

Comment

The College newsletter

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King's world-class research

After a long wait and much hard work, the 2008 RAE results have finally been published. Vice-Principal Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman examines its implications.

THE RESULTS OF THE 2008 RESEARCH

Assessment Exercise (RAE) were officially released by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) in December, confirming King's position as one of the leading British universities for research.

In total, King's entered 1,220 Category A staff (1,172 FTE) to 35 different units of assessment

at the end of November 2007. Information consisted of: publications of staff; numbers of research students and studentships; information on research income; and a strategy document. This information was then reviewed by panels of expert peers, including international experts.

Since the last RAE in 2001 there have been significant changes

to the way in which entries are assessed. Single summative ratings for each discipline have been replaced by 'quality profiles' of research activity.

These show in finer details the quality of research activity within departments, revealing pockets of excellence wherever they may be. The profiles now show the percentage of research activity in

each department judged to fall within each of four quality grades 'in terms of originality, significance and rigour'. The grades are:

- Four* – world-leading
- Three* – internationally excellent ... but which nonetheless falls short of the highest standards of excellence
- Two* – recognised internationally
- One* – recognised nationally
- Unclassified – research that falls below the standard of nationally recognised work or does not meet the RAE's published definition of research.

Building international relations

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE



Rag and Flag event at the National University of Singapore (NUS), organised by the Students' Union to raise money for charity. NUS is one of the College's new international collaborations, read more in a special feature on page 7.

Examining the implications

Along with all other British universities the College eagerly awaited the results of the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise. This had been the focus for so much activity at all levels of the College for many years. When the results came it soon became evident that the College had done well – and the more the figures were studied the better it looked. The figures, however, took some interpreting.

Contrary to what the guidelines might have led us to expect, the panels marked generously. If the definitions of world-class and internationally excellent are taken seriously then we might conclude that if marking was on the same scale as 2001, from 55 per cent of
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King's world-class research

continued from page 1

university staff in the UK being in either Five* of five departments this category would now include practically everyone. Another consequence of disaggregating individual units to produce a quality profile was to narrow the spread between the highest and the lowest performing units. High-quality activity was highlighted in the otherwise weak, as was low-quality activity in the otherwise strong.

A second feature is that, in addition to the quality profiles, performance can be evaluated by reference to the so-called power index, which combines both quality and volume and is therefore a more reliable indicator of research strength and likely funding. Even on this index there are a variety of ways to make the assessments, as some look solely at Four* and Three* activity rather than the quality profile as a whole.

The third factor, to add to the complexity, is that the research profiles are made up of three different elements.

These are research outputs (largely publications), research

environment (support for research, research students, and research grants) and esteem indicators. Here we know the results for King's but not the rest of the sector. All these factors are making league tables more complex and confusing.

Insufficient allowance for the 'London effect'

What can we learn about King's? One important factor to note is that the higher education sector as a whole has grown, but King's, along with all the other major London universities, stayed about the same. This is a powerful indication that HEFCE has made insufficient allowance in its allocations for the 'London effect' on prices. It means that some of our Russell Group competitors have grown from 10-20 per cent since the last RAE.

A second point to note that compared with our competitors our physical sciences and engineering is relatively small, while of course

the Institute of Psychiatry is extremely large, representing about a third of the total in its area.

Third, as we would expect in a strong research university, and with some exceptions, the factors of environment and esteem worked strongly in our favour.

Lastly, our Health Schools and Humanities are clearly in the leading groups nationally, while our social sciences have marked out a distinctive and strong position. Two thirds of our submitted units were in the top quartile; over half of our academic staff work in departments that

are in the top 10 per cent of their field. Where we have made deliberate strategic investments over the past few years, and were able to submit for the first time, by and large we obtained the results which we sought – for example in Health Services Research, Computing in the Humanities and Film Studies.

While there are obvious areas of weakness where we need to improve, and some disappointments, this is an extremely strong base on which to take the College forward.

Further details can be found at: www.rae.ac.uk

Environmental role model

KING'S OUTSTANDING CREDENTIALS

as a sustainable organisation were outlined in a speech by the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, at the Royal Society in December.

Addressing London Leaders and guests at an event hosted by the London Sustainable Development Commission to celebrate the achievements of the first year of the programme and the announcement of the 2009 London Leaders, Professor Trainor, who is also a 2008 London Leader, highlighted the College's achievements as a role model.

His speech emphasised how the College has been recognised as a sustainable organisation as validated by external bodies, such as the 2008 Green Business Award. He also described major research themes undertaken by



King's academics in the broad area of environmental issues, such as the Environmental Research Group, the Cities Group, and the Environment, Politics and Development Group.

The London Leaders programme is run by the London Sustainable Development Commission, which is supported by the Mayor.

Principal's Column

GREG FUNNELL



This year began in grand style with research papers about Alzheimer's disease, and drugs and psychosis, from King's academics attracting international media coverage within days of the College re-opening after the Christmas break.

We are still absorbing the results of the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), but clearly it confirmed our position as a major global centre for research over an extremely broad range of areas. There were some surprises and some spectacular successes, but the whole endeavour was so complex that any overview of results for any institution must be treated with caution. Unfortunately, it seems to be increasingly clear that, despite the strength of research in Russell Group universities, most of us are likely to end up

receiving less funding because of the methodology employed in the RAE. Although I do not expect King's to lose as much as a number of Russell Group, this is a general pattern.

Also in this issue there is a feature on our links with other universities around the world (page 7), following on from the partnership agreement we have recently signed with Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi, an outstanding institution focused on the humanities and social sciences, to develop joint research links and a student exchange scheme. I regard such developments as increasingly important for any major university with global ambitions, and will be visiting Hong Kong myself in the early part of this year to cement our links there.

At the time of writing, colleagues and I are in discussion with a group of students who are taking part in a nationwide protest over the recent violence in the Middle East. The College is actively involved in a number of ways in trying to help the peace process. Let us hope that in the near future we see the beginnings of a lasting peace in that troubled region.

Rick Trainor

IoP and Fragmented Orchestra

THE INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY

(IoP) has launched a new project in collaboration with The Fragmented Orchestra. The neuron project is part of the IoP's Music and the Mind series exploring music and mental health.

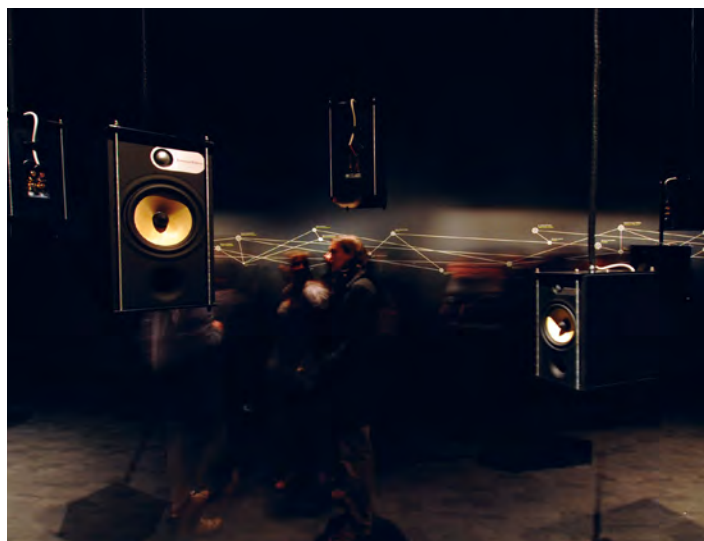
The Fragmented Orchestra is an award winning musical structure mirroring the human brain and how it processes sound. It is made up of 24 'neurons' located around the UK, one of which is located in the café diner at the IoP.

Via the internet, the sites form a networked cortex which fires back and forth when stimulated by sound. Each neuron creates a

sound which is streamed to a central hub at the Foundation for Arts and Creative Technology (FACT) in Liverpool and is represented by its own loudspeaker.

Staff and students can 'play' the neuron by creating sound and hearing it play back as well as listening to the effect it has on the overall composition. The collective music heard at FACT is transmitted back through the neuron as ambient sound, using state-of-the-art technology which turns any vibrating surface into a high quality loudspeaker.

The neuron will keep 'firing' until 22 February 2009.



The Fragmented Orchestra is an award winning musical structure mirroring the human brain and how it processes sound.

£1.5 million for universe study

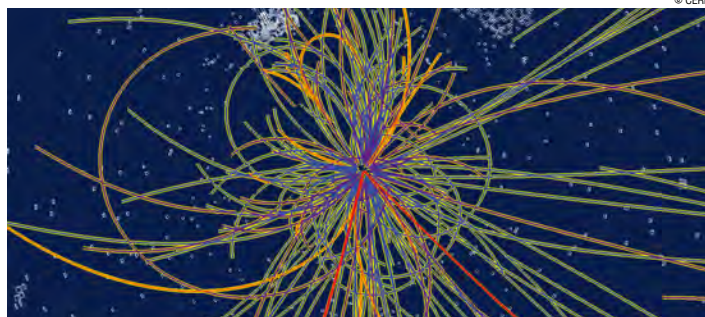
THE THEORETICAL PHYSICS GROUP IN

the Department of Mathematics, led by Professor Peter West FRS, have been awarded £1.5 million to better understand nature at its deepest level and, in particular, to find a single consistent theory of physics.

The group has consistently, for three decades, found some of the essential elements of a single consistent theory which describes the four forces of nature:

electromagnetism, the nuclear weak, nuclear strong and gravity.

Such a theory would account, as a matter of principle, for all physical phenomenon from the



Predicted elementary particle scattering at LHC, CERN.

largest distances in the universes to those much smaller than the size of the nucleus of the atom.

Professor West comments: 'We try to carry out research which

is particularly original and can potentially lead to new directions which might provide the building blocks for research in the future despite the unpredictable nature

and rather long timescales which such work can involve. As such we are delighted to win this award which recognises the past achievements of the group as well as our future programme of research.'

This award from the Science and Technology Facilities Council is an increase on one the group previously held, and comes at a competitive time with fewer awards being made by the Council due to the well-publicised financial problems that it faces.

Find out more about the research at www.kcl.ac.uk/schools/pse/maths/research/thphys/

Insomnia linked to paranoid thoughts

NEW RESEARCH FROM DR DANIEL

Freeman, Clinical Psychologist at the Institute of Psychiatry, has identified a link between sleeplessness and paranoid thinking.

The study, published online last December in *Schizophrenia Research*, shows that a potential consequence of insomnia is suspiciousness.

