this month as part of the College's Centenary celebrations. Welcoming the two new links, he said:

"Imperial already has strong links with China, a country with an appetite for scientific knowledge and technological advances that matches our own. I'm delighted that these new agreements will strengthen our relationship further and it's great to come here to see for myself the pace of economic growth."

—NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS



Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz and Xie Wei-he, Vice-President of Tsinghua University, at the signing of an MoU this month.

## Imperial's 'Veritable Professor of the Oar' honoured

The outstanding career of Bill Mason and his commitment to rowing at Imperial was honoured with the naming of the Bill Mason Club Room at the College Boathouse in Putney on 28 March.

In recognition of 26 years of service, a plaque was unveiled by Professor Rees Rawlings, Pro Rector for Educational Quality, honouring Bill's career and impact on rowing. The new plaque reads: "This room has been named in honour of Bill Mason 'Veritable Professor of the Oar' (*The Guardian*)



Bill Mason has been honoured with the naming of the club room at the College boathouse.

on Wednesday 28 March 2007".

The newly named club room is bursting with memories of past successes including photos of the winning rowing teams. Bill represented Great Britain 32 times in major championships over the years and coached Imperial and Queen's Tower teams through 28 Henley Royal Regatta finals. Bill has also coached numerous rowers that have taken part in the past seven Olympic Games, from 1980 to 2004. In addition, Bill himself competed in the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games as an oarsman.

"The past 26 years have gone past very quickly," said Bill, "I was lucky enough to coach both the Imperial and Great Britain teams for two decades. Imperial has always come first however. The College supported me and my family over the years and I saw it as my future. I would like to thank the College for this honour."

Professor Rees Rawlings added: "Bill has achieved a huge amount over the years. But most striking is his personality and selflessness. His enthusiasm for, and understanding of, the sport are remarkable. He is reliable

and honest and has enthused hundreds of young people."

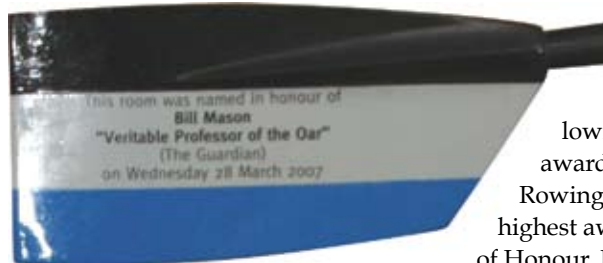
After joining Imperial in 1980, Bill became the College's waterman and Putney Boathouse Manager before becoming Director of Rowing. He was made an Associate

of Imperial College in 1993 and in the following year was awarded the Amateur Rowing Association's highest award, the Medal of Honour. In 1996, he was chosen as Chief Coach of the Great Britain women's rowing team for the Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Students at Imperial have enjoyed success in a number of prestigious rowing events including the Henley Royal Regatta, Women's Henley and British University Sport Championships.

Bill has seen a number of changes spanning his time at Imperial, in particular the redevelopment of the Putney boathouse in 1999. The new facility included enlarged boat racking space for 80 boats, a well equipped gym, club room, workshop and changing rooms.

—NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS



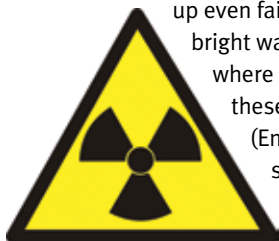
# media mentions

—NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

*THE ENGINEER* ▶ 26 MARCH

## Radiation researchers aim for safer skies

Ports and airports could be protected with more accurate radiation detectors, thanks to an Imperial-led project to find materials that will pick up even faint hints of radiation and convert them into a bright warning light. “We are trying to create a situation where it is a bit more difficult for people to smuggle these materials,” explains Professor Robin Grimes (Engineering) in *The Engineer*. “If you can have it so it is tuned to a particular frequency then you have the possibility of really making a big gain in sensitivity.”



*THE DAILY TELEGRAPH* ▶ 22 MARCH

## And now for something completely different...

Moving from a City accountancy firm to the challenge of fundraising for public sector institutions was a wise decision for Imperial’s Director of

Development Fiona Kirk, she says in an interview with *The Daily Telegraph*. Describing the benefits of her move first to the Science Museum and then to Imperial College, she says: “It’s not just the people within the sector—the curators of the museums, the academics—it’s the incredible diversity of donors, who are often truly amazing. It’s a privilege to get to know them—and occasionally to

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persuade them to support your organisation”.

*THE SUNDAY HERALD* ▶ 8 APRIL

## How ethical was your Easter?

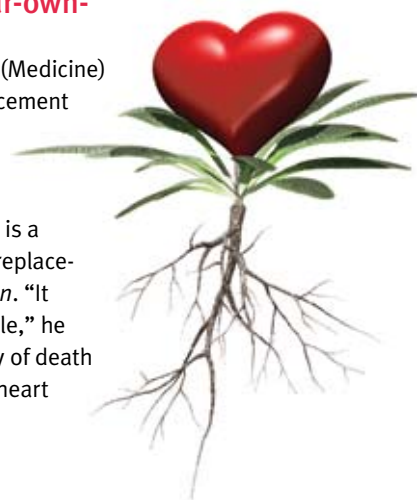
An expanded waistline may not be the only unfortunate side-effect of our Easter binges, reports the *Sunday Herald*—our national consumption of 80 million chocolate eggs also has fair trade and sustainability implications. Agreeing that few food manufacturers are “inherently ethical”, Professor David Hughes (Natural Sciences) comments: “The major fast-moving consumer goods companies are not leaders in responding to the great social issues, like obesity and global warming. They wait until public pressure is sufficiently aggressive, then change slowly. It is the quirky, smaller scale companies that lead in these issues”.



*THE GUARDIAN* ▶ 2 APRIL

## Breakthrough offers grow-your-own-heart hope

Work led by Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub (Medicine) has opened up the possibility that replacement heart tissue could be grown from stem cells to be used in transplants. The production of tissue that works in the same way as the valves in human hearts is a significant step towards growing whole replacement hearts, Sir Magdi tells *The Guardian*. “It is an ambitious project but not impossible,” he says. “You can see the common pathway of death and suffering is heart failure. Reversing heart failure could have a major impact.”



## Education Centre is a lesson in success

Imperial’s innovative Centre for Educational Development (CED) has plenty to celebrate. The Centre has recently received re-accreditation for its CASLAT (Certificate of Advanced Study in Learning and Teaching) postgraduate programme. It also has record numbers of staff attending its workshops and applying for College teaching development and research grants.

The Centre’s highly-successful CASLAT programme provides probationary lecturers and others interested in teaching with a foundation in best teaching and learning practice. The five-year accreditation, by the Higher Education Academy, reports: “Participants were enthusiastic about their learning experience, and in particular the way in which improvements in their own practice in teaching and learning were being adopted within their departments”.

The CED, founded in 2000 and headed

by Heather Fry, aims to support and enhance all aspects of learning and teaching across the College. In 2006, Heather and her team, achieved this by offering a wide range of workshops, networking, one-to-one meetings, grants, seminars and electronic learning.

Heather says: “We are thrilled with the CASLAT re-accreditation. The Centre has changed a lot in the past six years but the course, with its mix of compulsory and optional workshops, is still an essential part of what we offer. All universities are obliged to have some form of

educational development, but the Academy noted how well CASLAT is designed to fit with Imperial’s mission. The programme has flexible timing to allow for our lecturers’ heavy research quota and tailored courses such as supervising PhD students”.



Some of the third group of CASLATeers celebrate their success in 2004 with CED staff at the Postgraduate Awards ceremony.

# StickSafe proves a winner



LIFT off! Success for IDE and Business School students in business competition.

An innovative product, which could reduce needle stick injuries in hospitals and embed safety in medical practice, was the idea behind the winning entry to the College's biggest multi-disciplinary business plan competition. The New Business

Challenge, run by the Entrepreneurship Centre at the Tanaka Business School, held its prize-giving ceremony on 21 March 2007.

