

Comment

The College newsletter

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Best for PhD rates

Henry III celebrated 800 years on

GREG FUNNELL



Two days of events at Westminster Abbey and King's were held to mark the historic 800th anniversary of the birth of **King Henry III** (1207-72). These included an Act of Commemoration around his tomb in the Abbey on 1 October, the exact anniversary of his birth. For more information see page 3.

FIGURES RELEASED ON 2 OCTOBER

by the funding council show that King's is the most successful university in the country in terms of PhD completion rates. This is the first time the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) has published this data for individual higher education institutions.

This rate is far higher than other universities

HEFCE has published two new reports on postgraduate research students. The first, 'Research degree qualification rates (1999-2000 – 2005-6)' (HEFCE 2007/29), gives qualification rates for publicly funded research degree students in England by institution.

King's achieved a completion rate of 92 per cent: of the 190 students who started, 174 completed (1999 to 2005). King's benchmark was 79 per cent. This rate is far higher than other universities, for example comparable figures are: University College London 83 per cent; Cambridge 80 per cent and Oxford 78 per cent.

Vice-Principal (Students) Professor Phil Whitfield explains why King's students were so successful: 'These excellent results are ultimately the consequence of the outstanding academic quality of our postgraduate research

students and the dedication and professionalism of our PhD supervisors.

'The significant and sustained improvements in qualification rates are linked to several years of commitment within the College to raising the standards of our support systems for postgraduate students.

'This process began within the previous Postgraduate Students Committee chaired by Professor Chris Hammett and has been continued with renewed vigour over the last year by our new Graduate School. Pivotal in this process of improvement has been the role of School-based Heads of Graduate Studies who have overseen the implementation of corporate policies on a local, discipline-specific basis.'

Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman, Vice-Principal (Research), continues: 'We tightened up our procedures considerably in the late 1990s because we were concerned about submission rates. We put a real effort into making sure that supervisors understood their responsibilities to students and that progress was monitored carefully at all times.

'As the College has put an extra emphasis on building up our research student numbers, the Graduate School is looking at ways we can improve the support we give to them.'

The report, which covers
continued on page 2

Principal's Column

JULIAN ANDERSON



Dear Colleagues

A wide range of staff celebrated the achievements of individuals at the first annual King's Awards ceremony at the beginning of the academic year (see page 11), but there has also been a great deal to be proud of in our institutional achievements this term.

As the lead story reports, King's was ranked first in the country for research degree completion rates for home and EU students, and I congratulate all involved in improving our performance in this area during the last few years with such an excellent result.

In league table performance we continue to do well, in particular rising from 17th to 10th position in *The Times Good University Guide*. We also

rose from 13th to 12th in *The Sunday Times University Guide* which included a very positive write up of King's. There is still a feeling both within and outside the College that we are punching below our weight in some of these tables, however, and we will continue to monitor methodologies carefully to ensure that the College is presented fairly.

The National Student Survey, which is used in several league tables, is increasingly important nationally. There were no significant changes in satisfaction rates across the College, but response rates were disappointingly low. Our students were particularly pleased with the intellectual stimulation they received from their studies and with their access to IT and libraries but gave low scores in some departments for assessment and feedback. The areas that scored particularly highly overall were Classics, French, Other European Languages, History, Law, Medicine, Linguistics and Politics. Yet there should be no place for complacency: we have dropped from joint first to eighth position in the Russell Group this

year. Although this reflects only a very slight fall in our ratings, we will be vigorously reviewing areas of apparent weakness so we can provide our students with the best possible university experience.

Grants and contracts

In research terms, the value of our grants and contracts has risen 27 per cent since last year, with particular success in the Schools of Social Science & Public Policy, Law, Biomedical & Health Sciences and Medicine. Our increasingly excellent showing in many areas of research relating to health, and the greater national and international emphasis on 'translational' research, are among the reasons why we are investigating the possibility of developing an 'academic medical centre' in conjunction with our main partner NHS Trusts. This would encompass the clinical, teaching and health research activities of both the College and associated teaching hospitals in order to allow further integration and the translation of first-class research into practical applications to transform patient care. I expect to give you a greater idea of this

vision if and when plans develop.

North of the river, as I write we are engaged in final competitive discussions with Somerset House to buy a substantial part of their estate for the College. Our plans involve not only new accommodation for a number of departments, but the development of a 'Crucible for the Arts' and other facilities which would offer exciting possibilities for cutting-edge academic research and public engagement across the College. We have been discussing moving into Somerset House for 170 years or more; perhaps, by the time this edition of *Comment* drops on your desk, the issue will finally have been resolved!

Finally, a warm welcome to our new Chairman of Council, Lord Douro. Among many other activities in which he will be involved later this term, the Chairman will be presiding at the Commemoration Oration on 31 October and at the Honorary Degree ceremony on 29 November. I hope that many of you will attend these events and meet him at these occasions.

With best wishes

Rick Trainor

King's best for PhD completion rates

PHIL SAYER



continued from page 1

home and EU students, is part of a national approach assuring the quality of supervision of postgraduate research students

funded by HEFCE. The Quality Assurance Agency will use this information in its institutional reviews.

The second report 'PhD

research degrees – update: Entry and completion' (HEFCE 2007/28) is an update of the 2005 report 'PhD research degrees: Entry and completion' (HEFCE

2005/02), to include data from 2003-4, 2004-5 and 2005-6.

These reports received coverage in the *Guardian* and the *Times Higher*.

Henry III celebrated 800 years on

TWO DAYS OF EVENTS AT WESTMINSTER

Abbey and King's were held to mark the historic 800th anniversary of the birth of King Henry III (1207-72). These included an Act of Commemoration around Henry III's tomb in the Abbey on 1 October, the exact anniversary of his birth.

One of the longest reigns in English history

Henry III, who was nine when he came to the throne, reigned for 56 years. He was the builder of Westminster Abbey and his reign saw the establishment of Magna Carta and the emergence of Parliament.

David Carpenter, Professor of Medieval History and one

of the organisers of the events, comments: 'Henry III has never received credit at Westminster for building the Abbey and it is good that the Abbey, in collaboration with King's, has now decided to celebrate the 800th anniversary of his birth.'

Henry III was fascinated by Edward the Confessor, the founder of Westminster Abbey, who was canonised in 1161. Henry's aim was to build the most magnificent church in the world in the gothic style. Work began at great expense in 1245. The centrepiece of Henry's renovated Abbey was to be the shrine of St Edward the Confessor.

An Act of Commemoration around Henry III's tomb was followed by a concert in the Abbey which was a celebration in words and music of the 800th anniversary.



Processing to Henry III's tomb in Westminster Abbey.

A colloquium about Henry and his reign was also held at the Strand Campus. The talks, all by leading experts in the field, cast new light on one of the longest and most important reigns in English history. On 30 September, in Westminster Abbey, a Congregational Evening Service with medieval music was

performed by the College choir.

Earlier this year a unique project led by Professor Carpenter, to 'digitalise' the 'Fine Rolls' of Henry III was launched at King's.

Another link between King's, Henry III and the Abbey is provided by the history of the Maughan Library site. See the *Flashback* on page 15.

Paul Getty III funds Epilepsy Chair

PROFESSOR MARK RICHARDSON, the new Paul Getty III Professor of Epilepsy, thanked Paul Getty for his donation to fund a Chair and research at the Institute of Epileptology at a reception on 21 September.

Innovative work in epilepsy treatment and research

The donation will enable Professor Richardson and his colleagues to develop a programme of multidisciplinary research and continue to build on the College's world-leading reputation for innovative work in epilepsy treatment and research – a reputation developed over more than a century.

The Institute of Epileptology at King's, was established in 1994 with three aims in mind: to create a centre of excellence for epilepsy research in Europe; to develop teaching and training in epilepsy

for medical and allied health professionals; and to raise awareness of epilepsy, the world's most common serious brain disorder.

Simultaneously with this, King's College Hospital opened the Centre for Epilepsy, which is the largest clinical service of its kind in the UK, offering patients of all ages the widest range of investigations and treatment for epilepsy.

Paul Getty III, after whom this Chair is named, and members of his family attended the special reception at King's, hosted by the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, and Professor Peter McGuffin, Dean of the Institute of Psychiatry.

In thanking Mr Getty, Professor Richardson said: 'The first key area of our research is to better develop functional imaging studies which allow us to determine which parts of the brain are active when we perform various cognitive tasks and so pinpoint the dysfunctional areas of the brain where seizures may arise.'

'In a second area we are studying patients undergoing



Professor Mark Richardson, the new Paul Getty III Professor of Epilepsy, and **Paul Getty III**. The reception was held in the Council Room at the Strand Campus.

seizure recording them using intracranial electrodes – part of a clinical routine in our centre – to locate where seizures start.

'Thirdly, we are developing methods to 'forecast' when an epileptic seizure will occur. Currently, for most people with epilepsy, seizures appear to be random and unpredictable in occurrence. Several electrophysiological techniques can predict, to a certain extent, when seizures might occur. Using

a variety of techniques we can understand more about the reasons seizures start and their apparently random onset and how to prevent a seizure from starting.

'Our ultimate vision is to link-in methods to predict seizures with treatments delivered to the brain only at the time when there is a risk a seizure might start. This would be a completely new way of treating epilepsy so ensuring a better quality of life and more control for people with epilepsy.'

The Revd Dr Richard Burridge

In 1994 the Revd Dr Richard Burridge became Dean of King's. Here he explains how he came to be ordained, his role as Dean and what contribution King's religious heritage makes to the College today...

What's been your involvement in education?

I went to school first in a church school, then Bristol Cathedral School, and read Classics at Oxford (University College). I then spent five years doing a PGCE and teaching Classics at Sevenoaks School before being ordained as an Anglican priest. I've kept up with Classics, though, with my doctoral research on the Gospels and Graeco-Roman biography, and I also used to lecture in Classics when I was a Chaplain at Exeter University.

How did you come to be ordained?

While I was an undergraduate I was leading a Christian rock band and arts team, doing youth work. I had a definite sense of calling, but in many ways I ran away from it for eight years. Once I accepted this path, I greatly enjoyed the theological training, and after ordination I did my curacy in Bromley before moving to Exeter. I've been Dean of King's since 1994. It's a unique position, but the ability to combine teaching with the pastoral/spiritual/liturgical life is something which I greatly appreciate.

What is the role of the Dean of King's?

My role as Dean is, as per the College's Charter and Statutes, to 'ensure that the religious purposes of the College are effectively maintained and carried out'. This involves a concern for the ethos and tradition of King's, and how to interpret this for the new multi-site world-class institution which we are now. I therefore work with the College's senior team, looking out for religious life and our pastoral care across the College as a whole, as well as lecturing in the Department of Theology and working with the wider Church and society outside King's. The two key arms of this are the Chaplaincy and the AKC. (For more details see www.kcl.ac.uk/dean.)

Tell us about the work of the Chaplaincy.

