

Record-breaking year

GRANTS AND CONTRACT INCOME

awarded to King's reached a record-breaking £110.2 million in the year from 1 August 2005 to 31 July 2006. This represents a rise of 9.3 per cent on the previous year's figure of £101.2 million.

The total number of new awards and contracts has risen from 711 to 761 over the year. In the main, awards come from the Research Councils, Government Departments, UK and overseas industry, charities and from the European Union.

The highest amount of Government funding

Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman, Vice-Principal (Research), comments: 'While one year's figures do not constitute a trend this is a very encouraging indication that the College's strategic investment and emphasis on high-quality research is increasingly being recognised by outside funders.'

Schools that have particularly increased their new funding for last year include Physical Sciences & Engineering, up from \$3.6 million to \$7.1 million; Biomedical & Health Sciences, up from \$10.2 million to \$19.9 million; the Dental Institute from \$1.3 million to \$6.7 million and the School of Social Science & Public Policy from \$5 million to \$11.2 million.

This has been a particularly

Ice magic for King's staff at Somerset House



On Sunday 19 November a number of King's staff enjoyed what has become an essential winter experience – open-air ice skating at Somerset House. Absolute beginners and seasoned skaters took in the spectacular setting of Somerset House's 18th century courtyard, a stone's throw from King's Strand Campus. As darkness fell the rink was transformed by flaming torches and architectural lighting.

good year for King's as the Medical Research Council (MRC) has awarded or renewed four Centre Awards [see *Comment 162*]. Their total funding to the College is now in excess of £14 million.

Another major grant includes: one for Qingbo Xu, British Heart Foundation John Parker Professor of Cardiovascular Science, in the School of Medicine (who recently joined the College from St George's Hospital Medical School). He was awarded a \$2.8 million grant from the Oak Foundation to undertake a project on stem-cell based therapy for vascular disease.

Prestigious grants have been awarded to the Centre for Computing in the Humanities for their digitalisation work as well as Dr Ingo Runkel, Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics being awarded £201,000 from the EPSRC to research 'Topological defects in conformal field theory and string theory'. Mr Michael Gabbay received £215,994 from the British Academy for his work 'Normalistaion in mathematics: elementary mathematical terms are logical constants'.

continued on page 2

Record-breaking year

continued from page 1

On the most recently available comparisons, King's receives the highest amount of government funding among all the London colleges and is third overall in the UK for funding from this source. Within the University of London, King's is second only to Imperial College in industrial funding and fifth nationally, competing vigorously also with Cambridge, Nottingham and Cranfield for the top spots in industrial income. The total of new industrial funding for King's from UK and overseas sources stands at £11 million up from £8.9 million in the previous year.

King's is GlaxoSmithKlines' fourth highest-funded institute in the UK, and has significant funding from a range of other companies working both within and without the health sciences.

Dr Alison Campbell, Managing Director of KCL Enterprises, comments: 'The increase in funding from industry and commerce is one of our great strengths this year. King's has recognised the value of working with business for mutual gain and these figures highlight knowledge transfer in action. With recent strategic investment at King's and the encouragement of the funding Councils, I am confident that the upward trend will continue.'

Professor Michael Clarke, Director of Research Development, said: 'We pride ourselves at King's on our applied research and our ability to work closely with Government and industry. Last year's figures offer further proof that we are consolidating our reputation in these vital fields, and we are on the verge of more breakthroughs in the coming year.'

New awards last year totalled \$105.8 million, with a research income for the year recorded at \$110.2 million.

BREAKDOWN BY AWARDERS (1 August 2005-31 July 2006)

Research councils	£33,318,293
UK charities	£31,660,186
Central government, local authorities & health hospitals	£13,235,203
UK & overseas industry	£11,021,820
EU	£9,750,810
Overseas other	£6,721,485
Others	£159,868
Total	£105,867,665

Alzheimer's blood test

PROTEINS FOUND IN THE BLOOD CAN

indicate an increased risk of Alzheimer's disease, according to groundbreaking new research from the Institute of Psychiatry published in the journal *Brain*. It is the first time markers for the development of Alzheimer's have been identified in blood.

The findings take researchers a step closer to knowing whether a blood test can be used to diagnose and measure progression of the disease. There is no cure, long-term treatment or prevention for Alzheimer's disease. It is currently diagnosed using methods including memory tests and brain scans, but a definitive diagnosis can only be given at post mortem.

This five-year project based at the IoP and funded by the Alzheimer's Research Trust, used a cutting-edge process known as proteomics to identify proteins increased in the blood of Alzheimer's patients but not in a control group of healthy older people. Two of these proteins were confirmed as markers for the disease through blood tests

Principal's Column



Dear Colleagues

I am naturally very pleased that the College's research income is at record levels, and there is every expectation that this will continue to rise. This mirrors our aspirations for King's as stated in the College's Strategic Plan bringing together ideas widely discussed around the College during the last couple of years, which has just gone to Academic Board and will go to Council in mid-December. There was some discussion of these issues at the Principal's Fora which I held at different campuses in October.

Another topic which was aired was the possibility of awarding our own degrees, which has subsequently been ratified by Academic Board and now goes to Council. The recent Fora were well attended (although perhaps the enticement of a free lunch was the attraction!), and I hope that increasing numbers of staff will take advantage of attending in future as these events provide a useful opportunity to ask questions and discuss issues.

King's puts great store on maintaining good relations with

carried out on 500 Alzheimer's patients in the UK.

Lead researcher Simon Lovestone, Professor of Old Age Psychiatry, said: 'This is certainly an exciting development in the battle against Alzheimer's. It is a devastating disease and we currently have problems diagnosing it and measuring its progression in patients. We need to find new methods of diagnosing Alzheimer's early to former students and members of staff and I am happy to report that the College held its first reception for alumni in the City last month. The 'King's community' continues to grow and plays a vital ambassadorial role for the College.

I am delighted that the Russell Group, which consists of the country's top 20 researchled universities, has appointed its first Director General, Wendy Piatt, and that, furthermore, she is an alumna of the College. Dr Piatt will lead the Group's policy development and strategy and I have no doubt that this will lead to a stronger focus on the mutual interests of the institutions which are members.

Complementary to the work of the Russell Group are the efforts of Universities UK (UUK), which represents all the country's universities and seeks to promote the many interests common to them all. You may have read that I have been elected President of UUK for two years as from August 2007. In the meantime I plan to substantially reduce my commitments outside the College and have every confidence that the Presidency will not impinge on my work at King's; indeed, I see the role as a great opportunity to promote the College to a wide variety of audiences at the same time as helping to shape the future of higher education in the UK.

With best wishes for the Christmas season. **Rick Trainor**

help get treatments to patients when they might most benefit. Further research is now needed to establish if a simple, accurate blood test for Alzheimer's can become a reality.'

Professor Lovestone was interviewed about his research on Radio 4's *Today* programme and he also appeared on BBC One's *Breakfast*. The research was also covered in *The Times* and the *Daily Mail*.

Major trial of peanut allergies

KING'S SCIENTISTS ARE EMBARKING

on a major study into peanut allergy in children. The £5 million seven-year study involving 480 infants will explore whether early exposure to peanuts can reduce the risk of developing an allergy.

Funding is provided by amongst others, the National Institutes of Health, the Immune Intolerance Network and the USbased Food Allergy Initiative.

Research led by Professor Gideon Lack of the MRC-Asthma UK Centre in Allergic Mechanisms of Asthma, in collaboration with colleagues Professor Steve Durham of Imperial College London and Dr Hugh Sampson of Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, has compared peanut allergies in different parts of the world. Currently it is not known how to prevent peanut allergy: some studies suggest that peanut avoidance in early infancy may help to prevent allergy, whereas other studies suggest the opposite.

'We have found an inverse association between consumption

of peanuts in the first year of life and the development of peanut allergy,' explains Professor Lack of King's. 'Children who eat peanut snacks early in life may be protected against peanut allergy. At present we do not know whether avoidance or early introduction to peanuts is the correct strategy.'