In the general population

individuals with insomnia were five times more likely to have high levels of paranoid thinking than people who were sleeping well. In an extension of the research more than 50 per cent of individuals attending psychiatric services for severe paranoia were found to have clinical insomnia.

Dr Freeman said: 'It is very plausible that sleeplessness increases the risk of paranoid fears.

A few nights of poor sleep can make us feel stressed, muddled in our thinking, and disconnected from the world. These are ideal conditions for paranoid fears to take hold. This is the first study to examine insomnia and persecutory thoughts. It tells us that they are linked but not which causes the other.

'The intriguing implication of the research is that use of the sleep

techniques may make us feel safer and less mistrustful during the day. A good night's sleep may simply make us view the world in a much more positive light.'

Dr Freeman's research was widely reported in the media including coverage in *The Daily Telegraph* and the *Daily Mail*, as well as internationally in *The Times of India* and the *Hindustan Times*.

Dementia drugs 'double death risk'

NEW RESEARCH BY PROFESSOR CLIVE

Ballard in the Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases, has shown that antipsychotic drugs commonly prescribed to Alzheimer's patients nearly doubles risk of death over three years. The study was published in *Lancet Neurology* last month.

Antipsychotics are used to treat symptoms of agitation, delusions and aggressive behaviour. As many as 100,000 people with dementia are routinely prescribed

antipsychotics in UK care homes.

The study, which was funded by The Alzheimer's Society, involved 165 Alzheimer's patients in care homes who were being prescribed antipsychotics. Findings showed a significant increase in risk of death for patients who continued taking antipsychotic medication over a prolonged period.

Professor Ballard said: 'The results further highlight the need to seek less harmful alternatives for the long-term treatment

of behavioural symptoms in Alzheimer's patients.

'At the moment, there is still a limited place for antipsychotics in the treatment of Alzheimer's, particularly severe aggression, but the serious concerns of the drugs shown by our research emphasise the urgent need to put an end to unnecessary and prolonged prescribing.'

Professor Ballard's research received widespread media coverage both nationally and internationally.

AHSC name announced

Plans to develop an Academic Health Sciences Centre (AHSC) with NHS partners took a step forward in December with the announcement of a name, 'King's Health Partners', and the confirmation of Professor Robert Lechler, Vice-Principal (Health), as Interim Director.

Professor Lechler, who is also currently Vice Chairman of Guy's and St Thomas', will lead continuing preparations for the formal accreditation process for AHSCs that has been announced by the Department of Health.

Professor Lechler said: 'I am delighted to have the opportunity to lead this work, which has now been submitted to the Department of Health. There will be a second stage submission later this month. Whilst there will be many challenges, the rewards will be immense with benefits for patients, local people and the wider population.'

The Partnership Board also agreed to create a Transitional Executive, the first confirmed appointment to which is Roland Sinker, the Interim Programme Director.

Madeleine Long, Current Chair of the Partnership Board and Chair of South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, explains: 'The creation of the Transitional Executive and the appointments to it are designed to accelerate progress as we move through the accreditation process, and will be followed by a competitive appointments process. We will continue to keep staff and colleagues fully informed over the coming weeks.'

New dental education centre

A NEW MILLION POUND LONDON DENTAL

education centre (LonDEC) to form part of the Dental Institute has been given the go ahead. Funded by NHS London the high-specification facility will be located at the Franklin-Wilkins Building, Waterloo Campus, and is scheduled to be operational from May 2009.

'State-of-the-art education centre'

The Centre will comprise a dental skills training room equipped with 26 phantom head stations, eight of which will include operating microscopes; cutting-edge clinical simulation facilities; a dedicated lecture room catering for



Professor Nairn Wilson (right) marks the start of building work for the new £1.5 million London dental education centre at King's.

up to 45 delegates, as well as break out rooms.

Professor Nairn Wilson, Dean and Head of the Dental Institute said: 'The Dental Institute is delighted to be working in partnership with the London Deanery to create a state-of-the-art education centre to

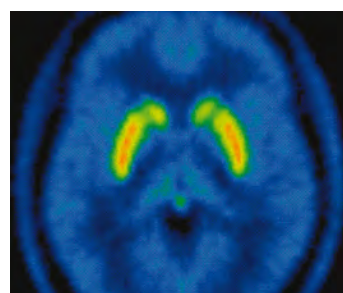
enhance hands-on training and related continuing professional development for all members of the dental team. It is hoped that LonDEC will be a platform on which to develop and build innovations in lifelong learning of immediate practical relevance to the clinical practice of dentistry.'

Dopamine presence linked to early psychosis

A NEW STUDY INVOLVING RESEARCH

from the Institute of Psychiatry (IoP) shows that people who may be at risk of schizophrenia show increased levels of the brain chemical messenger dopamine.

Researchers from the IoP and the Medical Research Council Clinical Sciences Centre, at Hammersmith Hospital, used a brain scanning technique to measure levels of dopamine in people attending the OASIS clinic, a specialist clinic for people who show possible



early signs of schizophrenia.

Dr Oliver Howes, Senior Clinical Lecturer at the MRC-Clinical Sciences Centre and

IoP says: 'Schizophrenia is one of the top ten health problems in young adults worldwide. Current treatments are helpful but we desperately need better ones.'

'The holy grail of research is to find a way of preventing this devastating illness before it starts. Our finding that dopamine levels are high in people showing very early signs of developing schizophrenia gives an important clue as to what is causing schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses. If the results

are confirmed, future treatments could target this part of the brain's dopamine system to prevent the full development of the illness.'

The full findings of the research have been published online in the *Archives of General Psychiatry*.

MS 'costing the economy £1.4 billion'

A NEW STUDY BY RESEARCHERS AT King's, recently published in the journal *PharmacoEconomics*, has suggested that the cost to the UK economy of looking after people with multiple sclerosis (MS) is £1.4 billion a year.

Researchers from the Institute of Psychiatry surveyed 2,000 members of the MS Society about the care they received and how their employment status had been affected. Half of the sample had retired due to ill-health, while a

fifth were in employment but had been forced to work part-time.

'Most of the service costs are hidden'

On average, the restrictions on work was costing just over £8,500 in lost earnings. On top of that the researchers calculated the cost for caring and supporting a person with MS. This included the

formal care and treatment people had from the NHS and social care, the informal support they received from friends and family and any personal payments they made themselves, such as funding home adaptations.

The report concluded this was costing the equivalent of just under £17,000 – nearly three-quarters of which was down to informal care.

Lead researcher Dr Paul McCrone, Reader in Health

Economics, said: 'The costs associated with MS are substantial. Most of the service costs are hidden as they represent care provided by family members.'

MS is a degenerative condition which affects about 85,000 people in the UK. It is caused by a defect in the body's immune system, which turns in on itself, causing damage to the nerves which can lead to symptoms including blurred vision, loss of balance and paralysis.

IVIDENT success

THE IVIDENT (INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL Dental School) initiative from the Centre of Flexible Learning in Dentistry was highly commended in December at the prestigious Medical Futures Innovation Awards 2008.

The Medical Futures Dental & Oral Health Innovation Awards are a national showcase of clinical and commercial excellence from those on the front line of delivery. The Awards help encourage, support and reward new ideas and advancements in dental and oral care that can improve people's lives.

Professor Patricia Reynolds, Deputy Director of Education for Flexible Learning at the Dental Institute, comments: 'This is timely recognition of our innovative educational project that has been developed to address the urgent need to educate more dental professionals but also provides the blueprint for



Professor Patricia Reynolds (second from right) and team at the ceremony.

flexible high-quality healthcare education.'

The Centre of Flexible Learning and IVIDENT were launched in 2007 to provide a world-leading distance learning initiative in dentistry. The Centre aims to develop and manage flexible learning enterprises and brings together distance learning, e-learning and ICT related educational research in an academically-led physical and virtual environment.

Visit www.ivident.info

Community sentences rise

A NEW REPORT BY THE CENTRE FOR Crime & Justice Studies has revealed that record numbers of people are serving court orders in the community.

The report, published by the Centre in November, highlights that in 2007 162,648 people started court orders – including both community sentences and Suspended Sentence Orders – the highest ever recorded number. This represents a 36 per cent increase since 1997, and could be as potentially damaging as prison overcrowding.

The report states: 'Prison overcrowding is a well-known fact. What is less well known is that community sentence caseloads are also overcrowded. The effect is far less graphic than images of overcrowded jails but the impact is equally damaging.'

Richard Garside, Director of the Centre for Crime & Justice



Studies, comments: 'Over the past decade community sentences have grown alongside the rise in the prison population. This places in some doubt the regular claim that their increased use can be an effective means of controlling the growth in prison.'

Knowledge Transfer first for King's

A TEAM FROM THE DEPARTMENT of Geography have won the Environmental Sciences Award of the first-ever London Knowledge Transfer Awards for a project estimating biomass burning smoke emissions from geostationary satellites.

The successful team includes Martin Wooster, Professor of Earth Observation Science,

and researchers Dr Gareth Roberts, Dr Weidong Xu and Mr Patrick Freeborn, together with scientific computing specialist Dr Jiang-Ping He.

Supported by the London Development Agency, the Awards seek to recognise London's innovation in the business arena and are open to all businesses and knowledge

based organisations located within the City.

Dr Alison Campbell, Managing Director, King's College London Business, notes: 'This award demonstrates that innovation is firmly embedded within King's and reflects the exciting and relevant research undertaken within the School of Social

Sciences & Public Policy.'

The Environmental Sciences Award, which is funded by the Natural Environment Research Council, was established to acknowledge successful activities in the arena of the environmental sciences including climate change, environmental influences on human health, and the genetic make-up of life on earth.

Professor Frank Nestle

Professor Frank Nestle holds the Mary Dunhill Chair of Cutaneous Medicine & Immunotherapy in the St John's Institute of Dermatology. He has also recently been appointed as Director of the Clinical Research Facilities at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals.

Tell us about your career.

After qualifying in medicine from Wuerzburg University in Germany, I undertook a research fellowship in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA, focusing on studies of skin dendritic cells.

I then undertook my clinical training in Dermatology, Venerology and Allergology and Clinical Immunology at the University Hospital Zurich and was appointed consultant in 1997.

In 1998 I received my habilitation (university lecturer) and, after a sabbatical at Rockefeller University, I was recruited to my current post.

What are your areas of research and can you explain the title of your post?