The Chaplaincy team, which is ecumenical, is headed up by the Revd Tim Ditchfield, the College Chaplain, and works for and with the whole College. There are part-time Chaplains on both the Guy's and Waterloo sites, which we've worked hard to establish in recent years, and we are now in what I hope will be productive discussions about extending the Chaplaincy presence to the Denmark Hill Campus. The College Chapel at the Strand and the Chapel of Thomas Guy both host regular

services, including major events such as the very popular Advent Carol Services towards the end of the Michaelmas semester, and are open every day for people to pause and pray. The Chaplaincy team is also an important part of the College's pastoral provision to all staff and students, and are available to talk with everyone in confidence, regardless of their beliefs or background. (For more details see www.kcl.ac.uk/chaplaincy.)

What is the AKC?

The AKC, or Associate of King's College, is the original award of the College, first presented in 1833 (the first University of London degrees awarded to King's students were in 1839). One of the College's objectives, as detailed in the Royal Charter, is 'to provide instruction in the doctrines and duties of Christianity', and the AKC is the way in which we carry this out, with a series of open, academic lectures which give staff and students from all departments and campuses an opportunity to think about questions of theology, philosophy and ethics in our contemporary multi-cultural context. This year's modules are on *Social ethics* and *Popular and unpopular religion in Britain from 1500 to 2000*. (For more details see www.kcl.ac.uk/akc)

What contribution does King's religious heritage make to the College today?

As people may know, King's was founded as a direct alternative to the non-religious University College London, and I still see the two institutions as demonstrating two ways of dealing with religious pluralism in society. UCL follows the French and American model of not allowing religious debate or practice in the public arena, while at King's it is part of our shared life together. While we are an Anglican foundation, the Chaplaincy team includes all the main Christian denominations and we also work with the Rabbi to Jewish students.

My responsibilities include providing the Muslim prayer rooms on all campuses, and I try to meet with the various student religious societies as much as possible. All staff and students with questions about religious observances can contact my office for advice, and in the past we've offered help with issues regarding clothing, dietary requirements, and timetable clashes, amongst other things. After both 9/11 and 7/7, I feel that this approach to multi-cultural and multi-faith issues has



contributed to a much greater understanding of each other, and encouraged mutual respect and tolerance.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

Probably the variety and mixed nature of the work – the combination of the academic and the pastoral, the big events and the opportunity to work with individuals. The College motto, *Sancte et sapienter* ('with holiness and wisdom'), suggests that as an international world-class institution it's not enough just to push the frontiers of knowledge, we have to know how to apply these with holiness and wisdom, 'in the service of society', and I think the role of Dean is an important part of this.

Fact file

Book on my bedside table

1001 Albums You Must Hear Before You Die
I've got some of them on my iPod, but by no means all!

Favourite holiday destination

Our family home is in Devon and it's always good to relax there, but I also love getting the opportunity to spend time in Cape Town, and renew the King's connections in South Africa.

Proudest work moment

Rejoicing with my postgrads when they get their PhD or assisting with the ordination of former King's students. Also, of course, all the 175th anniversary events in 2004, such as the service in Westminster Abbey and the public Trialogue between Archbishop Rowan Williams, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and the Chief Rabbi Dr Jonathan Sacks.

Unveiling of new shop at the Strand

AN EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENT FOR

King's opened on 17 September. Based in a prime location on the Strand, the new College shop was formally opened for business by the then Chairman of Council, Baroness Rawlings. Traditional lines of College merchandise are available alongside a developing range of high-quality, exclusive branded items.

'King's reaching out to the wider public'

This is a joint project between the College and KCLSU (King's College London Students' Union) and has a wide target audience of students, staff, alumni, members of the public and College corporate giving.

The shop is situated at 171

Strand, a highly-visible corner of the Strand Campus on the approach from the City. The range of items on sale includes the usual branded goods including: ring binders, key rings, a selection of mugs, cuddly toys, pens, pencils, lap top bags, stationery, together with five types of t-shirts, books on the College history and CDs of the College Choir.

Additionally, a distinguished range of new goods inspired by imagery from the Foyle Special Collections Library will include greetings cards and postcards, Dartington Crystal glassware, silver jewellery, tankards, bottle stoppers, umbrellas, and framed prints of the College's new illustrated maps drawn by Peter Kent. A heritage range of merchandise, created using images and artefacts from the College Archives is also in development.



The Principal, **Professor Rick Trainor**, and the then Chairman of Council, **Baroness Rawlings**, officially open King's new shop on the Strand.

Baroness Rawlings says: 'I am delighted that the College has been able to develop this exciting initiative in a prime London location. Detailed research has been undertaken to develop an

attractive new range of items reflecting King's as a high quality institution. This is another example of King's reaching out not only to the whole College community but to the wider public.'

New maritime centre



From left: JSCSC Commandant (**Rear-Admiral Neil Morisetti**), First Sea Lord and Chief of the Naval Staff (**Admiral Sir Jonathon Band KCB ADC**) and **Professor Geoff Till** (Director of the Corbett Centre).

THE FIRST SEA LORD AND CHIEF OF THE

Naval Staff, Admiral Sir Jonathon Band, inaugurated a new centre promoting the understanding and analysis of maritime history and policy with a lecture on naval ethos. The Centre is based at the Defence Studies Department, Shrivenham.

The Corbett Centre for Maritime Policy Studies will provide a forum for the interaction of academics, policymakers and practitioners. Joint Services Command and Staff College Commandant (JSCSC) Rear-Admiral Neil Morisetti, opened proceedings at the event, held on 13 September, and

Professor Geoff Till, former Dean of Academic Studies at JSCSC and now Director of the Corbett Centre for Maritime Policy Studies, outlined the background to the Centre and its aims.

The Centre is named after Sir Julian S Corbett, (1854-1922) a civilian historian, educator and analyst who used history to help inform policy.

Its role will be to examine maritime strategy and policy, including theory, history and practice, military and civil, historical and contemporary, British and international aspects.

Charity expands research

THE UK'S LEADING BREAST CANCER

charity, Breakthrough Breast Cancer, is to develop its vital research work in London by opening a groundbreaking new breast cancer research unit at King's, under plans announced on 12 September. The unit will focus on investigating a poorly understood type of breast cancer called basal-like breast cancer, which is more likely to affect young women and those of African origin.

A future free from the fear of breast cancer

With breast cancer affecting more than 44,000 women and 300 men each year in the UK, the charity will dedicate around £4.2 million over five years to establish this unit, highlighting Breakthrough's commitment to create a future free from the fear of breast cancer. The Breakthrough Breast Cancer Research Unit at King's, due to open in 2008, is

one of three being set up across England and Scotland. It will be based in Guy's Hospital, part of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, adjacent to the King's College London Academic Breast Unit.

The scientists at the Breakthrough Research Unit will examine the molecular changes that lead to basal-like breast cancer, aiming to develop potential new treatments and prevention strategies for women with basal-like breast cancer.

Dr Andrew Tutt, oncologist at Guy's and St Thomas', Honorary Senior Lecturer in Research Oncology at King's and Director of the new Breakthrough Research Unit, says: 'It is an honour to lead a team in developing one of the charity's new research units. Basal-like breast cancers are typically more aggressive than other types of breast cancer, more likely to spread and can be difficult to treat. By establishing the Breakthrough Research Unit at King's we can expand our work in this important area over the next five years.'

Honorary Fellowship for Duchess of Cornwall

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS

of Cornwall was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of King's College London on 13 September in recognition of her outstanding contribution to society through her role as a patron of numerous charitable organisations, particularly as President of the National Osteoporosis Society (NOS), with whose work King's is closely associated.

The Honorary Fellowship is the highest College honour

At a ceremony in the College's Strand Chapel the Honorary Fellowship was conferred on Her Royal Highness by the then Chairman of Council, Baroness Rawlings. The Honorary Fellowship is the highest honour the College can bestow: it recognises distinction in fields outside academic life.

The ceremony was attended by staff, students, Fellows and guests of the College together with members and staff of the NOS, including Claire Severgnini, the Chief Executive of NOS and Society Trustees.

Baroness Rawlings commented: 'I am delighted to welcome our



The Duchess of Cornwall receives her Honorary Fellowship from Baroness Rawlings.

newest Honorary Fellow, Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall, inaugurating what I hope will be a long and happy association with the College. Under Her Royal Highness' patronage the National Osteoporosis Society has turned the spotlight on relieving the suffering of the 'silent disease'.

Osteoporosis is a loss of density in bones leading them to become more fragile and prone to break. Every three minutes someone in the UK breaks a bone as a result of this disease. This can cost the

NHS almost £5 million per day. HRH The Duchess of Cornwall was made President of the NOS in October 2001.

Important work in the field of osteoporosis is undertaken at King's. Ignac Fogelman, Professor of Nuclear Medicine, Senior Lecturer, Dr Glen Blake, and Lecturer, Dr Michelle Frost, of the Division of Imaging Sciences in the School of Medicine, have received generous support from the NOS for doctoral research. From 2002-5 King's student Amelia Moore undertook her

PhD working on a project which involved investigating the use of ^{99m}Tc-MDP plasma clearance methods for quantifying bone metabolism. She now works at the College as a Postdoctoral Research Associate.

In October Sylvia Edwards took up the NOS-funded Linda Edwards Memorial PhD Studentship at King's, to research the link between osteoporosis and heart disease.

Dr Frost has been the recipient, on five occasions, of the NOS *Young Investigator Award*.

New Chairman of Council

ON 1 OCTOBER THE MARQUESS

of Douro took up his post as Chairman of Council, following the completion of the customary three 3-year terms by Baroness Rawlings. He chaired his first meeting on 16 October at the Strand Campus.

Lord Douro was born in 1945 and is a graduate of Oxford University. He has led a very successful career in business, having been Chairman of Sun Life & Provincial holdings (UK) Ltd (1995-2000), founder and Deputy Chairman of Thames Valley Broadcasting (1975-84) and Deputy Chairman of Guinness Mahon Merchant Bank (1988-91).

He was Chairman of Framlington Group plc from 1993 to 2005. Since 1990 he has been Chairman of Richemont Holdings UK Ltd.

Lord Douro was an MEP from 1979-89, and played a significant role in the entry of Spain and Portugal into the EU.

He is a member of the English Heritage Commission, and has served in the past as a member of Council of the Royal College of Art and the University of Surrey.

Lord Douro is the eldest son of the 8th Duke of Wellington; the first Duke was one of the founders of King's and famously fought a duel (whilst Prime Minister) over its foundation.



Lord Douro, Chairman of Council

Staff ezine

Don't forget to take a look at the regular staff ezine which contains a round-up of punchy, bite-sized pieces of internal information useful for staff in their daily working lives.

The Public Relations Office is keen to hear about staff news, achievements, awards, events, courses and new or updated web pages. Email Julie Munk at ezine@kcl.ac.uk by 12.00 each Wednesday with any copy or images. Please also continue to keep letting us know what you think of the ezine – its content, layout, ideas for articles and anything else you want to say.

