

# Comment

The College newsletter

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## Westwood unveils gowns

#### THE COLLEGE LAUNCHED ITS NEW-

look academic gowns in July with a catwalk show featuring King's students. The 20 new gowns and hoods that make up the stunning academic dress were created by the English fashion designer Dame Vivienne Westwood and produced by Ede & Ravenscroft.

On the gowns Vivienne
Westwood comments: 'Through
my reworking of the traditional
robe I tried to link the past, the
present and the future. We are
what we know.'

## Stunning new academic dress

The gowns and hoods have been designed with colours to reflect the College's Schools of study and levels of degree. A unique feature of the gowns is the King's College London lion button on each shoulder. Students graduating from the College in July were the first to wear these striking new gowns.

Vivienne Westwood was approached in 2007 by Baroness Rawlings, the then Chairman of King's, after the College successfully petitioned the Privy Council for degree-awarding powers in its own right.

Brian Salter, Deputy College Secretary & Academic Registrar comments: 'One of the more noticeable impacts of securing its own degree-awarding powers was the need for the College to design our own academic dress. The College is most grateful to Vivienne Westwood for the design and also to Ede & Ravenscroft for their expertise in the production of the academic dress.'

Vivienne Westwood, who was named British Designer of the Year twice in 1990 and 1991, was welcomed to the event at the Great Hall, Strand Campus, by the Principal Professor Rick Trainor. She was awarded an OBE for her services to fashion in 1993 and in 2006 was created a Dame Commander, Order of the British Empire.

See more pictures and read about the graduation ceremonies on page 5.



Dame Vivienne Westwood designed the gowns to 'link the past, the present and the future.'

## King's appoints new Vice-Principal

#### KING'S COLLEGE LONDON HAS

appointed Chris Mottershead as Vice-Principal (Research). Mr Mottershead's current role is as BP's Distinguished Advisor - Energy Security and Climate Change, and he will be taking over the College's research portfolio from Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman, who will continue as one of five Vice-Principals.

Mr Mottershead has developed his career with BP since 1978. and since 2004 has advised BP executive management and governments on a range of strategic issues, including climate change.

Mr Mottershead is an alumnus



Chris Mottershead

of the College; he has a degree in Applied Physics and an MSc in Cybernetics from Chelsea College, which merged with King's in 1985. He is a nonexecutive Director of the Carbon Trust, a member of the Advisory Board of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (US) and the EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council) User Panel.

Commenting on the appointment, the Principal said: 'I am delighted that Chris will be joining the senior management team at King's. Cutting edge research leads and informs all our activities and I have every

confidence that his experience and wide range of international contacts will help develop our research profile significantly.'

Mr Mottershead commented: 'Needless to say, I am very excited at the prospect of joining one of the world's leading universities: King's appears to be making huge advances at the moment, and there could be no better time to get involved in the increasingly competitive world of international academic research.'

## Principal's Column

Dear Colleagues The world's imagination has been captivated by the Olympics this Summer, and I am delighted that members of the College have played their part in these

outstanding games.

In particular, congratulations to student Katherine Grainger for becoming the first British woman to win medals at three consecutive games, and to her Silver medal-winning rowing team mates Frances Houghton and Annabel Vernon, both of whom are alumni (see page 3). I look forward to congratulating them, and College staff and alumni who have achieved so much in so many areas, at the second King's Awards which are to be held in mid-September.

Over July and August, more than 6,000 staff and research graduates were migrated to the new College email service. This major initiative, undertaken by ISS in collaboration with School IT Units, is only the first phase in a significant project to

modernise e-communications across the College.

Some members of staff were severely inconvenienced by an interruption to service in August and I am sorry for this. Unfortunately, King's, along with a significant number of international universities, were subject to a major network security (phishing) attack, and remedial action had to be taken to ensure that no email accounts were compromised in any way. The downtime was not directly linked to the introduction of the new email service. A new IT Security Framework will be launched across the College in readiness for the new academic vear.

As we begin a new academic year, I extend a warm welcome to new staff and students who are joining King's. The last few years have seen the College go from strength to strength and I have every confidence that the results of the RAE (Research Assessment Exercise) will be positive for the College when these are released in December.

Finally, I wish I were able to report conclusively on our plans for Somerset House but, at the time of writing, contractual negotiations are still underway. I strongly hope these will be concluded soon.

**Rick Trainor** 

## £158m received in awards

#### £157.7 MILLION POUNDS HAS BEEN

awarded to the College for new or renewed research projects during the financial year 1 August 2007-31 July 2008. This is made up of 806 projects, and represents the highest value of awards ever received by King's.

It compares with the 808 awards received last year which were worth £135.3 million. Fiftynine of this year's awards were worth over £500,000, of which 31 were worth over £1 million and five were worth over £3 million.

Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman, Vice Principal commented: 'I am very pleased by the solid performance in grant winning from across the College. This is the third year in a row in which we have seen significant growth and demonstrates the strengthening of our research base. By comparison, in 2004-5 the College only managed to bring in some £80m of new awards.'

These awards, many of which are in themselves prestigious, support the whole spectrum of the College's research activities in all Schools and Divisions, and have been received from a wide variety of sources, including Research Councils, charities and international foundations.

## Funding boost to King's

#### **ACADEMIC INITIATIVES AND**

student activities at King's will significantly benefit from a new £200 million government scheme, launched in July, enabling UK universities to increase their income from voluntary giving.

The Matched Funding scheme for the higher education sector adds Government money to donations from individuals to universities. Under the scheme, King's will receive an extra £1 from the Government for every £3 donated.

Gemma Peters, Director of Development at King's, commented: 'The Matched Funding scheme is great news for King's and Higher Education fundraising as a whole. Being able to match gifts will help us to encourage alumni, staff and former staff to make a gift to the College. An increase in individual donations will enable us to support more academic initiatives, scholarships and student activities.'

The Matched Funding scheme will run until 2011.

## Olympic silver for King's rowers

#### KING'S STUDENT KATHERINE GRAINGER

became the first British woman to win medals at three consecutive Olympic Games in August, with silver in the quadruple sculls in Beijing. She won the medal alongside two King's graduates.

#### A fantastic achievement

The race took place over 2,000 metres and for 1,700 metres of the race the British team were in the lead, however the Chinese team had a sudden surge and powered through to win the nation's first Olympic gold medal in the sport.

The British team comprises King's student and alums: Katherine Grainger MBE, Frances Houghton and Annie Vernon, along with their team mate Debbie Flood.

In a BBC blog posted after the race, Katherine commented: 'If someone had said five years ago that by August 2008 I would be three-times world champion and double Olympic silver medallist I



Katharine Grainger, Francis Houghton, Debbie Flood and Annabel Vernon rowing for Olympic silver.

wouldn't have believed them...To be at my third Olympics is just absolutely incredible and to win a second silver medal [is] absolutely awesome too.'

Professor Rick Trainor said: 'This is a fantastic achievement and one of which the entire King's community is extremely proud. Out warmest congratulations.'

Katherine, currently studying for a PhD in Law at King's, has won the World Championships four times, achieved Olympic success in 2000 and 2004 and was awarded an MBE for services to sport in 2006. Frances, who studied for a BA Hispanic Studies (2003), is also an Olympic medallist and three times World Champion. Katherine and Frances rowed together at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, where they scooped silver medals.

Annabel graduated from the College with an MA in International Relations in 2007.

## £2 million for new Medical Humanities Centre

#### THE WELLCOME TRUST HAS GIVEN

King's one of two highly prestigious awards to support the best research in medical humanities.

Over five years, King's will receive around £2 million and Durham University £1.8 million. The grants will each be used to establish a centre of excellence in the emerging field of medical humanities.

Drawing on research areas in philosophy, literature and the arts as well as medicine, nursing and psychiatry, King's will extend its existing research programmes in medical humanities and help to develop the field internationally.

Project leader Brian Hurwitz, Professor of Medicine & the Arts, and his colleagues at the newly emerging Centre for Health Sciences and the Humanities, will undertake a series of multidisciplinary studies under



Learning to bandage – an insight into the history of nurse training.

the umbrella 'The Boundaries of Illness'. The group will be looking at personal and cultural representations of health and illness and the boundaries.

They will explore people's experiences of health and their responses to illness.

Professor Hurwitz comments: 'This award from the Wellcome Trust will significantly boost already existing cross-College research initiatives in the medical humanities.'

The King's Medical Humanities Centre will intensively develop collaborations across new academic interfaces; between Nursing, Film Studies and English, Medicine and Art History, Philosophy, Medicine and Psychology, Literature and Medicine, and between History and Psychiatry.

Professor Hurwitz explains:
'The Centre's research will be diverse, but will share some academic foci in common, including exploration of what the humanities contribute to understanding the subjective, inner experience of illness and study of the personal and cultural representations of health and illness and the boundaries between them.'

## King's top for MRC funding

#### KING'S HAS RECEIVED THE HIGHEST

amount of Medical Research Council (MRC) funding of any university, among the top 20 Universities for 2006-7, with an income total of £23,664,490.

## Highest amount of MRC funding

The figures in *Research Fortnight* show that King's tops the list of

the most successful institutions along with Oxford, Cambridge, UCL, and Imperial, with these five institutions receiving just under half the total MRC income in 2006-7 of £256 million. The College is home to five MRC Centres in total, more than any other university, and more than a quarter of all such centres are based at the College.

