

COMMENT

THE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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Major alliance with Chapel Hill

THE COLLEGE HAS SIGNED A wide-ranging strategic alliance with The University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill, one of the leading universities in the world and the first chartered state university in the USA.

The agreement is initially between the School of Humanities and the Departments of Geography and War

Studies from the School of Social Science & Public Policy at King's and the College of Arts and Sciences at UNC, but it is hoped that it will extend in due course to other disciplines, including those from the Health Schools.

The agreement for academic collaboration over the next five years embraces faculty exchange;

the exchange of students in doctoral and masters' programmes as well as undergraduate programmes; the development of joint doctoral programmes, joint graduate seminars and joint funding applications; and collaboration in Classics and Comparative Literature, and for a major conference on Literature in 2007. Other forms of co-operation

have also been initiated in Religious Studies, History, American Studies and English.

'Strengthen the global position of both institutions'

UNC, commonly known as Carolina (www.unc.edu), was founded in 1793 and its 80-acre campus is one of the most beautiful in the US. The University was ranked 55th in the Shanghai world university league tables, and it will open a new \$28 million Global Education Centre on campus at the end of 2006.

It sends a higher percentage of its undergraduates to study abroad than any other public research-led university in the US and will open a European Study Centre in Bedford Square in 2007 that will provide a base close to King's.

The collaboration is led at King's by Dr David Ricks, School of Humanities, who comments: 'This

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EDE & RAVENSCROFT

Rory returns to King's to receive Fellowship

Alumnus, impressionist and the country's foremost political satirist, **Rory Bremner**, was made an Honorary Fellow of the College at a Graduation Ceremony held at the Barbican on 16 January. He is pictured with the Principal, **Professor Rick Trainor**, and the Chairman of King's College Council, **Baroness Rawlings**. See page 8 for more news about the Ceremonies and Fellowships.

KING'S
College
LONDON

Healthcare subjects commended



CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY, Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Physiotherapy have received an excellent result in their recent Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Major Review which took place over five days in October and November.

The review team gave a judgement of confidence in the academic and practitioner standards of all the programmes involved in the review.

The Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, said: 'I am delighted that the College has received such a ringing endorsement for these programmes. I offer my congratulations to all those colleagues involved in obtaining this outstanding result.'

In addition, the three categories judged under the heading 'Quality of learning opportunities' were all given a judgement of 'commendable'.

This is the highest level of judgement that can be awarded, and means that 'the provision contributes substantially to the achievement of the intended outcomes with most elements demonstrating good practice'.

The result demonstrates the effectiveness of the partnership between the College and its partner NHS Trusts in the delivery of healthcare education.

Knowledge transfer funding success

KING'S HAS BEEN AWARDED £3 million for 2006-08 in the provisional awards for the third round of the Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF 3). The College is one of only nine (out of some 130 higher education institutions) to get the full award.

The awards are funded by the Office of Science and Technology and Hefce to support a broad range of knowledge transfer activities of direct and indirect benefits to the UK economy.

Dr Alison Campbell, Managing Director of KCL Enterprises,

described the provisional award as vindicating the College's approach to knowledge transfer. 'Pump priming through previous rounds of HEIF has enabled a strong and coherent team to be built within KCL Enterprises, concentrating on building links with business and the community and generating activity and income. King's has rightly been rewarded for a sustainable and innovative knowledge transfer structure within the College that creates tangible and successful outcomes.

'We are now in the process of consulting all schools about their knowledge transfer priorities over the next two years.'

One of only nine HE institutions to get the full award

Knowledge transfer at King's encompasses: contract and collaborative research with industry, consultancy, patenting and licensing, developing spin-out companies, the development of professional and short courses and work experience.

Principal's Fora

All staff are encouraged to attend these open meetings

Spring Term 2006
Talks take place between 13.00 and 14.00

Strand Campus
15 February
2B18 Lecture Theatre,
Strand Building

Summer Term 2006
Talks take place between 13.00 and 14.00

Waterloo Campus
9 May
Room B.5,
Franklin-Wilkins Building

Denmark Hill Campus
15 May
Wolfson Lecture Theatre,
Weston Education Centre

Guy's Campus
16 May
Lecture Theatre 1,
New Hunt's House

Strand Campus
17 May
2B18 Lecture Theatre,
Strand Building

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agreement is a very exciting development that should lead to significant advances in scholarship, as well as providing a truly international perspective for both undergraduate and postgraduate students on both sides of the Atlantic. I have no doubt that it will, in time, strengthen the global position of both institutions.'

Professor Bob Miles, Director of Study Abroad, UNC, adds: 'This trans-Atlantic alliance opens the door to joint-degree graduate programmes and to international research teams, developments that will be central to the trajectory of higher education in the next 50 years.'

Students go behind the scenes at the Old Vic and ENO

IN NOVEMBER THE OLD VIC opened its doors to King's students from the MA Text & Performance and MA Cultural & Creative Industries programmes for a behind-the-scenes workshop with acclaimed actor and Old Vic Artistic Director Kevin Spacey.

The full-day workshop included a tour of the theatre, a lecture from staff on how the theatre industry operates, a lively workshop on the theatre's latest production, *Richard II*, and a talk about playing *Richard II* and the role of an Artistic Director from Kevin Spacey. The students then enjoyed front row seats at the sold-out matinee performance of *Richard II*.

'It was fascinating to visit the Old Vic and hear about its history,' comments student Sophie Hine. 'Kevin Spacey outlined his vision for the theatre and answered our questions. His aim is to nurture and increase a younger and more diverse audience and emerging talent.'

King's MA Music students also took part in another enlightening workshop at the English National Opera (ENO). Examining aspects of the ENO's new production *Madame Butterfly*, students were taken on stage and were given talks by the individuals who made the opera come to life, including the Producer, Staff Director, Dramaturg and Head of Stage.



Kevin Spacey, The Old Vic's Artistic Director and double Oscar-winning actor.

War in the Modern World launch



General Sir Rupert Smith, Deputy Supreme Commander Allied Powers Europe (1998-2001) and author of *The Utility of Force: The Art of War in the Modern World*, gave the keynote speech at the launch of King's first wholly web-delivered MA degree, War in the Modern World, on 6 December in the Maughan Library. Presentations and online demonstrations of War in the Modern World were given by Anne-Lucie Norton, Director, eLearning Programme (see *Comment* 163).

'The experience enabled those who study opera to fully understand the work that goes into organising a commercial opera of this scale as well as an insight into possible career options for the future,' explains Sarah Chambers, Business Development Manager.

These events were facilitated by KCL Enterprises. For more information on the work that KCL Enterprises undertakes with the cultural and creative industry visit www.kcl.ac.uk/kcle or email Sarah Chambers at sarah.2.chambers@kcl.ac.uk

Dental schools' talks

KING'S AND UNIVERSITY College London are involved in discussions concerning a formal relationship between King's and the Eastman Dental Institute.

The two dental schools represent unique strengths in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and training, and excellence in research.

The formal links may ultimately lead to full integration of the two dental schools which would result in a leading internationally-recognised centre of dental education and research.

Art-science workshops inspire schoolchildren

AT THE BEGINNING OF December Dr Lizzie Burns, Medical Research Centre (MRC) artist, and 11 volunteers from the MRC Social, Genetic and Developmental Psychiatry Centre (MRC SGDP) at the Institute of Psychiatry, visited five Camberwell primary schools and involved 500 seven to 11-year-old children in art-science workshops.

The aim of this MRC outreach project was to communicate science to a wider audience and Dr Burns used her paintings to engage and enlighten the schoolchildren.

Feedback from both teachers and children has been very positive. One child commented: 'I've enjoyed this workshop and think that science can be fun. We've learnt about how organs and molecules look. Some parts were disgusting and others incredible!'

Some of the artwork produced by these children and others was displayed as part of Dr Burns' exhibition *Art of the Brain* which ran until 18 January at the Centre. The exhibition included collages of neurones based on properties of the brain such as senses and

Air Power Studies

IN NOVEMBER THE DEFENCE Studies Department (DSD) at Shrivenham established a specialised Air Power Studies division at the prestigious Royal Air Force College in Cranwell, Lincolnshire, to provide world-class education to RAF officers across a range of levels and to serve as an air power centre of excellence.

The new division also supports the Assistant Chief of the Air Staff and the Directorate of Defence Staffs with the production of high-level research.

He says: 'The new division provides scope for a logical broadening of DSD's core military education business, expansion of the overall academic capabilities of the War Studies Group and a platform on which to build its existing international reputation in air power studies.'

'This new venture will consolidate King's market share in the professional military education sector in the face of emerging competition.'