Professor Lack's team will now carry out a randomised controlled study involving 480 infants between the ages of 4 and 11 months with severe eczema or egg allergy who are at a highrisk of developing peanut allergy. They will be randomised into two groups: one will receive a peanut snack regularly from four months of age for the first three years of life, and a control group will completely avoid peanuts.

The team will assess the participants for peanut allergy at five years of age. If the hypothesis that early feeding of peanuts is correct, the researchers expect to see a greater than 50 per cent decline in the level of peanut allergy in the group that



has been fed peanuts.

Despite national and international guidelines recommending avoidance of peanuts in infants with eczema, peanut allergy has doubled in the past 10 years in the UK, and now affects 1 in 70 primary schoolchildren in the UK and the USA. Studies that have attempted to remove food allergens such as peanut from the maternal diet during pregnancy, breast feeding, and the infant's diet in the first year of life, have failed to show a reduction in food allergies.

Professor Lack adds: 'In terms of clinical implications, this trial may result in a change in public health policy to prevent food allergies and should enable scientists to identify important treatment targets to try and develop cures for children who already suffer from peanut allergy.'

King's prepares for new fundraising Campaign

THIS AUTUMN THE COLLEGE HAS TAKEN

the first steps towards launching its second major fundraising campaign by making a range of new appointments to support the College-wide fundraising effort.

Ten new posts have been created in the Development Office to provide professional and administrative support for what will be the largest fundraising mission the College has ever undertaken; the final target will far exceed the \$44 million raised in the last Campaign (which closed in 2004) and the result will be a huge injection of new money for capital projects, research, teaching and student support across King's.

The Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, said: 'Our much increased ambitions for fundraising are key to the attainment of our objective of becoming a world-



Gemma Peters

class institution. As UK higher education continues to shift away from a reliance on government funding (now just one third of the College's annual budget), fundraising activities play an increasingly important role. King's excellent fundraising record in recent years gives confidence that the extra posts will be good investments. Experience in many institutions demonstrates that proceeds can rise only if extra fundraisers are available.'

Leading the Development Team is Gemma Peters, former Head of Fundraising, who took over from the previous Director Rebecca Williams in mid-November. Gemma joined King's two years ago with a track record of delivering successful major fundraising projects at Mencap, the deaf-blind charity Sense and the Open University.

'I am delighted to take up this new role at such an exciting time for the College as philanthropy takes on a new importance across the sector,' said Gemma. 'Our goals are certainly challenging but the rewards of a successful campaign will be felt far and wide across King's for decades to come.'

CAMPAIGN FACTS

• In 2004 King's successfully completed its first major Campaign with funds raised of **£44 million**. The Maughan Library and Foyle Special Collections; the renovation of the Strand Chapel; a host of PhD studentships; and the Centre for Cell and Integrative Biology were all made possible by this Campaign.

 Plans for the next Campaign are taking shape. College priorities will include capital projects at both the Strand and Denmark Hill Campuses, new funding for research in a wide variety of areas and increased support for student activities and facilities.

 The Development Team coordinates the College's fundraising and alumni relations activity, leads communications with alumni and builds relationships with influential individuals and organisations.

Spanish Minister speaks at King's

THE SPANISH SECRETARY OF STATE

for Education & Science, Da Mercedes Cabrera Calvo-Sotelo, gave a lecture at King's on 30 October entitled *Education in Spain: Recent Reforms.* This was Da Cabrera Calvo-Sotelo's only speech during her current visit to the UK.

She was accompanied by the Spanish Ambassador, Don Carlos de Miranda, and welcomed to King's by the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, and the Head of the Department of Spanish & Spanish-American Studies, Professor Robert Archer.

During her lecture, the Minister examined the changing role and profile of Spanish universities over the last 25 years and outlined the Government's education policy in the light of the new Education Act. She also stressed the importance of lifelong learning and vocational training.

She outlined the Government's aims with the Bill – now going through Parliament – which will address regulatory constraints in universities and encourage greater flexibility. In the light of universities' public service role, she hoped that there would be a more effective evaluation of quality and a greater emphasis on the transfer of knowledge and research.

Afterwards she took questions from students and staff, ranging from the problem of endogamic practices in Spanish university appointments and the provision for children with special needs in primary and secondary schools.



The Spanish Secretary of State for Education & Science, Da Mercedes Cabrera Calvo-Sotelo

Professor Archer commented: 'This was an important speech outlining Government policy, refreshing for the London audience in so far as local party politics inevitably had no direct bearing on what was said. The Minister was able to address the issues that concerned her with the clarity and precision of the distinguished academic and scholar which she also is.'

Kazakh Ambassador visits

HIS EXCELLENCY ERLAN IDRISSOV,

Ambassador of Kazakhstan to the United Kingdom, visited King's on 9 November and gave a lecture on foreign relations and domestic developments entitled *Kazakhstan – the regional hub for Central Asia.*

The event was chaired by Professor Rein Müllerson of the School of Law, who took a sabbatical in 2004 when he worked as UN Regional Adviser for Central Asia in Kazakhstan.

'Kazakhstan has an ancient and rich culture'

In his speech to a packed lecture theatre, the Ambassador spoke of the history of his country and its post-Soviet development. Issues of regional integration, and relations of Kazakhstan with China and other world powers were also discussed, with many questions taken from the audience.

Ambassador Erlan Idrissov, a graduate of the prestigious Moscow Institute for Foreign



Professor Rein Müllerson [left] and His Excellency Erlan Idrissov.

Relations, has been the Ambassador to the UK since 2001. Before that he was Foreign Minister of his country and held various diplomatic posts, including one at the Kazakh Mission to the UN in New York.

Professor Müllerson said: 'We were delighted to welcome the Ambassador to King's. Kazakhstan has an ancient and rich culture and is enjoying a renaissance since the country gained independence in 1991. Not much is known or appreciated by the West about Kazakhstan but the London Embassy is doing great work to promote this fascinating country.'

London and Moscow air quality

The Environmental Research Group (ERG) has been participating in a Partners for Environmental Co-operation in Europe (PECE) project to compare air quality in London and Moscow.

PECE aims to contribute to the protection and improvement of the environment, increase people's quality of life, and promote sustainable development in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia region.

Participants will share knowledge of monitoring and modelling air pollution, discuss policies to reduce pollution, and establish a long-term biological monitoring study using lichen.

David Green from the ERG recently travelled to Moscow to meet the state environmental monitoring department to fulfil these aims and launch the bilingual website developed by ERG as part of the project (www.moscow-london.org).

The trip included a seminar to exchange information and enlightening visits to a monitoring site used in the Moscow air quality network and a park where lichen surveys are undertaken.

IoP on top for depression

A RECENT STUDY CARRIED OUT BY

the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* confirmed the Institute of Psychiatry's position as the leading centre of European research in the field of depression.

The study evaluated the quality of research on depression in 25 EU countries in the last ten years. It excluded experimental studies in animals and focused on human-based research only; moreover, only studies that had depression as a major topic were selected. The research analysed 5,731 studies; the UK was the leading country in depression research with 1,348 publications and a national Cumulative Impact Factor of 4,012.2. The IoP's Cumulative Impact Factor was 636.87.

Andrew Lumsden

Professor Andrew Lumsden, FRS, is Director of the MRC Centre for Developmental Neurobiology at King's. Last month Professor Lumsden launched a flagship online journal, *Neural Development*. Here we find out more about the journal, Professor Lumsden's distinguished career and his priorities.

Tell us about your career.

I have had an obsession with biology from as early as I can remember. This found expression in collecting pond life in a jam jar, netting insects, dissecting earthworms on the kitchen table and tracking down rare native orchids on the limestone hills around Bath. All of this gave me a broad understanding and love of organisms, albeit at some cost to their survival.

At school I was determined to study Botany and Zoology at A-level, despite the fact that only Biology was on offer. I was handed the syllabi and told to get on with it by myself. Being effectively self-taught from a quite young age prepared me well for Cambridge, where self-motivation and independence of thought were required attributes. It was there that I came to realise there were others who shared my passion; being lectured in all branches of cell and organismal biology by experts such as the great Sydney Smith, and being able to discuss our new knowledge with like-minded undergrads, allowed me to consider that I could make a contribution through research. I studied developmental biology and evolutionary biology in my final year but then made the wrong choice for my PhD.