Malaysian teaching agreement signed

KING'S IS PROVIDING INTENSIVE training for Malaysian head teachers under a major new agreement signed by Vice-Principal (External Relations) Professor Keith Hoggart and the Malaysian Government's Ministry of Education.

Early this year Malaysia's Education Minister announced historic changes to the country's education system that will give head teachers, for the first time, a substantial degree of autonomy to run their schools.

The Minister, Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, announced that control over human resources, school funds, student intake, teaching and

learning, and examinations and evaluation, would be handed over to a first cohort of 300 schools. He said this significant step had been taken because 'giving more autonomy is a key element in the success of schools'.

Emphasis on greater school autonomy

Professor Hoggart comments: 'This agreement is a key underpinning of the Government's new emphasis on greater school autonomy. King's will provide head teachers with appropriate training and experience in English

schools that will prepare them for their new roles in Malaysian schools. King's part in this initiative is consistent with an ongoing commitment in the College to deepen and broaden relationships with research and educational initiatives in Malaysia.'

The training programme has been designed by the Department of Education & Professional Studies, which has 20 years experience in implementing school-based management in the UK. It will give the heads a broad set of leadership and management skills, with a clear focus on the expertise they will need in the context of decentralisation and school-



The Petronas Towers, Kuala Lumpur

based management. Successful completion will result in the award of a Certificate in School Management and Leadership.

Age-Friendly Cities

ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE Older Person (1 October), a major report, *What makes a city age-friendly?*, was launched at the House of Commons. Written by members of the Institute of Gerontology, and sponsored by Help the Aged, this project was part of a World Health Organization (WHO) global initiative 'Age-Friendly Cities'.

The authors from King's, Professor Simon Biggs, Director of the Institute of Gerontology, and Professor Anthea Tinker, also took part in an international seminar 'The Future of Age-Friendly Cities' hosted in conjunction with Help the Aged and the WHO at the Maughan Library on 2 October. About two thirds of the world's older population live in cities with the number growing annually. Soon two billion people will be over 60 and 1.7 billion of those people will be in developing countries. Making cities age-friendly is one of the most effective policy approaches for responding to demographic ageing.

The report maps out what an age-friendly environment would look like from an older person's perspective (65 plus) and involves a wide range of areas including: outdoor spaces and buildings,



transportation, housing, social inclusion and respect, social participation, communication and information, civic participation and employment, community support and health services.

Professor Biggs comments: 'Age-friendly communities benefit people of all ages and taking an age-friendly perspective of any city shows up how it works well and where it works badly. Transportation, buildings and streets that are safe and reliable, and allow spaces for different generations to share in their communities should be a hallmark of any 21st century environment.'

Recognising mental illness

An estimated 14 per cent of the global disease burden is due to neuropsychiatric disorders (NPDs) according to an international research review published on 4 September by Professor Martin Prince and colleagues at the Institute of Psychiatry. The review highlights how mental illness is being neglected in the developing world.

It is the first in a series of six reviews looking specifically at global mental health, and is published in *The Lancet*. Professor Prince's review, *No Health without Mental Health* highlights that the true economic and social burden of these disorders has most probably been underestimated because of the inadequate appreciation of the connection between mental illness and other health conditions. NPDs are particularly significant because of the chronically disabling nature of depression, alcohol- and substance-use disorders, and psychoses.

Professor Prince and his colleagues provide evidence that mental illnesses increase the risk of developing many physical

illnesses. They are also common accompaniments of other non-communicable (NCDs) and communicable diseases; they complicate their treatment and are typically associated with worse outcomes, including increased mortality.

Professor Prince comments: 'More research is needed into these links particularly on the potential for mental health interventions to improve physical health outcomes. Relatively little of this type of research has been carried out in low and middle income countries, where 80 per cent of all deaths from NCDs and 99 per cent of all deaths from HIV/AIDS occur, and where mental healthcare budgets are tiny with respect to the burden that mental illness represents.'

'Mental health awareness needs to be integrated into all elements of health and social policy, health-system planning, and healthcare delivery if this burden is to be realistically addressed.'

The links between mental health and heart problems, HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, maternal and child health and accidents and injuries are explored by Professor Prince.

War Studies

War Studies is a multi-disciplinary Department devoted to the study of all aspects of war, conflict and international relations. It is part of the School of Social Science & Public Policy and is based in the King's Building at the Strand Campus and in Strand Bridge House.

MILITARY STUDIES HAVE BEEN taught at King's since 1927, and the Department of War Studies was established by the distinguished historian Michael Howard (now Sir Michael) in 1963. The War Studies Department is part of the College's War Studies Group, which also comprises the Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives and the Defence Studies Department, responsible for academic provision at the Joint Services Command and Staff College, the Royal College of Defence Studies and RAF Cranwell. Departmental research covers most aspects of war studies and international relations – from naval history to human rights and migration.

Unique

'King's Department of War Studies is unique in Britain: an acknowledged national and international leader with a global reputation for excellence in teaching and research,' explains Professor Mervyn Frost, who became Head of the Department in August. 'War Studies is one of only two "Politics and International Studies" departments in the country to have received the highest possible rating in the last three research assessment exercises; and the Department scored the highest rating of 24 in the last Quality Assurance Agency Subject Review assessment of teaching.'

War Studies now has 16 professors, eight senior lecturers, 10 lecturers, three teaching

fellows, some eight research staff, 11 visiting professors and 10 support staff. Having significantly expanded its teaching provision in recent years there are now approximately 160 undergraduate students, 300 master's students and about 100 graduates researching for MPhils or PhDs. The Department offers 10 taught graduate programmes, in subjects ranging from international relations to the history of warfare, and is in the process of developing two new MA programmes, in terrorism and non-proliferation. In 2005 it launched its highly innovative master's programme, *War in the Modern World*, delivered wholly by e-learning.

Appointments

A major recent appointment to the Department is Anatol Lieven, Professor of International Relations & Terrorism Studies: a well known author, journalist, and policy analyst, who works on aspects of the 'war on terror', including contemporary US global strategy and its background in US history and political culture. Before coming to King's he was a Senior Research Fellow with the New America Foundation, a non-profit, public policy institute in Washington DC.

Wyn Bowen, who has been appointed Professor of Non-Proliferation & International Security, was previously Professor of International Security and Director of Research in the Defence Studies Department. Vivienne Jabri has recently been promoted to

Professor of International Politics and Michael Rainsborough to Professor of Strategic Theory, while Dr David Betz, Dr Alan James and Dr Peter Neumann have become senior lecturers. New lecturers are Dr James Acton and Dr David Easter.

Another recent arrival is Dr Randall S Murch, a visiting professor attached to the Center for Science and Security. Dr Murch is Senior Principal Counselor for Science and Technology at the US Department of Homeland Security and Associate Director for Research Program Development at Virginia Tech. He is a former Special Agent of the FBI and former Director of the Advanced Systems and Concepts Office of the US Defense Threat Reduction Agency.

African security studies

The Department has a substantial history of research into African security, and many former King's students are playing significant roles in academic and policy decisions on African security. Dr Funmi Olonisakin and Dr Abiodun Alao, both alumni who are now on the Department's staff, have written policy papers for the United Nations. Dr Olonisakin was deeply involved in the establishment of the Child Protection Unit for the Economic Community of West African states, while Dr Alao wrote the concept paper for the establishment of the Common Defence and Security Policy for the African Union.

Two current research projects in the Department are on youth vulnerability and exclusion in West Africa, and on Islamic radicalisation in Africa: the latter with a grant from the Economic and Social Research Council. Working closely with many African universities, Dr Olonisakin and Dr Alao have established a Centre for Conflict Transformation at the University of Liberia and are assisting the Osun State University in Nigeria to establish a War Studies Department.

Events

The Department hosts regular public seminars, lectures and panel discussions which take place at lunchtime and during the evening and are delivered by guest speakers, including military personnel, politicians, academics and journalists. Future plans include a conference in January 2008 to launch the *Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Violence*.



Nick Dymond, who is serving in Kandahar, Afghanistan, is studying for the MA in *War in the Modern World*: a highly innovative course delivered entirely through e-learning.

THES shortlist

GREG FUNNELL


Dr Avi Reichenberg

Dr Avi Reichenberg, Institute of Psychiatry, has been shortlisted for the *Research Project of the Year Award* in the prestigious *Times Higher Awards* for his work on paternal age and autism. His was the first project to examine the relationship between older father's age and risk of autism in children.

From 1999 to 2004, the number of new fathers aged 40 or over rose by a third, which led the *Times Higher* to note: 'This is why research on autism by a team led by Abraham Reichenberg has important benefits in public health as well as scientific advancement.'

The incidence of autism has increased dramatically over

the past decade, and it is now estimated that the disorder will affect one in every 150 newborn children.

The age of parenting has been increasing in the Western world in the past two decades, in parallel with the increase in rates of autism.

Dr Reichenberg explains: 'The associations between advancing maternal age and birth defects such as Down's syndrome have long been recognised, but paternal age has been largely ignored. Recent research has shown that the offspring of older fathers are at increased risk of neurological and psychiatric disorders, and this inspired me to test for a similar effect in autism.'

Collaborating with Israeli and American researchers, the team found that children born to fathers aged 40 or older were almost six times more likely to have autism and related disorders than those born to fathers under 30.

The study generated widespread international interest in the research community and was published in the *Archives of General Psychiatry*, as well as the media.

Guardian Award

A mental health specialist nurse project at the Institute of Psychiatry, in conjunction with the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Clinic at King's College NHS Foundation Trust Hospital, has been shortlisted for a 2007 *Guardian* Public Services Award, in recognition of its holistic assessment and treatment service for people living with MS in south London.

'The project team is delighted to have been nominated for this award, not least because this raises the profile of mental health difficulties that people with MS often experience. One in two MS patients can experience depression, which is twice the average of individuals without the condition. Similarly, 34 per cent of people with MS may suffer from anxiety. Other mental health problems, such as mood swings, cognitive impairment and even psychosis, are not uncommon,' says **Sally Jones**, Mental Health Nurse Specialist and project leader.

BMA Book Award



Professor Sir Kenneth Calman, Chancellor, University of Glasgow (left), presents **Professor Graham Thornicroft** with his award.

Graham Thornicroft, Professor of Community Psychiatry and Head of Health Services and Population Research at the Institute of Psychiatry, has won a prestigious British Medical Association Book Award for *Shunned: Discrimination against People with Mental Illness* (Oxford University Press, July 2006). Professor Thornicroft accepted his award on 12 September.

Estates & Facilities initiatives recognised by the College

In 2005 the first apprentices to be employed at King's for more than 50 years were taken on by the Estates & Facilities Directorate into the Modern Apprenticeship Scheme in partnership with Bexley College.