Dr Joel Hayward, a widely published air power expert who has been teaching at the Joint Services Command and Staff College in Shrivenham, is the new Head of Air Power Studies. 'I'm especially pleased to be assisting the RAF to create a body of junior officers who are politically and globally astute, conscious of their society's ethical framework, and familiar with the RAF's fascinating history, cutting-edge concepts and almost matchless contributions to the cause of peace,' he comments.

To provide world-class education to RAF officers



A schoolgirl from Allen Edwards Primary School, Class 4/5.

emotions, and self-portraits showing brain activity.

The MRC SGDP is a multi-disciplinary institution launched in 1994 as a partnership between the MRC and the Institute of Psychiatry.

LINKing with industry

The LINK Applied Genomics Programme was launched by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Centre, the Medical Research Council and the DTI in 2000, to assist industry and academia to collaborate in exploiting the increasing understanding of genomics for biomedical and healthcare applications.

Over the last five years the programme has attracted more than £14 million of industrial funding and financed 21 projects, two of which involve researchers from King's. Highlights of the Programme were presented to parliamentarians and business leaders in November.

Professor Brian Anderton, Dr Diane Hanger, and Dr Salvador Soriano of King's are working with Malcolm Ward of Proteome Sciences to identify new targets to enable the design of new therapeutics for Alzheimer's disease. The team is also using proteomics to discover markers for the disease. These could form the basis of simple diagnostic blood tests, which hold the potential for patients to be treated for their condition much earlier.

Dr Ping Yip, Professor Stephen McMahon, Dr Jonathan Corcoran and Professor Malcolm Maden are working with Oxford BioMedica (UK) Ltd to investigate how a specific receptor molecule stimulates the repair of damaged peripheral nerves.

This research has identified molecules that may have the potential to help damaged nerves to regrow and to repair severed connections after spinal cord injury.

More than £14 million of industrial funding

MLA status for archives



Rioting at Port Said brought under control by Sir Hugh Stockwell during the Suez Crisis, 1956.

THE HOLDINGS OF THE LIDDELL Hart Centre for Military Archives, ISS, have been designated as being 'of national and international importance' by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA).

The King's Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives, one of the most important collections in England, holds the personal and semi-personal papers of more than 700 senior British defence personnel of the 20th century together with an important collection of documentary film archives.

The MLA, in awarding Designation Status to the Centre, said that the collection is 'central to the study of warfare'.

Patricia Methven, Director of Archives & Information Management, said: 'Designated Status for the Centre is a form of national endorsement or kite-marking of the significance of the Centre's holdings. As such it reinforces the College's standing as a research centre for war and defence studies and, with luck, will provide leverage for additional resources for collection building.'

New discovery in muscle function

Research carried out at King's and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Hamburg has shed new light on the inner workings of the muscle proteins and will hopefully help scientists find ways of tackling some of the hundreds of mutations that occur in titin.

Titin is the largest protein produced by humans and ensures mechanical stability whenever we stretch or relax. It is found in the heart and hundreds of skeletal muscles but not those of the stomach, gut or bladder.

If it fails the results are likely to be serious heart disease or lethal breathing problems. One of these causes a hereditary disease, HMERF-human myopathy with early respiratory failure.

In a recent *Nature* paper, Professor Mathias Gautel, Head of the Muscle Development and Signalling Section at King's, and Dr Matthias Wilmanns from EMBL, described the complicated molecular acrobatics which create anchor posts for the muscle 'piston packs' – sarcomeres. Part of this

Student aids whale rescue

THE DRAMA OF A BOTTLE-nosed whale swimming up the Thames last month dominated the world's press. Sadly, despite great efforts, the story ended tragically when it died whilst being transported down river to the sea.

Environmental Sciences final-year student, Edwin Timewell, described by *The Times* as 'one of the heroes of the hour', was involved with the dramatic rescue attempts.

Swimming close to Chelsea Bridge, the seven-tonne, 18 foot (5m) whale, which is usually found

in deep sea waters, approached Cadogan Pier and headed into a dead end between the embankment and a pontoon of moored boats.

Edwin, who is also a member of the Atlantic Whale Foundation, waded waist deep into the muddy water, closely followed by another bystander. Together they splashed water on the whale, nudging her gently, and freeing her from the rope.

He commented: 'I was splashing water at the whale, saying 'come on, you don't want to die here'.'



Student Edwin Timewell encourages the whale to swim to deeper water.

process involves titin becoming interlocked with another protein called telethonin.

Professor Gautel said: 'Titin comes into play before we even take our first breath because we need it to make the heart muscle work efficiently while in the womb. It might not exactly be the key to life but it certainly keeps the lock well oiled.'

'Muscle is one of the most complex systems in the human body and we still have a lot to learn about the way it operates. But we now have a map showing how sarcomeres are formed and the way they are anchored, which is very important.'

'This research will help us understand mutations in titin. The more we uncover, the more we will learn about certain cardiac and respiratory diseases. But we also need to discover why some muscles are not prone to these mutations, which is a total mystery.'

The intricate bonding process between titin and telethonin was revealed from crystals by high-energy X-rays taken at EMBL's laboratories and the cell biology was carried out by Professor Gautel's ten-strong team.

Lord Plant

Raymond Plant has been appointed as the new Head of the School of Law, taking over from Professor John Phillips. An alumnus of King's he returned in 2002 as Professor of Jurisprudence and Political Philosophy. He was created a Life Peer in 1992 and sits in the House of Lords as Lord Plant of Highfield.

Can you describe your long association with the College?

I may be the Head of a Law School, indeed one of the best law schools in the UK, but I am not a lawyer. I came to King's as an undergraduate in 1963 and spent three years at the Strand studying Philosophy at 33 Surrey Street.

The professor at that time was an immensely learned man, J N Findlay, who wrote a ground-breaking book on Hegel. He also founded tense logic and produced a memorable inversion of St Anselm's ontological argument for the existence of God which in Findlay's view did precisely the opposite, so it was an incredibly stimulating time.

I graduated in 1966 and went on to do graduate work on Hegel not with Findlay though who in that year moved to a chair at Yale. In those days of university expansion it was relatively easy to get jobs and I was appointed to a lectureship at the University of Manchester in 1967. I stayed there until 1978 when I became Professor of Politics at Southampton University. I then had a spell at Oxford as Master of St Catherine's College for six years and finally came full circle back to King's as Professor of Jurisprudence and Political Philosophy.

It is also in some way quite satisfying to find that in terms of the School's research programmes

and plans I work with Vice-Principal Lawry Freedman, who was one of my first tutorial students at Manchester.

What is your own area of expertise?

My academic interests have not changed much over all this time but my designation has! I am currently working to finish off a book on the neo-liberal state and the Rule of Law which will form the Boutwood Lectures to be given in Cambridge in March. I will then turn to working on a book on religion, citizenship and pluralism which will form the eight Bampton Lectures at Oxford University in 2007.

What would you like to achieve as Head of School?

As Head of Law I have a very fine inheritance and my job will be maintaining and enhancing its already high reputation.

There are significant changes afoot with the termination of the Intercollegiate LLM. This means that we have to put on our own LLM programmes and this is a real opportunity to deepen and extend King's already strong showing in this field.

The other central priority must be much better accommodation. Students paying very high fees will only be prepared to balance the quality of King's teaching, whether at undergraduate or postgraduate level, against inferior accommodation for so



long. We need to be able to give the students a good experience in all respects and obviously we still have hopes that a move to better premises will be on offer before too long.

What particular issues do you speak on in the House of Lords?

In the House of Lords I speak mainly on Home Affairs. Recently I was active in getting the Government to move from an objective definition of recklessness in the Terrorism Bill to a subjective conception. It may sound very arcane but it is vitally important because it links recklessness with intention. Jurisprudence can be of practical use!

I have also been active with Lord Carey (another King's man and previous Archbishop of Canterbury) along with Lords Lester and Hunt in proposing a set of amendments which changed in quite a fundamental way the Religious Hatred Bill. These amendments were carried in the Lords by a huge majority

and included a very strong presumption in favour of freedom of speech except where such speech involves threats against others.

Otherwise, with my King's colleague Baroness Stern (International Centre for Prison Studies) I am a member of the Joint Committee on Human Rights which scrutinises all legislation to assess its compatibility with the Human Rights Act.

Have you been involved in any external projects?

For a number of years I was Chair of Centrepoin, the charity which provides accommodation for homeless people in London and skills training for them.

In 1993 I completed writing a set of three reports for a Labour Party Commission which I chaired on the electoral system and electoral reform. Between 2000-02 I chaired the Fabian Society Commission on Taxation and Citizenship and helped write its report *Paying For Progress*.