I decided to go to Yale to study the early evolution of mammals, an excursion funded by a Fulbright scholarship. But I was soon to discover that Yale in 1968 was more a cauldron of student revolt against the Vietnam war than a quiet oasis of study. Even more problematic, from a personal view, was the realisation that palaeontology allows one to compile stories about the progress of evolution and not much more. With my Yale experiment shaping up as a disaster, I decided to drop out. But rather than come home a failure, I worked for a year as a motorcycle mechanic, eventually earning enough to ride across to California and back on my ancient Vincent motorcycle.

When I finally returned to England, the one *Nature* paper I had managed to produce at Yale got me a job as Lecturer (part-time) in 'Special Anatomy' at Guy's, and this has been my home ever since, despite many attractions to go elsewhere. For several years my part-time job was as a full-time teacher, with no opportunity for research but time to realise that what I really wanted to do was experimental biology.

I began by studying the morphogenesis of teeth, under the guidance of Jeff Osborne. The

nervous system became interesting to me in the late 70s, when I had moved on to look at the development of rodent whiskers. My enquiries as to how these exquisite sense organs acquire their dense nerve supply during development led me to study axon guidance from neurons in the trigeminal ganglion, and pattern formation in the hindbrain. Since then I have climbed steadily up the neuraxis and am now looking at regional specialisation of the forebrain and how its myriad cell types become spatially organised.

Can you describe some current research projects?

Research in the MRC Centre has focussed on the early stages of nervous system development, from the fertilized egg up to the formation of neural connections. Most of our scientists are interested in how an unpromising ball of cells acquires pattern, in terms of precise regional specialisation and varied cell identity, and how young neurons navigate their axons over long distances towards their targets. There are also a number of more translational projects going on, looking at the developmental origins of certain neural diseases and examining the molecular basis of neural degeneration.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

I am very proud of the Centre because it is making a considerable impact in the field and is already recognised worldwide as a centre of excellence. All of our faculty members are highly gifted and yet there are no prima donnas – everyone fits in and there are numerous interactions between the 23 groups, many of them resulting in collaborative grants and papers. Having open-plan labs helps considerably, as the postdocs and students are always mixing together, sharing equipment and ideas.

What are your priorities for the Centre?

We have just succeeded with our first competitive renewal of MRC infrastructure funding and my top priority is to get the next renewal, in 2010. Over the past year, I have drawn our research interests towards the developmental emergence of neural function by recruiting two electrophysiologists who have the expertise to examine developing synapses and neural circuit function. In addition, we have succeeded in recruiting two more faculty members from the USA



who work on eye development and axonal remodelling, respectively.

Another major priority is to continue to attract ambitious young scientists to work here for four to five years as Career Development Fellows. They bring new ideas and vigour to the Centre, while benefiting from the considerable expertise and experience of our more senior faculty to develop their own independent careers. The Centre is only as good as its staff; my job is to ensure that we have the best scientists and to provide the best possible environment for their work.

Why did you launch Neural Development?

The field is burgeoning with an ever increasing number of neurodevelopmental papers being published in general-interest journals and there was no top-rank journal dedicated to development of the nervous system. It was also a timely opportunity to start a peer-reviewed journal that is entirely web-based and open-access, which has to be the future of scientific publishing.

How do you unwind?

Playing bridge; restoring antique marine chronometers in my horological workshop; and taking walks along the river with my wife.

Fact file

Book on my bedside table

Galatea 2.2 by Richard Powers, about artificial intelligence and the capacities and inadequacies of human intelligence. Also, for lighter reading, *Greenwich Killing Time* by Kinky Friedman.

Favourite holiday destination

We have been going to South Goa for several years as it provides the perfect break from the College and winter weather.

Proudest work moment

There have been many, especially those associated with my students getting their doctorates or our papers being published. But overall, I suppose being elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1994 is hard to beat.

King's people

Appointments

UUK President

Universities UK has announced that the Principal, **Professor Rick Trainor**, will be the next President of Universities UK. He will succeed Professor Drummond Bone (Vice-Chancellor, University of Liverpool) on 1 August 2007 and will hold the post of President for the two academic years 2007-8 and 2008-9.

Commenting on his election, Professor Trainor said: 'I am very much looking forward to taking up the Presidency next year. It will be an exciting and challenging time for higher education, and I know Universities UK will have a key role to play in influencing and shaping any changes to come.'

Professor Bone, President, Universities UK, said: 'I am delighted that Professor Trainor will be taking on this role. He has an international background and has worked across a broad reach of the UK sector. I have worked closely with him over the years and know he will do a great job.'

New IoP Dean



Professor Peter McGuffin

The Chairman of Council has approved the recommendation of the Appointment Committee that **Professor Peter McGuffin** be appointed Dean of the Institute of Psychiatry (Head of School). Professor McGuffin will serve for three years from 1 January 2007, when he will succeed Dr George Szmukler following the completion of the latter's successful term of office.

'I look forward very much to working with Peter as Dean and with George as Head of the College's Health and Society Network (from 1 January),' commented the Principal.

Hospital Doctor Award

Professor Peter Braude and the

Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD) team from King's and Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust have won the Innovations category of the *Hospital Doctor* magazine awards. He and his team were chosen for their pioneering work in PGD for serious genetic disorders.

PGD is a technique for testing embryos established using IVF for a range of serious genetic disorders including Huntington's disease, Duchenne muscular dystrophy, and cystic fibrosis. Professor Braude, who is also Head of Women's Health, along with consultant genetics nurse Alison Lashwood and other colleagues have now set up the largest and most successful PGD service in the UK at Guy's Hospital.

The team has now significantly improved some of the processes used for diagnosis using pre-implantation genetic haplotyping, a technique which



Professor Peter Braude

is more generally applicable to a wider variety of disorder, using a suite of genetic markers (the haplotype) that are inherited along with the condition.

Professor Braude commented: 'I am delighted to receive this award on behalf of my team. We do feel that this improved procedure is making a tremendous difference in helping families with a history of serious genetic disorders. The challenge remains to convince primary care trusts that, although the treatment involves IVF, it should not be funded through IVF budgets.'

Obituary

PETER HOFFMAN 1944-2006

Peter Hoffman, former Catering Services Manager at the College, died on 11 November, following an operation.

Peter joined the Catering Department at the Strand in 1979, and became Head of Department in 1985, following the merger of King's, Queen Elizabeth and Chelsea Colleges.

The Department went from strength to strength in subsequent years and Peter's career culminated in the significant contribution which he made to planning the new social and dining facilities on the Strand Campus.

A service to celebrate Peter's life was held in the Chapel at the Strand on 22 November; Peter had been married to Jeanette in the Chapel by the



then very new Chaplain, Tim Ditchfield, and it was both fitting and welcome that Tim should also lead the very wellattended memorial service. Charming and warm tributes were paid to Peter by Jeanette, Peter's sister Gill, Jenny Briggs and Dennis Allen.

In his 25 years of loyal service to King's, Peter's support for all College activities was always much appreciated by his colleagues. He was, as his colleague Dennis noted, a King's man. Jenny Briggs Director of Facilities & Services

Awards

Portuguese prize Professor Emeritus Helder Macedo

has been awarded the prestigious Portuguese Pen Club Prize for Fiction, for his latest novel *Sem Nome (Nameless)*. Aníbal Cavaco Silva, the President of Portugal, will present him with the award on 13 December. PEN is an international writer's organisation.

Professor Macedo's novel is about a young female journalist whose false account of what happened to the long-lost love of a Portuguese political exile living in London becomes the catalyst both for the retrieval of his past and for her own self-discovery.

Professor Macedo has enjoyed a distinguished academic career joining King's in 1971 and becoming Camoens Professor of Portuguese from 1982 to 2004. In 1979-80 he served as Secretary of State for Culture in the Portuguese Government. In 1991 he was appointed a Fellow of the College.