On 27 June one of these apprentices, **Mark Rosser**, and a colleague from MITIE Engineering, **Ross Beckett**, were presented with their Full Modern Apprenticeship Framework and NVQ Level 2 Certificates by the Principal of Bexley College, **Bridget Boreham**. Mark and Ross have shown outstanding achievement on their three-year course.

A Modern Apprenticeship offers paid employment combined with the opportunity to train for posts at craft, technician and management level.

On 25 September another presentation took place, once again recognising achievements



Apprentices **Ross Beckett** and **Mark Rosser** collect their Full Modern Apprenticeship Framework and NVQ Level 2 Certificates.

in the Estates & Facilities Directorate. In 2004 King's became the first UK university



The first cohort of Estates & Facilities staff to achieve the multi-skilling programme were presented with their certificates by the Principal, **Professor Rick Trainor**, and **Mike Shires**, Head of Construction at Bexley College.

to devise a scheme of training its trades staff to become multi-skilled to a national industry-recognised award. Working with Bexley College, 23 staff have been trained in a new skill which was not part of their core trade. This involved a study day a week for a period, followed by

on-site training and work-based assessment.

This first cohort of staff to achieve the multi-skilling programme were presented with certificates by the Principal, **Professor Rick Trainor**, and **Mike Shires**, Head of Construction at Bexley College.

Academic promotions

Here are details of promotions across all Schools, effective from 1 September 2007.

Promotion to Professor

- Dr David Bartlett, Prosthodontics
- Dr Matthew Bell, German
- Dr Andrea Biondi, Law
- Dr Catherine Boyle, Spanish & Spanish American Studies
- Dr Daniel Chua, Music
- Dr Robert Clark, Prosthodontics
- Dr Jian Dai, Mechanical Engineering
- Dr Marilyn Deegan, Centre for Computing in the Humanities
- Dr David Demeritt, Geography
- Dr Uwe Drescher, MRC Centre for Developmental Neurobiology
- Dr Michael Edmonds, Diabetic Medicine
- Dr Cliff Eisen, Music
- Dr David Grimwade, Medical & Molecular Genetics
- Dr Martin Gulliford, Public Health Sciences
- Dr Nicholas Harrison, French
- Dr Vivienne Jabri, War Studies
- Ms Alison Jones, Law
- Dr Satvinder Juss, Law
- Dr Sheila Kitchen, Physiotherapy
- Dr Cathryn Lewis, Medical & Molecular Genetics
- Ms Penney Lewis, Law
- Dr Barbara Maughan, Developmental Psychopathology

- Dr Willard McCarty, Centre for Computing in the Humanities
- Dr Gordon McMullan, English Language & Literature
- Dr John Milton, Philosophy
- Dr Sandra Pott, German
- Dr Michael Rainsborough, War Studies
- Dr Patricia Reynolds, Centre for Flexible Learning
- Dr David Richards, Physics
- Dr Frances Rogers, Mathematics
- Dr Rosamund Scott, Law
- Dr Stephen Scott, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
- Dr Richard Vinen, History
- Dr Steven Wainwright, Primary & Intermediate Care
- Dr Janet Walsh, Management
- Dr Julian Weiss, Spanish & Spanish American Studies
- Dr Clare Williams, Midwifery & Women's Health
- Dr Andrew Wright, Education & Professional Studies

Promotion to Reader

- Dr Maria Antognazza, Theology & Religious Studies
- Dr Ernest Choy, Rheumatology
- Dr Jon Cooper, Neuroscience
- Dr Albert Ferro, Pharmacology & Therapeutics
- Dr Luigi Gnudi, Diabetes, Endocrinology & Internal Medicine
- Dr Agamemnon Grigoriadis, Craniofacial Development & Orthodontics
- Dr Patricia Grocott, Public Health & Health Services Research
- Dr Gregory Jackson, Management
- Dr Ismene Lada-Richards, Classics
- Dr Sabine Landau, Biostatistics
- Dr Ann Lane, Defence Studies Department
- Dr Samjid Mannan, Mechanical Engineering
- Dr Paul Marsden, PET Imaging Centre

- Dr Mark Miodownik, Engineering
- Dr Susan Murray, Midwifery & Women's Health
- Dr Barry Peters, HIV/GU Medicine
- Dr Clare Pettitt, English Language & Literature
- Dr Tomasz Radzik, Computer Science
- Dr Celia Roberts, Education & Professional Studies
- Dr Mike Slade, Health Services Research
- Dr Rob Stewart, Health Services Population Research
- Dr Slavik Tabakov, Medical Engineering & Physics
- Dr Mark Textor, Philosophy
- Dr Mary Vogel, Law

Promotion to Senior Lecturer

- Dr Andreas Baas, Education & Professional Studies
- Dr David Betz, War Studies
- Dr Marie-Jose Bijlmakers, Immunobiology
- Dr Nicolas Bury, Biochemistry
- Miss Monica Chowdry, Law
- Dr Michael Clode, Engineering
- Dr Shirley Coomber, Biochemistry
- Dr Sarah Cooper, Film Studies
- Dr Valerie Corrigan, Rheumatology
- Dr Juliet Ellis, Biochemistry
- Dr Angus Forbes, Primary & Intermediate Care
- Mr Alan Fortune, Education & Professional Studies
- Dr Nicolas Gold, Computer Science
- Dr Richard Harding, Palliative Care & Policy
- Ms Christine Harrison, Education & Professional Studies
- Dr Jeremy Hodgen, Education & Professional Studies
- Dr Alan James, War Studies
- Dr Susan Jickells, Forensic Science & Drug Monitoring
- Dr Susan John, Immunobiology
- Dr Paul Lavender, Respiratory Medicine & Allergy



- Dr Paul Lewis, Management
- Mr Graeme Lockwood, Management
- Dr Yun Ma, Immunobiology
- Dr Marzia Malcangio, Pharmacology & Therapeutics
- Dr Baljinder Mankoo, Randall Division of Cell & Molecular Biophysics
- Dr Alan Marshall, American Studies
- Dr Robert Mills, English Language & Literature
- Dr Jonathan Morris, Surgery
- Dr Peter Neumann, War Studies
- Dr Sally Rohan, Defence Studies Department
- Dr Anthea Rowleron, Physiology
- Dr Mark Shiel, Film Studies
- Dr Kimberly Springer, American Studies
- Dr John Stanton-Ife, Law
- Dr Eva Steiner, Law
- Dr Kathleen Steinhofel, Computer Science
- Dr Leonie Taams, Immunobiology
- Dr Ian Thornton, Defence Studies Department
- Dr Timothy Tree, Immunobiology
- Dr Abigail Tucker, Craniofacial Development & Orthodontics
- Dr Rivkah Zim, English Language & Literature

This information was supplied by Human Resources.

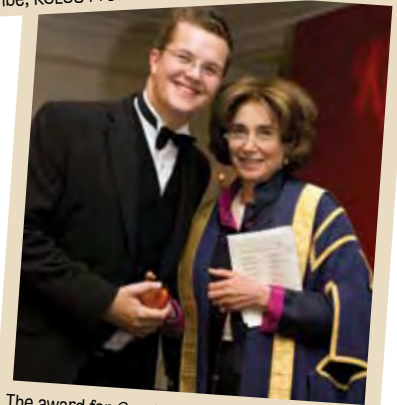


King's Awards 2007

On the evening of 18 September the Most Revd Desmond Tutu, King's alumnus, former Archbishop of Cape Town and Nobel Peace Laureate, joined almost 150 King's staff, students, alumni and guests at The Savoy Hotel on the Strand for an evening of celebration at the 2007 King's Awards ceremony. He was awarded the inaugural *Alumnus of the Year* award. This was the first event of this kind that the College has organised: it encompassed a number of existing awards and some new ones, and aimed to recognise the excellence and contribution of the King's community. Here is a selection of photos from the evening.



The Most improved College service to students was The Graduate School. The award was presented to **Professor Vaughan Robinson** by Daryn McCombe, KCLSU President 2006-7.



The award for Greatest individual contribution to the student experience by a student was presented by Baroness Rawlings, at her last engagement as Chairman of Council, to **Matt Pusey**. Matt also received an award for Student academic achievement.



Adam Boulton, Sky News' Political Editor and a member of College Council, was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening.



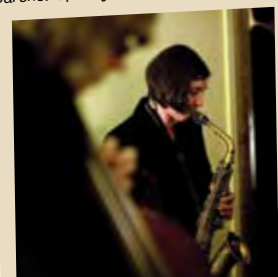
The Principal presents **Professor Martin Wooster** with the Young researcher of the year award.



Chris Coe, Director of Communications, welcomes **Archbishop Desmond Tutu** to The Savoy.



Professor Robert Lechler (Vice-Principal, Health) awarded **Dr Clare Pettitt** the prize for Young academic author of the year.



A jazz trio of King's students provided the pre-dinner music.

King's Awards 2007



Professor Arthur Burns, Head of the Department of History, collected the *Lifetime achievement* award on behalf of Professor Dame Janet Nelson.



Desmond Tutu and KCLSU Officers (from left) **Tom AbouNader**, **Adam Farley**, **Jo Williams** and **Peter Ellender**.



Media personality of the year was awarded to **Professor Michael Clarke** by the Principal.



Research project of the year was presented by Professor Robert Lechler (Vice-Principal, Health) to **Dr Avi Reichenberg**.



Alumnus of the year – **The Most Reverend Desmond Tutu DD FRC** – gives thanks.



Professor Peter McGuffin and **Professor Robert Hider**.



The *Annual giving* award was won by **Bill Dodwell** and collected by Chris Wiscarson, Chairman of the Development Committee, as Bill was unable to attend.



The *Staff member who has contributed the most to outreach/student recruitment* was **Dr Tony Edwards** presented by Professor Keith Hoggart (Vice-Principal, Arts & Sciences).



Pankhurst, Chief Executive, Volunteer Centre Newark, presented **David Hopkins** with the *Staff member of the year* award.



Professor Geneva Richardson FBA CBE talks with **Lord Plant**, Head of the School of Law.



Lifetime achievement award winner, **Professor Susan Standring** accepts her award. **Professor Dame Janet Nelson FKG FBA** who jointly won this award was unable to attend as she was speaking at an international conference abroad.



Thanks to the College for his award.



Professor Alison Mainwood presented the *Distinguished supervisor award* to **Dr Lev Kantorovich**.



The *Greatest student group achievement award* was presented to Shine – **Sophie Raynor**, **Sonia Akrimi** and **Richard Johnson** – by Adam Farley, KCLSU President 2007-8.



Professor Steve Williams was the recipient of the *Business development award* presented by Dr Alison Campbell.



The *Lecturer of the year award* was won by **Dr Pamela Garlick**.



The Principal gave the *Helen Hudson award* to **Jo Crocker FKG**.

