

# COMMENT

THE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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## War Studies on the web

**T**HE NEW TERM SAW THE launch of King's first wholly web-delivered (no residential requirement) MA degree: War in the Modern World.

The first intake of 43 internationally-based students will be given an understanding of military campaigns from 1945 until the present. Military operations are studied in the light of economic, social, technological, and political changes in the world today.

Anne-Lucie Norton, Director, eLearning Programme, says, 'The increasing prevalence of military intervention across the globe, and its associated costs, both human and economic, ensures that the study of warfare will remain topical.'

War in the Modern World is a part-time postgraduate degree, its content and resources available all day every day.

### The forefront of academic provision

'Created and staffed entirely by Department of War Studies personnel, War in the Modern World, in the quality and richness of its online content and links into College and worldwide resources, has no rival,' she continues.

By offering the programme to any qualified student anywhere in the world (subject to places being available), King's places itself in the forefront of academic provision.

E-Learning is a natural development in teaching and learning and keys into the increasing



### Minister of State returns to King's

The Principal, **Professor Rick Trainor**, (left) and the President of King's College London Students' Union (KCLSU), **Matt Pusey**, (right) look on as Minister of State for Lifelong Learning, Further and Higher Education, and former General Manager of KCLSU, **Bill Rammell**, shares a joke with the current General Manager of KCLSU, **Peter Robertson**, (second right). See page 2 for full story.

requirement for flexibility in work/life balance that many postgraduate students are seeking and that King's wishes to provide.

Tutors guide the students – who live in Hong Kong, Germany, the USA, the UK and Canada – and provide continual feedback throughout the programme.

War in the Modern World is media-rich, including video clips, audio clips, images, maps

interactives and downloadable reading materials as well as online original documents, journal extracts, sound and video archive material.

The Department of War Studies at King's is unique in the UK and one of the very few university departments in the world devoted exclusively to the multi-disciplinary study of war as a phenomenon. It received the top rating of 5\* in the

last Research Exercise and the maximum 24 score for its quality of teaching.

For more information, see: [www.kcl.ac.uk/wimw/](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/wimw/)

**KING'S**  
*College*  
**LONDON**

## Education Minister returns to King's

Bill Rammell MP, Minister of State for Lifelong Learning, Further and Higher Education, visited King's on 19 October.

He met with Professor Rick Trainor, Principal, Matt Pusey, King's College London Students' Union President (KCLSU), Peter Robertson, General Manager, KCLSU, Harry Musselwhite, College Secretary and Registrar, and Professor Phil Whitfield, Vice-Principal (Students).

Bill Rammell was General Manager of KCLSU from 1989 to 1994. After leaving King's he took up the position of Senior University Business Manager for the

University of London Union until the 1997 General Election.

### 'It was a great pleasure to welcome the Minister back'

The Principal said: 'It was a great pleasure to welcome the Minister back to his old College, especially in the company of the President and General Manager of KCLSU.'

Mr Rammell's visit included a nostalgic tour of the KCLSU premises in the Macadam Building. There was also an opportunity, over lunch, for an informal discussion about the

College's future strategy and general issues relating to higher education in the UK.

Elected to the Commons in 1997 Mr Rammell is the Member of Parliament for Harlow. He sat on both the European Legislation and Scrutiny committees and then joined the Government in 2001 as Parliamentary Private Secretary to Tessa Jowell, before moving on to the Whips' Office. In the October 2002 reshuffle he was promoted to Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign Office.

Following the General Election this year he was appointed to his current post.

## Millionaire?



**K**ING'S ALUMNUS TODD Donnelly is in a new Channel 4 programme that gives three pairs of 'business virgins' the chance to make £1 million in a year.

His idea for an interactive health coaching service called The Lean Team ([www.theleanteam.co.uk](http://www.theleanteam.co.uk)), created with Brayley Pearce, is competing against two other ideas in the show, *Make Me a Million*.

The winner – the most successful business – will be announced at the end of the four-part series. Each business has a secret weapon: a successful multi-millionaire mentor. The business brain behind The Lean Team is serial entrepreneur and Murrayfield Live 8 organiser, Chris Gorman OBE.

Todd graduated in 2004 with a BSc in Nutrition and a passion for giving the public an alternative to the 'diet gurus'. His aim is to provide evidence-based solutions for nutrition and health which led to the creation of The Lean Team. The unique online service offers access to virtual health coaches at a fraction of the cost of their offline equivalents.

Todd said: 'The Lean Team is a new approach that offers sensible, achievable advice for each individual user, backed by some of the top health professionals and scientific advisors in the country'. One of their experts includes Dr Anthony Leeds, Senior Lecturer, Division of Nutritional Sciences at King's.

Todd and Brayley beat 2,500 other budding entrepreneurs to be in the programme, which began at 21.00 on 1 November.

## e-learning and web site launches

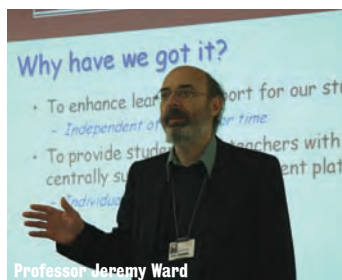
**T**HE NEW COLLEGE WEBSITE and e-learning services were formally launched on 27 September at an event in the Franklin-Wilkins Building.

More than 100 staff heard five speakers discuss various aspects of these important College initiatives.

### Enhancing face-to-face teaching

Chaired by Maggie Haines, Director of Information Services & Systems, the speakers were the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, Dr Pat Reynolds (Chair, Web Advisory Group), Professor Jeremy Ward (Chair, e-Learning Project Board), Professor Phil Whitfield (Vice-Principal, Students) and Anne-Lucie Norton (Director, e-learning programme War in the Modern World.)

Professor Trainor talked about



how the developments reflected the changing environment, and the impact and importance of online communications. He said both services would play their part to help to fulfil the ideas in his Green Paper.

Dr Reynolds began with some statistics about the huge growth of the Internet. She pointed out that the key aspects of the new website included ease of use together with the standard design and projection of the College brand. Maintaining and making changes to the site would be much easier in the future, she said. (See also the last edition of *Comment*, page 4.)

Professor Ward stressed the key concept of the e-learning service was that it should facilitate a wide range of theories, concepts and approaches to learning and teaching, and support individual learning preferences and styles. These uses can include distance learning, but most of the time at King's, the use will be supplementary, enhancing face-to-face teaching rather than replacing it, he explained.

He briefly reviewed the service and the design principles that make it as easy as possible for academics to concentrate on the pedagogy rather than on technical matters. These include the central system based on WebCT Vista software, the extensive support and training from ISS Customer Services, and the linkage with Registry systems so that logon is by email username and password.

The event was organised by e-Learning Project Manager, Paul Street.

# The measure of pain

**D**OCTORS MAY SOON BE able to truly assess how much pain their patients are in thanks to a unique scientific collaboration between King's College London, King's College Hospital and Pfizer Limited.

Until now, medics have had to rely on their patients' descriptions of their pain, which are often highly subjective, but researchers at the new Pain Clinical Research Hub are using the latest imaging techniques to measure the brain activity of people in pain to get objective measurements of pain intensity.

The new centre was opened by Sally Davies, Head of NHS Research and Development, on 21 September.

## One in four people suffer from long-term or chronic pain

One in four people suffer from long-term or chronic pain, and it can cause a considerable reduction in the quality of patients' lives. In order to manage pain effectively, doctors need to know how much pain their patients are in and whether the treatments they are prescribing are doing enough to relieve the symptoms. However, the mechanisms of chronic pain are not well understood, and reliable quantitative data on the condition has been hard to produce. These factors have hindered both effective pain management and the introduction of new treatments.

Professor Steve Williams, Head of Imaging Sciences at the Institute of Psychiatry and one of the heads of the new centre said: 'Recent developments in functional imaging have allowed us for the first time to visualise the brain pathways involved in processing pain. These

new technologies will undoubtedly lead to new ways of measuring and treating pain.'

Initially researchers will assess what goes on in the brain of people suffering from acute pain using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) and other imaging techniques. They will do this by taking healthy volunteers and subjecting them to controlled painful stimuli, such as high temperatures, while measuring their brain activity. They will then study patients with chronic pain, such as back pain, other neuropathic pain.

The researchers hope their work will show the level of activity in different regions of the brain when patients perceive pain and after they receive treatment.

This information will help doctors to diagnose pain, monitor the progression of disease and assess patients' response to treatment – identifying those who are currently receiving inadequate pain management. By providing a quantifiable output measure the data will also help researchers from the Hospital, the College and



A volunteer about to undergo a functional MRI scan at the Pain Clinical Research Hub under the watchful eye of Mark Allin, MR Superintendent.

Pfizer carry out robust clinical trials of new drugs – hopefully reducing the time it takes to turn potential pain-relieving compounds into new medicines.

## This is pioneering science

Professor Sally Davies commented: 'The Pain Clinical Research Hub is a vital step forward in developing our understanding of pain, what

triggers it, how it is felt physically, and the impact it has on the lives of sufferers and their families. The research will result in better pain prevention, treatment and management for the hundreds of thousands of people who live with constant and unremitting pain. This is pioneering science in a historically under funded and under researched area so I particularly welcome the leadership shown by Pfizer, King's College Hospital and King's College London.'

## New neurological spin-out

Cerogenix Ltd is the latest company to spin out from King's in collaboration with the intellectual property commercialisation company, IP2IPO.

Cerogenix, which is led by Dr Adrian Pini from the MRC Centre for Developmental Neurobiology, will develop novel therapeutics for neurological diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and spinal cord injury.