My main research interests focus on furthering understanding of the mechanisms of skin inflammation and skin cancer with a view to developing new diagnostic procedures and treatments. My post at King's is the Mary Dunhill Chair of Cutaneous Medicine and Immunotherapy, which carries the name of Mary Dunhill, the late daughter of Alfred Dunhill, and I am grateful to the Dunhill Medical Trust for supporting the Chair.

The name of the post reflects our focus on cutaneous medicine and immunotherapy and the research that we are undertaking on skin disease in the context of medicine. It also reflects our strong belief in the power of immunomodulation for future therapies of a spectrum of diseases ranging from inflammation to cancer.

Tell us about your involvement with the Biomedical Research Centre.

I am involved with the comprehensive Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) at Guy's and St Thomas' and King's College London at multiple levels. At the BRC executive level, I am representing our investments in clinical research infrastructure including new clinical research facilities. At the research theme level, I am co-leading the research on cutaneous medicine and dermatology.

I am also a Senior Investigator and faculty member of the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR). This status was awarded on a competitive basis to the top 100 clinical researchers in the UK. Under the leadership of Professor Dame Sally Davies, we are consulted on policy decisions and are spearheading efforts

to create an internationally leading clinical research environment in the UK.

Can you explain the importance of the BRC's focus on translational research?

This is probably one of the most significant and boldest initiatives in recent years to bring together under one roof scientific excellence at King's with clinical excellence at Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation Trust. It will enable the translation of new discoveries in the laboratory into innovative diagnostics and therapies in a wide range of diseases.

Ultimately, this will benefit patients and the wider population providing access to early clinical developments and improved patient care. It will also allow us to recruit the brightest and the best to King's and educate the next generation of leaders in translational medicine. This is a unique and timely opportunity to make King's one of the top national and international institutions in academic medicine.

Describe the new Clinical Research Facility and your role as Director.

The new Clinical Research Facility (CRF) at the St Thomas' Campus is part of the CRFs at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital and King's College London. It is an essential part of a wide ranging initiative to establish an internationally competitive platform for clinical research at Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation Trust, King's College London and other strategic partners. Thanks to multiple funding sources including Guy's and St Thomas' Charity and the NIHR BRC, we are in a strong position to achieve this goal.

The strategic focus of the CRF at St Thomas' is on early studies in cardiovascular disease, nutrition, women's health and twin genetics. As Director, my role is to ensure the strategic fit of the CRFs with the wider translational research agenda and to enable the smooth transition from the current start-up phase to a well-oiled nationally and internationally leading clinical research platform.

What are your future plans for the CRF?

The next important milestone will be the opening of the CRF at Guy's at the end of 2009. This new CRF will supplement the St Thomas' site with its focus on cancer, transplantation, rheumatology, allergology,



Fact file

Book on my bedside table

Niall Ferguson, *Empire: How Britain made the modern world*. Niall is one of the brightest minds in Anglo-American contemporary history writing and convincingly shows how the British Empire, in spite of some of its shortcomings, has provided the basis of what we consider today's foundations of modern democracy.

Favourite holiday destination

The Engadina valley in the Swiss Mountains or a remote cove at the Algarve coast in Portugal.

Proudest work moment

To see a research fellow in my team succeed with a scientific project and being rewarded with a key presentation, a highly-cited publication or an impact on patient outcome after years of hard work and setbacks.

dermatology and immunology. Strategically, the CRFs will concentrate on being a platform for the development of new biomarkers and therapies, providing a hub where innovative research can bring benefits to patients at the earliest opportunity.

Important aspects will also be to support the training and education of the next generation of clinical researchers, trialists and nurses as well as the establishment of strategic links with the pharmaceutical and the biotech industries.

King's new global partners

KING'S RECENTLY SIGNED A MAJOR

partnership agreement with Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi, India, making it the fourth strategic international partner for the College. Other major strategic partnerships exist between King's and the University of Hong Kong, the National University of Singapore and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

These four partnerships are vital for an international university like King's and open up a wealth of opportunity for students and researchers at all institutions. This article provides an introduction to King's new partners.

Jawaharlal Nehru University

JNU has the Nehruvian objectives of national integration, social justice, secularism, the democratic way of life, international understanding and a scientific approach to the problems of society as its founding principles.

The new partnership between King's and JNU will initially focus on the fields of comparative world history, global cultural and literary studies, and international relations, with other areas to follow.

The two universities will start to exchange PhD students from the 2009-10 academic year. King's faculty will also contribute courses to JNU's MA and MPhil programmes and will host a number of visiting academics from JNU over the coming years.

JNU and King's are also planning to develop a collaborative research programme to compare the history of early modern India and Europe, and want to develop a joint conceptual framework to think about global cultural exchange. The programme will include a series of joint workshops to be held in London and Delhi in 2009 and 2010.

University of Hong Kong

Comprising ten faculties and numerous research centres, the University of Hong Kong (HKU) is the most successful university in



The library at Jawaharlal Nehru University.



Orientation day at the University of Hong Kong.

the country in terms of securing competitive research funding from the Research Grants Council. In 2006 HKU was awarded HK\$146 million, which accounts for 30 per cent of the total funding allocated to all eight local universities in Hong Kong. In the latest *Times Higher Education* global university ranking, HKU came in 26th place.

King's partnership with HKU includes a college-wide agreement for student exchanges that will be of particular interest to HKU students from the Faculty of Social Science, which requires all students spend time at a university outside Hong Kong. There is also a Partnership Award for King's staff wanting to spend time at HKU, with nine applicants for the next year.

King's and HKU are also preparing a proposal for a dual PhD as well as a 1-2-1 (four year

degree in global studies with King's, Warwick, Illinois, UNC, HKU and possibly NUS.

The Faculty of Social Sciences at HKU and the School of Social Science & Public Policy at King's also run a bi-annual conference on 'Managing World Cities', together with the Robert F Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University. King's will next take its turn as host of the event in 2012.

National University of Singapore (NUS)

NSU offers a comprehensive range of disciplines similar to King's, ranging from architecture and arts, to medicine and dentistry, to engineering and computer science. The NUS student community comprises a cosmopolitan mix of more than 32,000 students from

100 countries, contributing to a vibrant and thriving campus life. In 2008, NUS was ranked 30th in the *Times Higher Education* rankings.

The Study Abroad programme at NUS aims to send 20 per cent of all students for at least one term to another country, with 50 per cent spending at least three weeks away, for example on field classes or short courses. Hence NUS is keen to send students to all parts of King's, with the current agreement allowing up to 25 to come. The Division of Engineering is in discussions with NUS for exchange students from King's to have placements linked to courses in Singapore. A joint PhD programme with NUS is also in preparation.

The first NUS Partnership Award holder from King's was Dr Cristina Legido-Quigley from the Department of Pharmacy, who has just returned from NUS. Read more about her time in Singapore in *Comment 185*.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC)

King's signed a wide-ranging strategic alliance with UNC in 2005, however undergraduate exchanges have been in place since 2004. While there has previously been an imbalance with far more UNC students coming to King's, this year the numbers will be more even – so far there are 12 applications from King's students to UNC for the next year.

The first Partnership Award winner from UNC is coming to King's this year. In addition Tyron Goldschmidt, a PhD student from the Department of Philosophy at King's, has been awarded a one year studentship by the Department of Philosophy at UNC-Chapel Hill. There is also a rich programme of interfaculty presentations and visits between the two universities.

For more information and the latest news on the King's/UNC partnership visit www.studyabroad.unc.edu/kings/index.cfm

Taiwanese VPs visit King's

NINE VICE-PRINCIPALS FROM TOP

Taiwanese universities visited King's Strand Campus in December to learn more about the College's history, structure and research strengths.

The Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, welcomed the delegation to King's and Professor Vaughan Robinson, Head of the Graduate School, gave an overview of graduate teaching and research at the College. The nine presidents were accompanied by the Minister Without Portfolio of the Executive Yuan, Taiwan, and two representatives from the British Council in Taiwan. 'King's receives visits from universities all around the world, but we were particularly excited



Professor Vaughan Robinson (second from left) and **Professor Rick Trainor** (third from left) with the Taiwanese guests.

to welcome our colleagues from Asia,' says Vice Principal Professor Keith Hoggart.

'The question time revealed some interesting differences in

how our universities handle certain aspects of study and teaching, and the delegates – by all accounts – very much valued the chance to learn more

about the 'King's way' of academic life and the networking opportunities with senior academic staff.'

The following day, King's received 23 vice-principals from various universities across China at the Maughan Library. The day was opened by Professor Hoggart, who welcomed the visitors and explained King's internationalisation strategy.

The Heads of the Schools of Social Science & Public Policy, and Law gave an overview of the strength of teaching and research in their schools and Dr Liqun Yang, Business Development Manager for Innovation China UK (ICUK), completed the presentations with an overview of ICUK.

Funding for international activities

IN ORDER TO ADVANCE THE COLLEGE'S

relationship with its key international partners, funds are available for research visits, workshops and other initiatives that will deepen the College's relationship with one of its key partners.

College funding has been increased by funds from the Development Fund this year, which is providing money for

initiatives with the University of Hong Kong. College funds of up to £1,500 per award are available to support initiatives with the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, the National University of Singapore and Jawaharlal Nehru University.

These funds are administered through the Academic Liaison for each institution, who represents the College's link



with these institutions. Please contact the relevant person directly with enquiries and suggestions. These are:

- Professor Cathryn Lewis (Genetics/IoP) University of Hong Kong

- Dr Jon Wilson (History) Jawaharlal Nehru University
- Dr David Ricks (Byzantine & Modern Greek Studies) University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
- Professor Phil Moore (Pharmacology) National University of Singapore

These funds are additional to those available for PhDs and post-doctoral research assistants (PDRAs) to support visits to key partners; details of which can be found at www.kcl.ac.uk/graduate/funding/database/view/190

Palestinian Ambassador visits King's

THE PALESTINIAN AMBASSADOR

to the UK, Professor Manuel Hassassian, gave a talk at the College in November in which he discussed possibilities for change and progress in the Israel-Palestine peace process from a Palestinian perspective.

The talk was given by invitation of the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence (ICSR), a centre within the Department of War Studies.

The Ambassador expressed his concern over the lack of progress in the peace process and the widely held misconception that

Palestine did not recognise the state of Israel, and emphasised the need for consensus within the Palestinian national movement to address this.

Dr Peter Neumann, Director of ICSR, said: 'The Ambassador gave a unique insight into the evolving peace process in the Middle East. He really helped us better understand the Palestinian perspective, both in relation to Israel but also regarding the continuing division within the Palestinian camp.'