ALL PHOTOS BY GREG FUMELL

Obituary

BRIAN BRANSOM (BILL) GRIFFITHS (1948–2007)



BILL GRIFFITHS' SUDDEN DEATH ON 13 September came as a terrible shock to all of his friends and admirers. Bill was one of the most remarkable men I have ever known, and we had known each through poetry and piano

music for 35 years. His sense of humour was infectious.

The official obituaries cover the events of a brilliantly creative life. One of the best English poets of the 20th century (that the fact is hardly known is a comment on the way English poetic culture is controlled by dullards), he was also a pianist of considerable sensitivity and brilliance, a local historian, Anglo-Saxon scholar, conservationist, archivist, prison-rights campaigner, performer, editor, short-story writer, book maker and folk loricist as Nicholas Johnson listed the activities in the *Independent*.

In the *Guardian* Professor William Rowe wrote of his 80 volumes and more of poetry, his role in the brief take-over, by experimental poets, of the National Poetry Centre in the early 1970s, his long

association with Bob Cobbing the sound poet, his move from the houseboat in Uxbridge to Seaham near Newcastle where he became seriously engaged with local history and culture. Here he began to archive local dialect materials (publishing texts on Pitmatic – the language of Northumbrian miners) culminating in his work *A Dictionary of North East Dialect*.

Griffiths was closely associated with King's. His work was promoted from the late sixties onwards by Eric Mottram, one of the earliest appointees to a post in American Literature in England, himself a poet, charismatic teacher, scholar and a rare British friend of Beat poets and American literature in general in the mid-20th-century.

It was fitting that Bill should have been appointed to archive

the Mottram papers for the College's Special Collections: a duty he discharged, after Mottram's death in 1995, with distinction.

Griffiths was also a doctoral student of Professor Janet Bately, the distinguished Anglo-Saxon scholar, and former head of the English Department at King's. On learning of Bill's sudden death she wrote to me: 'I last saw him in the Rare Books Reading Room of the British Library nine or ten months ago, when he was of course full of energy and – laid back – enthusiasm. He was a most unusual and talented man – a delight to teach and supervise, and as my tireless research assistant a tremendous help.' We shall all miss him.

Clive Bush, Emeritus Professor of American Literature

President of ESERA



Justin Dillon

Justin Dillon, Senior Lecturer in Science and Environmental Education in the Department of Education & Professional Studies, was elected President of the European Science Education Research Association (ESERA) in August.

ESERA, which has more than 600 members in Europe and beyond, was founded in 1995. Justin will hold the post of President for four years, having previously been Secretary for the same length of time.

His appointment marks a unique double for King's – **Professor Jonathan Osborne** held the post of President of the US National Association for Research in Science Teaching in 2006-7. No other university has provided the Presidents of both of the world's premier science education research associations.

Director of Biological Services

Barbara Holgate has been appointed as Director of Biological Services. She will join King's on 19 November.

Barbara is a qualified veterinarian with 20 years' experience of biological services management, most recently as Director of Biological Services for AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, where she leads a team of 80 veterinary and technical staff, supporting *in vivo* research for candidate drug discovery in the areas of cancer, diabetes and arthritis.

In her current role Barbara has been instrumental in the design of new biological services facilities,

and has represented her employer on national and international committees and working parties concerned with animal research.

Master election



Professor Christopher Buckland Wright

Christopher Buckland Wright, Professor of Radiological Anatomy, has been elected as the new Master of the Worshipful Company of Barbers, one of the oldest Livery companies in the City of London, with origins dating back to 1308.

Today, the company maintains active connections to medicine and surgery, with much of its activity directed toward educational causes linked with the medical profession. Professor Buckland

Wright has announced the theme for his year in office, as 'charity in support of education'. In 2008 the Company launches its 700th Anniversary Appeal, in support of the King's Access to Medicine initiative, with the aim to raise more than £200,000 to be used for award bursaries and scholarships to students of King's Extended Medical Degree Programme.

Professor Buckland Wright has taught anatomy to medical and dental students at King's since 1973. He was awarded a Doctor of Science having spent 25 years researching bone structure and the changes that take place in the patients of arthritis. His association with the Worshipful Company of Barbers began when he joined in 1980, later to become the Honorary Librarian in 1985, with the remit to rebuild the company's library which had existed between 1540 and 1745.

Former Masters of the Company include former King's Professor of Surgery Lord Ian McColl (1999-2000) and retired St Thomas' surgeon and former President of the Royal College of Surgeons Sir Barry Jackson (2003).

Henry III & the Maughan Library

On 1 October, the 800th birthday of King Henry III was marked by a commemorative event organised jointly by Professor David Carpenter of the Department of History and Westminster Abbey (see page 3). Another link between King's, Henry III and the Abbey is provided by the history of the Maughan Library site.

THE DOMUS CONVERSORUM, or 'House of Converts' was established in 1232 by King Henry III in what was then called New Street, now Chancery Lane, on the site where the Maughan Library now stands. It was intended to provide a home, a chapel and a school for Jews who converted to Christianity and who may have been estranged from their families and their own community. In 1199, Pope Innocent III had written that converts 'should be solicitously provided for. ...For, lacking the necessities of life, many of them, after their baptism, are led into great distress, with the result that they are often forced to go backward because of the avarice of such as are possessed of plenty'. The Domus was funded by a grant from Henry III of 700 marks a year, by rents from property in London and Oxford, by legacies from donors and by a special tax levied by the King on the Jews of his kingdom.

Finance

During the 12th century it had been established that the Jews of England belonged to the King and would live under his protection. Whereas Christians were forbidden from practising usury and lending money for interest, the Jews were not. Thus they became the major source of credit, and the leading financiers were fabulously wealthy. Since the King could tax the Jews at will he came to rely on their money to finance a whole range of activities, including waging war and building Westminster Abbey.

The lending activities of the Jews, and false rumours about them capturing Christian children, made them extremely



Portrait of Henry III. Paul Rapin de Thoyras. *The History of England*, London: Printed for John and Paul Knapton, 1743 [Rare Books Collection FOL. DA30 RAP].

unpopular. They could survive so long as they were protected by the King, but the heavy taxation of Henry III broke the back of Jewish wealth, and the community therefore ceased to be of much financial benefit to the crown. This laid the foundation for the expulsion of the Jews from England by Edward I, son of Henry III, in 1290.

Robes

It is difficult to establish how many converts lived in the Domus. At Christmas 1255 the King gave 150 robes for converts, and at Easter the following year 171 robes were given, followed by 164 at Whitsun. These may not all have been for residents, since it appears that some converts lived outside the Domus and received aid instead, but it is evident that only a very small proportion of the estimated 5,000 Jews who lived in England in Henry's reign were prepared to convert in order to benefit from the Domus or its services. The numbers

A representation of the construction of the tomb of Henry III in Westminster Abbey: part of the celebration of the King's 800th birthday on 1 October 2007.



The statue of Henry III holding his 'House' at the Maughan Library.

seem to have been increasing in Henry's reign, however, since in 1265-6 the Master was engaged in building new houses; in 1267 the number of chaplains was increased to three, and in 1275 the chapel was lengthened.

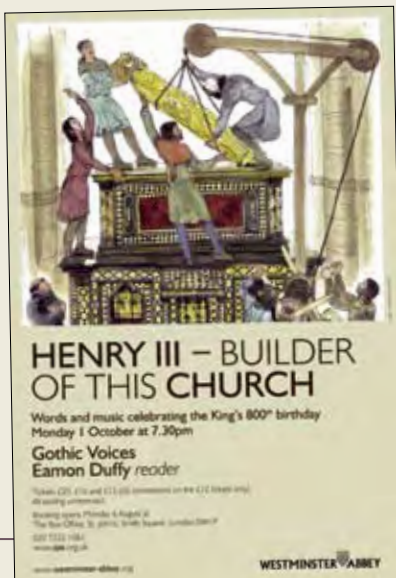
After the expulsion of the Jews from England in 1290 the numbers of converts obviously fell, although Edward III gave the Domus fresh life by placing there the children of some converts and several converted Jews from foreign countries. By 1344 there seem to have been only eight inhabitants, and by 1371 there were only two.

Responsibility

In 1377 responsibility for the house was transferred to the Master of the Rolls, but the accounts of the wardens and the grants occasionally made to converts show that the house was still in use for its original purpose more than two centuries later, and it seems that a grant was made to two Jews as late as the reign of James II.

The building itself was destroyed in 1717 to make room for the new house of the Master of the Rolls, who continued to be styled officially Keeper of the House of Converts until 1873. One of the last holders of the office of Keeper was Sir George Jessel, who was an observant Jew. The last trace of the Domus was swept away in 1891, but a statue of Henry III, holding his 'House', still stands on the site of the Maughan Library.

Christine Kenyon Jones



River Thames audio tour

EXPERTS FROM KING'S COLLABORATED with the Mayor's Thames Festival to create a unique podcast showcasing the historical, ecological, and industrial highlights of the River Thames. The tour gave fascinating insights into the life, buildings and sights of the Thames from key points along the river.

An impressive example of a knowledge transfer partnership

The Thames Twenty was produced by academics from the departments of History, Geography, English, Engineering and War Studies, and is available to download for free from the Thames Festival website (www.thamesfestival.org/cn/education/audio_tour.php). Linking to the Festival's 'Rivers of the World' exhibition, the tour began at the London Eye and ended at City



From left: **Dr Mark Miodownik**, **Professor Arthur Burns**, **Zoe Laughlin**, **Professor Angela Gurnell**, **Professor Andrew Lambert** and **Dr Tony Bark** – King's academics involved in creating *The Thames Twenty*.

Hall by Tower Bridge. Along this stretch of the riverside there were 20 points at which listeners – who had downloaded the audio text from the website onto their

iPods – stopped at the relevant exhibition board and listened to the information which related to the view from that specific point on the river.

This innovative King's initiative was an impressive example of a knowledge transfer partnership by the College with one of London's major arts festivals.

Open House success



The Maughan Library & Information Services Centre

OVER THE WEEKEND OF 15-16
September, the Maughan Library
& Information Services Centre
(ISC) took part in this year's
Open House London, an event
that enables people to explore and
experience architecture, design
and the built environment at more
than 600 buildings new and old
not usually open to the public.

The Maughan Library & ISC welcomed more than 560 visitors, including prospective students, parents and families of current

students, tourists, architects, former Public Record Office employees, local neighbours, photographers and the general public, who were keen to see the inside of the former Public Record Office building.

Visitors were particularly interested in the display relating to the recent renovations and were able to handle some of the materials and stonework, as well as spend time studying the Special Collections exhibition.

Achieving efficiency

KING'S ENERGY MANAGEMENT TEAM has recently received national recognition for achievements in energy efficiency. Firstly, King's has been re-accredited under the Energy Efficiency Accreditation Scheme, the UK's independent benchmark for energy use, owned by the Carbon Trust, managed by The National Energy Foundation and independently moderated by the Energy Institute.