These include: the Centre for Social Genetic and Developmental Psychiatry (led by Professor Peter McGuffin), the Centre for Developmental Neurobiology (led by Professor Andrew Lumsden, FRS), the MRC-Asthma UK Centre in Allergic Mechanisms of Asthma (led by Professor Tak Lee and Professor Tim Williams of Imperial College London) and the Centre for Neurodegeneration Research (led Professor Brian Anderton) and the MRC Centre for Transplantation (led by Professor Steven Sacks).



## Chief Nursing Officer lectures at King's

#### THE CHIEF NURSING OFFICER (CNO),

Dame Christine Beasley gave a lecture at King's in July to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the NHS. The event was also attended by government health minister Ann Keen MP, who spoke on the achievements and challenges facing the NHS on its diamond birthday.

Professor Anne Marie Rafferty, Head of the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery (FNSNM) said: 'We are delighted to welcome the Chief Nursing Officer to King's to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the NHS with a focus on Nursing and Midwifery, which has particular resonance for our School.'



From left: Dame Christine Beasley, Professor Anne Marie Rafferty, Anne Keen MP and Professor Rick Trainor.

Dame Christine Beasley, who is also a Visiting Professor with FNSNM, lectured to an audience of academics, directors of nursing, and practitioners, on a comprehensive overview of the recent report by Lord Darzi, A High Quality Care For All-NHS Next Stage Review.

In her speech, the CNO stressed that that there are few clinical settings in which either nurses or midwives are not present, or where they do not influence the quality of care offered, and that the aspirations set out by Lord Darzi in his review would have significant implications for nurses and midwives.

The CNO commented: 'The work represented the most thorough evaluation of its kind, and generated new proposals for structuring nursing careers to reflect future needs of patients and the service.

## Dual ministerial visits to the College

#### KING'S RECEIVED TWO MINISTERIAL

visits in July to see at first hand the best the College has to offer in terms of cutting-edge research and high quality student provision.

Gerry Sutcliffe MP, Minister for Sport, visited the Drug Control Centre (DCC), Waterloo Campus, to find out how samples from sportsmen and women are tested for prohibited substances. Mr Sutcliffe was given a tour of the centre's laboratories by the Director, Professor David Cowan, and Vice-Principal Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman.

The DCC is one of only 33

laboratories accredited by the World Anti-Doping Agency to conduct drug testing in sport. Annually the Centre analyses more than 7,500 samples. This year that figures includes around 1,500 tests conducted on every British athlete who went to Beijing for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Ahead of the Games, the DCC also held a media open day to show how they are unmasking athletes who cheat through using prohibited substances or methods.

On the same day as Mr Sutcliffe's visit, Baroness Delyth



Baroness Morgan

Morgan, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Intellectual Property and Quality in the Department of Innovation, Universities & Skills, visited the Strand Campus. Baroness Morgan was met by the Principal, and Assistant Principal (Estates) Professor Colin Bushnell, for a tour of the Campus.

This was followed by a presentation by Professor Phil Whitfield, Vice-Principal, on student finance, and a question and answer session with students and representatives from KCLSU. Professor Freedman and Dr Alison Campbell, Director of King's Business, then gave an overview of the College's research strategy.

## New academic gowns showcased

#### THE NEW ACADEMIC GOWNS. DESIGNED

by Vivienne Westwood, were showcased at the first graduation ceremonies of the summer, following their launch in July.

Dame Vivienne Westwood and former Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport, Lord Smith (Chris Smith) were among those wearing the gowns as they received their Honorary Fellowships (see page 10). Six of the Graduation Ceremonies were held at The Barbican, while three were held at Southwark Cathedral. The Chairman of the Council, the Marquess of Douro, and the Principal, Professor Richard Trainor, presided.

More than 2,500 students attended together with nearly 8,000 family, friends and guests of the College.

This year also saw the first students graduate from the War in the Modern World master's programme. Below are a selection of images from the catwalk show and the graduation ceremonies.

CATWALK SHOW PICTURES: GREG FUNNELL GRADUATION CEREMONIES PICTURES: PATRICK BARTH



## Professor Roger Parker

Roger Parker, Thurston Dart Professor of Music and graduate of King's College London, has recently been awarded a fellowship of the British Academy. Here he talks about his passion for Italian opera, his time in the United States and what the future holds.

### When did you first become passionate about music?

Like most people whose lives are immersed in music, immersion started pretty early: in my case with enrolment in the local church choir when I was about six. There was no formal training. The choirmaster just said: 'Here's the music and these funny-shaped things are called notes, when they go higher on the page, you sing higher; just follow the older boys and you'll be all right.' And that's mostly what I did for a long time, just sing in choirs. I had the occasional attempt at playing the piano, and even wrestled nobly with the trombone for a time but all that was really my older brother's domain – he won all the prizes.

I was also pretty hopeless academically – scraped a few O-levels, failed one A-level and got an E in the other. Then something terrible happened. My brother – a couple of years into his Oxford undergraduate career (reading Music, of course) – was killed in a senseless accident. I spent a long time not coping well with this, but eventually I saw I had to do something, and that something turned out to be studying music.

Perhaps it was compensatory. Whatever it was, everything slotted into place: A-level Music; Goldsmiths' as an undergraduate; King's for the masters and PhD. The greatest influence was my PhD supervisor, Pierluigi Petrobelli, who taught me how to take Italian opera seriously, but who also became a (lifelong) mentor – a person whose human qualities I have tried to emulate.

#### Tell us about your career.

Almost immediately after the PhD, I secured a job at Cornell University in upstate New York. It was an enormously vibrant place intellectually, and I soon met up with a group of US contemporaries who have remained my closest intellectual colleagues.

I stayed there 12 years, and even after a further 14 years back here I still feel somehow part of the US academic environment. But coming back was important for family reasons, and gave me other pleasures: perhaps especially the chance to work with wonderful graduates at Oxford and then Cambridge, some of whom have since decamped to jobs in the US.

The best decision I made in a long while,

though (and I'm not just saying this!), was coming back to King's a couple of years ago. All the people I knew as a graduate student had of course long gone, but the intellectual stimulation and general atmosphere is certainly the best I've experienced in the UK.

I'm called the 'Thurston Dart Professor of Music', which feels slightly odd. Professor Dart taught me in my first term at university, at the very end of his life (he was King Edward Professor of Music, and we Goldsmiths' students were invited to King's periodically). Even then, although he was very ill, he retained great flamboyance. I remember jaws dropping all around the room as he announced that Saint Saens's piano concertos were obviously so much better than Beethoven's.

## How did you feel to be elected a Fellow of the British Academy?

Being elected a Fellow of the British Academy is a great honour. There are only a handful of musicologist Fellows, and so I feel that I'll have an extra responsibility to represent the subject as best I can, and also to try to encourage good scholarship in whatever form it comes.

## How do you feel your subject area has developed?

During the last 20 or so years, musicology has undergone some quite radical changes. The focus of interest has moved relentlessly forward in time, so that now people who work on 20th and 21st century topics are by far the most numerous. More importantly, though, a great many of these people do not work on 'classical' music, but have delved into a vast array of new areas (world music, popular music, jazz, traditional music) and new methodologies (music cognition, ethnography, anthropology, gender studies).

I look back to my masters' days at King's, when the 'core' course was devoted exclusively to medieval notation and the dissertation had to be a critical edition – of a work before 1800: a lot has changed. I'm getting to the age when some of my contemporaries see these changes in terms of decline; decline of 'standards' or of 'essential skills'. But I do not read it that way, and keep being amazed and energized by the range of abilities that the best students can marshal to their various causes.



### Fact file

#### Book on my bedside table

As usual, the one I'm reading at the moment! Today's answer is Bram Stoker's *Dracula*.

#### **Favourite holiday destination**

Bayreuth in August.

#### **Proudest work moment**

Being Bloch Lecturer at UC Berkeley.

#### What does the future hold?

I am just finishing a large project, a book on opera written jointly with one of my US friends, Carolyn Abbate. It is going to be published by Penguin, and so is (we hope) for both a scholarly and general readership, which makes the tone rather tricky.

And after the opera book? Somewhat to my surprise, I am reading a lot of 19th century English fiction these days, and think that I may want to write a book about music in London in the 1830s.

Coming 'home' to London has, I think, engendered this new enthusiasm: how could anyone writing about music ignore the experience of working in a city such this, with its enormous musical energies still bubbling away around every corner?

## First GPEP students graduate

#### THE FIRST EVER KING'S MEDICAL

students from the Graduate/ Professional Entry (GPEP) Programme celebrated their graduation in July at a Degree Ceremony held at Southwark Cathedral.

This innovative programme, which has been developed by King's is designed to enable graduates with honours degrees in arts or science subjects, and healthcare professionals with equivalent academic qualifications, to study for a degree in medicine on a four-year programme. The course is by far the most popular graduate entry course in the country with 1,500 applicants per annum with 62 applicants per place.



The first GPEP graduates celebrate their success.

Dr Robin Poston, course convener, comments: 'It is interesting that the students we take are not restricted to those from a scientific background, unlike many of the competing courses, and these able students manage well even without a scientific training. In fact some of the highest fliers have graduated in classics or literature.'

All the examinations for the graduate students are comparable with those taken by the other medical students, and they have consistently outperformed their peers.

Dr Poston comments:
'These students are contributing significantly to the high overall standard of those graduating as doctors from the King's. Indeed, through their dedication and maturity, it is widely considered that they have a beneficial influence on the other medical students during their years in the College.'

