UWE fleet could be run on reused chip fat
The university is looking at the potential for running its fleet of vehicles on renewable fuels made out of used cooking oil from its catering operations. Dr Stuart Shales and Dr Alan Scragg from the Faculty of Applied Sciences have been experimenting with production of bio-diesel from recovered vegetable oil used for frying chips.

Dr Stuart Shales explains. “Bio-diesel is a replacement diesel which can be made from vegetable oils and animal fats. Untreated oils will burn in a similar way to fossil fuels and contain almost the same amount of energy, but plant and animal oils are thicker and more viscous than normal fuels and therefore cause problems in diesel engines. However, if the triglycerides, which are the main constituents of fats and oils, are broken down to glycerol and fatty acid esters the viscosity is greatly reduced while still retaining its energy content.”

“We are some way off from being able to produce sufficient amounts of bio-diesel on site but the seed of an idea has been planted. In the long term, with the prospect of raw materials eventually becoming scarcer we will all need to move towards conserving fuel. One way of doing this is to produce oil by growing crops like rapeseed and blending this with used cooking oil to produce blended diesel.”

The bio-diesel produced by the UWE scientists is made by putting the oils through filtration to remove impurities and adding methanol and sodium hydroxide to produce bio-diesel.

The economics of diesel production are another advantage. Duty payable on bio-diesel is 20p per litre lower than that charged on ordinary diesel. Production of bio-diesel from virgin oil is uneconomic because of the cost of the starting material but if recovered oil is used it becomes immediately viable. Catering organisations like UWE’s catering facilities are in effect paying for removal of waste oil. For the university there would therefore be an immediate cost saving in waste oil disposal as well as a potential gain in fuel production.

Chris Abbott, Head of House Services at UWE, said, “This project is in its infancy but by no means impossible. Ultimately if we can reduce the cost of running our fleet, these benefits could be passed onto students through a reduction in bus fares or upgrades to current transport.”

Scientists from the Faculty are currently in discussion with farmers who are interested in building a small scale oil processing plant next to farmland where rapeseed is currently grown. Stuart Shales continues, “If we can eradicate the need to transport raw materials by processing oil on site this could prove invaluable for the environment as it reduces at least one journey in the process – that of raw material to plant. In addition to this I can see a future where small processing plants could fuel farming transport on a local basis thus bringing new small scale industrial potential for farmers.”

This research was featured on the front page of the Bristol Evening Post on Wednesday 29 October, as well as BBC Online, the Western Daily Press, BBC Radio Bristol and Star FM.

From left to right Alan Scragg, Stuart Shales and Chris Abbott.
UWE Professor delivers first Hewlett-Packard lecture on fine printmaking in the digital age

Hewlett-Packard Professor of Fine Print Stephen Hoskins (BSAMD) delivered a well-attended inaugural lecture entitled ‘Why we do what we do - The Surface Aesthetic and Tactile Qualities of a Printed Artefact’ on 28 October 2004 at Hewlett-Packard Research Labs, Bristol. Professor Hoskins is Director of the Centre for Fine Print Research at UWE. He is a practising printmaker and his primary area of research is in fine print and its colour consequences for digital technology.

In his talk, Professor Hoskins outlined the four primary printing processes used by fine printmakers - relief, planographic, intaglio, and screenprint - placing them in context with digital technology. He discussed the future of digital printing and the potential of exploiting the surface qualities.

Professor Hoskins explained “Colour quality in digital print has been driven by computing characteristics and commercial expediency. This has created a particular approach to the quality of colour print on paper that has disappointing relevance to aesthetics and surface characteristics.”

Research initiated by Professor Hoskins has identified three new commercial opportunities by re-interpreting old technologies in a modern digital context. Professor Hoskins has exhibited widely throughout the world including in Taiwan, Bulgaria, Japan, France and Malaysia. He is co-organiser of the bi-annual IMPACT series of international printmaking conferences - the next of which will take place in Poland and Berlin in September 2005. He was also academic supervisor on a Knowledge Transfer Partnership with Cranfield Colours Printing Inks which won last year’s DTI award for Best Application of Knowledge.

Steve Hoskins with HP wideformat printer

UWE in top ten for largest student population

Bristol UWE is now the eighth largest UK University on full-time student numbers according to HEFCE’s annual report. Its full-time student population of 18,012 also makes it the largest University in the South-West by some margin.

UK Universities - full-time student numbers

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>2003/04 Full-time Students</th>
<th>2002/03 Full-time Students</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>UWE</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>London Met</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
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South-West University full-time student numbers

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<th>Ranking</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>2003/04 Full-time Students</th>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Bath Spa</td>
<td>4065</td>
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Source: HEFCE Annual Review 02/03, 03/04

News on the web revamped

The UWE News web pages have been redesigned and improved to give out more guidance and information to staff about media matters. The new pages can be found at http://info.uwe.ac.uk/news/default.asp. New pages include extensive guidance for staff wanting to attract media coverage for research work, collaborations, events, partnerships, student success stories and more. Examples of successful media releases and the press cuttings generated are also included to illustrate what works well.

Academics wanting to add their name to the experts guide can now submit their details via an on-line form. In addition it is now possible to view the Bulletin on the web. Bulletins will also be archived on the web from October 2004 onwards. There are also detailed style guidelines for Bulletin submissions.

Thanks go to Pete Rogers in ITS for his excellent design work. Your views and comments on the new pages are welcomed. Please contact Mary Price Mary.Price@uwe.ac.uk, Jane Kelly JaneKelly@uwe.ac.uk or Jayne Andrews Jayne.Andrews@uwe.ac.uk in the Press Office by e-mail or on 0117 32 82208 if you have any ideas or suggestions that might help to improve these pages.
UK and Japanese Universities succeed in joint EPSRC bid on toilet research

UWE in collaboration with University College, London (UCL), has won a collaborative bid to the EPSRC’s Foreign and Commonwealth Office Global Opportunities Fund for a project on sustainable urban design, with two Japanese universities. The application was one of a mirror image pair, made on the UK ‘side’ by UCL in partnership with UWE, and on the Japan side, by Meiji University in partnership with Kanagawa University.

The focus of the collaboration is urban design and regeneration particularly sustainable toilet provision in city centres and ergonomic facilities design aspects. Comparisons will be made of public attitudes towards new toilet technologies within the two cultures in respect of innovations in public toilet provision.

Professor Clara Greed from the Faculty of the Built Environment said, “This is an exciting project which fits in well around the current collaboration with UCL on the nationwide Vivacity project. We are delighted to be working with partners at Meiji University and Kanagawa University. The Japanese are generally light years ahead of the UK in their attitude to public toilet provision as part of wider sustainable urban planning priorities and this project will help to raise the profile of this important but often overlooked planning issue.”

A collaborative visit will be made to Japan (and vice versa) to provide the groundwork for a future research between the four universities.

One of the researchers, Professor Julienne Hanson (University College London, Bartlett Graduate School of Architecture) visited the Far East to attend the National Toilet Symposium Tokyo on 10-11 November that included an open discussion session between the four collaborating institutions to kickstart the programme. Dr Greed was also an invited keynote speaker at the Beijing World Toilet Summit on 15 November 2004 where further liaison was to be made between the British Toilet Association and the Japan Toilet Association within the context of the steering group of the World Toilet Organisation, on which Dr Greed represents the UK. Jo-Anne Bichard, research fellow on the current EPSRC Vivacity toilet project is the other UK member of the research team.

Researcher helps regenerate Winterbourne Medieval Barn

An innovative proposal to regenerate Winterbourne Medieval Barn by turning it into a Centre for Rural Regeneration has been proposed by a researcher from the Faculty of the Built Environment. ‘Action Researcher’ Richard Spalding has just completed a seven month secondment funded by South Gloucestershire Council to create and develop the capacity of Winterbourne Medieval Barn Trust.

Richard said, “I have been involved in this project as an ‘action researcher’, a slightly different concept to most research projects that involve qualitative and quantitative reporting. The work has been a collaborative effort with the trust to help identify the best way forward to regenerate a beautiful and important historic building by giving it a new but relevant role in the local community. My report advocates the creation of a Centre for Rural Regeneration based on educational and commercial activities related to sustainable food and farming, heritage education and small business support.

“My experience of being away from UWE and at work in a local community initiative has been challenging and rewarding. My long term hope is that this kind of action research will help to show the potential gains to be had from an academic involvement with a regional rural development project.”

Winterbourne Medieval Barn is part of a unique 14th century complex and the work that Richard has been doing for the trust has been featured on the BBC Restoration website. He has also recently presented a paper about the project at the International Sustainable Development Research Conference at the University of Manchester entitled ‘Bam Again - championing the revitalisation of a medieval agricultural building for sustainability purposes - the case of Winterbourne Barn, South Gloucestershire and me!’. The trust aims to revitalise the historic agricultural building and its landscape for the purposes of sustainability. Richard is currently finalising the establishment of a charitable trust that will involve negotiating a lease with the council and raising £1.4 million to implement the project.

Kathleen Marsh has been involved with the regeneration project since the beginning. She said, “My experience of being away from UWE and at work in a local community initiative has been challenging and rewarding. My long term hope is that this kind of action research will help to show the potential gains to be had from an academic involvement with a regional rural development project.”

