



## Spotlight on Graduation

Behind the scenes at the  
Postgraduate Awards  
Ceremonies **CENTRE PAGES**



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100 years of living science

# 100

# in brief

## Caulcott to manage research

Dr Celia Caulcott has joined the College as Research Manager on 3 May. Working to the Deputy Rector, Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, she will be responsible for the coordination of research activity between the faculties and for promoting the College's central strategic research direction. Collaboration at the boundaries of faculties, departments and centres is an important area of growth and represents a major opportunity for the College. Dr Caulcott's role will be to facilitate the multi-dimensional and complex series of interactions that constitute modern research and to ensure that external funders see a 'joined up' approach by the various component parts of the College.



## McComb appointed co-director

Dr David McComb, Reader in Materials Characterisation, has been appointed the new Co-Director of the London Centre for Nanotechnology (LCN), it was



announced on 10 May. Dr McComb will work closely with Professor Gabriel Aeppli, Co-Director from University College London, in leading the LCN. The LCN is a joint venture bringing together the nanotechnology expertise of Imperial and UCL. Dr McComb welcomed his appointment, saying: "I'm delighted to have the opportunity to join Professor Aeppli at the head of what I believe is the UK's most dynamic nanotech research organisation. It's an exciting time to be working in this field in the UK and my colleagues at the LCN are committed to developing nanotech solutions across a broad spectrum of physical and biomedical sciences."

## Research Excellence Awards 2007

The College is pleased to announce the second round of its Research Excellence Awards. The scheme is designed to reward research teams which demonstrate high academic achievement and that have significant future potential. Each award of up to £150,000 is, unlike research project grants, intended for blue-skies research. Research teams wishing to apply for an award should complete an application form and submit it, via their faculty, by Friday 22 June. Please submit forms to Sibe Mennema at [s.mennema@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:s.mennema@imperial.ac.uk) or call ext. 41593.

► Visit [www3.imperial.ac.uk/spectrum/aboutimperial/alerts/researchexcellenceawards](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/spectrum/aboutimperial/alerts/researchexcellenceawards) for more information.

Imperial College  
London

100 years of living science

100

## Celebrate in style The Centenary Ball

Come celebrate 100 years of living science at the largest formal dinner and party of the Centenary year. With big name acts and DJs all night, plus a fun fair, casino, big wheel, dodgems, carousel, laser quest and giant table football!



Join over 2,000 staff, students, and alumni on **Saturday 16 June 2007**. Visit the website for full details and tickets.

[imperialcollegeunion.org/ball](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/ball)

*Special VIP tickets are available: to staff and alumni which grant access to the VIP bar. The VIP bar will have complimentary champagne and entertainment throughout the night and offers the perfect place to mingle with friends.*

## AHSC news

- Consultation on the merger of Hammersmith Hospitals NHS Trust, St Mary's Trust and integration with Imperial to create an Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC) started on 1 May and will run to 31 July.
- All staff will shortly receive a copy of a leaflet (pictured) outlining the proposals and are encouraged to offer their views via the independent consultants.
- Meetings will take place throughout June to update staff on progress with the AHSC. A full list of dates will shortly be available on Spectrum ([www.imperial.ac.uk/spectrum](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/spectrum)) and on the Faculty of Medicine website ([www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine)).



► For more information or to make comments:

- Visit [www.ahsc.org.uk](http://www.ahsc.org.uk)
- Attend one of the staff of public meetings
- Contact the independent advisors by emailing [ahsc@vervecommunications.co.uk](mailto:ahsc@vervecommunications.co.uk), writing to FREEPOST AHSC, or telephoning 0800 043 73 63
- Contact the AHSC Programme Office by emailing [ahscprogrammeoffice@hhnt.nhs.uk](mailto:ahscprogrammeoffice@hhnt.nhs.uk), writing to AHSC, 2nd Floor, Education Centre, Charing Cross Hospital, or telephoning 020 8237 2018.



# A grand narrative

## *The History of Imperial College London 1907–2007* officially launched

Imperial's Centenary celebrations took a literary turn on 1 May with the official launch of *The History of Imperial College London 1907–2007*, written by Senior Research Investigator Dr Hannah Gay.

The launch drew together a range of familiar faces from Imperial's past and present, including former Rectors Lord Oxburgh, Lord Flowers and Sir Eric Ash, all of whom were interviewed for the book.

Congratulating Dr Gay, current Rector Sir Richard Sykes said: "Hannah has been very successful, not only in providing us with a 'grand narrative', but also unearthing some fascinating nuggets about life at Imperial over the years. This book is such an achievement because it tells us, not only about Imperial College as an institution, but also about the many different people who have shaped it through their work, study and play."

The book covers all aspects of Imperial's development and influence, from its early growth, through its contribution to two world wars, to its more recent expansion embracing medicine and interdisciplinary centres.



Rectors past and present (left to right): current Rector Sir Richard Sykes, Lord Oxburgh, Sir Eric Ash and Lord Flowers.

► You can buy *The History of Imperial College London 1907–2007* from the Union Shop at South Kensington Campus or visit [www.icpress.co.uk/histsci/p478.html](http://www.icpress.co.uk/histsci/p478.html) to purchase online from the publisher. Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/news](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/news) to read the full story and watch interviews from the launch in RealPlayer.

### Communication's Naomi Weston spoke to Dr Gay.



PICTURE-CAPTION Modip euipis am, veliquate euiss

***The History of Imperial College London 1907–2007* is quite an achievement, how long did it take you to write it?**

I was appointed in 2001 and it took me five years to complete. I worked mainly in the College archives but also conducted about 40 interviews. In addition I interviewed some people recently retired from the College and one or two people from each department in order to get a better grasp of the recent history of the College.

**What was the biggest challenge you faced?**

I had a very large number of notes and one of the hardest things was to reduce all the information. It was also quite a challenge finding good quality and suitable illustrations for the book.

**As an Imperial graduate yourself, how has the College changed from when you were a student?**

I graduated in 1964 and there were then about 4,000 students at the College, so it is much bigger now! In the 1960s, the College Union was the centre of much student activity. It was more like a club where everyone congregated. More of the staff were associated with the Union, as were many ex-students. Further, rents in the neighbourhood were much lower than today, students

and staff were able to live closer to the College and their social lives were more College focused. However, there were fewer student residences, so I imagine students today form friendships within the residences as well as in departments. Of course much else has changed, including on the academic side of the College.

**Between 1907 and 2007, which years do you think were the most significant for the College?**

It is extremely hard to pinpoint particular years or notable events. Each academic department has had its ups and downs and much depends on the larger fortunes of the various disciplines. For example the 1950s and 60s were a great period for the Chemistry Department with two Nobel Prize winners, Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson and Sir Derek Barton, both working at the College at that time. The 1980s were less good for chemistry more generally, not just at Imperial. But now both the discipline and the department are flourishing again. If I had to pinpoint a particular decade of major change I would point to the 1970s. Various political and economic factors in that decade led to major changes in the university system and to the modernisation of Imperial College.

**And for the future...what do you think of the College's withdrawal from the University of London?**

I am in full support of the withdrawal, I make reference to the College's problems with the University of London throughout the book. There has been some tension between the two institutions ever since Imperial joined the University in 1929—though, of course, there were some advantages also. It is possible that other large colleges will follow our lead; in which case the principal role of the University of London may well be as an examining body for smaller colleges unable to gain independent status. This is how the University started in the nineteenth century. The College is now large enough and successful enough to flourish on its own.

# media mentions

—NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

THE GUARDIAN ▶ 4 MAY

## Imperial joins NHS trusts in joint healthcare venture

Imperial College London's Faculty of Medicine is being merged with two of London's best known hospital trusts to form Britain's first academic health science centre (AHSC). The changes will mean that each clinical speciality will have one senior manager rather than separate ones for healthcare, research and teaching. Rector Sir Richard Sykes tells *The Guardian*: "The AHSC will mean we can bring cutting edge developments from our laboratories to local patients in west London and the UK in the shortest possible time. It will also help us in our mission to train the doctors of tomorrow – first rate researchers and clinicians who are capable of meeting the challenges of twenty-first century medicine."