In addition to its drug discovery and development activities, Cerogenix will focus on developing a diagnostic tool for the early detection of neurodegenerative diseases. This would enable clinicians to identify the correct treatment for patients at an earlier stage than is currently possible.

Dr Pini says, 'Today there is a global research effort to develop drugs that treat individual neurological diseases. What we

are doing at Cerogenix has the potential to address the full spectrum of neurological disorders, and is an enormously promising approach to one of the most intractable areas in medicine.'

IP2IPO has invested £370,000 in the company, and Kinetique Biomedical Seed Fund is a co-investor in the project, having put up £50,000.

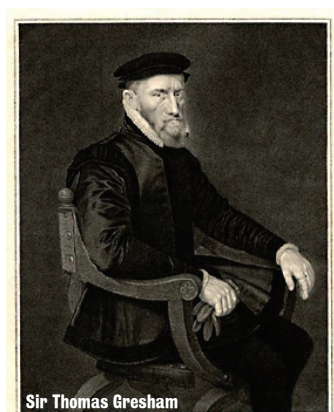
This brings the number of companies spun out by King's to 18.



## King's and Gresham College

**N**ESTLED IN A HOLBORN courtyard lies Barnard's Inn, an Inn of Chancery immortalised by Dickens in *Great Expectations*. Barnard's Inn Hall is home to Gresham College, the oldest higher education institution in London. Intended by Sir Thomas Gresham to be London's first university, the College never adopted the cumbersome burdens of formally registering students and awarding qualifications. It thus remains as it was founded over 400 years ago: a place anyone can attend whenever they like, without payment, and listen to lectures delivered by the very best.

This year several King's academics are participating in the Gresham programme, including



Andrew Lambert (Laughton Professor of Naval History), Linda Newson, (Professor of Geography) and Raj Persaud (Senior Lecturer, IoP) and a whole team from the Institute of Psychiatry. Another King's connection is former College

Principal, Lord Sutherland, who became Provost of Gresham College when he left Edinburgh.

The titles of the originally endowed Gresham Chairs remain: Astronomy, Rhetoric, Physic, Music, Geometry, Law and Divinity. But the range of subjects has broadened, and lectures are now given on a wide range of subjects.

### Originally intended to widen access to education

Every event is web-cast so in addition to the College's 'live' attendees (who number more than 10,000 a year) an average of 52 people watch Gresham lectures

every day, across the globe.

The College was originally intended to widen access to education and one of the ways of doing this was by stipulating that the Gresham Professors had to deliver their lectures twice, in Latin and in English. Nowadays, of course, the lectures are given in only one language.

The part-time Gresham Professors normally have a three-year tenure and each time a Chair becomes available people vie to follow in the footsteps of the eminent former Gresham Professors, who include Henry Briggs, Christopher Wren and John Bull. For more information, see [www.gresham.ac.uk](http://www.gresham.ac.uk), or telephone 020 7831 0575.

## The Big Draw

King's took part in 'The Big Draw', on 12 October by inviting 60 local school children to take part in drawing workshops lead by artists Emily Tracy and Sarah Corbett.

The Big Draw is a national campaign arranged by Drawing Power to engage people of all ages to see, think, invent, act and enjoy through drawing. During October more than 1,500 events were arranged across the UK.

The visit was organised by Shared Communities, King's community engagement and staff volunteering scheme, which develops further partnerships with local primary schools. The schools taking part were Archbishop Sumner Primary School in Lambeth and Cathedral Primary School in Southwark. During term time 17

King's staff volunteers visit the schools to help children practice their reading skills, so The Big Draw was an opportunity to show the children where the volunteers work.

Emily Tracy and Sarah Corbett, asked the pupils to perform specific tasks, such as drawing with the opposite hand or with their eyes closed. They worked on the theme of 'The Thames' and were divided into groups to have stories about The Thames read to them while they drew. An outline of the river was prepared on a roll of paper to which the pupils attached their drawings. Gjøril Berg, Community Relations Officer, comments, 'There was a good atmosphere and a clear sense of achievement as the children helped display their work.'

The resulting pictures were



School children from local primary schools creating their own 'Big Draw' of the Thames.

displayed in the Great Hall for their parents to see. Ian Caldwell, Director of Estates, handed out

certificates to the children and the College provided a 'Big Draw' cake which one of the children cut.

## Doctoring the past

**WOULD YOU BE BRAVE** enough to go back in time and see how your knowledge and skills match up to those of your predecessors? Three King's medical students took up this challenge when they agreed to take part in the new BBC2 daytime show, *Thoroughly Modern Medic*.

Adam Joiner, Togay Koc and Awais Bokhari joined three other students from across the country on a reconstructed 1950s hospital ward in Belfast in August. There they experienced some of the training methods of the day all under the watchful eye of the programme's Consultant and Registrar.

They had to adhere to the rules, ethics and sensibilities of a 1950s hospital whilst dealing with ailments,

medications and equipment which they were unlikely to have seen before.

Their experience has proved, at least to them, that today's brightest can still do it 'old style'. Though the '1950's doctors' seemed to revel in

### Much of the work was the same as it is today

dishing out plenty of old-fashioned teaching by humiliation, off screen the consultant, Dr Mike Smith, was generous with his praise of the students, commending them on their systematic approach to taking a patient history. He himself had trained at Guy's Hospital in the 1950s.

The three students agreed that although some of the tasks they



Six medical students took part in *Thoroughly Modern Medic*. From left: Dr Jonathan Belsey, Togay Koc (King's), Tamara Cohen, Adam Joiner (King's), Nerys Conway, Awais Bokhari (King's) and Dr Mike Smith. In front: Sandy Davey.

were asked to carry out were things that they would never have to do now – such as sterilising syringes or using mouth pipettes – much of the work was the same as it is today. Adam explains: 'There is certainly more paperwork now, but taking a history, examining the patient and

making a diagnosis; these things have been the same for hundreds of years.'

Overall, the three medics were happy to have taken part.

Presented by Nadia Sawalha, the programme is scheduled to start on weekday afternoons in mid-November.

## Publications

### Annual Report

The King's College London annual REPORT, a handsome, magazine-style publication featuring a sample of the College's research and teaching in the academic year 2004-05, is now available.

The contents include: an introduction by the Principal; highlights of the College year; Student Diary; 'Digitizing Culture': the work of the Centre for Computing in the Humanities; a discussion by Professor James Gow (War Studies) of recent redefinitions of terrorism; research and teaching developments in the Dental Institute;

Professor Andrew Lambert's analysis of what made Nelson a hero; 'The biological basis of leglessness' (Professor Victor Preedy's case for more research into alcoholic myopathy); a feature on the different aspects of *Flow* which are central to King's research from engineering to environmental studies, and from

philosophy to pulmonary disease; Professor Robert Lechler's consideration of the issues around stem cell research and King's contributions to this area; Dr Alison



Campbell, MD, KCL Enterprises, on the developing an entrepreneurial culture; a feature about King's Access to Medicine Programme; College facts and figures.

Produced by the Department of External Relations the REPORT is edited by Dr Christine Kenyon Jones

Copies of the REPORT have been sent School offices. Staff are encouraged to send the REPORT to anyone interested in the College's work, and additional copies are available from the Public Relations Department email: [pr@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:pr@kcl.ac.uk) or ring extn 3202.

### Postgraduate Prospectus

The 2006 *Postgraduate Prospectus* is now available. More than 40,000 copies have been printed and mailed to UK careers offices and libraries, as well as overseas institutions in key markets.

'We have made a number of improvements this time reflecting feedback we have received from students and staff,' explains Olivia Davenport, Marketing Production & Communications Manager. 'For example, we have expanded the contents section to include an A-Z of general information, provided a further summary of King's achievements, introduced the Graduate School bringing together some of the fantastic things that we offer to our students, selected news stories specific to Schools, and produced new toned pages for the introduction and index text for ease of navigation.'

For bulk orders go to the website and click on 'Order College prospectus stock' link under Support Services. The online version of the prospectus can be found at [www.kcl.ac.uk/pgp](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/pgp)



# King's people

## Science Communication Award

**Clive Page**, Director of the Sackler Institute of Pulmonary Pharmacology and Professor of Pharmacology, has won the 2005 Biosciences Federation Science Communication Award.

In announcing the winner and runner-up, the chair of the Award Panel, Professor Peter Downes commented, 'The inaugural BSF Science Communication Award for active researchers in higher education institutions attracted an outstanding list of nominees whose contributions to science communication were astonishingly broad, varied and imaginative. The panel selected Professor Clive Page and Dr Mark Lythgoe (Royal College of Surgeons Unit of Biophysics at UCL) as the winner and runner-up, respectively of this year's award.'

'Clive Page has, for a number of years, appeared in media discussions relating to the use of animals in medical research. It is vital that scientists of Clive's standing have the courage to express their views in public on

controversial issues and members of the panel commented that if it were not for Clive, who would defend research using animals on TV and in high profile debates? Clive Page does not simply publicise science, he does so in a highly sensitive area which can bring personal threats.'

## Board Election

**Ian Norman**, Professor of Nursing & Inter-disciplinary Care in the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery (FNSNM), has been elected to the Board of the European Academy of Nursing Science, an independent body whose Fellows are recognised as having made a significant contribution to the advancement of nursing in Europe through scholarship and research.