The Department of Classics

The Spring term is a busy one for the Department. As *Comment* went to press, the King's Greek play was imminent. This celebrated theatrical tradition is the only annual production in the original Greek in the world, and is now in its 53rd year. This year's production, *Ecclesiazusae* or 'Women Take Power', took place from 8 to 10 February at the Greenwood Theatre, Guy's Campus.

The Department of Classics shares the north-east corner of the Strand Campus with the Department of Byzantine & Modern Greek Studies (BMGS); it currently has 27 academic and administrative staff and some 220 undergraduates. In 2001, together with BMGS, it received the top score of 24 in the Quality Assurance Agency review of teaching.

'We offer an exceptional variety of courses,' says Head of Department, Professor Cathy Morgan. 'These range from close study of texts in Greek and Latin to investigations into classical archaeology, Greek and Roman history, culture, literature and thought. There are single honours in Classics; Ancient History; Classical Studies and Classical Archaeology, and many combined honours programmes, bringing in additional subjects from Digital Culture to Film and Portuguese.'

The Department is also heavily involved in the development of the Comparative Literature programmes in Humanities both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The modern Greek world, along with the Byzantine civilisation which ensured the survival of the Classical tradition, is studied in BMGS, one of only three such departments in the country. The

rich interaction between the Departments in teaching and research is one of the unique features of King's.

'Both Departments contribute to the activities of the Centre for Hellenic Studies, one of King's Humanities Research Centres, founded in 1989,' Professor Morgan explains. 'Among its activities are a weekly seminar on Byzantine & Modern Greek topics, major public lectures, notably the annual Greek Archaeological Committee Lecture and the Runciman Lecture given by a distinguished Hellenist, and special lectures and colloquia, most recently *Crimea at the Crossroads: Byzantine, Russian and Western influences across the Black Sea in the medieval and early modern periods*, held in collaboration with the State Hermitage, St Petersburg.'

International conferences are a major feature of the Centre's programme: in September 2006, it will stage *The Making of Modern Greece: Nationalism, Romanticism and the Uses of the Past 1797-1896*. Details of the Centre's activities and of its catalogue of publications can be found at www.kcl.ac.uk/hrc/chs.html

Summer school

Learning Greek and Latin is fundamental to the study of the ancient world, and King's teaches



Michael Trapp by the statue of Sappho, see below for details of his inaugural lecture.

both languages at four levels, including complete beginners. With University College and Royal Holloway, the Department sponsors the annual London Summer School in Classics, which has been running for nearly 30 years and offers seven days of intensive teaching in Greek and Latin to school and university students and mature students. 'We were encouraging people to participate in classical languages long before the concept of widening participation was invented!' Professor Morgan points out.

Research

The King's Classics Department is one of only four in the UK to receive the top rating of 5* in the two most recent research assessment exercises. Staff research interests range from major archaeological projects on Ithaka (Greece), in the Upper Esino Valley (Italy), and Aphrodisias (Turkey), to studies of women in antiquity and Byzantium; ancient Persia; Roman and pre-Roman landscapes; studies in the literature of the Classical world

and its later reception. Recent books by staff include Hugh Bowden's *Classical Athens and the Delphic Oracle: Divination and Democracy* (2004), and *Egypt from Alexander to the Copts. An Archaeological and Historical Guide* (2004) by Dominic Rathbone and Roger Bagnall.

The Department has some 50 postgraduate students. It offers a Postgraduate Diploma in Classical Studies and Master's degrees in Classics; Classical Art & Archaeology; Ancient History (complemented in BMGS by Late Antique & Byzantine Studies), together with MPhil and PhD programmes in a wide range of areas.

The inaugural lecture by Michael Trapp, Professor of Greek Literature and Thought, *Sancte et sapienter? Sophocles and Sappho in the Main Entrance* will take place on Tuesday 21 March at 18.00 in the Great Hall, Strand Campus. Professor Trapp will trace the history of these King's icons and explain how they came to the College. For further details of this and other Department events, see www.kcl.ac.uk/kis/schools/hums/classics/news.html

2006 Graduation Ceremonies held at the Barbican

Four Graduation Ceremonies were held at the Barbican on 16 and 17 January. More than 1,200 students from across the College took part. The Chairman of Council, Baroness Rawlings, and the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, also awarded Fellowships to eight people for distinguished service to King’s and public life. It is the most prestigious award the College can bestow.

Honorary Fellows

Rory Bremner, King’s alumnus, impressionist, and the country’s foremost political satirist

Sir Jeremy Greenstock, a former British diplomat of great distinction who is now Director of the Ditchley Park Foundation

Sir Mark Potter, son of Professor Harold Potter (Dean of the Law School at King’s in the 1940s), President of the Family Law Division and Head of Family Justice **Hugh Whitmore**, award-winning playwright and screenwriter and member of the Council of RADA.

College Fellows

Professor Ray Gosling, Professor Emeritus at King’s, where in the early 1950s he contributed to the discovery of the structure of DNA

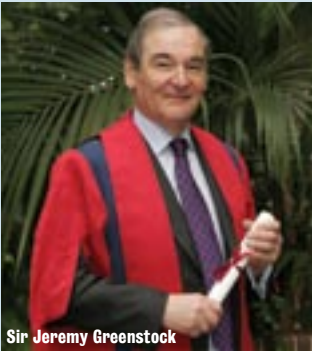
Sir Jonathan Michael, Chief Executive of the Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust

David Potter, Treasurer of UMDS and (since 1998) of King’s

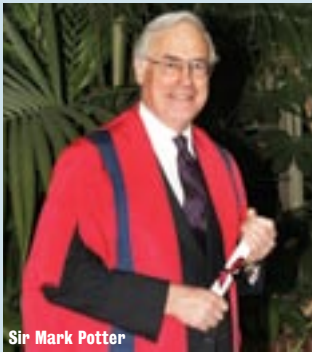
Dr Victoria Solomonidis, a

distinguished alumna of the College and Cultural Counsellor of the Embassy of Greece in London.

Also at the Ceremony held on the morning of 16 January, **Alice Fuller** was presented with the Jelf Medal for the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery. This is the first time the School has awarded the medal.



Sir Jeremy Greenstock



Sir Mark Potter



Hugh Whitmore



Professor Ray Gosling



Sir Jonathan Michael



David Potter



Dr Victoria Solomonidis

The former include versions of Holderlin’s philosophical essays, a collection of which is currently in preparation with Penguin Books. His

other translations include poems by the Expressionists August Stramm and Georg Stadler.

His scholarship focuses on the

New Year Honours



Professor Averil Cameron

The 2006 New Year Honours list includes Fellows of the College and former members of staff:

Averil Cameron FRC, Professor of Late Antique and Byzantine Studies, a member of the Department of Classics (1965-94), Head of the Department of Classics (1984-89) and Director of the Centre for Hellenic Studies (1989-94) at King’s, was awarded a DBE for classical scholarship. She is now Warden of Keble College, Oxford.

Sir Francis Jacobs QC, FRC, Director of the King’s Centre for European Law (1981-88) and Professor of European Law (1974-88) in the University of London, has

been made a Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (KCMG). A former Advocate General of the European Court of Justice of the European Communities and a member of the Privy Council, Sir Francis has just returned to the School of Law as a Visiting Professor.

Sarah Cooke, former Director, British Institute of Human Rights based at King’s, was awarded an OBE for services to Human Rights.

Fellowship of German Academy

Professor Jeremy Adler of the German Department has been elected a Fellow of the German Academy of Language and Literature (Darmstadt). The Academy has around 180 members, only three of whom are from the UK. Professor Adler is the first King’s scholar to be awarded this honour.

The citation singled out Professor Adler’s translations and reviews.

Litt D

interface between literature and science, literature and painting, and literature and anthropology.

He has published books on Goethe and on visual poetry as well as several editions of German writers. His Kafka biography appeared with Penguin Books. His latest publications include an introduction to Elias Canetti’s English memoirs, *Party in the Blitz*, translated into eight languages. His edition of Canetti’s aphorisms for the artist Marie-Louise von Motesiczky, which he discovered in London, was published on Canetti’s centenary in 2005 as *Aufzeichnungen für Marie-Louise* and on CD as an audiobook.

Professor Adler was formerly Head of the Department of German and Deputy Head of the School of Humanities. He is now Emeritus Professor of German and Senior Research Fellow in the Department.



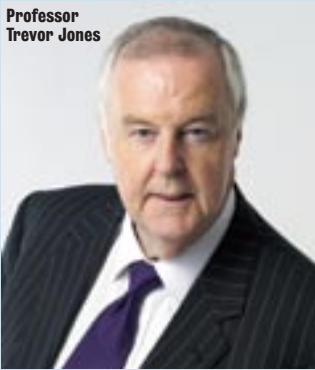
Professor Jane Roberts

Jane Roberts, Professor Emerita of Old English at King’s, was awarded a Litt D from Trinity College, University of Dublin in December. She is a graduate of the University and her citation read ‘she is a trailblazer in the field of Anglo-Saxon studies and a leading scholar on the origins of the English language’.