THE LIFT, a group of five students from the Industrial Design Engineering (IDE) course and the Tanaka Business School, won the first prize of £25,000. The company's first product, outlined in their business plan, is the StickSafe hospital tray. The product allows an easy and safe way of loading and unloading needles, which would reduce the risk of transmitting diseases such as HIV and Hepatitis B and C from the used needle to the clinician by over 50 per cent.

Michael Korn, second year IDE student, came up with the original idea. He said: "We

are delighted to have won the New Business Challenge. This the first time that a successful team has brought together students from Imperial, Tanaka and the Royal College of Art. Our interdisciplinary team truly combines design, business and technology."

Rector, Sir Richard Sykes, announced the winners. He said: "The enthusiasm and work put in by the students amazes me. This competition really epitomises what Imperial is here for. In our Centenary year we are celebrating 100 years of working with industry and commerce, a key part of our original mission statement."

The New Business Challenge has been running for seven years and is one of the biggest cross College events. It is part of the Entrepreneurs Challenge, an annual business plan competition open to all Imperial students, which is divided

into two stages: the Ideas Challenge held in the autumn term, and the New Business Challenge held in the spring term.

—NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

► Visit [www3.imperial.ac.uk/entrepreneurship/entrepreneurschallenge](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/entrepreneurship/entrepreneurschallenge) for more information.

shops with almost 1,000 participants, awarded £11,600 for staff attendance at educational courses and conferences and over £95,000 in grants for teaching development and research.

2006 also marked the launch of a new departure for CED – collaboration in Imperial's first MEd in Surgical Education. Centre staff have a key role in designing, teaching and assessing the course being run by SORA.

"Overall," says Heather, "the past 12 months have been very pleasing. Not only have we received an excellent re-accreditation report for CASLAT, but all our other programmes and initiatives are going from strength to strength. We are looking forward to 2007–08 being equally memorable."

—WENDY RAESIDE, COMMUNICATIONS

► Visit [www3.imperial.ac.uk/edudev](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/edudev) to find out more about CASLAT or CED in general.

CASLAT Director, Dr Frank Harrison added: "I'm delighted that the programme has earned such a successful report and continues to attract large numbers of staff beyond those who are required to take it."

The CASLAT accreditation process included interviews with past participants such as Dr Jane Saffell, in Cell and Molecular Biology. She says: "My motivation for signing up for CASLAT as a new lecturer was to learn the tools of the trade. The insight I gained into current research-based thinking on teaching and learning in higher education has informed and permeated all aspects of my teaching since".

As well as CASLAT, CED is probably best known for its Supporting Learning and Teaching Programme (SLTP), a one-year intensive course aimed at non-academic staff involved in supporting student learning. In addition, CED has, during 2006, run 76 work-

## Awards and honours

### CERN spokesperson gets accolade

Professor Jim Virdee of the Department of Physics is this year's winner of the Institute of Physics' High Energy Particle Physics Group Prize. The £500 prize is awarded for Professor Virdee's prominent role in designing and implementing the CMS particle detector experiment at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, which aims to solve mysteries such as where mass in the universe comes from. He is serving as CMS spokesperson during 2007, the year expected to see the first data from the LHC.

### Endocrine Society win

An award recognising the outstanding achievements of research trainees has been won by Dr Owais Chaudhri of the Department of Metabolic Medicine. The 2007 Endocrine Scholars Award, established by the Endocrine Society is worth \$6,000 for postdocs and aims to support young researchers in the early stages of their career. Dr Chaudhri's work is carried out under the supervision of Professor Steve Bloom, Division of Investigative Science.

### Lifetime achievement award

Professor Marc Feldmann of the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, who with Professor Sir Ravinder Maini developed a treatment for autoimmune diseases that has helped millions of patients around the world, has received a prestigious lifetime achievement award at this year's European Inventor of the Year awards. Professor Feldmann receives the honour for his work identifying why autoimmune diseases such as arthritis cause the immune system to fight itself. This work led to the development of anti-TNF drugs, now the therapy of choice for stopping the inflammatory and tissue-destructive pathways of rheumatoid arthritis and other autoimmune diseases.

### Anti-fraud research is a winner

A company commercialising anti-counterfeiting technology developed by Professor Russell Cowburn, Department of Physics, has received the prestigious Hermes Award at this year's Hannover Messe technology fair. The annual award went to Ingenia Technology Ltd and partner Bayer Technology Services for the Laser Surface Authentication (LSA) device, a small laser scanner that allows unique identity codes to be read on the surfaces of everything from pharmaceutical packages to valuable documents. Unlike most security technologies, in which a marker or chip is added to the item which needs protecting, LSA works by identifying naturally occurring features present in virtually all surfaces.

# Renewable hydrogen – an answer to the energy crisis?

Harvesting solar energy to produce renewable and cost effective hydrogen as a carbon-free alternative energy source, is the focus of a new £4.2 million research programme.

The programme is being undertaken by the College's Energy Futures Lab and is funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

The research will look at biological and chemical solar-driven processes for developing renewable and cost effective methods of producing hydrogen, which can be used to operate fuel cells. Fuel cells can convert hydrogen to electricity and heat at a very high efficiency, with the only emissions being clean water.

Scientists believe that hydrogen could be an effective solution to reducing the world's dependence on non-renewable, carbon-producing fossil fuels because it is clean, portable and versatile. Professor Nigel Brandon, Principal Investigator on the project and Director of the Energy Futures Lab, says:

"The successful production of solar



energy-driven renewable hydrogen could transform the supply of carbon free fuel and make an enormous impact on the viability of hydrogen as an energy carrier. In addition, it will be an essential step on the route to fully exploiting fuel cell technology. It will position the UK as a world leader in one of the very few solutions to a truly sustainable energy future."

Spanning five years, the project aims to

significantly increase the efficiency of solar driven hydrogen production processes, integrating science and engineering to deliver a prototype reactor for domestic and industrial use. This will create a unique facility, which the team hopes will place Imperial College and the UK at the forefront of renewable hydrogen production, both for the UK's own future clean energy supply and also for the sustainable exploitation of hydrogen energy worldwide.

The programme draws together a new interdisciplinary team from across the College, under the umbrella of the Energy Futures Lab, with Professor Nigel Brandon as the Principal Investigator. The team comprises Jim Barber, molecular biosciences, James Durrant, photochemistry, Klaus Hellgardt, catalytic reactor engineering, Geoff Kelsall, electrochemical reactor engineering, David Klug, molecular energy transduction, Geoff Maitland, energy engineering, and Peter Nixon, biology.

— NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

## A new way to track avian flu

A new way of understanding how highly pathogenic avian influenza spreads among farm birds was published in *PLoS ONE* on 4 April. The study could help analyse the success of different control measures in the event of future outbreaks.

The study, carried out by mathematical modellers from Imperial and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, focuses on how H7N3, H7N7 and H7N1 strains of the virus were transmitted between different farms in three recent outbreaks.

The scientists used these case studies to devise a numerical measure for how fast the virus spreads, giving the team an important insight into the overall transmissibility of the virus. This can be used to determine whether an outbreak will turn into a self-sustaining epidemic, in which the virus spreads from each infected farm to at least one other farm. The team hopes that their method, which can be used to assess the effective-

ness of control measures used to counter any outbreak, will be useful for future planning to stop the transmission of highly pathogenic avian influenza between birds.

Dr Tini Garske, from the Institute for Mathematical Sciences says: "Our analyses suggest that in the event of an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian flu in a very dense poultry farming area, additional measures may be needed in order to halt the epidemic. In the case studies we looked at we found that pre-emptive culling and de-population of nearby at-risk areas succeeded in containing the outbreak, where other less drastic measures had failed."

— DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS



## Finnish Prof is UK first

Professor Erkki Autio is to become the UK's first ever professor of technology transfer in the physical sciences, it was announced on 26 March. The £1 million professorship is jointly funded by QinetiQ, and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. The Business School was selected in competition with other universities to host the professorship due to its excellence in entrepreneurship and innovation, and its location at the heart of the College's world class science campus.