## Drug discovery lab established



**Dr Jonathan Corcoran** (right) has established a drug discovery group with funding from the Wellcome Trust

#### DR JONATHAN CORCORAN, SENIOR

Research Fellow in the Wolfson Centre for Age Related Diseases (CARD) has set up a small molecule Drug Discovery group funded with a £3.1 million grant from the Wellcome Trust to develop a new drug for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

This is the first lab of its kind at King's which can carry out high throughput screening for drug candidates. Dr Corcoran said: 'The expertise we have brought together in the laboratory, in cloning and over-expressing various tagged receptors, setting up assays to look for

drug candidates and project management will be of wider use to other research groups who are interested in drug discovery. We have established contacts with medicinal chemists who can design and make compounds and have access in house to molecular modelling.'

The work on Alzheimer's drug discovery will take place over the next three years in the CARD and during this time collaborations across the college will be established to take advantage of the expertise and technology available within this group.

### Epilepsy grant boost

Two research teams from the Institute of Psychiatry have won grants from Epilepsy Research UK to fund major research projects into Epilepsy.

The first team, headed up by Professor (currently Dr) Laura Goldstein, have been awarded a grant worth £79,823 to carry out an 18-month pilot study that will look at the feasibility of recruiting patients to a trial comparing the effectiveness of an adapted

version of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for epilepsy.

There is currently a lot of interest worldwide into how to use brain scans to locate memory function in the brain, prior to surgery for temporal lobe epilepsy. Professor Mark Richardson and his group have been awarded a grant of £85,681 to enable them to compare and contrast the three different surgical procedures.

### Women in science award

#### THE COLLEGE HAS WON A NATIONAL

award for the active steps it is taking to support the career progression and development of women working in science, engineering and technology disciplines (SET).

The Athena SWAN Charter, a scheme for the recognition of excellence in SET in higher education, has acknowledged King's efforts and initiatives in this area with a Bronze Award.

To win, the College had to collect and analyse key data and then develop action plans on gender equality for three areas:

· Knowing the base line and the

SET academic profile

- Providing positive support for women at key career transition points
- Changing the culture and gender balance in decision making

A steering group of female members of staff from across the College was established. Chair Sarah Guthrie, Professor of Developmental Biology, comments: 'I am really delighted that King's has won this award, which represents an important first step in progressing women's careers in the science, engineering and technology disciplines.

#### **End of Life Care Strategy**

Irene Higginson, Professor of Palliative Care, was a key contributor to the Department of Health's new End of Life Care Strategy published in July. The 10-year strategy is the first comprehensive framework aimed at promoting high quality palliative care across the country for all adults approaching end of life and is backed by £268 million in public funding.

Professor Higginson said: 'The importance of this announcement and the Government's commitment to improving end of life coincides with the construction of the Cicely Saunders Institute of Palliative Care. We look forward to continuing our work with the Department of Health in achieving this aim through our research, education and support programme at the Institute.'

#### **Multiple vaccinations not** to blame



Researchers from King's Centre for Military Health Research have shown that multiple vaccinations have not been the cause of ill health in UK service personnel deployed to Iraq.

The new study, led by Dominic Murphy and published on bmj.com in July, says 'recall bias' is to blame, when people link a perception of ill-health with their memory of having had multiple vaccinations.

The findings add to the ongoing debate surrounding the impact multiple vaccinations may have had on the health of Gulf war veterans after the 1991 war. Several studies have found an association between self-reported multiple vaccinations in service personnel deployed to the Gulf war and later ill-health. However, other studies have not found these associations.

#### **Obesity gene influences** appetite



Scientists at King's and UCL have found that the gene associated with obesity works through effects on appetite. This new research helps to unravel the mechanism of the genetic basis of obesity.

The study, published in the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism, strongly suggests that the gene works by modifying appetite, so that the children in the study who had two copies of the higher-risk FTO gene are less likely to have their appetite 'switched off' by eating.

The co-author on the paper, Claire Haworth in the MRC Social, Genetic and Developmental Psychiatry Centre, Institute of Psychiatry at King's, commented: 'It is exciting to come closer to understanding how the FTO gene might affect obesity. This research suggests that the genetic risk comes from not recognizing signs of being full after eating (satiety), which is also exciting because it suggests ways in which this research can be translated into treatment and prevention.'

#### 1000 transplants at King's and beyond

King's celebrated '1000 transplants and beyond' at the College in June. The celebration, at the Weston Education Centre, marked the 1,080th bone marrow transplant at King's College Hospital.

The programme started in 1986 and the hospital is now the largest adult allogeneic centre for bone marrow transplant in the UK and one of the largest in the world for unrelated transplantation.

The day's events were sponsored by the Leukaemia Research Fund (LRF) and the Elimination of Leukaemia Fund (ELF). The ceremony was attended by the Vice-Principal for Health, Professor Robert Lechler who chaired a scientific session and spoke on 'T-regulatory cells in allogeneic transplantation'.

#### \$232m deal for King's company

Proximagen Neuroscience plc, one of King's most successful spin-out companies, has agreed a \$232 million worldwide licensing deal with a leading American pharmaceutical company to develop a new drug for Parkinson's disease.

The agreement with Upsher-Smith Laboratories Inc is for the development and commercialisation of PRX-1, a preclinical stage product for the symptomatic treatment of Parkinson's disease.

King's Professor of Pharmacology Peter Jenner, Chief Scientific Officer of Proximagen, comments: 'This is an important step forward in the treatment of Parkinson's disease and also demonstrates clearly how research in the academic environment can be translated successfully into commercial success.'

#### **Breakthough for Duane Syndrome**

An international team of researchers including Professor Sarah Guthrie's research group from the MRC Centre for Developmental Neurobiology at King's, have identified and investigated the function of a gene mutated in the eye movement disorder, Duane Syndrome.

The human congenital disorder Duane Syndrome affects 1 in 1,000 individuals, and results in limited horizontal (sideways) eve movements.

Dr Guthrie said: 'This is an exciting collaboration which has allowed us to work closely with clinical colleagues in a concerted effort to apply basic research to an important clinical problem.

The results of our work have wide implications for better diagnosis and treatment of eye disorders

as well as for our understanding of how motor neurons develop in embryonic and foetal life.'

#### **New bacterial species found** in mouth

A new study, led by William Wade, Professor of Oral Microbiology from the Dental Institute, has revealed a new species of bacteria, prevotella histicola, could be a contributory factor to gum disease and tooth decay.

It is hoped that this discovery will help scientists better understand these problems and could lead to better treatments. Professor Wade's team, in collaboration with scientists at the Forsyth Institute, Boston, compiled the first comprehensive list of oral bacterial species earlier this year.

The database helps scientists studying the role of specific bacteria in human health and disease, and paves the way to constructing similar databases for other body sites such as the skin and the large intestine.

#### **New help for arthritis** sufferers



Scientists at King's have discovered a new and potentially major pain signalling pathway in inflammatory arthritis that may open up new possibilities for pain relief.

Recent research conducted at the Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases (CARD), Guy's Campus, points to the existence of a novel pathway in arthritis pain perception that is located in the spinal cord and may be blocked by drug therapy.

The team at CARD, led by Dr Marzia Malcangio, Senior Lecturer in Cellular Biology, have been awarded a threeyear grant of £172,916 by the Arthritis Research Campaign to pursue this line of research.

## Department of Geography

Geography has been a key area of research and teaching since the foundation of the College. This article reveals how the Department is evolving with, and adapting to, the changing climate.

established in 1829. Currently, the Department of Geography at King's College London has 42 members of academic staff, 100 research students, 170 taught postgraduate students and 350 undergraduate students.

In addition to the support staff, there are 17 postdoctoral research associates working on externally-funded research projects. The department undertakes research across a broad range of areas within the humanities, social, physical and environmental sciences.

#### An international approach

The Department's research culture is international in its outlook and emphasises geography as an integrative field of study. Geography is the subject that is at the cutting edge of work being done on cities, environmental sustainability and human security. Members of staff in the department are leading the research in partnership with government, funding bodies and nongovernmental bodies.

Research is organised around four groups involving academic, research and technical staff as well as research students: the Cities Group; the Environmental Monitoring & Modelling Group; the Environment, Politics & Development Group and the Hazards and Risk Group. The latter encompasses the King's Centre for Risk Management.

#### **Collaborative working**

There is significant cross-disciplinary activity in the area of 'Water Science, Management and Policy' whose 'leading light' is Professor Tony Allan, winner of this year's Stockholm Water Prize.

Paul Ekins joined the Department in January as Professor of Environment & Energy policy and leads a team which is responsible for, amongst other things, the UK Energy Research Model. This team is part of the Environment Politics and Development (EPD) group. The Department is heavily involved in developing some of the cross-cutting themes now under consideration in the College. The King's Institute for Urban Sustainability, led by Professor Ekins, is currently based in the Department.

#### **Current and emerging areas of research**

With 30 human geographers in the department covering a wide range of topics, we have the



London's regeneration is a key research area of the Department.

largest group of urban researchers in any UK geography department with expertise on London's regeneration, its gentrification and issues of social justice.

A second cluster of expertise focuses on the environment in both the global north and south and how issues of consumption and production come together, for example in relation to fair trade, political ecology and eco-tourism.