FORTUNE MAGAZINE ▶ 14 MAY

## Innovating trouble

Sunil Shaunak (Medicine), is the only academic to feature in *Fortune* magazine's top 24 'innovators, entrepreneurs and good old fashioned trouble makers'. He is commended for his work with PolyTherics on creating a new hepatitis C medicine, which will undergo final testing this year. If successful, it could mean that poor nations will have access to a cheaper hepatitis C injection.

BBC NEWS ONLINE ▶ 1 MAY

## Britain's rail network safer after privatisation

The number of accidents on the railways has fallen since privatisation according to Andrew Evans (Engineering). About 150 people have probably lived who might have been expected to die in crashes had privatisation trends continued, said Professor Evans. He explains to the BBC: "If you look at the statistics for train



accidents over a long period you find that the number per train kilometre, that's allowing for the scale of activity on the railways, has fallen more or less continuously."

THE GUARDIAN ▶ 9 MAY

## Brightest supernova ever seen captured on telescope

A NASA telescope has observed an enormous star explosion which at its peak was 100,000 million times brighter than the sun. It is highly unusual to observe the death of super-massive stars. Jane Drew (Natural Sciences) tells *The Guardian*: "We understand rather little about the most massive stars in the universe, they are very rare so we get our hands on them not very often." She went on to tell the paper that super-massive stars had a live fast, die young existence in astronomical terms. They typically burn for just one million years, while our sun has been in existence for more than 4.5 billion. "We know that they live short and very furious lives. They almost switch on and then, bang, they are gone."



NEW SCIENTIST ▶ 30 APRIL

## Scar-free surgery through the mouth

A revolutionary form of surgery that can be performed without general anaesthetic and leaves the patient with no visible scars is being developed by scientists in Europe and America. Transgastric surgery, or natural orifice transluminal endosurgery (NOTES), as it is officially known, involves passing flexible surgical tools and a camera in through the patient's mouth to reach the abdominal cavity via an incision made in the stomach wall. "If you don't have skin incisions then you don't get MRSA," Paul Swain (Medicine), who is leading UK research into NOTES, explains in *New Scientist*. The risk of infecting the abdominal cavity is small, animal studies suggest. Professor Swain adds: "Stomach acid is pretty cleansing. Not many bugs can stand it."

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To sign up, please visit:

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

## All change for College Secretary

After 10 years as College Secretary and Clerk to the Court and Council, Tony Mitcheson will be retiring at the end of September. From the beginning of October, Dr Rodney Eastwood, currently Director of Strategy and Planning, will take on the position of College Secretary, with overall responsibility for the Planning Division, Central Secretariat (including the College's legal function), Internal Audit and the College Archives.

### Safety Department

From 1 August, the Safety Department will report to David Forbes, Director of Risk Management and Disaster Recovery. He will report to the Chief Operating Officer, Dr Martin Knight.



Clockwise from top left: Tony Mitcheson, Rodney Eastwood, Michelle Coupland and David Forbes.

### Liaison with medical and dental practices

From 1 August, responsibility for liaison with the Imperial College medical and dental practices at South Kensington will transfer to Chris Gosling, Director of Human Resources, who also reports to Dr Knight.

### Changes in Strategy and Planning

From 1 January 2008, the Strategy and Planning Division will be renamed the Planning Division and will be led by Michelle Coupland, currently Head of Strategy and Planning, as Director of Planning.

—ALEXANDRA PLATT, COMMUNICATIONS

▶ Look out for an interview with Tony Mitcheson in a coming edition of Reporter.



# An ambassador's reception

During the nine months since it was launched, the Imperial Ambassadors initiative has proved a great success, with academics from across the College visiting seven international alumni groups, helping to keep them up to date with Imperial's latest academic and strategic developments. The initiative is currently tracking the travel of 22 academics who travel overseas regularly on College business to link them with international alumni groups at their destinations.

Among the highlights of the College's Centenary year so far has been Deputy Rector Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz's visit to Uganda in February. He visited the country to meet three groups of researchers who are currently working with the College in the area of combating neglected tropical diseases. While there, Professor Borysiewicz hosted a drinks reception for alumni and gave a presentation to assembled guests focusing on current College developments and celebrating research links with Uganda.



A gala dinner in Hong Kong was another event attended by two of Imperial's ambassadors: the Rector and Dr Tidu Maini, Pro Rector (Development and Corporate Affairs). On 20 April high profile guests, including Stephen Bradley, British Consul-General for Hong Kong, were among the 250 attendees served a 12-course Chinese banquet in the exclusive Island Shangri-La Hotel.

Sir Richard Sykes spoke to guests of how individuals from across the College have made a significant impact on the world through their outstanding achievements in science, engineering and medicine over the past century. The event, hosted by the Imperial College Alumni Association of Hong Kong, also marked the launch of the Association's Endowment Fund, which aims to provide scholarships for Hong Kong students who win a place to study at the College.

Most recently, the Imperial College Club of Germany held an event during the first weekend in May. The Club's members were joined by two ambassadors, Professor Mary Ritter, Pro Rector (Postgraduate and International Affairs), and Professor Sandro Macchietto, Professor of Process Systems Engineering, who contributed to an engaging lecture programme. A riverboat cruise aboard MS Eureka V, with champagne, *Schifferplatte* (or Captain's Platter – a cold meat selection), live music and stunning views of the *Rhein in Flammen* fireworks followed.

Other events in 2007 have taken place in Argentina, Australia and China. Throughout the remainder of the Centenary year ambassadors, including Dame Julia Higgins and Professor Sir Peter Knight, will continue to join Imperial alumni around the world.

— ZOE PERKINS, OFFICE OF ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT

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



Mr Stephen Bradley, British Consul-General in Hong Kong, Professor Paul Cheung, Chairman of the Imperial College Alumni Association of Hong Kong and the Rector enjoyed celebrations in Hong Kong.

# Awards and honours

## Jolly good Medical Sciences Fellows announced

Two Imperial academics have been recognised for their excellence in medical science with election to the Fellowship of the Academy of Medical Sciences. Philippe Froguel (right), Chair in Genomic Medicine, and Neil Brockdorff, Professor of Genetics, joined the Academy on 30 April along with 38 other leading UK doctors and medical researchers.



The Academy of Medical Sciences, which now has 881 members, promotes advances in medical science and campaigns to ensure these are translated as quickly as possible into healthcare benefits for society.

## Jephcott Lecture and Medal for Deputy Rector



Deputy Rector Sir Leszek Borysiewicz (left) is this year's recipient of the Royal Society of Medicine's Jephcott Medal. Sir Leszek received the medal and gave his lecture, *Cancer prevention: vaccine-based approaches*, in April.

## Immunologist elected to US National Academy of Sciences

The US National Academy of Sciences has named Brigitte Askonas, Visiting Professor in the Division of Biology and Fellow of Imperial, as a newly-elected foreign associate. One of the UK's foremost immunologists, Professor Askonas is known for her work on many of the major phenomena of immunology including antibody formation and the lifestyle of B cells. See the next edition of *Reporter* for an interview with Professor Askonas.

► If you have received an award or honour, contact the Editor, Alexandra Platt, at [a.platt@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:a.platt@imperial.ac.uk) or on extension 46715.

# Chemists honoured by Landmark plaques

Two Imperial alumni Nobel laureates were honoured on 3 May with Royal Society of Chemistry National Chemical Landmark plaques, presented to the College in recognition of their work.

Professor Sir Derek Barton, FRS, (1918–98) and Professor Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson, FRS, (1921–96), both started their scientific careers as chemistry undergraduates and returned to the College later in their careers as professorial staff. The plaques will be mounted outside the recently refurbished entrance to the Department of Chemistry.