The EPSRC-QinetiQ Chair has been established to address the comparative lack of systematic approaches for the commercial exploitation of ideas in engineering or the physical sciences when compared to the growing body of academic research on the commercialisation of innovation in bio-sciences. Professor Autio, a Finnish academic, has been selected for the post through an openly advertised, international competition and arrives from the Strategy Institute of HEC Lausanne where he was Professor in Technology Venturing. Professor Autio said: "Innovation in engineering and the physical sciences plays a key role in driving economic growth but the process appears to be more challenging than in the life sciences. I am delighted to become the EPSRC-QinetiQ Chair of Technology Transfer in the physical sciences."

— EOIN BEDFORD, TANAKA BUSINESS SCHOOL

► Visit [www3.imperial.ac.uk/tanaka/news/appointmterkkoautio](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/tanaka/news/appointmterkkoautio) for the full story.



Professor Erkki Autio

# Tree of life traces Earth's mammals

A new, complete 'tree of life' tracing the history of all 4,500 mammals on Earth shows that they did not diversify as a result of the death of the dinosaurs, according to research published in *Nature* at the end of last month.

The study was undertaken in the UK by scientists at Imperial and the Zoological Society of London. It contradicts the previously accepted theory that the Mass Extinction Event (MEE) that wiped out the dinosaurs 65 million years ago prompted the rapid rise of the mammals we see on the earth today.

The multinational research team has been working for over a decade to compile the tree of life from existing fossil records and new molecular analyses. They show that many of the genetic 'ancestors' of the mammals we see around us today existed 85 million years ago, and survived the meteor impact that is thought to have killed the dinosaurs. However, throughout the Cretaceous epoch, when dinosaurs walked the earth, these mammal species were relatively few in number, and were prevented from diversi-



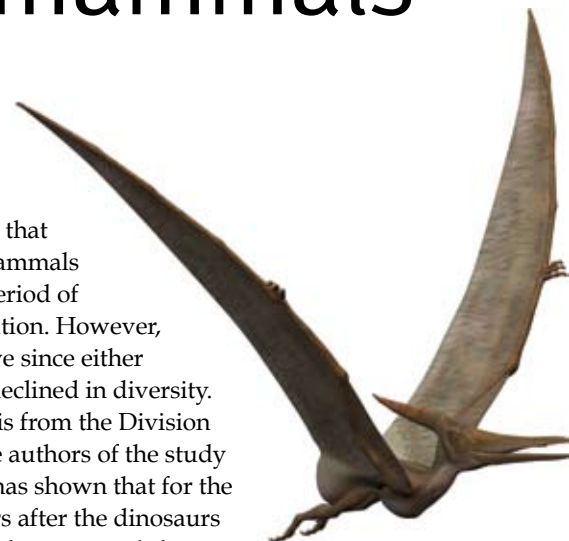
fying and evolving in ecosystems dominated by dinosaurs.

The tree of life shows that after the MEE, certain mammals did experience a rapid period of diversification and evolution. However, most of these groups have since either died out completely, or declined in diversity.

Professor Andy Purvis from the Division of Biology and one of the authors of the study explains: "Our research has shown that for the first 10 or 15 million years after the dinosaurs were wiped out, present day mammals kept a very low profile, while these other types of mammals were running the show. It looks like a later bout of 'global warming' may have kick-started today's diversity – not the death of the dinosaurs.

"This discovery rewrites our understanding of how we came to evolve on this planet, and the study as a whole gives a much clearer picture than ever before as to our place in nature."

— DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS



## Flower power

A protein acting as a long-distance signal from leaf to shoot-tip tells plants when to flower, says new research published in *Science Express* on 19 April.

The study reveals the likely mechanism by which the *Arabidopsis* plant flowers in response to changes in day length. Earlier research had shown that plants' leaves perceived seasonal changes in day length, which triggers a long-distance signal to travel through the plant's vascular system from the leaf to the shoot apex, where flowering is induced. However, the identity of the long-distance signal remained unclear.

This new research, carried out by Imperial's Dr Colin Turnbull from the Division of Biology and the Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research in Cologne, suggests that this signal is a protein known as Flowering Locus T Protein (FT protein), which is produced in leaves by the Flowering Locus T gene (FT gene). FT protein travels through the plant's vascular system to the shoot apex, where it activates other

genes, causing the plant to flower.

The research team were able to track the progress of the protein through the plant by tagging it with a green fluorescent protein originally isolated from jellyfish,



allowing it to be detected in living tissues using highly sensitive microscope systems.

The team then grafted two plants together, only one of which contained the gene for the fluorescent version of FT. This allowed them to show conclusively that FT protein moved from where it was produced in the leaves of one plant, across into the other plant.

Dr Colin Turnbull explains: "Over the past couple of years several labs made exciting discoveries all pointing to the FT gene being central to controlling flowering time. Now that we have been able to track FT protein moving from its source in leaves to its destination in the shoot tip, we have a plausible explanation for how plants respond to day length."

— DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS

► Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/news](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/news) for the full versions of all of these stories.

# Beyond books

## What can your library do for you?

If you haven't visited one of Imperial's 13 libraries across its eight campuses for a while, you may be surprised by what you find.

Reporter's Alexandra Platt paid a call to the Central Library on the South Kensington Campus to find out exactly what they have on offer.

The Library vision states its aim to provide 'a dynamic and innovative library serving the needs of research, learning and teaching that is at the leading edge in terms of services and collections', and a dedicated team of staff are on hand to do just that.

The College has one of the best collections of e-journals and databases in the UK with over 20,000 titles, all of which can be accessed from an individual's desktop 24/7. Anything the Library

doesn't already have, can be obtained through the inter-library loan service. The Library provides a good stock of all recommended texts for courses, and students are also well catered for with dedicated and high quality study space available for long hours, including 24/6 at the Central Library during exam time.

There are facilities for disabled staff and students, with experts on the Library staff to ensure their needs are met.

One of the greatest resources of the Library is its staff who hold a raft of knowledge about its resources and how to find information across all the College's subject areas. This was recognised by Investors in People accreditation gained in 2005, with the team now working hard toward re-accreditation.

With new academic handbook and student podcast projects on the team's horizon, perhaps it's time for you to take a trip to the Library.

—ALEXANDRA PLATT, COMMUNICATIONS



## What can the Library offer you?

Just some of the things that the Library offers.

### PILOT

The Postdoc Information Literacy Online Tutorial launched last week offers tutorials to complement the specialist subject help the Library currently provides. Available to all postdoctoral researchers via the virtual learning environment, WebCT, it allows them to test their knowledge on key parts of a tutorial to see if there are modules that could help to complete their understanding of issues about scholarly communication, and information retrieval and evaluation. Log in with your College username and password at [www.webct.imperial.ac.uk](http://www.webct.imperial.ac.uk) to take a test flight and earn your PILOT's licence.

### Metalib

Metalib is an information portal providing access to databases and electronic journals subscribed to by the Library. Many of the resources can be cross-searched, where a single search is carried out on more than one database. All resources can be accessed individually using links to the native interface. You can also use sets of resources (quick sets that have been created by subject librarians, or you can create your own set of favourite resources. Visit [www3.imperial.ac.uk/library/digital-library/metalibaccessstoeresources](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/library/digital-library/metalibaccessstoeresources) for more information.

### One-to-ones

As part of a range of research support services, subject librarians offer one-to-ones with academics who would like to learn more about the library's rapidly changing services and resources. Visit the website to find the correct member of staff to contact for you.

### OLIVIA

In 2003–04, the Library developed an online information literacy programme called Olivia (Online Virtual Information Assistant) using WebCT. The programme enables students to develop the skills and knowledge to find, evaluate and manage information effectively, and to understand the implications of plagiarism and correct referencing.







The Library management team. Top L-R: Diane Job, Liz Davis, Adrian Clark, Debbi Boden, Susan Howard, Janet Smith, Angus Brown, Trudy Breuss, Lorraine Windsor. Bottom L-R: Louise Doolan, Clare Jenkins, Ruth Cooper, Susanna Nutsford.