Another group, which encompasses some physical geographers, is concerned with disasters and disaster management, such as flood risk, adaptation and change, and terrorism.

The physical geographers work in a wide range of areas including desert and tropical environments and river management. The department was an early pioneer in the development of computer modelling techniques under the inspired leadership of the late Professor John Thornes.

Finally, two emerging areas of strength are urban climatology and remote sensing in support of which we have been winning increasing amounts of research council funding. We have developed closed environment facilities for exploring controls on plant ecological functioning, while our indoor ground penetrating radar test facility enables us to develop remote methods for sub-surface and soil moisture investigation.

The earth surface materials laboratory supports the physical and chemical analysis of water, soils, sediments, and other samples (eg via laser particle sizing and ion chromatography), and a new, bigger laboratory is currently being constructed.

#### **Academic programmes**

We have recently redesigned our undergraduate degree programme to enable students to follow pathways not only in human and physical geography but also the environment and development, thus reflecting both our research strengths and major contemporary concerns.

The Department has one of the largest taught postgraduate communities in Geography in the UK with three new master's degrees starting in 2009 (MSc Carbon, MSc Water and MSc Global Environmental Change).

A new programme in Disasters, Adaptation and Development under Dr Mark Pelling's leadership begins in September 2008 as does the new MA in Terror, Security and Society which is run jointly with the Department of War Studies and is led by Dr Brooke Rogers from the Department of Geography.

#### **Continuing success**

The continuing success of the department is reflected in the diversity of students it attracts from all over the world, its international research profile, as evidenced by over £2 million of research grant income in the last 12 months and the high quality of its published material. These include leading monographs by recognised international leaders in subjects spanning the historical geographies of Latin America, the regeneration of global cities, global ecologies, the carbon economy, and consumption and the environment. The Department considers itself very fortunate to have been rehoused in the King's Building redevelopment which provides a high quality environment for our activities.

### Prize for young researcher

Dr Mike Seddon, Clinical Research Fellow in the Department of Cardiology, has won the prize of Young Research Worker of the Year at the annual British Cardiovascular Society conference.

He was awarded the prize for his role in the discovery of a fundamental new mechanism that may be crucial for the development of new medicines to tackle high blood pressure, the results of which were recently published in the journal Circulation.

Working within a team led by Professor Aiav Shah and Professor Phil Chowienczyk, Dr Seddon found that in humans the 'tone' of blood vessels - the extent that they're constricted to maintain healthy blood pressure – is regulated by the enzyme Neuronal Nitric Oxide Synthase (nNOS). Previously, researchers thought that the control was down to a different form of NOS. Endothelial Nitric Oxide Synthase (eNOS).

Dr Seddon comments: 'The particularly novel aspect of the study is that it identifies a fundamental new mechanism in vascular regulation in humans in vivo which may be of significant relevance to diseases such as hypertension.'

### Honorary lecturer receives fellowship

Dr Stephen Keevil, Honorary Senior Lecturer in Imaging Sciences, has just been awarded the Fellowship of the European Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine and Biology.

The award is given for 'important contributions to the Society or to its fields of interest', and will be bestowed at a ceremony during the Society's annual congress in Valencia this October. There have only been five previous awards of Fellowship by the Society.

Dr Keevil's work focuses around the physics of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and he heads up the group providing scientific support to clinical MRI services at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals.

## 2008 College Fellows and Honorary Fellows



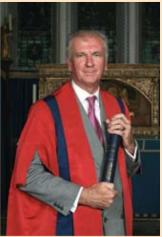
**Professor Judith Herrin** 



Dame Vivienne Westwood



**Professor Susan Standring** 

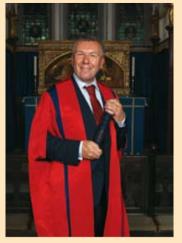


Professor Brian Holden Reid Fifteen Honorary Fellowships

and ten Fellowships of King's College London were conferred in the Graduations Ceremonies held in July at the Barbican and Southwark Cathedral.

The new Honorary Fellows are: • Mr John McGrath, the first Chairman of Cicely Saunders International and a director of ITV until January this year

- Mr Geoff Shepherd, Chief Executive of the Guy's and St Thomas' Charity
- Lord Smith of Finsbury, former Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport (1997-2001), founding Director of the Chlore Leadership programme and Chairman of the London Cultural Consortium
- Sir David Walker, former Director of the Bank of England, and Chairman and Chief

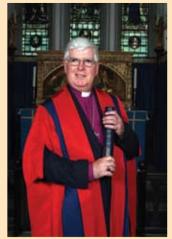


Mr Geoff Sheperd

Executive of Morgan Stanley · Dame Vivienne Westwood, fashion designer, twice named British Designer of the Year.

The new fellows are:

- · Rt Revd Dr Thomas Butler, Bishop of Southwark, and member of the College Council
- · Mr Anthony Evans, recently retired Headmaster, King's College School
- · Professor Jonathan Glover, Director of the Centre for Medical Law & Ethics, King's College London
- **Professor Judith Herrin.** Professor of Late Antique & Byzantine Studies, Department of Byzantine & Modern Greek, King's College London
- · Professor Brian Holden Reid, Professor of American History & Military Institutions, Department of War Studies,



Rt Revd Dr Thomas Butler

King's College London · Professor Leonee Ormond, recently retired Professor of Victorian Studies, Department of English, King's College London

- Professor John Phillips, Professor of English Law and former Head of the School of Law, King's College London
- **Professor Lord Plant of Highfield**, Professor of Jurisprudence & Political Philosophy, and outgoing Head of the School of Law, King's College London
- Professor Susan Standring, Head of Department of Anatomy & Human Sciences, King's College London
- Mr Christopher Wiscarson, Alumnus and Chairman of the Development Committee, Director of Group IT and Operations, Lloyds TSB [For reasons of space we are unable to print all photos.]

The European Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine and Biology is a non-profit Society, which aims to support educational activities and research. The ESMRMB is open to physicians, engineers, scientists and other individuals who are interested in the developments or the introduction of magnetic resonance techniques in the fields of medicine and biology.

### Scientists win NARSAD awards

Eight scientists from the Institute of Psychiatry have received 'Young Investigator Awards' from NARSAD, a leading charity dedicated to mental health research. The awards, worth \$60,000 each, comprise two year grants for research into psychiatric disorders and will be given to:

- Dr Elvira Bramon
- Dr Marinos Kyriakopoulos
- Dr Julia Lappin
- **Dr Jonathan Mill**
- Dr Chiara Nosarti
- Dr Kuan-Pin Su Dr Lucia Valmaggia
- **Dr Evangelos Vassos**

NARSAD selected the eight King's scientists from amongst 220 early-career scientists in the US and 11 other countries to receive funds this year to advance their research.

Read more at www.narsad.org

### Max Weber **Fellowship**

Diego Muro, Lecturer in European Studies, has won a Max Weber Fellowship from the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, Italy.

The Max Weber Programme is Europe's largest post-doctoral programme in the social sciences and is funded by the European Commission. The fellowships are for one or two years and are open to candidates who have received a doctorate in economics, social and political sciences, law or history within the last five years. Over 700 applications were received for this call and 40 awards were made.

During his time in Florence, Dr Muro will be mentored by

## Teaching excellence recognised

The winners of the annual King's Teaching Excellence Awards were announced in May. These awards, now in their sixth year. provide students from each of the College's nine Schools of study with an opportunity to nominate staff for the excellence of their teaching. This year over 200 staff were nominated for the Award. Schools can either give the Award to one person or divide it between a number of individuals.

Congratulations to all winners of the 2007-8 Teaching Excellence Awards, and particularly to Dr Alistair Hunter and Professor David Carpenter who have received this award for a second year running and to **Dr Barbara Moreland** who has now received the Award on a record three occasions.

**Biomedical & Health Sciences Dr Barbara Moreland** (Biochemistry)

#### **Dental Institute**

**Mr Michael Thomas** (Conservative Dentistry)

#### **Humanities**

Dr Peter Adamson (Philosophy) **Professor David Carpenter** (History) **Dr Susan Labelle** (English Language & Literature) **Professor John Stokes** 

(English Language & Literature)

**Florence Nightingale School** of Nursing & Midwifery **Ms Mary Pennell** 

#### **Institute of Psychiatry**

**Professor Edgar Jones** (Psychological Medicine)

**Mr Adam Dovle** 

#### **Medicine**

Dr Alistair Hunter (Anatomy & Human Sciences) **Dr Sue Peat** (Cardiovascular Division) **Dr Matthew Smith** (Haematology)

## **Physical Sciences &**

**Dr Nicolas Gold** (Computer Science) Dr Jean Alexandre (Physics)

#### **Social Science & Public Policy**

Dr Michael Goodman (Geography) Dr John Mackinlay (War Studies)

[For reasons of space we are unable to print all photos.]



**Adam Doyle** 



Dr Peter Adamson



Dr Jean Alexandre



**Mary Pennell** 



Dr Nicholas Gold



**Professor David Carpenter** 

Professor Donatella Della Porta (Politics Department) and he will start a new research project on de-radicalisation. His research will compare the processes that led to the disbandment of four terrorist groups in Western Europe.

### Professor conducts BBC Proms

**George Benjamin**, Henry Purcell Professor of Composition, conducted a night at the BBC Proms in August. Professor Benjamin conducted the Symphony Orchestra in five pieces including one of his own.