History prize



Professor Andrew Porter

The Trevor Reese Memorial Prize for books published in 2003 and 2004 has been awarded to **Professor Andrew Porter**, History Department, for his book *Religion Versus Empire? British Protestant missionaries and overseas expansion, 1700-1914*, published by Manchester University Press in 2004.

The prize of £1,000 is awarded every two years to the author of a work which has made a wideranging, innovative and scholarly contribution in the broadly defined field of Imperial and Commonwealth History.

Memorial Arch at Guy's

An exhibition about the Guy's Memorial Arch is displayed on the ground floor of New Hunt's House, assembled by Kate Kirwan, Photography & Digital Imaging Unit Manager, Biomedical & Health Sciences.

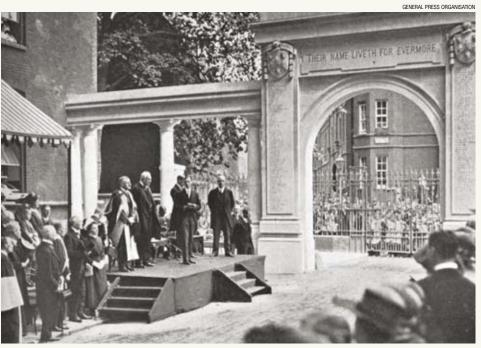
HE MEMORIAL ARCH WAS originally installed in 1921 on a site between where the Friends of Guy's charity shop and the north end of New Hunt's House now stand, as an entrance to the Guy's Hospital Buildings. It commemorated the medical students and staff of Guy's who died in the First World War, many of them whilst helping the wounded and sick at the Front. The Arch originally had further arches either side, traces of which can still be seen on the uprights, and it was officially opened by the Duke of York (later George VI) in 1921.

The names of the fallen are engraved on the arch, and the 'War Memorial Number' of Guy's Hospital Report also includes short biographies and, in some cases, photographs of them. The first name is that of Harold Ackroyd, whose medical education was at Cambridge and at Guy's. He was awarded the Victoria Cross and the Military Cross for his extraordinary bravery. The Guy's Hospital Gazette for 20 October 1917 records how, 'utterly regardless of danger he worked continuously for many hours up and down and in front of the line tending the wounded and saving the lives of officers and men'. Although he was wounded on 31 July 1917, he remained on duty and was killed in action on 11 August 1917.

Another physician, William Morris Lansdale, had what the *Gazette* describes as a 'brilliant career' at Guy's, 'winning both the Junior Proficiency Prize and the Wooldridge Memorial Prize in Physiology; in 1914 he was prize essayist of the Physical Society, and in the same year won the Beaney Prize for Pathology'. He was killed by a shell while tending the wounded in August 1918.



Staff and students at the recent Remembrance ceremony. The Memorial Arch was the focal point for the ceremony.



The official unveiling of the Arch by the Duke of York in 1921.

Not all the Guy's men were experienced doctors. There were also medical students such as William Alexander Stanwell who entered Guy's in 1913. After he joined up he was sent to the Front in France in October 1914 and was killed in action on 9 July the following year. Other staff also joined up, including Lance-Corporal Start who was employed in the Works Department at Guy's. He was awarded the Military Medal for gallantry in France and died of wounds in 1917.

Nursing staff were not listed on the Arch, but were included in the *Guy's Hospital Report*. Elsie Gladstone started her training at Guy's in 1912. In 1914 she served on a hospital ship and then went to France where she worked at a casualty clearing station. She died not from wounds but from the other great killer of the First World War, influenza. She was awarded the Royal Red Cross medal but did not live to receive it, and was buried in France with military honours.

When the Guy's Hospital tower was built the Arch was not large enough for fire engine access, and it was taken down and stored in a builder's yard. It seems that it was 'lost' for several years until it again came to light and in 1994 it was re-erected in its present site, in front of the Hodgkin Building at the south end of the Memorial Gardens. The new paving, installed last month, radiates from the arch and helps to make it a focal point, which will be further accentuated when the gardens are completed in the near future. [The Arch is the focus for the College-wide ceremony of remembrance. See page 12 for details about the ceremony held there last month.]

Professor Susan Standring, Head of the Department of Anatomy & Human Sciences, remembers when the archway was being reerected at its present site. She was in Professor Martin Berry's room which overlooked the gardens when there was an almighty bang. They rushed to the window to see that one of the crane straps had broken and the top cross section was on the ground with a pair of feet peeping out from beneath. Although the cross piece of the Arch was damaged, fortunately the 'feet' turned out to be a pair of discarded shoes!

Sources: *Guy's Gazette*, Bicentenary edition, 1925; *Guy's Hospital Reports* vol LXX: War Memorial Number, 1922. Thanks to Professor Susan Standring and Bill Edwards (Curator of the Gordon Museum) for their input. If readers have any historical information to add to the display please email kate.kirwan@kcl.ac.uk

Putting King's

Working with the Corporate Design Unit, illustrator Peter Kent has produced a beautiful set of 11 College maps using pencils, inks and watercolours which will be displayed in College buildings. The maps show each of the campuses in detail as well as the Maughan Library, halls of residence, local landmarks and the surrounding area. Inserted in this issue of *Comment* is the overview map which shows all five of the College's campuses.

More than maps

Christine Ayre, Corporate Identity Manager, talks about the importance of the maps...

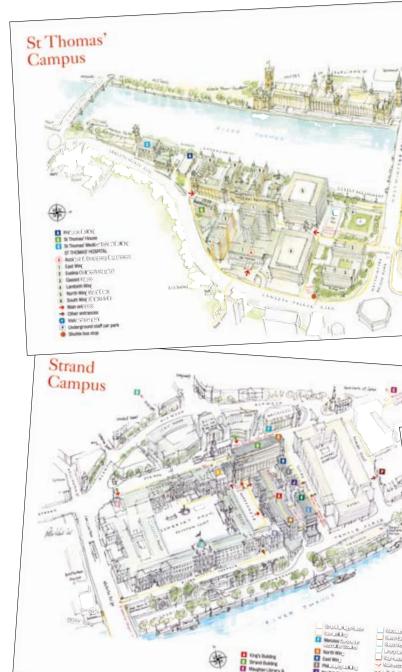
'It was clear to me on first seeing samples of Peter Kent's maps that we had here a marvellous opportunity to present our five campuses and mixed collection of buildings in an integrated style; a style which is not only beautiful, clear and accurate but which suits King's down to the ground.

Peter's work balances grandeur of scale with the human element; his light, almost whimsical touch with the pen miraculously captures architectural form and perspective, whilst the gentle colour wash and handwritten annotations intensify the personal atmosphere created by the lines of the drawing. These are definitely more than just maps, projecting as they do the full majestic sweep of the King's estate in an intuitively graceful and informative way.

Aerial photography was commissioned to clarify detail on the more challenging sites such as Guy's and Denmark Hill. A consistent typographical hierarchy was developed for the handwritten names of the roads, bridges, public buildings, stations and directional information, and a fully revised strategy developed for the typeset keys, which now list buildings and include the comprehensive labelling of the hospitals.

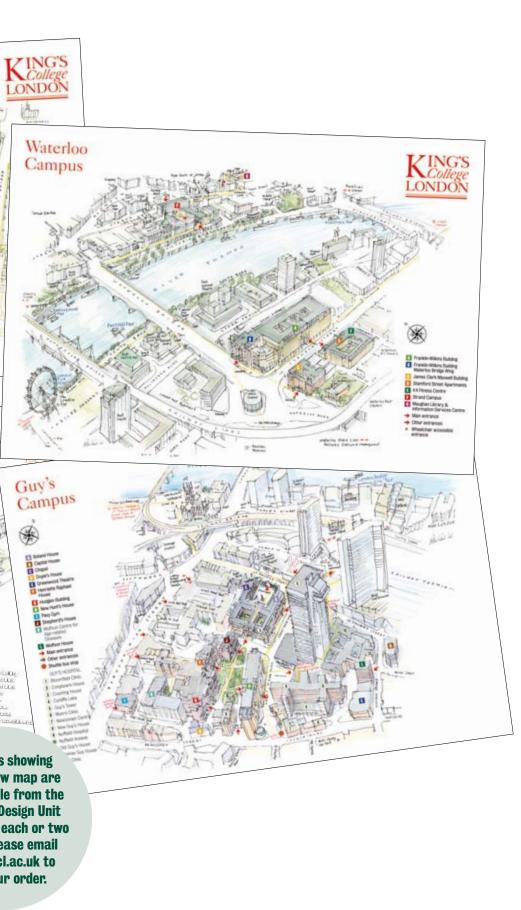
The Corporate Design Unit owes a debt of gratitude to the many staff from all over the College who have contributed their time, knowledge and expertise to this project, which has taken around nine months from the initial concept through research, illustration and preproduction stages to final artwork. It has also been a great pleasure and a privilege to work with Peter Kent, whose charm and enthusiasm for this enormous task were constant throughout.