## Vital statistics

820,868 loans  
23,469 active borrowers  
1,110,684 visits  
3,279,607 downloads from e-journals  
9,071 books added to stock  
2014 study spaces  
3,000+ electronic books  
20,000 e-journals

(2005-06 figures)

## Twenty-first century makeover

The Central Library at South Kensington is enjoying a £10 million makeover.

Following preparatory work over the past year, the ground floor will be transformed into an exciting new informal study area from this summer.

Key features will include a learning café overlooking the Queen's Lawn, an IT learning suite with 50 new PCs and a variety of IT-equipped study and training rooms, a group learning zone with flexible and innovative furniture and a 'think-tank' zone with semi-open rooms for group work or spontaneous meetings. The floor will be wireless-enabled throughout, with a comprehensive network of power and data cabling for maximum flexibility.

The refurbishment incorporates the results of a survey last autumn when students were asked about their study preferences. Overwhelmingly, they wanted more PCs, a greater choice of study environments – with 25 per cent asking for group study areas and 75 per cent wanting quiet independent study

space – and somewhere to eat and drink while they studied.

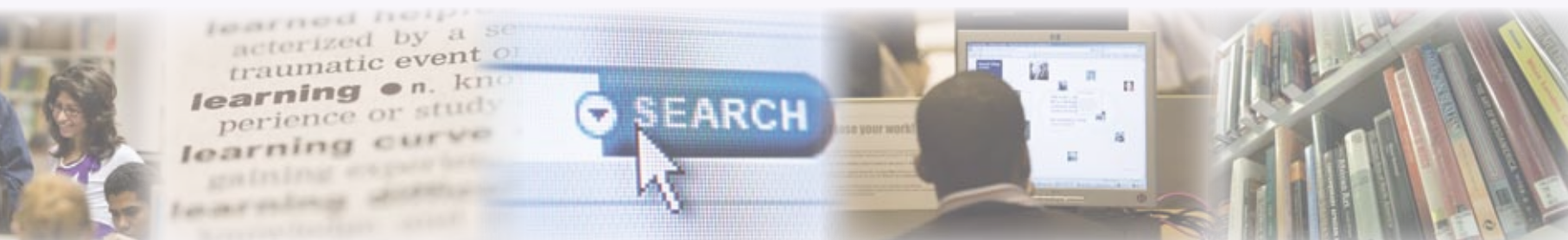
The ground floor improvements follow preparatory work over the past 12 months, such as relocating the Humanities Programme and essential infrastructure work to improve cooling and ventilation on levels 4 and 5 of the building. The ground floor redevelopment will start in July and should be complete by December 2007.

Clare Jenkins, Director of Library Services, said "These exciting improvements will ensure we can provide twenty-first century facilities to the 4,500 students who come through our doors every day. Our aim is to provide them with what they asked us for – a welcoming, secure study environment with quick and easy access to online resources."

Most of the more disruptive work will take place during the summer vacation, but to allow for any continuing inconvenience, the library has extended the period of 24-6 opening during the summer term.

—WENDY RAESIDE, COMMUNICATIONS

► For more information about all of the Library's services visit: [www3.imperial.ac.uk/library](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/library).



# New polio vaccine three times as effective

The new vaccine to prevent type-1 polio is almost three times as effective as the standard vaccine, according to new research published this month in *The Lancet*.

The study found that each dose of the new monovalent oral poliovirus vaccine, known as mOPV1, protected 30 per cent of susceptible children in northern India against paralytic poliomyelitis. The standard trivalent vaccine in the same setting protected just 11 per cent of children per dose.

This is the first published study to confirm the success of mOPV1, a high potency vaccine developed, licensed and introduced to immunisation rounds to combat type-1 polio in India in 2005.

mOPV1 targets type-1 polio, the most prevalent of the three strains of the disease, compared with the trivalent vaccine, which



targets types 1, 2 and 3. The efficacy of trivalent vaccines can be diminished because different strains of poliovirus interfere with one another inside the body, sometimes producing immunity to one strain but not another. Monovalent vaccines do not incur problems with interference between vaccine

strains because they include just one of the three strains.

Dr Nick Grassly, Infectious Disease Epidemiology, is the lead author of the study. He said: "Our research shows that the clinical efficacy of the monovalent vaccine in this difficult setting is about three times that of the trivalent vaccine against type-1. This is important, since a child has an 80 per cent chance of protection after five doses of this new vaccine. With the trivalent vaccine 14 doses were needed to reach this level of protection.

"The global eradication of type-2 wild poliovirus in 1999, probably due to the greater efficacy of the trivalent vaccine against this type, proves the concept that with a more efficacious vaccine, wild poliovirus can be eradicated," he added.

—LAURA GALLAGHER, COMMUNICATIONS

## Intervention the key to controlling flu outbreaks

Implementing public health interventions in the event of an emerging flu pandemic could have a major impact on mortality, according to new research in the journal *PNAS* analysing how US cities dealt with the 1918-19 Spanish influenza pandemic.

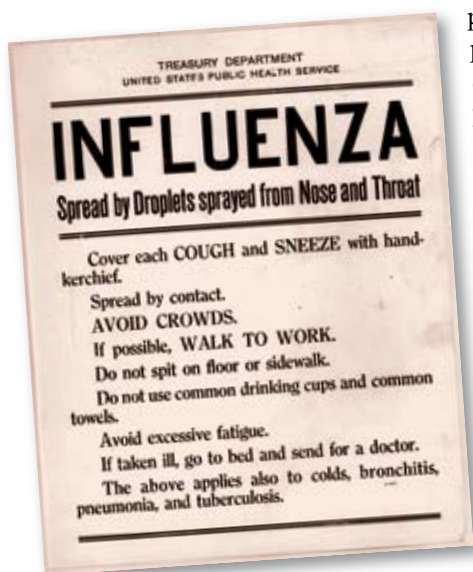
The new study shows that there were fewer deaths in 1918 in those US cities which implemented non-pharmacological interventions (NPIs) early on during the 1918 pandemic. The pandemic killed 600,000 people in the US and up to 50 million people worldwide.

NPIs limited contact between people in order to reduce the spread of the flu virus, which spreads from person to person in small droplets created by coughing and sneezing. The research, which examined 16 US cities, demonstrates that infection rates were often reduced by more than 30 per cent while NPIs were in force.

The study was carried out by researchers from the Medical Research Council Centre for Outbreak Analysis and Modelling at Imperial, and the University of Utrecht.

The researchers suggest that interventions in the event of a present day pandemic would save the most lives if kept in place until a vaccine becomes available to protect the population.

—LAURA GALLAGHER, COMMUNICATIONS



## Group targeting fails to curb HIV

Interventions that target individuals with a high risk of contracting HIV have a negligible impact on HIV transmission in the general population, according to a new study of communities in Zimbabwe, published at the end of last month. The three-year study shows that community-based peer education, free condom distribution, and clinic-based STI treatment and counselling services targeted at female sex workers and their male clients had no impact on HIV incidence in the wider community.



The study shows that it was possible to reduce the incidence of HIV in men—but not the women—who were reached by the programme. However, the reduction in HIV incidence amongst these men did not have the anticipated impact on HIV incidence in the larger community.

The researchers, writing in the journal *PLoS Medicine*, had hoped that levels of HIV in the community as a whole could be reduced through targeting men and women who were perceived to have the riskiest sexual behaviour and reducing the incidence of HIV amongst them. They believed that this would reduce HIV incidence in the wider sexual networks where these people were thought to be key.

Dr Simon Gregson, lead author of the study from the Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, said: "The results of the study were disappointing. Targeting smaller high-risk groups did not have the knock-on effect we had hoped and in addition, we weren't able to reduce the incidence of HIV in women in the way we had anticipated. We wanted to reduce women's reliance on sex work through our micro-credit scheme but this failed, partly because of the economic downturn in Zimbabwe".