King's was commended by assessor Bob Spain who was 'impressed by the range of energy efficiency projects completed, underway and proposed, especially the establishment of Energy Champions. King's is demonstrably very committed to energy efficiency'. Future projects include the launch of an Energy Awareness Campaign, a ground source heat pump project and combined heat and power initiatives.

Also King's joins a network of more than 200 organisations



Energy Manager **Keith McIntyre** accepts an accreditation certificate on behalf of King's from **Dr Mary Archer**, President of the National Energy Foundation.

accredited under the scheme for their active reduction of CO₂ emissions. Achieving accreditation meant maintaining and improving on good practice in energy management, keeping up to date with new energy-saving initiatives and encouraging staff and the public to be energy aware.

Strand recycling scheme launched

A MAJOR NEW RECYCLING SCHEME

has been rolled out for the Strand Campus. It is estimated that up to 80 per cent of the site's waste could be recycled, representing several tonnes of rubbish a week. A pilot project in the Department of Geography has already proved a great success.

The scheme, introduced by the Site Services team, allows for all 'dry' rubbish to be recycled. This can be the usual paper and cardboard but also all clean (and dry) plastic containers, tins, drink cans and even furniture, if broken down. Glass is not included in this project.

Around 300 new 'bins' will be located around the Campus, including in the Students' Union, for the 'dry', recyclable waste, and residual rubbish. Bins with green lids are for the dry waste, and those with brown lids are

for residual waste. They will be emptied daily, by the College's cleaning contractors, KGB, and taken for compacting in a new 'eco bin compactor'. Bywaters, the recycling and waste management company, will collect the compacted material and then extract the different components for recycling.

Currently around 40 per cent of the Campus' waste is recycled.

Site Services can also provide recyclable, cardboard desktop containers for dry waste. These are flat packed and need to be assembled by the user. Individuals will then be responsible for emptying the contents into the larger recycle bins.

Melanie Lewis, Site Services Manager for the Strand Campus, commented: 'I am delighted that we are able to introduce this easy, user-friendly recycling scheme.'



Members of the Strand Campus' Site Services team. From left: **Connie Moses, Sheldon Patterson, James Akabwai, Sarah Kamara** and **Janice Savage** (front centre).

Credit where credit is due!



The 7 September issue of the *Times Higher* ran an article about the College's attempts to have all publications duly accredited to this institution following the Principal's editorial in the last issue of *Comment*. A cartoon by 'Birch' accompanied the piece. **Andrew Birch** is an alumnus. He studied Microbiology at Queen Elizabeth College, graduating in 1973. He is probably one of the most widely read of all alumni and indeed current staff and students, as his cartoons appear in publications including the *Guardian*, *The Observer*, the *Times Higher*, *Nature*, *Private Eye* and the *Nursing Times*.

College Christmas card

THE IMAGE FOR

the 2007 College Christmas card has been provided by the Foyle Special Collections Library at King's.

Helleborus niger drawn by David Blair FLS is a plate in *Medicinal Plants* by Bentley & Trimen. Both authors of this classic work of medical botany have associations with the College. Robert Bentley (1821-93) became

Professor of Botany at King's in 1859 and Henry Trimen (1843-96) was curator of the anatomical museum at King's between 1866 and 1867.

Cards can be ordered in multiples of 25 by College departments, while smaller quantities can be purchased from the new King's shop at the corner of the Strand and Surrey Street.



Enquiries and orders should be addressed to design@kcl.ac.uk

The Foyle Special Collections Library houses some 120,000 printed works, as well as thousands of maps, slides, sound recordings and some manuscript material. It is based in the Maughan Library and Information Services Centre. For more information visit www.kcl.ac.uk/iss/library/spec/

New Open Learning Centre

ARE YOU TAKING A LANGUAGE HALF course unit, special study module or evening class, or just interested in improving your language skills? A new, state-of-the-art Open Learning Centre has just been launched at King's. This self-access facility, designed to offer language learning support to King's undergraduate and postgraduate students, and to external clients, is situated in the first basement of the refurbished wing of the Strand Building. Dominique Borel, Modern Language Centre Director, comments: 'The highly sophisticated level of technology on offer testifies to the variety

of activities undertaken by the Modern Language Centre, not least in the area of e-learning. This new sophisticated facility will help King's take language learning forward in a truly significant way and the team is grateful to the College for making this possible.'

The new Open Learning Centre provides access to the latest information communication technology and e-learning resources for languages.

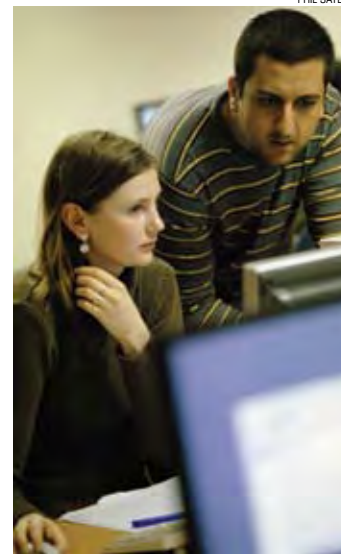
Twenty-four networked computer workstations provide access to: 32 satellite TV channels from around the world; foreign-language films and first-class

learning materials on DVD and streamed digital media; and interactive learning based upon the WebCT virtual learning environment and the WIMBA suite of voice tools.

The Open Learning Centre also holds considerable resources covering up to 17 languages, including foreign newspapers and magazines, and past exam papers dating from 2000. Learners with disabilities are well catered for, having access to a range of assistive technologies and software.

Full details, including opening hours, can be found at: www.kcl.ac.uk/schools/humanities/mlc/olc/

PHIL SAVER



£1 million left to College by King's Professor

GREG FUNNELL



Dr Geoff Driver formally hands over his wife's bequest on 17 October. Also present here are the Principal, **Professor Rick Trainor**, and two students (**Maria Evagarou**, left, and **Lauren Brodsky**) who are benefitting from the Rosalind Driver Memorial Fund.

A NEW £1 MILLION SCHOLARSHIP Fund has been established to support advanced research in science education at King's, and commemorate the work of King's Chair of Science Education (1995-7), Rosalind Driver.

Ros was one of the leading lights of science education. She drew together ideas on cognitive behaviour in children, and how it influenced the way that pupils learned, using models that were considered radical at the time. It is a mark of her ability, and the clarity and practicality of her approach, that these ideas were

quickly taken up, and her name is now so well known amongst science teachers throughout the world. In 1995 Ros moved to King's, working on ways of teaching teachers. Those who worked with Ros, and experienced her collaborative approach, gained a deep respect for her teaching and research. This was recognised in 1997 when the American National Association for Research for Science Teaching awarded her the *Distinguished Contribution to Science Education Award*.

With Ros's untimely death in 1997 the international science

education community lost a major figure. But through Funds established through legacies that she left, King's has been able to continue with the work she held dear. The Rosalind Driver Memorial Fund was established to commemorate Ros and her work. The aim of the Fund was to support students in science and technology education at King's.

Now, through a bequest from Ros's estate, around £1 million has been put towards establishing the Rosalind Driver Research

Scholarship Fund. Through the Fund, King's will carry on Ros's essential work, equipping the next generation of science educators, and enabling them to inspire students in the study of science.

Professor Driver's husband Geoff sees this as the right way to commemorate his wife's commitment and contribution to Science Education.

To find out more about leaving a bequest, contact Annette Bullen on ext 4700, or email legacy-info@kcl.ac.uk

Recipe analysis skills updated

Two one-day courses designed to update the skills of dietitians and nutritionists were held at King's over the summer. These courses, organised by Dianne Boaden from the Department of Nutrition & Dietetics, were a direct response to requests for help from dietitians responsible for evaluating menus for school meals.

There is an increasing demand for dietitians to possess a proven competency in analysing recipes. This is a skill that requires extensive and detailed knowledge of food ingredients and cooking

methods together with an understanding of the strengths and limitations of computerised databases. Forty two delegates experienced a 'hands on' morning in the dietetics kitchen preparing standard recipes and calculating weight changes on cooking. The nutrients required by the School Meals Regulations were calculated for these recipes in the afternoon using computerised food tables.

The course enabled professionals in this field to network and share good practice.

Nursing School launches major arts project

CULTURE AND CARE, A MAJOR NEW

arts project commissioned by the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery, was launched on 18 September with the unveiling of two new visual arts commissions: jewellery celebrating the life of Florence Nightingale and a series of portraits of staff and students at the School.

The positive benefits of art within healthcare

Over the past 30 years the arts have become an influential force in healthcare. The positive role they can play in the processes of caring for and healing patients is now well understood. For example singing is an effective physical and psychological intervention for improving mood and breathing as well as providing relief for respiratory disorders such as childhood asthma.

Culture and Care celebrates the positive benefits of art within healthcare settings. It will enrich the life of the School of Nursing & Midwifery, encouraging staff and students to engage in arts and cultural activities and strengthening the sense of community and identity.



Jeweller **Laura Potter** has produced a collection of works exploring aspects of Florence Nightingale's life and legacy including *The Diagram* (detail).

Jeweller Laura Potter has produced a collection of works exploring aspects of Florence Nightingale's life and legacy. She carried out extensive research in the Florence Nightingale Museum and Archive, a key partner in the Culture and Care project. Her neckpieces have a ceremonial quality and make use of materials which would have had a strong personal or professional significance for Florence Nightingale.

Photographer Eileen Perrier has taken a series of photographs



Staff and students look at **Eileen Perrier's** series of photographs of themselves in a formal Victorian-style setting.

of staff and students in a formal Victorian-style setting. Eileen specialises in making formal colour portraits and her work draws upon a long tradition of African portraiture and her connections with Ghana.

Eileen Perrier says: 'My aim was to unify all my sitters so I introduced a sash for them to wear bearing the initials of the School. 78 people came forward to have their photographs taken. It was great that students and staff came together in this way.'

Professor Anne Marie Rafferty, Head of the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery, commented: 'It's a pleasure to open this exhibition of Laura and Eileen's work to launch our Culture and Care project and we look forward to other exciting visual, performing and literary arts commissions over the next few months. All of these initiatives are designed to release the creative energies and to celebrate the diverse identities of our staff, students and visitors.'

Vivienne Westwood visits



ON 16 OCTOBER THE DEPARTMENT of Management welcomed fashion designer Dame Vivienne

Westwood to King's. David Bevan, former PhD student and active member of King's Institute of Learning & Teaching, leads a third year elective course in Business Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility for BSc (Hons) Management students.

For Dame Vivienne's visit his class of 95 students hosted a performance of her manifesto piece *Active Resistance to Propaganda*. Twenty-four students assisted Dame Vivienne in the reading of the piece to the assembled group. A lively question and answer session followed.

Vivienne Westwood is currently designing new graduation gowns for the College.

New-look *In Touch* out now

In Touch, the College's alumni magazine, has had a makeover. The new-look magazine incorporates a number of new features that have been suggested by former students and staff, including tips and recommendations from King's academics, a crossword and chances to win prizes.