The plaques were presented to the Rector by the President of the Royal Society of Chemistry, Professor Jim Feast. Anecdotes from the two laureates' colourful lives were also shared with the audience by Professor Willie Motherwell from UCL and Professor Malcolm Green from Oxford, who took to the stage with stories of their friends' time at Imperial.

Geoffrey Wilkinson won a royal scholarship to study chemistry at Imperial in 1939, completing a Bachelor's degree, and then a PhD on war research with phosgene gas. At Harvard in 1951, he and a colleague identified the structure of the organometallic 'sandwich' compound ferrocene, in which an iron atom lies between two parallel organic rings. It was for this work, which led to the development of catalytic converters for car exhausts, that he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1973.

Derek Barton applied to Imperial in 1938 and studied for a Bachelor's degree followed by a PhD in the Department of Chemistry. His work whilst at the College included military intelligence research, during which time he developed invisible inks for intelligence personnel to use in the field. During the late 1940s he published a paper which gave rise to a new branch of chemistry – conformation analysis. It was for his contribution to the development of this field that he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1969.

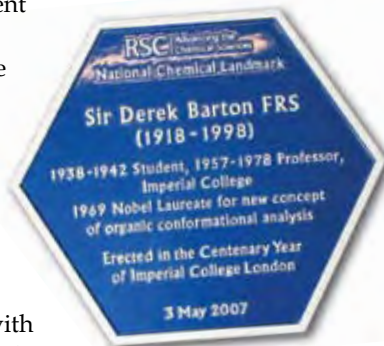
Rather than face retirement in the UK at the age of 65, Professor Barton moved to Paris where he worked at the National Centre for Scientific Research, and then to Texas A&M University, where he worked until the day of his death at the age of 80, in 1998.

Professor Richard Templar, Head of the Department of Chemistry, said: "I'm delighted that the RSC have chosen to commemorate the significant contribution these two College alumni made to chemistry, with National Chemical Landmark plaques.

Our Department is very proud of the cutting edge work carried out by our staff in the past, as well as today, and these plaques are testament to the highest achievement of two of our former colleagues."

— DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS

► Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/news](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/news) to watch an interview with Professor Wilkinson filmed in 1985 when he was Head of Imperial's Department of Chemistry.



## Cooking up a storm

Three chefs from Imperial's Catering Department have won the Best Newcomer Award at the University Caterers Organisation's (TUCO) annual Chefs Challenge.

Steve Robertson, Ken Emmet and Martin Stafford were the Imperial team competing against 14 other universities in a two-hour 'cook off' preparing a four course meal to be judged on its balance of flavours and textures, as well as the kitchen skills of the participating chefs.

Jane Neary, Head of Catering at the College, said, "I am extremely proud of our chefs' culinary skills as well as the professional approach and teamwork they displayed during this competition. This award is indicative of the wealth of talent and innovation that we have and I am confident that this talent will enable Imperial to return from the Chefs Challenge next year with further plaudits."

The TUCO Chefs Challenge is one of the most prestigious competitions in university catering and aims to demonstrate that the standard of university catering is on a par with any sector within the conferencing and hospitality industry.

The competition is judged by a panel taken from leading figures within the world of catering. This year members of the panel included Steve Monkey from the Royal Garden Hotel in London, Luke Tipping from the Michelin accredited restaurant Simpson's in Birmingham and Peter Griffiths, Director of Salon Culinare.

—ALEXANDRA PLATT, COMMUNICATIONS

► Visit [www.imperial-conferencelink.com](http://www.imperial-conferencelink.com) to view the range of event catering offered at the College.



Left to right: Ken Emmett, Steve Robertson and Martin Stafford.



Experts from the Faculty of Medicine gathered in Abu Dhabi on 5 May for the Diabetes 2007 conference. Professors Philippe Froguel, Peter Sever (left) and Desmond Johnston (right) joined Dr Maha Barakat (centre), Director of the Imperial College London Diabetes Centre, to shed light on new trends in research and the prevention and management of diabetes. The Centre is based in Abu Dhabi and is the United Arab Emirates' largest multidisciplinary diabetes facility, dedicated to prevention, treatment, training and research into all aspects of diabetes and its complications. "Diabetes 2007 is a timely and appropriate conference for medical professionals in the UAE. We must all act now and anything that brings the message to the forefront of our minds is a must," said Dr Barakat.



# A warm welcome to new Fellows

Three distinguished figures from the worlds of science and engineering were admitted to the Fellowship of Imperial on 9 May at this year's Postgraduate Awards Ceremonies (see centre page for a full report). Communications' Wendy Raeside went to meet our new Fellows...



## Dr Edmund Daukoru

A secure world power supply is of critical importance to us all and few people can claim to have had such an influence on bringing stability to this often volatile industry as Dr Edmund Daukoru.

Dr Daukoru has been a government minister responsible for petroleum and power in the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the past four years with an interest in petroleum that dates back to his schooldays when his imagination was fired by grainy films showing the search for 'black gold' in Nigeria. He had initially thought to follow a career in medicine, but decided instead to take up a Shell Scholarship to study geology at Imperial.

After completing both a BSc and PhD here, he returned to Nigeria in 1970 as a team geologist for Shell where he stayed for 22 years working his way up to managing one of two oil-producing divisions and then becoming Executive Director for Exploration and Deep Water.

In 1992, Dr Daukoru was asked by the Nigerian government to take up a new position as Group Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation. He then spent 10 years in private consultancy before his experience was again sought by the Nigerian government. From 2003, he was Presidential Advisor on Petroleum and Energy, becoming Minister of State for Petroleum Resources in 2005. In January this year, he was appointed Minister for the newly-created Nigerian Ministry of Energy.



## Trevor Phillips

Trevor Phillips, OBE, is a familiar face in the British media and hardly a week goes by when he is not quoted on TV, radio or in our press.

As Chair of the Commission for Racial Equality since 2003, he and his team have inspired a 'sea-change' in how we view diversity. Rather than highlighting our differences, we should be celebrating our similarities and encouraging integration. Later this year he hopes to reinforce this belief as Chair of the new Commission for Equality and Human Rights.

Born in London, Trevor attended secondary school in Guyana, South America, before returning to England to study chemistry at Imperial. While here, he embarked on an early career in student politics. From 1974-75, he was President of the Imperial College Union—a role in which he fondly remembers learning to drink a 'yard of ale'. After leaving Imperial, he became first Secretary and then President of the National Union of Students.

From there, he dabbled with the idea of a career in pharmaceuticals, but was turned down by GEC Marconi on the grounds that he was too well known and possibly too radical. It was then that he embarked on a career in broadcasting. From 1987 to 2000, he edited and presented *The London Programme* where he was later appointed Vice President. In 1995, he founded his own television company, Pepper Productions.

In May 2000, he was elected as a member of the Greater London Authority, becoming Chair of the Assembly later that month.



## Ratan N. Tata

Ratan Tata has had a long and distinguished career in business and has been Chairman of Tata Sons, holding company for the Tata Group, one of India's largest and most respected business conglomerates, for the past 16 years.

Ratan Tata started his business career after studying for a BSc degree in architecture with structural engineering at Cornell University in 1962. Following a short stint at an architectural practice in Los Angeles, he returned to India to join the Tata Group.

His first position was working on the shop floor for Tata Steel. After a spell in Australia setting up a joint venture, he was appointed Director-in-Charge of the National Radio and Electronics Company in 1971. In 1981, Ratan Tata was named Chairman of Tata Industries.

He became Chairman of Tata Sons, as well as Chairman of the major Tata companies, including Tata Motors, Tata Steel, Tata Tea, Tata Consultancy Services, Tata Power and Tata Chemicals 10 years later. Under his leadership, the group's fortunes have been transformed by global acquisitions such as Tetley Tea.