The BBC Proms Festival is held each year at the Royal Albert Hall between July and September, and is now in its 114th season. This concert was the 27th of the 2008 season, out of 76 in total.

A former pupil of Messiaen, Professor Benjamin opened with *L'Ascension*, a sequence of meditations on religious themes. Carolin Widmann then made her Proms debut in Stravinsky's coolly neo-Classical concerto.

### RSM honours Professor Eady

Professor Robin Eady, Emeritus Professor of Experimental Dermatopathology, St John's Institute of Dermatology, Division of Genetics & Molecular Medicine, has been given an Honorary Fellowship with the Royal Society of Medicine for his research into Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB).

EB is a rare genetic disease characterized by the presence of extremely fragile skin and recurrent blister formation.

On Professor Eady's appointment, Professor David Gawkrodger, President of the Section of Dermatology at the RSM, said: 'Professor Eady's contribution has put EB on the medical map and single-handedly brought EB to the attention of the public by defining sub-groups and refining diagnostics techniques.'

'He has developed an international framework for the treatment of patients worldwide – a service which is recognised as the gold standard.'

### HKU Partnership Award

**Dr Grainne McAlonan** (Department of Psychiatry, University of Hong Kong), was the recipient of first Hong Kong University – KCL Partnership Award, and spent a month visiting Professor Declan Murphy at the Institute of Psychiatry in July.

The Partnership Award was established to fund one member of staff from each University to spend time at the other institution to strengthen links between the Universities.

Dr McAlonan's research interests are in brain imaging and preclinical models of autism, and other neurodevelopmental disorders. Her visit helped to establish long-term research collaborations between her research group and King's, and to exchange technical expertise.

On her visit to King's Dr McAlonan said: 'The value



Dr Grainne McAlonan

of meeting fellow researchers face-to-face cannot be underestimated. The fellowship offered many discussions with many researchers in a very concentrated period. I am now exploring ways to facilitate visits to Hong Kong with my new colleagues at the Institute of Psychiatry.'

School of Medicine

• Dr Robert Williams, School of Biomedical & Health Sciences

Each successful nominee will receive a payment of £1,000 into their College research account.

Commenting on the results,
Professor Vaughan Robinson,
Director of the Graduate
School said: 'The quality of
the supervision provided by
King's academics is key to the
postgraduate experience and to our
achieving the highest qualification
rates of any English University. It
also helps us greatly to recruit the
world's best students.'

## Supervisory Excellence awards The Graduate School has

The Graduate School has announced the results of this year's round of the Supervisory Excellence Awards (formerly known as Distinguished Supervisor Awards). The awards are designed to recognise and reward those postgraduate supervisors who offer their students outstanding supervision and support.

The overall winner of this year's award was **Professor Sarah Gowley**, Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery. The other winners were:

- **Professor Gordon Proctor**, Dental Institute
- **Professor Catherine Boyle**, School of Humanities
- Dr Loretta Lees, School of Social Science & Public Policy
- Dr Jean-Marc Gallo, Institute of Psychiatry
- **Professor Robert Plomin**, Institute of Psychiatry
- Professor David Burns, School of Physical Sciences & Engineering
- Dr Linda Klavinskis,

## Miller publishes first novel

The first novel by **Dr James Miller**, lecturer in the American Studies Department, was published in July. *Lost Boys* (Little, Brown) is a gripping apocalyptic fable and a powerful geopolitical thriller about contemporary society. The novel has been described as a contemporary *Lord of the Flies*.

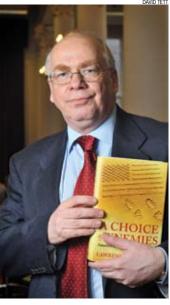
Dr Miller comments: 'The book took about three years to write. I

wanted to explore the sort of overprivileged but unhappy London families of the type I have worked for as a private tutor, giving extra lessons to neglected and overpressured children.

'These experiences are coupled with my concern over our surveillance society, with the media fascination with missing children and the effect of the so-called War on Terror. In more general terms, the novel is also a response to the disillusionment among the young in the West, who are desperate for an alternative to fear and consumerism.'

Time Out magazine selected Dr Miller as one of their three top novelists of the year and named him as 'London's Rising Star 2008'. He was also interviewed by the Daily Telegraph about his new book. Read a synopsis of the book on page 20.

### A Choice of Enemies



Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman

**Sir Lawrence Freedman**, Professor of War Studies and Vice-Principal (Research), gave a keynote lecture in July to mark the publication of his book *A Choice of Enemies: America Confronts the Middle East.* 

Professor Freedman delivered the lecture entitled 'On American Policy in the Middle East' to a distinguished audience of ambassadors, politicians, policy makers, strategists, military personnel, College staff, students and friends.

# Henry Fawcett

Said at the time of his death to have been the most popular man in England after Gladstone, the former King's student, blind MP and supporter of women's suffrage is all but forgotten today.

the Victoria Embankment Gardens, close to the Strand Campus, is a monument which proclaims that it was 'Erected to the memory of Henry Fawcett by his grateful countrywomen'. Almost forgotten now, Henry Fawcett (1833-84) was a famous blind economist and politician, educated at King's, who was commemorated by his 'grateful countrywomen' because of his support for women's suffrage and his connection with the suffragist Garratt family.

Fawcett was born in Salisbury, Wiltshire, in the family of a prosperous Whig solicitor and local politician. He became a pupil of King's College School (then at the Strand) in 1849; was elected a scholar of King's College from the School in 1851, and was a student at the College until October 1852, attending mathematical lectures with his friend Charles Baron Clarke, later President of the Linnean Society. He then went up to Cambridge, where he was gained a first-class degree in maths and became a Fellow of Trinity Hall. At six feet three inches tall, 'long of limb and with a commanding physical presence', Fawcett was a keen sportsman and rower, and 'a notable figure among his contemporaries' (ODNB).

#### **Accident**

In 1854 Fawcett entered Lincoln's Inn, but his career at the bar was cut short by a shooting accident in 1858 which left him totally and permanently blind. His father had failed to see his son and fired at some partridges, sending two pellets through Henry's eyes. Henry came to terms with his blindness remarkably quickly, and it did not alter his taste for vigorous exercise, nor his plan to enter Parliament. Since the Law was now closed to him, he built a political career from an academic base by writing, speaking, and becoming widely known. He became the most famous blind person in British public life and advanced the cause of blind people by advocating a royal commission on the blind in 1883. He later proved extremely competent as Postmaster-General, but he was excluded from the Cabinet on the grounds that his reliance on secretaries would breach government confidentiality.

Fawcett returned to Cambridge early in 1859 and became one of a group seeking to open the University to all sects and classes and build a



Memorial to **Henry Fawcett** in Victoria Embankment Gardens, sculpted by Mary Grant.

new academic profession based on merit. His *Manual of Political Economy* (modelled on John Stuart Mill's *Principles*) was published in 1863 and he was elected to the Cambridge Chair of Political Economy the same year. He also continued to pursue a political career in London and Brighton, where he was elected as MP in 1865, representing Brighton until 1874 and then Hackney until his death.

#### Marriage

Fawcett's interest in women's causes seems to have led him to propose (unsuccessfully) in 1865 to Elizabeth Garrett, later Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, the first female physician to train and practise in Britain. In 1867 he married Elizabeth's younger sister Millicent (1847–1929, later Dame Millicent Garratt Fawcett), and theirs became one of the most celebrated

marital partnerships of the era. In 1872 they published a collection of their articles entitled *Essays and Lectures on Social and Political Subjects*, and Millicent later played a leading role in the campaign for women's suffrage and became a public figure in her own right. Their daughter Philippa Fawcett was placed top in the Cambridge maths tripos in 1890, though women were not officially classed at this time.

Fawcett considered women to be one of several groups who were unjustifiably denied full participation in civic and political life. He was also sympathetic to trade unions and their request for legal and social acceptance, and published *The Economic Position of the British Labourer* in 1865. When, however, the threat of competition from cheaper female workers was opposed by the Trades Union Congress, Fawcett found that his feminism had compromised his position as an advocate of organised labour, and his relations with the trade union movement suffered accordingly.

#### **Postmaster-General**

As an independent Liberal MP Fawcett espoused many liberal causes, including the abolition of religious tests in universities; the preservation of common land from transfer to private ownership, and the administration of British India. He had a somewhat fractious relationship with Gladstone, but accepted office as Postmaster-General in 1880, and in this role he introduced the parcel post; reduced the cost of telegrams and postal orders; improved the Post Office Savings Bank and opened positions in the Post Office to women.

He died prematurely (of pleurisy) in November 1884, and his death was followed by tributes in Parliament, in the press and from the Queen, since he was said to have been the most popular man in England after Gladstone. Leslie Stephen (father of Virginia Wolfe, and also an alumnus of King's) wrote his biography and the inscription on his memorial in Westminster Abbey, which paid tribute to 'a memorable example of the power of a brave man to transmute evil into good and to wrest victory from misfortune'.

See Lawrence Goldman, 'Fawcett, Henry (1833–1884)', Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, [www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/9218]

#### **PROFESSOR THOMAS PITT** FORD 1949-2008

#### TOM PITT FORD. PROFESSOR OF

Endodontology, Director of Education and Vice Dean of the Dental Institute, and Director of Institutional and Academic Audit for King's College London, died peacefully at his home in Dorset on 17 August, aged 58.