Professor Hassassian has been the Ambassador of the Palestinian people to the UK since 2005.

Principal joins global debate

Principal Professor Rick Trainor joined representatives from UK and Latin American Universities in December to discuss the opportunities offered by internationalisation and co-operation. The roundtable, entitled 'Internationalisation: Opportunities for Co-operation', was co-ordinated by Juan Ramón de la Fuente, President

of the International Universities Association, and sponsored by Abbey National/Banco Santander, with whom King's scholarships agreement in October. At the meeting, the delegates reviewed their respective university systems with a view to establishing new areas of joint action.

Division of Imaging Sciences

The Division of Imaging Sciences is a cutting-edge division specialising in medical imaging. It includes its new research laboratories in the Rayne Institute at St Thomas Hospital, the Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Imaging Centre; Nuclear Medicine, and Osteoporosis and Interventional Radiology.

THE DIVISION OF IMAGING Sciences' research base is the £10 million Imaging Centre opened at St Thomas' Hospital in 2007, which provides dedicated facilities for positron emission tomography (PET), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), ultrasound and x-ray imaging.

The Division is multidisciplinary and brings together more than 70 researchers whose expertise spans disciplines from computer science, medical physics and mathematics to chemistry, biology and medicine. This breadth of skills, and the new Centre's state-of-the-art facilities, put King's in the forefront internationally in imaging research.

Rapid strides

Reza Razavi, Professor of Paediatric Cardiovascular Science and Head of the Division, comments: 'Areas in which we're making particularly rapid strides are imaging the molecular and immune processes occurring in cancer and in the atherosclerotic plaque that causes heart attack and stroke, using new specific magnetic resonance dyes and radioactive PET and single photon emission tomography (SPET) imaging agents. We are developing new ways of more accurately mapping blood flow and oxygen deficiency in the heart and in tumours. This allows us to diagnose patients who may need intervention for coronary artery disease, and to predict and measure the outcome of cancer treatment.'

'Synergy between different disciplines is crucial for medical imaging. For example, a new scanner that combines MRI and PET allows doctors to see anatomy and function at the same time. This new combination needs new physics and engineering to design the scanners, and new chemistry and biology to design the contrast agents that will allow both types of imaging simultaneously, and of course clinicians to develop and evaluate their applications.'

'Research on bone metabolism draws on the expertise of the Osteoporosis Unit, the PET Centre and Nuclear Medicine in order to understand the mechanisms of osteoporosis and assessing the efficacy of novel treatments. New work on image-guided intervention draws on our expertise in real-time MRI, novel device technology and advanced image processing and visualization techniques.'



Professors Eike Nagel (left) and **Tobias Schaeffter** with the 3T magnetic resonance scanner in the new Imaging Centre at St Thomas'.

Partnerships

'Other kinds of synergy are also vital. We cultivate strong links with large imaging equipment manufacturers and the pharmaceutical industry, as well as with small and medium enterprises and university start-up companies that are developing new devices and computational methods. We have also been very pro-active in developing links with other divisions to extend the applications of imaging technology, not only within the School of Medicine but also in the other Health Schools and the physical sciences. Absolutely crucial is our very close working relationship with our partner NHS Foundation Trusts, which is being strengthened as part of the new Academic Health Sciences Centre.'

This interdisciplinary and collaborative ethos has led to success in winning a series of major multi-million pound grants to Imaging Sciences and its collaborating divisions, notably Cardiovascular and Cancer, from agencies such as the British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.

Taught courses

The Division currently has some 39 PhD students and is the focus for a wide range of highly-regarded undergraduate and postgraduate taught courses for students with a variety of undergraduate backgrounds, including medicine, physics, maths, pharmacy, chemistry, engineering and biological sciences.

Among these are the Intercalated BSc in Radiological Sciences for medical and dental students; several special study modules for third and fourth year medical students; an intercollegiate University of London MSc in Nuclear Medicine; an MSc and Diploma in Medical Engineering & Physics, and an MSc in PET Radiochemistry. New master's level MRes programmes for scientists and clinicians are in preparation.

There is a wide range of short courses for radiologists, physicists, radiographers and other health service professionals in areas such as interventional radiology, CT scanning, PET scanning, vascular ultrasound, nuclear medicine, radiopharmacy, bone mineral density and osteoporosis, interventional MRI, laser safety, UV medical exposure and radiation risk assessment.

Academic promotions

Promotions across all Schools for 2008-9:

Promoted to Professor

- Dr Louise Archer, Education & Professional Studies
- Dr Stephen Bach, Management
- Dr Jasvinder Banga, Diabetes & Endocrinology
- Dr Richard Burridge, The Dean's Office
- Mr Mark Davenport, Paediatric Surgery
- Dr Paul Francis, Biochemistry
- Dr Mohammad Ghavami, Division of Engineering
- Dr Anne Green, French
- Dr Penelope Green, Law
- Dr Corinne Houart, MRC Centre for Developmental Neurobiology
- Dr Simon Hughes, Randall Division of Cell & Molecular Biophysics
- Dr Beverley Hunt, Haematology, Pathology & Rheumatology
- Dr Richard Kirkland, English Language & Literature
- Dr Loretta Lees, Geography
- Dr Giovanna Lombardi, Nephrology & Transplantation
- Dr Paul Luff, Management
- Dr Josephine McDonagh, English Language & Literature
- Dr Henrik Mouritsen, Classics

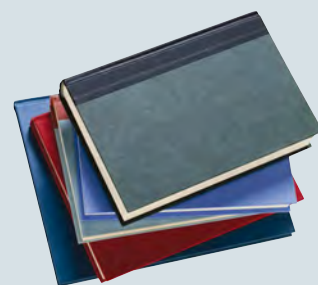
- Dr Shanta Persaud, Physiology
- Ms Elaine Player, Law
- Dr Shamsudin Rela, Institute of Liver Studies
- Dr Celia Roberts, Education & Professional Studies
- Mr Roger Strange, Management

Promoted to Reader

- Dr Tanya Aplin, Law
- Dr Martyn Cobourne, Orthodontics
- Dr Benjamin Forbes, Pharmacy
- Dr Jeremy Green, Craniofacial Development
- Dr Nedim Hadzic, Child Health/Institute of Liver Studies
- Dr Matthew Head, Music
- Dr Jonathan Hindmarsh, Management
- Ms Maleiha Malik, Law
- Dr Sonia Massai, English Language & Literature
- Dr Federico Ortino, Law
- Dr Michele Raco, Geography
- Dr Klaus Suhling, Physics
- Dr Ying Sun, Asthma, Allergy & Respiratory Science
- Dr Peter Zammit, Randall Division of Cell & Molecular Biophysics

Promoted to Senior Lecturer

- Dr Edward Adams, Theology & Religious Studies
- Dr Timothy Benbow, Defence Studies Department
- Dr Nikolaos Boulgouris, Division of Engineering
- Dr Luke Bretherton, Education & Professional Studies
- Dr Peter Busch, War Studies
- Dr Guy Carpenter, Salivary Research Unit
- Dr Jane Churchfield, Anatomy & Human Sciences
- Dr David Clark, Computer Science
- Dr Trevor Coward, Fixed & Removable Prosthodontics
- Dr Harold Dickinson, Defence Studies Department
- Dr Janet Floyd, American Studies
- Dr Michael Goodman, War Studies
- Dr Suzanne Hall, Palliative Care & Policy
- Dr David Hall, Defence Studies Department
- Dr Richard Heads, Cardiology
- Dr Karen Homer, Microbiology
- Dr Paul Janz, Theology & Religious Studies



- Dr Rachel Kerr, War Studies
- Dr Stuart Knight, Biochemistry
- Dr Johanna Malt, French
- Dr Juan Martin-Serrano, Infectious Diseases
- Dr Manuel Mayr, Cardiology
- Dr Christoph Meyer, European Studies
- Dr Paul Readman, History
- Dr Henry Rothstein, Geography
- Dr Fatin Said, Division of Engineering
- Dr Shahriar Sajjadi-Emami, Mechanical Engineering
- Dr Sarah Salvage, Pharmacology & Therapeutics
- Dr Adam Sutcliffe, History
- Dr Paul Taylor, Reproduction & Endocrinology
- Dr Neil Vickers, English Language & Literature
- Mrs Barbara Webb, Anatomy & Human Sciences

This information was supplied by Human Resources.

Cresta Run

Gerry Burns, Assistant Director of Procurement in the Department of Finance, was recently featured in an article on the Cresta Run, a toboggan run, in the *Ultratravel* supplement of the *Daily Telegraph*.

On the Cresta Run, the rider goes down by himself on a toboggan in a lying position on his tummy, head-first, using rakes on the end of special boots to steer. In the article, Gerry was noted as the fastest of his group down the run with a time of 71 seconds.

The Cresta Run is a natural ice sled run in St Moritz, Switzerland. The track is three quarters of a mile long and winds its way down a steep gully, with a total drop of

514 feet. The race was started by the St Moritz Tobogganing Club in 1885 and is only open men, apart from Ladies Day one day a year.

International PR Officer

King's PR team has a new member: **Mel Haberstroh** who joined recently as International Public Relations Officer to promote King's research, teaching and events internationally in the media as well as responding to international media enquiries.

If you want to raise King's profile around the world, contact her about any upcoming research papers, international visits, events

and other activity. Many research results will be of interest to an international audience and can be used to tell positive stories about King's in the media around the world.

Contact Mel on 020 7848 3076 or melanie.haberstroh@kcl.ac.uk

BBSRC panels

Dr Alison Campbell, Managing Director of King's Business, has been appointed to the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research (BBSRC) Bioscience for Industry Strategy Panel. Chaired by Malcolm Skingle of GSK, this is a panel of experts is drawn from industry and academic technology transfer.



Dr Alison Campbell

It has a remit to provide strategic input on industrial user needs and knowledge transfer activities.

Dr Campbell has also been appointed to the BBSRC

Follow-on funding panel. This £2.1 million per annum fund is open to all BBSRC grant holders and is for 'proof of concept' at the very early stage of research aimed at developing a commercially attractive proposition.

Improving patient safety

The King's Patient Safety & Service Quality Research Centre, are taking on four members of staff from King's College Hospital Trust to help improve patient safety and service in the NHS.