A major objective of the Academy is to link together university department of nursing where there are active doctoral training programmes, and to provide a forum for established and developing nurse researchers to meet to develop a European perspective on their work. To this end the Academy organises an annual summer school to provide



Professor Ian Norman

advanced research training to doctoral nursing students to which Professor Norman together with Drs Peter Griffiths and Angus Forbes of FNSNM, are regular contributors.

## Novartis Prize

**Dr James Moffatt**, Wellcome Trust International Fellow in the Sackler Institute of Pulmonary Pharmacology, has been awarded the Novartis Prize for 2004-05 by the British Pharmacological Society. This prestigious prize is awarded to the best young pharmacologist in the UK under the age of 35.

## Estates

A team of cyclists from the **Strand Estates Department** and some of their partners completed the London Bikeathon on 17 July, raising almost £1,000 for Leukaemia Research. From left: Paul Imber, Courtney Campbell, Mark Edwards, Hayley Edwards, Daniel Austin, Tuong-Vi Magowan, Richard Magowan, Stuart Turner, Liz Turner and Chris Singh.



On 7 October the **Guy's Estates Department** wore their jeans to work, and made a donation, to support the tenth anniversary of the Jeans for Genes Campaign. The Campaign is organised by four national charities in order to help sick children with genetic illnesses by funding research into various conditions, and by offering vital support and advice for families.

## Finalists of The Times Higher competition

The *Times Higher Education Supplement* has announced the shortlisted finalists for its inaugural awards and King's academics have been successful in two categories: Most Imaginative Use of Distance Learning – **Patricia Reynolds**, Senior Lecturer in the Dental Institute – and Business Initiative of the Year – **Peter Jenner**, Professor of Pharmacology.

Together with **Professor Margaret Cox** (Dental Institute Research Fellow), Dr Reynolds is



Dr Pat Reynolds

leading the development of two online dental courses: one on ethics for first-year students and one on therapeutics for fifth-year students at King's.

Professor Jenner established drug discovery and development spin-out company, Proximagen, in 2003, to seek new treatments for neurodegenerative conditions such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease. Earlier this year, working with **Ken Mulvany**, the company was floated on the Alternative Investment Market, raising £13.5 million with the result that Proximagen is valued at £30 million.

The overall winners will be announced on 23 November.



Professor Peter Jenner (left) and Ken Mulvany

## Promotions

In the last edition of *Comment* we listed recent College promotions, **Dr John Gearson** of the Defence Studies Department was not included. He has been promoted to Reader in Terrorism Studies.

## Alumni in the USA

■ The British journalist **Martin Bashir** has been named as a new co-host of one of America's most prestigious news shows starting next month. Best known for his candid interviews with Princess Diana and Michael Jackson, Martin Bashir is an alumnus of King's.

He will be one of three presenters taking over from Ted Koppel, on the ABC show, *Nightline*.

■ The Welsh National Opera's general director for the past ten years, **Anthony Freud**, has been appointed the third General Director and the first Chief Executive Officer of Houston Grand Opera. A law graduate from King's (Law 79) he will take up his new post next March.

■ George Bush has appointed **John Hillen** as Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs). He was one of ten new appointments made recently to the US President's administration. John Hillen was awarded an MA War Studies in 1993.

## Record of the year

King's College Fellow and alumnus **Sir John Eliot Gardiner**, who released *Bach Cantata Pilgrimage* in 2000 on his own record label, Soli Deo Gloria, has won the Record of the Year trophy at the Classic FM Gramophone Awards.

*Gramophone's* editor, James Jolly, comments: 'Sir John Eliot's Bach Cantata Pilgrimage in the

## Winners of College Awards



The winners of the new College award scheme (featured in the last edition of *Comment*) received their prizes from Vice-Principal (Research) Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman, at a reception on 30 September.

Pictured celebrating here are, from left: Professor Freedman, Dr Alan James (winner of the

Young Academic Author of the Year for his book *The Navy and Government in Early Modern France 1575-1661*), Mathias Gautel, Professor of Molecular Cardiology (winner of Research Project of the Year for his submission *Mechanical signalling by a giant elastic protein: implications for muscle physiology and human*

*disease*), Dr Bruno Silva-Santos, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Department of Immunobiology (winner of Young Researcher of the Year for his studies leading to the proposal of a new model for the generation of T lymphocytes that protect against infections and tumours) and Professor Phil Whitfield, Vice-Principal (Students).

millennial year remains one of the most ambitious and uplifting musical undertakings ever.'

## SU gig

The hottest tickets in town at the beginning of November were for American musician **Sufjan Stevens** who played two sold-out gigs at Tutu's at the Strand. Despite being accompanied by both a string and brass section, this was the quietest concert imaginable and focused on a musical interpretation of the state of Illinois – Stevens' avowed intention being to make a CD about every state in the USA. The event was *The Guardian's* 'gig of the week'.

## Leavers

### Leonée Ormond

The Department of English and her many friends at King's said farewell to Professor Leonée Ormond in the summer when she retired after 40 years at the College. Professor Ormond is a specialist in nineteenth-century literature and the fine arts, and because of her interdisciplinary expertise in Victorian literature and painting, a special Chair in Victorian Studies was created for her.

Her colleague Janet Cowen recalled how when they started together as assistant lecturers at King's in 1965 they had shared a room in the East Wing, taught

amidst the demolition noise preparatory to the building of the 'new' Strand Building, and wondered what their chances of being taken on permanently would be, given the scarcity of women lecturers in the history of the department.

Emeritus Professor Richard Proudfoot paid tribute to her quiet, good-humoured and efficient way of carrying out any tasks that came to her.

Professor John Stokes recalled that Leonée had created, with Katharine Worth, the MA in Text and Performance with RADA: the first course of its kind. She pioneered,

continued on page 8



# King's people

continued from page 7

sometimes in collaboration with her husband Richard Ormond, appreciation of Victorian art when it was out of fashion and she 'rescued' half-forgotten figures such as George du Maurier and James Barrie for academic study, as well as having written on major writers such as Tennyson. He paid tribute to the great esteem and affection which Leonée inspired throughout the University of London and beyond.

## Graeme Catto

Vice-Principal and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, Professor Sir Graeme Catto left the College at the end of September.

Sir Graeme joined King's in October 2000. He had been previously held the post of Vice-Principal at the University of Aberdeen and it is to there he has returned as Professor of Medicine.

He has been involved with academic medicine in a distinguished career spanning more than 35 years and serves, or has served, on a number of national committees, including key positions within the NHS. Since 2002 he has been President of the GMC.

While at King's one of his major tasks was to build on the foundations of the recent mergers that the College underwent with UMDS, the Institute of Psychiatry and Normanby College. He set in motion the reorganisation of the Health Schools.

At a farewell reception the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, said Sir Graeme was 'A man of great distinction and achievement who had transformed the 'health side' of King's and set in process both the raising of its research profile and its relations to our partner organisations, in particular the NHS Trusts.' On a lighter note, the Principal reminded guests that



Professor Sir Graeme Catto

while Graeme was an expert in feisty analysis he also had a wonderful sense of humour.

## Krishna Kirpalani

Chief Accountant Krishna Kirpalani has retired from King's after 32 years' service.

He joined Chelsea College as accountant in 1973. When Chelsea and Queen Elizabeth Colleges merged with King's in 1985 Krishna was appointed Deputy Finance Officer and on merger with the former UMDS in 1998 he was appointed Chief Accountant.

In 1973 when Krishna joined Chelsea College the net assets were £10.7 million and the total income was £4.3 million. The College now has net assets of £470 million and a total income of £350 million.

Steve Large, Director of Finance, paid tribute to Krishna and his expert financial management and sheer professionalism. He noted that he personally had learnt much from him over the years as had many others in the Department.

'Krishna has made a big contribution to the effective management of the College's finances over many years, and is leaving the Finance Department in very good shape and will be greatly missed by all his friends and colleagues.'

## Obituary

**Herman Bondi FRS, FKC  
1919-2005**



Professor Herman Bondi helped formulate the steady-state theory of the universe, and was Professor of Mathematics at King's from 1954-71.

Bondi's best-known theory, propounded with Thomas Gold and Fred Hoyle in 1948, proposed that the universe has always existed in a steady state with no beginning, and that it will have no end.

Bondi later focused his attention on the theory of relativity and black holes. In particular, he worked on the theory of accretion, by which the gravitational pull of a black hole, or a star, gathers gas in its vicinity.

Following a Mathematics degree and research fellowship at Cambridge, Bondi joined King's in 1954. His lectures, generally given without notes, inspired and encouraged his students, and Dr John Silvester of the Department of Mathematics recalls that Bondi often said it was his ambition to have the theory of relativity taught in primary schools. 'Such was his skill as a lecturer that, when you listened to him explaining it, you could believe that this might indeed be possible.' Bondi is said to have set the same examination questions for his course for several years. When challenged about this, he said that as soon as

the students produced correct solutions to these questions he would set new ones: but not before.

Bondi was an enthusiast for public education in science. He wrote many popular articles on scientific topics, became one of the first to present science on television, and between 1981-85 was president of the British Association of Science Writers.

Sir Martin Rees, the Astronomer Royal, commented that: 'The work of which Bondi was most proud was the study he made of gravitational radiation with Felix Pirani and Ray Sachs at King's, where he built up a leading research group on general relativity.' Another achievement of which he was proud was his report which led eventually to the construction of the Thames Barrier.

While at King's, between 1967-71, Bondi was Director-General of the European Space Research Organisation (ESRO). Between 1968-72 ESRO launched seven satellites and Bondi was often required at the rocket-firing range at Woomera in Australia. John Silvester recalls that a colleague who saw him in the corridor said 'Hello, Hermann, I thought you were in Australia'. 'Australia? No, no', Bondi replied. 'I haven't been in Australia for three days!'