Professor Pitt Ford was an alumnus of King's having qualified from Guy's Hospital Dental School in 1971 with honours. He was appointed to the first Chair in Endodontology at the United Medical and Dental Schools in 1997 and became a major world figure in his field.

His meticulous attention to detail was legendary. Professor Pitt Ford was credited with superb administration as Director of Education in the merged Dental Institute, (a post he held until just before his death), as Chair of the Education Committee for King's and his last appointment as Director of Institutional and Academic Audit for King's. He has been superbly supported by his wife, Heather, and his three children throughout his career and will be sorely missed.

A memorial service is being held on 3 December at 11.00 in Southwark Cathedral.

**Professor Stephen Challacombe** Vice Dean of the Dental Institute



Professor Pitt Ford (left) was presented with the Alumnus Distinguished Service Award in March accompanied by Professor Stephen Challacombe.

#### **PROFESSOR JANET ASKHAM 1941-2008**

#### PROFESSOR JANET ASKHAM DIED

suddenly on Monday 7 July. She was a much loved and respected colleague who had inspired many with her infectious enthusiasm for the study of old age.

Janet Askham was Professor of Social Gerontology at King's, and was Director of the Institute of Gerontology from 1998 to 2004. More recently she was Director of Research at the Picker Institute Europe, where she lead research on the experiences and needs of patients as users of health and social care services.

Professor Askham was also scientific adviser to the UK government's Department of



Health for their Policy Research Programme on Older People, and a member of Ofcom's Advisory Committee on Older and Disabled People. She was a sociologist whose research career covered topics spanning the lifecourse.

Professor Askham's obituary was published in *The Times* on 1 August 2008.

## PROFESSOR JOHN THORNES.

PROFESSOR JOHN

**THORNES, 1940-2008** 

Department of Geography, died on 17 July 2008. One of the most eminent physical geographers of his generation, Professor Thornes had a long history with King's, having completed his PhD at the College in 1966.

His research publications included 11 major books and more than 130 journal papers and book chapters covering areas from field observation and monitoring to

theoretical studies and computer modelling.

Professor Thornes returned to the College in 1992 as Head of the Department of Geography a position he held until 1997 and was pivotal in the growth and development of the Department. Among numerous other achievements, he supervised more than 25 PhDs, many of whom are still carrying out related research at universities throughout the world.

His research standing has been recognised in numerous honours and awards.

#### **PROFESSOR BRIAN BERCUSSON 1947-2008**

#### PROFESSOR BRIAN BERCUSSON, WHO

died suddenly on 17 August, was appointed as Professor of European Social and Labour Law in 2000, having held positions previously at Cambridge, Brunel, QMC, the European University Institute (Florence), and Manchester.

Professor Bercusson was widely admired for his rich and imaginative scholarship, and for his passionate commitment to

worker and trade union rights. He was the author of a number of important books on British and European Labour Law, including and European Labour Law (1996), a second edition of which was completed before his death. As well as being the preeminent figure in European Labour Law, Professor Bercusson was actively involved in many of the recent EU political controversies as a senior adviser to the European Trade Union Confederation.

**KD Ewing** 

### **MYLES MCDERMOTT TEMPANY FKC 1924-2008**

#### A MEMORIAL SERVICE WAS HELD IN

the College Chapel at the Strand in June for Myles Tempany FKC, College Secretary of King's from 1983-85. The service also remembered the lives of Bill Euden FKC (1917-2008), Bursar of King's 1960-76 and John McCormack FKC (1926-2008), Registrar of King's 1969-82.

Myles McDermott Tempany rose from a clerk in the Accounts Department to Vice-Principal of King's during a 40-year career, serving under six different principals.

Born in County Mayo, he came to work at King's in 1948 after three years' service in the

British Army and, although having no formal accountancy qualifications, he moved up through Accounts to become Head of Administration and Bursar before succeeding Hugh Patterson as College Secretary. He was Vice-Principal for External Affairs from 1986 to 1988.

Myles Tempany was a member of the King's College Council, of the Delegacy of the School of Medicine & Dentistry and of the governing body of the University of Hertfordshire.

He was elected a Fellow of King's in 1975, in 1986 received the University of Texas Health Science Center President's Award, and was appointed OBE in 1984.

**Stephen Harrow FKC** 

## Strand: £20m redevelopment

#### A MAJOR REFURBISHMENT OF THE TOP

three floors of the 1970s Strand Building has been successfully completed. Designed to the highest standards, the academic environment has been substantially improved, access enhanced and innovative features included to ensure energy efficiency.

#### **Modern accommodation** for the 21st century

This project represents the second phase of the master plan for the development of the Strand Campus and included a new language laboratory for the Modern Language Centre, and the re-roofing of King's Building north range, representing an investment of more than £20 million.

Ian Caldwell, Director of

Estates, comments: 'This second phase shows how tired 1970s space can be transformed into sustainable flexible modern academic accommodation for the 21st century. Along with Phase One, it sets a quality benchmark for future phases.'

A number of pioneering, environmentally-friendly features have been adopted, including: a new over-cladding screen in the form of a folded, perforated, brass 'veil' hung outside the building to reduce solar gain; movement detectors for lighting and for heating/cooling, and the installation of new glazing to moderate noise and pollution.

There is also individual climatic control in the offices with virtual metering enabling energy consumption to be tracked in every office, so it can be seen how the building is performing.



The 1970s Strand Building has been refurbished for the 21st century.

## Could you enter the Lion's Den?

King's College London Business and the Graduate School have announced the launch of the 2008-9 Business Plan Competition with a first prize of £5,000.

This competition is aimed at early career researchers (post doctoral staff), PhDs and masters students at King's. Business ideas (real or hypothetical) are

encouraged from across the board including products, services, social enterprise, technology, creative, health and lifestyle ventures which may or may not be related to your research or study programme. Lack of an idea at this early stage is no barrier to competing as there will be time to develop an idea over the autumn term.

Benefits to participants

include acquiring business and commercial skills and awareness which will enhance career prospects. The programme will include business training and support from business mentors.

For further information visit www.kcl.ac.uk/business/bussplan or email harriet.robinson@ kcl.ac.uk

## Alumni weekend goes down a storm

#### **OVER 400 ALUMNI, STAFF AND**

students gathered for the Alumni Weekend, the annual reunion event, in June. Former staff and students of all ages and disciplines returned to the College for the programme of events, held at various venues including Southwark Cathedral, the British Film Institute (BFI) and the Strand Campus, with graduation years ranging from 1946 to 2007.

There were also a number of 25- and 50-year reunions



from the classes of 1983 and 1958. Many King's academics gave up their time to contribute to lectures, give tours of the campus and show alumni around their departments.

This year's event focused particularly on engineering and geography alumni, and thanks to expert staff in those areas, they were able to attend a number of lectures, for example, the impact of the Olympic Games on London and see demonstrations within the Engineering Department.

## King's and the City

#### **ON TUESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2008 THE**

Principal will host the fourth City Alumni Networking Reception. This event is an opportunity for alumni working in industries such as financial services, law and consultancy to meet new business contacts and expand their networks.

As well as hearing a College update from the Principal, guests will also hear from guest speaker alumnus Sanjev Warna-Kula-Suriya (King's, Law, 1986), Partner at Slaughter and May. Mr Warna-Kula-Suriya will give a short talk on 'Structured Finance and the Credit Crunch'.

As with previous receptions, this event will be held in a special venue in the heart of the City at the Armourers' Hall. The Hall is home to the Worshipful Company of Armourers and Brasiers and is steeped in history.

For further information about this event please contact Sally Ford on 020 7848 4342 or email sally. ford@kcl.ac.uk

## Art for the Planet competition

#### **DR IGNATIUS TAVARES, DEPARTMENT**

of Surgery (Cancer Division), and Ms Yi Yang have been announced as the winners of the first ever Annual Art Competition. Dr Tavares was the winner of the staff category, while Yi Yang won the student prize.

This subject of this year's competition, which was organised by the Estates & Facilities
Directorate with the support of KCLSU, was 'Art for the Planet', with the theme of climatic change, the impact on the planet and imaginative ways of solving it.

The competition was judged by Sally Taylor, Director of the London Centre for Arts and Cultural Enterprise, Michaela Crimmin, who runs the Arts and Ecology programme at the Royal Society of Art, the Principal, and Adam Farley,



President of KCLSU 2007-8.
Each of the winners received £500, and Miss Yang also won a President's Award, which will be a KCLSU event pass for a year.



The winning entries: right, student winner **Yi Yang**'s entry and, below, **Dr Tavares**'s winning piece.

## Joint working with BUiD

#### THE VICE CHANCELLOR OF THE

British University in Dubai (BUiD), Dr Abdullah M Alshamsi, and Professor Rick Trainor, the Principal of King's, signed a significant agreement of cooperation between the two institutions in July.

#### A significant agreement

The agreement concerns the new MSc course to be offered by BUiD, in association with King's, in Construction Law and Dispute Resolution. It is hoped that the first intake of students will begin in 2009 with numbers of around 15 initially before rising to 30 or more.

At the signing ceremony the Principal welcomed Dr Alshamsi to King's, expressing the privilege and honour it was to be associated with BUiD and this new course, which fitted well with the strategic aims of the College. In response Dr Alshamsi said the MSc gave great prospects to his university.

The Centre of Construction Law & Dispute Resolution



**Professor Rick Trainor** (front right) and **Dr Abdullah M Alshamsi** (front left) sign the agreement of cooperation.

has been offering seminars in construction law through the Dubai International Arbitration Centre since March of 2007.