The secondees **Carol Bell**, **Joanne Fielding**, **Natasha Folkes** and **Juliet Higginson**, who worked in a range of areas at the Trust including midwifery and clinical

effectiveness, will be involved with a number of different projects across four research programmes. They will investigate how new technologies can be safely introduced and managed; what systems organisations use to ensure the provision of safe, high quality care; how different health care professions handle risk; and how staff are supported.

BHF Chair

Mathias Gautel, Professor of Molecular Cardiology from the Randall Division of Cell & Molecular Biophysics and Cardiovascular Division at King's has been awarded one of three new Chairs in the UK, from the British Heart Foundation for his

CBE for Head of Nursing School

DAVID TETT

Professor Anne Marie Rafferty, Head of the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery, received an Order of the British Empire: Commander (CBE) in the New Year's Honours List for her exceptional services to healthcare.

She has been recognised alongside a list of distinguished Britons, which include medal winners from the Beijing Olympics, heroes of the July 2005 London attacks and Britain's emergency services staff.

'The modern nurse is crucially important in influencing healthcare delivery,' comments Professor Rafferty. 'Nursing is a dynamic, intellectually demanding and technologically sophisticated profession and we need to keep the focus on developing leading edge nurses



Professor Anne Marie Rafferty

of the future to further drive quality healthcare for the future. I'm delighted to receive this honour as part of these ongoing efforts.'

Honorary degree for Tutu

PICTURE PARTNERSHIP



The Chancellor of the University of London, **HRH The Princess Royal** and **Archbishop Desmond Tutu**.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Nobel Laureate, Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town, former Chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, King's Fellow and alumnus, has finally received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the University of London, some 26 years later than intended.

The honour was conferred upon Archbishop Tutu by the Chancellor, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, at a ceremony held in the Senate House in December to celebrate the anniversary of the foundation of the University of London in 1836. Principal Professor Rick Trainor presented Archbishop Tutu to the Chancellor and delivered the citation, at the

ceremony.

This year, four of the seven 2008 honorary degrees awarded by the University of London were conferred on King's former staff or students, an outstanding, and possibly unrivalled, achievement.

Other recipients included Professor Emeritus Peter Marshall FBA FRC who was awarded an honorary Doctor of Literature honoris causa. Professor Marshall received his honorary degree at a later graduation ceremony on 5 December, which was held at the School of Advanced Study, University of London. It was conferred upon him by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, Sir Graeme Davies.

innovative research into muscular activity in the heart.

Professor Gautel is one of three researchers in London and Newcastle to have received British Heart Foundation (BHF) Chair awards. BHF Chairs are awarded by the charity to outstanding individuals at the top of their field with the ability to offer scientific and strategic leadership at an internationally competitive level.

Professor Gautel comments: 'I'm very pleased and honoured that the BHF decided to support our research. This award provides a fantastic opportunity to continue and expand our work.'

Lifetime Award

Brian Street, Professor of Language in Education in the Department of Education & Professional Studies, has been awarded the National Reading Conference's (NRC) Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Lifetime Achievement Award recognises scholars' contribution to education that has had significant impact on the field of literacy theory, research, and practice. His citation states:

'Professor Street's scholarship has had a substantial influence the research and practice of the NRC membership. This influence includes how literacy theory has been defined, and how the concept of literacy has been used in research and educational and governmental practice.'

Gilbert Blane Medal

Dr Neil Greenberg, Senior Lecturer in Military Psychiatry at the Institute of Psychiatry, and Consultant Psychiatrist with the Royal Navy, has been given the Gilbert Blane Medal awarded by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons. It is given to medical officers of the Royal Navy.

The Gilbert Blane Medal is awarded for contributing to an improvement in any matters affecting the health or living conditions of naval personnel.

Dr Greenberg has been given the award for his work in developing and researching TRiM (Trauma Risk Management) a programme of peer support to help with the exposure to traumatic stress which is used by the Royal



Dr Neil Greenberg

Marines and Royal Navy.

Dr Greenberg said: 'It's fabulous to know that the work we have done has made such an important impact upon the lives of military personnel and I hope that TRiM proves to be helpful for those on the front line who regularly risk their lives as they diligently and courageously carry out the hazardous missions which our government directs them to.'

IT prize for John Bradley



Vint Cerf (left) and John Bradley.

John Bradley, Senior Analyst in the Centre for Computing in the Humanities, has won a Mellon Award for Technology Collaboration and been awarded \$50,000 for developing a new computer software tool – Pliny.

Pliny, named after the classical Roman author, naturalist and military commander Pliny the Elder (AD 23-79), facilitates note-taking and annotation while a person is actually reading (a key

College's Honorary Degree Ceremony



Front row (from left): **Professor Michael Bishop**, **Professor Rick Trainor**, **Professor Romila Thapar**, **Lord Douro**, **Baron Rees of Ludlow**; Back row (from left): **Professor Tu Wei-Ming**, **Professor Junji Tagami**, **Professor Peter Brown** and **Dr James Lovelock**.

The College's Honorary Degree Ceremony was held at the Strand Chapel in November. The Chairman of Council, the Marquess of Douro, and the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, conferred Honorary Degrees on seven highly-distinguished recipients.

Honorary Degrees are awarded by the College to individuals who are of conspicuous merit as demonstrated by their outstanding academic contribution to their field.

The new Honorary Graduates are:

- **Professor Michael Bishop**, Chancellor of the University of California, San Francisco.
- **Professor Peter Brown**, Professor of History and Director of the Program in Hellenic Studies, Princeton University.
- **Dr James Lovelock**, key figure in thinking about life and climate change, and developer of the Gaia theory.
- **Baron Rees of Ludlow**,

Astronomer Royal, President of the Royal Society, and Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.

- **Professor Junji Tagami**, Dean of the Tokyo Medical and Dental University.
- **Professor Romila Thapar**, Emeritus Professor in History at the Jawaharlal Nehru University.
- **Professor Tu Wei-Ming**, Harvard-Yenching Professor of Chinese History and Philosophy at Harvard University.

element of Humanities research for many scholars), and furthermore allows readers to integrate their initial notes into a representation of an evolving personal interpretation.

Harold Short, Director of CCH, comments: 'The Mellon Award is richly deserved. It can be seen not only as just recognition of the intellectual innovation that underlies the Pliny software, but also as marking in a symbolic way John's exceptional contribution to scholarship in the Digital Humanities over many years.'

The Mellon Awards honour not-for-profit organisations for leadership in the collaborative development of open source software tools with application to scholarship in the arts and humanities, as well as cultural-heritage not-for-profit activities.

Death notices

Professor Derek Satchell

Alumnus of King's (Chemistry 1949-52) and former member of staff. Professor Satchell joined the College in 1955 as Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry, and steadily rose through the ranks to become Professor in 1978. He retired from King's in 1993.

Professor George Kane

Professor of English Language and Medieval Literature (1965-76) and Head of English Department (1968-76) at King's, and Professor Emeritus at the University of London.

Tassos Papadopoulos

President of the Republic of Cyprus (2003-2008) and alumnus of King's Law School (1952-55).

Helen Suzman

Helen Suzman DBE was the recipient of the first Honorary Degree awarded by King's College London in February 2008. Helen Suzman was one of the 20th century's leading public figures, who for many years represented the only real opposition to apartheid within the all-white Parliament of South Africa.

Five mergers & a fashion show

Deputy College Secretary and Academic Registrar Brian Salter retired in December after 30 years at King's.

Flashback: *You joined King's as Assistant Registrar from the Open University in 1979.*

Brian Salter: It was an enormous culture shock. The challenge was to computerise the Registry. Unfortunately, the Registrar at the time, John McCormack [1969-82], felt that computers were a passing fad (we can't be right all the time!) so it was a bit of an uphill struggle. But we managed it. King's came across as very hierarchical: administrators should be seen and not heard – something that I'm not very good at. Things started to change under Myles Tempny [College Secretary 1983-85]. He was an avuncular Irishman, with a *modus operandi* that involved in-the-corridor chats and no pieces of paper.

The Principal then was Lord Cameron [1980-85], who would probably have been the first to admit that he didn't know a great deal about higher education. But I've never come across a man who so filled the room. You only ever got about 20 minutes of his time. You might assume that he and Myles were oil and water, but actually they were gin and tonic – a real tour-de-force in the process leading up to the 1985 mergers with Queen Elizabeth (QEC) and Chelsea Colleges.

FB: *How did those mergers change relations with the University of London?*

BS: Until then we'd assumed that the level of funding was the same college by college, but through the mergers we discovered it wasn't. For example, when the Finance Director sat down to work out how they were going to fund Chemistry and History and so on, I said 'Well the unit of funding for Chemistry is X', and the other two colleges said 'We don't get that'. Networking started across the colleges, and it became evident that Senate House took the Funding Council settlement and then applied its own variations.

Clearly Imperial and UCL were getting a better settlement than the rest of us did – surprise, surprise! We were never sure what the University said to the Funding Council or what the Funding Council said to the University. But from the mid-80s we were allowed to sit in and listen to what was being said. And then it was the University that was allowed to sit in and the colleges led the discussion. Then after a while direct funding came to the larger colleges. It meant that we could plan our future in a much more autonomous way.

FB: *Was King's original plan to merge just with Queen Elizabeth College?*



Brian Salter at one of the scores of degree ceremonies he organised.

BS: Yes, but the University asked us to look at Chelsea too. They thought Chelsea was the weakest college academically. But the more you got to know about it, the more you felt that was unfair. Nursing grew out of Chelsea. They had a very, very strong Education Department. Pharmacy was part of Chelsea. So there were lots of little gems, which have come into King's and are now jewels in the crown.

FB: *What about the name issue?*

BS: The one thing I've learnt from that merger is that, whilst you can relatively simply settle things like structures and finance, people will die in trenches over a name. Queen Elizabeth College wanted the dreadful 'KQC'. But the intention was always to drop it. I remember when we started talking to UMDS and I thought 'Oh God, what's this going to be called?' And we had the same thing – 'GKT' – but it didn't take us long to move on. Time really does settle everything.

FB: *You were involved in the redesign of the College's academic dress by Dame Vivienne Westwood?*

BS: Yes. In fact at first she didn't want to do it because, strangely enough, she's quite a traditionalist. When we first went to see the new design in her workshop they had it on

a dummy – and it was white! They explained how they'd cut it differently because students tend to charge across the stage and the old gown billows out like a parachute and doesn't look very nice. So they'd re-cut it. And then one of the designers said 'Of course it will be black'. So the next time we were asked to go along there was a black gown and a hood, and we thought 'Wow'. Because it was just so simple and she had picked such vibrant colours. Then of course there was the fashion show, which I compèred. One of my oddest duties ever as Registrar! I thought there was very little that the College could throw at me after all this time ... But it was splendid. Natalie [Hoskins] did a great job putting it all together, with a lot of input from Vivienne's people. I loved the way they transformed the Great Hall.