Lifetime achievement award for Professor Trevor Jones

Professor Trevor Jones CBE, former Director General, Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, and King’s Fellow, Deputy Chairman of College Council, Visiting Professor and alumnus, was awarded the prestigious ‘BTG Lifetime Achievement Award’ at the 2005 *Scrip* Awards ceremony held on 7 December.

The *Scrip* Awards were set up by *Scrip Pharmaceutical News* (the newsletter for the pharmaceutical world) to ‘recognise the excellent work taking place throughout the pharmaceutical and biotech industries globally, and give deserved publicity to the many in pharma and biotech who routinely exceed and excel, and whose work benefits us all.’ Twelve categories were created including ‘Best



Professor Trevor Jones

New Drug’, ‘Biotech Company of the Year’ and the ‘BTG Lifetime Achievement Award’.

This award was voted on by readers of *Scrip* and the judges were looking for an exceptional individual with a consistent history of service above and beyond the call of duty in their career. BTG is a company focused on the advancement of medical science.

Gold Medal for Sir Lawrence

In December **Sir Lawrence Freedman**, Vice-Principal (Research) and Professor of War Studies, was awarded the prestigious Chesney Gold Medal by the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI).

The Chesney Gold Medal is RUSI’s highest award. It was first presented in 1900 to Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan USN and has been awarded 33 times, with recipients

including Winston Churchill in 1950 and Baroness Thatcher in 2000. Professor Sir Michael Howard, who established King’s Department of War Studies, received it in 1973.

The award marks a lifelong distinguished contribution in the defence and international security fields.

HRH The Duke of Kent, the RUSI President, formally presented the Medal at the Institute on 12 January.

Great Britons

Professor Robin Murray, Head of the Division of Psychological Medicine at the IoP, was shortlisted for the 2005 Great Briton awards in the Science and Innovation category.

Professor Murray was nominated alongside the likes of Dame Ellen MacArthur and Ashes hero Andrew ‘Freddie’ Flintoff. Nominations were made by the public in seven categories: Arts, Business, Campaigning, Creative Industries, Public Life, Science and Innovation and Sport. The awards, sponsored by Morgan Stanley, in conjunction with *The Daily Telegraph* and the Commission for Racial Equality, are designed to explore the extent to which the idea of Britishness pervades the country; what this constitutes and the job of role models in defining Britishness.

The category winners were announced at a dinner last month. Lord Coe was named the Greatest Briton of 2005. The Science and Innovation award was won by Professor Fred Sanger, Britain’s only double Nobel Laureate.

Last year Professor Murray was also selected as a role model in academic medicine by the BMA, and was one of 12 ‘leading world scientists’ interviewed in Jeremy Sangroom’s book *What Scientists Think*.

Royal Medal

Professor Michael E Fisher, a Fellow at King’s, was awarded a 2005 Royal Medal (also known as The Queen’s Medal) by The Royal Society of London. This award recognises Professor Fisher’s seminal contributions to wetting transitions, dislocating melting and criticality in ionic solutions and many other topics in statistical mechanics, and was presented to him at the anniversary meeting of the Royal Society in November.

IEEE Fellowship

Emeritus Professor Charles Turner has been elected a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) for his contributions to engineering education. IEEE is the world’s largest scientific learned society with more than 35,000 members in 140 countries.

Professor Turner was Siemens Head of Electronic Engineering at King’s from 1971 until his retirement in 2000 and was also Head of the Electronic Engineering Department until 1990.

Since 2000 he has been working on microwave antenna research at the Centre for Telecommunications Research, located at Drury Lane.

Young Healthcare Scientist of the Year



King’s graduate, **Nicola Fry**, was last year’s joint winner of the Department of Health Award for ‘Young Healthcare Scientist of the Year’.

She graduated from the College’s MSc course in Medical Engineering & Physics in 2001.

At the awards ceremony Health Minister Lord Warner said that Nicola’s research (a non-invasive, child-friendly ultrasound method of assessing musculoskeletal deformity) ‘has the potential to make a major difference to the treatment of children with cerebral palsy’.

The subject of her research is closely linked with her MSc project, which also received an award from the UK Institute for Physics and Engineering in Medicine.

New post: Communications

A new post for an Internal Communications Officer has been created.

Last month **Julie Munk**, who has nine years internal communications experience, took up this position joining the Public Relations team at the James Clerk Maxwell Building at the Waterloo Campus.

Julie’s responsibilities include editing, writing and commissioning articles for *Comment*; planning

Alumnus wins *Guardian* book prize

A King’s physics graduate has won a top literary accolade by picking up *The Guardian*’s ‘First Book Award’ for a ‘topsy-turvy’ account of the saga of a wild street vagrant.

Stuart: A Life Backwards, written by **Alexander Masters** (Physics 1987, First Class Hons), was completed after its protagonist’s death in front of a train at the age of 32.

The book won the award in an exceptionally strong field of new authors and it narrowly failed to win the Samuel Johnson non-fiction prize and was also shortlisted for the Whitbread Book Awards.

The Guardian’s literary editor, Claire Armistead, said: ‘If you were just going on the subject matter of Stuart, you’d have thought it would



Alexander Masters

be a depressing but worthy read. But Alexander Masters has such a light touch, and the character of Stuart himself is so spikily attractive and so admirable in unexpected ways, that it becomes absolutely compelling. It was Stuart himself who suggested it should be

written backwards, and the fact that Masters rewrote it accordingly is typical of the relationship that emerges through the book. Part of the genius of the book lies in the matching of a topsy-turvy structure to a topsy-turvy life.’

Alexander, 40, who met Stuart Shorter as a social worker and this year became a full-time writer, said he was ‘just amazed’ at winning. ‘It’s glorious to get a prize which you feel will really kick-start everything. It’s the prize everyone aspires to. I wish Stuart was here to share it. I think he’d have been overjoyed and jumped around, then we’d probably have gone out and got slaughtered. He very much wanted me to do the book, but I worried how he would take it.’

Internal communications winner

The Public Relations Department would like to thank all those members of staff who took part in the recent internal communications consultation: either in one-to-one interviews, focus groups or the email questionnaire.

Congratulations to physiotherapist Ros Turgot, winner of the draw for the questionnaire.

European technology prize

At the European Information Society Technologies prize exhibition held from 30 November to 1 December at the European Commission in Brussels, King’s Centre for Telecommunications Research (CTR) was awarded the esteemed European IST prize for its innovative CREIST system. The Centre has now been nominated by independent experts from 16 European countries for the Grand Prize.

‘This is the most prestigious



Reza Dilmaghani and Daniel Morris, from the CTR, at the exhibition.

prize for innovative products all over Europe,’ comments **Reza Dilmaghani** from the CTR. ‘The European Commission sponsors this competition and the Grand Prize winners receive a substantial cash prize.’

The European Commission will now select three Grand Prize winners from the 20 nominees. The winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on 22 March in Vienna.

For more details about CREIST see www.ctr.kcl.ac.uk/creist/creist.asp

Harry Musselwhite



Harry Musselwhite

The College Secretary and Head of Administration, **Harry Musselwhite**, will retire on 31 March.

College Council agreed at its December meeting that, in recognition of more than 35 years of distinguished service to the College and predecessor organisations, he be accorded the title of College Secretary Emeritus with effect from 1 April 2006.

The Council also approved Mr Musselwhite’s appointment on a part-time basis as a Vice-Principal with ex-officio membership of Council and as Director of Employee Relations. He will be known as College Secretary Emeritus and Director of Employee Relations.

He will continue to report directly to the Principal and will focus on further developing partnership working in taking forward the College’s considerable HR agenda.

The Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, commented: ‘I would like to thank Harry for his years of highly effective and very dedicated service to the College, to which he has made an enormous contribution. I look forward very much to working with him in a different but crucial role. The progress of administrative reform

as envisaged in my Green Paper and initiated by Harry will continue as planned. As soon as possible we will be recruiting someone to head the administration after Harry’s retirement.’

IoP PR appointment

King’s has recently appointed **Camilla Saunders** as the first Public Relations Officer specifically working to promote the Institute of Psychiatry (IoP). Camilla joins the College with 14 years public relations experience in both the public and private sectors.

Her role will include identifying and creating press campaigns to promote major research or to raise awareness of key mental health issues, writing press releases and promoting IoP events and lectures, as well as handling media enquiries and encouraging news stories.

‘I would welcome advanced details of any new research or publications that might be newsworthy to help to maintain the IoP’s prestigious reputation externally,’ comments Camilla.

