VC LAUNCHES NEW RESEARCH SUPPORT SCHEMES

DARK TOURISM
Researching the public’s fascination with visiting sites associated with death and disaster

UNIVERSITY G8 SUMMIT
University of Salford presence at Turin 2009

IMPORTATION RISK OF DANGEROUS FOX PARASITE INTO UK

SALFORD ANALYTICAL SERVICES:
A new commercial service for the University

PLUS much more ...
It is my honour and pleasure to welcome to the University and to this issue of RISE our new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Martin Hall. Martin is a world leading researcher in historical archaeology, human rights and equality and diversity issues. The research and wider communities of the University welcome him warmly and look forward to a creative, productive and innovative working relationship.

In this issue of RISE we have covered new topics of interest and followed up the progress of others. The main buzz around the University and Salford City at the moment is the recent success of the FIRM bid, led by Professor Peter Barrett, a £2.72m Research Council award to a consortium led by the University of Salford. This is a first step towards a planned long-term programme of research and innovation in MediaCityUK, which will form the centre of a global network of leading universities and media-related businesses. The success of this major bid, along with strong growth in the University’s overall rate of research awards despite these difficult economic times, is extremely encouraging, and reflects a diverse and innovative research and development community.

We catch up with Professor Phil Craig, who we followed in the last issue being honoured by the Chinese Government. In this issue Phil explains the risk of importation of a dangerous fox tapeworm into the UK. We also catch up with Professor Dilanthi Amaratunga and Dr Richard Haigh, who have been back to Sri Lanka to present at a high profile conference advising on best practice in reconstructing this devastated country.

There are lighter stories as well! Follow BORIS with two of the University’s scientists, Dr Steven Rossington and Dr Jim Wilkinson, whose award winning road shows and demonstrations are going out to local schools. There’s an MBE awarded to Dr Haifa Takruri-Rizk, University of Salford Senior Lecturer, for her work inspiring women and Black and Minority Ethnic people to take up careers in science, engineering and technology.

Professor Paul Stewart, the University’s Chair of Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering, has been elected Chairman of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (Industrial Electronics chapter), for the UK and Republic of Ireland, and Dr Maria Burke, Senior Lecturer in the Salford Business School, has been awarded a Digital Economy EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council) research grant entitled “TOTeM: Tales of things and electronic memory”, with colleagues from Brunel, Dundee, Edinburgh and London institutions.

So enjoy! Dip in, read on and follow up on research that interests you, is applicable to your needs, or can support your business, policy or processes in any way. The University of Salford’s door is always open to conversation, collaboration and new partnerships. All are welcome!

**Professor Ghassan Aouad, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation)**
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MAJOR PARTNERSHIP
funded to drive innovation at MediaCityUK

A world class, multidisciplinary consortium of universities and business led by the University of Salford has won funding of £2.72M as the first step in a £40M planned programme to inject a powerful research and innovation ingredient into the MediaCityUK development at Salford Quays.
The University of Salford’s Professor Peter Barrett is leading the FIRM project. He explained that: “Central to these developments is the creation of a strong open innovation ecosystem. This funding is the first step in a programme of activities that will complement the physical development of MediaCityUK with an enhanced intellectual infrastructure. I am delighted and excited that we have now passed go!”

Funding from a combination of three government Research Councils will support the Framework for Innovation and Research in MediaCityUK (FIRM). The core partners exemplify international excellence across a wide range of relevant disciplines and make close academic and industry interaction central to the initiative. The core partners in FIRM are the BBC, the University of Cambridge, Goldsmiths University of London, Lancaster University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), North West Vision and Media and the University of Salford.

For the UK’s creative economy, responding to powerful global forces is a necessity, with rapidly changing patterns of technological convergence and audience fragmentation happening simultaneously with unpredictable results. The world may be informationally “flat”, but for successful innovation ecosystems, it is locationally “spiky”. One of these emerging spikes is MediaCityUK, the second largest construction project in the UK after the Olympics, which will be the new home to five BBC national departments, who will make up ten percent of a workforce of around 15,000. This opens a once-in-a-lifetime “window of locational opportunity” for UK research and innovation in media and the creative sectors. BBC North Director Peter Salmon said: “MediaCityUK was conceived as a place where the huge innovation potential of media and creative businesses and universities could come together to create profound changes. FIRM creates the framework for that vision to be realised.”