The Autumn 2007 issue reports on clinical trials and what it's like to take part in one, and on King's student slang past and present. It also provides readers with news from around the College, and from former students and staff around the globe.



In Touch landed on doormats in October. Look out for copies at Campus receptions.

Graduate Prospectus 2008

THE GRADUATE PROSPECTUS 2008 HAS been printed and copies delivered to King's and relevant libraries and institutions worldwide.

There have been a number of changes this year including an expanded contents page with interdisciplinary programmes and more profiles of staff and students. The prospectus is printed on 50 per cent recycled paper, with the other 50 per cent from sustainable forests.

Staff can order bulk copies of the prospectus online (www.kcl.ac.uk/staff/prospectus-form.html). Copies will also be available at receptions shortly. Email olivia.davenport@kcl.ac.uk with any feedback.

The prospectus was produced



by design agency Esterson Associates.

News in brief

Christmas collection

This December staff and students can donate gifts which are then sorted and wrapped by student and staff volunteers before being delivered to local charities. Last year more than 300 gifts were donated. Look out for a collection box on your Campus from 4-11 December, or help wrap presents on 12 December at Inverse, KCLSU's nightclub on Guy's Campus. For more information contact Liz Arriens (ext 2714 or liz.arriens@kcl.ac.uk) or visit www.kcl.ac.uk/volunteering

Online booking

The online booking system for staff wishing to attend the January 2008 graduation ceremonies as part of the procession and platform party is now open. Visit the Student Registration Office website where you will find details of the arrangements for the ceremonies and follow the 'book online' link (www.kcl.ac.uk/about/structure/admin/acareg/stureg/graduation-ceremonies/bookonline/). Academic dress is obligatory for those wishing to process and anyone who needs to hire robing can send their requirements via this system. Contact the Student Registration Office (graduation@kcl.ac.uk) with any queries.

New Trust members

Both Guy's and St Thomas' and King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trusts are keen to recruit members from the College who live in Lambeth or Southwark. In addition, staff who 'exercise functions for the purposes of the Trust' and have been employed by the College for at least 12 months can apply to be members in the staff category, regardless of where they live. For Guy's and St Thomas' contact 0845 143 4017, members@gstt.nhs.uk or visit www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk For King's College Hospital contact 0870 707 1614, members@kch.nhs.uk or visit www.kch.nhs.uk

Fundraising drop-in sessions

The Fundraising team is offering monthly drop-in sessions at each of the campuses starting in November. Professional fundraisers will outline the support they can provide, ranging from helping to determine whether a project can be funded from private sources and creating a strategy for approaching donors (including drafting proposals to philanthropic funders), through to identifying and contacting potential donors, and thanking and involving donors after money is received.

Sports reunion

On 29 September alumni battled it out on the sports pitch against current students, as part of the annual Sports Reunion. Numerous teams took part, including men's and women's football, rugby and netball. The alumni men's rugby team were victorious, but overall students ruled the day, beating alumni in every other match. After the day of sport many alumni and students headed to the Strand Campus for a drinks reception, black-tie dinner and dancing in the Waterfront Bar. The day was a success and organisers hope to host an even bigger event next year.

Being a Personal Tutor

The new *Guide to Being a Personal Tutor 2007-8* has been circulated to schools and departments. It is a practical resource for all those involved in personal tutoring – from recommendations on how often staff should meet with tutees to information on how and where to refer students for specialist advice and support. If you have not received a copy from your Department office, or you would like further copies contact Helen McNeely, Assistant Director, Services for Students, on ext 6977 or helen.mcneely@kcl.ac.uk. Helen can also take more general queries on being a personal tutor.

MRI scanner installed



This magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner (seen here on its delivery lorry) was recently installed at the Rayne Institute at St Thomas' Hospital as part of a multi-million pound project by the College, supported by the Guy's and St Thomas' Charity, to provide new laboratory and office accommodation for the Imaging Sciences Division led by **Professor Reza Razavi**. More details will follow in the next issue of *Comment*.

Dark Matter challenged

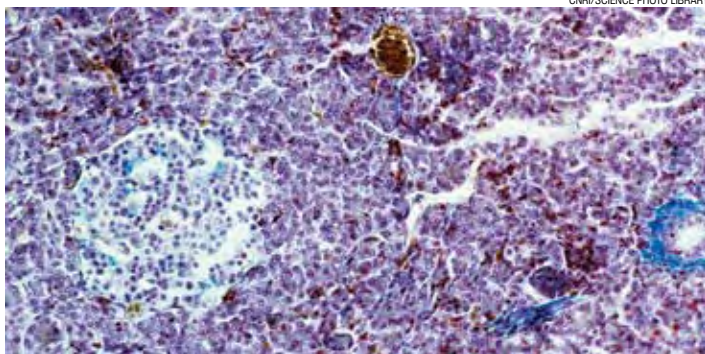
Professor Nikolaos Mavromatos of the Department of Physics, with colleagues in Athens and Texas, has published research in the open access journal *PMC Physics A* suggesting that the amount of dark matter left over from the Big Bang may have been overestimated by as much as a factor of ten. This is due to the effects of the 'dilaton', a particle with zero spin in the gravitational sector of strings.

The dilaton influences the Boltzmann equation, which describes the evolution of hot matter density as the Universe cooled down. Whereas ordinary visible matter is still thought to make up around four per

cent of the Universe's energy, this research points to a major reduction in the 23 per cent hitherto ascribed to dark matter, and hence suggests that the balance of dark energy constitutes an even larger proportion of the whole.

'The new result may be important for both cosmology and particle physics,' comments Professor Mavromatos. 'It relaxes some of the stringent constraints on particle physics models imposed by astrophysical data, and it is relevant for future supersymmetric searches in colliders such as the Large Hadron Collider, due to come on line at CERN early next year.'

Animal alternatives



Islets of Langerhans

MORE THAN £2 MILLION HAS BEEN awarded by the Government for 11 new projects to provide alternatives to animal testing. One of these is being undertaken by Professor Peter Jones and Dr Shanta Persaud, of the Division of Endocrinology and Reproduction. Their project 'Pseudoislets as a model system to study beta cell dysfunction in diabetes' was awarded £387,732.

They are developing an alternative experimental model to islets taken from animals by using hormone-producing cell lines that have been modified to allow them to be grown in tissue culture, so that many more can be generated without using any more animals.

Islets of Langerhans are clusters of cells found in the pancreas,

where they make and release several hormones, importantly, insulin. Reduced levels of insulin causes diabetes. Many research programmes in this area use islets to test new drugs or therapies, and the most common source of these islets is laboratory animals, particularly rats and mice.

However, islets of Langerhans are complicated organs in which interactions between cells are important for their function, so methods have been developed to put the cells together to form islet-like structures (called pseudoislets), so that they perform like islets taken from experimental animals. 'Our current pseudoislet model is much better than the original cell lines, but our challenge is to improve their function further,' explains Professor Jones.

Protein discovery

SCIENTISTS WORKING FOR KING'S

spin-out Proximogen Neuroscience have discovered a protein – osteopontin – in the brain that appears to be an endogenous neuroprotectant and which is deficient in those suffering from Parkinson's Disease (PD). This work has attracted two grants worth more than \$800,000.

The Michael J Fox Foundation has awarded the team \$350,000 to look for a cure for Parkinson's Disease using cutting edge gene therapy. The actor Michael J Fox, who set up a foundation to fund research into PD, was diagnosed with the disease at 30.

The aim is to place the gene for this protein in a viral vector that can be introduced directly into the brain, in order to utilise its neuroprotective effects – a therapy that could have far reaching implications not only for sufferers of Parkinson's Disease but also for people affected by other neurodegenerative conditions such as Alzheimer's and Motor Neuron disease.

The Parkinson Disease Society



Michael J Fox

has made a grant of £220,000 to further research on the understanding of the action of osteopontin. This work has been the focus of the Society's current fundraising campaign.

Proximogen, established by Peter Jenner, Professor of Pharmacology, has been internationally recognised for its innovative work in tackling this debilitating disease; developing novel approaches to treatment and testing to relieve the most severe symptoms and side-effects.

Breast cancer

SURVIVAL RATES FOR OLDER

women with breast cancer could be 'significantly improved' with an awareness programme that promotes early presentation of the disease, a study led by Professor Amanda Ramirez, Director of the Cancer Research UK London Psychosocial Group based at the Institute of Psychiatry, has found.

Funded by Cancer Research UK, the study – which aims to determine the most effective means of improving breast cancer awareness – found that providing women with an interactive educational booklet or a 10-minute interview with a radiographer plus the booklet increased their awareness of their personal risk of developing the disease, as well as their knowledge about the possible symptoms.



The trial, which involved 460 women, aged between 67 and 72, found that education also increased women's confidence to detect a change in their breasts which could be cancer.

Professor Ramirez said: 'Our study aimed to give older women the knowledge, awareness and skills to detect a breast change, as well as the confidence to go to the doctor straightaway.'

'Simple techniques like providing accessible information booklets and a short interview with a radiographer could help save the lives of many women. We now need to examine whether the techniques will not only raise breast awareness but also decrease the chances that women who develop breast cancer will delay their presentation with the disease.'

Sir Walter Raleigh

A Radio 4 series *Unmasking the English* explored English character traits in the past and the present, and included a discussion on Sir Walter Raleigh with **Andrew Lambert**, Laughton Professor of Naval History.

UUK role

The Principal, **Professor Rick Trainor**, was interviewed by Radio 4's *Today* programme and the *Guardian*'s education supplement in his role as President of Universities UK. The Principal was also quoted in a number of newspapers including *The Sunday Times* and the *Times Higher*.

Cancer awareness

Professor Amanda Ramirez, Director of the Cancer Research UK London Psychosocial Group, commented on a study which showed that survival rates for older women with breast cancer could be 'significantly improved' with an awareness programme on Channel 4 News.

Royal appointment

The *Times Higher* featured **Jayne Lawrence**, Professor of Biophysical Pharmaceutics, who was recently appointed chief scientific advisor to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society.

Criminal youth

In the aftermath of the murder of 11-year-old Rhys Jones, **Professor Stephen Scott**, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, took part in a panel discussion on BBC2's *Newsnight* alongside politicians and youth work experts. They analysed why youth violence now seems so endemic to Britain and its probable root causes.

Midwife units

In an opinion piece in the *British Medical Journal* **Lesley Page**, Visiting Professor of Midwifery, said the shift away from home births to hospital births over the last 50 years had resulted in 'dehumanisation' and lack of personal care. She thinks midwife-led units could go some way to rectifying this.

Mossad spy

Dr Ahron Bregman, Department of War Studies, was interviewed on Egyptian television about the death of Dr Ashraf Marwan, son-in-law of former President of Egypt Nasser, who was exposed by Bregman in 2002 as a Mossad spy and who died in mysterious circumstances in London in June.