Ratan Tata is also Chairman of the Government of India's Investment Commission and a member of the Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry.

# Behind the scenes at the Postgraduate Awards ceremonies



**What does it take to make a successful graduation? Communications' Abigail Smith and Naomi Weston went behind the scenes on the 9 May to find out.**

## Lights, camera, action!

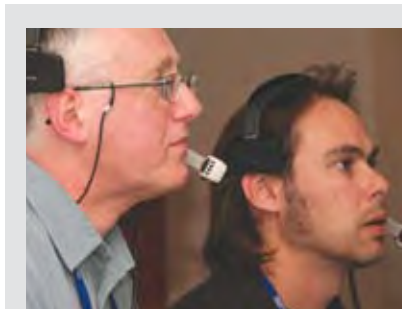
The Royal Albert Hall's principal dressing room, usually inhabited by notables such as Michael Bolton or Russell Watson, hosted a different kind of gathering during last week's Postgraduate Awards ceremonies, when it provided the base for Imperial's Media Services team.

Led by Colin Grimshaw and Martin Sayers, the team's mission was to capture the morning and afternoon ceremonies on DVD, while at the same time providing a live broadcast of the events, which was beamed onto a huge screen above the stage.

Three cameras placed around the Royal Albert Hall ensured comprehensive coverage, but also gave the team the nail-biting challenge of cutting live between them to provide the 2,500-strong audience with the best view. Coordinating the coverage from backstage, Colin and Martin watched different TV screens simultaneously, quickly switching between the different views of events on stage. At the same time, they were in constant communication with the three cameramen, plus the lighting, sound and engineering technicians.

"It's like controlling a two-hour-plus live outside broadcast for TV," said Colin. "It's a great thing to do because everyone can see what's happening very clearly – you often see graduates waiting at the side of the stage pointing at themselves. But it's also pretty daunting since if we make a mistake everyone will see."

After the day itself, the next task is to produce a DVD of the ceremonies so that graduates and their families have the opportunity to buy a lasting memento.



Colin Grimshaw and Martin Sayers of the media services team capture the ceremony for DVD.

## It's all in the mix

Graduations are some of the biggest events of the year for the Catering team. On 9 May, receptions for the new postgraduates and their guests were held after the ceremonies at six different locations on the South Kensington campus.

### Over the day, the Catering team served:

- 1,152 litres of water
- 828 litres of orange juice
- 1,212 bottles of champagne
- 336 bottles of sparkling date juice
- 28,377 canapés

"The hardest part of the day was getting all the food and drink to the different venues across the campus. Timing is everything and as we hear the bells of the Queen's Tower, everyone knows the students and guests are on their way and that the food has to be with them as soon as possible."

Michael St Clair Laing, Events Duty Manager of Catering Services, was in charge of all the catering for the occasion. With a team of 60 staff, many of whom were brought in for the day, and four months' advance planning, Michael was happy with the smooth running of the day. He said:

"The hardest part of the day was getting all the food and drink to the different venues across the campus. Timing is everything and as we hear the bells of the Queen's Tower, everyone knows the students and guests are on their way and that the food has to be with them as soon as possible."





The Rector addresses graduates and their friends and families.

### Eventful day!

The annual Postgraduate Awards ceremonies mark one of the milestone days in the Events Office calendar. In advance of the event, duties for the three-strong team include coordinating invitations, catering, music, robing and information for the ceremony programme, while on the day itself, they are busy stewarding and taking care of the 5,000 guests.

Since the establishment of a separate postgraduate ceremony in 1996, the day has grown in popularity to such an extent that a single event is now impossible and it has been split into morning and afternoon ceremonies. This year a total of 1,400 postgraduates crossed the stage of the Royal Albert Hall.

The graduates and their families are joined each year in the impressive surroundings of the Royal Albert Hall by special guests of the College, including those receiving honorary degrees or being admitted to the Fellowship of Imperial College. These guests are invited to a special dinner on the evening before the ceremonies and also to a lunch on the day, adding to the number of functions to be organised.

The day itself is frantic, according to Ceremonies and Events Officer, Louisa Spittles, with many last minute panics to contend with, including eleventh hour sartorial queries from graduates, such as "What shoes should I wear?" However, she adds that the hard work is worth it, with all members of the College enjoying the excitement and ceremony of the day.

"We have people coming from all around the world to attend the ceremonies, so it obviously means a lot to them," she says. "Although we're all shattered by the end of it, it gives us a real sense of achievement to see so many people coming back to Imperial to celebrate with their friends and families."

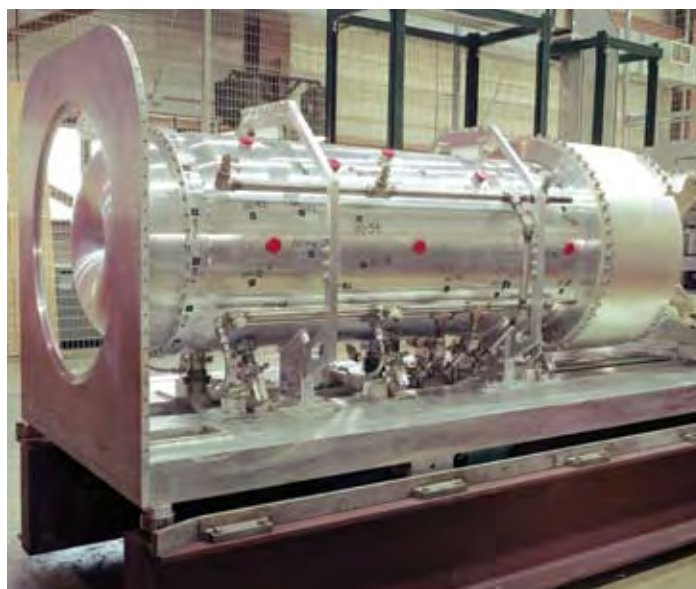
► DVDs of the 2007 ceremonies will be available for £15 from July. Email [graduation@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:graduation@imperial.ac.uk) to order a copy.



## Refuting the nature of neutrinos

Imperial researchers are part of a team that have taken significant steps towards refuting some unexpected results that occurred during a neutrino experiment in the 1990s.

The results of the international Mini Booster Neutrino Experiment (MiniBooNE) announced last month have solved a longstanding question about the nature of neutrinos, one of the fundamental particles that make up the universe. A key experiment in the 1990s, called the Liquid Scintillator Neutrino Detector (LSND), suggested that a fourth, or 'sterile', type of neutrino exists, with different properties from the three standard neutrinos. The new research undertaken at Fermilab, an organisation in the US that conducts



The MiniBooNE magnetic horn is used to create the neutrino beam.

basic research into particle physics, challenged these findings. It suggests that perhaps only three flavours exist after all, and has helped to clarify the overall picture of how neutrinos behave.

Dr Morgan Wascko from the Department of Physics contributed to the new MiniBooNE experiment. He said: "Sterile neutrinos are the easiest physics explanation for the LSND signal, and the MiniBooNE result has ruled out the simple explanation."

Dr Wascko is also the co-spokesperson of an upcoming project, the SciBar Booster Neutrino Experiment (SciBooNE), which will be used to verify the MiniBooNE results.

— DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS

## Systematic biological collaboration

A new multidisciplinary institute at the College, launched on 30 April, will offer a cohesive approach to solving biological problems by applying engineering, physical sciences and mathematical or computer modelling techniques.

The Institute of Systems Biology is focused on developing novel approaches to medical and biological challenges and brings together the expertise of engineers, mathematicians and physical scientists in areas including combating malaria, understanding the interactions between pathogens and host cells, and treating inflammatory diseases.

Its work will range from the molecular level — with the study of proteins and genes — up to the body and population levels, providing medical clinicians with information on the mechanisms of disease. The team behind the Institute is confident that the scope of this work, coupled with established partnerships with leading pharmaceutical firms, will lead to new scientific breakthroughs being quickly translated into new drugs and treatments for disease.