FIRM’s ambitious, thematic programme of research and innovation is set out with clear phases of evolution, including sufficient flexibility so that MediaCityUK can truly be a place where the future is invented.

In its first year, FIRM will deliver a vision for research and innovation in MediaCityUK and identify the requirements both for the space and the technology which are required in order to be at the heart of international media research. In the second and third years, FIRM will forge connections between MediaCityUK and a global network of leading researchers and innovators. As MediaCityUK comes to life, FIRM will ensure it acts as a living laboratory in which the future can be invented for the media, creative and digital sectors.

Mike Joroff of MIT led the research on the creation of 21st century cities which influenced the vision for MediaCityUK. As he puts it: “Salford Quays was central to the industrial revolution, now it can be a globally significant focus for the digital revolution that is transforming society – there is a narrative sweep from port to portal”.

If you would like to know more about the FIRM project contact Peter at: p.s.barrett@salford.ac.uk
**Education** in a changing environment conference

Professor Sue Clegg, Head of the Centre for Research into Higher Education, Leeds Metropolitan University, and Professor Murray Saunders, Director of the Centre for the Study of Education and Training, Lancaster University, are two of the keynotes at the fifth Education in a Changing Environment conference which will take place in the Mary Seacole Building on September 15th and 16th 2009.

The conference format has grown from a Salford University teaching and learning conference to one that attracts papers from UK universities and from around the world. This year there will be contributions from colleagues in Curtin, Victoria and the Australian Catholic University; Ohio and Minnesota Universities, USA; Kobe University, Japan; UNISA, South Africa; Mazandaran University, Iran; Gaelscoil O Doghair and Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Ireland. Professor Martin Hall, Vice-Chancellor, will also give a keynote, entitled “Killing off Mickey Mouse: Open Knowledge, Open Innovation”.

For more information on registration and programme go to: www.ece.salford.ac.uk

**New version of SEEK launched**

Over the last few months extensive improvements have been made to the University’s SEEK system – an online database of the University’s research expertise.

SEEK (the Salford Environment for Expertise and Knowledge) helps academics to promote their research and contains extensive information on all academic publications and projects, as well as details of other activities such as conference papers, prizes and awards. The system is a key resource for external businesses and academics looking to find relevant research expertise at the University. It can be easily searched either by name or by subject. Profiles can also be found through web search engines such as Google. To date, SEEK has helped to put numerous collaborators and funding bodies in touch with researchers at Salford.

Further improvements are scheduled for the coming months, including integration with the University’s online repository of research outputs, USIR (http://usir.salford.ac.uk/).

To search SEEK, please visit: http://www.seek.salford.ac.uk/

If you would like to know more about SEEK and how it can help you find the relevant research expertise contact Dr. Matt Boswell at: m.j.boswell@salford.ac.uk

**RESEARCH IN THE DIGITAL ECONOMY** - EPSRC WIN!

Dr Maria E Burke, Senior Lecturer in the Salford Business School, has recently been awarded a Digital Economy EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council) research grant totalling £1.39m in a consortium with four other universities.

Maria will be working on the project, entitled “TOTeM: Tales of things and electronic memory”, with colleagues from Brunel, Dundee, Edinburgh and London institutions. The aim of the scientific research project is to provide a platform to allow memories to be attached to objects that already exist in the world. The project identifies a significant gap in the emerging aspect of the digital economy known as the ‘internet of things’.

The TOTeM project is concerned with the memory and value of ‘old’ objects. It has been suggested that people surround themselves with between 1,000 and 5,000 objects. Of these thousands of objects, many of them are probably not truly cared for and end up in rubbish bins or in storage. But for every owner, in almost every household there are a selection of objects that hold significant resonance, and will already connect them to an Internet of memory and meaning. An intrinsic human trait is the process of imbuing meaning onto objects so that they provide connections to people, events and environments. Artefacts across a mantelpiece become conduits between events that happened in the past, to people who will occupy the future. These objects become essential coordinates across families and communities to support the telling of a stories and passing-on knowledge. Maria said: “TOTeM is a multidisciplinary project that will build and apply socio-cultural frameworks to art, business and home environments, in order to enhance and improve the lives of individuals and organisations.”