Camilla can be contacted on ext 0483 or at camilla.saunders@iop.kcl.ac.uk



Camilla Saunders

Winning essay

Philip Britton, Director of the Centre of Construction Law, has for the fourth time won a prize in the Society of Construction Law’s annual Hudson competition for an essay on a construction law topic.

He first entered in 2000, being awarded second prize; first prize followed in 2002, 2003 and (just announced) 2005. His most recent essay, *Right Building, Wrong Place? Wrong Building, Right Place?* discusses the rights of those who occupy land or buildings adjoining or near a construction site to stop, change or reverse unwelcome projects via the civil courts.

He comments: ‘The topic came out of my teaching on the MSc Construction Law & Dispute Resolution, as well as our Joint MSc Programme with the National University of Singapore. Construction for most people means primarily contract law, but land law plays an important role too. I wrote the essay to underline this and I’m delighted to be honoured yet again.’

He will discuss the essay’s themes at a London meeting of the Society of Construction Law in May.

Outstanding achievement award

Mr Ranjan Mathai (right), Deputy Indian High Commissioner, presents Professor Bedi with his award.



Professor Raman Bedi received the 2005 British Association Professionals of Indian Origin award for outstanding achievement.

Professor Bedi has returned to the Dental Institute after a three-year secondment to the Department of Health (DoH) as Chief Dental Officer for England. On his return to King’s he has been asked to lead a global child dental health task force working with the World Health Organisation and the World Dental Federation. The task force has received funding for the first five years from the DoH.

John Dunhill 1945–2005

It is with great sadness that *Comment* reports the death of **John Dunhill**, Director of Management Information Systems (MIS). John joined King’s in 1987 and was instrumental in helping establish MIS, the department responsible for developing and supporting the administrative computer systems of the College. He died on 11 December.

An obituary will appear in the next edition of *Comment*.



Georgian Studies Day

GEORGIA IN THE WIDER world was the subject when the Caucasus Policy Institute (CPI), hosted the eighteenth Georgian Studies Day on 16 November.

Eighty people attended from politics, public service, business and academia. Speakers included: The Rt Hon Bruce George MP, Chairman of the Parliamentary All Party Committee on Georgia, General Sir Garry Johnson, Chairman of the International Security Advisory Board, Simon Smith, Head of FCO Eastern Department, and the Ambassadors of Turkey, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. The CPI plans to hold this event annually in November to review developments in Georgia and the region.

‘The Georgian Studies Day is important,’ says Denis Corboy, Director of the CPI. ‘Georgia occupies a key strategic location between the Caspian and Black seas, the Middle East, Russia and Turkey. During the last two years Georgia has played a leading role in promoting democratic change in the region and in developing closer ties with EU and NATO.’



From left: Mark Grigoryan, BBC World Service, Craig Oliphant, FCO Research Department, HE Amiran Kavadze Georgian Ambassador, the Rt Hon Bruce George MP and Denis Corboy.

Champions and high-flying women

THE EQUALITY & DIVERSITY Department is re-launching two key training initiatives.

Firstly, the *Equality and Diversity Champions Programme* aims to support the mainstreaming of equality and diversity into all areas of College activity. It equips staff to provide advice and guidance to staff and students on equality matters and to establish equality initiatives in their own areas. Those that complete the programme join the Champions Network which provides ongoing co-ordination and support.

In April the Department will deliver another round of training for new Champions. The programme, already well received by colleagues, has now been enhanced so that it is more condensed and focuses more specifically on the College environment. ‘The programme provided me with an excellent overview of the issues,’ comments Laura Brammar, Careers Officer. ‘The variety of speakers provided an interesting and positive insight into the role we can all play in encouraging and developing equality within our workplace.’

Alongside this in March, the Department is re-launching its successful *Women’s Action Learning*

Inspirational nursing lecture



Claire Bertschinger (left) and Professor Anne Marie Rafferty, Head of the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery.

One of the most enduring images of Michael Buerk’s BBC coverage of the 1984 famine in Ethiopia was of a young British nurse, Claire Bertschinger, who, surrounded by 85,000 starving people, had the terrible task of choosing which children to allow into the feeding centre. Those pictures inspired Bob Geldof to make the Band Aid single and organise the Live Aid concert in 1985.

On 13 December Claire Bertschinger gave a lecture: *The pebble that became an avalanche: inspiring Live Aid*, and talked about her book *Moving Mountains*.

Her lecture was the first in a new series of Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery Dean’s Lectures.

These lectures provide a platform for promoting topical and high-profile issues within nursing to a wide-ranging audience.

Programme, which has been offered to female staff since 2003. The value of Action Learning is increasingly recognised in higher education, participants work on their own issues in small groups to improve their practice and make changes.

The Principal, Rick Trainor, is supportive: ‘I am delighted to endorse the new series of introductory workshops for Women’s Action Learning, as a means of supporting women in the College on issues relating to their career progression. I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to participate and I would like to encourage heads of department to release their staff to attend.’

Virginia Wainwright, Director of Equality & Diversity, explains: ‘The feedback from programme participants has been particularly positive, many tell us that their attitudes towards work have changed as a result and that they have gained confidence and are able to tackle work-related issues with a new vigour.’

Places are limited, contact the Equality & Diversity Department: equality@kcl.ac.uk or ext 3398. See the training section of: www.kcl.ac.uk/equal-ops/

Hayward Gallery exhibition



Uranium glass fruit bowl, part of *The Essence of Fluorescence* collection.

MARK MIODOWNNIK, Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering and founder of the Materials Laboratory, has designed and created *The Essence of Fluorescence* with artist Zoe Laughlin, currently a postgraduate student in the Division of Engineering, for the After Image space at the Hayward Gallery as part of the *Dan Flavin: A Retrospective* exhibition, which opened on 19 January and runs until 2 April.

Dan Flavin: A Retrospective is the first comprehensive exhibition of this American artist’s work. One of the most innovative figures in 20th-century art, Flavin (1933-96) used fluorescent light as his medium, adapting mass-produced, commercially-available materials into works of ‘profound intensity and astounding beauty’.

The Essence of Fluorescence explores the nature of fluorescent materials using the medium of a cabinet of curiosity. Each material within the cabinet is lit individually, going through a sequence of lighting: ten seconds of visible light, ten seconds of UV light and 120 seconds of darkness. These lighting arrangements allow the phenomena of fluorescence, phosphorescence, bioluminescence and luminescence to be explored.

Dr Miodownik comments: ‘The pigments that coat the inside of fluorescent tubes in the Dan Flavin work convert ultraviolet light into visible light. This fluorescence could be created by crushed uranium, scorpions, diamonds, or cheese, however modern tubes use synthetic pigments, called phosphors, which allow the light to be tuned using europium and terbium to create specific colours. Some fluorescent materials do not give out visible light immediately and thus act as light stores. This is phosphorescence, and it allows us to create the Milky Way on bedrooms ceilings and other temporary night-time miracles.’

Like many other things, fluorescence has gone nano. In the biology, physics and materials science labs of King’s and many other universities, fluorescence lights up not rooms, but individual cells and nanostructures. *Essence of Fluorescence* attempts to capture this intricate legacy of Flavin’s fluorescent tubes.

News in brief

Imperial College vote

On 9 December Imperial College voted to sever its links with the University of London. The University of London is a federation of independent institutions, which has awarded degrees on behalf of its members for more than 170 years. In 2003 Imperial College was granted powers to award its own degrees. King’s is currently seeking similar powers.

Dean meets the Pope

The Dean of King’s College, The Revd Dr Richard Burridge, met Pope Benedict XVI when he attended the II World Congress for the Pastoral Care of Foreign Students, at the Vatican in December. He was the fraternal delegate representing the Anglican Communion, as nominated by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Star quality

On 15 and 16 December Hollywood stars Robert De Niro and Matt

Damon were spotted in Surrey Street, Strand Campus, filming scenes for their forthcoming film *The Good Shepherd*. The film, directed by De Niro, tells the story of the early years of the CIA.

ELC accreditation

The English Language Centre (ELC) has successfully passed its October inspection and is now accredited by the British Council. The ELC offers a range of general and academic English language courses in addition to more specialised courses. It also provides bespoke classes for a variety of public and private sector organisations.

Email auto-responder

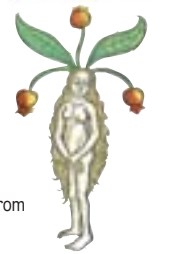
ISS has announced the availability of an auto-responder facility for the central College email service. This is open to all users who have a King’s email account, except undergraduates, and enables individuals to set up out-of-office auto replies for holidays and other situations. For information on how to use this service visit www.kcl.ac.uk/iss/it/email/auto-responder

Botanical illustrations

AN EXHIBITION ENTITLED: *Nature observed: the work of the botanical artist*, is taking place in the Weston Room at the Maughan Library, Chancery Lane.

