

COMMENT

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TOM WHIPPS



DNA at King's: *the continuing story*

DNA pioneers: The surviving members of the King's team, who worked on the discovery of the structure of DNA 50 years ago, with James Watson, their Cambridge 'rival' at the time. *From left* Ray Gosling, Herbert Wilson, James Watson and Maurice Wilkins

A day of celebrations

Over 600 guests attended a unique day of events celebrating King's role in the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the double helix structure of DNA on 22 April.

Scientists at King's played a fundamental role in this momentous discovery – 'the most signifi-

cant scientific discovery of the 20th century,' in the words of Principal Professor Arthur Lucas, 'and their research changed the world'.

The day paid tribute not only to King's DNA pioneers Rosalind Franklin and Maurice Wilkins – who went on to win the Nobel

Prize for his contribution – and their teams, but also to subsequent generations of scientists at King's.

Four Nobel Laureates – Maurice Wilkins, James Watson, Sidney Altman and Tim Hunt – attended the event which was so oversubscribed that the proceedings were relayed by video link to the Chapel and lecture theatre 2C.

continued on page 2

KING'S
College
LONDON

University of London

continued from page 1

The day began at the Strand campus where the original research was undertaken. A presentation by BBC science correspondent, Fergus Walsh, not only gave a stimulating and informative insight into the history of the discovery, but also an opportunity to hear about the work in the 1950s at first hand with his on-stage conversations with Ray Gosling and Herbert Wilson, who worked closely with Franklin and Wilkins. They revealed just how they achieved the first clear crystalline image of DNA using a handy condom to seal hydrogen gas inside the camera.

Crystalline X-ray photos take

One of the most important days in the College's history

up to 100 hours to develop so the scientists realised that a gas was needed to fill the interior of the camera in order to lose the foggy effect created by air. Hydrogen was chosen and fed into the old camera through a tube.

Professor Gosling explains: 'There were many nights I found

myself alone, working below the level of the Thames and piping hydrogen into the camera. I think it's safe to say I was quite worried! There was no circulation of air and I was sure the chemistry department would come in the next day to find little Ray all over the walls!

'I realised that the hydrogen was leaking out of the camera and we sealed the base of it with sealing wax. This still left the collimator leaking gas which was a problem until Maurice produced a condom and suggested using that!'

DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) has two forms, A and B, depending on how moist it is. In order to see how much hydrogen was being fed into the camera, Gosling bubbled the gas through water. Serendipitously this humidified it to 75 per cent, which switched it to the A form and resulted in a clear image. When Franklin arrived at King's she modified the technique, suggesting bubbling the gas through salt water, which meant the humidity of the gas could be changed at will. Humidifying up to 95 per cent produced the B form and now famous Photo 51, the image that gave away the double helix structure, producing biomolecular science, and much of the understanding of the world



Celebrations commence: Principal Professor Arthur Lucas starts the proceedings to the day of events commemorating King's role in the discovery of the double helix structure of DNA

we take for granted today. Indeed, Photo 51 has a very strong claim to be the most important photograph ever taken.

Following the historical presentation in the Great Hall were contributions by current King's scientists – Adrian Hayday, Ellen Solomon, Andrew Lumsden and Carla Molteni – whose research is only possible as a result of the discovery of the DNA structure.

In the afternoon a one-act play at The National Theatre explored the ethical implications of the discovery, and this was followed by a debated, chaired by Joan Bakewell held, appropriately, at the Franklin-Wilkins Building.

Chris Coe, Director of Communications, commented: 'We have

been working on this event for over two years so it was tremendously satisfying to see so many people enjoying themselves on the day. An astonishing amount of work went into the event, not only from the Public Relations Department, but from people all over the College. Many thanks to our speakers, and also to the porters, AV services, caterers, security, cleaners and other staff and students who pulled together to make this, fittingly, one of the most important days in the College's history.'

Funding news

Stephen Large, Director of Finance, explains the recent funding allocation.

The College has now received the annual grant letter from Hefce setting out recurrent funding allocations for the academic year 2003/04.

The overall Hefce block grant allocation for teaching and research has been provisionally set at £96 million, an increase of £2.6 million or 2.8 per cent over the current year. This is made up of an increase in Hefce quality research (QR) funding of £3.3 million or 8.9 per cent to £40.8 million offset by a reduction in baseline Hefce teaching (T) funding of £0.7 million or 1.2 per cent to £55.2 million.

The reduction in the baseline T funding follows a change in the Hefce funding formula to set aside funds earmarked for widening access and improving retention programmes, and equates to a cash reduction in baseline funding per student of £181 or 3.4 per cent over the current year.

The grant letter also provides details of special funding allocations earmarked for specific

purposes, and of particular note is the £0.9 million allocated for improving student retention and the £3.6 million allocated to support the College's human resources strategy.

The total Hefce recurrent grant for 2003/04 including the block grant and specific funding allocations is £101.2 million.

Finally and on a more positive note the College separately received notification of additional Hefce capital funding under the Science Research Investment Fund round two (SRIF II) of £36.8 million with a matching funding requirement of 10 per cent. This needs to be spent over the period April 2004 to March 2006 in support of science research and the College is currently considering how best to invest this funding in accordance with its overall strategic objectives.

UN's role as peace-keeper reviewed

Following the end of military operations in Iraq, attention is now focused on the peace-keeping operation and the issues that face the Coalition in order to stabilise and reconstruct the country.

A substantial and incisive review of UN peace operations entitled: *A Review of Peace Operations: A Case for Change* was launched by the Conflict Security & Development Group at King's on 30 April. It is funded by the governments of Canada, Germany, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

As events in post-war Iraq unfold, the questions being asked are precisely those to which this review attempts to give some answers. It provides the most up-to-date assessment of the realities of peacekeeping operations at a time when inside knowledge is at a premium.

Ms Nicola Dahrendorf, Director, Conflict Security & Development Group, said: 'The idea was

to produce as comprehensive a review of peace operations as possible. We undertook a comparative study analysing what works and what doesn't work, and came up with very practical recommendations of how things could be changed.'

Up-to-date assessment of the realities of peacekeeping operations

The analysis and recommendations in the report are based on reviews of the operations in East Timor, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, as well as on a real time 'snapshot' study of the ongoing situation in Afghanistan.

Drawing on the lessons learned and not learned in four key peace operations, the report examines the UN's role in peacekeeping as well as action that should be taken by member states. The aim of the

report is both to provide analysis and to make practicable and concrete recommendations for action.

Ms Dahrendorf explained: 'The question as to whether UN peacekeepers are still relevant is obviously enormously topical at the moment but I think the question has to be broader – is the UN still relevant? I think what this report advocates very strongly is that the UN has a terribly important role to play but it's really only as good as the governments that empower it and enable it to function properly. It's not a body by itself it's a forum of member states and I think that mustn't be forgotten.'

Two of the key areas addressed are the difficulty of planning and establishing a mandate for a large peace operation, and the problems posed by the need for a successful transitional administration.

Particular attention is paid to the importance of establishing effective rule of law institutions and to the need for security sector reform, in order to minimise the inevitable law and order vacuum in post-conflict situations. The dilemmas inherent in the complex relationship between the military and the humanitarian agencies are also brought sharply into focus.

A website containing the country studies, the synthesis report and related research material, can be found at: <http://ipi.sppp-kcl.ac.uk/peaceoperationsreview>

Peace panel: Ms Nicola Dahrendorf with Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman at the launch of her review of peacekeeping operations

Virtually King's

Prospective students can now look round the College without even leaving their desks. A virtual web tour, with supporting text, of three King's campuses plus the Maughan Library has been launched by the Student Recruitment & Exchanges Office.

As well as being able to view the Strand, Waterloo and Guy's campuses, students can, amongst other things, experience small group teaching, look into a lab, see the splendour of the Strand Chapel and glance into a PAWS room. The use of arrow buttons means the viewer can control how they see the rooms.

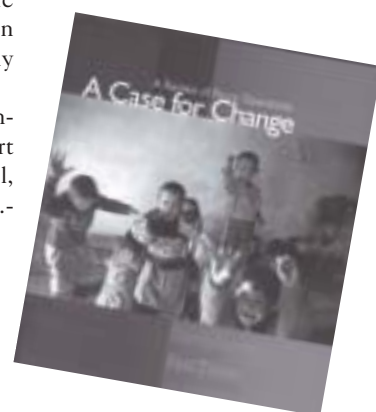
Not to be left out on any tour of the College is the opportunity to find out what the Union offers. The Waterfront Bar, K4 Fitness and the Resource Centre all feature on the trip round the College.

Claire Gascoigne, Higher Education Marketing Officer, led the project. She explains why the tour was set up: 'We saw this as an exciting new way to market ourselves to potential students, giving them the opportunity to see King's from their home or school. We are one of the first universities in London to offer this service and we're receiving some very positive feedback from students.'

Access to the tour is on the front page of the College website.



JO FISHENDEN



Delivering science to the market

A new Science Enterprise Centre named SIMFONEC, which aims to identify and develop ideas emerging from the science, healthcare and engineering communities of four London universities and to support them into the commercial market place, was launched by Patricia Hewitt, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, at a reception on 31 March.

SIMFONEC (which stands for Science Ideas to Market, Focused on Enterprise and Commercialisation) is a partnership of four of London's leading universities awarded £3.5 million to develop a self-sustaining Science Enterprise Centre through the Office of Science and Technology. King's is part of the group which also comprises the Cass Business School, City University, who lead the project, the Royal Veterinary College and Queen Mary College.