Kathleen Marsh has been involved with the regeneration project since the beginning. She said, “My experience of being away from UWE and at work in a local community initiative has been challenging and rewarding. My long term hope is that this kind of action research will help to show the potential gains to be had from an academic involvement with a regional rural development project.”
The University Research Committee approved a new research centre at its October 2004 meeting. The Centre for Learning and Workforce Research in Health and Social Care will be a focus for research, consultancy and scholarship in learning and teaching and workforce development in health and social care. The health and social care workforce is undergoing significant change and development and this change process is dependent on learning and learning support at both individual and organisational levels. The Centre will exploit the synergy between learning and workforce research and seek to maximise UWE’s potential to contribute to these growing research areas.

The Centre has developed from an active research and development unit. A main aim of the Centre will be to foster collaboration with other UWE research groups and centres and with researchers external to the University. The Centre will support the growth of research programmes focused on interprofessional education, values and ethics in professional practice, e-learning and health informatics, professional and workforce development, history of health and welfare.

HSC expertise in interprofessional education and evaluation is currently attracting interest from colleagues throughout the world. Dr Peter Baker, Associate Professor and Head of Region, School of Medicine Rural Clinical Division, University of Queensland, spent a day at Glenside Campus recently discussing the challenges of interprofessional education and research with HSC colleagues.

New ‘Centre for Learning and Workforce Research’ approved

24 hour drinking encourages binge mania warns UWE academic

‘Binge Drinking Problems and Responses’ an international conference

The Watershed, Bristol, 26 November 2004

“Government plans to extend bar opening hours to 24 hours are seriously misconceived,” says Martin Plant, Professor of Addiction Studies at the University of the West of England. “This strange proposal is akin to throwing petrol on a bonfire in the light of a serious increase in binge drinking that has been causing massive problems across the country in recent times. It is unlikely that this change will do anything to persuade many people to drink in a more relaxed and civilised manner. What is really needed is a national system of local action plans. These could involve flexible bar closing times, but would also include the careful regulation of licensed premises and public places in order to minimise the problems associated with heavy and inappropriate drinking. We do need a culture change, but this will take time and needs sustained commitment from all concerned. There is no short term fix here.”

Professor Martin Plant was joined by expert speakers from Australia, Canada, the Netherlands and the UK at this international conference attracting over 200 people.

Speakers concentrated on the social and health impact of this growing trend including: an examination of what constitutes binge drinking; binge drinking and school students; binge drinking and adults; the economics of binge drinking; the medical effects of binge drinking and the impact of binge drinking on city centre safety.

Professor Plant continues, “Binge drinking is commonly taken to mean drinking or getting drunk, or risky drinking. The British, and those in many other countries, have traditionally done a lot of their drinking in high intake sessions, especially on Friday and Saturday evenings. The pattern of ‘carousing’ has been associated, not only with relaxation and pleasure, but also with various problems for centuries. In recent years alcohol consumption has risen amongst some groups of people and associated health, social, family and public order problems have increased and give great cause for concern. There is evidence that the traditional male dominance in relation to some of these problems has been diminished by the emergence of heavy drinking ‘ladette’ culture among young women.”

The conference reviewed national and international evidence on the scale and nature of ‘binge drinking’ and its effects. The medical and economic consequences of binge and high intake alcohol consumption was considered together with details of British, Canadian and other responses to cope with the problems caused by large numbers of people drinking too much. The way forward was charted in terms of practical, effective harm minimisation.

Binge Drinking: Problems and Responses was organised jointly by the University of the West of England and two charities. These are the Addictions Forum and the Alcohol and Health Research Trust.
Lecturer receives important award for website

Kate Rogers, a Senior Lecturer in Graphic Design (BSAMD), has received a prestigious award for the Life of Mammals website which she created for the BBC to support the recent landmark series by Sir David Attenborough for the BBC.

She received the ARKive Interactive Award, part of The Panda Awards 2004 - the wildlife/environmental equivalent to the Oscars! - at the Wildscreen International Wildlife Festival. The award is given to the project that best explores the interactive potential of digital technology including websites, interactive TV, and DVD special features.

As lead designer for the 'Life of Mammals' website: www.bbc.co.uk/mammals, Kate was responsible for the site concept, design and interactive games/illustration.

The Life of Mammals website offers great opportunities to explore mammalian life including: Mammals Up Close - an innovative media rich loop of ten mammals - usual and unusual. Each page has a “where next” link option, chosen by experts and is edited with bespoke narration (David Suchet/David Attenborough). Interactive Challenges (flash games) gives the user the opportunity to explore mammalian characteristics in an experiential way - you are a mammal so how do you compare?

The site has also been awarded a Prix Europa award in 2003, Internet Non-fiction Project of the Year. The award is funded by the European Cultural Foundation and the Council of Europe.

More information about Kate’s work can be found at: www.katerogers.co.uk

South West Universities in business plan prize battle

The Universities of Bath, Bristol and the West of England battled it out in a contest to decide which award-winning business plan from their students and staff most deserves the title of Winner of Winners 2004 on 2 November.

Each year students and staff from the three universities have been eligible to enter their bright ideas for future businesses in individual competitions. Now, for the first time, six prize-winning teams competed for the top title at the Winner of Winners event on 2 November, hosted by one of the event’s sponsors, Airbus.

The six teams’ ideas ranged from Kiwi Assurance’s plan for virtual key cutting to Warm Body’s innovative approach to assessing couples’ fertility. The judging panel, including main sponsors Business Incubation South West (BISW), South West Angels Investor Network (SWAIN) and Sulis Seedcorn Fund, awarded the £5,000 prize to the LISTech project for their innovative technology for forming metal structures.

Alan Jocelyn, leader of the winning team from the University of the West of England, said: “We are absolutely delighted that our plan has received this prize. The award will help us to take our plans forward.”

The Winner of Winners competition was organised by the consortium of universities to celebrate the enterprise activities they undertake in the region, and to build on collaboration between them.

“All three Universities have been running successful Business Plan competitions for four or five years now, offering cash prizes and valuable advice for entrants on how to build a marketable business plan,” said Ed Preedy of sponsors Business Incubation South West.

He continued: “We are delighted to support this Winner of Winners event which shows the importance of nurturing these enterprising ideas at a regional level and we encourage those with bright ideas to come forward for the next round of individual competitions.”

Each of the universities is due to launch their individual competitions for 2005, which are open to staff and students, in mid November.

Celebrating their success are the team from UWE who have developed Laser Induced Superplasticity Technology. They are pictured after receiving the Business Plan Competition 2004 Winner of Winners award at Airbus, Filton. From left Terry Flower, Alex Fanourakis, Prof. Alan Jocelyn, project leader, Allan Keevil, Dr Jerome Way, Nick Markovits, Abhishek Dixit, Prof. Alan Winfield and Howard Chesterton.
Hartpury rugby team on Asia tour

Hartpury College’s Senior Rugby Squad of 27 players recently went on a 16 day promotional tour in Asia. They played six games including matches in Beijing, Guangzhou (formerly Canton) and Hong Kong (China) and Colombo (Sri Lanka).

The team played the expatriate club sides The Hong Kong Barbarians, Valley (Hong Kong), and a team made up of The Beijing Devils and The Beijing Barbarians. Matches were also organised against the Chinese Agricultural University Rugby Team, the Ceylonese Rugby and Football Club which contained eight Sri Lankan internationals, and a team from the Chinese People’s Liberation Army. The students performed well, winning five out of the six matches - one game was abandoned halfway through due to bad weather.

The students, aged between 18 and 22, are studying a variety of subjects ranging from Sports Conditioning and Coaching, Agriculture and Land Management to the new Foundation Degrees and MA in Sports Management. Hartpury College is an Associate Faculty of UWE. The players were accompanied by three coaches, a physiotherapist and Hartpury College Principal, Malcolm Wharton.

Andrew Stanley, Director of the Rugby Academy at Hartpury College, said, “By taking these students on a tour to Asia, we are giving them a unique opportunity to visit very different countries and experience new cultures. Having the opportunity to play The People’s Liberation Army was amazing, although we had to adhere to a tight security process. The lads were asked to turn up wearing their kit and leave as soon as the match was over so there wasn’t the opportunity for any interaction. The students were also given the opportunity to do some sightseeing – we saw Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden Palace and the Great Wall.”

Teenagers with acne needed for research project

Are you aged between ten and twenty and do you have acne? If so Melissa Wallace, a PhD psychology researcher from the Centre for Appearance Research, would like to talk to you. Melissa is seeking participants who live in Bristol and the surrounding area to take part in a project that will explore the impact of having acne on thoughts, feelings and behaviour.

Melissa is looking for people in the above age bracket who have experienced acne for at least six months, including young people who are currently experiencing acne and those who have experienced it up to five years ago.

Melissa explains, “The aim of the research is to explore and identify appearance concerns of young people with acne and ascertain how these may have impacted on aspects of their lives. In addition, the ways in which young people adjust and manage appearance changes will be explored. Ultimately, this research will contribute to guidelines and recommendations for the improvement and development of psychosocial care and support for young people experiencing acne.”