Louise Barrington, Director of the Centre said: 'We are delighted that BUiD has chosen the Centre of Construction Law & Dispute Resolution at King's as its partner in this exciting project.'

## News in brief

#### Top journa

The International Journal of Nursing Studies (IINS), whose editorial office is hosted by the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery (FNSNM), has recently been rated as the highest impact nursing journal in the world by the 2007 Thomson Impact Factors. The journal, published by Elsevier, is the first British journal to be ranked in the top five, holding a position of second place in the overall nursing list of 46 journals. Professor Ian Norman, Deputy Head of FNSNM, is the Editor-In-Chief, while Professor Peter Griffiths, Director of the National Nursing Research Unit, is Executive

Editor. Alison While, Professor of Community Nursing & Associate Dean (External Relations), and Professor Anne Marie Rafferty, Dean of FNSNM, also hold positions on the journal as editor and a member of the editorial board respectively.

#### **Patient Safety Centre**

The King's Patient Safety & Service Quality Research Centre, was opened in June. The centre, funded by the National Institute for Health Research will bring together NHS professionals with academic experts from a wide range of backgrounds to focus on investigating ways to improve the care of patients.

## MLC commended for course

#### THE MODERN LANGUAGE CENTRE

(MLC) was highly commended for its *İQue Alivio!* Spanish for Medics blended learning course at the prestigious European Award for Languages 2008, which took place at the New Connaught Rooms in July.

Dominique Borel, Director of

the MLC, was presented with the certificate by Sir Trevor McDonald. The Award is a Europe-wide initiative, supported by the European Commission to promote best practice in innovative and effective Modern Language learning.

## Showcasing the best of graduate talent

The first Graduate Research Showcase Day took place in July, highlighting the best of the work of the graduate students based in the Schools of Medicine and Biomedical & Health Sciences.

Five hundred people, including College staff and students, representatives from NHS Trust partners, industry, funding bodies and other universities, attended the inaugural event which took place at Guy's Campus.

In his introduction Professor Robert Lechler, Vice-Principal (Health), said: 'This day exemplifies the dynamism that characterises our vibrant graduate research community. It gives us the opportunity to celebrate the work of all our graduate students

and their supervisors.'

During the event the best final year graduate research student, from each of the 15 research divisions which make up the two Schools, presented their final PhD projects - all of which Professor Lechler described as 'outstanding'. Each presenter spoke for 15 minutes and took questions after their talk.

A further highlight of the day was a keynote lecture by Professor Sir John Savill, Head of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine and Vice-Principal of the University of Edinburgh, who spoke on clearance of cells dying by apoptosis and regulation of inflammation.



From left: Seema Patel, Professor Sir John Savill and Sergio Uribe-Arancibia at Guy's.

### Student wins Max Perutz prize

#### **SOPHIE FAROOOUE AT THE MRC**

and Asthma UK Centre in Allergic Mechanisms of Asthma, was a runner-up in the annual Medical Research Council Max Perutz science writing competition with her paper on understanding aspirin-sensitive respiratory, entitled 'The cold that never goes away'.

As well as receiving a £500 prize, Sophie's paper was also published in The Guardian on 29 July. Furthermore all shortlisted entrants attended a writing masterclass with Ruth Padel, prize-winning poet and chair of the UK Poetry Society, and Alok Jha.

Sophie was presented with her prize at an award ceremony on 23 July at the National Portrait Gallery.

### 1,000 mile cycle in memory of brother **GEOGRAPHY STUDENT ARAN KAPILA**

cycled the 1,002 miles from Land's End to John O'Groats in July in memory of his younger brother

Aman, who died unexpectedly in January following a brain haemorrhage.

Aran was accompanied on his

journey by fellow King's student Tim Catton. The pair completed the journey in eight days, and averaged 117 miles a day.

So far, Aran and Tim have raised £6,000 which will go to the Aran Kapila Memorial Fund. The fund will be used to support a number of social and medical causes, including purchasing a high frequency oscillatory ventilator for the intensive care unit at the Royal Berkshire Hospital where Aman was cared for

### Student wins BDS Gold Medal

#### **NIKKI TANNA. WHO RECENTLY**

completed her undergraduate dental programme, has won the 2008 University of London BDS Gold Medal. This is the seventh year running that a graduate of the Dental Institute has been awarded this highly prestigious prize.

The medal is awarded annually to the candidate who most distinguishes him or herself in the final BDS examination in the two London dental schools.

Nikki will be presented with the Gold Medal along with a cheque for £500 at the Dental Institute's annual prize giving ceremony in November.

### Nomads to new heights



Students from the King's Nomads Society undertook the challenge to reach Uhuru, the highest peak of Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, in July on the first expedition of its kind by the group.

Final year medical students Kathy Duong and Alexander Kumar, led the team of six which also included Aekta Davda (second year medicine), Charlene Malik (second year computer sciences), Angus Hill (first year medicine) and Ignacio Gomez Urquiza (international environmental studies, Masters student).

Mount Kilimanjaro is the

highest freestanding mountain in the world, and it took the team six days to complete the 5,895 metre-climb, during which time they had to overcome bouts of altitude sickness, as well as facing the elements.

Although not all the group were able to reach the summit due to altitude sickness, all felt that they had reached, and even surpassed, their own personal summits. On her experience, Aekta says: 'This expedition has inspired me. I think each year I will try one adventurous holiday to do something like this and then leave one holiday for relaxing afterwards.'

#### **Olympic** air

Frank Kelly, Professor of Environmental Health, discussed levels of air pollution in Beijing on the BBC Ten O'clock news. Professor Kelly was also interviewed on Radio 4's *The World Tonight*, BBC London's *Danny Baker Show* and quoted in *The Sunday Times* and BBC News Online.

#### **Drug cheats**

Professor David Gowan, Director of the Drug Control Centre, spoke to the BBC London News about drug testing on athletes ahead of the Beijing Olympic Games. The Drug Control Centre was also featured in *The Guardian*.

#### **Oil addiction**

The Government's policy on fuel costs and possible alternatives was explored by BBC1's *Panorama* programme. Paul Ekins, Professor of Energy & Environment Policy, was interviewed.

### **Lunches unwrapped**

Channel 4's *Dispatches* programme investigated the British sandwich industry and revealed what really is in the nation's popular lunch. Tom Sanders, Professor of Nutrition & Dietetics, discussed health implications of sandwiches that were high in salt and fat.

#### **Dementia rethink**

The extent of dementia in the developing world has been vastly underestimated because the standard diagnostic technique misses cognitive impairments in poorly educated people, said Martin Prince, Professor of Epidemiological Psychiatry, in the New Scientist, who has a new method.

#### **Dangerous job**

Geography PhD student Helen Milne was one of three women selected to take part in the Channel 4 programme Dangerous Jobs for Girls in which she had to work with loggers in Canada felling trees.

#### **Psychotic smokers**

Dr Marta di Forti, Institute of Psychiatry, discussed her research in *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Guardian*, *The Daily Mail*, *Metro* and BBC Online that smoking skunk greatly increases the risk of psychosis.

#### **Nicotine benefits**

Nicotine can be good for the brain and its effects could form the basis for new drugs to stave off Alzheimer's disease researchers from King's have found. The research was reported *The Times*, The Daily Telegraph, Daily Mail, Daily Record, The Herald, The Scotsman, Metro and BBC News Online.

#### **Bad ballots**

Professor Anatol Lieven, Chair of International Relations & Terrorism Studies, discussed whether bad elections were better than not having elections on Radio 4's Analysis: Bad Ballots. Professor Lieven also wrote articles for the International Herald Tribune on Iran, and the Financial Times on Pakistan and South Ossetia.

#### **Cancer survivors**

The number of cancer survivors in the UK has hit two million – a big increase on previous estimates – researchers from the King's College London Thames Cancer Registry have found. As reported in *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Sun*, *The Daily Record* and *The Herald*.

#### **Animal testing**

#### **Professor Roger Morris.**

Head of the School of Biomedical & Health Sciences, was interviewed on Radio 4's PM and BBC Radio Scotland, and discussed the issues surrounding the rise in the number of animals used for scientific experimentation.

#### **Women bishops**

The debate at the General Synod about the ordination of women bishops was the subject of an interview for the Dean of King's College London, Revd Professor Richard Burridge, on Radio 4's Sunday programme.

#### **Bad medicine**

David Armstrong, Professor of Medicine & Sociology, joined a discussion on the efficacy of the medical profession since Hippocrates on BBC Radio 4 *Thinking Allowed*.

### **Douglas Bader**

Who downed Douglas Bader was the subject of a Channel 4 documentary in which Philip Sabin, Professor of Strategic Studies, took part.

### **Right to life**

Penney Lewis, Professor of Law, spoke to BBC Radio Wales on the legal issues involved in a case of a girl who has an incurable brain disorder.

### **Overcrowding issues**

Professor Mike Hough, Director of the Institute for Criminal Policy Research, discussed the problem of overcrowding in prisons in England and Wales on BBC Radio Wales Good Morning Wales.

#### **Reverend relative**

Arthur Burns, Professor in Modern British History, showed the actress Patsy Kensit church records on her ancestors' parish in Bethnal Green on BBC1's Who do you think you are? The Church Times previewed the programme and discussed the Church of England clergy database that Professor Burns has project managed and that is now available online.