Maps do not stand still but need to be constantly reviewed and updated. Please contact Corporate Design (design@kcl.ac.uk) with any comments or amendments.'

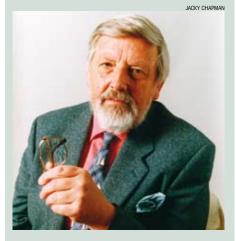


Tea towels the overvie now availab Corporate I priced at £7 for £10. Pla design@ka place you

on the map



A voyage of discovery



Illustrator Peter Kent explains his role in this complex project...

'I began by visiting each of the buildings within the King's portfolio one by one, finding my way around, sketching and collecting photographs.

I thought it was important to travel by public transport to understand the challenges faced by every visitor who might be arriving at a King's building for the first time. Usually there was a recognisable landmark near to the point of entry which could be illustrated in the foreground. Maps and plans displayed at King's reception areas were also essential for further reference.

For years I have been drawing London as viewed from the air and my library helped me compose the aerial viewpoints to suit – where possible prominent Thameside landmarks were included so that there was a linking relationship between Guy's, the Strand, Chancery Lane, Waterloo and St Thomas'.

From this I was able to make some preliminary sketches at my Greenwich studio. The hard work then started identifying buildings and departments and showing entrances and passageways all based on further exploration site by site – a time-consuming enterprise.

Once the drawings were completed further consultations were made with the Corporate Design Unit to fine-tune the concept prior to the completion of the finished watercolours. I hope that the maps will be of great use as a record and source of information to one and all.'

Around the College

Anatomy exhibition



Kiran Hayat, one of the winners of the Artistic Impressions of Anatomy exhibition, and her picture 'The Smoker'.

THE DEPARTMENT OF ANATOMY &

Human Sciences, in conjunction with the Gordon Museum, held an art exhibition from 26 October to 2 November. More than 30 students and staff from the School of Biomedical & Health Sciences exhibited works in a variety of mediums from bronzes through painting and drawing to tapestry based on an anatomical theme.

Sculptress Wendy Ellis, wife of Professor Harold Ellis who works part-time in the Department, awarded prizes to Emily Elizabeth Bowen, Ayehsa Siddiqui and Kiran Hayat. Elfadil Elmahdi was also highly commended.

One of the entries, a tapestry of a heart by medical student Amber Halliday, has been chosen to illustrate the cover of the Intercalated BSc prospectus.

For more images visit: www.kcl.ac.uk/schools/biohealth/ depts/anatomy/noticeboard.html

New KCLE collaboration

KCL Enterprises and the London Development Agency have collaborated in developing a new knowledge transfer funding stream to support small to medium enterprise (SME) companies engaging with universities in London.

The funding stream was developed following research examining the mechanisms of knowledge transfer that utilise exchange of people. The work was conducted as part of a dual secondment in which Kate Hough (KCL Enterprises) and Emma Shellev (LDA) were seconded into each other's organisations for a day each per week over the summer. Kate and Emma conducted their research across a selection of London universities, SME businesses, and the Department of Trade and Industry. Their findings formed the basis of the 'Secondment into Knowledge' initiative which was launched on 8 November.

The new funding stream is designed to support short-term

secondment of SME personnel into universities to develop closer working relationships with academics and to learn more about the knowledge and expertise they can offer.

The fund offers financial incentives up to £15,000 to facilitate the release of the business secondee and to support the academic commitments. The secondments are for 12 days and allow the business secondee to spend time in the university, working alongside an individual, groups of researchers or crossdisciplinary groups.

For more information or to make an application to the 'Secondment into Knowledge' fund, contact Dr Kate Hough, Business Development Manager, KCL Enterprises, ext 6089 or email kate.hough@kcl.ac.uk.

KCL Enterprises is the wholly owned subsidiary company of King's, responsible for business development and research support.

Financial Mathematics Group plays key role

THE LONDON GRADUATE SCHOOL

(LGS) in Mathematical Finance is a new joint initiative by a consortium including King's, Imperial College London, Birkbeck College and the London School of Economics.

It will provide world-class instruction to PhD students in financial mathematics based in London. The programme was launched in October this year and offers joint lecture courses and seminar days for doctoral students. The LGS programme coordinator for King's is Professor Lane Hughston, who holds the Chair in Financial Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics.

The programme for the autumn semester includes a course on Computational Finance, given by Professor William Shaw, also from the Department of Mathematics, who joined King's from Oxford in January this year to head up the Financial Mathematics Group's financial computing efforts.

This new course builds on the College's ongoing investment in computing resources and provides instruction in financial algorithmics in C++ and Mathematica in a computerequipped classroom. The course involves formal lectures, programming sessions, and team-based project work in computational finance.

In response to these exciting developments Professor Hughston remarks: 'The new London Graduate School in Mathematical Finance represents a big step forward for the subject here. London has over the last few years become the world's capital for research in financial



mathematics, where the field has a very strong presence now spread over a number of institutions, both academic and commercial, including the constituent members of the LGS consortium. The activities of the consortium will help to make London the best place worldwide to pursue a PhD in this area. We are very pleased that the King's group is playing a key role.'

The Financial Mathematics Group also runs a popular MSc and a well-attended research seminar. The Department is currently making plans to expand its activities in this area at undergraduate level as well.

For more information visit: www.mth.kcl.ac.uk/~shaww/web_ page/lgs/

Players, Forced Entertainment

and the new work by Caryl

Group act as an essential

touchstone for all that is

challenging in the theatre

field, and that is the mix of the traditional and what challenges

those dramatic conventions that

'Having opened the course with a lecture from Professor

Arden *Hamlet* [see *Comment 167*]

there was no better production

to witness that strange piece of

work called man,' commented

Professor Read.

Ann Thompson on her new

the new MA is seeking to explore.

Churchill at the Royal Court.

'In this company the Wooster

Hard core Hamlet for MA students

WHEN CELEBRATED ACTOR SCOTT

Shepherd met up with King's RADA Text & Performance Studies students in a Paris restaurant, following his gruelling performance as Hamlet, his comment was: 'You are seriously hard core!'

He was commenting on the enthusiasm of 38 graduate students taking the time and investing the resources to visit the Pompidou Centre to see the Wooster Group's radical retake on a Shakespearian classic.

Radical retake on a Shakespearian classic

The three-hour production was played out in front of archival footage of Richard Burton's renowned 1964 Broadway *Hamlet* which was originally filmed for simultaneous broadcast across 2,000 cinemas in the US in a groundbreaking experiment to popularise theatre.

Typical of the Wooster Group's radical work over the last 30 years at the cutting edge of

WOOSTER GROUP



the New York avant-garde the production did not so much represent Hamlet's disintegration as induce the audience into his disorientation and breakdown.

'It was hard core in its own way, and met with the distinction of a Parisian ovation,' said Alan Read, Professor of Theatre and Director of the MA Text & Performance Studies.

Why leave for Paris so soon having brought students together on an MA course in the theatre capital of the world? In the newly revised MA with RADA,

Japanese paper workshop



Staff and students recently took part in a Japanese paper workshop organised by the Modern Language Centre as part of their programme of events exploring languages and culture. Paper doll master Emiko Tanno introduced the skilled technique of making dolls from traditional washi paper, a long-treasured Japanese art. The participants watched a demonstration by Ms Tanno and then had the opportunity to make their own ornament as part of a decorative greeting card using carefully selected Japanese paper. contemporary performance and particularly radical practice is being used as a point of reference for the student's own text-based work and the Parisian Festival D'Autumne provides a unique concentration of international artists working together.