He had a strong sense of the responsibility of scientists and played an active part in the Pugwash movement, concerned with reducing the danger of armed conflict.

In 1971 Bondi left the College to become Chief Scientific Adviser to the Ministry of Defence. Between 1977-80 he was the Chief Scientist to the Department of Energy and he then became Chairman and Chief Executive of the Natural Environment Research Council. Between 1981-97 he was President of the Society for Research into Higher Education.



## League tables

**E**VERY YEAR THERE ARE increasing numbers of university rankings published. In previous editions of *Comment* we covered league tables from *The Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Times Higher* and Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China. The different positions King's receives reflects the different criteria the organisations use to compile their own tables.

Recently there have been new tables from *The Sunday Times* and *The Times Higher*.

*The Sunday Times* ranked King's overall in thirteenth place, maintaining the same position as last year. The paper went on to rank individual criteria, and results showed that:

- King's is third in the UK for both highest graduate starting salaries (£21,835) and most

students in graduate-level jobs (83.3 per cent)

- staff: student ratios at the College are the fifth highest in the country with 12 undergraduates per staff member
- for the number of applications per place (8.4), King's is ranked sixth
- King's is the seventh-best university in the country to go to, according to head teachers who were questioned by the paper; they ranked Business first and Nursing third when asked to identify high quality undergraduate provision.

*The Times Higher Education Supplement* has produced its world rankings for the second year running. The College is ninth in terms of UK universities, 23rd in Europe and globally ranked joint

73rd: a rise of 23 places on last year.

*The Higher* claims that the tables have been refined to provide more detail this time but are heavily based on peer-review and citation scores.

### A rise of 23 places on last year

Finally, another 'league table', compiled by internet search engine Yell.com, identified Britain's top 20 universities according to the number of 'social services' on offer to students in the local area. King's was ranked second only to LSE, and King's students were said to be able to have the best all-round night out, with plenty of clubs around the College campuses and numerous takeaways to round off the evening!

## Cultural debates

Over two weeks in December key figures in the London's cultural and creative industry and higher education will look at the fundamental question: How do we educate the next generation to sustain our industry? This idea for this seminar series originated from Creative & Cultural Industries (see page 12).

### Architecture

Panellists include Victoria Thornton (Director, Open House), Will Alsop (architect), Sophia de Sousa (Chief Executive, Glass House), Lawrence Barth (Architectural Association) and Kate Heron (architect, University of Westminster).

**5 December 18.30-20.00, The Blizzard Building, Queen Mary University of London, E1**

### Publishing

Panellist include John O'Farrell (*Guardian* columnist and author), Sandi Toksvig (author and comedian), Nick Harris (literary agent) Jake Lingwood (publisher, Random House), Carole Hayman (writer and producer) and Philip Downer (Managing Director, Borders UK).

**7 December 18.30-20.00, The Great Hall, King's, WC2**

### London's cultural identities

Speakers include Ekow Eshun (Artistic Director, ICA) and Baroness Lola Young.

**15 December 18.30-19.30, ICA, The Mall, SW1**

Events are free and open to all. For information and to reserve tickets visit [www.lcace.org.uk/debates](http://www.lcace.org.uk/debates)

## Crime prevention event

**T**HE STRAND CAMPUS' SITE Services team, together with Reliance Security, one of the College's security companies, and the local community police team, held a crime prevention event on 18 October in the Great Hall.

The aim of the event was to provided information to staff and students on a range of safety issues.

A number of talks were given on personal safety, including travelling in unlicensed cabs, by representatives of the Suzy Lamplugh Trust and Charing Cross Police Station.

Jenny Briggs, Director of Facilities & Services, drew the winning ticket for the raffle of a Recordable DVD Player, which was won by English student Bridget Marriott, and

donated by Reliance Security.

Melanie Lewis, Site Services Manager for the Strand campus, comments, 'The day was a huge

success. We received very positive feedback from students and staff and plan to run more of these events.'



Students enjoying the Crime Prevention Day with members of the Charing Cross Police Station

## Keith Hoggart

Keith Hoggart, Professor of Geography and former head of the School of Social Science & Public Policy and the Department of Geography, has been appointed Vice-Principal (Arts & Sciences).

### When did you join King's?

I came to King's in 1978 from the University of Toronto, where I had a Commonwealth Scholarship. I have had a couple of temporary escapes, including a year at Maryland and Temple on a Fulbright Scholarship, and a term at the University of California, Berkeley.

I won't bore you with anything like a complete list of the positions I have held at King's but I've been President of King's AUT, the College's ESRC Liaison Officer, its Chief Academic Auditor, and been a member of the Academic Staff Committee, the Academic Planning Group and the College Audit Committee.

### What are the main differences between being head of Department/School and Vice-Principal?

The most notable change has been increased involvement with organisations outside the College. This goes beyond my work as Chair of the External Affairs Committee, which I started when head of the School of Social Science & Public Policy.

Another change is the ratcheting upward of perspective. Much as a head of school has to think strategically about cross-departmental potentialities and problems, as well as helping departmental possibilities be more effective by integration with school strategies, the same

applies to cross-school activities in the Vice-Principal's role, as College-wide issues and priorities are critical to the role.

I have just started developing strategies to adapt to my new position, with processes to keep myself informed about students, departments and schools soon to be rolled out. The personnel and scale of actions will change but practices should be little different from that of head of school, when I had open meetings in departments and regular heads of department meetings.

### What does the External Affairs Committee deal with?

In simple terms it is building toward a position where King's is more strategic in its relationships with outside agencies, so as to achieve its core aims more effectively.

This involves developing and seeing through strategies for increasing PhD student numbers, enhancing and broadening our overseas student intake, developing policies for partnerships with other institutions, assisting with fund-raising initiatives, projecting messages we want to place in the outside world more forcefully, and so on.

### What is your own area of research and are you still able to continue with it?

The common themes in my research emanate from an interest



GREG FUNNELL

in the politics of social inequality. A good part of this relates to public policy but the work is also infused with a focus on social class change. This leads me to work a lot on land-use planning policies, housing change and migration, with my recent work concentrating on rural England. This has been associated with examining the nature of rural-urban linkages, and criticising overly sentimental portrayals of rural England in much academic (and popular) writing. Currently I only have one single-authored journal paper awaiting publication, with another just submitted, which offers an indication that leadership roles slow down your publication output.

Next year I'll move forward with a project on the politics of rural social housing 1919-1974, but before that I have a contemporary rural housing paper to finish and a commissioned paper for January

on how geographical knowledge is being (mis)manufactured by contemporary trends in UK universities.

### What was the last book you read?

Currently I am reading Stanley Karnow's *Vietnam: A History*, but I tend to pick different types of book depending on my mood, tiredness and so on. So I am still punishing myself by ploughing through Lynne Truss's *Eats, Shoots and Leaves*, which was a present from a former PhD student, in recognition of the grammatical improvements I suggested for her thesis.

### Where do you eat out in London?

I do enjoy a weekend lunch at Chutney Mary in Chelsea, or for a more up-market dinner, The Cinammon Club in Westminster. Closer to home, Villa Bianca, the Bombay Bicycle Club and Cellar de Midi are Hampstead haunts, as is the White Bear pub.



# Marx's son-in-law at King's

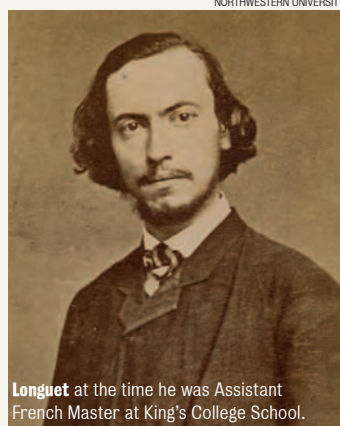
In May 1873 a classified advertisement was placed in *The Times*: 'Monsieur Longuet (BA) from Paris and Oxford, will open a course of French Language and Literature classes on May 1. Private lessons in classics. Madame L receives pupils for French, German, Elocution and Singing. Conversation from the first lesson. 1, Maitland Park Road, Haverstock Hill.'

If the address strikes the reader as familiar, it is with good reason: 1 Maitland Park Road was where Karl Marx lived. Monsieur Longuet was his son-in-law, and the 'Madame L' of the advertisement is otherwise known as Jenny Marx. Longuet, originally from Caen, had settled in London as a political refugee after the overthrow of the Paris Commune which he had been elected to after the Franco-Prussian War of 1871.

## Edgar Quinet

After giving private tuition for almost two years, Longuet succeeded in gaining a temporary post teaching French at the Junior Department (ie, the School) of King's College at the Strand, and in the following year, 1875, he gained a permanent position at King's. Among his referees for the job was the writer and politician Edgar Quinet, whose letter of recommendation for Longuet is in the College Archives.

Although Quinet was in fact an elected member of the National Assembly, the Authority to which the Commune had been opposed, the two men had common ground since they were both members of the *Ligue de la Paix et de la Liberté*,



one of the first anti-war movements. And, as a vocal opponent of Napoleon III (whose son, the Prince Imperial, was himself an occasional student at King's College), Quinet also had long experience of political exile and its attendant difficulties. Helping a political refugee to get a job must have come naturally.

Until his sudden departure from England, Longuet wrote only one further letter to the College Secretary, in 1879. In it, he requested that new locks be fitted to his desk because 'lately they have been constantly opened in his absence and pens have been stolen'. Longuet, sometimes described as a follower of Proudhon, evidently did not share the latter's belief that property is theft!