This exhibition of books from the Foyle Special Collections Library, which runs until 7 April between 09.30 and 17.00, traces some of the main developments in botanical illustration over the past 500 years. Entrance is free and open to all members of the College and their

guests. For more information about the botanical artist Frederick Edward Hulme, whose work is featured in the exhibition and who is closely associated with the history of King’s, take a look at the Flashback *Comment* 164.



Female mandrake root from *Hortus Sanitatis*. Mainz: Jacob Meydenbach, 1491.

£2.7m grant for search-based software engineering

A TEAM OF RESEARCHERS led by Professor Mark Harman has been awarded a grant of £2.7 million by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council to use search techniques inspired by nature to automate large parts of the software engineering process. The project is a collaboration with Birmingham and York universities, Daimler Chrysler, Motorola, IBM and colleagues from the USA, France, Italy and Germany; in all, a total of 26 researchers are involved. Professor Harman, head of King's Software Engineering group in the Department of Computer Science, says: 'This is a major investment

in this exciting new approach to software engineering. Instead of having to design systems in full gory detail, our aim is to exploit techniques inspired by nature so that the machine searches for good solutions to satisfy our design constraints. The human merely has to describe these constraints to teach the machine what a good solution should look like.' The project aims to remove much of the tedious leg work from current software engineering practice, allowing systems to be built better, faster and cheaper. As a result, human effort will focus on guiding the automated search, rather than performing it.



This project will address key issues in software engineering, including scalability, robustness, feedback and insight. It will also study theoretical foundations of

search-based algorithms and apply the insights gained to develop more effective and efficient algorithms for large and complex software engineering problems.

Geography studentship success

King's Department of Geography has secured ten Natural Environment Research Council studentships to support vocational masters training on the Aquatic Resource Management and Environmental Monitoring, Modelling and Management programmes, for the next five years. Given there were only 290 studentships available to support 65

masters' programmes nationwide, King's has done extremely well according to Glenn McGregor, Professor of Physical Geography and Director of the Centre for Environmental Assessment, Management and Policy. 'Of all the departments of Geography in the country we have done the best. This success can be attributed to the high-quality user

and stakeholder-relevant training offered on our masters, and will add to our status as one of the top departments in the UK for postgraduate training in physical geography,' he explains. Although the studentship support will be initially for three years, a light-touch review will determine whether it is maintained for the fourth and fifth years.

Nobel Laureate to speak at King's

THE SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL & Health Sciences is hosting a major event *Image your heart* for National Science Week aimed at A-level and undergraduate students. It will include a keynote lecture by Nobel Laureate Sir Peter Mansfield, FRS, plus hands-on activities and other demonstrations and displays on medical imaging. The event will be held in New Hunt's House at Guy's Campus on

Friday 17 March from 13.00 to 18.00 with Sir Peter's lecture at 16.00. Sir Peter, who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 2003, will talk about his pioneering achievements in magnetic resonance imaging. Professor Peter Weissberg, Medical Director of the British Heart Foundation, will also give a presentation *Focusing on vascular disease: Seeing is believing*. The event is being sponsored

by The Physiological Society and organised by Dr Richard Siow of the Cardiovascular Division. For more details email richard.siow@kcl.ac.uk National Science Week (10-19 March) celebrates science and its importance to our lives, providing an opportunity for people of all ages to take part in science-based activities. It is organised by the BA (British Association for the Advancement of Science).

ARK floats

A NEW INITIATIVE HAS BEEN launched: Ageing Research at King's (ARK). 'The purpose is twofold,' comments Professor Simon Biggs, Director of the Institute of Gerontology. 'Internally ARK will connect established and emerging researchers who are engaged in, or might be considering initiatives that include an ageing dimension. It also represents a shop window to the world, highlighting King's strengths.' 'ARK has an important role in communicating research to a wide audience and in enhancing interdisciplinary understanding,' adds Professor Pat Doherty, Director of the Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases. 'Key organisations such as Age Concern and Help the Aged have already voiced their approval and support.' Departments, research groups and individuals that would like their sites linked to the ARK site (www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/biomedical/ark/) should send their web details to brenda.williams@kcl.ac.uk

The anatomist, the Italian boy and the resurrection men

In December 1831 some 40,000 Londoners gathered to watch the hanging of two men who had been convicted of a particularly gruesome crime at the Old Bailey a few days before: the murder of an Italian boy by two 'resurrection men' or grave-robbers. In this case, instead of digging up a recently-buried body, John Bishop and Thomas Williams had created their own corpse by murdering the boy, and had then hawked him around various medical schools to try to obtain the £10 or £15 that anatomy teachers would pay for a body. Their attempt was foiled by the porter and medical staff at King's College in the Strand, who spotted the suspicious 'freshness' of the body and called the police. Never buried The bodysnatchers turned up at King's on Saturday 5 November, when the College had only been open a few weeks. Builders were still working on the site, and the first intake of medical students had gathered in the brand new anatomy lecture theatre for a class given by Dr Richard Partridge, King's first Demonstrator of Anatomy. When the bodysnatchers tipped the body out of a sack onto the stone floor of the dissecting room, the porter William Hill (whose job was to obtain bodies for dissection) noticed that it looked as if it had never been buried, and that the left arm was twisted above its head and the left hand was clenched. Partridge and some of his pupils came down to look

at the body and Hill shared his suspicions with the Demonstrator. Partridge took swift action. He first went to the College Secretary's office and obtained a £50 note, and then returned to the dissecting room and offered to buy the body, showing the bodysnatchers the £50 note and saying he would have to go and change it before he could pay them. Leaving them with Hill, he alerted Herbert Mayo, Professor of Anatomy at King's. Mayo drove his coach over to the police station at Bow Street and returned with a police superintendent and several officers from Covent Garden's branch of the Metropolitan Police (also a new phenomenon at this date, having been formed only two years before), and the four resurrectionists were taken into custody. On the following day Partridge and Mayo carried out an autopsy of the boy's body, and within a month the bodysnatchers

had been tried (the trial was completed in a single day); two of them had been condemned and hanged, and the body of one of them (Bishop) had been returned to King's for dissection (it was said to be a particularly fine specimen, far better than the bodies he had previously sold to the College). White mice The story presented by the prosecution at the trial was that the victim was an Italian boy beggar called Carlo Ferriere, who had made his living by showing white mice in a cage (white mice were said to have turned up at Bishop's house just after the killing). According to the medical evidence presented by Partridge and Mayo, the boy had been killed by being struck on the back of the neck. In a written post-trial confession, however, Bishop claimed that the boy was from Lincolnshire and he had been killed by being drowned in a well, not from being struck on



the neck. The white mice had been and gone from his house, Bishop said, many weeks before the murder. Very soon a play called *The Italian Boy* featuring Carlo and his white mice was being performed in Shoreditch. London was gripped with anti-resurrectionist fever and the Anatomy Bill (which had been defeated in 1829) was successfully re-presented in Parliament in 1832, enabling medical schools to obtain the unclaimed bodies of paupers for dissection and eventually ending the gruesome but semi-official trade in 'resurrected' bodies. Richard Partridge succeeded Herbert Mayo as Professor of Anatomy at King's (1836), and became surgeon to the new King's College Hospital (1840) and President of the Royal College of Surgeons (1866). He often included the story of the Italian boy and the white mice in his lectures, but in 1862 his reputation suffered a setback when he was invited to treat a severe gunshot wound suffered by Giuseppe Garibaldi, but failed to notice that the bullet was still embedded in the wound. Christine Kenyon Jones With thanks to Sarah Wise, *The Italian Boy* (Pimlico 2005)



James May, Thomas Williams and John Bishop: 'a sketch taken at Bow Street'.

Visit to Hong Kong alumni



THE PRINCIPAL, PROFESSOR Rick Trainor, and the Chairman of Council, Baroness Rawlings, visited Hong Kong in October to meet with the College’s alumni community. There are more than 180 current undergraduate students living in Hong Kong and around 1,000 alumni who are permanently based there. The highlight of the week-long visit

was an alumni reception held at the Mandarin Oriental hotel attended by more than 140 guests who came to hear news about the College. Among the guests were many recent graduates including Eviana Leung and Joey Lai Yi Chau, (Law 2005), who had been awarded scholarships to study at King’s by alumni in Hong Kong. King’s has a well-established

alumni association in Hong Kong and during the visit the Principal and Lady Rawlings were delighted to attend a Council dinner hosted by the President, Mr Lewis Luk FKC (Law LLB, 1983). Dr Abe Lue CMG FKC (Mathematics PhD, 1965), former senior lecturer and Assistant Principal at King’s was also at the dinner.