—LAURA GALLAGHER, COMMUNICATIONS

# Give the dog a diet!

## Feeding Fido less could lengthen his life

Changes caused to bugs in the gut by restricting calorie intake may partly explain why dietary restriction can extend lifespan, according to new analysis from a lifelong project looking at the effects of dietary restriction on Labrador Retriever dogs.

Gut microbes live symbiotically in human and animal bodies, playing an important role in metabolism. Abnormalities in some types of gut microbes have recently been linked to diseases such as diabetes and obesity.

The research, published in the *Journal of Proteome Research*, was based on a study in which 24 dogs were paired, with one dog in each pair given 25 per cent less food than the other. Those with a restricted intake of calories lived, on average, about 1.8 years longer than those with a greater intake and

they had fewer problems with diseases such as diabetes and osteoarthritis, plus an older median age for onset of late-life diseases.

The researchers, from Imperial, Nestlé Research Center (NRC) and Nestlé-Purina, found long-term differences in the metabolism of the dietary-restricted and non-dietary-restricted dogs. Metabolic profile plays a key role in determining animals' response to illness and their susceptibility to disease.

Professor Jeremy Nicholson, SORA, said: "This fascinating study was primarily focused on trying to find optimised nutritional regimes to keep pet animals, such as dogs, healthy and as long-lived as possible. However these types of lifelong studies can help us understand human diseases and ageing as well, and that is the added bonus of being able to do long-term non-invasive metabolic monitoring".

—LAURA GALLAGHER, COMMUNICATIONS



# Snowball Earth period not so snowy

The theory that the Earth once underwent a prolonged time of extreme global freezing has been dealt a blow by new evidence that periods of warmth occurred during this so-called Snowball Earth era.

Analyses of glacial sedimentary rocks in Oman, published online last month in *Geology*, have produced clear evidence of hot-cold cycles in the Cryogenian period, roughly 850-544 million years ago. The UK-Swiss team claims that this evidence undermines hypotheses of an ice age so severe that Earth's oceans completely froze over.

Using a technique known as the chemical index of alteration, the team examined the chemical and mineral composition of sedi-

mentary rocks to search for evidence of any climatic changes. A high index of alteration would indicate high rates of chemical weathering of contemporary land surfaces, which causes rocks to quickly decompose and is enhanced by humid or warm conditions. Conversely, a low chemical index of alteration would indicate low rates of chemical weathering during cool, dry conditions.

The researchers found three intervals with evidence for extremely low rates of chemical weathering, indicating pulses of cold climate. However these intervals alternate with periods of high rates of chemical weathering, likely to represent interglacial periods with warmer climates.

These warmer periods mean that, despite the severe glaciation of this time in Earth history, the complete deep-freeze suggested by Snowball

Earth theories never took place, and that some areas of open, unfrozen ocean continued to exist. Leader of the study, Professor Philip Allen, Department of Earth Science and Engineering, explains:

"If the Earth had become fully frozen for a long period of time, these climatic cycles could not exist – the Earth would have changed into a bleak world with almost no weather, since no evaporation from the oceans could take place, and little snowfall would be possible. In fact, once fully frozen, it is difficult to create the right conditions to cause a thaw, since much of the incoming solar radiation would be reflected back by the snow and ice. The evidence of climatic cycles is therefore hostile to the idea of Snowball Earth."

—ABIGAIL SMITH, COMMUNICATIONS



► Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/news](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/news) for the full versions of all of these stories.

## archive corner

# Student magazines, then and now

With no student newspapers or electronic communication tools such as those on which we rely today, spreading the student word was an entirely different, and more leisurely, matter in 1907. Student opinion was voiced by essay-style opinion pieces in the constituent college journals, the tenor of which was formal in tone, using measured language similar to that used by debating societies. The point of the article could sometimes be slow to emerge and today's reader might spend quite some time puzzling over phrases and humorous expressions.



The Students' Union and Magazine board of the Royal College of Science and the Royal School of Mines.

record their impressions of College life..." In October 1907, the Editor wrote: "Let us never forget that the magazine is the property of the students, upon whom all responsibility for its success should fall..." Few of today's contributors to *Felix* would disagree with that!

Contributors to *The Central*, the magazine of the City and Guilds College Old Students Association, included contemporary staff and students at Imperial, providing an interesting vignette of College life at the time. It contained articles about engineering projects, as well as snippets about the Old Centralians and the engineering profession. The September editorial for 1907 captures the anticipation and uncertainty of Imperial's earliest days: "Most students will be aware that the college is now part of a new greater organisation to be known as the Imperial College of Science and Technology. At present, no definite information is available as to the future, the governing body having but just been constituted..."

— ANNE BARRETT, ARCHIVES AND CORPORATE RECORDS

► Contact the College Archives team at [cru@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:cru@imperial.ac.uk) if you'd like to know more about what students thought of life at Imperial at the start of our 100 years of living science.

However, the intention of student publications has not changed so very much in the intervening century. *The Phoenix* was the magazine of the Royal College of Science and Royal School of Mines. Its 'Lady Editor' invited writing from her fellow women students—who numbered 12 in the 1906-07 session—stating: "in its pages they may air their grievances—if any—or



Felix, Imperial's current student newspaper.

## Learning on the job

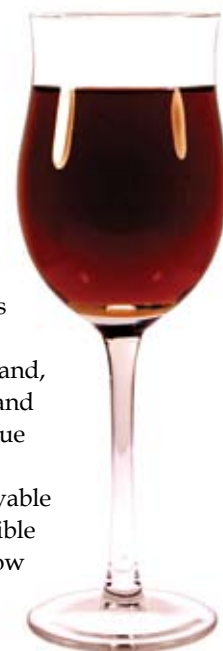
Imperial is about learning and that applies to staff as well as students. Learning at Work Day on Thursday 24 May is a national initiative designed to encourage people to try their hand at new skills and to use the workplace as a resource to explore new experiences.

In previous years, staff have tried their hand at everything from Tai Chi to wine tasting with Mandarin for beginners somewhere in between. This year we are arranging an even wider range of events and, under the umbrella theme of 'Live Long and Prosper', we can guarantee that this unique day will be stimulating for you.

Learning at its best should be an enjoyable process. I hope that as many staff as possible will take a little time out, from what I know are busy schedules, to have a go at something new.

—CHRIS GOSLING, HUMAN RESOURCES

► *Learning at Work Day* is run by the Staff Development Unit. Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/staffdevelopment](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/staffdevelopment) to find out more. Bookings for this year's event can be made from Monday 14 May at 10.00.



## In good health and safety

The winners of the fourth annual Health and Safety Awards were announced on 23 March with winners receiving their prizes from the Rector.

This year's £2,000 prizewinner was Ms Prupti Malde, Departmental Operations Coordinator and Safety Officer for the Department of Oncology within the Division of Surgery, Oncology, Reproductive Biology and Anaesthetics. Prupti has been responsible for many successful projects and initiatives, including authoring numerous guidelines, procedures and risk assessments, a new, more rigorous approach to safety training and the personal safety induction of new staff, students and visitors. She has also been responsible for the maintenance of records and the servicing of the Departmental Safety Committee to the highest possible professional standards.



Prupti Malde has won this year's £2,000 prize.

The Rector said of her achievement: "A new generation of researchers will carry the example of Prupti's exacting and disciplined approach to safety with them throughout their careers—she is a worthy recipient of this

# Mission accomplished

After weeks of rigorous training, Sunday 22 April saw our 'Marathon Man', Ben Ryall, pounding pavements from Blackheath to Buckingham Palace as he conquered the world famous Flora London Marathon in just two hours 53 minutes.

Ben was chosen from a line-up of hopefuls to represent the College's Student Opportunities Fund after penning a compelling personal statement and taking part in a fitness challenge event at *Ethos* back in January. His progress has been closely tracked through a training diary on the College's website where visitors have also been able to sponsor Ben online.

Ben was joined by a mix of 36,396 professional athletes, celebrities and fun-runners along the 26.2 mile course which stretched from Greenwich to the Mall, taking in some of London's most famous sights and landmarks along the way. The final few miles took Ben past the Tower of London, along the River Thames and beyond Nelson's Column. The end was well and truly in sight as our runner passed under the shadow of his namesake, Big Ben, into Birdcage Walk and finally, along the Mall.