FB: *How will you remember King's?*

BS: I always think if you could bottle the ambiance of King's, you'd earn a fortune. It's a friendly place. It's an accommodating place, and – even though it's grown to such a size – I don't think it's lost that intimate character about it. It's much friendlier than you witness when you go to other institutions, and I think there's an appreciation of the worth of the academic staff by the professional staff – and vice versa.

Students launch new charity

SHINE – MAKE EVERY CHILD COUNT, a not-for-profit community programme run by students at King's, is celebrating its new charity status following four years of outstanding success supporting school children in the London area.

The official launch was held in November when schools, students and other interested parties were able to find out more about this newly-established charity's work.

SHINE offers both academic and pastoral support to children at inner-city primary schools through the use of university student mentors. With five programmes operating across the London



SHINE Directors: **Sonia Akrimi** (left), **Richard Johnson** and **Sophie Raynor**.

Boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth, the scheme currently reaches more than 150 children

aged between 9 and 11 years old. Its aim is to enhance the learning and development of the pupils by

providing proactive support and positive role models.

Sophie Raynor, SHINE Director and graduate medical student, comments: 'We are extremely grateful to Slaughter and May and everyone else who has been so generous in helping us with our launch. The event is an important opportunity for us to raise awareness as we make the transition from a community programme to a fully-fledged charity. We hope that as a result we will be able to help even more local school children in the future.'

Visit www.kclshine.org.uk for more information.

Major investment in PhDs

THE COLLEGE IS OFFERING 50 PHD studentships in the Health Schools, following its success in attracting externally funded awards combined with a major investment of College funds. Awards are mainly available for four years, and include an annual stipend and tuition fees.

Reflecting the ongoing success of King's

The studentship awards will be offered by the College's interdisciplinary Research Groups and Centres, funded internally by King's Graduate School (10 awards) and numerous prestigious external sources including the Medical Research Council and the Biotechnology & Biological

Sciences Research Council, the British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK, and other leading charitable organisations and industrial sponsors.

The 50 awards will span all divisions of the Health Schools, including the Dental Institute, and the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery.

Professor Robert Lechler, Vice-Principal (Health) comments: 'These awards reflect the ongoing success of King's in attracting prestigious research council, charity and other externally-funded awards, together with the commitment of our Graduate School which is funding 10 studentships.'

To find out more about how to apply for studentship at King's please visit: www.kcl.ac.uk/schools/health/studentships

2008 *Report* published

The 2008 King's College London *Report* is now available. The *Report* illustrates a sample of the immense and innovative range of research, teaching and commercialisation undertaken at the College in the 2007-8 academic year.

Principal Professor Rick Trainor, comments: 'The achievements featured in this edition of the *Report* indicate King's ever more prominent status as one of the country's leading university institutions, which is reflected in the College's recognition for the second year running as one of the top 25 universities in the world.'

This year's cover story highlights the College's growing links with international institutions. Read more about



the College's growing international collaborations on page 7.

Copies of the *Report* are available from College reception desks and also online. For larger quantities please contact the Public Relations Department, email: pr@kcl.ac.uk

NESTA appointed new seed fund manager for College

NESTA, THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for Science, Technology & the Arts, has been appointed as the new fund manager of the Kinetique Biomedical Seed Fund, a University Challenge Seed Fund providing start-up funding for the development and strategic management of spin-out companies from King's and

Queen Mary, University of London. This is its first third party fund management contract for NESTA.

Alison Campbell, Managing Director of King's College London Business said: 'We look forward to working with NESTA to allow our current portfolio to reach its potential as well as

providing a solid base for funding future ideas emerging from King's College London's research base.'

The Kinetique Fund invests in technologies relating to the biomedical sciences – this includes the development of therapeutics, drug-delivery systems, diagnostics, devices, biomaterials and IT related to healthcare.

Established in 1999, the Fund has made many significant investments in spin-out companies from King's including Theragenetics, and OSpray Limited, and Neurotex from Queen Mary. NESTA's appointment will ensure the ongoing management of the existing companies.

Annual Fund applications



The 2008 Annual Fund awarded three new PhD Studentships through the academic board.

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING

accepted for Annual Fund grants for 2009. Funding applications are welcomed from all Schools and departments for initiatives that will be of benefit to their School

or department, or will benefit a large proportion of the College community as a whole.

In 2008, the Annual Fund Committee awarded more than £200,000, raised through

donations from alumni and friends of the College, in support of nearly 30 projects across the College. It additionally awarded three new PhD studentships through the Academic Board. A full list of last year's successful projects can be found at www.kcl.ac.uk/support/fund/awards2008.html

The deadline for applications is Friday 27 March and applicants will be notified of the Committee's decision shortly after their meeting in May. For more information on the Annual Fund and to download an application form, please visit www.kcl.ac.uk/support/fund

For advice about the suitability of specific projects, please email the Development Office: annual.fund@kcl.ac.uk or telephone Joyce Mahaja on 020 7848 4701.

No credit crunch for King's alumni

MORE THAN £75,000 HAS BEEN

pledged by nearly 400 donors, in the Autumn 2008 telephone campaign, raising money for the College's Annual Fund. With £52,267 in gifts already received and donations still to be counted, this could be the highest amount ever raised.

Now in its 14th year, the

College's Development Office organises teams of current students to ring former students as part of its fundraising efforts.

Telephone Campaign Manager João Silva comments: 'The student callers have been amazing, their passion for King's really shone through in the conversations they had with alumni, parents

and friends of the College, and when they offered people the opportunity to financially support student activities at the College, a large majority of people said they would. It is a great feeling'.

Since telephone campaigning began at King's in 1994, more than £1.4 million has been donated by over 5,000 alumni.

The telephone campaign enables current students to stay in touch with alumni, bringing them up-to-date with the latest developments around the College and giving

Nursing in China

Academics from the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery recently delivered keynote speeches on the future direction of nursing in China at the Beijing International Summit Forum.

Alison While, Professor of Community Nursing and Associate Dean, and Professor Ian Norman, Associate Dean and Deputy Head of School, spoke about the future development of the Chinese healthcare system through nursing at the event, hosted by Peking University.

Addressing an invited audience of head nurses from the major hospitals across the country, the King's Professors were joined by five other international experts from the USA, Australia, Hong Kong and Taiwan as members of a global advisory panel on nursing and nurse education in the country.

Separately at the Summit, Professors While and Norman visited Peking University Third Hospital – one of the few 'Triple A' hospitals in China housing 1,180 beds and providing appointments to over 7,000 outpatients per day.

them the opportunity to support teaching facilities, extra-curricular activities and scholarships at King's today.

Shadow Health Secretary visits



MP Mike Penning, Shadow Minister for Health visited the Dental Institute in November. He was welcomed to the Institute by Dean and Head of the Institute **Professor Nairn Wilson** and taken on a tour of the Institute at both Guy's and Denmark Hill Campuses. During his visit he met members of staff, undergraduate and postgraduate students and trainee dental care professionals to discuss their working and professional experiences within the field.

Conflict resolution lessons

THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR

the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence (ICSR) at King's hosted a talk by Peter Hain MP on learnings from the peace process in Northern Ireland.

Mr Hain described his time spent as Northern Ireland secretary during which the IRA ended their armed campaign and de-commissioned their arsenal of weapons, events paving the way to a political settlement.

Mr Hain also discussed

fundamental principles emerging from the Northern Ireland that may be applicable to other parts of the world locked in conflict and violence, and could serve as guidance to other regions working on conflict resolution.

Mr Hain has served as an MP since 1991 and held several positions in the Foreign Office as well as the posts of Secretary of State of Wales, Northern Ireland Secretary, and the Leader of the Commons.

King's Choir performs on Radio 3



The Choir sang to an audience of 250,000 listeners.

THE CHOIR OF KING'S COLLEGE

London took part in the BBC Radio 3 Epiphanytide carol service on last month, which took place at All Hallows' Church in Gospel Oak. The service had an audience of about 250,000 listeners.

College Chaplain Revd Tim Ditchfield led the service, whilst lecturer and College Organist David Trendell conducted the choir.

During the service, the Choir sang Benjamin Britten's 'A boy was born', which is a large and complex choral variations work, and readings were interspersed throughout the work in a powerful devotional act of worship.

In addition, King's staff, former staff and students, including Stephen Harrow, Clare Dowding and Rachael Stuchbury, Stefan Chrysostomou and Daisy Evans, gave the readings.

Revd Ditchfield comments: 'This was a rare opportunity for the Choir to show what they are capable of to a wider audience and they did so in style. Stephen

Shipley, the producer, said it had long been an ambition of his to broadcast the Britten as an act of worship – and we all achieved it so well.'

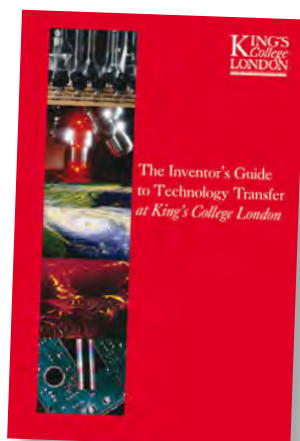
New guide for inventors

THE NEWLY PUBLISHED *INVENTOR'S*

Guide to Technology Transfer outlines the essential elements of the intellectual property and commercialisation process at King's and aims to answer the most common questions asked by researchers across the College.

Published by King's Business this guide is intended to assist researchers make the most of any innovative opportunities that their research may present.

A copy of the guide has been issued to all research staff, if you do not receive a copy of this publication or would like additional copies of this guide for



colleagues please contact: susan.foynes@kcl.ac.uk with your internal mail address.

News in brief

E-learning award

Dr Andrew Gould, Lecturer in Paediatric Dentistry at the Dental Institute, has been working with colleagues at King's through his company The Dental Channel to deliver live continuing professional development to dentists and their teams. The company won the Gold Award for Best Use of Synchronous Learning in the e-learning Awards 2008 for the live webinar service.