Participating involves either completing a few short questionnaires, or taking part in an interview. If you would be interested in finding out more about this research, contact Melissa on 0117 32 83939 for a confidential chat, or e-mail Melissa2.Wallace@uwe.ac.uk.

Earth from the Air exhibition draws Bristol crowds

“Earth from the Air” - an exhibition of stunning aerial photographs of the world’s natural beauty - is drawing the crowds in Bristol’s Millennium Square. The 120 giant photographic panels are on display until the end of January 2005 as part of Bristol’s Festival of Nature, and entry is free of charge. The national sponsors are Birdseye and UWE assisted with local sponsorship including development of linked learning materials.

Sponsors and organisers shown here visiting the exhibition are: Lars Gerber, Birdseye; Chris Bridge, Earth from the Air; Sam Burkey, Wildscreen Trust (and UWE alumna); Linda Skinner, Centre for Research Innovation and Graduate Studies; and Philippe Achache, Impact Photos (Earth from the Air).
Research in our front yard

Dr Jane Fitzpatrick (HSC) has recently returned from the first phase of an exciting new research project in Papua New Guinea.

The project was developed with the support of colleagues from the School of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Papua New Guinea. It aims to develop an empowerment approach to research by enabling local people in a settlement community to identify their health needs and how they can improve their situation. The people of the Erima community in Port Moresby discussed a range of topics from Malaria and TB to family planning in open sessions each Saturday afternoon ‘in our front yard’ as the ‘story’ spread.

To date members of the community have made some significant changes to their lifestyles as a result of the project. On an individual level this ranges from a feeling that ‘I can make a difference to where I live’ to someone starting a simple exercise regime to alleviate back pain. Others have felt more confident in seeking advice from nurses and doctors.

On a community level the participants with the assistance of ‘Dr Jane’, put together a successful bid to funds to the British High Commission in Papua New Guinea. The bid is for 400 family sized World Health Organisation approved mosquito nets to be sent to the remote area in the Southern Highlands, where extended family members live.

The aim is to work together to combat the spread of malaria which is endemic in Papua New Guinea and results in chronic illness and even death.

Members of the community have taken on the ownership of this strand of the project. They have been busy collating information about who lives in the area and disseminating information via the radio networks.

They are determined that the project will go well so that they can demonstrate good governance to the British High Commission in Papua New Guinea.

Health Awareness Week

Claire King, the Health and Fitness Development Officer for the University is organising a Health Awareness Week to run Monday 31 January - Friday 4 February 2005. The aim of the week is to promote physical activity, healthy eating and stress management to all the staff and students on campus.

There will be many events going on during the week including free blood pressure, lung function and body fat checks, health and exercise class tasters and demonstrations, neck and shoulder massages, lunchtime relaxation sessions, workshops and much more. A detailed time-table of activities will appear in the January Bulletin and further information will be available after Christmas. For further information contact Claire on ext 82257.

Lecturer advises government on mobile phone masts

Janet Askew, a Senior Lecturer in the School of Planning and Architecture (FBE) has given advice to the Government on planning issues relating to mobile phone masts.

In the House of Commons on 18 October an adjournment debate on ‘Planning Procedures and Mobile Phone Masts’ was held arising out of a report written by Janet Askew. Janet was appointed in February 2004 as adviser to the all-party parliamentary group on mobile phones (known as apMobile), and following an inquiry into the issue of planning procedures and mobile phone masts, her report was published in July 2004. The group followed a select committee procedure by inviting written evidence from all stakeholders involved with mobile phone masts, followed by a two day hearing where further evidence was received.

The issue of mobile phone masts is currently very controversial, and parliamentarians (from both Houses) receive substantial correspondence about it. As a result, a large number of interested parties participated in the inquiry, including mobile phone operators, central government departments, local government representatives, community groups, national protest groups and a number of individuals. Respondents expressed a number of concerns surrounding the erection of mobile phone masts, including a public perception that communities are not consulted sufficiently during the process. A number of recommendations for changes to legislation were made in the report, including, controversially, a removal of permitted development rights for mobile phone masts up to 15 metres in height.

The all-party group was pleased that the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister took a particular interest, and this led to a meeting with the (then) Minister for Telecommunications (Yvette Cooper) who agreed that as a result of the recommendations in the report, further research was necessary. The procedure around all-party groups also demands a formal response from the Government, and this is expected after the adjournment debate. In its initial statement welcoming the report, the Government acknowledges the work that has been done, and states that it is, “particularly sympathetic that there should be full consultation with local people and will look carefully at the Group’s recommendations to see what more can be done in this area. More generally, we will be reviewing the Group’s recommendations in taking forward Government policy on planning for telecommunications.”

The apMobile report has already been influential in changing policy, and its recommendations on planning fees have been put forward by the Government. In a consultation paper, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister proposes charging higher fees for telecommunications applications, reflecting one of the major concerns of the group that current fees did not reflect the amount of work needed to deal with controversial planning applications for mobile phone masts.

The mast in Bristol is an example of one which dominates the skyline and local residents.

(Inset) Janet Askew
**Learning Environment Helpline (LEH)**

The LEH was set up in April 2004 by the Practice Learning Unit, (HSC) to offer guidance and practical support to all Nursing and Midwifery students and Mentors in practice. It has been designed as the first point of contact for all practice based queries or concerns for both students and mentors and provides responses to queries which have not been resolved through the usual practice placement mechanisms. Issues covered include work or assessment related worries; difficulties with work relationships; personal/health issues; extenuating circumstances and learning outcome concerns.

Students and staff will be able to receive immediate responses to many issues and a response within 24 hours for less conventional problems. Information is treated with the strictest confidence, on a non-judgemental basis. Students on Allied Health Profession and Health and Community programmes should contact their appropriate Programme Leader.

The LEH is available from Monday to Thursday 09:00 – 17:00 and Friday 09:00 – 16:30. Please call the Learning Environment Helpline Adviser (LEHA) Mel Abrahams on ext 81151 or e-mail hscleha@uwe.ac.uk

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**Widening access in HSC**

Lesley Moore (HSC) recently congratulated students with learning disabilities, family carers and advocacy staff who attended the Evidencing Work-based Learning Module in Person Centred Planning at the Faculty of Health and Social Care.

Five students, three of whom have learning difficulties, chose to be assessed and passed the module. In addition to their academic successes the students have made an impact at work by providing a range of learning opportunities for people involved with health and social care. The teaching for the module was delivered locally to staff and carer groups at centres for people with learning difficulties and at the Faculty’s Glenside Campus to health and social care students.

This initiative is one of the first to involve people with learning disabilities in higher education and is in response to widening access initiatives in higher education.

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**Student entrepreneur wins contract from UWE**

Student entrepreneur, Ben Kay, has won a year long contract from UWE just weeks after graduating from the university. Ben, an Information Systems student, had demonstrated his ability whilst working on placement at the university’s Centre for Student Affairs (CSA) as part of his ‘Information Systems Practice 2’ module.

“We were allocated projects during the second year of our course. I was working with another student, James Green, to produce a feasibility study for the CSA to explore presenting the student handbook as a CD-ROM” said Ben.

The Head of the CSA, Stephanie Keeble, was very impressed with the report and, on its strength, persuaded the department to use this method of communication rather than the internet as an exploratory complement to the paper version.

Ben Kay elaborates, “We immediately saw that there was an opportunity to further the project as we had many ideas that we could contribute to the CD. We approached the department whilst still on the course and offered to produce a prototype CD. During the summer holidays in 2003 we put together a proposal for the CD which involved learning a complex computer package. This was accepted and we were employed by the CSA whilst working towards our degree and we produced the CD during 2002. We have since continued to work on and improve the CD-ROM for the next academic year”

The opportunity inspired Ben and James to set up a sole trading company, Melt Multimedia, during their studies and they worked on projects for charities and designed websites alongside their studying. “I actually found the business helped me with my degree work and the degree work fed in well to the business. It was hard work but despite setting up my own company and doing this work I still achieved a first class honours degree.”

The next project that Ben will work on is development of the website for the Community Volunteer Programme run by the CSA. Stephanie Keeble said, “We were very impressed by Ben and James ability to deliver an excellent product, so much so that we have asked them to help out again.”

Ben’s next plan is to travel to Canada where he will work on the ski slopes for the next six months. After this he will return to work with clients at UWE.

“Nick Plant, of the School of Information Systems in CEMS, and leader of Ben’s module, said ‘We are proud of what Ben has achieved during his time at UWE, both within and beyond the curriculum. Along with his team-mates, he later took on a successful project with a local charity in his final year. These successes demonstrate that in tackling our IS practice modules, students get valuable real life opportunities.’

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The successful students with their certificates
Aimhigher South West launch

The Aimhigher SW programme, which brings nearly £6.5 million a year into the SW until 2006, was launched on 15 October in Taunton. This national initiative will deliver a coherent outreach programme to widen participation in Higher Education and is led for the South West by UWE.

Around 100 delegates from organisations across the region heard Liz Thomas, Senior Adviser at the HE Academy, give the keynote address. She stressed the economic and social importance of increasing HE participation by under-represented groups, where only 17% of 2003 students nationally came from lower socio-economic groups.