If you would like to know more about Maria’s work contact her at: m.e.burke@salford.ac.uk.
Stimulating Collaboration between industry and academia

Members of the Research Centres for Functional Materials and Theory and Modelling and the CASE Centre for Control and Systems Engineering attended a Low Carbon and Fuel Cell event at the Inmarsat Conference Centre on the 9th June. The event was organised by the Low Carbon and Fuel Cell Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN), with the Carbon Trust and UKERC.

The event was designed to bring the academic and industry communities together to raise the profile of current work priorities and explore potential opportunities for collaboration. The main focus of the day was an exhibition and networking session, which allowed the academic community to highlight their current areas of interest to industry. The IMR was represented by Dr Simon Keens and Professor Paul Stewart.

Professor Stewart of the CASE centre commented: “Events and exhibitions of this kind are crucial to getting maximum exposure for the world-class Engineering and Physical Sciences research conducted at Salford, particularly in the context of the emphasis placed on energy research by the University of Salford and the research funding bodies. This was a very successful day, where networking was conducted with industry, other university research groups, and the funding bodies”.

If you would like to know more about CASE Research Centre’s work go to: www.control-engineering.co.uk

Creative technology team & the Glastonbury festival

Professor Paul Sermon and Charlotte Gould, University of Salford researchers, have developed, with Manchester-based artists, a proposal for the BBC ‘Village Screen’ (Picnic on the Screen) which was used at the Glastonbury Festival 2009.

This Creative Technology duo has collaborated on numerous public video installations and brings together twenty years of experience in interactive media arts practice and research. The proposal combines current interactive ludic interface work that Charlotte has been developing with Paul’s long established practice and research into telepresent environments. It explores the creative potential of the Glastonbury audience as participants or performers that have the capacity to create playful improvised narrative sequences through the “Village Screen” as a communications portal.

‘Picnic on the Screen’ is designed for large format public video screens and explores their creative and cultural potential. It offers an opportunity to be involved in the development of innovative ways of engaging with the public in a festival context using digital technology. Through the augmentation of the virtual and the real, users can explore alternative telepresent spaces and develop unique playful narrative events. This is a mode of performer interaction that is based on tried and tested telepresent installation techniques developed by the artists since the early 1990s. ‘Picnic on the Screen’ explores social play and the way fun and enjoyment interact with and enhance new media content and technologies through its design, creative development, everyday uses and discursive articulations. This is an area of research that has had little exploration; the interactions between technological developments and the pleasures described as ‘fun’, are few and far between.

If you would like to find out more about ‘Picnic on the Screen’ or Paul and Charlotte’s work please contact them at: p.sermon@salford.ac.uk or c.gould@salford.ac.uk or visit http://www.paulsermon.org/ and http://creativetechnology.salford.ac.uk/gould/
Salford Analytical Services (SAS), a University commercial venture bringing together research, enterprise and state-of-the-art facilities, was only launched in November 2008 but has already proved itself as a centre of excellence for a range of analytical disciplines.
This specialised University operation, managed by Geoff Parr, includes an extensive Microscopy suite, Single Crystal and Powder X-Ray Diffraction, Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR), Mass Spectrometry and Inorganic analysis. SAS currently employs three senior analytical chemists, with over 80 years of professional analytical science experience between them, gained through working in large manufacturing and research organisations such as ICI, Zeneca and Avecia. The team at SAS aims to provide a first class analytical service to their customers, and offers unprecedented knowledge to assist with any complex or simple technical issues. As well as providing an invaluable service to researchers within the University, SAS is also working for many major blue chip organisations, providing expert consultancy support for both problem solving and routine analytical requirements.

**Supporting cutting edge research**

As a result of SAS’s ongoing programme of refurbishment and instrumentation upgrades the Salford community now have an outstanding resource for helping them deliver key research project demands. For example, the University has its own charity, KIDSCAN, that is specifically involved in funding the development of new anticancer drugs against childhood cancers. They use computer technology in the SAS facilities to design potential new drugs, chemically synthesise them, and test them in cell culture. Any promising products from the testing then enter clinical trials. The group already has several potential drugs being developed or undergoing trials.