The Institute will also include a team of researchers working in synthetic biology, an emerging field in which engineers work with molecular bioscientists to produce biologically-based engineering parts, by modifying bacterial DNA. This research, which is in its early stages, represents the first steps towards building a biologically-based computer.

Professor Richard Kitney from the Department of Bioengineering, and Chairman of the Board of the new Institute, explained their new approach: "Traditionally there have been definite boundaries between different disciplines like medicine and engineering. However, we find increasingly that the tools engineers use, such as systems and signal theories, and mathematical and computer modelling, are invaluable for understanding the complex systems in the body at the molecular level.

"Our new institute will bring together our world-leading scientists working in medicine, biology, engineering and physical sciences, to lead these new and exciting branches of research. Work such as the synthetic biology

I'm involved with, using biological parts to engineer systems, proves that the old boundaries between the sciences have broken down, and setting up this new Institute clearly shows Imperial's commitment to this new way of working. I'm looking forward to seeing many exciting results coming out of the research groups involved in the coming years."

— DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS

.....  
 the old boundaries between the  
 sciences have broken down  
 .....



The new Institute of Systems Biology will use the expertise of the College's engineers, mathematicians and physical scientists to tackle medical problems like the spread of malaria.



## Radiating success for bone marrow transplants

### Side-effect of radiation treatment offers new hope for preventing transplant rejection

A radiation treatment currently used to prepare patients for a bone marrow transplant has an unexpected and positive side-effect according to new research published on 7 May in the journal *PNAS* (*Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*).

Bone marrow transplants are used to enable patients to produce healthy blood cells. Radiation treatment is given before a transplant to create space in the host bone marrow for donor immune cells to inhabit and, in the case of patients with leukaemia, to kill the leukaemia cells. However, the host immune system can sometimes attack the donor immune cells from the transplanted bone marrow.

The new study, led by Professor Francesco Dazzi of the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, has established that this type of radiation treatment can cause changes in the immune system, which encourage the body to accept donated bone marrow rather than reject it.

He said: "Perfect tissue matching is rarely possible and this means the body's immune system recognises transplanted bone marrow as foreign and attacks it. Our new research shows that the regulatory cells which proliferate are able to recognise the foreign tissue and yet stop other immune cells from attacking it. Having uncovered a funda-

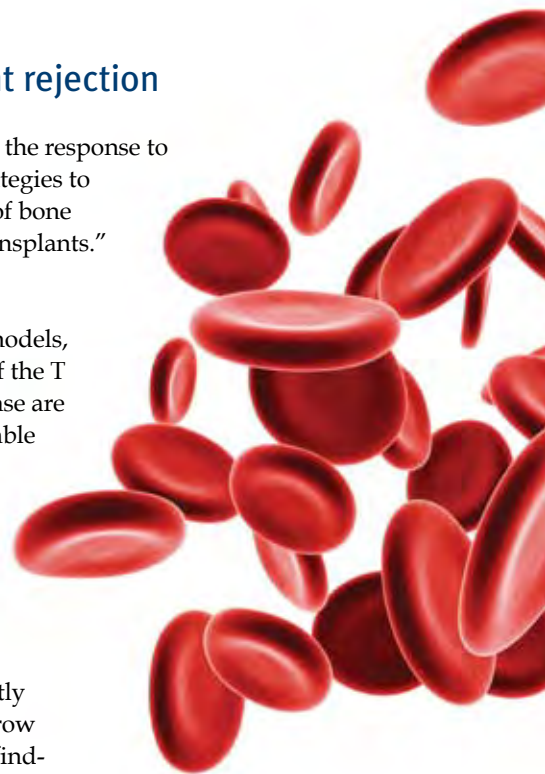
mental process the body uses to control the response to foreign tissue, we can now develop strategies to exploit this effect and control rejection of bone marrow and potentially other organ transplants."

#### Curbing transplant rejection

The new research, which used mouse models, shows that during this process, many of the T cells which mediate the immune response are killed. However, regulatory T cells are able to survive and proliferate, suggesting that they have more resistance to irradiation. Regulatory T cells stop other T cells from attacking the transplanted cells, and so encourage the immune system to accept the transplant.

At present this effect is not sufficiently strong to prevent rejection of bone marrow transplants, but the scientists hope the findings will enable them to develop new ways of curbing rejection.

— LAURA GALLAGHER, COMMUNICATIONS



## Toxoplasmosis trick revealed

Scientists have provided new insight into how the parasite which causes toxoplasmosis, a parasitic disease primarily carried by cats, invades human cells in new research published on 11 May in the *EMBO* (*European Molecular Biology Organisation*) *Journal*.

Toxoplasmosis is transmitted to humans by eating undercooked meat or through contact with cat faeces. It is particularly dangerous for pregnant women, whose foetuses can be infected via the placenta, and those with a weakened immune system, such as people infected with HIV. In severe cases, toxoplasmosis can cause damage to the brain and eyes, and even death.

Professor Steve Matthews from the Division of Molecular Biosciences, one of the paper's authors, explains the significance

*around one per cent of people in the UK catch toxoplasmosis each year*

of the research, which has for the first time determined the atomic structure of a key protein released on the surface of the parasite just before it invades host cells in the human

body. He explains: "Understanding the fundamental, atomic-level detail of how diseases like toxoplasmosis

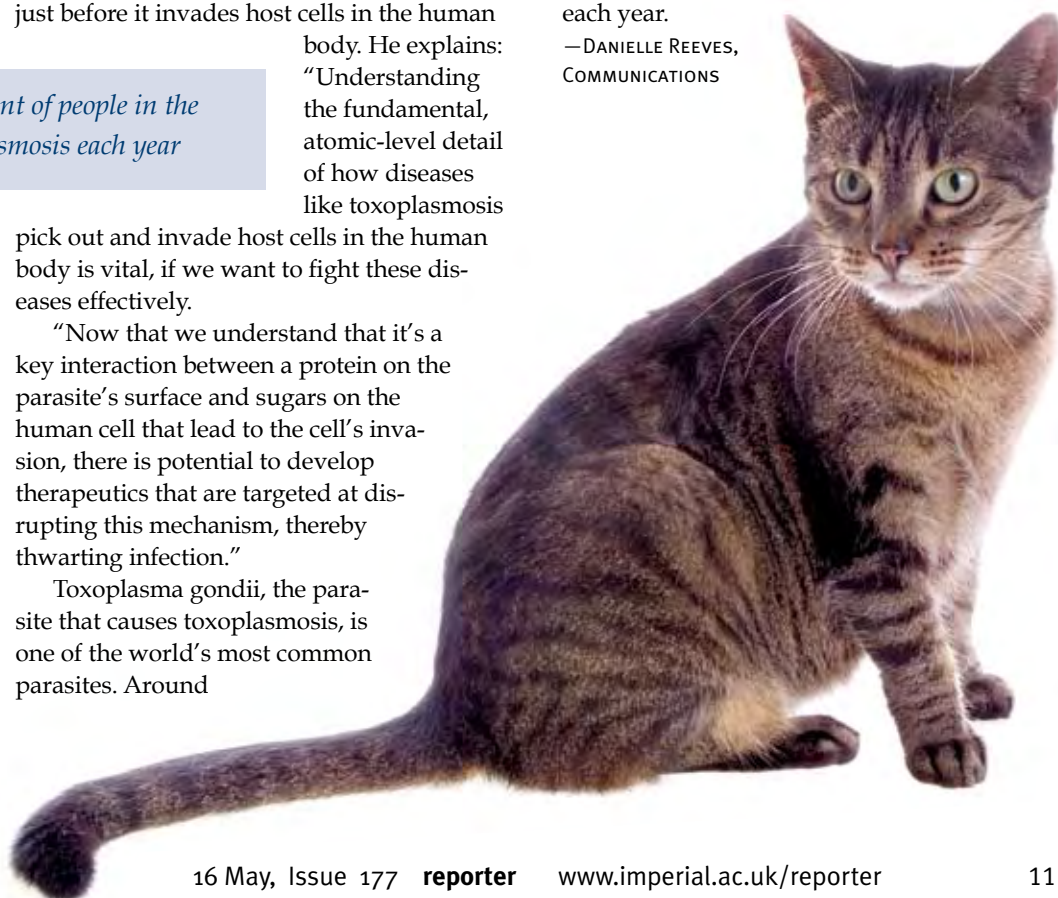
pick out and invade host cells in the human body is vital, if we want to fight these diseases effectively.