The event was attended by over 200 professionals and entrepreneurs from public and private sector organisations, the academic and student communities, charities and small business. Patricia Hewitt presented an address entitled *Turning Ideas into Wealth* which stressed the importance of connecting business to the science and engineering base within UK universities – an objective central to the Government science and technology agenda.

'Our future success is dependent on high tech, high skill businesses that properly harness the UK's excellent science base. I look forward to seeing how this new and exciting collaboration contributes to this goal,' said Patricia Hewitt.

Caroline Quest, Director of Knowledge Transfer at King's who led the SIMFONEC bid explained: 'First and foremost SIMFONEC's role will be to deliver entrepreneurship and business education to undergraduates and postgraduates. In the first instance, courses are planned for students from the Graduate School, Engineering & Physical Sciences and Biomedical Sciences. SIMFONEC will be a major new resource supporting commercial activity at King's.'

SIMFONEC aims to create a centre of excellence for the exploitation and transfer of knowledge, ideas and resources among three key sectors – academic, financial and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

The Centre will focus on three main areas of activity

- teaching of enterprise and entrepreneurship
- making ideas and knowledge available to business
- encouraging the growth of new ventures by supporting start-ups, including spin-out companies based on innovative ideas developed within the universities.



Ministerial approval: Patricia Hewitt, with from left Professor Steve Haberman, Deputy Dean of the Cass Business School, Professor David Oliver, Queen Mary College, Ms Caroline Quest, King's, and Professor Colin Howard, Royal Veterinary College

Mobile learning

An innovative system could revolutionise the way students are taught, thanks to a trial of handheld Portable Digital Assistants (PDAs) in the Dental Institute.

In collaboration with Toshiba and the School of Social Sciences & Public Policy, eight brand new PDAs and one firm of Year 4 dental students piloted a scheme aimed at improving access to both educational information and communication between students and their tutors and securely collecting patient activity data.

Technological solutions abound due to the sheer size of the Dental Institute. Where students are working in a dental practice setting video cameras and flat screens on dental chairs already allow the student to watch procedures and record and check work. It is hoped that handheld PDAs will take this a stage further and allow greater access to resources and more efficient inputting of patient data.

Ady Chow, who was on the trial, said: 'The PDA was useful within the clinic, especially with features like video link and internet access. Sometimes when we just need to remind ourselves or confirm what we do is right, the demonstrator might not be available. So it is helpful if we can check on the net or video quickly instead of waiting for the teachers.'

The trial was a cross over design that enabled half the group to use the PDAs for six weeks followed by the other half. Educational evaluation was carried out via pre and post trial questionnaires and by interview and focus groups.

Results show that the PDA was a highly acceptable mode of access to online training, and was used for many daily tasks including a student and patient diary in and out of the clinics. Technological evaluation also showed that they were a simple and reliable way to access the College network and multiple forms of media.

Dr Pat Reynolds, The PDA Clinical Project Manager said, 'Through the support of the King's Teaching Fund we have been able to identify mobile solutions to both teaching and learning and patient record keeping in the clinics. The students have clearly found the technology useful and we look forwards to extending the trial with our medical colleagues.'



Hand holding: a dental student uses his Portable Digital Assistant

Somali success

Somali people make up one of London's oldest and largest African communities. They are also one of the most under-represented groups in higher education. To attempt to redress this imbalance, the Widening Participation Office teamed up with Excellence Challenge, Ealing and Connexions London West to set up a Somali Success programme at King's.

The launch day for Somali Success took place on 30 April with 30 Year-10 (14–15 year old) young people from three different schools in Ealing.

Somerset House's Navy Board Room was the stunning backdrop for 'Successful Somalis', a discussion and question and answer session with four British Somalis role models. As well as Ahmed Dirie, a student on King's Access to Medicine Programme, the role

models on the panel included Dr Abdirashid Shire, a researcher at LSHTM, Dr Shukri Dahir, a biomedical scientist and Mr Mohamed Ahmed, a political science researcher at SOAS. Each of them spoke about their past, their current work and future aspirations before taking questions from the floor.

During lunch, the group was joined by two current King's Somali students, Hassan Said and Mohammed Abdullahi, who are both studying Chemistry.

At the Franklin-Wilkins Building in the afternoon, the group split to work with two film-makers from Ravensbourne College of Art & Design on a short video diary recording their ideas about Somalia, thoughts on being a British Somali and dreams and aspirations for the future.

Ali Redford, Widening Partici-

pation Co-ordinator, commented: 'Somali Success certainly lived up to its name. This was the first in a series of events for this group. Over the next year they will be offered master classes, taster days and other subject specific events.'



Connexions worker Mohamoud Aden and Mohammed, a Year-10 Somali student from Villiers High School, Southall, enjoy Somali Success Day at King's

London Talent

A performing arts summer school for gifted and talented young people, run by Bigfoot Theatre Company in partnership with King's, was launched last month.

Following auditions held at RADA, 120 young people between the ages of eight and 15 living and attending state schools in London will have the chance to join one of four 4-week summer schools called 'London Talent', aimed at developing their performance skills.

Led by a professional director, designers, and crew, the selected participants will take part in four weeks of skills-based workshops at the four London theatre venues, working with top professionals from the world of stage, film and television, including the Royal National Theatre, Shakespeare's Globe, Improbable Theatre, Shared Experience and the BFI.

They will then devise a final performance piece to be performed in one of four theatres around London. The 30 most talented 12–15 year olds will work at King's Greenwood Theatre on the flagship central London residential course, with a performance on 17 August at The Old Vic. All participants will also devise and shoot a short film with the National Film and TV School, which will be screened at the NFT in September.

London Talent has been developed with Bigfoot Theatre and the DfES by Dr Trudi Darby, Deputy College Secretary and Ali Redford, Widening Participation Coordinator. Dr Darby commented: 'We are delighted that King's will be encouraging London's most talented state school students and their families onto our campuses during the summer.'

For more information on London Talent call Ali Redford on ext 1575 or see www.kcl.ac.uk/outreach

Global Citizen

The College is opening its doors to 50 local young people for The Global Citizen, a Hefce-funded summer school, from 30 June and 4 July. Most of the students have no family experience of higher education and all live within London's Excellence Challenge boroughs.

'The summer school aims to give the post GCSE students a taste of all King's schools by exploring the global aspect of a variety of subjects in a relaxed and fun atmosphere', explained Samantha Paxton, Widening Participation Manager.

In order to give as many departments as possible an opportunity to be involved, the programme has been arranged around expansive themes, to include multi-subject debates, panel discussions, mobile lectures and mini consultancies covering such ideas as 'Countries are no longer a necessity', 'Does global beauty exist?', 'Human Rights & Wrongs', 'Englishes and other languages in Britain' and 'Global London'.

Innovative delivery formats will include mid-air 'podded' lectures from the London Eye, learning a language in 20 minutes and getting advice on univer-

sity life aboard a Thames riverboat dubbed the Student Support Ship.

Staff and students who would like to take any part in The Global Citizen should contact Ali Redford or Samantha Paxton on ext 1575 or 3453 for a full programme and payment details.



SRIF projects update

Work is now underway on the three major building projects on the Guy's campus. King's was awarded £12.9 million by the second stream of the Wellcome Trust/Science Research Investment Fund (SRIF) towards construction, refurbishment and equipment for the three laboratories. This work has also been made possible through funding from the Guy's and St Thomas' Charitable Foundation.

Two of the projects are for the School of Medicine – one lead by Professors Michael Malim and Adrian Hayday, and the other by Professor Ellen Solomon. The third is for the Dental Institute led by Professor Paul Sharpe. The projects are:

- **Division of Infection & Immunity**

Major laboratory refurbishment in New Guy's House will be completed by the end of 2003.

- **Division of Medical & Molecular Genetics**

The laboratories on the fifth, seventh and eighth floor of Guy's Tower are being refurbished and will be ready by September 2004.

- **The Dental Institute**

The Guy's Tower laboratories on floors 17 and 27 are being refurbished and completed in two phases late in 2003 and early 2004.

Construction work for a fourth SRIF project (funded in the first stream), the Centre for Cell and Integrative Biology at the Denmark Hill campus, is due to begin in a few months time. This five storey building will provide an integrated research facility for the School of Medicine and the IOP.

Revolutionising healthcare technology

King's is a partner in a £6.3 million partnership that aims to revolutionise the UK healthcare technology industry.

Led by Brunel University and including Ulster, Nottingham and Birmingham universities, the project plans to create a more effective, safer, and dynamic UK healthcare technology industry. The project's aim is to speed up the transfer of medical technology innovation from R&D labs into the hands of healthcare professionals in hospitals and clinics.

Patricia Grocott, Research Fellow in the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery, and the King's lead in the project said, 'This UK-wide initiative will harness academic and industry expertise to provide new methods, which take proper account of the end user, to develop and assess pioneering medical technologies, including medical devices and equipment, implants and wound care products.'

Dr Grocott's research interests are patients with chronic wounds

for whom healing may not be an option. Wound care products are therefore a mainstay of their daily life. She continued: 'In Nursing we are already involved in an Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) project – WRAP – which is a collaboration between clinicians, academics and medical devices industries to develop methodologies which can lead to patient-focused dressing systems for chronic wound exudate management. This new partnership is a wonderful opportunity to extend the methodological work and apply it to other device users.'