A unique concentration of international artists

Autumn highlights for the MA in London meanwhile include visits to productions by experimental luminaries Richard Maxwell and his New York City

Prospect debate at King's



From left: Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman, David Goodhart, Michael Lind and Michael Gove.

ON 21 NOVEMBER A DEBATE,

The World After Bush, led by Michael Lind, of the New America Foundation and author of *Made in Texas*, with Michael Gove MP and leading neoconservative, took place at the King's Lecture Theatre, Strand Campus.

The debate was in association with *Prospect* magazine. It was introduced by David Goodhart, Editor of *Prospect*, and chaired by Sir Lawrence Freedman, Vice-Principal (Research) and Professor of War Studies.

Michael Lind talked about US domestic, economic and foreign

policy, as well as the wars from the end of Vietnam to Iraq in 2003. He also spoke about the recent mid-term elections. Michael Gove discussed the midterms and was an apologist for neo-conservative policy, although he accepted that mistakes had been made. The debate was followed by animated questions from the floor.

This was the first in a series of lectures planned at King's in association with *Prospect*. *Prospect* has acquired a reputation as one of the leading magazines of current affairs and cultural debate in Britain.

Around the College

MindSearch

THE INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY IS

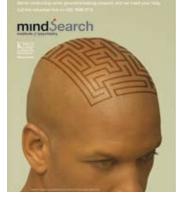
launching a new communications campaign this month across south London designed to attract research volunteers for its new database, MindSearch.

The aim is to attract harder-toreach volunteer groups such as adults aged 65 and over and Afro-Caribbean males. MindSearch is an initiative designed to speed up research into mental illness and brain diseases.

The campaign will involve a leaflet drop to 20,000 doors throughout south London, a bus stop poster outside the Maudsley Hospital, and 5,000 beer mats placed across pubs in the area.

Dr Paul Wicks, the driving force behind MindSearch, comments: 'Academics know only too well the hassle needed to recruit each volunteer for research, about two hours every time. We are hopeful

EXPLORERS WANTED



that this campaign will achieve two main objectives: recruiting a more representative sample of volunteers for research, and freeing up time for busy scientists to write grants, train students, and publish their findings.'

Remembrance ceremony



On 10 November a College-wide ceremony of remembrance took place at Guy's Memorial Arch in the Memorial Gardens, lead by the Guy's Chaplain Revd James Buxton. Prayers were said, wreaths laid and there was a two-minute silence. This was a chance for people of all faiths and traditions to stand together for peace, justice and reconciliation in the world, and to honour the memory of men, women and children who have died as a result of war. [To find out more about the Memorial Arch see page 7.]

News in brief

Russell Group – new member

The Russell Group has opened its doors to a new member for the first time since its inception at London's Russell Hotel in 1994. The 20th member of this association of major researchintensive UK universities, of which King's is a member, will be Queen's University Belfast. The group also signalled its intention to boost its influence in Whitehall by confirming the appointment of King's alumna Wendy Piatt, deputy director in the Prime Minister's strategy unit, as its Director General.

New Science Minister

Last month Lord Sainsbury resigned as Science Minister after eight years. He handed over the reigns to Malcolm Wicks who was Energy Minister at the Department of Trade and Industry. Lord Sainsbury remains in charge of the science review for the Treasury which will look at what needs to be done to ensure the UK's continued success in scientific policy making.

USS on top

A Guardian league table of pension schemes looking at the environmental and social impact of their investments ranks the Universities Superannuation Scheme top. Campaigning organisation FairPensions assessed how much information the 20 schemes analysed disclosed about where their members' money is invested and how it is managed, and then rated this against industry standards of best practice. The USS is open to all academic and related staff.

Stem cell licence application

Dr Stephen Minger, Director of the King's Stem Cell Biology Laboratory, and his colleagues, Professor Chris Shaw of the Institute of Psychiatry and Professor Clive Ballard of the Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases, have submitted a licence application to the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority to allow them to fuse human cells with animal eggs.

Commercial research tools

KCL ENTERPRISES HAS SUCCESSFULLY

commercialised research tools such as antibodies, cell lines, proteins, animal models and molecular biology reagents via established manufacturers and distributors.

A research tool that might be ideal for commercialisation would be validated through a publication (or have strong supporting experimental data) and be in demand from other researchers.

KCLE has licensed to companies a number of antibodies

Christmas cards available

This year there are two College Christmas cards: one depicts a traditional festive scene, *A Christmas Carol* by Dante Gabriel Rossetti and the other *Exhibition room stained glass*, by the runner-up in the College's 2005 photographic competition Roni Pacht, shows a crowned lion from the east window in the Weston Room, Maughan Library. Cards come in boxes of 25 from the Corporate Design Unit (design@kcl.ac.uk).

generated by Dr Phil Shepherd. 'I have found commercialising my antibodies to be beneficial. They are available to the wider research community and I am now free from reagent requests. I also receive revenue based on the sales of my antibodies which I can put back into my research or have added to my salary,' commented Dr Shepherd.

If you think that you have a research tool of commercial interest please contact Dr Sharron Bennett, KCL Enterprises, on ext 8126.

EU climate policy

Dr David Demeritt, Reader in Geography, discussed the EU's climate change policies and whether they might work in North America with Canada's Global National News. **Dr Demeritt appeared live on CNN** discussing the Stern Review and the economics of climate change. He then took part in a discussion on Radio 4's Questions, Questions on the effects of the 1815 Tambora eruption on the weather and the social implications of the subsequent 'vear without a summer'.

Wilde aphorisms

John Stokes, Professor of Modern British Literature, and **Dr Mark** Turner, Head of the English Department, commented on Oscar Wilde's aphorisms in an article in The Times.

Anti-terror laws

Dr John Gearson, Reader in Terrorism Studies, discussed the likelihood of the Government passing more anti-terror legislation on BBC Radio Wales Good Morning Wales.

Tutu archive

The Dean, the Revd Dr Richard Burridge, appeared on ITV's West Country Live, the regional news programme for the Plymouth area, explaining the College's plans to digitalise Archbishop Tutu's archives following the opening of the Desmond Tutu Centre at the College of St Mark & St John (Marjon). He was also interviewed on local radio.

Nuclear deterrence

Michael Clarke, Professor of Defence Studies, and Sir Malcolm Rifkind debated the reasons for nuclear deterrence on Radio 4's Today programme, Professor Clarke alleged the argument given by Sir Malcolm was tired and that as Britain's relationship with the rest of the world has adapted and changed since the Trident nuclear weapon system was originally put in place, the Government needs to adapt and change their rationale for the replacement.

Context of ageing

Anthea Tinker, Professor of Social Gerontology, discussed a lecture by Professor Tom Kirkwood on ageing on Radio 4's Thinking Allowed. Professor Tinker also wrote a piece on this topic for The Times Higher.

Iraq war

There was a belief that by presiding over the transformation of Iraq from tyranny to democracy the US would be in a position to extend its influence across the region and require other states to fall into line. The inept conduct of the Iraq war. from pre-war diplomacy to postwar reconstruction, has had the opposite effect writes Sir Lawrence Freedman. Professor of War Studies and Vice-Principal (Research), in The Financial Times.

Corporate governance

Dr Gregory Jackson, Senior Lecturer in Strategy and Comparative Management in the Department of Management. discussed the resignation of Kai-Uwe Ricke, Head of Deutsche Telekom, on BBC World Service Radio's Europe Today.

Iraq and Syria

James Denselow, PhD Geography student. discussed the restoration of diplomatic relations between Irag and Syria after a break of more than 20 years on Radio 4's The World at One. It is believed Iraq officials hope the move will help to stem a flow of militants across the border with Syria.