In July 1880, the French government announced an amnesty, allowing exiled Communards to return to France. Soon after, Longuet left London for Caen, to attend to 'urgent family business', for two to three weeks. Five weeks had elapsed by the time that the headmaster of King's Junior Department, Revd Thomas Stokoe, wrote to Longuet, asking him to explain the delay. Stokoe suggested that,

if Longuet had not returned to his position by half-term, it would be considered vacant.

## Neuralgia

Longuet protested that he was undergoing treatment for a bad attack of neuralgia and was staying put on doctor's orders. To declare his post vacant under these circumstances, he protested, 'would be contrary to all the traditions of King's College'. The headmaster, offended, wrote back that any decision about Longuet's post would be taken by the College Council.

It was December before Longuet finally decided to resign, expressing regret at being parted from his colleagues and pupils and saying that nothing would

erode the interest he felt in their successes. 'This Bond', he wrote, 'will last as long as my life'.

Was Longuet really ill? Or were his 'urgent family business' and 'neuralgia' fictional devices, employed to hold open the prospect of a safe return to England if he failed in his attempts to re-establish himself in France? Whatever the truth of the matter, Longuet's return to France soon became permanent, as he secured a position as editor of the daily paper *La Justice*. He returned to London in 1883, as one of the senior mourners at Karl Marx's funeral, reading out messages of condolence from around the world.

**Mark Smith**  
Formerly of the College Archives



# Departmental focus

## Cultural & Creative Industries

Now in its fourth year, the King's MA in Cultural & Creative Industries (CCI) is one of the College's most innovative and popular master's courses.

**I**ts numbers have built up from 12 in its first year to 40 this year, chosen from 130 applicants: a very high proportion of whom are from overseas.

The cultural and creative industries, which include publishing, the mass media, museums, galleries, the performing arts, advertising, fashion, film, the music business and parts of the new digital economy, are one of the fastest growing sections of the economy.

The programme's Academic Director is Professor Chris Hamnett, Professor of Geography, and there are two full-time lecturers, Dr Ruth Adams and Dr Hye-Kyung Lee, a visiting lecturer, Dr Kathy Battista and a programme manager, Dr Ralph Parfect, based on the fifth floor of the East Wing at the Strand campus.

'Our programme is designed for graduates who want to pursue a career in the cultural and creative industries, and for practitioners who want to enhance their existing skills,' Professor Hamnett explains. 'King's is uniquely placed to run and deliver this course because of its spread of expertise in the humanities, social sciences, management studies and policy analysis, and also because of its central location in London and the strength and variety of its arts and cultural contacts.'

'London is one of the world's major cultural capitals, and our

students undertake internships and work placements in some of the UK's foremost museums, theatres, opera houses and art galleries; in leading commercial enterprises including music, film and design companies; in central and local government offices involved in art and cultural policy-making, analysis and development, and in a wide range of private companies and non-governmental cultural organisations.'

### Internships

Last year's students undertook internships in, for example, the British Council, the Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA), the Barbican Centre, the Charles Dickens Museum, the Theatre Museum, the Tate Gallery, the Royal Academy, the National Maritime Museum, the BBC, the Hayward Gallery, the V&A Bethnal Green Museum and United International Pictures.

Increasingly, students are also undertaking their internships overseas, for example in New York, China and Greece.

The course has a unique relationship with the London Centre for Arts and Cultural Enterprise (LCACE): a major collaboration between leading London universities which was launched at King's in June (see *Comment* 162). A module on enterprise in the cultural sector is being developed by LCACE for CCI students, in partnership with



The Unilever Series – Rachel Whiteread

The latest commission for the Turbine Hall – a labyrinth-like structure entitled EMBANKMENT comprising 14,000 casts of boxes, stacked to occupy the monumental space. On display until 2 April at Tate Modern.

various arts organisations. Sessions will be held at a range of cultural venues in central London including the English National Opera and the British Film Institute, including speakers from external organisations such as the Creative Industries Development Agency (CIDA) and the Arts Council.

### Tate Modern

The course also has 17 places a year on an exciting new programme 'Inside the Modern Museum', which is taught by Dr Kathy Battista at Tate Modern. This course offers an unrivalled opportunity to visit different parts of Tate Modern and to have talks from key staff.

'From national and city governments to public sector funding bodies and cultural professionals to business journalists, there is a shared

recognition that cultural and creative entrepreneurship and the knowledge economy are key forces in contemporary society, and increasingly vital assets in national and regional economies,' Chris Hamnett points out.

'However, there are few tertiary level programmes of study that interrogate this sphere and its history, or provide on a broad basis the kinds of knowledge that facilitate careers in the cultural and creative industries. The King's programme fulfils that need, and is contributing to breaking down the sometimes rigid boundaries between practice and theory, and between business and culture. It is testimony to the success of the course that so many of our students have gained jobs in the sector and we are overwhelmed with applications from potential students.'



## Lessons for parents of anorexics

**K**ING'S ACADEMICS HAVE launched a course to teach the family members of young people with eating disorders how to offer care and support. More than a million people in the UK have an eating disorder.

Effective treatment early on can mean a successful outcome in 90 per cent of cases, but often it is difficult for loved ones to know what to do for the best.

Led by Professor Janet Treasure from The Eating Disorder Research Unit, IoP, the Collaborative Caring

Course teaches the necessary skills to understand eating disorders such as anorexia and bulimia, and the consequential behavioural changes.

It is hoped it will help family members deal with the impact eating disorders have on their lives as well as to inspire change in the sufferer. 'Understanding and support are vital, she says. 'The workshop helps families to learn the communication skills necessary to guide their loved one to having a healthy relationship with food.'

## Bringing buildings to life



**A** GROUP THAT SPECIALISES in the visualisation of buildings, archaeological site data, objects and scenes, has joined the Centre for Computing in the Humanities from Warwick University. The King's Visualisation Laboratory contains modellers, artists and designers who turn ideas into moving or still images for display on the web, or on video, CD-ROM or DVD.

Among other projects the team,

led by Richard Beacham, Professor of Digital Culture, is using cutting-edge computer technology to create virtual reality simulations of several important cinemas which were built in Britain between 1910-39 and are now mostly lost. The navigable 3-D models will help researchers study trends in cinema architecture and understand how historical cinema-going experiences were influenced by the structure and décor of the cinema itself.

## Licensing agreement brings new diabetes treatments closer

The translation of research by Professor of Clinical Immunology, Mark Peakman, into treatments for type 1 diabetes has moved a step closer, with an announcement from UK Biotech firm, Avidex, that it has licensed exclusive rights from King's to develop products that recognise a molecule associated with the disease.

Current treatments for type 1 diabetes concentrate on relieving the symptoms of the condition, primarily by controlling the level of glucose in a patient's blood. Avidex will be taking a different approach in an attempt to slow the progression of the disease. The company aims to produce a therapeutic agent that will bind to



the molecule, shown by Professor Peakman's team to be present in a substantial proportion of patients with type 1 diabetes. This agent should prevent insulin-producing cells from being destroyed by the patient's immune system.

## Measuring metabolites

**B**Y COMPARING THE PATTERNS of metabolites in urine and plasma between healthy people and those with disease, it may be possible to find markers of illnesses that can be tested for in a simple, non-invasive way.

Dr Melissa Hanna-Brown, from the analytical science research group in the Division of Pharmaceutical Science, has developed a new method for testing for chemicals in urine, which can identify the levels of over 80 metabolites simultaneously using only a small sample and minimal preparation.

The profile of metabolites is dependent on a number of factors including age, where you live and whether you had a beer the night before, so identifying changes that relate to a specific disease or your ability to respond to a

particular treatment is hard work. It is therefore highly critical that the technology for analysing metabolites in urine is efficient, sensitive, and offers high resolution.

This new method uses three-dimensional capillary electrophoresis which separates molecules based on their size and charge. The metabolic profiles are then visualised using advanced pattern recognition tools that have been created in collaboration with the Department of Chemistry, University of Bristol.

The technology has already been used to search for unique patterns of metabolites present in alcoholics or people with Down's syndrome.

This research was presented as part of the recent Pharmaceutical Science Research Division's Annual Meeting.

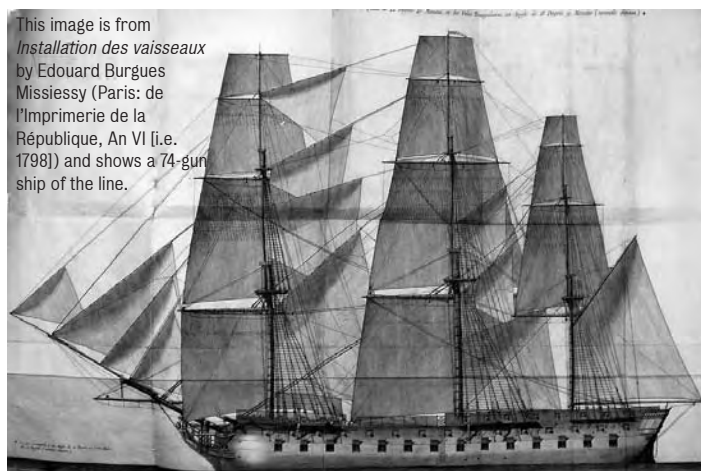
## Exhibition

**THE SKILFUL SEAMAN, AN** exhibition of items from the Foyle Special Collections

Library to mark the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar, runs until 16 December in the Maughan Library.