Called MATCH (Multidisciplinary Assessment of Technology Centre For Healthcare), the partnership has been funded by £3.3 million from the EPSRC and the DTI, combined with £3 million from the National Patients Safety Agency, Invest Northern Ireland and industry.

(WRAP – Wound care Research for Appropriate Products www.kcl.ac.uk/wrap)

King's hosts technology events

Two major pan-London technology events were held at King's during March. They were hosted by KCL Enterprises on behalf of the London Biotechnology Network (LBN) and the London Technology Network (LTN) in New Hunt's House.

King's has developed strong links with the LBN, previously hosting two of its monthly BioWednesday networking events. On 5 March, a third event was part-sponsored by LGC who also gave a presentation about their latest analytical techniques. The evening was attended by more than 180 delegates, primarily from London-based biotechnology companies but also included representatives of large pharmaceutical companies.

This was followed on 19 March by the LTN event, attended by 75 representatives from industry and academia who heard keynote speakers deliver lectures on the latest research techniques for harnessing computer power to extract information from images.

Professor David Hawkes, Head of the Division of Computational Imaging Science, Guy's, King's & St Thomas' School of Medicine, described the cutting-edge work underway at King's optimising imaging and computer models to guide interventions in clinical medicine and surgery.

Following other talks by AstraZeneca and academics from Imperial College and the Institute of Cancer Research, Professor Steve Williams, Head of Neuroimaging Research, IOP, lectured on advances in the use of fast, multi-modal, high resolution imaging in biomedical research.

Dr Jane Gate, Business Development Manager (Medicine and Healthcare), KCL Enterprises said: 'We were very pleased to host this event for LTN as King's has a number of academics already participating in LTN as business fellows, including Professors Hawkes and Williams. We are currently in the process of organising for several more to enter their training programme.'

The LTN, funded by the DTI, aims to help technology-intensive companies be more effective and efficient in their knowledge acquisition from London's universities. As part of its strategy more than 100 business fellows from London's leading university technology departments are funded half a day per week to undergo training in business skills and map the technology of their research peers, with the objective of maximising the interactions between their departments and industry.

Inkha the robot on reception

Inkha, a reactive robotic head that tracks movement, speaks, and interacts with people in a lifelike way, was on reception at the Strand campus in March as part of National Science Week.

JO FISHENDEN



Reception duties: School children from Wandle School meet Matthew Walker and Inkha in the Strand reception where she was on display during National Science Week



Roboreceptionist: Inkha, who does not just react to people but interacts, runs off a standard PC

She also appeared on *Blue Peter*.

Inkha can demonstrate, through speech and movement, a range of behaviour, for example: fright, nonchalance, skittishness, intrigue and boredom, and has a vocabulary that can be charming, tetchy or obnoxious!

A screen that accompanies the installation shows the images that Inkha sees through her eyes and the thought processes that create her behaviour.

Inkha was developed as an MSc Mechatronics project by Matthew Walker and Peter S Longyear. It was supervised by Dr Kaspar Althoefer and Dr Jian Dai of the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Matthew Walker, explained how Inkha is different from other robots: 'Inkha is autonomous, not

a puppet. She doesn't just react to us she interacts with anyone. She's not meant to sit idly in a laboratory. She runs off a standard PC and packs away into a suitcase so she can go anywhere. In the future we would like to see Inkha's everywhere: information points, assistants, security guards and educational aides in shops, restaurants, nightclubs, theme parks, museums and schools.'

For more information see www.inkha.net

Noah's Ark internet game makes a splash

A virtual reality game show aimed at stimulating religious imagination as well as providing entertainment was launched on Easter Sunday on the Internet.

The Ark, developed by Christian internet magazine www.shipof-fools.com, has been billed as a cross between a religious version of the Big Brother programme and a computer game like the Nintendo Zelda series. It features 12 biblical heroes and villains including Samson, Esther and Moses,

played by 'ordinary' people in their own homes.

For 40 days and 40 nights they will spend up to two hours each day battling it out on a 3D boat in front of a worldwide web audience. The winner will step onto Mount Ararat and claim a cash prize of £666.

The web audience will vote at regular intervals to make one of the Ark inhabitants walk the plank in the game after nominations by fellow contestants. (At the present time of writing the audience

have already lost patience with Job who was the first to be committed to the deep.)

Dr Andrew Walker, Professor of Theology and Education at King's and a consultant editor for the

Stimulate religious and moral debate

ship-of-fools magazine, said the Ark, in the spirit of C S Lewis' *Narnia Chronicles*, was attempting to strip Christianity of its 'stained glass and Sunday School' associations.

'While The Ark will not preach nor intentionally inform, it will stimulate religious and moral

debate and feed our still-hungry imaginations,' he said.

Professor Walker admitted that the Ark was a risky venture because the contestants might take liberties with the Bible's stories – but that he thought the risk was well worth taking as people may even open long closed Bibles to check out these stories for themselves.

He even speculated that The Ark could 'create a frisson of religious excitement among the general public'.

The project has been covered widely in the national, regional and religious press.

25 years of Anglo-French law at King's & Paris

In 1977–78, the late Professor Alec Chloros of the School of Law at King's, and the late Professor André Tunc of the *Université de Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne)*, founded what was probably Europe's first double-degree law programme, and is still the oldest and largest of its kind in Britain and France.

Every year 40 students are admitted (half by each university) to study English law in English for two years at King's followed by French law in French for two years at Paris I. After four years they graduate with an LLB in English and French Law from King's, and a *Maîtrise en droit (mention droits français et anglais)* from Paris I. They may then qualify for the legal professions in France, England and Wales, or other common-law jurisdictions such as New York. The 520-plus graduates to date are highly sought after by employers, who value their knowledge of the worlds two major legal systems (common law and civil law), their linguistic skills, and their intellectual and cultural adaptability.

On 22 March over 250 staff, students and



Legal celebrations: from left Professor Jean-Claude Masclet, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Professor John Phillips and Judge Wilhelmina Thomassen

alumni gathered to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Anglo-French Programme. Alumni came from as far away as New York and Prague, while others sent their regrets from Afghanistan, Beijing and Guatemala. During the day, a Centre of European Law conference entitled 'Twenty-Five Years of Anglo-French Legal Education' was held in the Franklin-Wilkins Auditorium.

Professor John Phillips, Head of the School of Law, set the tone by making his first public speech in French, to warm applause, while Professor Jean-Claude Masclet, Director of the UFR 07 (*Études internationales et européennes*) at Paris I, reciprocated briefly in English. They were followed by Professor Piet Eeckhout, Director of the Centre, and the three guests of honour: Lord Slynn of Hadley, retired Law Lord, former Judge of the European Court of Justice (ECJ), and President of the Centre; Advocate General Philippe Léger of the ECJ; and Judge Wilhelmina Thomassen of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). Highlights of their discussion of the impor-

tance of second language acquisition and comparative law ranged from Lord Slynn's story of the ECJ interpreter who translated 'frozen semen' as '*matelots congelés*' ('frozen seamen') to Judge Thomassen's recollection of her ECtHR French class on how to tell another judge, in the most polite and elegant French, that she completely disagreed with his opinion.

The history of the Programme was recounted by Professor Xavier Blanc-Jouvan of (Director at Paris I, 1985–99) and Dame Judith Mayhew (Director at King's, 1979–89). Other speakers included alumni Patrick Wallace (1981), a partner at the law firm Freshfields, and Bénédicte Fauvarque-Cosson (1988), Professor of Law at the *Université de Paris II*. The conference was followed by a reception and dinner in Covent Garden (with dancing until 3.00 am!).

Dr Robert Wintemute
Director of the LLB in English and French Law

2003 Adam Lecture

The Adam Lecture for 2003 on 6 May took the form of a conversation in the Council Room at the Strand between the writer Maureen Duffy, who is a graduate and Fellow of King's, and Professor John Stokes of the English Department.

Maureen Duffy's remarkable writing career began even before she came to King's in the early 1950s at the age of 18, since she was already a published poet, and in the conversation she

described the mutual support and encouragement she found among the King's students in her time who were determined to become professional writers.

Her first novel, *That's How it Was* (1962), began life as a short story published in *Lucifer*, the College magazine, and both this and her later novel *Capital* (1975) are set in a Queen's College which closely resembles King's. Besides her distinguished career as a novelist, Maureen Duffy went on to pioneer the rediscovery of

the 17th century poet and playwright Aphra Behn, to become a leading member of the Royal Court Writers' Group and to campaign on many issues including gay and lesbian con-

'A constant source of imagination and inspiration'

cerns, public lending payments and animal rights.

Although initially disappointed that the King's English course in the 1950s was geared towards

Old English and stopped at 1885, she describes her time at King's as 'a constant source of imagination and inspiration' and commented that writers 'owe our forebears a responsibility to know as much as we can about them'. She has given many of her papers and manuscripts to the College archives.

An annual Adam lecture has been held at King's since 1985 to mark the College's acquisition then of the archive relating to the *Adam International Review* and Miron Grindea's personal library.

Queen Victoria's signature

The early years of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort may appear to be a somewhat peculiar book to hold in the historical medical collection of King's College London School of Medicine & Dentistry. Not only is the book clearly not of a medical nature but it is also published in 1868, the cut-off period for most books housed in Special Collections being 1850. Furthermore the book is a fifth edition defining it as neither rare nor extraordinary.

However, on closer examination of a dirty front endpaper, is an inscription: 'Presented to the Library of the Victoria and Albert Wards at King's College Hospital by Victoria Rg. Osborne, August 1870.'