The Mass Spectrometer (MS) within SAS is used primarily by the Biochemistry and Molecular Drug Design research team. Once drugs have been synthesised, they have to be checked to make sure that they are the correct molecule. The MS accurately measures the size of molecules and can tell the difference between molecules that differ by only one atom. This helps them to work out the chemical structures of their potential drugs. The MS can also be used to study whole cells and is used by members of the Parasitology and Disease group to identify potentially pathogenic bacteria.

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“I am extremely pleased to witness the success of SAS over the last few months.”

Professor Sue Kilcoyne

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The Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectrometer uses magnetism to stimulate atoms which then produce a specific resonance depending on the type of atom or molecule which can be measured. This means that it can be used to work out the structure of chemicals such as drugs or toxic agents. It has the advantage that it is non-destructive, so that the chemicals being studied are not destroyed by the testing process. The NMR at SAS is used by the KIDSCAN team to study the structure of potential new anticancer drugs.

Many research programmes within the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Environment rely heavily upon the equipment located within SAS. The X-ray diffractometers are utilised by several groups to look at the structure of their materials ranging from functional coatings on glass to hydrogen storage materials and biomaterial for medical applications. The ability to investigate the structure of materials, and to determine atomic arrangements, crystallite size and imperfections is crucial to this work.

Professor Sue Kilcoyne, Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Science, Engineering and Environment commented “I am extremely pleased to witness the success of SAS over the last few months. This joint venture between Research and Enterprise has provided the researchers in Science, Engineering and Environment with world class experimental facilities which will support the growth of research within the Faculty. In addition it is envisaged that this will lead to commercial research for some in the research community and hence to new sources of funding.”

To find out more about SAS and the services available go to: [www.analytical-services.salford.ac.uk](http://www.analytical-services.salford.ac.uk)

Or contact Geoff Parr at: g.parr@salford.ac.uk
Visible Narratives

John Rooney, Lecturer in Advertising Design, is currently undertaking research to map the physical traces of language we create when we talk.

The subject of John’s work is his design practice, including the deliberate reintroduction of the random, chance element of practice, where things are not so defined and regular. In the near future John will be recording conversations with design practitioners, animating the key facial and hand movements in Flash software. Once these key points are animated he will compare and contrast the images created from the narrative. These images will on the surface look like patterns with no meaning. However, each image is loaded with internal content from the original narrative. Still images from this work will be isolated and made into physical objects in a room space. The related vectors may be hung in such a way as to allow the viewer to interact with the narrative by passing through the interstitial space created between the shapes. John combines his research and teaching with arts based design commissions for Bury Art Gallery.

If you would like to find out more about John’s research contact him at: j.rooney@salford.ac.uk

New UKRI Chair for Engineers Institute

The University’s Chair of Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering, Professor Paul Stewart, has been elected Chairman of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland Industrial Electronics Chapter.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) is the world’s largest technical professional society. Founded in 1884, it now has 360,000 members in 150 countries. The men and women of the IEEE are the technical and scientific professionals making the revolutionary engineering advances which are reshaping our world today. Their technical objectives focus on advancing the theory and practice of electrical, electronics and computer engineering and computer science.

To realise these objectives, the IEEE sponsors technical conferences, symposia and local meetings worldwide; publishes nearly 25% of the world’s technical papers in electrical, electronics and computer engineering, and provides educational programs to keep its members’ knowledge and expertise state-of-the-art. The purpose of all these activities is two fold: to enhance the quality of life for all peoples through improved public awareness of the influences and applications of its technologies and to advance the standing of the engineering profession and its members. The United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (UKRI) Section of the IEEE has over 8,000 members, and is part of Region 8 which covers Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

If you would like more information on Paul’s research and the CASE centre contact him at: www.control-engineering.co.uk
More information on the IEEE: www.ieee.org
More information on the IEEE UKRI Section: www.ieee.org.uk

DARK TOURISM

Neil Robinson of Salford Business School has recently created much interest within the academic community with his research into the public’s fascination with sites associated with death and disaster.

The research itself draws upon a paper that the author delivered at a recent motivations and behaviour conference. The paper presents the case that tapping into individual interest in this subject matter could itself help law enforcement agencies in their attempt to solve unsolved murders. The case of ‘Tent Girl’ in America is often held up as a good example of how an individual’s interest in an unsolved murder has had some success in the identification of the victim and possible new lines of investigation. The paper argues that much can be learnt in terms of offender profiling by employing local community groups in an attempt to reinvigorate interest in unsolved murders. The author has developed a model that can be used in an attempt to better identify offender profiling from a geographical perspective. The model was applied to an unsolved murder in Preston in 1975, and was presented at the conference.