On 21 October 1805 the Royal Navy won a comprehensive victory over the combined fleets of France and Spain near Cape Trafalgar, on the Spanish coast, effectively putting an end to Napoleon Bonaparte's hopes of invading Britain.

This exhibition looks at the navies of the Napoleonic period, their ships and the skills and tactics of the men who served them. Through books and journals of the time advances in naval medicine and surgery, in signalling and communication – which



This image is from *Installation des vaisseaux* by Edouard BURGUES Missiessy (Paris: de l'imprimerie de la République, An VI [i.e. 1798]) and shows a 74-gun ship of the line.

helped to give the Royal Navy an advantage over its enemies – can be traced.

The differences between the British and French traditions in ship design can be seen and how the tactics of naval warfare influenced the course of events in Nelson's two great victories over the Napoleonic

fleets, at the Nile and at Trafalgar.

The exhibition concludes with a number of contemporary published accounts of the Battle of Trafalgar, which reflect in their tone the ambiguity of the public reaction to news of the battle, torn between joy at the victory and grief at the death of Nelson.

## Study space

**STUDENTS ON THE EXTENDED** Medical Degree programme now have an informal space to study and relax in between their lectures and practical classes. The Damilola Taylor Room, which was opened by Damilola's father, Richard Taylor, in October will make it easier

for these students to get advice, support and encouragement from their peers.

The room in the Hodgkin Building at the Guy's campus has a study area containing computers and a set of medical text books donated by the medical publisher, Elsevier, as well as a sofa, bean bags, and a small kitchen. A bronze bust of Damilola has been donated to display in the

room by the Damilola Taylor Trust.

The Damilola Taylor Trust has supported the Access to Medicine and Extended Medical Degree programmes since their inception, as Damilola had dreamed of becoming a doctor before he was killed. The refurbishment of the Damilola Taylor Room was made possible by a grant from the King's College London GKT Annual Fund.



STEPHEN PERRY

Extended Medical Degree students enjoying the new Damilola Taylor Room.



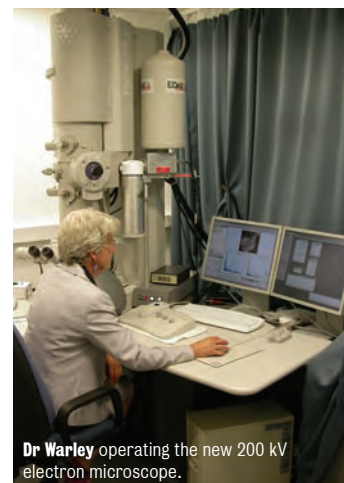
STEPHEN PERRY

The bust of Damilola Taylor.

## CUI microscope

**A** PREVIOUS ISSUE OF *Comment* 161 documented King's gift of electron microscopes made redundant by the formation of the Centre for Ultrastructural Imaging (CUI) to the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

Fittingly, the end of August marked the completion of the installation of the new electron microscopes in the CUI at Guy's.



Dr Warley operating the new 200 kV electron microscope.

Dr Alice Warley, Director of CUI explains, 'The last to be installed, a FEI 200 kV microscope, is capable, amongst other techniques, of providing data that allows 3D reconstruction at the nanometre level or the examination of structure in thin films of fully hydrated materials such as suspensions of viruses.'

To mark the opening of the Centre an inaugural meeting *The Ultrastructure of Life* will be held on 6 January 2006 at which top international scientists will present their most up-to-date work demonstrating how modern imaging techniques can be harnessed to track single molecules or map molecular landscapes inside cells. Full details of the meeting can be found at [www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/emu/symp.html](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/emu/symp.html)



## Edward the Confessor

A RECENT COLLOQUIUM ON 'Edward the Confessor: the man and the legend' was attended by more than 200 people.

These included pupils from local schools, undergraduates from the University of London, professional historians, and many people connected with Westminster Abbey.

After words of welcome from the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, Canon Nick Sagovsky of the Abbey, and the Dean, Richard Burridge, the Colloquium was introduced by Professor Jinty Nelson of King's, a former President of the Royal Historical Society.

The afternoon session was chaired by Dr Richard Mortimer, the Keeper of the Muniments at the Abbey. 'The papers by leading authorities in the field (Simon Keynes, Elisabeth van Houts, Pauline Stafford, Stephen Baxter, Eric Fernie, Edina Bozóký and Paul Binski) were both scholarly and accessible. Stephen Baxter's idea that the Confessor had decided, or been made to decide, on Harold as his successor considerably earlier than previously imagined, was but one of several new hypotheses advanced', explains the



Part of the Lytlington Missal depicting the Confessor.

colloquium organiser David Carpenter, Professor of Medieval History.

Before the final question and answer session Warwick Rodwell explained about the door at the Abbey now revealed as belonging to the Confessor's time, a door, he suggested, which had been deliberately preserved by Henry III. During the questions Professor Jocelyn Wogan-Browne drew attention to the importance of the early thirteenth-century *Life of the Confessor* by the nun of Barking. The panel all took the view that the Confessor would have been canonized, thanks to the efforts of the monks of Westminster, whether or not the Norman Conquest had taken place.

## College Christmas card

THIS YEAR'S COLLEGE Christmas card depicts a scene from a Frost

Fair held on the frozen Thames. Cards come in boxes of 25 from the Corporate Design Unit ([design@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:design@kcl.ac.uk)) and each card comes with an attractive envelope. Smaller quantities can be purchased from the Students' Union

shops, or bought at the Strand Advent Carol services.



## News in brief

### MRC experts

36 King's academics have been appointed as members of the Medical Research Council's College of Experts. Members are expected to give expert opinions and provide advice to the MRC on high-profile issues such as new schemes and strategic reviews.

### US links

The College has established three working groups to review its strategic position within key markets, concentrating initially on university partnerships in China, South East and East Asia, and North America. The North American group is would like to hear from academics who have links with the University of Pennsylvania, Emory, Georgetown and the University of North Carolina. Please email [jo.wheeler@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:jo.wheeler@kcl.ac.uk)

### Intern program

KCL Enterprises are offering a unique internship program to PhD students and postdoctoral researchers. Interns will spend one day a week in the KCLE's offices and gain valuable work experience in business development and commercialisation. This flexible program can be adapted to suit the intern's particular business interest. The deadline for applications is 30 November. For more information visit [www.kcl.ac.uk/kcle](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/kcle) or contact Dr Kate Hough, Business Development Manager; extn 6089, email [kate.hough@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:kate.hough@kcl.ac.uk)

### Comms audit

An audit is being conducted of the College's internal communications to assess how well information flows through King's, and then to provide guidance on areas for improvement. Publications, informal ways of communicating, email, training, management systems, etc, will all be examined. A series of interviews and focus groups are planned. If you have strong views on this subject, contact Chris Coe email: [christopher.coe@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:christopher.coe@kcl.ac.uk)

### New Director

Somerset House Trust have appointed Gwyn Miles as its new Director. She will take up her post on 3 January. Currently Director of Projects and Estate at the V&A, she was instrumental in developing the ambitious new Masterplan for the museum, which is now being implemented. She is succeeding Diana Hansen, who retires this year. Somerset House is open to the public as a centre for culture and the arts and receives more than one million visitors a year.

### Jazz4Peace

The Jazz4Peace 19-strong collective, which includes King's staff and alumni, played a gig in the auditorium of the Franklin-Wilkins Building on 21 September to raise funds for the United Nations World Peace Day. Their performance was part of an event aims to raise awareness and funds for the Disasters Emergency Committee, Niger, British Red Cross and Hurricane Katrina. There was also a selection of readings, speeches, short films and other performances.

# In the news



## Child drug runners

Research led by **Professor Mike Hough**, Director of the Institute for Criminal Policy Research, which found that the UK's crack and heroin trade is fuelled by children and teenagers in search of a quick fortune was reported by *The Guardian*.

## Ethical cloning

**Dr Stephen Minger**, Head of the Stem Cell Biology Laboratory, commented in *The Times* on the news that scientists can now produce embryonic stem cells from cloned mouse embryos that have been genetically altered so they could never develop into living creatures. He believes that this attempt to placate those against the idea of using embryos in research is unlikely to work.

## Stressed out

*Stressed Out*, a Radio 4 programme investigated the biological basis of stress; and included an interview with **Simon Wessely**, Professor of Epidemiological and Liaison Psychiatry.

## Healthy appetite

**Tom Sanders**, Professor of Nutrition & Dietetics, commented in *The Daily Mail* on research from America which reveals a strong link between certain foods and particular states of mind.

## Older mothers

**Professor Peter Braude** appeared on BBC Breakfast, Radio 4's *Today* programme and Radio 5 Live to discuss how women are putting their health at risk, and risking not being able to have children, by waiting until they are older to begin trying to conceive. He also commented in *The Daily Mail* and *The Times* on the reversal of an earlier

ban placed on a research project at Newcastle University by The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority. British scientists have now been given the go-ahead to create a human embryo with two genetic mothers.

## Alzheimer's research

BBC News Online featured an article on the new MRC centre for neurodegenerative disease research, based at King's. **Professor Brian Anderton**, director of the centre, says their aim is to develop a blood test which tracks the progress of Alzheimer's disease.

## Bishops clash

**Dr Edward Adams**, Lecturer in New Testament Studies, appeared on *Channel 4 News* commenting on the conflicting discussion between UK bishops, who say the war on Iraq was wrong, and US bishops who say the Book of Revelations justifies it. He argued that the Book of Revelations appeals to the fringes of the church. He was also quoted in *The Daily Mail* about how a degree in religious studies could be the path to a successful career.