"Now that we understand that it's a key interaction between a protein on the parasite's surface and sugars on the human cell that lead to the cell's invasion, there is potential to develop therapeutics that are targeted at disrupting this mechanism, thereby thwarting infection."

*Toxoplasma gondii*, the parasite that causes toxoplasmosis, is one of the world's most common parasites. Around

a quarter to half of the world's population is thought to be infected, and around one per cent of people in the UK catch toxoplasmosis each year.

— DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS



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

# inventors corner

## Collaboration is the key to healthy relationships with the pharmaceutical industry, claims Professor Feldmann



Professor Marc Feldmann is an internationally renowned medical scientist and inventor. His latest accolade came at the 2007 European Inventor of the Year Awards where he received the European Patent Office's Lifetime Achievement Award.

The award was given for Professor Feldmann's research leading to anti-TNF therapy which has helped treat millions of patients worldwide for

arthritis and other auto-immune diseases. For the same discoveries, he and his long-term collaborator, Sir Ravinder Maini, have received other prestigious awards, including the Crafoord Prize of the Royal Swedish Academy (2000) and the Albert Lasker Clinical Research Award (2003).

Professor Feldmann was not initially optimistic about winning the award: "The European Patent Office initiated these awards to help raise the profile of inventors who have had considerable impact on the economy. Unfortunately, most of our discoveries' economic impact has been with US rather than UK companies, who were less willing to take a risk on original, untried ideas."

Professor Feldmann describes his research alongside the pharmaceutical industry as "a normal and necessary element of our type of work. For research to become successful and benefit patients, you need support from a company with major resources to develop it."

He advises other inventors to build on relationships they have already established with companies. "You need to find a 'champion' within a company who wants to take on a risk with something new and see a project through."

Professor Feldmann believes that being part of the 'biotech revolution' was down to a combination of "hard work, good luck, talented colleagues and good financial support" from, in his case, the Arthritis Research Campaign. He was fortunate to have ideas which could be developed because of new techniques in molecular biology and immunology.

"As the first group to discover the rate-limiting steps in rheumatoid arthritis, and looking for them in the cytokine family, we were fishing in a new pond and caught the biggest fish. The revolution in rational therapy, based on an understanding of critical disease molecules, is only just starting and our discovery was among the first."

Professor Feldmann is confident that his approach to treatment of rheumatoid arthritis could eventually be used in many more diseases. "TNF belongs to a family of proteins called cytokines which are involved in every biological process. It should be possible to treat every disease by discovering and then blocking the appropriate cytokine."

— 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.*

## Racing Green hits the road

The first prototype of the Imperial Racing Green cart was on show on 25 April at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers' parliamentary reception on innovation in engineering.

A group of students and staff attended the reception to showcase their vehicle, part of a project to design, build and race a zero emission electric hybrid fuel cell racing car. Malcolm Wicks, Minister for Science and Innovation, attended the event and sat in the Imperial racing cart.

Dr Gregory Offer of the Departments of Materials and Earth Science and Engineering, and part of the team running Racing Green, was there to introduce the project. He says: "Imperial Racing Green provides an amazing opportunity to test cutting edge research developed at Imperial. Integrating this into undergraduate teaching really gives the students a chance to get involved in what Imperial does best and be proud of their university."

The reception brought together professional engineers and MPs to learn how engineering innovations could help meet the policy goals of combating climate change, driving the UK's economy and improving people's quality of life.

### Formula Zero

Imperial Racing Green brings together students from across the Faculty of Engineering and the team is currently preparing to race in the new Formula Zero Championships in 2008, which promote zero emissions technologies through racing with fuel cell powered cars.



Dr Gregory Offer watches MP Malcolm Wicks try Imperial's Racing Green kart for size.

In addition, the prototype will be judged at the Formula Student event at Silverstone this July. Formula Student promotes careers and excellence in engineering, by challenging university students to design, build, develop, market and compete as a team with a small single seater racing car.

Raha Ram, a Mechanical Engineering undergraduate, is part of the student team working on the kart. She says: "I became involved with Racing Green as part of my third year group project. It appealed to me greatly since it combined structural design with sustainable technology, as well as posing a managerial challenge of working on a multidisciplinary project."

— NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

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



# Stepping down from the bench

Many postdoctoral scientists make the move away from research in academia, either through choice, or because permanent posts in academia are scarce. On 25 April, the Staff Development Unit organised a full day of interactive workshops dedicated to Imperial's postdocs, providing an insight into the plethora of alternative careers on offer away from the bench, and advice on how to make the move.

One hundred postdocs from across the College heard talks such as *Establishing your Independent Research Group*, led by Chemistry's Dr Ed Marshall, and *Crossing the Academia-Industry Divide* by Dr Renos Savos from Birkbeck, an entrepreneur and research fellow who presented his thoughts on commercialising his research. There was also a talk about non-research careers by Dr Shina Lineham, a former Imperial postdoc who is now a patent attorney, and a chance to hear about science communication careers with Sarah Blackford from the Society for Experimental Biology.

A key component to success for

researchers in whichever career they choose is the ability to identify their own transferable skills and natural abilities and use them to their advantage. Afternoon sessions led by Dr Seema Sharma, European Programme Director at *Science*, concentrated on this aspect of a postdoctoral career and included professional advice on how postdocs can market themselves, as well as discover what employers in different sectors seek from candidates.

The event was run in conjunction with ScienceCareers.org, the careers arm of the research journal *Science* and was funded by



Postdocs had the chance to learn about career opportunities away from research.

the Roberts initiative which began in 2004 after a review highlighted at national level the importance of transferable skills training for postdocs and PhD students.

— SUBO SHANMUGANATHAN, STAFF DEVELOPMENT UNIT

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

## Imperial College London



**Deadline:**  
30 June 2007

# Call for Entries

## Frame of Mind Photo Competition

We want to look at Imperial from a new frame of mind.

How do you define Imperial College? What's life like at Imperial? Now's your chance to show how you see it.

The Frame of Mind photographic competition is your chance to get your favourite shot of Imperial life in front of an international audience. Winning images may be used in prospectuses or on our website.

Prizes will be awarded for the most outstanding entries.

### Prizes for outstanding entries:

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize **£100** Amazon vouchers
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize **£50** Amazon vouchers
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize **£20** Amazon vouchers

You don't need to be a professional photographer — any image that captures your life or your work at Imperial has the potential to be a winner.

Themes can be entertainment and events, clubs and societies, your research work, where you live, the parties you've thrown — **anything** that demonstrates your life at Imperial.

### We want to see how you frame it!

Deadline: 30 June 2007. See the website for full details on how to enter: [www.imperial.ac.uk/frameofmind](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/frameofmind)

100 years of living science

# 100

[www.imperial.ac.uk/frameofmind](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/frameofmind)

# 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, we're featuring Dalby Court, where staff can enjoy a 'Sunday afternoon' style zone with **golf putting, Edwardian croquet** and a **bowls lawn**. Try your hand at the ten yards golf chipping challenge!



- **Live jazz** will be music to your ears, with a **sparkling wine and Pimm's bar** keeping you refreshed.

- **A chocolate fountain, strawberries and cream stall** and **ice cream** will help you keep your cool!