Sweltering heat made this year's London Marathon an even greater test of endurance.



Ben Ryall completed the marathon in two hours 53 minutes and has raised over £23,000 for the Student Opportunities Fund so far.

Temperatures soared to around 21 degrees at midday, making it the hottest event since 1996. Speaking at the finish line Ben said: "This has been both a challenging and rewarding exercise for me. It's a really tough 26 miles especially in the heat, but the crowd

are fantastic and really encourage you to get to the finish line." Following the gruelling race, Ben headed back to South Kensington to join other staff and student runners at *Ethos* to enjoy a well-deserved sauna and sports massage.

So far, Ben has raised over £23,000 for the College's Student Opportunities Fund. The fund provides entry scholarships for undergraduate and postgraduate students who might otherwise be unable to study at Imperial College due to financial need. Since it was established in 2003, the fund has awarded 60 scholarships to talented and deserving students, with a further 37 due to enrol in September. Ben comments: "The Student Opportunities Fund does some truly fantastic work. Those who have sponsored me have really made a donation to the College's future and invested in the lives of tomorrow's students."

Congratulations to all Imperial staff who ran the marathon this year.

—SOPHIE CORCORAN, OFFICE OF ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT

► *It's not too late to pledge your support for Ben. Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/alumni/marathon2007](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/alumni/marathon2007) to sponsor his efforts online.*



The Rector (second left) with the Silwood team who have won the commendation award at this year's Health and Safety Awards.

year's award."

This year the adjudication panel agreed that the two £500 commendation awards should be rolled together to reward a team who have worked together to establish a safe system of working at the Silwood Park Campus.

The winners, Dennis Murphy, Gary Scrace and Dave Sammons from Support Services, and Heather Phillips of the Reactor Centre, were praised by the Rector. He said the panel had been particularly impressed by their example of interdepartmental and cross-campus teamworking and shared understanding of problems towards the achievement of a common goal.

The judging panel comprised of Professor Steve Smith, Principal of the Faculty of Medicine and Chair of the Health and Safety Management Committee, Ian Gillett, Safety Director and Chris Gosling, Director of HR.

—ALEXANDRA PLATT, COMMUNICATIONS

## Researchers go back to school

Placing cutting edge researchers into secondary schools is the idea behind a new initiative being launched at Imperial.

*Researchers in Residence* is a nationwide project being introduced for the first time at the College and will be run by the Outreach Office. It is funded by the Wellcome Trust and Research Councils UK.

The project aims to enrich the classroom experience and inspire school pupils to take an interest in science. It also hopes to provide positive role models and challenge stereotypes associated with science. The new scheme provides an opportunity for school pupils to meet a young researcher who is knowledgeable and passionate about their subject.

Schools taking part will work alongside the researchers to draw up their own projects and teaching agenda focusing on maths, physics and chemistry.

Lynette Clapp, a PhD student in the Centre for Environmental Policy, has enrolled for the programme. "This is a brilliant opportunity for young researchers, like myself, to excite school children about science and at the same time get some experience of teaching."

Students from the College will start their placements in May. Dr Annalisa Alexander, who is running the scheme and is part of Imperial's Outreach team, says: "This programme offers so many benefits to both the researcher and the school, as well as increasing our network of contacts engaged in school-outreach work. It's definitely a win-win situation for everyone concerned."

—NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

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

# Centenary Staff Party Update

**Wednesday 11 July**  
**Mark the date in your diary – it's the Centenary Staff Party!**

In the run up to the party, each edition of *Reporter* is going to reveal a different element of what you can look forward to on the day.

This time, read about Prince's Gardens, where staff can enjoy a live festival of music from our century.

On the hour, every hour between 14.00 and 19.00, a different music act will take staff on a musical journey through the twentieth century.

Enjoy a barbecue and bar in the gardens with picnic blankets and gazebos available.

**Charleston Chasers** • Famed for their boundless energy, infectious enthusiasm and masterful musicianship, the Charleston Chasers will delight the audience with their vibrant show, *The Roaring 20's*.

**Elvis tribute act** • Wearing a 1971 replica black costume, this Elvis tribute act will wow you with his imitation of the 'king'!  
**Vote in advance for your favourite Elvis songs to be sung at the party by visiting:**  
[www.imperial.ac.uk/centenary/staffparty](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/centenary/staffparty)



**Rubber Soul** • With an enthusiasm for classic soul, this band developed their style through various experiences of classical and popular music. Their set starts with rock 'n' roll and moves on to Motown.

**The Fab Beatles** • Praise has come from all quarters for this startlingly accurate representation of the famous four.

**Class of '87** • Class of '87 brings you the biggest, fattest, coolest tracks of the decade; so flick back that fringe, slip on the Raybans, strap that great big mobile to your back and come check out the Class of '87—the unrivalled live tribute to the 80's!

**90s act** • Still to be confirmed



For more info including transport information and FAQs:  
[www.imperial.ac.uk/Centenary/staffparty](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/Centenary/staffparty)

# Celebrating long service

## 30 years

Professor John Darlington, Professor and Director of London e-Science Centre, Computing  
 Mrs Vera Kasey, Technician, Physics

## 20 years

Mr Peter O'Gara, Medical Laboratory Scientific Officer, NHLI  
 Mrs Catherine Graham, Student Admissions Officer, Registry

## Mr Thomas Conway, Personal Assistant, NHLI



Tom Conway started his career at Imperial based at St Mary's Campus as an Accounts Clerk. After 12 years there he took a position at the NHLI and finally two years later ended up at the Royal Brompton where he is now the Departmental Administrator for the Clinical Studies Unit. "I'm not someone who can sit at a desk all day every day," he says. "Every job I've had here has allowed me to get out and about and meet lots of interesting people." He says it's the people that he's worked with that have kept him here and that if you're content in your job "you're very lucky indeed". Perhaps one of the most interesting aspects of Tom's time here was managing the accounts of a student bar based at St Mary's. He explains: "It's always been a pleasure to be involved with the social aspects of the College as well as the professional!"

## Dr Katharine Hardy, Reader in Reproductive Biology, SORA

Kate Hardy began her career at Imperial as a technician, moving with her collaborator from the MRC, happy to be able to take on a PhD in early embryology, an area she loved. Dr Hardy, who is now a Reader in Reproductive Biology, is based at the Hammersmith Campus and is researching the ovary, after concluding that "to make a good embryo you need a good egg". One of the things that she values about the organisation is the chance to work in a multidisciplinary environment. She said: "Since the Royal Postgraduate Medical School became part of Imperial, it's opened up a lot of chances to work with a range of people, one of whom is my husband, Professor Jaroslav Stark, a mathematician here at the College".



## Miss Siew Tin Lim, Course Administrator, Business School

Just trying to keep up with the changes in an organisation that moves as fast as Imperial has been enough to keep Siew Tin Lim very busy over the last 20 years. Siew, Programme Administrator for the Executive MBA Programme based in the Business School, has held her current role since 1992. She finds contact with the students the most rewarding aspect of her job. Siew started at Imperial as a general secretary in the Department of Management Science, which merged with the Department of Social and Economic Studies to become the Management School and is now Tanaka Business School. In that time, Siew has seen many changes, saying: "I've worked for seven course directors and watched the South Kensington Campus grow tremendously. This is certainly an organisation that doesn't stand still."



Staff featured have celebrated anniversaries during the period of 1 April to 11 May 2007. Data is supplied by HR and is correct at the time of going to press.

# Obituary

## Kenneth 'Geordie' Ormston

Mandy Wilcox, from the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology Division and a good friend of Kenneth's, writes: "Sadly, Kenneth 'Geordie' Ormston, Technical Services Assistant at the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, was found dead at home on Friday 9 March having suffered a massive heart attack. Geordie had worked at the Kennedy Institute for close on 20 years and was a loved, well respected and loyal employee and friend to everyone who knew him. Geordie's willingness to help others above and beyond the call of duty, and his ability to make people laugh with his brilliant sense of humour will be remembered by all of us who had the privilege of knowing him. Our love and condolences go to his son Tyler and all his family."