A first for courses

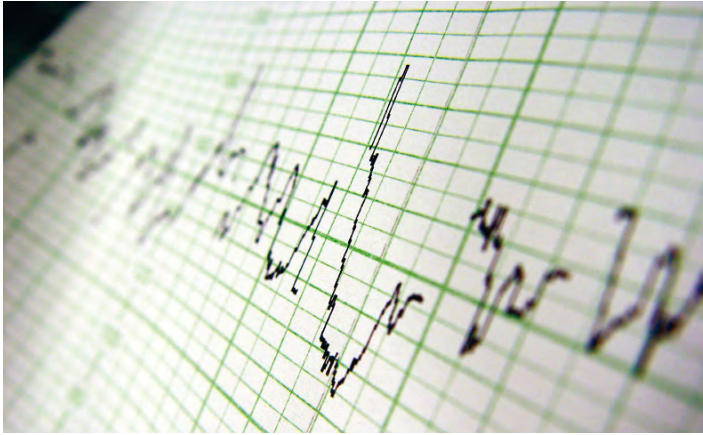
Unique professional courses in the study of potential medicines and the efficacy of clinical trials began with 20 students in December, supported by the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians.

The courses are the only one of their kind in the UK and are attracting participants from overseas. They will include a Diploma in Human Pharmacology and Certificate in Human Pharmacology.

Mouth Cancer Awareness

Professor Saman Warnakulasuriya, Head of Oral Medicine at the Dental Institute, was the invited scientific speaker for the launch of the 2008 Mouth Cancer Awareness Week, held at the House of Commons in November. In his speech Professor Warnakulasuriya focused on one of the major risk factors for mouth cancer (tobacco) and discussed recent developments in the field. He also touched on the role of oral health professionals in screening for mouth cancer.

New study on heart failure



RESEARCHERS AT KING'S HAVE BEEN involved in a study to determine the cause of heart failure. The aim of the study was to determine the role of a specific micro RNA (miR21) in heart failure. It was found that miR21 is elevated in human patients with heart failure.

The study, published in *Nature*, was carried out in collaboration with Professor Stefan Engelhardt at the University of Wuerzburg, Germany. Professor Engelhardt's group identified the molecular target for miR21 as the Sprouty1 (Spry1) gene.

Dr Albert Basson's group from King's had been working on this gene since 2002, in collaboration with researchers at the University

of California, San Francisco in order to understand the exact mechanism by which the loss of Spry1 causes heart disease.

The new study by the Engelhardt group suggests that deregulation of signalling in cardiac fibroblasts and thus, cardiac fibrosis may be the cause of cardiac hypertrophy, and not merely a consequence of cardiac damage as previously thought.

Dr Basson's group at King's continues to focus on the function of these genes in the development of several organ systems, many of which are affected in human syndromes and congenital diseases.

'Dirty War Index': new tool

A NEW PAPER BY DR MADELYN HSIAO-Rei Hicks, Department of Health Service and Population Research at the Institute of Psychiatry, and Professor Michael Spagat, Royal Holloway College, present a new tool called the 'Dirty War Index (DWI)' based on the laws of war.

The tool identifies rates of prohibited or highly undesirable ('dirty') war outcomes, such as torture, child injury, and civilian death.

In the paper, recently published in *PLoS Medicine*, the authors argue that the new tool can help document, analyze, and prevent harmful effects of armed conflicts on populations. The DWI, they say, explicitly links these 'dirty' outcomes to international



humanitarian laws and exposes rates of unacceptable combat outcomes (high DWI values) from different weapons or combatant groups. The DWI is a ratio and is calculated as: (number of 'dirty' cases/total number of cases) x 100. The 'Dirty War Index' report is available to download at medicine.plosjournals.org

Understanding transplant rejection

A new discovery by researchers at King's may yield new ways of handling the problem of transplant rejection. In a research article published in the November 2008 print issue of *The FASEB Journal* (www.fasebj.org), the scientists confirmed the two-way transfer of a molecule (called 'MHC') that instructs the immune system to tell 'self' from 'non-self.'

By disrupting the transfer of this molecule, newly transplanted organs should become 'invisible' to the host's immune system. Such an advance would be considered a major medical breakthrough because current methods of preventing organ rejection involve weakening the host's immune system, which can lead to life-threatening infections.

The researchers made this discovery when they

transplanted kidneys or hearts from one set of mice into another, with each set of mice having a different version of the molecule being studied. The researchers then conducted tests to see if the molecules were transferred. In the recipient mice, the donated kidneys or hearts and the host tissue expressed both types of molecules. This is the first time that this transfer has been shown to happen in a living system.

Dr Wilson Wong, a senior researcher at the MRC Centre for Transplantation, who led the study, states that although the findings are tantalizing, they represent only a very primitive understanding of this phenomenon. Nevertheless, he hopes 'that this study will lead to a better understanding of the immune system to benefit the development of new therapies in areas related to transplantation.'

Byron's war

THE LEVERHULME TRUST HAS

awarded a Major Research Fellowship of more than £130,000 to Roderick Beaton, Koraes Professor of Modern Greek & Byzantine History, Language & Literature, to examine 'Byron's war: the Greek Revolution and the English Romantic imagination'.

Byron's writings about Greece, and his heroic role in the armed struggle to establish Greece as a modern nation state, will be examined for the first time in the context of recent scholarship on the cultural, historical and ideological background to the Greek Revolution (1821-28).

Professor Beaton comments: 'My first degree was in English Literature. Since then, much of my work has revolved around Greece, particularly modern Greece. This project brings together these two strands of my career. It's a terrific opportunity to have three years to devote to a single large project. By the end of that time, I hope to have a book



An early 19th century portrayal of **Byron** wearing a Homeric helmet.

ready for publication that will answer long-standing questions about Byron's biography, about the dynamics and ideology of the Greek Revolution of the 1820s, and about the explosive interaction of the two.'

The award enables the Department to appoint a full-time lecturer to replace Professor Beaton.

Bitter sweet

Professor Tom Sanders, Head of the Division of Nutritional Sciences, appeared on the ITV1's *Tonight* programme discussing sugar levels in food. Professor Sanders also commented on the nutritional content of processed food in *The Sunday Times*; pork on BBC Radio 4; and the quality of processed foods on Channel 4's *Dispatches* programme.

Pre-budget report

Anne Redston, Visiting Professor of Tax, commented on Alistair Darling's Pre-Budget Report on the BBC News at Ten and BBC Radio 4's *Moneybox*.

Online genome tests

Dr Barbara Prainsack, Centre for Biomedicine & Society (CBAS), is the leader of an international team investigating the pros and cons of being able to access genome testing simply by sending some saliva and turning on your PC. Dr Prainsack spoke to ABC National Radio Australia's *Life Matters* programme.

Educational issues

Alison Wolf, Sir Roy Griffiths Professor of Public Sector Management, was a guest on the last edition of BBC Radio 4's *Learning Curve* programme. Comments from Professor Wolf also were in *The Guardian's* Education Supplement and *The Sunday Times*.

Afghanistan troops

Dr Warren Chin, Defence Studies Department, discussed news that Gordon Brown has confirmed deploying additional troops to Afghanistan on BBC Radio Scotland's *Newsdrive* and BBC Radio 5 Live Show *5 Live Drive*.

Brains needed

Professor Paul Francis, CARD, told a SMC press conference that researchers needed potential donors with healthy brains, as well as those who are suffering from either Alzheimer's or autism. His comments were covered by *The Independent*, *The Guardian*, *Daily Mail*, *Daily Telegraph*, *The Scotsman*, *The Herald* and *The Metro*.

Darwin's beard

Dr Mark Miodownik, Director of the Materials Library in the Division of Engineering, wrote about the attraction and attention over Darwin's beard at an exhibition at the Natural History Museum in an article in *The Guardian*.

Intelligent sperm

News outlets including *The Daily Telegraph*, *Daily Mail*, *The Sun*, *Financial Times*, *The Economist*, *Washington Post*, reported research by **Rosalind Arden**, Institute of Psychiatry, regarding the relationship between intelligence and strength of sperm.

Smell of fear

Professor Simon Wessely, King's Centre for Military Health, is quoted talking about new US research into the fear pheromone, saying that whilst fear symptoms can be recreated, people don't necessarily feel scared in *The Guardian*, *The Daily Mail* and *The New Scientist*.

Sleep sanity

The Telegraph, *The Daily Mail* and *The Sun* featured research by **Dr Daniel Freeman**, Institute of Psychiatry, which found that higher levels of insomnia were associated with higher levels of persecutory thinking.

Mumbai attacks

Experts including **Dr Peter Neumann**, Director of the ICSR, **Dr John Gearson**, Director for the Centre for Defence Studies and **Professor Anatol Lieven**, in the Department of War Studies, **Dr Harsh Pant**, Department of Defence Studies and **Dr Robert Bradnock**, senior research fellow in Geography, analysed the terror attacks in Mumbai, on BBC and Sky television, radio stations and in print.

2009 predictions

The Principal, **Professor Rick Trainor**, outlined his professional and personal highlights of 2008 and his predictions for 2009 alongside other key players in higher education in articles in *Times Higher Education*.

Police shortfall

A report by the **Centre for Crime & Justice Studies** challenged one of Labour's key claims to be putting more police officers on the streets. The research was covered by *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Daily Express*, *The Sun*, *The Daily Mail* and *The Metro*.

Transplantation

John Fabre, Professor in the Department of Hepatology & Transplantation, argued that organ donations should not be compulsory on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme. This was also reported on the Channel 4 News and in *The Guardian*.

Age of criminal

As Scotland's Commissioner for Children says that the criminal age of responsibility in Scotland is shameful and should be increased as soon as possible, **Rob Allen**, Director of the International Centre for Prison Studies, joined the debate on BBC Radio 5 Live.

Gaza situation

The conflict between Israel and Gaza was the subject of an interview on the BBC World Service with **Sir Lawrence Freedman**, Vice-Principal and Professor of War Studies. Other King's commentators on Gaza included **Professor Yezid Sayigh**, Professor of Middle East Studies and **Dr Ahron Bregman**, both from the Department of War Studies and **Professor Efraim Karsh**, Head, and **Dr Rory Miller**, Senior Lecturer, in Mediterranean & Middle Eastern Studies.

Economy's shrinking

The People and BBC Radio 4's *All in the Mind* featured **Professor Rachel Jenkins**, Institute of Psychiatry, comments on the link between debt and mental illness.

Dr Who

Dr Richard Howells, Director of the Centre for Cultural, Media, & Creative Industries Research discussed the renaissance of Saturday night tv in the UK on Sky's *Sunrise* show.