John Bingham Memorial Fund

The John Bingham Memorial Fund was established following the tragic death of Dr John Bingham, a senior radiology consultant at Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust (GSTT) and an Honorary Senior Lecturer. The Fund aims to promote training and education in the field of medical imaging. Any member of GSTT or the

School of Medicine can apply. The intention is that the Fund will support short-term training or educational opportunities at home or abroad. Informal advice can be obtained from Dr Sheila Rankin, Professor Andy Adam or Professor Michael Maisey. Applications should be sent to Professor Adam, Department of Radiology, St Thomas’ Hospital.

Annual Fund

THE KING’S ANNUAL FUND AND the GKT Annual Fund provide extra resources for academic facilities and student welfare/non-academic activities. Last year the Development Committee, which oversees the grant-making process, distributed more than £120,000 across the College thanks to the support of alumni, staff and friends. The Development Committee invites staff to submit applications for consideration at its next meeting in May. Applications should be of benefit to departments or to the College as a whole. The Committee is keen to receive proposals designed to enhance the overall quality of student life and resource provision. (Applications for academic research projects will not be accepted and the Development Office advises against applications regarding general repair and maintenance of existing facilities.) It is vital to include in applications a complete budget as well as evidence of how the project will make a difference and to whom. The Development Office is happy to discuss potential applications and offer feedback prior to the deadline of 24 March. An application form and further information can be found at www.kcl.ac.uk/support/fund. Should you experience any problems contact the Development Office on ext 3005 or email annual.fund@kcl.ac.uk

Cricketers

FOR THE PAST 50 YEARS KING’S has had a thriving staff cricket team, playing competitively on Wednesday afternoons (May-July). However, it has begun to flounder as fewer players have been able to commit time. Despite this, the team has a full set of fixtures and a beautiful sportsground at New Malden. Membership is open to all staff, past and present. If you are interested in playing contact robert.price@kcl.ac.uk or paul.mould@kcl.ac.uk

| Forthcoming events |
|--|
| Friday 3 March Dental Dinner |
| Saturday 4 March GKT Dental Clinical Day |
| Monday 13 March Principal's Concert |
| If you are interested in these events contact the Development & Alumni Office on ext 3364. |

Building blocks

PHD STUDENT RICHARD Silversides is working with Dr Jian Dai, Reader in Mechanisms and Robotics, on a CASE award sponsored by LEGO System A/S looking at parametric modelling. His project involves the robotic manufacture and assembly of LEGO figures. This research programme is one of many being carried out with industrial support in the Centre for Mechatronics and Manufacturing which is internationally renowned for research in robotics automation and manufacturing.



The LEGO Group is one of the world’s biggest toy manufacturers and the largest in construction toys. Research with top universities such as King’s keep them at the forefront of such assembly technology.

Wound healing



KING’S RESEARCHERS HAVE won funding to develop an ‘intelligent’ wound dressing capable of speeding up the healing process of chronic wounds. The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council has awarded £1.34 million towards an interdisciplinary team that also includes Cardiff and Bristol universities. Chronic skin wounds represent a major clinical problem affecting three per cent of people over 60 with significant costs to the health service. All chronic wounds contain

bacteria that can delay healing, making treatment lengthy and costly. Dr Ram Abuknesha and Professor Bob Price, Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Division, will focus on the development of a new generation of convenient and rapid biosensor devices. They will develop a prototype wound dressing capable of producing immediate real-time analysis of the bacteria in chronic wounds. Professor Price said: ‘We are confident that, given the expertise in the three universities, the ultimate goal of real-time detection of bacteria is feasible.’

Antenatal screening

BY 2007 ALL PREGNANT women should be offered access to prenatal screening at 11 to 13 weeks. Earlier screening for foetal anomalies is regarded by many as a positive move, but does raise ethical concerns as Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery Professor Jane Sandall’s research has found. Although the uptake of this new screening procedure is likely to be high, in part, because it goes a long way to providing what many women value (more accurate results earlier in pregnancy) Professor Sandall is worried that the increased routinisation of the tests, which will arise from integrating them with standard antenatal blood tests and scans, could hinder women from making informed choices about whether they want their baby to be tested at all.



‘In order to deliver first-trimester screening in an ethical manner, we will have to reorganise how we deliver antenatal care,’ she said. ‘Visits to midwives need to happen earlier in pregnancy, and there needs to be a training programme for GPs and midwives so that they can discuss the pros and cons of the screening procedure with women, without directing decisions.’

Vitamin link to asthma

ASTHMA PATIENTS WHO do not respond to steroid treatment suffer repeated asthma attacks, and are at greater risk of dying from the condition. Researchers found that vitamin D3 could substantially improve the responsiveness of these patients to steroid treatment, offering them hope of an improvement in their health. Asthma is usually treated very effectively with inhaled steroids but for some patients, taking steroid tablets is the only way of controlling their condition, and this can cause considerable side effects. Unfortunately a sub-group of people with severe asthma fail to show clinical improvement, even with high doses of oral steroids, limiting their treatment options.



Dr Catherine Hawrylowicz of the MRC-Asthma UK Centre in Allergic Mechanisms of Asthma at King’s and Imperial College, led the King’s research team. She said: ‘The hope is that this work will lead to new ways to treat people who don’t respond to steroid treatment as it currently stands, and it could also help those people who are on heavy doses of steroids to reduce the amount of medication they are taking.’

In the news



Fake clone

Dr Stephen Minger, Director of King's Stem Cell Biology Laboratory, commented in *The Independent*, *The Times* and *The Financial Times* on the discredited work of Professor Hwang Woo-suk, of South Korea after it was discovered that he fabricated most of his claims regarding stem cells derived from cloned human embryos. He was also interviewed on BBC2's *Newsnight* programme, the BBC *One O'Clock News*, CNN and Radio 4's *Material World*.

Oil blaze

Gary Fuller and **Professor Frank Kelly** of the Environmental Research Group were interviewed on BBC *Breakfast News*, BBC London News, Radio 5 Live and Capital Radio, and were quoted in *The Evening Standard* and *Daily Mail* about the pollution levels after the Buncefield oil depot fire. They explained that particles from the fire could remain in the atmosphere for several weeks.

Young dealers

Professor Mike Hough, Director of the Institute for Criminal Policy Research, was quoted in *The Evening Standard* on a report he co-authored which found that children as young as 14 were being recruited as drug dealers. He said they found that drug dealing was sometimes run by cohesive groups with local family ties and extensive local networks of friends.

Cirrhosis increase

Jim McCambridge, Institute of Psychiatry, was part of a group behind a study that found a sharp increase in death from liver cirrhosis in Britain, as reported in *The Guardian*, *Daily Mail*, *The Times*

and *Metro*. The study suggested the problem was growing rapidly among beer and spirit-loving nations even as it subsides among largely wine-drinking populations.

Kidnappers

Michael Clarke, Professor of Defence Studies, was interviewed on BBC Scotland giving his view on the actions of the kidnappers following the abduction of four peace campaigners by Iraqi militants.

Alternatives

Christopher Shaw, Professor of Neurology and Neurogenetics, is seeking permission to create hybrid embryos by fusing human cells with rabbit eggs, as reported in most national newspapers. With Professor Ian Wilmut of 'Dolly the sheep' fame, they have put forward plans for the experiments as a way of overcoming the shortage of fresh human eggs available for research.

English teaching

Dr Bethan Marshall, Department of Education & Professional Skills, took part in Radio 4's *Learning Curve* programme discussing the English curriculum. She was also interviewed on Radio 4's *Today Programme* about whether or not synthetic phonics should be taught to student teachers as the only way of teaching children to read.

Down's hope

Professor Declan Murphy, Institute of Psychiatry, was featured in an article on BBC News Online reporting on his research that has identified a molecule that could be targeted to treat mental impairment in people with Down's syndrome.

Premature rates

Andrew Shennan, Professor of Obstetrics, commented on new figures reported in *The Times* that found that premature births have risen. He suggested that factors could include increased age and obesity of the current generation, but said it was difficult to know for sure.

Brain gain

Peter Jenner, Professor of Pharmacology and founder of King's spin-off Proximagen, which specialises in discovering therapeutic targets for neurodegenerative diseases, was listed in the UK's top 12 academic entrepreneurs in a *Times Higher* article about researchers who make money from their ideas. The feature also appeared in *The Independent*.

Drug test

Professor Robert Kerwin and **Dr Maria Arranz** of the Institute of Psychiatry were featured in *The Times*. They are working towards a DNA test that will help clinicians to identify which patients with schizophrenia will respond to the antipsychotic drug clozapine.