Shelley de Kock, Senior Information Assistant (Special Collections), explains how this book came to be in King's possession: 'Few staff and students of King's today may be aware that the first and second King's College Hospital was in Portugal Street, not too far from the Maughan Library where this book is now housed in the Foyle Special Collections Library.'

'It was to the Victoria and Albert Wards at the second King's College Hospital that Queen Victoria presented this book, a biography of the early years of her beloved husband, Albert, the Prince Consort. She no doubt intended the book to be an inspiration to student and patient alike and perhaps it was as the cover and spine have long fallen off and pages appear to be dirtied by years of handling.'

Today it has a new home in the Foyle Special Collections Library at the Maughan Library. It has been set aside for specialist conservation treatment from external funding such as that raised at alumni events and will also be kept in conditions expressly adapted to best preserve the printed heritage of the College.

The retrospective cataloguing and conservation of this historical collection of the King's College School of Medicine & Dentistry has been made possible by the Research Resources in Medical History project which is jointly run by the Wellcome Trust and British Library. This book, as well as other interesting items from the Collection, will be on display in the Weston Room of the Maughan Library, Chancery Lane from 10 June to 18 July.

For more information about using the resources of the Foyle Special Collections Library, please visit their website www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/iss/library/speccoll/index.html



Royal seal: the signature of Queen Victoria found in one of the books from the historical collection of King's College London School of Medicine & Dentistry

Teaching rooms make over

The College has been awarded a Hefce grant of £2.6 million for the refurbishment and upgrade of centrally timetabled teaching rooms.

Forty-six Strand teaching rooms will be included in the programme, omitting only those within the South Range project. The project involves a complete overhaul of fabric, lighting and ventilation – within the constraints of the building structure – redecoration and replacement of furniture. Audio visual equipment is being upgraded throughout and the opportunity has been taken to increase the number of permanent installations.

The New Theatre is also to be redecorated and the seating replaced. An increase in seating capacity to 320 has been required to ensure that the largest existing cohorts at the Strand can be taught at that campus.

The project will also provide additional audio visual equipment for the Maughan Library and the Wolfson Theatre at Denmark Hill, and the Tower Lecture Theatre, Pathology Classroom and Gowerland Hopkins Lecture Theatre at Guy's. Feasibility studies have been conducted at Guy's in respect of new lighting for the Tower Lecture Theatre and complete refurbishment of the Pathology Classroom, but it is unlikely that there will be sufficient resources to address these requirements in the current scheme. However, it is expected

that a new tranche of funding will become available in the next session and that the required redevelopment and upgrade would be achieved in that phase.

'Work has been carefully planned to minimise disruption to teaching'

'The programme of works has been carefully planned to minimise disruption to teaching, and will commence in May 2003, running through to March 2004,' said Jenny Briggs, Director of Facilities and Services. 'Once the semester begins only a small cluster of four to six rooms will be taken out

of service at any one time and to ensure that teaching continues, decant classrooms will be available during session in the former Library, Strand Building, in 20C and in portacabins located in the Old Playground. Members of the Strand community will appreciate the irony of this, given the relatively recent demolition of previous 'temporary' classrooms in this setting!'

Full details of the programme and the prospective lay-out of rooms, audio visual provision etc are available for reference in the Audio Visual Services Office at the Strand, on 'C' Corridor. Any other queries may be directed to Jenny Briggs (ext 3310) or David Bragg (Academic Facilities Manager, ext 6007).

News in brief

War briefings

During the Iraqi conflict the Centre for Defence Studies at King's produced a series of weekly bulletins. Designed to take stock of what had been happening in the war and to identify some of the underlying issues arising from the developments, they were issued widely to the media.

ULU President

Former KCLSU President, Chris Piper, has been elected ULU President for 2003–04. Chris was President of the Students' Union at King's for 2001–02 and a law graduate. He has spent this year studying for an MA at LSE.

UL summer schools

King's is running ten summer schools as part of the University of London annual programme that gives lower sixth year students the opportunity to sample university life and teaching. Subjects on offer include law, geography, mathematics, computing in the Humanities, French, German, modern foreign languages with

Education, medicine, biomolecular sciences and nursing & midwifery.

New Provost for UCL

Professor Malcolm Grant has been appointed by UCL Council as the next Provost and President of University College London. Currently Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, Professor Grant will become UCL's Provost on 1 October 2003.

Monash V-C

Professor Richard Larkins AO is to be the new Monash University Vice-Chancellor. He will take up his appointment on 1 September 2003. Professor Larkins has been Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, at the University of Melbourne since 1998.

Spy spoof

Johnny English, the film in which Rowan Atkinson plays the bungling secret agent first seen the Barclaycard tv commercials, is now out on release. The Maughan Library was used as a location for the film and now features in leaflet produced by the British Tourist Authority of various London film locations.

1953 Guy Fawkes Rag

Radio 4 are making a documentary about the 1953 student Guy Fawkes Rag which sparked off a riot in central London involving 10,000 people and resulting in 189 arrests.

The producer is looking for alumni to interview for the programme, which will be broadcast in either June or July. He is keen to have eye witness accounts of what happened around Downing Street, Trafalgar Square and Piccadilly Circus that evening when fireworks were let off and thousands of people congregated in the area. If you would like to contribute contact Melanie Gardner on ext 3073.

Gifted bid

King's is part of a consortium that has been chosen by the Department for Education & Skills as the Preferred Bidder for the Gifted and Talented Education Arm of the London Challenge ('GATE A').

This project will provide enrichment activities for London's brightest schoolchildren and also work with parents and teachers. The other members of the consortium are Imperial College, Westminster, Kensington & Chelsea and Camden LEAs and a commercial partner, Exscitec.

It is expected that a final contract will be signed in the early summer, and *Comment* will carry a full report in a later issue.

Feeling stressed?

If you work at a desk all day, you may well be experiencing tension in your back, neck and shoulders. Sitting at a desk for long periods can cause problems in these areas. Therapeutic massage can ease this tension as well as reduce stress, improve circulation, boost the immune system, and help prevent injury caused by muscle tension.

K4 Fitness is offering massage at discounted rates to King's staff: 30 minutes will cost £15 and 60 minutes £25. K4 also offers sports massage, aromatherapy and reflexology. You don't have to be a member of the gym and can just

ring for an appointment.

- Therapeutic massage is available on Wednesdays 16.00–22.00
- Sports massage on Monday and Tuesday evenings
- Aromatherapy / reflexology on Thursday afternoon and evening.

Please call for prices and availability. K4 Fitness is opposite the Franklin-Wilkins Building at 127 Stamford Street, SE1.

Tel: 020-7401 9357,
email: k4fitness@kclsu.org
(www.kclsu.org/k4)

Harkness Lecture at King's

The 2003 Harkness Lecture was given at King's on 27 March by William Shawcross, internationally renowned writer and broadcaster and Harkness Fellow (1972–73). His lecture, *After Iraq: America and Europe*, was given to an audience which included the American Ambassador.

Timothy Hornsby, Chair of the Harkness Fellows' Association, introduced the lecture and Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman, Head of the School of Social Science & Public Policy, chaired questions afterwards. King's two Harkness Fellows, Professor Sir Graeme Catto and Professor Philippa Easterbrook, also attended. The text of the Harkness Lecture is available at www.cps.org.uk

Top novelist gives masterclass at King's

Booker Prize winning author and internationally acclaimed novelist, Margaret Atwood provided a unique opportunity for King's students when she took part in one-day workshop for post-graduates last month.

In collaboration with ENO Baylis, the education and outreach department of the English National Opera (ENO), King's hosted a workshop linked to performances of the new opera *The Handmaid's Tale*, adapted from Atwood's novel.

The aim of the workshop was to consider how music, drama and text are fused in the medium of opera, and to examine the process of adapting a libretto from a novel. Doctoral composition students from the Department of Music were joined by students from the

MA Visual & Performing Arts: Promenade Concerts and MA Text & Performance Studies to examine these issues. The opera's director, Lou Stein, and composer, Deirdre Gribben, led the workshop.

Margaret Atwood who was in London to promote the opera at its London premiere, answered questions and chatted about her novel with the students for over an hour.

The Handmaid's Tale, Atwood's 1985 novel about a Biblical fundamentalist police state in 21st century America is a modern classic and now taught in schools. Currently the ENO is staging the English language premiere of Poul Ruders' opera version of it.

'I really enjoyed the workshop,' said music student Anna Papaeti, 'Being a researcher of opera, it was great to see that the ENO was reaching out to the public in such a very creative and generous way, unprecedented for our times.'

Organiser of the event, Katharine Rabson, reiterated the point, 'This collaboration between the College and the ENO proved to be enormously successful, providing an exciting new opportunity for students. I hope this project with the ENO will be the first of many.'



Margaret Atwood

King's and NFT launch unique course

A new course in film studies that examines film in the context of an internationally renowned National Film Theatre (NFT) is being offered by King's this summer.

The course, MA in Visual and Performing Arts: NFT, offers a unique opportunity for students. The combination of study in the academic environment of King's and in one of the world's premier film theatres makes this an exciting and innovative programme.

Running from July to September and alongside the NFT's Summer Season, it will involve students attending and studying the films on show at the NFT, alongside master classes with film directors, critics, and scholars as well as programming and management staff at the NFT, to truly 'get inside' this unique institution. The emphasis of the course is on historical, critical, and practical study of film exhibition in its museological context.