Described as ‘excellent’, the conference gave delegates from different working settings the chance to learn from each other. Eleven workshops celebrated the Aimhigher strands, covering activities such as community outreach, using creative and performing arts, engaging with employers, inclusive practice and effective student mentoring. UWE’s Jim Tate and Arthur Baxter used case studies to explore young people’s HE information needs, while Di Stone and Claire Welch shared practice for running non-residential summer schools. All the workshops were active, fun and gave partners the chance to try Aimhigher activities out.

Aimhigher will see over 50 strands of activity to widen participation in Higher Education with schools, colleges, workplaces and communities throughout the SW. Log on to the Aimhigher Web Site (www.uwe.ac.uk/widen) to find out more.

Research says ‘faith communities’ contribute to neighbourhood renewal in SW

A recently completed research project from UWE has shown that many South West ‘faith communities’ are deeply involved in social and welfare projects that make a significant contribution to the regeneration of their local communities, despite the fact that few of them receive official recognition and funding for this important work.

The projects are often small scale and include work with the elderly, with disaffected young people, and with those whom other agencies fail to reach. They see themselves as the agency of last resort after statutory and voluntary agencies have failed. Faith groups have a long-standing presence within their communities and bring valuable resources to regeneration initiatives, especially buildings, volunteers and enthusiasm.

Faith groups also perceive the issues faced by deprived communities in uniquely different ways to officials working in local governance structures.

The research found that relatively few faith communities have been included in officially funded regeneration projects. There was a widespread lack of information about such opportunities amongst both faith groups and some funding agencies. The majority of faith groups feel they lack the capacity to take on such projects: they are often small and already facing many demands on their resources.

The perceived bureaucracy of grant applications also deters many, while some feel that they may face a conflict with their values if they get involved.

For the research ‘faith communities’ were defined as a worshipping group with a regular meeting place or venue located in a designated area of neighbourhood renewal. The researchers also provide eight case study examples of good practice where faith groups have received some regeneration funding including a Sikh Resource Centre, and a Community Church Trust led partnership to develop a community facility for young people and healthy living centre for their local community.

Marion Jackson, a Visiting Fellow at UWE, and one of the authors of the report, says, “What we discovered through this research is that local churches and other faith communities can play a key role in neighbourhood renewal - they provide services and offer resources such as buildings - which address important social issues. Yet they don’t often get the government funding and help that is specifically aimed at these problems.

“In order to maximise the potential that faith groups offer to their local communities, our research suggests that funding agencies should improve communications with faith groups, offer clear guidelines about their eligibility for funding, and help with training, monitoring and grant applications. In turn faith groups should have the courage to seek involvement with regeneration initiatives and demonstrate a willingness to work in partnership with each other, and with secular agencies, to fulfil their wider social and welfare goals.”

The research was conducted by Marion Jackson (HLSS) and Richard Kimberlee (Centre for Local Democracy, HLSS).

The research was funded by The Government Office for the South West and was carried out in partnership with the South West Council of Faiths and the SW Churches’ Regional Forum. The final report is accompanied by eight detailed case studies, which illustrate good practice in a broad range of activities supported by a variety of funding agencies across the region.
Major Changes for Research Costing

The Government has become increasingly concerned that all activities in higher education institutes (HEIs) are sustainable in the long term. Transparency returns clearly demonstrate that research and other related activities would not be sustainable because their cost substantially exceeded the income that could be attributed to them.

As part of the way forward the Office of Science and Technology (OST) and the Funding Councils have agreed a joint approach to identifying the full economic cost (fEC) of research projects and related activities.

In return for greater support, the Government will expect universities to manage their budgets in a way which allows them to invest properly in infrastructure renewal and ensures that research is put on a sustainable footing. This is a fundamental shift in the way in which research projects and associated activities are costed.

To resolve the many issues raised by the fEC initiative the University has appointed a Project Team chaired by Professor Stephen Hoddell and includes members from both the Academic and Central Services Departments. The fEC methodology for UWE is currently being developed and consists of three parts:

- **Directly Incurred costs** - these are the familiar direct cost headings ie research assistants, equipment, travel and subsistence, consumables etc.
- **Indirect Costs** - where the costs are shared by other activities and projects.
- **Directly allocated costs** - these are broken down into three sub-headings ie Investigators (PIs and Co-Investigators), Estates and Other Directly Allocated costs such as shared resources (for example) pooled technicians.

At present research councils pay a contribution towards indirect costs calculated at 46% of the cost of staff directly employed on the research grant. The new arrangements will require research councils to fund a proportion of the fEC of a research project. This figure is currently estimated at 70%, although there is an intention to move towards paying 100% by the end of the decade.

As well as with Research Councils, HEIs also contract with Government Departments, Charities, European Union and Industry and Commerce. It is Government Policy that Government Departments should expect to pay 100% of the full economic cost. However, there are no plans to give specific additional incentives to UK researchers to compete for EU Framework Programme funding. The Government will develop an additional element of QR funding to support charity research funding in HEIs and it is expected that at least the full economic cost will be sought from industry and commerce research projects.

The timetable for the implementation of fEC is:

- **Nov 04** Quality Assessment Audit (KPMG)
- **By Jan 05** HEIs to have initial methods in place to enable projects to be costed and monitored on a fEC basis
- **Jan-Apr 05** Development of internal systems and processes
- **May 05** Last date to have robust systems in place to enable the University to charge directly allocated and indirect costs to projects. If not, the University will be penalised by having a default indirect cost rate imposed, and possibly no PI costs or Estates costs allowed.
- **May-Aug 05** Train PIs, Researchers and Faculty Research Admin Offices
- **Sept 05 onwards** Make bids to Research Councils on new basis. HEIs can use robust fEC data with other sponsors (OGD’s, Charities) before Sept 05.
- **March 06** First new projects funded by Research Council on fEC basis
- **Aug 07** Improved robustness (06/07 data used to calculate directly allocated costs applied from Feb 08)

A more detailed briefing paper relating to this initiative will shortly be sent to Faculty Research Offices. For more information please contact Ian Duffy (Project Manager) ext 83765 e-mail Ian.Duffy@uwe.ac.uk
Student success at Computing Awards for Excellence

Azahar Machwe, a PhD research student at UWE, was one of four shortlisted candidates for the “Student Project of the Year” category of the Computing Awards for Excellence 2004 sponsored by Vodafone, IEE, NetApp and Avonquest. Azahar submitted his UWE Information Technology MSc Dissertation completed in October 2003 for the award. The dissertation, supervised by Ian Parmee (CEMS), concerned the agent-based modelling of red meat supply chains. The research was based in the Advanced Computation in Design and Decision-making (ACDDM) Research Group in the School of Computer Science (CEMS).

The Computing Awards Dinner, held at Battersea Park Arena, London on 27 October saw the presentation of major industry awards relating to areas such as best product, company, and advertising. The Student Project category, sponsored by Network Applications, was a subset of the ‘IT Projects of the Year’ Awards where serious industrial competition was evident for best private sector, best public sector and most innovative projects. There was also tough competition in the student category. In addition to Azahar’s submission, two projects were shortlisted from University College London and one from Birkbeck College. University of London. Barbera Kiefte from Birkbeck College, University of London, Barbara Kieffe from Birkbeck College finally won the main prize of £3,000 with a project relating to a web-based database for trauma in pediatric dentistry. Azahar and the two UCL candidates received runner-up prizes of £660 each. Ian Parmee said, “Azahar did very well in this prestigious competition and it was excellent to see UWE, Bristol highlighted at such a high profile event. He is continuing the agent-based supply chain modelling with the ACDDM Research Group whilst also studying for a PhD relating to the inclusion of aesthetic criteria in evolutionary design systems.” The supply chain work is currently supported by the North West Regional Development Agency and DEFRA.

Researchers develop teaching plan for midwives

Subsequent to the pilot study to explore the impact of the Bristol Pregnancy and Domestic Violence Programme to promote routine antenatal enquiry for domestic violence within North Bristol NHS Trust (see www.northbristol.nhs.uk/medicine/domesticviolence) The researchers have developed a comprehensive teaching pack that will be used for national dissemination. This was announced by the Minister of State for Public Health, Melanie Johnson at the Women’s Aid and DH Conference Domestic Violence and the NHS: Challenges for change on the 20 October 2004.

The Bristol Pregnancy and Domestic Violence pack includes: a video and training; materials containing teaching plans; role play materials; women’s accounts (developed by South Devon Women’s Aid) and power point presentations. The focus of the material is exploring the social context of domestic violence during pregnancy illustrating to staff how to both ask about and respond to domestic violence in their consultations with women. The pack is aimed at staff undertaking domestic violence programmes who need evidence based resources to underpin their teaching.

However, a key aspect of the national dissemination will be a number of “train the trainers study days” in which key players within the NHS and higher education will be invited to attend. During the day they will be briefed on the contents of the pack and learn how to embed routine enquiry at every point of the organisation from practitioner to board level. UWE and North Bristol NHS Trust trainers Kathleen Baird and Sally Price will lead the initiative in collaboration with the DH Policy Advisor for Domestic Violence Christine Mann. Participants will be encouraged to return to their organisations to cascade the training and audit their organisations prior to the introduction of routine enquiry. It is anticipated that researchers within the Faculty of Health & Social Care will undertake a policy analysis to establish the effectiveness of such an approach in integrating routine enquiry into maternity services across the country. If you would like more information about any aspect of the project please contact Debra Salmon on Debra.Salmon@uwe.ac.uk or tel 0117 32 88468.