NPD

In a *Sunday Times* feature about Narcissistic Personality Disorder (NPD), **Dr Paul Moran**, Clinical Senior Lecturer in the Health Service and Population Research Department, discusses the UK's lack of understanding of NPD.

Genetics

Robert Plomin, Professor of Behavioural Genetics, was interviewed on Radio 4's *Talking Politics* about the importance of genes in understanding differences in individual children.

Napoleon's nature

An article in Toronto's *Globe and Mail* on Napoleon includes comment from **Dr Michael Rowe**, Lecturer in Modern European History, who said the romantic nature of Napoleon's character has always made him popular among weekend historians.

Iraq alliance

Robert Fox, Senior Associate Fellow at the Centre for Defence Studies, wrote a comment piece in the *Guardian* about 'what went wrong' in Iraq, who is responsible, and the Anglo-American alliance.

Allergy epidemic?

Jonathan Brostoff, Professor Emeritus of Allergy and Environmental Health, wrote an article in *The Daily Telegraph* in response to reports that food intolerance and allergies are on the rise.

CPS data

Richard Garside, Director of the Centre for Crime and Justice Studies, wrote about the inefficiency of the Crown Prosecution Service data in *The Evening Standard*.

Sun Tzu

Sun Tzu, Chinese hacking and the Terracotta Army were subjects for discussion for **Philip Sabin**, Professor of Strategic Studies, on *More 4 News*.

Tara Statue

Dr Ashley Jackson, Lecturer in War Studies, appeared on the BBC3 programme *Masterpieces of the East*, commenting on the circumstances in which the Tara Statue in the British Museum came into British hands in 19th century Ceylon.

Immune systems

An *Observer* magazine feature on ageing included a quote from **Dr Deborah Dunn-Walters**, Senior Lecturer in Immunology. Dr Dunn-Walters research examines the deterioration of our immune systems as we age.

HFEA decision

Dr Stephen Minger, Director of King's Stem Cell Biology Laboratory, undertook national and international media interviews, including Sky News, CNN, CBC, Channel 5 News, France 2 and Russian TV to discuss the decision by HFEA to approve the use of human-animal embryos for scientific research into stem cells. **Professor Chris Shaw**, Professor of Neurology, spoke to BBC News 24 TV, BBC Five Live, BBC World Service Update and ZDS German TV.

Radiological terror

Wyn Bowen, Professor of International Security, took part in a Sky News discussion on nuclear proliferation.

Asperger's

The misdiagnosis of Asperger's syndrome as schizophrenia was discussed by **Patricia Howlin**, Professor of Clinical Child Psychology, on Radio 4's *You and Yours*.

President speech

Dr John Gearson, Reader in Terrorism Studies, was interviewed by BBC Breakfast TV on President Bush's major speech on Iraq.

Correction

• To clarify, Dr Vaughan Bell, Institute of Psychiatry, was the author of a paper in the *Journal of Mental Health* detailing why the concept of Internet addiction disorder is impossible. He was not a critic of the article as was stated in 'Addiction unfound' (*Comment 176*).

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, email pr@kcl.ac.uk

Improving student services around the College

King's College London Students' Union (KCLSU) was very busy over the summer improving facilities at both Guy's and the Strand campuses. More than £340,000 has been invested in various improvements, resulting in a new Student Support Centre and facelifts for both Guy's Bar and Tutu's.

The new Student Support Centre, located in the Spit at Boland House, is a dedicated hub for KCLSU student activities – where students can access information on clubs, societies, campaigning and volunteering.

Newly created office space means frontline KCLSU staff are now easier to access and student group leaders have a resource area to organise their activities.

For the first time the Academic Advice service also has its own suite with an area for confidential discussions. The centre, built as part of KCLSU's continuing commitment to improving its services to students, was officially opened by the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, and Simon Hughes, Liberal Democrat MP for Southwark



The new Student Support Centre is officially opened by the Principal, **Professor Rick Trainor**, KCLSU Officers (from left: **Tom AbouNader**, **Jo Williams**, **Adam Farley** and **Peter Ellender**) and **Simon Hughes**, Liberal Democrat MP for Southwark North & Bermondsey.

North & Bermondsey, on 13 September.

Adam Farley, President KCLSU, said: 'The facility will enrich the student experience and the Union is committed to supporting students.'

The refurbishment of Guy's Bar was planned following a series of focus groups held with Guy's students, ensuring their needs

were met with changes to the menu and opening hours. Already a hit with both new and returning students, the redecoration of the bar has stayed true to the strong heritage of Guy's Campus and made innovative use of the Guy's Shield in some attractive wallpaper.

Not to be outdone, Tutu's, KCLSU's nightclub in the

Macadam Building, was also redecorated during the summer break, with improvements made to the seating, lighting, bar and stage area.

A generous donation from the Annual Fund enabled a new PA system to be installed, considerably improving the sound quality for both club nights and live gigs.

Third Sector award

KCLSU HAS WON THE 'MOST IMPROVED trustee board' category in this year's *Third Sector Awards*. This award recognises the forward-thinking governance structure which has recently been implemented by KCLSU.

Third Sector, the UK's leading publication for the not-for-profit sector, celebrates the achievements of charities and voluntary organisations through its Excellence Awards.

KCLSU is one of the few students' unions that have become a company limited by guarantee having formerly existed as an unincorporated association. It appointed a new board of trustees as its governing body – as opposed to a council of students – and recruited a Chief Executive Officer rather than a General Manager.

The judges were so impressed

by the changes KCLSU had implemented that they were described as 'a quantum leap in governance'. The Union, concluded judge Richard Marsh and director, impAcT coalition, had become 'a beacon steering the sector in the right direction'.

Adam Farley, KCLSU President, said: 'We are absolutely delighted to win this prestigious award, especially as we were competing against many of the top UK charities.'

'It demonstrates the progress the KCLSU Trustee Board has made over its first year. Thanks should be given to last year's board for their time and professionalism throughout the changes made – I look forward to working with this year's team and hope to achieve much more.'

The award ceremony took place on 20 September at the Hurlingham Club. This is the third year of the awards.

Graduate competition



HAVE YOU GOT A BRIGHT IDEA?

King's Business and the Graduate School are running a new College-wide Business Plan Competition with a first prize of £5,000.

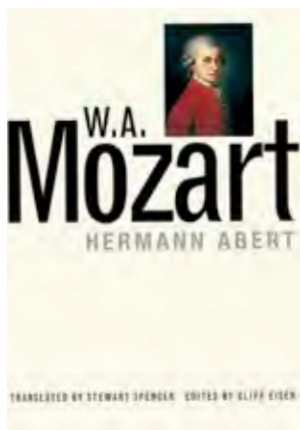
The competition is aimed at

postdoctoral researchers, PhDs and masters students at King's. Benefits include enhancing students' transferable skills and career prospects, and training sessions and support from a business mentor to prepare a high quality business plan.

A wide range of business ideas are encouraged including products, services, social enterprise, technology, creative, health and lifestyle ventures which may or may not be related to your research or study programme.

Dr Alison Campbell, Director of King's Business, comments: 'This initiative seeks to nurture venturing and entrepreneurial spirit in our graduate population so that they are equipped with business and commercial awareness for their future careers.'

To register interest email Harriet Robinson, Business Development Manager (harriet.robinson@kcl.ac.uk).



W. A. Mozart

Edited by Professor Cliff Eisen,
Department of Music

Hermann Abert's classic biography of Mozart, published in German more than 80 years ago, remains the most highly regarded and substantial account of Mozart. The book proceeds chronologically from 1756 to 1791, interrogating every aspect of Mozart's life, influences and experience, both religious and secular, his personality, the social context of the time and the history of 18th-century music generally.

In 'a book within a book', Abert also provides close scrutiny of the music, with chapters on the operas and accounts of the orchestral, chamber and church works.

Developments in Mozart scholarship since Abert's time are signalled by Professor Eisen throughout by thousands of annotations that describe new documentary and factual evidence, a revised account of the sources and chronology of Mozart's works and a bibliography of significant Mozart writings since the 1920s.

At the same time, the thrust of Abert's narrative is preserved. It is this aspect of his biography that more than any other makes it the single most important source on the life and works of Mozart, which now appears for the first time in English. Yale University Press, 2007



Corporate Governance in Japan

Dr Gregory Jackson, Department
of Management

Debates regarding corporate governance have become increasingly important in Japan as the post-war model of bank-based, stakeholder-oriented corporate governance faces the new pressures associated with globalization and growing investor demands for shareholder value.

This book brings together a team of leading scholars from economics, law, sociology and management studies to understand how the Japanese approach to corporate governance has changed in the post-bubble era. The contributions offer a unique and comprehensive empirical exploration of why and how Japanese firms are reshaping their corporate governance arrangements.

While many scholars see Japan as having undergone a 'lost decade' or as inevitably moving towards the Anglo-American model of governance, the book demonstrates how institutional change is leading to greater diversity among Japanese firms and new 'hybrid' forms of corporate governance that attempt to reconcile patterns of lifetime employment with greater capital market orientation. Oxford University Press



Becoming a Teacher

Edited by Justin Dillon and Meg
Maguire, Department of Education
& Professional Studies

Becoming a Teacher was written by people who have two things in common. They have devoted most of their lives to education, teaching, researching or both and have all worked in the Department of Education & Professional Studies at King's.

In the early 1990s, the staff team could not find a textbook that addressed the issues that concerned King's students. So they wrote one themselves for internal consumption. It proved popular, so, with the help of Open University Press, they produced, in 1997, a more polished version.

The first edition proved popular too and had to be reprinted. However, education changes rapidly and books date. The second edition was published in 2001 and was even more successful. Now, six years on, it is time for a third edition.

This new edition remains a unique and powerful combination of ideas, analysis, questions, answers and wisdom. The addition of three new chapters combined with 11 new contributors provides fresh perspectives, ideas and issues for discussion.

Open University Press

Three favourite...

Green spaces near the Strand Campus

As recommended by Christine Rawlings, Comparative Literature Programme Administrator

Victoria Embankment Gardens

Not quite a place of repose: the unremitting drone of Embankment traffic sees to that. But this is a very attractive space with river views, plenty of trees, and splashes of colour from the geraniums and roses. You can buy a French or American magazine from the news stand next door, and pretend for a while that you're away from it all...

St Paul's Churchyard

Unique in its location, what is essentially the walled garden of the famous Actors' Church offers green shade and abundant flowers. There are lawns and benches to sit on, but it does fill up at lunchtimes. No traffic, but the sound of the street entertainers on the piazza – who can sometimes be spotted having their break in the churchyard – offers a more or less pleasant aural backdrop, depending on your point of view.

Drury Lane Gardens

In what could be the smallest public garden in London, located in a surprisingly residential stretch of Drury Lane, there are flowers, trees and benches, and a rare opportunity for peace and quiet. The garden owes its existence to early efforts at improving the environmental health of the capital, and a plaque commemorating its history is posted on the gate.

Let us know your three favourite things related to a King's campus. 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 **14 November**.