'The aim of the course is to study the network of relationships among film exhibition, film

preservation and archiving, and film institute education and publication,' Dr Mark Betz, Lecturer in Film Studies, explained: 'We will be examining in depth a selection of film series and screenings showing at the NFT through coursework in film programming, film journalism and criticism, and core study of the history of the NFT and of its major summer monograph series. Students taking this course will gain valuable insight into policy and decision making, arts management, film exhibition and programming within a major cultural institution, the NFT.'

This course is the second in King's MA in Visual and Performing Arts series, which involves the close collaboration of the College with London's top cultural industries. The first course, which concentrates on the BBC Promenade has run successfully for two years.

The third strand of the MA is in conjunction with Shakespeare's Globe and is planned to commence in summer 2004.

Awards for Teaching

The Awards for Excellence in Teaching scheme, established as part of the College's Learning and Teaching Strategy, has received its first nominations and the winners will be announced this month.

Hilary Placito, Senior Assistant Registrar, explained how the

scheme works: 'Ten Awards of £1,000, one per School, will be given each year for three years. The scheme is student driven so selection for the Awards will be initiated by students who will submit their nomination to a designated person in the School, typically the Head of Department

or Division. This person will then endorse the nomination and provide further supporting evidence before submitting the nomination to the Head of School or nominee. A School panel will then select the winner.'

Details of the scheme as advertised to students can be found on

the web at www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/quasac/teachingcommittee/teaching_excellence.html

King's people

Rosalind Franklin Award

Susan Gibson, Daniell Professor of Chemistry, has won the inaugural Royal Society Rosalind Franklin Award. Professor Gibson is a scientist of international repute in the field of synthetic chemistry at King's, the same College where Rosalind Franklin made her contribution to the discovery of the structure of DNA 50 years ago.

As the winner, Professor Gibson will receive £30,000, a medal, and will also give a lecture about her research at the Society in the autumn.

Professor Gibson plans to use her prize money to set up a series of lectureships, bringing successful women synthetic chemists from around the world to tour the UK. There are very few senior women in synthetic chemistry and Professor Gibson hopes that the lectures will encourage female chemistry undergraduates to consider academic or industrial careers in this economically important area.

Professor Gibson heads up a group of about 40 synthetic chemists at King's, dedicated to

the discovery and development of new chemical reactions, and their application in medically-related projects. One such project looks to improve the treatment of inflammatory diseases such as arthritis. All work is carried out with the aim of reducing the environmental impact of manufacturing chemicals.

Professor Susan Gibson said: 'I am very pleased to have won the first ever Royal Society Rosalind Franklin Award. I just wish there were more medals for my colleagues – there are many good female scientists out there who deserve this kind of recognition. I also hope that this award will encourage more women to consider working in science, engineering or technology. It is an extremely exciting and rewarding job, and one in which a woman can have a successful career and, if they wish, combine with having a family as well.'

The Award was launched in January 2002 by Patricia Hewitt, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, in commemoration of Rosalind Franklin and her work. Funded by the DTI, it is to be awarded annually to an individual (male or female) for an outstanding contribution to any area of



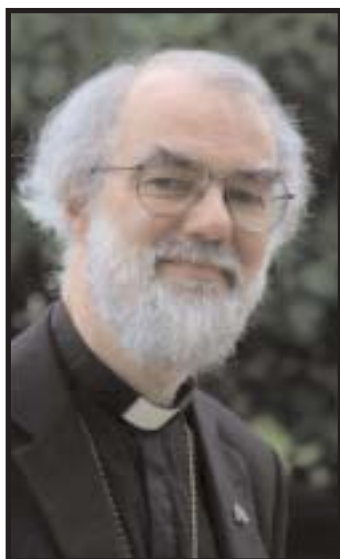
Prize winner: Susan Gibson is congratulated by Patricia Hewitt on winning the first Royal Society Rosalind Franklin Award

natural science, engineering or technology (SET). A proportion of the award fund is to be spent on undertaking activities to promote women in SET in their host institution and/or field of expertise.

Following the announcement of her prize, Professor Gibson was the subject of two-page profile in the new *Life* section of *The Guardian*, which covers science, environment, medicine and technology, and was featured in *The Higher*.

Also, last month, the Science

and Innovation Minister Lord Sainsbury appointed Professor Gibson to the EPSRC (the Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council).



Rowan Williams

College Visitor

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, has been appointed as College Visitor. He succeeds Dr George Carey, the former Archbishop of Canterbury.

The function of the Visitor is to act as a final 'court of appeal' or adjudicator in disputes which may arise between members of the institution or between the institution and its members, present or – in certain circumstances – former. In respect of King's, the Visitor is appointed by Her Majesty the Queen, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter.

New Year's Honours

Anthony Mellows, Emeritus Professor of the Law of Property in the School of Law, and chairman, review of bishops' needs and resources, was awarded an OBE for services to the Church of England. (This should have appeared in the February 2003 edition of *Comment*).

John Moxham

Professor John Moxham, Vice-Dean of the Guy's, King's & St Thomas' School of Medicine has

stepped down after six years in the post. He has taken up a new appointment as Medical Director of King's College Hospital.

Donaldson Gold Medal

Alan Ebringer, Professor of Immunology in the Division of Life Sciences, has been awarded the Donaldson Gold medal from The Royal Society for the Promotion of Health 'in recognition of his groundbreaking research on BSE'. The Royal Society for the Promotion of Health, founded in 1876, is the UK's largest and longest established multidisciplinary

membership organisation in the field of health. The founders include Edwin Chadwick and Florence Nightingale.

Water appointment

James Jenkins, a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Geography, has been appointed a member of WaterVoice Thames. WaterVoice Thames represents the interests of customers of Thames Water, Three Valleys Water and Sutton and East Surrey Water.

Epilepsy award

Dr Brian Meldrum, Emeritus Professor of Experimental Neurology in the Guy's, King's & St Thomas' School of Biomedical Sciences, has been awarded the 2003 American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics Epilepsy Award. The Award is given for recognising and stimulating outstanding research leading to better clinical control of epileptic seizures.

UK Commander

Air Marshall Brian Burridge, Commander of the 40,000 British troops in the Gulf in the recent Iraqi conflict, was the Commandant of the Joint Services Command & Staff College at Shrivenham from 2000-02. He was also a Visiting Fellow in the Centre for Defence Studies (1995-96).

Brian Burridge



RHS gold medal

Electrical Supervisor Guy's Campus, Bill Lockyer, has won his first gold medal from the Royal Horticultural Society for his 'Florist Auriculas'. Bill also appeared recently on television on *Gardener's World* showing his auriculas, which belong to the primrose family. He will have a stand at the Chelsea Flower Show which takes place later this month.

Teaching award

Dr Mark Ide in the Guy's, King's & St Thomas' Dental Institute, was one of three finalists in the Dental Defence Union Dental Teacher of the Year. He was selected from a shortlist of dental teachers from all over the UK and Ireland.

Air quality panel

Frank Kelly, Professor of Environmental Health, has been appointed by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs minister, Alun Michael, to the Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards. The Panel's main functions include giving advice on non-occupational ambient air quality standards, advice on air quality standards and identifying gaps in the knowledge needed for standard setting.

Alumnus presenter

Medieval historian Marc Morris is presenting the new Channel 4 six-part series called *Castle*, which began recently. It follows him across the length and breadth of Britain as he traces the dramatic and thrilling stories behind Britain's castle. From Dover Castle to Urquhart Castle he reveals the history behind classic fortifications, the battles they witnessed and what life was like inside them.

Mark was a history student at King's, graduating in 1996.

Obituaries

F Kenneth Hare (1919-2002)

Professor F Kenneth Hare was one of the world's most outstanding 20th century geographers. He studied at King's and later returned as Head of the Department of Geography. He was the founding member of the Friends of King's College London Canada and its first president. He was made a Fellow in 1967.

A respected academic and environmentalist, he left his mark on several major institutions. His climatology expertise led to a book *The Restless Atmosphere* which became a classic throughout the English-speaking world for the incisive clarity with which it introduced students to dynamic and synoptic meteorology.

Professor Hare's expertise broadened to cover the climate's interaction with other aspects of the environment and he was at the forefront of practical measures for solving environmental concerns. For example, the setting up of tanks to observe how certain bacteria could help clear oil spills at sea by digesting the slick.

His various posts included the Master of Birkbeck, President of the University of British Columbia and President of Trinity College, Toronto.



Marc Morris

Keith Hill (1933-2003)

Keith Hill retired in 1999 after 37 years working for King's and Chelsea College.

He began work for the Centre for Science and Mathematics Education at Chelsea College which was housed in an old piano factory in Bridges Place. During the 1970s he worked at Lightfoot Hall, the Halls of Residence on the King's Road, and then in 1985 moved to 552 King's Road, Chelsea campus. He then went as Head Porter to Cornwall House in 1990 as a result of the Chelsea closure and subsequently to the James Clerk Maxwell Building.

Keith Hill will be remembered as an extremely hard working, unfailingly polite and cheerful man. He also livened up many a party with his accordion playing.



Keith Hill

Colin Gunton (1941-2003)

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Colin Gunton, Professor of Systematic Theology, who died suddenly on 6 May. Professor Gunton was a internationally respected scholar and much valued member of the Department of Theology & Religious Studies and the College, which he joined in 1969. A full obituary will appear in the next edition of *Comment*.

Washington lecture



Professor Sir Michael Howard, founding Professor of War Studies at King's and the UK's most celebrated military historian, lectured to American alumni and friends of the College at the Library of Congress in Washington DC on 1 April.