#### **Brain development**

Dr Richard Wingate, Department of Anatomy & Human Sciences, was interviewed about his work leading a team of medical researchers investigating the brain on Radio 4's Science in the Making.

#### **IVF** access

An article in *The Daily Telegraph* on personal lifestyle choice and whether it should be a reason to deny someone treatment on the NHS included comment from Peter Braude, Professor of Obstetrics & Gynaecology. Professor Braude also commented on whether lifestyle should affect IVF access on BBC News Online.

#### **HIV** vaccine

#### **Professor Barry Peters**

was interviewed on Radio 4's *Today* programme about a vaccine he is testing which is designed to give HIV patients a prolonged break from their regular medication without side effects.

#### 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

## Talking like a manager

Researchers from the
Department of Education and
Professional Studies – Celia
Roberts, Reader in Applied
Linguistics, and Research
Associates Sarah Campbell
and Yvonne Robinson – have
published a new report for
the Department of Work and
Pensions entitled 'Talking like a
manager: promotion interviews,
language and ethnicity'.

This research is a follow-up to the Talk on trial study (DWP Research Report No. 344).

'Talking like a manager' confirms the earlier finding that there is a 'linguistic penalty' in promotion interviews against those ethnic minority candidates who were born abroad. Despite well-meaning attempts to design objective and fair interviews, the taken-for-granted cultural

and linguistic norms of the job interview disadvantage this group.

There is a lack of shared understanding about the purpose of the interview and expected responses which leads to frequent misalignments between interviewer and candidate.

The research aimed to identify some of the wider organisational cultures and practices which may act as a barrier to promotion. Whilst the report found that there were many good practices, it also showed that there are enduring barriers to ethnic minority groups progressing into management positions.

Recommendations are given on the need to critique the current status of interviews, on the training of interviewers and the preparation of candidates for the selection process.

## Young academic anxiety



#### A NEW STUDY BY DR LOUISE ARCHER.

Reader in Education Policy Studies at King's, has revealed that many young academics are feeling a pressure to perform and 'fit in' in higher education institutions.

The paper 'Younger academics' constructions of 'authenticity', 'success' and professional identity', published in *Studies in Higher Education*, contributes to ongoing work regarding contemporary academic identities.

In a series of interviews with young academics from universities

across the UK, Dr Archer found high levels of anxiety over academics' ability to 'perform'. Interviewees revealed instances where 'non-active researchers' had their contracts revoked, and that 'success' is shaped and constrained by structural locations of 'race'/ ethnicity, social class, gender and age.

Equally, the paper highlights that academics who experienced the greatest doubts about their 'authenticity' as academic writers were those from working class backgrounds.

## High soy diet good for the heart

#### **DR WENDY HALL AND PROFESSOR TOM**

Sanders, Nutritional Sciences Division, and Professor Phil Chowienczyk, Cardiovascular Sciences Division, have for the first time shown that meals containing soya isoflavones improves the ability of blood vessels to dilate in response to stress.

This finding confirms an earlier report from the group published in *Circulation* which found that infusing the soy isoflavone genistein into an artery in the forearm improves the capacity of the artery to dilate by increasing the availability of the gas nitric oxide which causes the blood vessel wall to relax and protect it from damage in a manner similar to oestrogen.

The latest study published in the *Journal of Nutrition* was carried out on 22 healthy, nonsmoking postmenopausal women. They received test meals on two occasions containing either the extracted isoflavones or placebo. Measurements were made by a non-invasive ultrasound technique called flow-mediated dilatation



(FMD). This measures the ability of the main artery (brachial) in their arm to dilate in response to stress induced blood flow before and at four and six hours after the meal. Measurements were also made of the levels of isoflavones in blood and nitric oxide metabolites.

Maintaining a regular dietary intake of isoflavones over a number of years in postmenopausal women could potentially slow the development of atherosclerosis but large, robustly designed, randomized controlled dietary intervention trials are needed to confirm this.

## Managing hospital infections

#### **ACADEMICS FROM THE FLORENCE**

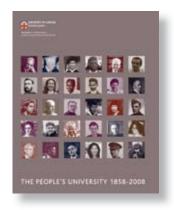
Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery at King's in collaboration with the Royal College of Nursing have compiled a report on managing infection in hospitals.

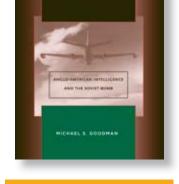
The report, (sponsored by the Royal College of Nursing) 'The impact of organisation and management factors on infection control in hospitals: a scoping review' identified evidence on organisational and management factors affecting infection control in general hospital settings.

The authors, Professors Peter Griffiths, Anna Renz and Anne Marie Rafferty identified a number of key findings through the analysis, citing organisational characteristics that should be considered 'risk factors' for infection including high patient turnover, staff turnover, and low staff morale.



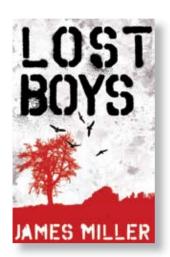
It was found that as with risks at patient and procedure levels they cannot always be eliminated or totally avoided, but appropriate assessment will allow targeting of action to protect patients. Factors such as strong leadership, appropriate staffing levels and better management of staff workloads should be just as important as hand hygiene and environmental cleanliness in the battle to reduce healthcare associated infections (HCAIs), such as MRSA and C difficile.





Spying on the

**Nuclear Bear** 



Lost Boys

The People's University: 150 Years of the University of London and its External Students

Christine Kenyon-Jones, Department of External Relations and Department of English

In 1858 the University of London was the first to open its degrees to any (male) student who could take them, regardless of where he had studied. More than a century before the advent of the Open University, the University of London offered 'external' students the opportunity to continue to earn a living while studying, to study privately and to take exams without coming to London.

This book illustrates the huge influence the University of London External System has had on higher education. It demonstrates the University's role in founding several Commonwealth universities in the 20th century, and describes the massive expansion of this system of higher education worldwide in the last 20 years.

There is a special study of the London External System's role in enabling thousands of British prisoners of war to take exams in the camps during both world wars, with many examples of the remarkable studies undertaken in these challenging circumstances. University of London **External System** 

Spying on the Nuclear Bear:

Anglo-American Intelligence

Dr Michael Goodman. Department of War Studies

and the Soviet Bomb

From 1945 until 1958 an awareness of the Soviet nuclear weapons programme was vital to Anglo-American intelligence and military planning. Drawing on oral testimony, previously unseen personal papers, and newly released archival information, this book provides a comprehensive account of British and American intelligence on the Soviet nuclear weapons programme.

The book charts new territory, revising traditional accounts of Anglo-American nuclear relations and intelligence cooperation. It reveals how intelligence was collected: the roles played by defectors (such as 'Icarus', an East German with a soft spot for ghoulash), aerial reconnaissance, and how novel forms of espionage (including the Murmansk fur hat) were perfected to penetrate the Soviet nuclear programme.

Spying on the Nuclear Bear will be of interest to students of intelligence, the development of nuclear weapons, cold war history and Anglo-American relations. Stanford University Press

James Miller, Department of American Studies

After the oil company that employs Arthur Dashwood fails to protect him from a kidnap attempt in Baghdad, he returns to London. But everything is not as it should be. Having quit Saudi Arabia for fear of terrorist attack, Arthur finds that danger is closer to home. Arthur' young son Timothy is struggling in the hostile terrain of his new public school. Bullied by other pupils and neglected by his preoccupied parents, he withdraws into a fantasy world, a hybrid of computer-generated guerrilla warzone and exotic dreams of his time in Saudi Arabia, a place where boys can fight and escape their teachers and families.

As one middle-class boy from Timothy's school and then another disappears, so evidence emerges of an extreme and disturbing rejection of the adult world. And then it is Timothy's turn to disappear. Haunted by memories of post-Saddam Baghdad, Arthur embarks on a terrifying search for his son, one that will reveal his own complicity in the brutal consequences of Western power. Little Brown

#### Three favourite...

Restaurants on www.tastelondon.co.uk

As recommended by Laura Clayton, History Department Manager, Strand Cambus

#### Chowki, 2-3 Denman Street

This award-winning Indian restaurant in the heart of the West End is an absolute gem. There are monthly changing menus which each introduce three regions of India, allowing you to choose dishes by region, community and tribe. The food is incredibly authentic and is exceptional value for money. The restaurant itself is modern but at the same time homely and sociable.

#### Le Garrick, 10 Garrick Street

This French restaurant sells possibly the best steak in London! There is a restaurant at ground floor level as well as outside seating, perfect for a drink in the summer and to watch the world go by, situated as it is in the centre of Covent Garden. Alternatively you can eat in the cozy downstairs restaurant and choose from a simple but delicious a la carte menu with daily changing specials. Try the award-winning 'Château Le Gravat'.

#### Navajo Joe, 34 King Street

Located just off the main piazza in Covent Garden, this is a great place to go for cocktails, with one of the largest collections of tequila outside Mexico. Navajo Joe's occupies three levels, with a bar and DJ in the basement, a cocktail bar and restaurant on the ground floor, and a loft area and catwalk. The staff are very friendly and it's in an excellent location for pre-theatre dinner.

Let us know your three favourite things related to a Campus. Email kate.saunders@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 the Internal Communications Officer, Public Relations Department (ext 3075), James Clerk Maxwell Building, Waterloo Campus, or emailed to kate.saunders@kcl.ac.uk by 30 September.