## Youth drug use

**Robin Murray**, Professor of Psychiatry, commented in *The Sunday Times* on the increased number of children treated for mental disorders caused by smoking cannabis since the government downgraded the legal status of the drug. He said that a minority of people who take it repeatedly and over a long period will suffer psychotic episodes and may ultimately suffer schizophrenia.

## ADHD clinic

An article about Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder refers to an

adult clinic run by **Philip Asherson**, Professor of Molecular Psychiatry. It is one of only two such NHS clinics in the country and is expanding to cope with the rise in demand.

## Cheating partners

*The Evening Standard* featured a survey authored by **Dr John Marsden** of the Institute of Psychiatry, which found that more than two thirds of men cheat on their partners.

## Iron work

Scientists say they have worked out how the gut absorbs iron from meat into the blood – a discovery they hope could lead to new treatments for anaemia. **Dr Andrew McKie** led the King's research team, and is quoted extensively by BBC News Online, and the journal *Cell*.

## Irresponsible art

**Ben Barratt** commented on an artist's provocative plans to keep a car running every day for a year to highlight air pollution, for BBC Online. He said exhaust fumes become more diffuse and less harmful as they mix in the atmosphere.

## Traditional values

Learning in the 21st century was predicted to change radically, but students still want the age-old model, writes **Alison Wolf**, Sir Roy Griffiths Professor of Public Sector Management, in her monthly column in *The Times Higher*.

## Child mental illness

*The Guardian* featured an article on the study co-authored by **Professor Robert Goodman**, Institute of Psychiatry, which revealed that one in ten children

in Britain has a recognised mental disorder, ranging from depression to autism.

## Pre-natal test

By 2007 all pregnant women should be offered access to pre-natal screening at 11-13 weeks. Earlier screening for foetal anomalies is regarded by many as a positive move, but it does raise ethical concerns. **Jane Sandall**, Professor of Midwifery & Women's Health, discussed her research which highlights the need for these tests to be made available with careful, non-directive counselling on Radio 4's *Woman's Hour*.

## Gaza situation

**Dr Rory Miller**, Mediterranean Studies, was interviewed by the BBC World's Service *Reporting Religion* programme on the impact of Israel's Gaza disengagement on Religious Zionism. He was also on LBC talking about the crisis in Iraq and on the July terror attacks on London and the 'Colombia Three' to NewsTalk 196 (Dublin). He had an article published on the 7 July terror attack in *The Irish Times*.

## Queen's English

**Tony Thorne**, Director of the Modern Language Centre, was interviewed by Radio 4's *Front Row* programme about the pompous use of the pronoun 'one' as in the royal family usage versus 'you' or 'we'. He was also interviewed on a number of local radio stations about his new *Dictionary of Slang*.

See [www.kcl.ac.uk/headlines](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/headlines) for the latest media coverage for King's and higher education. *Comment* is keen to know of any staff featured in the media, call 3202 or email [pr@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:pr@kcl.ac.uk)



## International success

**COLLABORATIVE WORKING** between the King's Alumni and Marketing departments is proving highly successful in building links with former students and staff of the College across the globe.

The Marketing Department have established a strong presence at more than 25 recruitment fairs around the world and the Alumni Office have been able to use this opportunity to organise reunion events and encourage alumni to volunteer for the College.

A number of alumni in different countries did just that this autumn, giving their time and experience by assisting at recruitment fairs where they advised prospective students

about the benefits of studying at King's.

Current students and academic staff were also involved. In Canada, for example, Business Management students, Ann Brusgaard and Emma Birchall, on exchange at the University of Toronto, were able to help at the recruitment fair before an evening social event for alumni at the Bier Market Esplanade.

Peter Foot, a King's academic seconded to the Canadian Forces College as Director of Academics and Head of Department of Defence, also attended the alumni events in Toronto.

Mark Chan Poon, International Marketing Assistant, said; 'Volunteers always help to leave a



Staff and alumni gathered at the Bier Market Esplanade, Toronto to celebrate their King's connection.

memorable impression in the mind of a prospective student. I was delighted that the King's stand had the most people – both in terms of helpers and people lining up to ask for information.'

If you would like to explore opportunities for meeting with or involving alumni on overseas visits or events, please contact Clare Pearce, International Alumni Officer: [clare.pearce@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:clare.pearce@kcl.ac.uk)

## Getting closer in Edinburgh

**ONE OF THE CORNERSTONES** of the Annual Fund is its support of student sports and drama. With this in mind the Development Committee was delighted to award £4,500 to the King's Players and help six students travel up to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August with their production of Patrick Marber's play *Closer*.

Following a similarly sponsored trip last year, Florence Kuhfeld (Classics, 2005), Jonathan Rigby (European Studies with German, Year 2), Gaelle Stark (Theology, Year 2) and Marcus Baker (Law, Year 2) were able to fulfil their acting ambitions and represent their College at the largest arts festival in the world for a six-day run at Jury's Inn Edinburgh. The play tells the story of two couples whose lives become irrevocably intertwined, leaving them facing the troubling question: do they really know what it is to love? Florence Kuhfeld says: 'We realised

early on that without sponsorship or financial backing we would not be able to take this production to Edinburgh. It was then that we approached the King's Annual Fund. We awaited the decision of our application with bated breath, and when we finally heard that our proposal had been accepted, we were all over the moon – our production was possible.'

The production was completely sold out on the first night, and three members of the press were present, with representatives from BBC Leicester highly praising the play. They received a 4Star review from EdinburghGuide.com and a 3Star review from Three Weeks!



'Without the help of alumni and the Annual Fund, none of this would have been possible and we will be forever indebted to alumni supporters of the Annual Fund for giving us this opportunity,' she continued.

### Calendar of international alumni events

27 November	India
2 December	Bangalore
3 December	Mumbai

### Forthcoming events in London

25 November: Old Students' Day: a CPD day for medical graduates

2 December: Alumni Advent Carols

For information on any of the above events please contact the alumni team [alumoff@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:alumoff@kcl.ac.uk)

## New KCLA Chair

**THE ALUMNI OFFICE IS** delighted to announce that Steven Rhodes AKC was elected Chairman of the King's College London Association (KCLA) on 7 October, by a majority of members present at the AGM.

Mr Rhodes succeeds Diana Uff FKCL who stepped down from the role of Chairman this year. Mr Rhodes is a Theology graduate (BD 1988) and, amongst other musical activities, he sings with the choir of St Paul's Covent Garden, with a number of former King's graduates, directed by Ernie Warrell FKCL.

Commenting on his election, Steven says, 'I feel honoured to have won against such good candidates and look forward to my time with the KCLA, supporting the Development Office in their excellent work and building up the KCLA as a supportive and active network for King's people.'

Steven may be contacted via the Alumni Office or email: [stevenmarcrhodes@hotmail.com](mailto:stevenmarcrhodes@hotmail.com)

# Student news

## Union wins 'Investor' status



**K**ING'S COLLEGE LONDON Students' Union (KCLSU) has become the first part of the College to be awarded the Investors in People standard.

The Investors in People Standard is a business improvement tool designed to advance an organisation's performance through its people. Developed in 1990 by a partnership of leading businesses and national organisations, the Standard helps organisations to improve performance and realise objectives through the management and development of their people.

Sue Evans, KCLSU Deputy General Manager, said: 'Staff development is of great importance to KCLSU because without an inclusive, productive and skilled workforce it would be impossible to deliver the benefits to students that we currently do. By constantly reviewing and improving, we are able to ensure that our internal structures are suited to the achievement of our strategic goal of student life support.'

Achieving the Investors in People standard is only one part of an ongoing process of review that

KCLSU is undertaking to improve the support it offers to students.

Other elements include a recent review of its governance systems (the first of its kind in the country) and an ongoing internal review of volunteer support.

## Award

**L**OUISE RUSSELL IS A CO-WINNER of the 2005 DELTA award. The DELTA (Diploma in English Language Teaching to Adults, validated by Cambridge ESOL) is a professional, postgraduate qualification in English Language Teaching taken all over the world.

This course has been taught by the King's English Language Centre for the past seven years.

## Film stars

**T**HE KCLSU FILMMAKERS' Society has created a feature-length film about the London student experience, which will be screened this year.

*Mind the Gap* was written by Cassandra Moss, President of the Society and English student, and directed by law student Abdullah Munshi.

Cassandra explains the theme of the film, 'It tells the story of three students and their complicated relationship: Marcello; his girlfriend, Sophie; and his friend Claudia. The plot is driven by Sophie's mistrust of Marcello's friendship with Claudia and the misunderstandings that ensue from that and lead to a series of dramatic events. Student life in London is portrayed as being very exciting due to the incredible surroundings of the city, where anything can happen at any moment.'

She continues, 'The whole endeavour has been immensely hectic, enjoyable and enriching; it's offered students the kind of experience and knowledge that

## SET prize winner



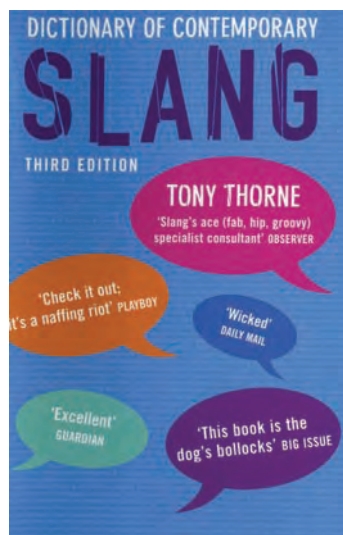
**Helinor Johnston**, who graduated with a BSc in Pharmacology with Toxicology from King's earlier this year, has won The GlaxoSmithKline Award for the Best Pharmacology Student of the year. This national award is one of the Science, Engineering & Technology (SET) Student of the Year Awards, Britain's most important prizes for science and technology undergraduates.