**Watch out for your invitation —**  
**delivered to your pigeonhole or desk**  
**during the week of 4 June.**



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

## Celebrating long service

### 40 years

**Miss Ann Smith, Administrator, SORA**



Ann Smith began her career with a brief stint working in PR before joining the Royal Postgraduate Medical School Library, where she spent a happy seven and a half years. She says: "I joined as the Librarian's secretary and left as a qualified Librarian Assistant. In an alternative universe I am an archivist somewhere now, as I really surprised myself with how much I loved that aspect of my time there." Ann then returned to secretarial work, becoming the PA of 12 years to Professor of Anaesthetics, Sir Gordon Robson. Ann says she is proud to have shared a 33-year friendship with Professor Robson up until his death this year. One of the highlights of her working life was his assertion that he only received his knighthood because: "You were here running things while I was out doing things," something she claims isn't necessarily true, but was tremendous to hear. Ann remained in the Department of Anaesthetics for a further 12 years after Professor Robson's retirement before joining the Division of Surgery, now SORA, where she has spent the last nine years as PA to Mr Nigel Standfield. A more recent development in her career has been to take on the role of Course Administrator for the MSc in Surgical Science. Ann says of her time at the College: "I'm so lucky to have found a place I've been happy enough to stay for 40 years. I can genuinely say I never dread a Monday morning and have made some fantastic friends in my time here."

### 30 years

**Dr Kanagasabai Ramachandran, Lecturer, Civil and Environmental Engineering**

### 20 years

**Mr Neal Powell, Technical Illustrator, Physics**



Neal Powell has retained the same job title throughout his career at Imperial, but his job couldn't be more different now than when he started here 20 years ago. When he joined the College all his technical illustrations were done with drawing tools and now almost exclusively his work is done on computer. He explains: "It was this potential for transition that attracted me to the job in the first place. It was a very exciting time in my career. The best thing was having so many experts on hand to help us get to grips with the changeover. We couldn't be in a better organisation for that!" A lot of Neal's

time is spent turning physics professors' rough sketches of equipment and experiments into useable illustrations, for example, for journals and research grant bids. Neal explains his aim: "I'm trying to make these images accessible to a lay audience a lot of the time. I like to think that if I can understand them at the end of the process, anyone can." Neal has also been responsible for the production of 20 editions of the Department's annual report and says that one of the best things to come out of his time at the College was meeting his wife here.

**Mrs Deslyn Brown, Research Services Manager, Research Services**

**Professor Richard Syms, Professor, EEE**

Staff featured will be celebrating anniversaries during the period of 18 May to 5 June. Data is supplied by HR and is correct at the time of going to press.

## Corrections and clarifications

The picture featured in the *China collaborations signed* article on page three of *Reporter* Issue 176 was not of Xie Wei-he, Vice-President of Tsinghua University and Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, but actually featured Professor Ye Quyan, Deputy President of Shanghai Jiao Tong University with the Deputy Rector.

## Obituaries



Imperial learned with sadness of the death, on 8 May 2007, of John Henry, Emeritus Professor of Accident and Emergency Medicine in the Division of Surgery, Oncology, Reproductive Biology and Anaesthetics.

Professor Henry was highly respected for his intellectual rigour and his great interest in the effects of drugs and toxicity. He received plaudits from colleagues both

at Imperial and St Mary's Hospital, where he was an Honorary Consultant, for being a brilliant toxicologist, whose encyclopaedic knowledge meant he could spot relevant clinical symptoms and signs long before others.

Professor Henry joined Imperial from Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital in 1997 and broke new ground in the management of poisoning and drug overdose. He remained busy after his retirement in 2004, continuing as a medico-legal expert in the field of toxicology and providing valuable opinion in the media.

Colleagues remember Professor Henry as an unfailingly upbeat person, in spite of suffering ill health following the failure of one of his kidneys and a subsequent renal transplant in the 1970s.

"John touched so many lives in such an unusual way that he generated love and respect which will last long after his passing. Having suffered as a patient receiving dialysis for over seven years in the early 1970s, he lived every day as a blessing from God and was deeply empathetic and compassionate to patients in his care, as well as to friends and acquaintances," said his colleague Dr Mike Platt, an Honorary Senior Lecturer in Professor Henry's Division.

► 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

Miss Catarina Rodrigues De Almeida, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Dr Suki Balendra, Medicine  
Professor Wendy Barclay, Investigative Science  
Dr Sebastian Barg, Medicine  
Dr Matthew Benson, Clinical Sciences  
Dr James Berry, ESE  
Dr Delia Brauer, Materials  
Mr Gavin Bravery, ICT  
Dr Dominic Bullas, SORA  
Dr Celia Caulcott, College Headquarters  
Dr John Chambers, EPHPC  
Dr Lawrence Cheung, Chemical Engineering  
Mrs Norie Chiba, Clinical Sciences  
Dr Siobhan Darrington, SORA  
Mr Paul Dearie, NHLI  
Dr Maria Demontis, Medicine  
Dr Marie-Alice Deville, EPHPC  
Mrs Angela Dorman, Estates  
Dr Ingrid Dumitriu, Medicine  
Mr Simon Eades, Medicine  
Mrs Adele Etwaroo, Investigative Science

Miss Michelle Guest, Business School  
Ms Naomi Hammond, Medicine  
Ms Lorian Hartgroves, Investigative Science  
Ms Kathrin Hault, NHLI  
Miss Fiona Henderson, Natural Sciences  
Miss Faye Hidalgo, Business School  
Dr Wendy Howard, Investigative Science  
Dr Amir Kadiric, Mechanical Engineering  
Ms Agnieszka Karpinska, Mechanical Engineering  
Mrs Shiva Keihaninejad, NMH  
Dr Shirin Khanjani, Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
Mr Georgios Koumpouras, Chemical Engineering  
Professor Robert Krams, Bioengineering  
Dr Prathiba Kurupati, Investigative Science  
Mr John Lane, ICT  
Miss Karen Lewis, Physics  
Mrs Florence Lewis-Samuels, Business School  
Mr Rafat Malik, Development and Corporate Affairs  
Miss Dawn Marrington, Business School  
Dr Dermot McGovern, Medicine

Dr Darunee Soorukram, Chemistry  
Ms Eleana Spanidis, NHLI  
Miss Gemma Swain, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Dr Jasper van Thor, Molecular Biosciences  
Miss Alyson Thornhill, EPHPC  
Professor Nina Thornhill, Chemical Engineering  
Dr Jennifer Timoshanko, Kennedy Institute  
Dr Kostas Triantaphyllopoulos, Kennedy Institute  
Miss Corina Tudor, Kennedy Institute  
Mr Sachetan Tuladhar, Physics  
Mr Kumaara Velan, EEE  
Miss Laura Villis, NHLI  
Mr Kristian Waters, ESE  
Mr Graham Watson, Estates  
Ms Silene Wavre, NHLI  
Ms Simone Weyand, Molecular Biosciences  
Ms Annette Wilson, NHLI  
Dr Mark Witkowski, EEE  
Mr Damien Zaher, Chemistry  
Ms Alice Zangrandi, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Mr Uri Zarfaty, Computing