Entitled *The problem of order in a Global Society: Global Policing or War on Terror?*, the lecture drew a large audience which, in addition to alumni and their guests, included a number of representatives of the diplomatic and political communities. Baroness Rawlings, Chairman of Council, and Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman, Head of the School of Social Science & Public Policy, also attended.

Throughout his career, Sir Michael has demonstrated the boundaries between history and contemporary affairs, and he continues to make a major contribution to international debate in the areas of war, peace and security. In honour of his great contribution to the study of war and in recognition of his 80th birthday, the College is establishing the Michael Howard Fellowships, to provide financial support for postgraduate research in War Studies.

Professor Sir Michael Howard lectures for King's at the Library of Congress, Washington DC

Hong Kong reception

On 26 March the Principal hosted a farewell reception for alumni in Hong Kong. The Principal and Professor John Phillips, Head of the School of Law, welcomed more than 50 former students from King's, Guy's and Chelsea College. Afterwards a dinner was held for the Hong Kong Alumni board.

Dawson Woo, (King's, Medicine, MBBS, 1988) and Bertrand Leung (King's, Medicine, MBBS, 1988) at the Hong Kong Alumni Reception



Phone success

Another successful telephone fundraising campaign finished at the end of March with just under 500 alumni pledging more than £35,000 in support of the Annual Fund and GKT Fund at the College. This brings the total so far this year to just under £100,000.

Principal's Concert

Enthusiasm and ongoing support for the Funds was further demonstrated by a very well attended Principal's Concert and Reception on 17 March at the Strand campus. Some 280 alumni, staff and friends of the College enjoyed a lively evening concert performed by students from the Department of Music, incorporating pieces from Schubert, Brahms and Bellini as well as a performance by the King's Barbershop Quartet.

The Concert was followed by a reception allowing graduates from as far back as 1935 to mingle with 2001 leavers. This annual event offers the College a unique opportunity to thank its supporters for their ongoing generosity.

Forthcoming Alumni Events

14 June 2003
Students' Union Reunion

3 September 2003
St Thomas' Pre-1945 Reunion

6 September 2003
1977-1979 Reunion

12 September 2003
KCLA Annual Dinner

Staff are welcome to attend any of the above events.
For further information contact alumoff@kcl.ac.uk or ext 3053.

The School of Law



Professor John Phillips, Head of School

The School of Law at King's enjoys a considerable reputation both nationally and internationally as one of the leading law schools in the United Kingdom, with over 1,550 students and 71 staff. The School has grown significantly in recent years, building upon its strength and its location in the heart of London.

The mainstay of the undergraduate programme is the LLB degree. 'This has been re-structured in recent years,' explains Professor John Phillips, who became Head of the School in autumn 2002. 'The restructuring aims to create flexibility and choice for students through half-year subjects (for example, Copyright and Designs, Trade Marks and Passing Off, Principles of Anti-Discrimination Law and Insurance Law) and specialities within full-year subjects.'

Flexible delivery mechanisms are also being introduced, supported by the use of a web-based virtual learning environment ('Blackboard'), with a one year pilot project due to be completed by July 2003.

Specialist degree programmes complement the LLB: in particular, the LLB with German Law, the LLB with European Legal Studies and the LLB in English and French law, the latter having just celebrated its 25th anniversary (see page 8). 'As a result of the success of these combined programmes we're proposing this year to introduce a combined degree with the University of Columbia (New York)', Professor Phillips says. 'Students will study for two years at King's and two years at Colum-

bia, obtaining both an LLB degree and a JD degree, and enabling King's students to experience a different legal environment. Places on this degree programme will be limited initially, but we hope to expand the scope of the programme in the future.' Another initiative is the introduction of an LLB in Australian law, with students spending an additional year of study at an Australian university.

The School also has a wide range of postgraduate courses: the University of London intercollegiate LLM, as well as MAs in Medical Law and Ethics, International Peace and Community, and Child Studies. Additionally, there are postgraduate Diplomas in EC Law, Copyright and Related Rights, and Competition Law (all taught through distance learning) as well as a Certificate in Sports Law. 'This year an MSc in Information Technology and Internet Law (introduced jointly with the Department of Computer Science at King's) has been approved', Professor Phillips says.

Events this year included lectures by Cherie Booth QC and Jean-Luc Dehaene

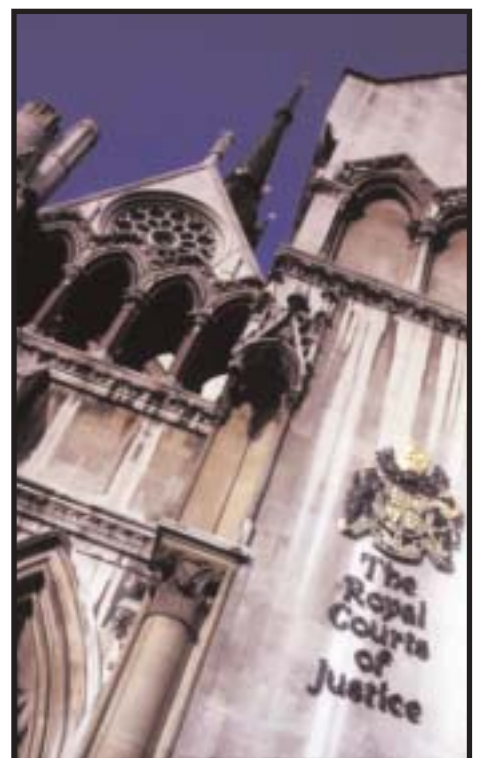
'And in the next few years we'll be giving consideration to the introduction of specialist postgraduate degrees in our areas of strength, such as competition law, banking law, criminality and labour law.'

Research continues to be strong, with the School obtaining a 5a in the last Research Assessment Exercise. There have been a number of recent promotions to professor (Lionel Bently, Ben Bowling, Aileen McColgan, Jane Fortin and Robert Wintemute), most of whom were appointed to King's at the beginning of their academic careers. New appointments to the School include Roger Brownsword (a private law theorist) from the University of Sheffield and Richard Hooley (a banking lawyer) from Cambridge University, both distinguished scholars. In March Professor Richard Whish was appointed one of six non-executive members of the new Board of the Office of Fair Trading, responsible for the Office's overall strategic direction and per-

formance. Research activity is also reflected in the number of doctoral students, now numbering over 50.

The last few years has seen the expansion of various centres located within the School – namely the Centre of Medical Law & Ethics, the Centre of European Law, the British Institute of Human Rights, the Centre for Crime & Justice Studies, and the International Centre for Prison Studies. 'Not only do the centres contribute substantially to the research activity of the School,' Professor Phillips says, 'but their public lectures and symposia provide a link between the School and the wider community, which we consider to be a valuable function of the School of Law.' Examples of such events this year include lectures by Cherie Booth QC and Jean-Luc Dehaene, former Prime Minister of Belgium and the launching of Professor Andrew Coyle's work, *A Human Rights Approach to Prison Management*, by Jack Straw, the Foreign Secretary.

The nearby Royal Courts of Justice



Research

The Centre for Telecommunications Research (CTR) enjoys international recognition for its cutting edge research. Two of the latest projects are outlined here.

Fast network access

Wireless Fidelity, (Wi-Fi) technologies will soon permeate classrooms in schools and colleges.

Wi-Fi otherwise known as Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) technology was originally designed for networking inside an enterprise that uses radio technologies to provide secure, reliable, fast wireless internet connectivity.

'These technologies clearly represent an intervention in the classroom and a pedagogical challenge,' said Paul Pangalos, Research Assistant. 'Academic etiquette may change and learning potential may increase through healthy, intra-classroom, non-disruptive communications, as well as through the use of the Internet's timely global resources.'

'In a few years, every new PC or laptop will come with built-in Wi-Fi ready to access wireless networks,' he predicted.

Wi-Fi access points have already been deployed in part of the Strand to provide high speed wireless Internet access. This will extend to many other departments thus providing Internet connectivity and many other advanced services to all students on the campus.

Mr Pangalos explains: 'Using Wi-Fi, students could be sitting anywhere in the College and use their laptops or PDAs to obtain easy access to the Internet, the College Intranet or their e-account without having to visit a computer room.'

'They could search for books anywhere in the campus via an eLibrary database and



Wi-Fi: Students benefit from the research carried out in the Centre for Telecommunications Research

download lecture materials such as lecture notes, past examination papers, e-Books and online journals. They could also have video meetings and receive live discussion – such as text chat or videoconferencing.'

Wi-Fi also opens up new possibilities in entertainment too. Students could download videos, Mp3s or digital photographs and transfer them to each other.

Stretching the radio spectrum

The Centre for Telecommunications Research is also stretching the limits of wireless communications still further as it embarks on researching Ultra-Wideband (UWB) wireless systems.

The origin of UWB technology stems from work in time-domain electromagnetics that endeavoured to describe the transient behaviour of a certain class of microwave network through the associated characteristic impulse response.

The technology consisted of a pulse generator and receiver that enabled pulses of about 1 ns duration to be transmitted. These pulses have a corresponding bandwidth of 1GHz, which far exceeds even the widest bandwidth of present day commercial communications systems of 20MHz.

Such large transmission bandwidths bring several advantages: unprecedented bit rates (potentially Gb/s), accurate position determination of users (in the order of cm) and robustness to multi-path propagation. Therefore

UWB systems have applications in multi-media data services, imaging and RADAR as well as many niche applications.