The Faculty of Applied Sciences hosted a scientific conference and meeting of the EPSRC Network for Ultrasonic Standing Wave Technology in the Life Sciences on 7 October. The theme of the meeting was cell interactions in free suspension and in ultrasonic traps and delegates learned of novel technologies relevant to tissue engineering and the effect of ultrasound on tissues. Professor Wendy Purcell and Dr Jinheng Xu presented a full paper entitled “Liver spheroids - development, functionality and use”: the paper drew upon collaborative research by UWE with Cardiff University. The conference attracted delegates from across the UK (University of Nottingham, Imperial College, Cardiff University and University College London) and Europe (Vienna Institute of Technology and Wageningen Amsterdam).
Student enhances UWE’s international profile

Zhihua Pan, a Chinese student who studied for an MA in Marketing at UWE and who won a top award in the British Council’s International Student Awards 2004, has been invited by the British Council to share his study experience, representing international students studying in the UK, at the UK International Education Conference in Edinburgh in December. He will present his personal views on internationalism and education, alongside a well-known person who also studied in the UK as an international student. Only a small number of international students have been invited to participate in this way. Zhihua says, “I am honored to attend such an important conference and share my experience with the prestigious audience around the world. As a UWE student, I will also take this good opportunity to promote Bristol Business School and UWE during the conference.”

Further details of the conference are on the website, www.britishcouncil.org/goingglobal.

Zhihua pictured with his British Council International Student Award

Local businesses get help with international communications

The School of Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies (LLAS) has secured a contract worth £17,000 to work with local businesses in order to encourage better knowledge and understanding of international communications. The project, which will run from November to April 2005, is managed by the Regional Languages Network South-West, based in Exeter, and UWE will act as the Bristol hub, one of three hubs in the region. The aim is to make local companies aware that having their own strategy to deal with overseas customers and suppliers could make a substantial difference to their business.

Dr Peter Gold, Head of the LLAS School and organiser of UWE’s bid, said: “I am delighted that we have secured this contract. It will enable us to develop our outward-facing activities, make a contribution to the growth of local businesses, and also provide those of us with a particular interest in language and business culture with an excellent opportunity to acquire some useful data for research purposes.

“The project will focus on helping businesses to identify not only their language needs but also to appreciate the importance of understanding differences in business culture and the whole area of intercultural communication.”

Heartstart Bristol recently trained its 1000th person in basic life saving skills in the Octagon at Frenchay Campus. The organisation trains people in how to act if someone suddenly collapses in front of them. Gill Haskett, from Heartstart Bristol says, “We are delighted to have reached this number of people we have trained. Basic skills can save lives if those skills are put into practice immediately. It only takes two hours to learn those skills. We are part of a national scheme run by the British Heart Foundation. The trainers are volunteers and we offer training to groups (such as those at UWE) and to individuals”. Further details can be found on the website at: http://bhf.org.uk/hearthealth/index.asp?secondlevel=75. The contact at UWE is Julie Bryant ext 82596.

Pictured from left to right are 1000th trainee Leslie Donnithorne, Julie Bryant – Health and Safety Administrator; Gareth Vaughan – Head of Personnel and Gill Haskett – Heartstart Bristol Scheme Co-ordinator

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Staff research seminars, School of English and Drama

All sessions are from 16.30-18.00 and will be held in the Library Teaching Classroom, St Matthias Campus. For further information contact Dr Peter Rawlings (rawlings2000@aol.com).

15 December
Dr Victoria Stewart ‘Voices from Beyond the Grave: Some First World War Life-Writing’

9 February 2005
Dr John Reid ‘Three Sisters: Black Vespers Opera Naturalistica’

2 March
Caroline Hadley ‘Mrs. Robinson, a Theatre Director, and the Continued Rise of the Commercial Theatre Producer’

March 16
Dr Kerry Sinanan ‘Slave Masters and the Language of Self: Issues of Authenticity and Identity in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic Slave Trade’

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Zhihua pictured with his British Council International Student Award

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News

Lecturer invited to show work in Japan

John France (Senior Lecturer, BSAMD), has been selected to enter his painting The Drawing Centre in the Hyogo International Competition of Painting, Kobe, Japan.

Commemorating the 10th anniversary of the post-earthquake restoration, the Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art is holding an exhibition inviting art works from the public throughout the world with the theme ‘Renascence’ to reconfirm the preciousness of ‘living’ and the importance of ‘restoration of mind’ that many people have learnt from the costly experience of the earthquake.

The second and final screening of exhibits from among which the prize-winning works will be chosen takes place in December. The work will be selected by a prestigious international jury.

John explains; “The Drawing Centre is both a real and mystical place. It has been forever marked by an event. This has changed its reality and function. The depicting of this place indicates some of the events and dangers of this unknown. It is dedicated to the individuals who bear the risks and dangers of venturing into its space. This is part of a larger body of work called Notes from Icarus the fireman exhibited at the Art Planning Room, Tokyo in December 2004”.

There is a grand prize of 10,000,000yen (£51,500), five prizes of £10,300 and five prizes of £5,150. The exhibition runs from 17 January - 20 February 2005 and information can be found at www.artm.pref.hyogo.jp

Knitting is all the rage!

The glossies are telling us that knitting is back in fashion. And for that we need to thank the new designers and makers for bringing it back from the brink. Patterns and designs for knitted coats, rugs, throws and jewellery as well as the firm favourites are now available for us all to try.

UWE Fashion and Textiles Alumni Stephanie Wooder (now Visiting Lecturer) has contributed to this new wave with her Nice Mouse for your House an ideal knitted house pet or house-warming present, available from Bi-Hand, 121 St Georges Road, Bristol.

If you fancy giving knitting a try why not join the new Machine Knitting evening course starting at UWE Bower Ashton Campus in the New Year. You’ll be taught various techniques, how to produce creative fabrics and design and make a product of your own choice. Beginners and intermediate knitters welcome. For a copy of the Short Courses brochure please contact Graham Petch ext 84810 or e-mail Graham.Petch@uwe.ac.uk

Regional History Centre Seminar Series 2004-5

Room 9, Main Building, St Matthias Campus, Oldbury Court Rd, Fishponds, Bristol

All welcome! All papers begin at 17:00

Dec 2 Dr Carl Griffin (University of Southampton) ‘The Politics of Timber: Custom, Criminality and Protest in Hanoverian Southern England’

Jan 27 Professor Michael Hicks (Winchester College) ‘Landholding in Southern England: Patterns Long and Short, 1066-1540 and Beyond’

Feb 10 tbc

Feb 24 Dr Richard Williams (University of Plymouth) ‘Violence in the Courts and on the Streets in Eighteenth Century Exeter’

Mar 10 Dr Joanne Parker (University of Bristol) “What mean these stones?” The South-West’s Megaliths and the Nineteenth-Century Imagination

For further details contact steve.poole@uwe.ac.uk

‘Artists at home - 2004’

27 and 28 November - open houses in North Bristol

Two UWE staff, Jim Bealey and Mary Price are joining the third North Bristol Artists Art Trail for ‘Artists at home 2004’ during the weekend of 27 and 28 November 2004.

Jim Bealey (CEMS) is a committed monochrome photographer who will be exhibiting for a second year with the North Bristol Artists. The prints on show will be drawn from three very different sources of work, “Breaking the Vale”, “Metalwerke” and “The Road to Somewhere Else” prior to a one-man exhibition in early 2005.

Mary Price (Press Office) will be showing paintings, expressive colourful landscapes and work inspired by nature. Mary has taken part in each trail since the group formed in 2002 but this is the first time that she has opened her home. Mary will be selling original paintings, giclee prints, photographic prints and cards.

70 artists will be exhibiting in 26 houses spanning Horfield to Kingsdown and taking in Bishopston, Redland, St Andrews, Montpelier and Cotham. This is a chance to have a nose around other people’s houses and buy artwork from the artists.

There will be a horse and carriage and cycle rickshaw for those who don’t want to walk the entire route. Pick up a map from The Bishopston Arts Centre on Sommerville Road or call Mary on ext 82208 for a leaflet.

Jim will be showing his work as part of a group exhibition at 19 Belmont Road, St Andrews. Mary is opening her home at 80 High Kingsdown.

‘Beech Tree BS7’ by Jim Bealey
Joan Wilson and Arril Johnson will have their seventh joint exhibition in Bristol

Joan Wilson and Arril Johnson will be showing paintings, sculptures, and digital prints at the Tobacco Factory Theatre, Raleigh Road, Bedminster from 15 November 2004 to 20 January 2005.

Joan trained as a painter at two American universities. She has had work in group shows in Ohio, Montreal, Bath, Bristol, Birmingham, Cheltenham, London, Taunton, Torquay and Truro. She’s had a solo show of drawings at the Bristol City Arts Gallery and three solo shows of paintings in Bristol, one at Oxford University.

She will exhibit abstract acrylic paintings, some of which are quite small only 11 x 8cm and several larger ones.