Insurgency tactics

Dr Sergio Catignani commented on Palestinian insurgency tactics and questioned whether the use of human shields would deter future Israeli strikes in an interview with Al Jazeera English's Inside Story. Dr Catignani, Department of War Studies, discussed Israeli counterinsurgency strategy and the use of air power. He also spoke with The Media Line radio on Hamas-Hezbollah collaboration, weapons smuggling into the Gaza Strip and prospects of further conflicts.

Age & responsibility Schizophrenia link

Chris Eades, Centre for Crime & Justice Studies. discussed the age of criminal responsibility on **BBC TV South East's lunch and** evening news.

Right-to-die plea

Penney Lewis, Reader in Law at the Centre for Medical Law & Ethics, was interviewed on Radio 4's PM programme about the legal framework governing decisions on whether to withdraw artificial nutrition and hydration from patients in permanent vegetative states. She also talked about how the implementation of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 next year will change the legal landscape, by allowing individuals to appoint a proxy decision-maker to make decisions when the patient becomes incompetent.

ASBOs

Richard Garside. Acting Director of the Centre for Crime & Justice Studies, was interviewed about **Anti-Social Behaviour Orders on** BBC2's Newsnight programme.

Robot vehicles

Robot vehicles are increasingly taking a role on the battlefield but their deployment raises moral and philosophical as well as technical questions. An article in The *Guardian* on this subject includes comment from Peter Zimmerman, Professor of Science & Security.

Fireworks debate

The King's run London Air Quality Net revealed pockets of alarmingly high air pollution over Guy Fawkes weekend in some London suburbs reports The Times.

Buster Crabb affair

Dr Michael Goodman, Department of War Studies, was interviewed on Sky News about new documents relating to the Buster Crabb affair. Buster Crabb was the frogman sent to dive under a Soviet cruiser but whose headless body was found a year later.

An article in The Guardian reported on the main findings from two Institute of Psychiatry papers that linked parental separation to an increased likelihood of psychoses. The article includes comment from **Dr Craig Morgan. MRC Research** Fellow and Lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry, an author of one of the papers. The research was published in the journal **Psychological Medicine.**

Mad experience

One in 10 people has had a mad or psychotic experience at some time in their life. Robin Murray, Professor of Psychiatry, and Dr Emmanuelle Peters, Senior Lecturer in Clinical Psychology, took part in a Radio 4 Am I Normal? discussion on the prevalence of psychoses and unusual beliefs and religions in today's society.

Batten's Disease

Dr Jonathan Cooper, Senior Lecturer in Experimental Neuropathology, was interviewed on Batten's **Disease in a BBC News Look North** report following the death of a child in Worksop. Dr Cooper emphasised how much more work still need to be done to understand how Batten's affects the brain and what can be done to cure this disease.

Eden pain killers

An article in *The Independent* on rumours that Sir Anthony Eden was addicted to pain killing drugs that clouded his judgement and led him to despatch troops to Suez, includes expert comment on drinamyl. Malcolm Lader, Professor of Clinical Pharmacology, commented that people taking the drug become 'disinhibited' and start acting out of character.

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

Architects frustrated



NEW RESEARCH FROM THE

Department of Geography reveals that two thirds of architects believe planning regulations and building control are hindering the design process and quality. They are becoming increasingly frustrated by the red tape strangling their profession.

The project 'The codification and regulation of architects' practices', suggests that much more needs to be done to sensitise regulations to the design process, and also to educate architects how best to work within the constraints of the regulatory environment.

Professor Rob Imrie and Emma Street, a Research Associate, surveyed 240 architects working at separate practices and asked them about a wide range of regulations including design codes, British Standards, planning and building control.

'The findings were startling,' says Professor Imrie, the lead author of the study and advisor to the Deputy Prime Minister on building regulations. The researchers found that 72 per cent agreed that architecture is subject to too much regulation and that 68 per cent believe planning regulation and control is hindering the design process. Also 93 per cent of respondents believe regulation is becoming more complex and that 85 per cent argue it is becoming more difficult to deal with.

'Architects have a real concern about the increasing amount of regulation and the red tape issue. They also have doubts about the way regulations are interpreted and applied,' adds Professor Imrie.

Antipsychotic drugs

Robin Murray, Professor of Psychiatry, and colleagues participating in the multicentre study CUtLASS – the Cost Utility of the Latest Antipsychotics in Severe Schizophrenia study – have published new results comparing quality of life of second (SGA) versus first-generation antispsychotic (FGA) drugs in schizophrenia in November's *Archives of General Psychiatry* in the US.

These results showed that in people with schizophrenia whose medication is changed for clinical reasons, there is no disadvantage across one year in terms of quality of life, symptoms, or associated costs of care in using FGAs rather than nonclozapine SGAs. Neither inadequate power nor patterns of drug discontinuation accounted for the result.

The CUtLASS multi-centre study group includes researchers and health professionals from the Maudsley, Cambridge University and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mental Health NHS Trust, Imperial College and the University of Manchester.

UK Armed Forces study

THE KING'S CENTRE FOR MILITARY

Health Research (KCMHR) has received further funding from the UK Ministry of Defence to continue its research into the health and well-being of military personnel, many of whom have served in Iraq.

The research, which began in 2003 as a prospective investigation of the physical and psychological health of more than 12,000 UK service personnel serving in Iraq, will be monitoring service personnel more widely, including those deployed to Afghanistan.

It is the largest study of the health of the UK Armed Forces ever undertaken and will also provide, for the first time, a longer term perspective on the physical, social and psychological aspects of military service in the 21st century.

The study will continue to monitor both physical and psychological health, as well as now studying whether or not those in need have been able to access appropriate health care. It will also



continue to monitor any possible long-term side effects of vaccines given against biological warfare in those who have served in Iraq.

The study will also look at both the costs and benefits of military life, and what happens to people even after they leave the Armed Forces. As before, the research will focus on all three Services and will include both regular and reserve personnel.

KCMHR is headed by Professor Simon Wessely and Christopher Dandeker, Professor of Military Sociology and Head of the School of Social Science & Public Policy.

Immune cell development

RESEARCH LED BY SCIENTISTS FROM

the School of Medicine, and published online in the journal *Nature*, sheds new light on the development of the immune cells which are critical in fighting infection and some tumours.

T cells are produced by the body to fight infection. There are two main types of T cell which develop in the thymus, an organ located in the chest cavity. One type (the effector cell) attacks infected cells; the other (the regulatory cell) protects the body from inflammatory damage during an infection and also suppresses autoimmune diseases such as Type I diabetes and arthritis.

The team from the School of Medicine, led by Professor Adrian Hayday, and including Dr Daniel Pennington and Dr Bruno Silva-Santos, has discovered a novel mechanism which determines whether a maturing T cell emerges from the thymus as an effector cell or a regulatory cell.

Professor Hayday comments:

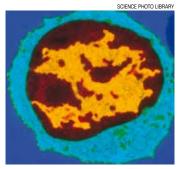


Image of a T-lymphocyte white blood cell.

'This research could be clinically significant as we may find a way to influence the process. It may be possible to make the body produce effector T cells in a cancer patient or regulatory T cells in someone suffering from autoimmune disease.'

In addition, this research may provide clues to the mystery of why autoimmune diseases in women often go into remission during pregnancy. The researchers suggest that trans-conditioning is less active during pregnancy, and therefore most T cells emerging at that time will be regulatory.

£190K competition

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL HAS LAUNCHED

a new initiative to improve the range and depth of training and learning opportunities offered to graduates and contract researchers. The College's investment in a new competition for graduate training is unparalleled in British universities.

Announcing the £330,000 investment, Professor Vaughan Robinson, Director of the Graduate School, said: 'King's already offers excellent training opportunities, but we are determined to do even more. We are appointing new staff to co-ordinate training provision, increasing our capacity to provide new courses and developing existing programmes. We will also focus on the unique needs of contract researchers, part-time graduate students and overseas students.'

Even more exciting is a new Open Competition that will allow Schools, Research Groups, supervisors, and individual contract researchers and graduates to bid for funding to develop new training activities that will meet specific needs.

'We hope this competition, with its allocation of £190,000 of the total investment, will bring forward a range of exciting new initiatives that will complement the generic training already provided by the Graduate School,' said Professor Robinson.