Dr Philippa Hillyer, Kennedy Institute  
Dr Tomasz Krzyzewski, Chemistry (5 years)  
Miss Rufina Leung, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Miss Chern Lim, SORA  
Miss Pei Lou, Catering Services  
Dr Craig MacLean, Biology  
Miss Yashi Mahalingam, NHLI (5 years)  
Ms Devinder Mehet, NMH  
Dr Paul Nelson, Computing  
Dr Thomas Newsom-Davis, Medicine  
Ms Luisa Nunziangeli, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Dr Christopher Palmer, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Dr Arunthathi Jegadeesa Pandian, Clinical Sciences  
Mr Christos Panoutsos, Mechanical Engineering (5 years)  
Mrs Adri Querido, EYEC  
Mrs Shilpa Reddy, NHLI  
Dr Angelika Röss, Investigative Science  
Mr Moises Turnes Rey, SORA  
Miss Nicky Riley, Faculty of Medicine  
Dr Bob Rink, Mathematics  
Dr Gihan Ryu, Physics  
Mrs Mina Salehian, Catering Services (19 years)  
Mrs Anindita Sanyal, SORA  
Mrs Mari Sato, Molecular Biosciences  
Professor Peter Sever, NHLI (33 years)  
Dr Michael Shaver, Chemistry  
Dr Mitsunori Shiroishi, Molecular Biosciences  
Miss Emma Smith, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Mr Robert Steed, Molecular Biosciences  
Miss Helen Turner, Faculty of Medicine  
Ms Kate Vinall, Business School  
Mr Geoffrey Williams, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Mr Jeremy Williams, NHLI  
Mrs Jane Williams, Agricultural Sciences (9 years)  
Miss Despoina Xenikaki, NHLI  
Dr Sherry Xie, NHLI  
Dr Yehia Youssef, Materials



**Shilpan Patel** joined the College last month having recently graduated from Portsmouth University with a BSc in Computer Network Management and Design. He explains his new role of Service Desk Specialist in

ICT: "My work includes resolving IT issues via the phone, email and face-to-face throughout the College. Service Desk Specialists are the first line of support for users with any type of IT-related problems."

Dr Paul Fennell, Chemical Engineering  
Dr Rob Fenton, Institute of Biomedical Engineering  
Dr James Foadi, Molecular Biosciences  
Professor Christopher Fry, NHLI  
Mr Michael Gainsford, Library Services  
Ms Sara Garbom, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Miss Delisa Ibanez Garcia, National Heart and Lung Institute  
Dr James Garnett, Molecular Biosciences  
Dr Felicity Gavins, NMH  
Miss Rachael Goldstone, Investigative Science

Biosciences  
Mr Shilpan Patel, ICT  
Dr Praveen Paul, NMH  
Dr Enrico Petretto, Clinical Sciences  
Dr Hongyang Qu, Computing  
Mr Lucio Raimondo, Aeronautics  
Dr Thierry Rayna, Computing  
Dr Craig Ritchie, NMH  
Dr Kim Roberts, Investigative Science  
Dr Kim Roberts, NHLI  
Dr Rafael Jimenez Rodriguez, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Mr Harminder Singh, Development and Corporate Affairs

## farewell

### moving on

Miss Laura Aalen, Conference Office  
Dr Vian Amber, Investigative Science  
Dr Mark Ashwin, Chemistry (16 years)  
Dr Carsten Bantel, SORA  
Mrs Karina Barrozo, Library Services (6 years)  
Dr Puspaa Batten, NHLI (13 years)  
Dr Otto Berninghausen, Cell and Molecular Biology  
Mrs Laura Bunting, Human Resources (5 years)  
Mr Martin Burrow, ICT  
Mr Gavin Butcher, Research Services  
Dr Martina Callaghan, Clinical Sciences  
Mr Kevin Canis, Molecular Biosciences  
Mr Michael Coffey, NHLI  
Mrs Claudia Coralli, SORA  
Dr Georgios Daskalakis, Physics  
Miss Kavita Dhanani, Conference Office  
Mrs Vivienne Dignum, NHLI (9 years)  
Dr Julia Francis, SORA (6 years)  
Miss Sally Gadsdon, Biology  
Miss Carina Gandy, NMH  
Ms Helen Harth, Computing (5 years)  
Ms Jane Healy, NHLI  
Professor Christopher Higgins, Clinical Sciences (9 years)

### retirements

Mrs Aline Aslan, SORA (12 years)  
Ms Avril Blagbrough, Registry  
Mr Jim Harden, Estates (48 years)  
Mrs Sue Hotchkiss, Conference Office (23 years)

.....  
This data is supplied by HR and covers the period 15 April–5 May. 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

16 MAY 2007 17.30–18.30

### Growing Interactions: from individuals to systems in my research in the College

Professor Dame Julia Higgins, Engineering  
ANNUAL ATHENA LECTURE

» Lecture Theatre G16, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

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

16 MAY 2007 14.00

### Systems Engineering for UK Defence Acquisition

Professor Andrew J. Daw, BAE Systems Capability Development

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, SYSTEMS ENGINEERING SEMINAR SERIES

» CPSE Seminar Room, Top Floor, Roderic Hill Building

17 MAY 2007 13.00–13.45

### Doric Quartet

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

» Reed Lecture Theatre, Sherfield Building

22 MAY 2007 17.00–18.00

### Intestinal Homeostasis: a balancing act between effector and regulatory T cells

Professor Fiona Powrie, University of Oxford  
ALMROTH WRIGHT LECTURE SERIES

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

23 MAY 2007 16.00–17.00

### The Structures of the Hydrophilic and Membrane Domains of Respiratory Complex I

Dr Leo Sazanov, The Dunn Institute, University of Cambridge

DIVISION OF BIOLOGY AND DIVISION OF MOLECULAR BIOSCIENCES SEMINAR

» Lecture Theatre G47A, Flowers Building

24 MAY 2007 14.00

### Computational Methods for Enterprise-wide Optimization of Process Industries

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 178 is Friday 25 May. Publication date is 6 June. 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.

Professor Ignacio Grossman, Carnegie Mellon University

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, SYSTEMS ENGINEERING SEMINAR SERIES

» CPSE Seminar Room, Top Floor, Roderic Hill Building

24 MAY 2007 12.30

### Turning on Genes in Bacteria

Professor Martin Buck, Biology

PLANT AND MICROBIAL SCIENCES SEMINAR

» Room 122, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

30 MAY 2007 17.30–18.30

### Shocks in Space

Professor Steve Schwartz, Physics

INAUGURAL LECTURE

» Blackett Lecture Theatre, Blackett Laboratory

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

30 MAY 2007 17.30

### Seeing it in a Different Light: from carbon dioxide to chemical imaging

Professor Sergei Kazarian, Chemistry

INAUGURAL LECTURE

» Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley Building

Registration in advance: s.underwood@imperial.ac.uk

4 JUNE 2007 18.00

### Better: the idea of performance in surgery and medicine

Professor Atul Gawande, General and Endocrine Surgeon, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts

SPECIAL LECTURE

» Lecture Theatre G16, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

Registration in advance: e.powell@imperial.ac.uk

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



## classifieds

**Holiday house to rent** Pyrenees and Atlantic coast holiday home to let in Salies de Bearn, a picturesque, historic salt and spa town, midway between Biarritz and Pau (Ryanair, also TGV). Shops, casino, spa and restaurants nearby, as well as opportunities for walking, riding, golf, tennis, fishing and surfing. Also mountain hiking and skiing in the Pyrenees. Spain one hour away. Sleeps 6+ (4 beds, 2 baths). Call 020 8993 0557 for more information.

**Family house to rent** Double-fronted terraced house with large living room and kitchen, three good sized bedrooms and loft extension. 10 minutes from Shepherd's Bush and Goldhawk Road tube stations with easy access to Heathrow. £600 per week. Email: conradlichtenstein@mac.com or call 07766 442953 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 advertisements 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).

### Become a charity shop assistant

Urgent project: Charity Shop Assistant

Project ID: 1915

Organisation: Charities Advisory Trust

Date(s): Monday – Saturday from late June

Time (s): 10.00–15.00 or 15.00–19.00

Location: WC2 (nearest tube Covent Garden)

The Charities Advisory Trust has been able to secure a permanent shop in Covent Garden's Africa Centre. The shop will sell and promote a range of projects and products including 'peace oil' (extra virgin olive oil made in Israel by Jews, Arabs, Druze and Bedouins) and 'good gifts' (part of the Good Gifts catalogue scheme). Volunteers willing to help out on a weekly basis are urgently needed. Volunteers will assist with cash handling and the day-to-day running of the shop.

» 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).



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