► *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)*

# welcome

## new starters

Ms Keren Alleyne, ICT  
Mr Imam Anshory, ICT  
Dr Hutan Ashrafian, SORA  
Dr Arun Baksi, NHLI  
Mr Nicholas Baldry, EPHPC  
Dr Wendy Barclay, Investigative Science  
Dr Eerke Berger, NHLI  
Dr Szabolcs Bertok, SORA  
Ms Julie Blackbeard, SORA  
Mr James Blackley, Sport and Leisure Services  
Dr Will Branford, Physics  
Mr Felix Braun, Physics  
Mr Daniel Brierley, Clinical Sciences  
Dr Frederic Brischoux, Clinical Sciences  
Ms Beverly Buahin, Investigative Science  
Mr Mohamad Buralah, Sport and Leisure Services  
Professor Laurent Calvet, Business School  
Mr Steven Capper, Institute for Mathematical Sciences  
Mr Ennio Capria, Molecular Biosciences  
Miss Rachel Cavill, SORA  
Dr John Chambers, EPHPC  
Dr Deborah Clarke, NHLI  
Mr Neville Clarke, Estates  
Mr Riki Clarke, Business School  
Dr Tracey Clarke, Chemistry  
Miss Sian Cousins, NMH  
Mr Andrew Day, Library Services  
Miss Lucinda Denness, Biology  
Dr Maria Detsika, SORA  
Mrs Dolores Dios Oubina, EPHPC  
Mr Matt Downer, ICT  
Dr Zahid Durrani, EEE  
Dr Gillian Elliott, Investigative Science  
Dr Paul Evans, Biology  
Ms Farrah Fatih, Biology  
Mr Matthew Gardiner, Kennedy Institute  
Mr Abhilok Garg, Medicine  
Dr Lucia Gargiulo, Investigative Science  
Ms Julaiha Gent, NHLI

**Neville Clarke** has been appointed as Project Manager (Minor and Special Works) in Support Services. He is a chartered surveyor who joins Imperial from University College London where he has worked for the last two and a half years. Before that Neville worked at Oxford University, where his main role entailed looking after the fabric of old, new and historic buildings. Neville says: "I'm looking forward to working in project management at a leading UK university."



Dr Irene Guimatsia, Aeronautics  
Mr Lizhong Hao, NHLI  
Mr Gordon Herbert, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Dr Joaquin Hortal, Biology  
Mr Stefan Hoyle, Natural Sciences  
Dr Robert Hughes, Medicine  
Mr Benjamin Johnson, Investigative Science  
Ms Ayesha Khan, SORA

Dr Peter King, SORA  
Mrs Rehana Ladak, Natural Sciences  
Dr Ulyana Lalo, Medicine  
Ms Ngaire Latch, Medicine  
Dr Mary Leamy, NMH  
Miss Nora Lecoecur, Chemical Engineering  
Dr Judith Legrand, EPHPC  
Dr Chee Lim, Physics  
Dr Cong Ling, EEE  
Dr Naomi Low-Beer, SORA  
Dr Vincent Luboz, SORA  
Dr Brenda Luken, Investigative Science  
Dr Pares Malhotra, NMH  
Mr John Manzi, NHLI  
Mr Ross Marley, Estates  
Miss Andrea Martins, Bioengineering  
Mrs Sabin Masud, Business School  
Mr Emmanuel Mazars, EEE  
Mr Michal Mielcarek, Clinical Sciences  
Dr Jeremy Moore, Molecular Biosciences  
Mr Andrew Morris, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Dr Leonardo Mostarda, Computing  
Dr Suman Mukhopadhyay, NMH  
Ms Ukachi Nwosu, ICT  
Miss Grace Osoata, NHLI  
Dr Francesca Palombo, Chemical Engineering  
Mr William Panduro Vazquez, Physics  
Dr Rosalind Parkes, Medicine  
Miss Amy Parkin, Medicine  
Ms Veronica Peerman, Business School  
Dr Albert Phillimore, Biology  
Miss Pravina Pindoria, Medicine  
Ms Martina Pintani, Physics  
Miss Evangelia Prodromidi, Medicine  
Mr Alexander Pudney, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Miss Raphaële Raupp, Institute of Biomedical Engineering  
Dr Anna Reed, NHLI  
Mr Ben Ryall, Biology  
Dr Anne Rytkonen, Investigative Science  
Ms Georgia Sakellari, EEE  
Miss Akiko Sato, Centre for Environmental Policy  
Mr Antonio Scalfari, NMH  
Dr David Sharp, NMH

Ms Emma Shaw, Library Services  
Dr Katarzyna Smolarczyk, NHLI  
Dr Monika Solanki, Computing  
Mrs Aparna Subaiah Varma, Medicine  
Dr Andrei Tarasov, Medicine  
Mr John Telford, Registry  
Ms Dhani Tracey-White, NHLI  
Ms Guadalupe Trigo-Rossier, Faculty of Medicine  
Mrs Anne Valentine, SORA  
Miss Nicole Van Stiphout, NHLI  
Mr Rui Vieira, EPHPC  
Mr Keith Willson, NHLI  
Mr Jose Zambrano Navarro, Faculty of Medicine

## farewell

### retirement

Mr Ron Croucher, Estates (27 years)  
Mr David Slingsby, Estates (17 years)

Mr Americo Teles, Estates (24 years)  
Mr Ronald Tootill, Catering Services (13 years)

## moving on

Dr Nicholas Achilleos, Physics  
Mr David Akam, Estates  
Dr Niam Al-Mahdi, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Dr Ataollah Amini, Molecular Biosciences  
Dr Stefan Anker, NHLI  
Mr Stuart Anthony, Medicine  
Mr Joseph Antoniw, NHLI  
Dr John Bainbridge, Kennedy Institute  
Mr Alexander Bauer, NMH  
Miss Dorin Benardout, SORA  
Mr James Berry, Biology  
Dr Freya Blekman, Physics  
Ms Louise Briggs, Molecular Biosciences  
Dr Michael Brocklehurst, Business School  
Mr Charles Brookes, Estates  
Miss Melinda Brown, ICT  
Mr Steve Buckle, Business School  
Mr Michael Buckles, Estates (15 years)  
Mr Milos Buhavac, Medicine  
Mr Colin Burden, Estates (7 years)  
Mr John Carder, Estates (20 years)  
Ms Claire Carter, Library Services  
Mr Alan Cheeseman, Estates (15 years)  
Mr Alan Cheshire, Cell and Molecular Biology (6 years)  
Dr Graham Clarke, NHLI  
Mr Clive Coleman, Security Services (7 years)  
Dr Steven Coppen, NHLI  
Mr Manual Da Silva, Catering Services  
Mr Jamie Davis, Estates  
Dr Alessandra Di Pierro, Computing  
Ms Marie Emson, SORA (8 years)  
Dr Stefan Eriksson, Physics  
Mr Xiang Feng, Computing  
Dr Joel Fine, Mathematics  
Mr Sarwan Flora, Estates  
Mr Dorian Gaertner, Computing  
Dr Altaf Abdul Gaffar, Computing  
Dr Wei Gao, EPHPC  
Miss Lisa Gardner, Medicine  
Mr Zishaan Gatrad, EEE  
Mr Michael Goddard, SORA (6 years)  
Dr Tony Goldstone, Clinical Sciences  
Mrs Holly Graham, NHLI (5 years)  
Mr Paul Griffiths, ICT  
Dr Alan Groves, Clinical Sciences  
Miss Ann-Marie Hanna, Faculty of Medicine Centre  
Dr Erwan Hascoet, Aeronautics  
Mrs Sara Hawkrigde, Library Services  
Dr Lucy Holcombe, Investigative Science  
Dr Bin Hu, Chemical Engineering  
Mr James Irving, Registry  
Dr Christopher Jackson, EPHPC  
Miss Helen Jenkins, EPHPC  
Dr Taiwan Jiang, Medicine  
Mrs Erica Johnson, NHLI (5 years)  
Professor Tim Jones, Chemistry (16 years)  
Dr Ageliki Karatza, Medicine  
Ms Jessica King, Computing  
Mr Tom Knight, ESE  
Mrs Ewa Kokot-Caffa, Sport and Leisure Services  
Dr Zisis Kozlakidis, Biology  
Mr Vladimir Krug, Catering Services  
Dr Najma Latif, NHLI (17 years)  
Dr Joon Lee, NHLI  
Dr Lan Liu, Chemical Engineering  
Mr Richard Lovegrove, SORA  
Miss Eleanor Lucas, Centre for Environmental Policy  
Dr Piotr Lugiewicz, Mathematics  
Mr Paul Lynch, Faculty of Medicine Centre