'We want people to be as imaginative as possible. For example, groups of students might apply to set up a discussion forum or a group of supervisors might want seedcorn funding to establish interdisciplinary training for their graduates.'

For more details visit: www.kcl.ac.uk/about/structure/ gradschool/



Oxjam trips the light fantastic



On 30 October the KCLSU nightclub Tutu's hosted the Oxjam finale. The sold-out show concluded a month of live music events around the country in support of the charity Oxfam.

Staff, students and members of the public were treated to live acts from bands including, The Fabulous Penetrators and Suki, as well as other performers such as fire-breathers, jugglers and magicians in order to celebrate the \$500,000 raised throughout the October music festival.

Other national campaigning

events hosted at the College have included the NUS National Demonstration, 'Stop Climate Chaos' after-party and the Terrance Higgins Trust Stop Aids mega raid.

KCLSU President Daryn McCombe commented: 'Students understand the role charity organisations such as Oxfam have in shaping the developing world. KCLSU is delighted to provide venues to help ensure student participation in a safe and friendly environment.'

New scholarships

FULL TUITION FEE AND MAINTENANCE

scholarships will be available from September 2007 for students from Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria taking one-year Masters programmes at King's. The Karim Rida Said Scholarships have been jointly established by King's and the Karim Rida Said Foundation (KRSF).

The KRSF is dedicated 'to bringing positive and lasting change to the lives of children and young people in the Middle East'.

When selecting scholars, the trustees will take into account subjects particularly pertinent to the Middle East, the excellence and promise of the candidates and their financial need. The KRSF will pay 75 per cent of the scholars' tuition fees and a maintenance allowance whilst King's will cover 25 per cent of tuition fees.

There are 68 students from the above countries currently enrolled at King's. This new initiative will enable motivated Middle Eastern students, who otherwise would not have had access to such opportunities, to share best practice and excel in their chosen field.

Scholarships may be awarded in any field to candidates under the age of 40.

Scholars must undertake to return home after their programme or return to work in another of the Foundation's target countries to impart and implement what they have learned. They will benefit from a new perspective on their subject field, a broad skills base and a network of contacts to build on in the future.

The scholarships will be advertised on King's website and by the KRSF.

New MSc

FOR THE FIRST TIME STUDENTS ON

the well-established graduate programme in Dietetics were offered the opportunity to complete a research project to gain a Masters degree (rather than a PG Diploma), as well as meeting the requirements for registration with the Health Professions Council.

The seven students who chose this option undertook a variety of projects, several in collaboration with NHS colleagues. Two have now been awarded prizes for presentations of their research.

Marc Abraham won second prize in the Oxford Nutrition Group – Student Presentation section for an oral communication relating to his MSc. His research investigated 'calcium intakes in patients with inflammatory bowel disease and coeliac disease'.

Louisa Fearnley won Best Oral Communication at the British Dietetic Association New Researcher Symposium for her research, 'an examination of the nutritional adequacy of foods served to hospital patients'.

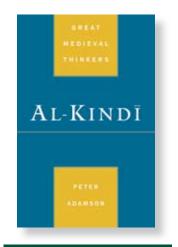
In addition, results from MSc Dietetics research projects by Michelle Bremang, Sophia Kallis, Artika Datta and Marc Abraham were presented at this year's British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition conference in November.

'This success is an encouraging reflection on the new MSc and the exciting opportunities for collaborative research with NHS colleagues in expanding the role of King's in generating the evidence base for dietetic practice,' commented Jane Thomas, Senior Lecturer in Nutrition & Dietetics. For information visit:

www.kcl.ac.uk/pgp06/programme/61



Books



Al-Kindi

Peter Adamson, Department of Philosophy

Al-Kindi was the first philosopher of the Islamic world. He lived in Iraq and studied in Baghdad, where he became attached to the caliphal court.

Al-Kindi's wide-ranging intellectual interests included not only philosophy but also music, astronomy, mathematics and medicine. Through deep engagement with Greek tradition al-Kindi developed original theories on key issues. He is especially known for his arguments against the world's eternity, and his innovative use of Greek ideas to explore the idea of God's unity and transcendence.

Until now no book has presented a complete, in-depth look at his thought. In this accessible introduction to al-Kindi's works, Peter Adamson surveys what is known of his life and examines his method and his attitude towards the Greek tradition, as well as his subtle relationship with the Muslim intellectual culture of his day.

Above all the book focuses on explaining and evaluating the ideas found in al-Kindi's wide-ranging philosophical corpus, including works devoted to science and mathematics. **Oxford University Press**



All the Gods: Benjamin Britten's Night-piece in Context

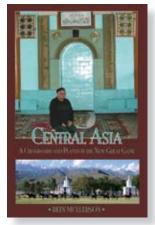
Christopher Wintle, Senior Lecturer in Music

Peter Pears once said of Benjamin Britten that 'musically, he is not a Unitarian, he is a Greek who worships all the Gods'.

For us too there is a need to respond to Britten's music with a comprehensive knowledge of Western musical tradition. Starting with an occasional piece written for the Leeds International Piano Festival of 1963, and drawing on sketches in the Britten-Pears Library, *All the Gods* peels away level after level of musicolinguistic meaning as it sets Britten's expression against the background of the last 200 years.

His expanded tonality is formalised into a comprehensive array of modes; the voice-leading principles of traditional tonal music are adapted to suit his bifocal tonal practice; kinetic, harmonic and formal ideas are examined in theory and practice; and a new approach to hermeneutics proposed.

The book also includes a range of illustrated allusions to other music, the printed score, and appendices that take the issues of intensification further. In so doing, it provides a new model for the study of Britten's work. **Plumbago**



Central Asia: A Chessboard and Player in the New Great Game

Rein Müllerson, Professor of International Law

Central Asia is a dynamic region with huge oil and gas resources. Instead of being a godforsaken part of the former USSR or a playground for the British-Russian Great Game of the 19th century, today there are five independent states with their own interests and problems. Being situated between Russia and China and close to Afghanistan the region has also acquired huge geostrategic importance.

Professor Müllerson's analysis of Central Asian problems has been carried out in the wider context of world politics. Issues such as difficulties of democratization of Central Asian societies; the role of religion; American-Russian, American-Chinese and Chinese-Russian rivalries and co-operation in the region are shown in the context of these states' foreign policies.

The book also looks back into the history of Central Asian peoples. History is seen and felt everywhere in the region; historic legacies affect the resolution of contemporary issues and often these legacies are for the justification of current political choices.

Kegan Paul

Three favourite...

unusual pubs for a Christmas drink near the Strand Campus

As recommended by Bill Luckhurst, Physics research technician, Strand Campus.

Seven Stars (Carey Street, behind the Law Courts)

A really tiny pub with lots of character, interestingly decorated with legal memorabilia. Good food and Adnams beer. Much caution is required for the tiny staircase leading to the toilets.

The Ship and Shovel (Craven passage under Charing Cross Station)

Slightly off the beaten track, a very unusual Badger Brewery pub which occupies both sides of this passage. The two halves are connected under the passage by the pub's huge cellar. This pub is well looked after and it is a pleasure to drink here.

Cittie of York (22 High Holborn)

A pub listed on the National Inventory of historically important pubs. One look inside this Samuel Smiths gem will convince you of its importance. The interior is like a baronial hall with vaulted ceilings, screenwork and private drinking areas. Look out for the triangular coal stove used for winter heating.

Please let us know your three favourite things related to a King's Campus for example three favourite... museums near St Thomas', walks near Guy's or sandwich shops by Waterloo and they could appear in a future issue of *Comment* and provide colleagues around the College with useful tips. Email julie.munk@kcl.ac.uk

Comment is the College's regular newsletter, edited by the Public Relations Department and designed by the Corporate Design Unit | *Comment* is printed on paper produced with 80 per cent recovered fibre | Articles are welcomed from all members of the College, but please note that the Editor reserves the right to amend articles | Copy for the next issue can be sent to Julie Munk, Public Relations Department (ext 3075), James Clerk Maxwell Building, Waterloo Campus, or emailed to julie.munk@kcl.ac.uk by **17 January**.