The UWB research group (UWBRG) recently established by Dr Mohammad Ghavami is dedicated to expanding the knowledge, capabilities, and applications of UWB technologies.

'Until recently, UWB had not been pursued commercially,' Dr Ghavami explained. 'Recent advances in component technology and the massive expansion of the consumer electronics market place enables the potential application of UWB transmission systems to be viable.'

'By establishing relationships with key industry and educational players, UWBRG expands its knowledge base, infuses information regarding Ultra Wideband Radio technologies into the university educational system, and disseminates research results to the scientific community. The group serves as a repository for the knowledge base and integrates developed technology into cutting-edge solutions.'

For further information, contact mohammad.ghavami@kcl.ac.uk or visit: www.ctr.kcl.ac.uk

MOD-funded Gulf research

Building on extensive measures put in place to protect the health of personnel involved in the conflict in Iraq, Veterans' Minister, Lewis Moonie, has announced plans to monitor both physical and psychological health on their return. The work will be carried out by King's Department of War Studies and the School of Medicine.

Professor Simon Wessely, School of Medicine said: 'We welcome this announcement of new research funds as the physical and mental health of our service personnel coming back from Iraq is of the greatest importance. However, we will not just look at the Iraq deployment. We hope this will be the start of a long-term look at all the health and social consequences, both positive and negative, of military service.'

The monitoring and research programme will include the following:

- A sample of up to 50 face-to-face interviews, as soon as possible after personnel have returned from post-operational leave. The results will inform the development of a post-conflict medical questionnaire.
- A questionnaire which will seek data on physical and psychological health, to a large representative group of those who were deployed. As well as regular and reservist Service personnel and MOD civilians, other groups who were deployed with them such as contractor's personnel, aid workers and embedded journalists, will be invited to form part of the group. The same questionnaire will be distributed to a number of those who did not deploy to provide a comparison group. The results will be published in peer-reviewed scientific literature.

Once this data has been analysed, King's will carry out any clinical investigations considered necessary.

Animal welfare

Professor David Papineau, Department of Philosophy, took part in *Radio 5, Late Night Curry*, for an hour as the studio guest. The discussion was on the subject of animal consciousness and animal welfare, prompted by the issue of whether fish feel pain.

'Pop science' GCSEs

Jonathan Osborne's involvement in a new science syllabus for GCSE students was reported in the *Sunday Times* recently. From September, 90 schools be trialling a new GCSE which, as well as covering the themes of science, will include much more study of the processes and practices of science, and opportunities to debates topical scientific issues such as cloning and nuclear power. It is hoped that the topics in this course will make science a more engaging subject by reducing the gap between school science and contemporary science and that more students will be encouraged to study science in higher and further education, the numbers of which have been dwindling over the past decade.

BSE and CJD

The microbiologist **Professor Alan Ebringer's** suggestion that there is no link between the cattle disease BSE and new variant CJD which attacks humans, was reported in *The Times* following his funding withdrawal. Professor Ebringer's research, which threatens to undermine government policy on food safety, suggests that BSE was caused by a microbe, *Acinetobacter*, detected in the wounds of US servicemen in Vietnam.

Torturous discontinuity

A new exhibition at the Tower of London about the dungeons and torture was the subject of debate in *The Times*. Commissioned as a response to public surveys, historians pointed out that the Tower was relatively rarely used for executions. **Professor David Carpenter** from the Department of History noted that the 13th century guardroom chosen for the exhibition is of an era where there is no evidence of torture.

Revolting students

In BBC *History Magazine*, **Richard Vinen**, 20th century French historian, published an article on the protests and subsequent street fights over local and global issues by students attending the Sorbonne in Paris in 1968. He concluded by drawing comparisons with those Parisian students who marched against war with Iraq in February this year.

SAD?

The subject of Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), a mild depression during winter, was commented upon by **Professor Anne Farmer** of the Institute of Psychiatry in the *Guardian (Life)*. She noted that those suffering from the disorder often crave foods like chocolate and strawberries which are high in tryptophan, a natural precursor to serotonin.

Stop and search

An article in the *Guardian* regarding institutional racism in the police force was subsequently followed by a report in the *Guardian* and the *Evening Standard* on police 'stop and searches' and minority communities. Led by

criminologist, **Dr Benjamin Bowling**, the research found that section 60 (of the Crime, Justice and Public Order Act of 1994) is 18 times more likely to be used against Asians than whites, and that Afro-Caribbeans are 27 times more likely than whites to be stopped.

Sars

In the *Independent on Sunday*, **Professor Ragnar Lofstedt**, Director of Risk Management, analysed the recent spread of Sars and evaluated the risk potential. He also discussed communication uncertainty (owing to the facts which are always in a state of flux) leading to public confusion and distrust. He concluded by pointing towards long term positive changes which might result from the virus such as reduced levels of air-recycling inside passenger cabins on airlines. Professor Lofstedt also undertook a radio clip for BBC World Service radio and was reported in Sweden's daily paper *Dagens Nyheter*.

Bad language

Tony Thorne, the Director of the English Language Centre, recorded an interview with Radio 4's *Word of Mouth* about swearing and 'bad language'. He noted that many people in so-called 'Middle England' are still extremely sensitive to what they (very variously) regard as swearing and that young people treat traditional, religious or sexual rude words lightly, but react strongly to racist or sexist language. They have also evolved a whole new vocabulary of invective, often impossible for older listeners to understand.

War and post-traumatic stress

Professor Simon Wessely of the Gulf War Illness Research Unit was quoted by, amongst others, the *Daily Mail*, *BBC Online*, the *Sunday Times*, the *Guardian*, the *Economist*, the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Financial Times*. Findings that only three per cent of British combatants in the last Gulf War developed post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) some years later received much attention. It was emphasised that mental health issues relevant to the military involve rather more than PTSD, and, whilst the best method of prevention remains not to send men to war, failing that, developing ways of encouraging members of the Armed Forces to discuss their fears and concerns with each other is likely to be more beneficial than formal counselling or debriefing.

War footnote

Unsurprisingly the War Studies Group have undertaken numerous press interviews regarding Iraq. The subjects analysed have been as varied as nuclear and chemical weapons, the disappearance of Saddam Hussein, methods of taking a city, troop supplies, the trial of new weapons, British and US partnership, and the historical context of war in the Gulf.

The Public Relations Department are keen to know of any academics featured in the media. Please do keep us informed by contacting the Public Relations Office on 020-7848 3203 or email: pr@kcl.ac.uk

Iraqi Poetry Today (Modern Poetry in Translation 19)

Guest editor: Saadi Simawe, Grinnell College, Iowa (School of Humanities, King's College London)

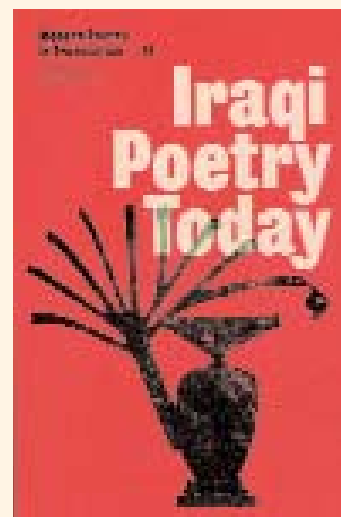
The 40 poets represented in *Iraqi Poetry Today* include young experimentalists, and representatives of Iraqi minorities, Kurds and Jews, with translations from Hebrew and Kurdish as well as Arabic. The guest editor, Professor Simawe is a leading expert on Iraqi literature.

Since the Iraq-Iran war in 1980, Iraq has been the subject of many political, economic, sociological and military studies, but very little attention has been paid to modern Iraqi literature – yet there is no bet-

ter way of learning to understand the mentality of the Iraqi people. A highly complex literature of survival has been produced in response to dictatorship, colonialism and war. There has been a sustained effort to synthesise ancient Mesopotamian/Islamic tradition and Western modernity. The importance of presenting this material at this time can hardly be exaggerated.

A review in *The Independent* said of the MPT series, [it] 'has a rare and precious talent for illuminating the world's most perplexing places in a blaze of verse'. Of this edition 'This is a yearning, wounded literature of resistance, remembrance and survival, of secret truths told at home and lonely insights honed abroad.'

Cost to King's staff is £8.50 (rrp £9.95) via School Office (www.kcl.ac.uk/mpmt)



The Philosopher's Dog

Raimond Gaita, Professor of Moral Philosophy, (Routledge)

When *The Philosopher's Dog* was published in Australia late last year, it was greeted with rapturous acclaim. A work of amazing clarity, yet tempered with a profound humanity.

It is a mixture of story-telling, and philosophical reflections, combining a love for animals with a love for fellow humans, and a thirst for knowledge. For the most part Gaita writes about them in the context of family life with his father, his friend Pantelimon Hora, and wife and children.

Many of the stories are about animals Gaita has known and loved: Jack the cockatoo, Gypsy the dog and Tosca the cat. Stories about these animals are interwoven with reflections on how animals think, hope, trust and feel.

Dwelling on the complex questions surrounding the relationship of humans with other animals, it draws on the work of writers such as JM Coetzee and Hannah Arendt and philosophers such as Ludwig Wittgenstein and René Descartes. Gaita concerns himself with questions of ethics, eschatology, cognition and knowledge,

and the animals, though often charming and delightful, are in effect secondary to his quest for clarity about the human condition.