Crystal meth

Dr John Marsden, Institute of Psychiatry, outlined what 'crystal meth' is in an ITV news item regarding London being at risk of a new drug crisis.

2012 Olympics

Frank Kelly, Professor of Environmental Health, discussed London's air quality on the BBC 6 and 10 O'Clock news ahead of the 2012 Olympic Games.

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

£30k bursary for King's student

MIRA ATHANASSOULI, A GERMAN

& Modern Greek student at King's, has won £30,000 in an HSBC national competition to identify and support high potential individuals starting out in student life. Mira was one of four students to win the prize.

Entry to the competition was via HSBC's online student pages, where students were asked to explain why they felt they should be considered for a bursary. In her submission Mira explained how she hoped to use her degree in languages to interest in music and performing arts to help create an outreach programme in Zimbabwe.

She wrote: 'I lived in Zimbabwe for 10 years and my future aim is to create an outreach programme in Zimbabwe for HIV orphans who are left without homes or families. I would like to give them the opportunity to find meaning and joy in their lives again, through singing and performing arts.'

The final decisions were made by a panel of judges, including representatives of the National Union of Students, former tennis pro Tim Henman, academics and HSBC. The students were awarded their bursaries at a reception held at the HSBC headquarters in Canary Wharf, where they were asked to read out their winning submissions in front of their parents as well as a number of the judges.

Film on knife and gun crime



Third-year English student Lateef Joseph-Maynard has made a short film on knife and gun crime in London entitled 'Change in the UK'. Through a series of interviews with people who have been involved with, or affected by, knife and gun crime, the documentary focuses on the different causes and reasons for this growing phenomenon, and looks at how change is possible. To find out more visit www.changeintheuk.co.uk

Happy 100th birthday KCLSU

AS PART OF A YEAR LONG CELEBRATION

of their centenary, KCLSU hosted a drinks reception on 4 December 2008, exactly 100 years since the first students' union meeting at King's. Current sabbatical officers, staff and students were joined by former KCLSU elected officers from the alumni community, to

celebrate past achievements and look forward to the future of the union. Following speeches by Steve Vaid, KCLSU CEO and Pete Ellender, Vice President Student Media and Engagement, David Mitchell, President 1951-52, gave a rousing speech toasting KCLSU's ongoing success and cut the centenary cake.

Students raise £31,000

KCLSU STUDENT ACTIVITY GROUPS

raised over £31,000 last term through a variety of events and initiatives. Highlights included KCL Marrow raising over £1,000 for the Anthony Nolan Trust, through selling doughnuts and glow sticks, station collections and supermarket bag packing; KCL Isoc (Islamic Society) raised a staggering £26,000 for Charity Week (a student led initiative to raise funds for orphans around the world) and in the process were named national runners up.

Despite taking place in very cold weather, street collections by KCL Jingle RAG (Raising and Giving) raised over £4,000 for various charities including the Evelina Children's Hospital, Bullying UK and The Alzheimer's Society. Finally, KCL READ raised over £1,200 through tube collections and a sponsored pyjama walk from Stratford to Oxford Street. The money raised will go towards the work of READ International to ship textbooks to schools in Tanzania.

KCL Marrow win award

KCL MARROW, A STUDENT SOCIETY

which works with the Anthony Nolan Trust, holding clinics to enable people to join the bone marrow register and raising funds for their lifesaving activities, has been awarded the Anthony Nolan Trust award for 2007-8.

Members of KCL Marrow received The Anthony Nolan Trust (ANT) award in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the life-saving work of The Trust in the specialised area of donor recruitment, at a ceremony held in Manchester recently.

The award acknowledges the work undertaken by KCL Marrow in 2007-8 in raising its profile in the university, providing standardised training for more than 30 new counsellors and facilitating the ANT in holding public clinics across London and having a successful, smooth committee handover.

Duana Cook, KCL Marrow Coordinator, comments: 'We feel really honoured to have been given this award. It's great that the work of our volunteers is being recognised and we hope that it inspires more people to get involved with Marrow.'

KCL Marrow was formed in 2001 and since then has gone from strength to strength, last year recruiting almost 300 people onto the register and raising more than £4,000 for The Anthony Nolan Trust.

Student selected as Global Fellow

Abid Siddiqui, a Biomedical student at King's, was one of the first participants selected to take part in the inaugural Prime Minister's Global Fellowship programme. A working visit to China over the summer culminated in a reception at Number 10 Downing Street.

Now in his first year at King's, Abid was selected by his school, Palmer's College in Grays, Essex, early last year. He was nominated by the College Principal to take

part in this innovative pilot scheme which was established to give 100 school and college leavers a chance to visit some of the major countries of the new global economy.

Abid comments: 'I feel so privileged to have had the opportunity to take part in this incredible scheme. It has allowed me to develop a new understanding of China itself in regards to its culture, the mindset of its younger generation

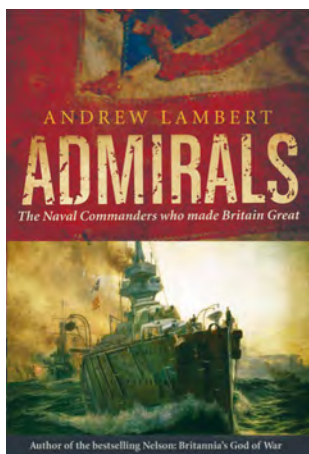
and the role that the country is undertaking on the global stage.'

The Global Fellowship programme aims to build a network of young English people with a personal understanding of global citizenship and with a well-grounded insight into what it will take to contribute to and compete in a changing world.

The scheme was managed by the British Council on behalf of the Department for Children, Schools and Families.



Abid Siddiqui



Admirals: The Naval Commanders who Made Britain Great

Professor Andrew Lambert,
Department of War Studies

Why for centuries was the British Navy the most successful organisation in the world? Britain achieved unparalleled global pre-eminence through one critical advantage – her naval power. While other nations looked to armies for their security, Britain looked to the sea and for over 300 years the Royal Navy dominated the ocean.

Professor Lambert tells the story of how the Navy helped Britain gain unparalleled dominance of the world's economy. Told through the lives of 11 admirals, his book celebrates the rare talents of the men who shaped the most successful fighting force in world history.

From the Armada to the Napoleonic Wars to the Second World War, he follows the careers of the men who created, refined, and reconfigured the art of the admiral. Through their lives and battles, *Admirals* charts the evolution of naval command over four centuries, while proving that maritime power is a vital and living element of modern Britain. Faber & Faber



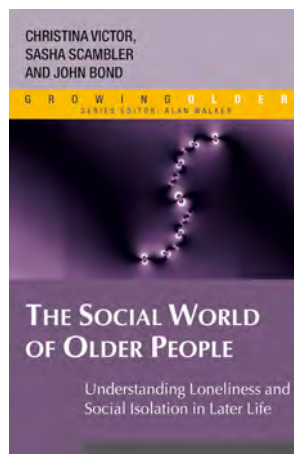
Participation and Mediation: A Practical Theology for the Liquid Church

Dr Pete Ward, Lecturer in Youth Ministry & Theological Education,
Department of Education

In his book *Participation and Mediation*, Dr Pete Ward argues that to make sense of the contemporary nature of the Church we must understand the way that encounter with God is mediated by cultural expression.

Through participation in expression the contemporary Church is both a lived-in 'culture' while it is also 'in-dwelt' by the Trinitarian God. By placing culture at the heart of practical theology, the author opens up new pathways for thinking about the ways in which divine presence, theology and cultural life are deeply inter-twined. Ward offers a detailed account of the way that contemporary Church life is structured through and interaction with a consumerist culture.

Participation and Mediation offers a distinctive approach to practical theology and theological reflection by arguing that the 'cultural nature of theology' requires a turn towards cultural studies within theological disciplines. SCM Press



The Social World of Older People

Dr Sasha Scambler, Lecturer in Sociology as Applied to Dentistry, Oral Health Services Research & Dental Public Health, John Bond and Christina Victor

Developments to the physical environment, scientific and technological innovation, the reorganisation of work and leisure and the impact of globalization and global capitalism have all influenced the nature of the world in which we now live. Social engagement and relationships, however, remain important at any age and their quality is a key element contributing to the quality of life of older people.

This book provides a detailed account of loneliness and social isolation as experienced by older people living in Britain. The authors consider the incidence and effects of isolation and loneliness, and argue that these feelings are experienced at all stages of life. They rationalise that this is an important area, as both loneliness and social isolation are negatively associated with both quality and quantity of life.

The Social World of Older People is important reading for students of social work, gerontology, and social policy as well as for policy makers and practitioners. Open University Press

Three favourite...

Art Deco buildings near the Strand Campus

As recommended by Sally Brock, Information Services Centre Manager, Maughan Library, Chancery Lane

100 Victoria Embankment, c1929

Formerly known as the Unilever Building, this elegant curved building in the neoclassical Art Deco style overlooks Blackfriars Bridge. Gaze upwards at the Ionic columns, as well as the two sculptures of horses flanked by men desperately trying to pull them back from the edge. Recently restored, it now boasts a roof garden with 360 degree views over London.

Former Daily Express Building (121-128 Fleet St), c1930

A stunning and distinctive building, with its rounded corners, glossy black vitrolite and clear glass with chromium strips. As it isn't normally open to the public, press your nose against the windows to marvel at the plaster reliefs on Industry by Eric Aumonier, the shiny wavy patterned floor and the vast amounts of silver and gilt within. I particularly like the silver serpent handrails on the steps leading from the foyer.

OXO Tower, South Bank, c1928

A striking landmark of the South Bank. If you take the lift up to the top of the Clock Tower in the Maughan Library at dusk, you can see it in all its glory. Its distinctive red lights were designed to circumvent planning permission – illuminated advertisements on buildings weren't permitted, so the letters 'OXO' were made part of the window design instead.

Let us know your three favourite things related to a Campus. Email julie.munk@kcl.ac.uk

Comment is the College's regular newsletter, edited by the Public Relations Department and designed by the Corporate Design Unit | *Comment* is printed on paper produced with 80 per cent recovered fibre | Articles are welcomed from all members of the College, but please note that the Editor reserves the right to amend articles | Copy for the next issue can be sent to the Internal Communications Officer, Public Relations Department (ext 3075), James Clerk Maxwell Building, Waterloo Campus, or emailed to julie.munk@kcl.ac.uk by **23 February**.