Miss Katie Lyne, Investigative Science  
Mr Allan Mackintosh, Estates (17 years)  
Dr Alistair Mathie, Cell and Molecular Biology (7 years)  
Dr Angela McCullagh, NHLI  
Dr Jane Minay, Materials (7 years)  
Mrs Catherine Mischler, Natural Sciences  
Mr James Moody, Computing  
Mrs Diana Moore, Physics (6 years)  
Dr Anne-Sophie Morel, Medicine (8 years)  
Dr Elaine Murphy, Medicine  
Mr Greg Murphy, Conference Office  
Mr Paul Musson, Investigative Science  
Dr Dinesh Nair, Chemical Engineering  
Dr Simon Naisbitt, Materials  
Mr Sarkhell Nawroly, Kennedy Institute (5 years)  
Dr Helen Neighbour, NHLI  
Dr Aisha Newth, EPHPC  
Professor James Noble, Computing  
Mr Andrew Norton, Biology  
Ms Chantal Nsabimana, NHLI  
Ms Suzanne O'Halloran, Development and Corporate Affairs  
Ms Isobel Okoye, Investigative Science  
Dr Meto Onwuamaegbu, Medicine  
Mr Nicholas Oorloff, Medicine  
Miss Eniola Osifodunrin, Medicine  
Miss Oluwapero Osinowo, Catering Services  
Ms Lauren Paton, Catering Services  
Mr David Patrick, ICT (33 years)  
Mr Neal Pauley, Estates  
Ms Melanie Peck, Sport and Leisure Services  
Dr Michele Petteni, Physics  
Dr Martin Pickstone, Investigative Science  
Miss Emma Piper, NHLI  
Mr Jonathan Pymm, Strategy and Planning  
Dr Omar Qazi, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Ms Laverne Quow, NMH  
Ms Niki Ranade, NMH  
Mr Alexander Rodway, SORA  
Ms Amy Rogers, Business School  
Dr Rafael Torres Martin de Rosales, Chemistry  
Mr David Rothwell, Estates  
Dr Deborah Rutter, NMH (7 years)  
Dr Gihan Ryu, Physics  
Dr Arghya Sarkhel, NMH  
Mr Mark Saunders, Biology  
Mr Russ Sese, Human Resources  
Dr Sunil Shah, EPHPC  
Dr Eleanor Shaw, EPHPC  
Dr Rachel Shrimpton, Medicine  
Dr Theodoor Smit, Chemistry  
Miss Emma Smith, SORA  
Dr Olivia Stevenson, Medicine  
Dr Ken Suzuki, NHLI (8 years)  
Mr Keith Sydney, Estates (16 years)  
Dr Alon Talmor, SORA  
Mr Jacob Thorne, Library Services (7 years)  
Mr Henry Tilney, SORA  
Mr Ernest Turro, EPHPC  
Dr Evangelos Vaitsis, Chemical Engineering  
Dr Victoria Wallace, SORA  
Miss Lucy Williams, Mechanical Engineering (5 years)  
Dr Eugene Zwane, EPHPC

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This data is supplied by HR and covers the period 11 March to 14 April 2007. 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.

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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

25 APRIL 2007 17.30–18.30

### Freak Waves: fact or fiction?

Professor Chris Swan

INAUGURAL LECTURE

» Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley Building

Registration in advance: amanda.cerny@imperial.ac.uk

25 APRIL 2007 16.00

### The Cell Club

Theresa Ward and Kirsty Newman from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

» Room 122, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

26 APRIL 2007 13.00–13.45

### Jessica Chan (Piano)

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

» Reed Lecture Theatre, Sherfield Building

26 APRIL 2007 12.30

### Structural Insights into Aquaporin Gating

Dr Richard Neutze

FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES SEMINAR

G34, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

30 APRIL 2007 17.30–18.30

### There is More to the Delivery of Good Healthcare than the Prescription

Professor Martyn Partridge

PROFESSORIAL LECTURE

» Paul Wood Lecture Theatre, Guy Scadding Building, NHLI, Royal Brompton Campus

Registration in advance: l.spittles@imperial.ac.uk

30 APRIL 2007 14.00–18.45

### Institute of Systems Biology Launch Symposium

With Keynote Lecture at 17.45: *The Principles of Systems Biology with Multi-Level Modelling of the Heart*

Denis Noble

» G34, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

Registration in advance: amy.thompson@imperial.ac.uk

1 MAY 2007 14.00

### Is Rheology Theology?

Professor Denis Weaire

SYSTEMS ENGINEERING SEMINAR SERIES

» CPSE Seminar Room, Top Floor, Roderick Hill Building

1 MAY 2007 17.00–18.00

### Infection and Autoimmunity: friend or foe?

Professor Anne Cooke

ALMROTH WRIGHT LECTURE SERIES

» Anthony de Rothschild Lecture Theatre, 2nd Floor, St Mary's Campus

3 MAY 2007 13.00–13.45

### Touchwood

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

» Reed Lecture Theatre, Sherfield Building

3 MAY 2007 17.30–18.30

### Giving Stem Cells a New Home

Professor Francesco Dazzi

INAUGURAL LECTURE

» Seminar Room, Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, Charing Cross Campus

Registration in advance: l.spittles@imperial.ac.uk

10 MAY 2007 13.00 – 13.45

### Peter Martin (Lute)

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

» Reed Lecture Theatre, Sherfield Building

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

## take note

The *Undergraduate Prospectus* for 2008 entry is out now.

» Ask your Departmental Administrator for a copy or visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/ugprospectus](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/ugprospectus) for the online version.



## classifieds

**House to rent** Quiet 2/3-bedroom house, close to the tube, 30 minutes from the West End. Designer bathroom, modern kitchen. Available late July/early August, £400 per week. Email willidano@googlemail.com or call +44 (0)20 8446 7748 for more information.

Reporter now includes a regular classifieds section. 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.

## volunteering

The Volunteer Centre, part of Imperial Outreach, currently has over 250 active projects and all are listed on [www.imperial.ac.uk/volunteering](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/volunteering). You can also subscribe to the weekly newsletter by sending an email to [volunteering@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:volunteering@imperial.ac.uk).

### Host tea parties for elderly people

Project: Volunteer Host

Project ID: 83

Organisation: Contact the Elderly

Date(s): Sunday – once or twice a year (or more if wanted)

Time(s): 15.00–17.30

Location: London (within the M25)

Volunteers needed to invite a Contact the Elderly group into their home for afternoon tea once or twice a year. Groups of between 10 and 16 people visit a different home every month and spend a few hours in the company of friends, old and new. This is an extremely rewarding opportunity to help improve the lives of an escalating number of lonely elderly people, who are simply too frail to go out alone. Your home must have access to a downstairs toilet.



To take part in this scheme or to hear more about volunteering in general, contact the Volunteer Centre on 020 7594 8141 or email [volunteering@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:volunteering@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).

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).

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**Editor**  
Alexandra Platt  
Tel +44 (0)20 759 46715  
email [a.platt@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:a.platt@imperial.ac.uk)

**Photography**  
Emma Bowkett  
Tom Whipps  
Cheryl Apsee