Arril is a freelance animator who has worked on a variety of television programmes, including those for Children’s BBC. He has also made models and drawings of prehistoric reptiles for publications, natural history documentaries, and the Bristol City Museum. Currently, he teaches animation at UWE.

Both Joan and Arril are showing numerous abstract, digital prints which often start as computer scans of easily available material and end with dramatically altered and frequently evocative final images. These are so far removed from the original items that pictures of a few of their sources will also be on display.

School of History Seminar

Thursday 9 December, 17.00
Room 9, Main Building, St Matthias Campus

Dr Mike Woodiwiss (School of History, UWE)
‘The United States and the Globalization of Organised Crime’

All are welcome. Enquiries to Dr Kent Fedorowich, School of History at Kent.Fedorowich@uwe.ac.uk

Resuscitation research at UWE

John Albarran and Pam Moule (HSC) are making significant contributions to the practice and research of resuscitation.

This year they have submitted a report to the Resuscitation Council (UK) on the outcomes of a project funded by the Council. The implications of this study may influence future policy on the training of first responders in dealing with those found to be unconscious and unresponsive.

Research funding has also been secured this year from Avon Wiltshire Partnership NHS Trust (AWP) for a study that promotes resuscitation and e-learning research in the Faculty of Health and Social Care. Pam, John and Elizabeth Bessant (AWP) will develop and evaluate an e-learning resource to be used alongside lecture materials to support the delivery of basic life support amongst AWP staff. The project will assess and compare resuscitation knowledge and skill development after training, providing pilot information to support the development of a research proposal for a national study.

Pam and John have recently edited a key textbook in this field, ‘Practical Resuscitation: Recognition and Response’, due for publication in February 2005. The book to be produced by Blackwell Publishers includes contributions from a number of HSC staff and local Trust experts.

Currently John, Pam and Dr Jonathan Benger, United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust are working on a proposal that will aim to explore what in-patients and survivors of cardiopulmonary arrest think about having their relatives present during their cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Does hydrotherapy relieve pain?

New research to be carried out by academics from HSC will undertake a phased review of the literature on hydrotherapy and pain to look for answers to this question.

Dr Jane Hall, Dr Annette Swinkels and Dr Candy McCabe (HSC) have recently been awarded funding from The Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases (RNHRD) in Bath to work on this new initiative. This is one of several new developments between the two centres which combine physiotherapy and nursing expertise in the areas of research, clinical and academic practice.

Hydrotherapy (exercise in warm water) is commonly used in the treatment of people with arthritis and reports from patients suggest that it is very useful in relieving pain. However, despite the importance of pain relief in rheumatology, no hydrotherapy research has been conducted with the sole aim of exploring this area.

The researchers’ ultimate aim is to use the findings of this review to develop a proposal for clinical research on this subject and apply for further funding for collaborative clinical research on the benefits of hydrotherapy in relieving pain for people with arthritis.

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Centre for European Studies (CES) events 2005

The 2005 Annual Lecture of the Centre for European Studies (CES) will take place on Thursday 3 March 2005 at 19.00. This year’s lecture will be delivered by Iain Gray, Managing Director and General Manager of Airbus UK. ‘Tea and coffee will be served at 18.30 prior to the lecture, and a buffet will follow afterwards. This year’s lecture, as last year’s, is being co-hosted by BBS as part of its leadership masters programme. Organised by Professor Mari Maclean, HLSS.

Two CES workshops on the theme of ‘EU Enlargement’, organised by Professor Mari Maclean and Dr Alan Greer, will take place on Wednesday 13 and 27 April at 13.30-15.30 in room 4E4, Frenchay Campus. The objective of these workshops is to produce an edited collection on the theme of ‘Beyond enlargement’. This will take into account different perspectives on enlargement from ‘old Europe’ and ‘new Europe’, as well as considering specific topics such as the euro.

‘Women and the Labour Market in France and the UK’, a one-day international conference, Friday 20 May 2005, at the Octagon. 10.00-16.30, organised by Professor Mari Maclean and Dr Cath Fretcher (HLSS), as part of the CES European Business Research Unit (EBRU). This conference is a Women in French (WIF) related event. A second one-day international conference organised by CES European Business Research Unit (EBRU) will take place on Friday 8 July on the topic of ‘France and globalisation’, 10.00-16.30, the Octagon. Organised by Professor Mari Maclean (HLSS) and Dr Joe Szarka of Bath University.

Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies (LLAS) Research Development Group Sessions for 2004/5

Bidding for small projects (1) – Planning a bid
15 December, 4E13A, 13.30-15.30
Perspectives on teamwork in HLSS-disciplines (1) – Interdisciplinary collaboration
26 January, 4E13A, 13.30-15.30
Bidding for small projects (2) – Reviewing draft bids
23 February, 413A, 13.30-15.30
Perspectives on teamwork in HLSS-disciplines (2) – Interdisciplinary collaboration
16 March, 4E13A, 13.30-15.30
For further details please contact ulrich.kockel@uwe.ac.uk or see website http://www.uwe.ac.uk/llas/faculty/news.shtml

Ethnological Research Unit Events 2004/5

Research Workshops
Annual Research Colloquium and 8th EERA Research Seminar: ‘Research Frontiers in European Ethnology’
13 November, Bower Ashton Campus, 10.30-15.30
Conference of the British Association of Lecturers in English for Academic Purposes: ‘Intercultural Communication’
26 February, thc, all day
‘These Englands’ review seminar on the Unit’s current research programme
4 May, 4E4, 13.30-15.30

Reading Group
8 December (provisional), 4E13A, 14.00-15.30
Visit http://www.uwe.ac.uk/llas faculty/llasnews.shtml

News in Brief

Ian Parmee and Chris Simons (School of Computer Science, CEMS) have won one of the EPSRC ‘Designing for the 21st Century’ clusters. The proposal led by IWE and entitled ‘Discovery in Design – People-centred Computational Issues’, also involves the Universities of Bristol, Cardiff and Cambridge. The intention of the cluster is to explore commonalities and peculiarities in design practice across diverse disciplines with particular regard to user-centric issues in existing and emerging computer-aided design environments. The £50k funding will support a number of workshops which will distil the primary aspects relating to the cluster theme which will contribute to the EPSRC main call in 2006.

The Evolutionary drug discovery work led by Ian Parmee in the Advanced Computation in Design and decision-making Research Group (ACDDM - School of Computer Science, CEMS) has received a further 12 month’s funding from Evotec OAI. This reflects the excellent work of Bhushan Sharma within the first 12 month period. Prototype systems are now in place within Evotec and the expectation is that this funding will proceed into a third year.

Five students from CEMS have received awards in the September round of the RAE7 Centennial awards. John W Elms, Carlos Llaneza Vaquez, James Diddams and Phillip Slack all received financial awards of half a year’s fees and Martin Smith received an award equivalent to a full year’s fees. Five students were entered this year – maintaining the Faculty’s 100% record of awards to undergraduates who are submitted.

Stefanie Duhr and Vincent Nadirn from the Centre for Environment and Planning (FBE) have been successful with their bid for a supporting study towards a ‘Framework for Action’ as part of the spatial vision process under the EU Community Initiative ‘Intergen IIIB North West Europe’. UWE is the lead partner for this study project on ‘polycentric territorial development and urban-rural relations in North West Europe’, which will be undertaken by a consortium of altogether seven institutions. The ‘North West Europe Spatial Vision’ is being prepared by a Spatial Vision Working Group, which comprises representatives from the national and regional governments of the eight countries covered by the programme. The Spatial Vision for this transnational region will be of non-binding nature. It is nevertheless expected to be very influential for spatial planning in the EU member states that are involved in the exercise, and in laying down decision-making criteria for project funding under a future territorial co-operation programme in the EU Structural Funds period post-2006. For further information please contact Stefanie.Duhr@uwe.ac.uk (int. 3189) or Vincent.Nadin@uwe.ac.uk

The Local Economy Research Unit, (School of Economics, HLSS), has been successful in a joint bid with Professor Martin Boddy (FBE), Professor John Hudson, University of Bath and Professor Michael Parkinson, Liverpool University. The South West Regional Development Agency invited tenders for a project to explore the reasons for the low level of productivity in the South West Region and to advise on policies to stimulate productivity growth. Dr Don Weaber and Anthony Rumford from the Local Economy Research Unit proposed a programme of econometric modelling using the data from the new Business Data Linking Project available only in a purpose built high security econometric modelling using the data from the new Business Data Linking Project available only in a purpose built high security laboratory provided by the Office for National Statistics in Newport, South Wales. This innovative approach was successful in spite of tough competition from leading international and national consultants, who have enjoyed the lion’s share of this sort of work in the past. The overall value of the contract is some £70,000 and, it is hoped, will lead to further work for the RDA in future.

Marie Mulvey-Roberts (HLSS) has been awarded £2,300 by the Knebworth Education and Preservation Trust to continue funding for her research assistant for archival work relating to the Victorian novelists Edward and Rosina Bulwer Lytton.

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**Conferences**

Andrew Pearce (IT5) recently delivered a presentation on Service Management Vision for UWE at the BMC User Forum in Brighton. BMC is a major software vendor of systems management products. The presentation on 19 October focused on how the practical application of BMC products helps to support and improve IT Service delivery at UWE. The audience consisted of IT professionals from both private and public sectors.