The report Helinor submitted to the award scheme was based on work she carried out at Novartis Institutes of BioMedical Research during the extra-mural third year of her degree course. Her project aimed to develop a model of acute lung inflammation caused by the inhalation of ultrafine carbon particles. This model could in future be used to investigate the mechanisms by which ultrafine air pollutants elicit their detrimental effects, and to test drugs that may protect people from these effects.

their degree alone cannot; the team atmosphere and determination to create something good that will hopefully enable students to pursue a career in that particular field is what a university society should be aiming to do.'

In the first term of 2004-05 the society made a short, experimental film called *Insect Legs*. They went onto make a documentary about the staging of King's Musical Theatre's production of *Anything Goes*.





## Dictionary of Contemporary Slang

Tony Thorne, Director of the Language Centre

Tony Thorne's new slang dictionary is like no other reference book. Researched 'in the field', rather than using archives and libraries, his research has consisted of eavesdropping, interviewing and recording conversations of users and their friends (where consent is granted in advance) and consulting the internet and slang-collecting websites.

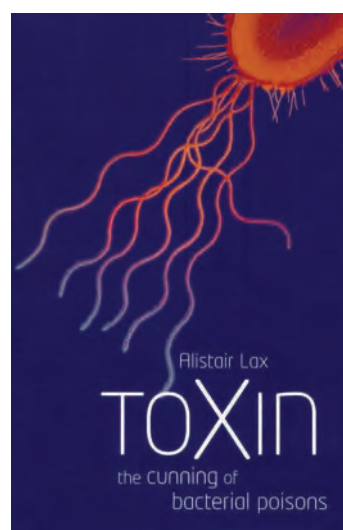
Since the last edition in 1997, he has fully revised all entries and added over 2,000 terms

UK students have 200 slang words for drunk but no words at all for essays, teachers or libraries. In the new *Dictionary*, there are hundreds of words for getting drunk, as well as more than 5,000 definitions on other favourite slang topics, like drugs, sport, sex and bodily functions.

Tony Thorne says 'Slang is supposed to be 'substandard, debased language' but if you study it as a linguist it is in fact

highly technically sophisticated. UK students pioneer a novel form of language: multiethnic, poetic, scurrilous; student slang sets new standards in linguistic creativity.'

**A & C Black**



## Toxin: the cunning of bacterial poisons

Alistair Lax, Professor of Cellular Microbiology, Dental Institute

What do the following have in common: the promise of Botox as the key to everlasting youthful looks; E. coli O157 hamburger disease; a mysterious illness which killed 35 heroin users in 2000; and the assassination by the poisoned umbrella-tip of a Bulgarian dissident in the 1970s? The answer is that all of these are caused by bacterial toxins, the powerful biological poisons released by bacteria and some plants.

In *Toxin*, Alistair Lax reveals the panoply of ways in which bacterial toxins overcome the defences of our cells. He explains how they work, how they are so successful in causing major diseases, the terrible

human impact they have had, and how apparently 'new' diseases arise from them. He also discusses how we can combat toxins, and how we can harness their actions for beneficial purposes.

Enlivened by the very human story of the persistence, rivalries, and insights from which modern microbiology grew, *Toxin* is the first widely accessible account of this exciting and important topic.

**Oxford University Press**



## The Making of the Modern Law of Defamation

Paul Mitchell, Senior Lecturer in Law

The modern law of defamation is frequently criticised for being outdated, obscure and even incomprehensible. But it was not always so difficult to understand. *The Making of the Modern Law of Defamation* explains how and why the law has come to be as it is by offering an historical analysis of significant developments since the seventeenth century, and the reasons behind them.

These reasons include such diverse factors as the rise of the popular press, judicial personality and the influence of academic writers.

Whilst the primary focus of the book is the law of England, it also makes extensive use of comparative common law materials from jurisdictions such as Australia, South Africa, the United States and Scotland.

This book will be essential reading for anyone interested in the law of defamation, in media law, and in the relationship between free speech and the law.

**Hart Publishing**



## T E Lawrence in War and Peace:

An Anthology of the Military Writings of Lawrence of Arabia

Edited and presented by Malcolm Brown with a foreword by Professor Michael Clarke, Director of the International Policy Institute

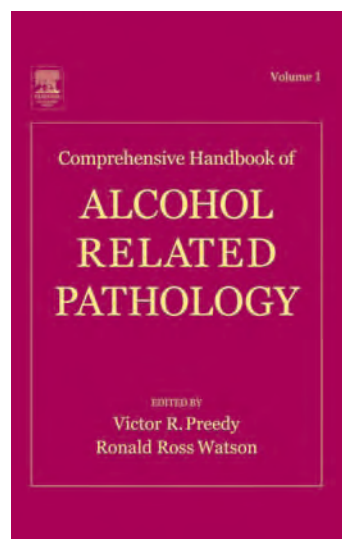
The writings presented in this volume shed tremendous light both on the character of T E Lawrence and the current situation in the Middle East.

Despite being written more than 70 years ago, the thoughts

# Books

of Lawrence of Arabia remain remarkably pertinent. This collection includes Lawrence's wartime reports from the desert, as first printed in the intelligence journal *The Arab Bulletin*, along with later writings in which Lawrence attempts to cope with the consequences of war in the circumstances of peace.

**Greenhill Books**



## Comprehensive Handbook of Alcohol Related Pathology, 1-3

Victor Preedy, Professor of Nutritional Biochemistry and Ronald Watson, University of Arizona

This handbook is divided into three volumes: Part I – general aspects of alcohol and mechanisms of disease, Part II – damage and disease, and Part III – selective methods used in alcohol research.

These books disseminate data about alcohol toxicology

from the nucleus to the whole organ. This holistic treatment and wide coverage extends from the evolutionary aspects of alcohol consumption and the prevalence of alcohol misuse to programmed cell death.

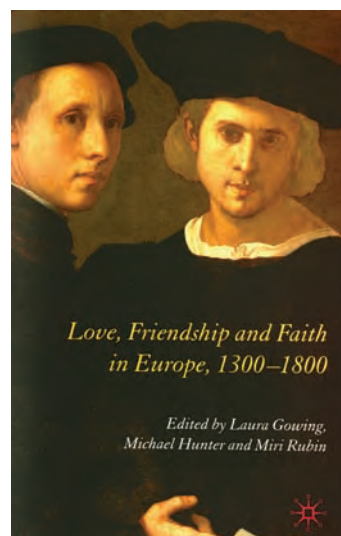
In a 'one-stop-shop' of information with suitable indexing of the various pathways and processes, this handbook is for researchers and students alike.

**Elsevier**

## Love, Friendship and Faith in Europe, 1300-1800

Edited by Dr Laura Gowing, Reader in Early Modern History, Michael Hunter and Miri Rubin

This ground-breaking volume explores the terrain of friendship against the historical backdrop of early modern Europe. In these thought-provoking essays the terms of friendship are explored – from the most intimate and erotically



charged to the reciprocities of village life.

This is a rich offering in social and cultural history that is attuned to the pervasive language of religion. A hidden history is revealed – of friendships that we have lost, and of friendships starkly, and movingly, familiar.

In addition to editorship the book contains essays by both Dr Gowing and Dr Adam Sutcliffe, Lecturer in Early Modern History at King's.

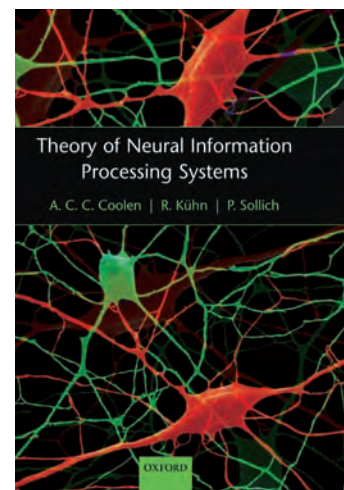
**Palgrave Macmillan**

## Theory of Neural Information Processing Systems

A C C (Ton) Coolen, Professor of Applied Mathematics, Dr Reimer Kuehn, Reader, Department of Mathematics and Peter Sollich, Professor of Statistical Mechanics

This book provides an explicit, coherent, and up-to-date account of the modern theory of neural information processing systems. Uniquely, it covers both the operation of recurrent neural networks as dynamical systems and the use of feedforward networks and related algorithms for learning and statistical inference.

The former point of view emphasises the use of simple neural network models to understand brain functions such as storage and retrieval of memories; the latter has applications in many areas where decisions need to be made that cannot be encapsulated in simple rules,



including image processing, speech recognition, automated medical diagnosis and stock market forecasting.

The book is co-authored by three members of the Disordered Systems and Neural Networks research group in the Department of Mathematics. The group runs the MSc in Information Processing and Neural Networks, and the material has been thoroughly class-tested there over a period of some eight years.

Exercises are presented throughout the text and notes on historical background and further reading guide the reader into the literature. All mathematical details are included and appendices provide further background material, including probability theory, linear algebra and stochastic processes. This feature makes the book accessible to a wide audience, which will include researchers and graduate students from any quantitative discipline such as mathematics, computer science, physics, engineering or biology.

**Oxford University Press**

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