'The real topic of *The Philosopher's Dog* is not animal existence but human love ... [it is] an outstanding exercise in seeing things clearly.' *The Independent* (Routledge)

Sport – Law and Practice

Adam Lewis, Blackstone Chambers and Jonathan Taylor, Director of Studies in Sports Law at King's (Butterworths)

This is a major new textbook on Sports Law in the UK and consolidates guidance across all the major practice areas of interest to sports lawyers. Written by a team of acknowledged and acclaimed experts, this comprehensive work will be essential reading for solicitors and barristers practising sport law as well as universities, governing bodies, sports agencies, clubs and commercial firms. The book's structure closely follows the King's postgraduate certificate in Sports Law syllabus.

According to *Football Insider* this is 'really the first text to address comprehensively the issues that can arise under Eng-

lish Law in the sports sector. This book has, where others have failed, provided all the necessary authorities and materials to help

resolve the numerous issues that have directly risen or are likely to surface in the area.'

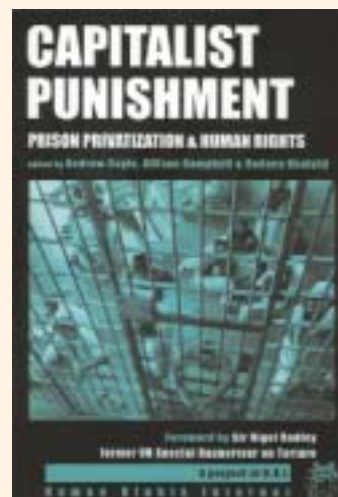
Capitalist Punishment

Editors: Dr Andrew Coyle, Director of the International Centre for Prison Studies, King's, Allison Campbell and Rodney Neufeld (Zed Books)

Prison privatisation is rapidly increasing in many Western countries. But how is public well-being served when prisons are run for maximum profit? Bringing together an accomplished group of writers and activists, *Capitalist Punishment* discusses prison privatisation within its historical and ideological context, and in relation to international standard minimum rules developed by the United Nations.

Capitalist Punishment examines the adverse effects of private prisons on inmates related to physical and sexual abuse, health care, education, training, and rehabilitation. It describes the impact on prison staff, from whose salaries corporate profits are wrung, and of cost cutting in the design of facilities and allocation of personnel. Special attention is paid to the effect on vulnerable groups such as women, children, and disproportionately incarcerated minority and indigenous communities.

Revealing important links between neo-liberal policies locally and their global effects, *Capitalist Punishment* offers a disturbing glimpse into the transnational spread of privatised incarceration, as developing nations bound by IMF restrictions are forced into the hands of transnational corporations.



Sabbatical election results

The Students' Union elections had a record turnout for recent years with a total of 2,438 members voting. The sabbatical results are:

David Dunne President
Polly Mackwood VP Education & Representation
Cairisteen Hickey VP Sites & Services
Alexi Duggins VP Media & Publications
Toby Boon VP Student Activities

David Dunne, a third year law student, stood on a platform opposing top up fees, improving Union facilities and increased representation of students. On winning the presidency he said 'In this pivotal year for the higher education system I will seek to ensure that the students of King's get their opinions heard by those who have the power to influence their education and welfare. I look forward to the completion of the renovation work at the Guy's campus Union building and the new Waterloo building which is expected this summer. I am delighted to be able to work with such a experienced and capable executive to provide more support for Student Activities and awareness campaigns and better representation for all KCLSU members.'

Polly Mackwood is a third year English student. She commented on her new role: 'I intend to focus in particular on safety. The issue was highlighted by the drug rape campaign and aspects of 'Free to be Me', and next year there will be a campaign dedicated to issues of personal safety. I also hope to run several health-related campaigns, building on the success of SHAG (Sexual Health Awareness Guidance) week and

Breast and Testicular Cancer Awareness.'

Cairisteen Hickey is a final year Biological Sciences student. She said: 'I promise to devote my time to every site, improve the services provided by the Union, improve communications with private outlets and the Union and represent each student at every opportunity, regardless of campus, background, gender, race or beliefs.'

Alexi Duggins is a third year philosophy student and currently Assistant Editor of *Roar*. He said: 'I'd like to thank everyone that put their trust in me by giving me their vote. I'm going to work as hard as physically possible to make sure that trust wasn't misplaced. I want *Roar* to become something that every single student in the College wants to read and enjoys reading, and more than anything, I intend to give King's students the one thing they've really been missing out on: student radio.'

Toby Boon is a third year English student and is currently Chair of the Student Activities Council. He says: 'I plan to enhance links between sports, societies, volunteering and Rag and to help students make the most of their Union.'

For a full list of all the election results see www.kclsu.org



David Dunne

Margaret Hodge debate at King's

Margaret Hodge, the Secretary of State for Higher Education, attended a debate on the Government's White Paper for Education at King's on 19 March. Organised by the KCLSU Debating Society other panellist included Charles Hendry, Shadow Minister for Young People, David Rendell, the Liberal Democrat Spokesman on Higher Education, David Utting, President of KCLSU and David Dunne, President of the Debating Society and President-Elect, KCLSU.

Brad Pomfret, Secretary of the Debating Society, chaired the event, which saw a number of questions raised lively discussion. The panel were asked to respond to such issues as top-up fees and widening participation, increasing levels of debt, funding alternatives and gender discrimination.



White Paper debate: from left Brad Pomfret, Charles Hendry MP, David Utting, David Rendell MP, Minister Margaret Hodge and David Dunne

Marshall Scholarships

Two of the 40 winners of the 2003 Marshall Scholars will be coming to King's. Justin Anderson (Occidental College) will join the Department of War Studies and David Brogan (Vanderbilt University) will study medical imaging.

Marshall Scholarships finance young Americans of high ability to study for a degree in the UK. Up to 40 scholars are selected each year to study either at graduate or occasionally undergraduate level at an UK institution in any field of study. The scheme allows the scholars, who are the potential leaders, opinion-formers and decision-makers in their own country, to gain an understanding and appreciation of British values and the British way of life. It also establishes long-lasting ties between the peoples of Britain and the United States. Each scholarship is held for two years.

Public Health prize winners

King's graduates scooped two of the three prizes in the National Environmental Health Graduate of the Year awards of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health.

James Sargent and John Wood, who both graduated last June with first class honours in Environmental Health, were chosen after a rigorous selection process which took into account their performance in the Chartered Institute's own professional examinations, a competitive essay and a presentation before the selection committee.

Charles Boxer exhibition

A new exhibition entitled *Charles Boxer and the history of early European expansion* is being held in the Maughan Library's Weston Room until 30 May. The exhibition focuses on the achievements and interests of Charles Boxer (1904–2000) who was Camões Professor of Portuguese at King's from 1947 to 1951 and again from 1953 to 1967.

Katie Sambrook, the Special Collections Librarian, commented: 'Boxer's life was eventful and intriguing, his scholarly significance considerable. His research interests, as indicated by the range of his published output, included the development of the Dutch and Portuguese empires; early Western expeditions to Japan and China; voyages and shipwrecks; and the early

missionary activities of the Catholic Church in the Far East.'

The exhibition will include a selection of books from the College's Foyle Special Collections Library, chosen for their influence on Boxer's own research. Among the items on display will be copies of some of the earliest and most comprehensive published accounts of the East by European observers, many of them illustrated by superb engraved plates. Jan Huygen van Linschoten's *Navigatio* (The Hague, 1599) and Willem Lodewijcksz's *Histoire de la navigation aux Indes Orientales* (Amsterdam, 1609) will be among the items shown.

A maid of honour of the Empress Mandocorosama being pushed in a small chariot, from *Atlas Japannensis* by Arnoldus Montanus. London, 1670



JO FISHENDEN

The Performance of Dying

Death scenes have traditionally played a central part in the performing arts. Violent, unnatural, painful or heroic deaths for example Hamlet, the Duchess of Malfi or Romeo and Juliet are well known, but why is dying such a popular theme in drama, and what responsibility does drama have in depicting dying and death more realistically?

To answer these questions actors, playwrights and doctors investigated the relationship between the realities of dying and death, and the way it is depicted on stage and screen in an evening of performance and discussion on 27 April at the Jerwood Vanbrugh Theatre, RADA.

Organised as part of 'The Art of Dying' by King's in conjunction with RADA, the event was chaired by Dr Robert Buckman, broadcaster, medical oncologist and author of the seminal book on dying *I Don't Know What to Say*. The panel including actor and

director Kathryn Hunter, actor Tanya Moddie and playwright Nell Dunn, author of *Steaming* and *Cancer Tales*.

Discussion was interspersed with moving performances of famous dying and death scenes including *Spoonface Steinberg* by Lee Hall and *'Tis Pity She's A Whore* by John Ford and *Cancer Tales* by Nell Dunn.

'This was a fascinating evening exploring dying through drama,' said Professor Barry Ife, Vice-Principal. 'The performances by the RADA students were outstanding and generated a stimulating and lively discussion between the panel and the audience. Everyone went home with something to think about.'

Issues raised included, what is the relationship between dying depicted on stage and screen and the reality of dying? What is it like as an actor to play someone dying? What can acting and the dramatic depiction of dying contribute to the medical profession.

Open House at the Maughan Library

The annual London Open House weekend will take place on 20 and 21 September. For the second year the Maughan Library will participate in this celebration of contemporary and renowned architecture which attracts upwards of 350,000 visits to over 500 sites across London.

The Maughan Library in Chancery Lane will be open on the afternoons of the weekend. The Library, a Grade II* listed building, is a masterpiece of neo-gothic architecture.