Neil Edmonds (HLLS) was a keynote speaker at the conference ‘From Theory to Practice: Managing Chaos or How the Soviet Union Survived’ held at the Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki at the end of October. His paper was entitled ‘M a i s c h i c h t und der R u s s i s c h e R e v o l u t i o n: The Historical Context’. He also acted as a discussant on a panel devoted to the life and theories of the Soviet musicalologist Boris Aslanov.

Nitasha Kaul (HLLS) has given an invited paper on urban markets in India titled ‘Symbolic Geography of a Bazaar’, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, USA, 9 November 2004 and received a Young Economist Grant ($500), Consultation of Economist’s Papers Project materials in Duke’s Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library, Duke University, USA, November 2004. She also gave a paper on ‘Identity and the Marketplace: Symbolic Geography of J a r p a t h Bazaar’, Social Science History Association (SSHA) Conference, Chicago, USA, 19 November 2004.

Marie Mulvey-Roberts (HLLS) gave two keynote lectures earlier this year, one for the Female Gothic Conference at the University of Glamorgan. The other for a conference called ‘Spaces of Mind’ at Glasgow University.

Ian Parmee (CEMS) was one of six non US delegates to be invited by the US National Science Foundation, Washington DC to attend a multidisciplinary charrette (13 -15 October) in Houston. The objective of the meeting was to develop an academic response to the FIATECH (a joint multinational programme by the European Commission, the USA and Japan) research and examine innovative and contemporary healthcare practice.

Dr Margaret Miers (HSC) was invited to give a paper on ‘The effects of age and education on student experience of inter-professional learning’ and the paper on ‘Facilitating inter-professional learning in health and social care’ to the British Educational Research Association Annual Conference, Manchester in September 2004.

UWE recently hosted an important seminar on ‘Prolix Offenders’ organised by The Butler Trust which encourages effective care for prisoners. Lord Woolf introduced the seminar and speakers included Kay Wszocki, (Avon and Somerset Constabulary), Steve Robertson (HM, Bristol) (Jim Allen and Steve M ornatt (Probation Service), Julia Vernard (Bristol University)) presented her research findings. The seminar was opened by Mick Bell, Governor of Bristol Prison and Vic-Chancellor Alfred M ealms welcomed participants to the University.

BBC Radio Bristol came to the Frenchay Campus on 26 October and interviewed Dr Stuart Shales, Dr Alan Scrugg (both FAS) and Chris Abbott (House Services) about using chip fat as a source of fuel in UWE vehicles. (See Bulletin front cover and lead story). Stuart was also interviewed on that day by Star Radio FM. The article featured on the front cover of the Bristol Evening Post on 27 October as well as featuring in many newspapers nationwide.

Carolyn Paul (FAS) was interviewed by ITV News, BBC Radio Bristol, Star Radio FM and Talksport Radio during late October about the research into fish slime as a potential source of new antibiotic drugs. The research was also featured on BBC news online.

**Publications**


**Appointments**

Professor Ulrich Kockel (HLLS) is now on the management committee of the European network, European Association of Social Anthropologists, which was established at the associations biennial congress in Vienna in September. Ulrich Kockel joined an exploratory workshop, held in the Bohemian town of Libomy, funded by the European Science Foundation, where he met with colleagues from some 18 European countries to discuss the future development of postgraduate teaching and research in European anthropology.

Professor Kockel presented on the teaching of European ethnology at UWE, highlighting issues of interdisciplinarity and intersubjectivity in the specific local context and comparing this to the experience of other institutions in the UK. The invitation to join this network is further evidence of UWE’s growing profile in the related fields of European ethnology and Europeanist anthropology.
Sunday 12 December 2004
St Agnes Church, Thomas Street, St Paul's
Monday 13 December 2004
Holy Trinity Parish Church, High Street, Kingswood
Tuesday 14 December 2004
Redland Park United Reformed Church, Whiteladies Road, Redland

7.30pm

Rock Nativity

Music by Tony Hatch and Jackie Trent
Book and lyrics by David Wood

Supported by other CPA ensembles including UWE Big Band

These amateur performances are given by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd

Admission:
St Agnes Church Retiring collection
Holy Trinity Church Retiring collection
Redland Park URC Tickets on the door £6 (£4 concessions)

For details of all CPA productions, please contact us on
Telephone 0117 32 82067
E-mail cpa@uwe.ac.uk

www.uwe.ac.uk/cpa
Top tips from Printing & Stationery Services
that will help reduce the cost of your printing

- Whenever possible use the cheapest method of production, your desk top printer costs more than the MFD, and the MFD cost more than your Satellite Unit or the main Production Unit at Emersons Green.
- Rather than full colour, limit printing to black only or, next cheapest, 2 colour (black and another).
- If producing handouts, ensure the unfolded piece of paper does not exceed A3.
- Avoid unnecessary complicated finishing processes (numbering, perforating, comb or wire bindings, insertion into ring binder) these are all labour intensive and will increase the cost. Stapling is much cheaper than comb binding.
- Be accurate over the number of copies required – order too few and a reprint can cost almost as much as the original job, order too many and it’s money down the drain.
- Standardise your letterhead paper, don’t print for each school as one ream can cost as much as £130 to produce whereas larger quantities cost less per ream. Alternatively consider a Faculty letterhead and then use Word templates to personalise to school.

Don’t forget to keep the yellow copy of the print order form as you will need to quote the PF number when making an enquiry about your print job.

Considerable effort has gone into developing our Intranet site which is an excellent source of information for all of our services and the new Canon MFDs in particular.
Saturday 27 November 2004
7.30pm
Bristol Cathedral

UWE Singers and Symphony Orchestra
(Leader Danielle Wiltshire)

Conducted by Martin Freke and Ian Holmes

Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No 2
Soloist Julian Cheriyar

Bernstein Chichester Psalms
Soloist Gavin Rogers Ball

Lambert Vita Grande
Soloist Pamela Rudge

Arnold English Dances

Tickets £10, £8, £5 (concessions available)
‘pay a kid’ or ‘pay what you can’ on the door for
15-24 year olds
from Bristol Cathedral Box Office (tel 0117 946 8113)
For details of all CPA productions, please contact us on
Telephone 0117 32 82067
E-mail cpa@uwe.ac.uk
www.uwe.ac.uk/cpa
Recreation Centre November Update

Elite athletes arrive at UWE

Joining the international ranks of the UWE’s Advanced Athletes Group this year are 15 first year students, all of whom will be representing UWE around the world during their studies. Amongst others, the new members will join GB judo champion Tamyn Rutter and Jack Pearson will be looking forward to receiving an upgraded sports science support program.

Five international rowers have joined the group; Julie Gray, Helen Brewer, Roisin Nolan, Michael Ewing and Matthew Bartholomew, all of whom will be representing UWE in this year’s Bristol Boat Race. Also joining the group is Louisa Brassey a three-day event rider from Gloucestershire who is no stranger to regular readers of the national press sports pages. Trained by Olympic medalist Andrew Hoy O.A.M., she is considered as one of Britain’s best young riders. Local runner Martin Hula will also be looking to benefit from the group’s support services following a mid life career change to study primary education at New Redland. Also joining the group this year are Kate Allport (Wales netball), Oladele Bamisaye (Athletics), Robert Hardy (American Football) and Hannah Roberts (Wales rugby).

Athletes will also be benefiting from equipment upgrades that have been purchased in a joint venture between the Faculty of the Applied Sciences and the Recreation Centre. Dr Roy Pope and Richard Bennett will be collaborating throughout the year to provide accurate and sport specific physiological testing for each performer.

Finally, group members will be benefiting from the availability of new members of the support team; Steve Lock will be providing individual expert advice in the areas of strength and physical conditioning, which will be complemented by Jacky Bretherton’s expert nutritional knowledge.

Latest video analysis technology available for performers

The Recreation Centre has recently invested in a new software package, most recently seen in action during television coverage from the Athens Olympics. Dartfish, manufactured by a specialist Swiss company and was originally designed for use in television broadcasting and permits real time performance and biomechanical feedback to be delivered to athletes in their training environment. Limited versions of the software are currently used in school PE teaching, but the Recreation Centre has been able to secure the latest fully functional version. The software allows the frame by frame analysis of athletic performance, as well as providing a direct comparison to a perfect model. Uniquely the software also allows one performance to be overlaid, one on top of the other in order to illustrate differences between attempts or trials. The software can be applied in virtually all sports and will provide elite athletes on campus the opportunity to have precise video footage e-mailed to their coach or archived to DVD for future reference. Dartfish will complement the existing specialist applications, including Focus X2 for match analysis as well as Human Kinetics’ Fuel dietary analysis system. Video analysis will form one of the key components of the Recreation Centre’s aim of delivering sports science support beyond the Advanced Athletes group, and into UWE student sports clubs.
Monday 6 December 2004
19.45
The Bar, Colston Hall,
Colston Street, Bristol
DRAMA DOUBLE BILL
directed by Genti Hall-Kenny

The Company of Wolves
by Angela Carter
Presented as a live radio recording
Feat. desire and beastliness abound in
this cautionary tale
and

Fifteen Minute Hamlet
by Tom Stoppard
Fast, fun, ghost, to be or not to be, everyone
ends up dead: theatre classic made (very) easy!
Amateur performance rights by arrangement with Samuel
French Ltd.