Cannabis issues

Robin Murray, Professor of Psychiatry, was interviewed on Radio 4's *Today Programme* and BBC *Ten O'Clock News* as part of a feature on whether the reclassification of cannabis as a class C drug should be reversed in light of violent crimes caused by addicts. He also commented in *The Sunday Times* and *Daily Mail* on research showing that damage to the brain from smoking cannabis was the same as that in people with schizophrenia.

Trees good?

Dr Mark Mulligan, Department of Geography, discussed his work on Radio 4's *Costing the Earth* on whether trees are really beneficial for the environment.

Dentist demand

Dr Janice Fiske, Senior Lecturer in the Dental Institute, commented in a BBC News Online article on the findings of a report that concluded elderly people were placing unprecedented demand on dentists.

Drink milk

In a letter to *The Guardian*, **Tom Sanders**, Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics, criticised an article which advised that children should eat more bread and fruit rather than milk, as this will not enable them to meet calcium and riboflavin requirements.

Divine steps

Revd Dr Richard Burrridge, Dean of King's College, was consulted for the Radio 4 series *In the footsteps of Jesus* and also featured in some of the programmes.

Young voters

Part of BBC1's *Politics Show* took place in the Round Reading Room of the Maughan Library recently. King's students put questions to Harriet Harman, Minister of State, Department for Constitutional Affairs, and there was a discussion about why the numbers of young people registered to vote was so low.

See www.kcl.ac.uk/headlines for the latest media coverage. *Comment* is keen to know of any staff featured in the media, call 3202 or email pr@kcl.ac.uk

New Student Ambassador scheme



Student ambassadors offer a wealth of welcome services to prospective students as there's nothing quite like hearing it from the horse's mouth.

In recognition of the importance of their work, the Marketing Department has enhanced the Student Ambassador Scheme to improve the service King's offers and benefit the ambassadors. To launch the new, improved scheme, a reception was held on 17 January, with an award ceremony to recognise individual achievements.

'The enhanced scheme has two main objectives,' comments Peterneil Carder, Associate International Marketing Officer. 'The first is to improve the level of service by providing ambassadors with better information and

high-quality training. The other is to ensure that they have the necessary tools to build a CV which will complement their excellent academic achievements. Key to the scheme is a progression path with opportunities for promotion to Silver and Gold ambassadors.'

Prospective students can interact with student ambassadors via the web www.kcl.ac.uk/chat and through campus tours; also each year the Marketing Department provides a team of ambassadors to help departments with open days. If you are planning an event, and would like the ambassadors' assistance, contact jae.easter@kcl.ac.uk on ext 3940. You can also contact Jae if you know of any student that you would like to recommend for this scheme.

Green light for governance

THE NEW KCLSU GOVERNING documents were approved by both the Student Representative Council and the College Council in December. On 1 August KCLSU will become a company limited by guarantee and

the trustee board will consist of both students and non-students. A Student Council will have new powers and purposes, and out-dated bureaucracy and regulation will be cut down, enabling relevant and plentiful opportunities for involvement.

KCLSU is the first students' union in the country to undertake such a radical review of its governance

systems, and its new structure will provide a model for other UK universities. For further information see *Comment* 162 or visit www.kclsu.org/governance

Election fever

NOMINATIONS FOR THE KCLSU election are now open. KCLSU will be electing under the new governance system for the first time, so eight places will be available: four student trustees, and four student trustee and full-time representatives. These roles will replace the current sabbatical posts. For more details visit www.kclsu.org/elections

Fairtrade status

THE COLLEGE AND THE Students' Union are set to achieve Fairtrade University status in the coming months as plans step up a gear in preparation for Fairtrade Fortnight.

To achieve this status it has to be shown that a Fairtrade steering group and policy are in place, that King's shops sell Fairtrade products, that Fairtrade foods are served at meetings, and that there is a commitment to campaigning for Fairtrade on campus.

The steering group has formulated a policy which was passed by College Council in 2005. 'Although work is still going on behind the scenes, we are confident that we will be awarded the status,' says Lee Peterson, VP Sites & Services. 'This year's Fairtrade Fortnight therefore promises to be a celebration of everything we have achieved featuring: bananas, Fairtrade producers from around the world, coffee and lively debate.' For more information, or to get involved, contact Lee on vpsitserv@kclsu.org



Law student award

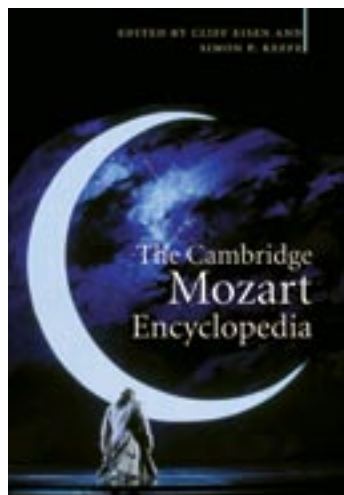
AT THE END OF NOVEMBER Bobby Kensah was awarded the title of Global Graduates 'Best All-Round Student 2005', an award sponsored by the international law firm Clifford Chance. The award was open to ethnic minority law students in universities across the country and was presented to Bobby at a ceremony in November.

The event was hosted by Global Graduates, an organisation dedicated to boosting the recruitment of talented ethnic minority students in the legal profession. The Clifford Chance team looked not just at grades and coursework, but also work experience, prizes, and extra-curricular activities to select the winner.

KCLSU Awards

THE KCLSU AWARDS ARE AN opportunity for students to recognise those who have made a positive contribution to their community or to the College and to celebrate achievements. For example, a personal tutor who's helped students through difficult times or a long-term academic who is about to retire.

The awards ceremony will take place in May. Visit www.kclsu.org/awards to find out more.



The Cambridge Mozart Encyclopedia

Edited by Cliff Eisen, Department of Music, and Simon P Keefe

Mozart's enduring popularity among music lovers as a composer, and among music historians as a subject for continued study, lies at the heart of *The Cambridge Mozart Encyclopedia*. This reference book functions both as a starting point for information on specific works, people, places and concepts as well as a summation of current thinking about the composer.

Extended articles on genres reflect the latest in scholarship and new ways of thinking about his works while the articles on people and places provide a historical framework, as well as interpretation.

The book also includes a series of thematic articles that cast a wide net over the 18th century and Mozart's relationship to it: these include Austria, Germany, aesthetics, travel, Enlightenment, Mozart as

a reader, and contemporaneous medicine, among others. Many of the topics covered have never been written about before in English-language Mozart publications or in such detail, and represent today's greater interest in previously unexplored aspects of Mozart's life, context and reception. A work list provides the most up-to-date account in English of the authenticity and chronology of Mozart's compositions; other appendices include Mozart movies (theatrical releases), Mozart operas on DVD and video; Mozart institutions and organisations; and websites.

Cambridge University Press



Culture Troubles: Politics and the Interpretation of Meaning

Professor Patrick Chabal, Department of Portuguese, and Jean-Pascal Daloz

Culture Troubles is a systematic re-evaluation of the role of culture in political analysis. The authors' three main contentions are that it is unwise to compare different societies without taking

into account culture(s); that a cultural approach contributes meaning to political comparison; and that conceptual frameworks can be based on a theoretically eclectic approach.

Chabal and Daloz's argument is one based on an analysis of culture understood as a system of meanings rather than as values. Hence, the authors offer a methodology that grounds political analysis in the interpretation of what makes sense to the people concerned.

Their approach, which resists the tyranny of particularisms but instead proposes a different scientific method, draws upon a wide range of political, sociological and anthropological sources. The authors illustrate the analytical sharpness of this method with a comparative study of the state and political representation in three very different settings: France, Nigeria and Sweden.

C Hurst and Co

Reshaping probation and prisons: The new offender management framework

Edited by Professor Mike Hough, Director, Institute for Criminal Policy Research, Rob Allen, Director, International Centre for Prison Studies, and Una Padel, Director, Centre for Criminal Justice Studies

The Government has embarked on a programme of radical reform for the probation and prison services with the setting up of The National Offender Management Service (NOMS). The aim is to make the two

services work more effectively together, and to promote greater private sector involvement in corrections work.

This ground-breaking volume takes a critical look at the different aspects of the NOMS proposals, at a time when the Government is still working out the detail of its reforms. No other academic publication has scrutinised the NOMS proposals so closely.

Through six contributions from leading experts on probation and criminal justice the report: identifies the risks attached to NOMS; assesses the prospects of success; provides ideas for reshaping Government plans; and presents an authoritative critique of a set of proposals that could go badly wrong.

The study will be crucial reading for politicians, civil servants and criminal justice managers. Senior probation and prison staff will find it of particular value. Since publication, the Government has indicated that it will review its plans for 'contestability' (or privatisation) in probation.

The Policy Press