Bar open from 19.15 and after the show.
(first come, first served; no ticket necessary)
Tickets £6.50 (£3.50 concessions)
from Colston Hall Box Office
Telephone: 0117 922 3662 or 922 3635
For details of all CPA productions, please contact us on
Telephone 0117 32 82067
E-mail cpa@uwe.ac.uk

www.uwe.ac.uk/cpa
Printing & Stationery Services

To reduce running costs given the volume at this time of year the main production unit at Emersons Green will close at the end of business on Friday 17 December 2004 and re-open on Tuesday 4 January 2005. Exceptionally, a limited copying service will be available at both the Glenside and Frenchay satellite units between 08.30 and 17.00 Monday 20 Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 December.

Customers are advised that for delivery of goods prior to the closure of the main production unit, please could we receive your orders no later than Monday 13 December.

Printing & Stationery staff would like to thank all of its customers for their support over the past year and wish them all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Theatre Club Special Offers

Turandot - Welsh National Opera
Puccini's final masterpiece, with vivid orchestration, superb chorus scenes and pathos-evoking 'Nessun Dorma'
Wednesday 8 December at 7.15pm - Bristol Hippodrome
Tickets: £21 (Rear Stalls - normally £27)

These party bookings are made by the Centre for Performing Arts in order to achieve considerable discount on ticket prices. They are open to all students and staff of the University and all members of the CPA. You may purchase any number of tickets (subject to availability) for any number of the listed performances. (Please add £1 booking fee to your total payment if you are not a CPA member.) Tickets from Vicki Jones, CPA, Room 2053, Frenchay Campus. Cheques payable to UWE Bristol or tel 0117 32 82067 with card details. E-mail cpa@uwe.ac.uk to check availability.

BOOK EARLY - we have a limited number of tickets only for each event, and they go very quickly!

Staff Ads

Reliable and inexpensive plumber available, working throughout Bristol, Weston and the surrounding areas. Also, kitchens and bathrooms supplied and fitted at competitive prices. Call Didi on 01454 312535 or 07974 769803. Nicola.vanOs@uwe.ac.uk

Florida - Villa to let - Large executive four bed villa, fully air-conditioned/heated with south facing private pool. Has lots of space - nobody left to the side and behind you. Master bedroom ensuite-suite, kingsize and two x twin bedrooms to sleep eight. All amenities for adults and children, fabulous golf resorts only five minutes away. 15 minutes from Disney and 30 minutes from Orlando airport. Prices from £450/week for more details please contact Dee after 18.00 on 01454 228570 or look at my website www.sunrivervilla.co.uk

Apartment for rent - Cabo Rui, Costa Blanca - two bedroom apartment, two years old, ground floor with gardens to the front and rear. Fully furnished, cable TV, swimming pool, close to beaches, shops, restaurants and bars. Very reasonable rates. For more information contact holidayhome3@hotmail.com or tel 01454 270261.

Mauritius - Apartment to let - Modern, comfortable and fully equipped three bed apartment within a peaceful complex, two double bedrooms and one twin all fully air-conditioned. Kingsize master bedroom has ensuite facilities, additional family shower room. Balcony overlooking pool, free tennis court, small gym, 24 hour security and maid service. Five minutes walk to beach. Close proximity to banks, boutiques, supermarket, restaurants and bus routes. Transfer to and from airport can be arranged, prices from £36 per night for the apartment. Please contact Michel Limpinnian after 18.00 on 01225 86233 or e-mail limpinnian@aol.com.

Room to let - In spacious family house in Clifton, walking distance from Whiteladies Road and 99 bus route to UWE. £280 pcm including bills, for further information contact Antony.Becckett@uwe.ac.uk.

Room to let - In Eaton in large Victorian terrace near bus routes, train station and access to M32. Within easy walking distance of local shops, including Tesco and Ikea, pubs and award-winning restaurant. Two reception rooms, conservatory, pleasant garden, GCH and all mod cons. Non-smokers only, please, women preferred. £265 pcm inclusive plus phone. Available immediately. For more details, call 0117 951 7272.

To rent - lovely furnished room in warm, friendly household situated on a quiet street near to St. Mark's Road and direct bus routes into town and UWE. £68 per week for short term lets, or £260 for longer term - inclusive plus telephone. Would suit University staff or mature/post-graduate students. For further information, please ring Nancy on 0117 902 8464.

To rent - Stoke Lodge area. Charming two bed furnished N/S cottage with garage and garden. Near Orits causeway, M5 and UWE. Would suit professionals. £575 per month. Contact Alison Gray on 0795 725 5085.

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Staff Association

Coach Club

10-12 December
Paris Christmas Markets weekend
(walking list only) Cost: £100 (£30 single supplement)
22 January
Birmingham
Visit the 'new' Building for the January sales
Cost: £10 members and non-members
If you are interested in any of the above trips please contact the Coach Club by either e-mail coachclub@uwe.ac.uk or tel ext 83001 (voicemail) or visit Room 2B16, Frenchay Campus.

Christmas Buffets
7 December 12.30-13.45
Glenside Campus, Room 1C08
9 December 12.30-14.00
Frenchay Campus, Room 4E13

Christmas Dance
Saturday 27 November 20.00-01.00
Merchant Suite. Price £5.50
Music by High Sierra
Contact Jean.Bowles@uwe.ac.uk

Children's Christmas Panto
Aladdin
Saturday 11 December 14.00-16.00
(door open 13.30)
Glendinning Lecture Theatre, Frenchay Campus
For children aged between 3 and 11 years. Price £4 adults/children, adults must be Staff Association members and maximum of 6 tickets per member. Contact Jean.Bowles@uwe.ac.uk
Earth from the Air - National Tour
Until January 2005
Venue: Located in Millennium Square and Arnolfini Square.
Visit http://www.earthfromair.com
A spectacular presentation of large-scale photographs of astonishing natural landscapes. Supported and sponsored by UWE.

152 Autumn Exhibition
Until 11 December 2004
Monday-Saturday 10.00-17.30
Sunday 14.00-17.00
Venue: Royal West of England Academy.
Contact RWA Telephone 0117 973 5129
E-mail info@rwa.org.uk
Visit http://www.rwa.org.uk
A vibrant exhibition of over 600 works of painting, printmaking, sculpture and architecture selected by open submission.

Hartpury College HE Information Day
27 November 2004 (10.00)
Telephone 01452 702132
E-mail enquiry@hartpury.ac.uk
Visit http://www.hartpury.ac.uk
Find out how Hartpury College can help you land the job of your dreams. There is a seminar on studying at Higher Education, course advice from our experienced lecturers and a tour of the campus. No appointment necessary.

Undergraduate Open Day
27 November 2004 (10.00am-4.00pm)
Venue: All Campuses.
Contact Enquiry and Admissions Service Telephone 0117 32 83333
E-mail Open@uwe.ac.uk
Visit http://www.uwe.ac.uk/aboutUWE/openday
Applications. No appointment necessary.

UWE Singers and Symphony Orchestra in Concert
27 November 2004 (19.50)
Venue: Bristol Cathedral.
Admission £10, £8, £5 - concessions available plus ‘Quid-a-Kid’ Contact Bristol Cathedral Box Office Telephone 0117 922 3682 Contact CPA Telephone 0117 32 82067 E-mail cpa@uwe.ac.uk
Visit http://www.uwe.ac.uk/CPA
Double bill of drama: Angela Carter’s ‘Company of Wolves’ - fear, desire and deadliness abound in this cautionary tale and Tom Stoppard’s ‘Fifteen Minute Hamlet’ - theatre classic made very easy!

The Nativity
Bristol Old Vic Theatre School
11 December 2004 (10.00 and 11.30)
Venue: Theatre Royal, King Street, Bristol
Telephone 0117 987 7877
Visit http://www.bristol-old-vic.ac.uk
The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School present their popular annual Christmas performance in the Main House.

UWE Centre for Performing Arts present ‘Rock Nativity’
Contact Centre for Performing Arts Telephone 0117 32 82067 E-mail cpa@uwe.ac.uk
Visit http://www.uwe.ac.uk/CPA
A modern equivalent of the medieval mystery play involving a cast of 20 students taking place on three different dates, in three different venues. Music by Tony Hatch and Jacky Trent.

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UWE Singers and Symphony Orchestra in Concert
06 December 2004 (19.45)
Venue: Colston Hall Bar
Admission Tickets from Colston Hall Box Office 0117 922 3682 Contact CPA Telephone 0117 32 82067 E-mail cpa@uwe.ac.uk
Visit http://www.uwe.ac.uk/CPA
Double bill of drama: Angela Carter’s ‘Company of Wolves’ - fear, desire and deadliness abound in this cautionary tale and Tom Stoppard’s ‘Fifteen Minute Hamlet’ - theatre classic made very easy!

Faculty of Applied Sciences Seminar Series
12 December 2004 (1.30-2.30pm)
Venue: Room 1L1, Frenchay Campus
Dr David Veale from the University College, Print and Image Group. A modern equivalent of the medieval mystery play involving a cast of 20 students taking place on three different dates, in three different venues. Music by Tony Hatch and Jacky Trent.

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