The author’s interest in the macabre stems from a final year module that he delivers here at the University entitled Dark Tourism. The module has been running for three years and has employed a number of guest lecturers to facilitate student understanding, including the Greater Manchester Police Cold Case Review Unit. Neil is ever watchful of the ethics associated with visiting sites linked with death and disaster, and states that ‘we must consider those individuals who have died or who have lost loved ones at such sites and that the consumption of such subject matter should be done in a non voyeuristic and respectful manner’.

If you would like to find out more about Neil’s research contact him at: n.robinson@salford.ac.uk
Innovative urban environments

How can city-regions develop innovation ecosystems to harness the strengths of knowledge, science and technology for local economic and social benefit?

SURF is developing an in-depth understanding of this issue through a formative evaluation of Manchester’s Innovation Investment Fund. The Innovation Investment Fund was established by the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA), Manchester City Council and the North West Development Agency (NWDA) in 2007 to transform Manchester into one of the UK’s/Europe’s leading cities for innovation. As an organization SURF is committed to academic excellence and policy relevance. This means working outside the normal ‘academic comfort zone’ through employing interactive and iterative research techniques and approaches. Knowledge exchange means working with clients and not just for them. The evaluation embodies this ethos. A 2-year programme of work is designed to support the Fund’s partners on a ‘learning journey’ and identify the critical lessons for wider city-regional stakeholders and other city-regions, nationally and internationally. The key objectives are to understand the effectiveness of partnerships; chart the development of the strategic investment framework; examine the fit between the programme and projects and identify transferable lessons through a series of timely reports, workshops and feedback processes. Evaluation, learning and representation are critical in this process. SURF is working with the Manchester Institute for Innovation Research on the evaluation. The work draws on our expertise in the areas of building science regions and cities and the roles of universities in the knowledge economy. Overall, it will strengthen insights into the Manchester experience, as part of our overall SURF programme on Urban Knowledge Arenas and Active Intermediaries.

If you would like to know more about SURF’s work contact: v.simpson@salford.ac.uk or visit the SURF website at: www.surf.salford.ac.uk

Industrial Relations Research

Professor Ralph Darlington, University of Salford Business School, has recently, through his research into industrial relations, been invited to present in Sydney, Australia, at the 15th World Congress of the International Industrial Relations Association (IRRA) conference, with a paper entitled ‘Strike Activity on London Underground. Incidence, Dynamics and Causes’ for which he was awarded an Overseas Conference Grant by the British Academy.

Ralph’s new book entitled ‘What’s the Point of Industrial Relations?’, has just been published by the British Universities Industrial Relations Association. Routledge have contracted a further work, a research monograph, based on Ralph’s work into industrial relations on the Tube and national rail network. This book is to be entitled ‘Union Organising, Mobilisation and Revitalisation’. Ralph has also recently organised a TUC-sponsored Union Ideas Network series of three half-day seminars that have brought together trade union officers and academics from across the North West region to examine how unions are responding to the economic recession, the limits and potential of union organising, and the implications and opportunities of MediaCityUK for trade unionism.

If you would like to find out more about Ralph’s work please contact him at: r.r.darlington@salford.ac.uk

100 years of PARASITOLOGY

Professor Geoff Hide from the Biomedical Sciences Research Institute has recently been invited to contribute to the journal ‘Parasitology’ which has recently celebrated 100 years of publication.

To celebrate they are publishing a special centenary issue, and follow up book, with invited papers from key individuals. Geoff has contributed a paper on ‘Molecular epidemiology of sleeping sickness’ following a 20 year contribution to this area of research. This African disease, transmitted by the tsetse fly, is fatal if untreated and some 50 million people are at risk throughout Africa. Highlights of Geoff’s research involved developing DNA based methods for identifying the parasite that causes the disease. In collaboration with colleagues in Edinburgh, he demonstrated how recent epidemics of this disease in Uganda were being spread by the movement of cattle from infected areas to new locations. The Ugandan government now has measures in place to monitor cattle movement and treat infected animals to prevent further spreading. The University of Salford has a history of research in parasitology – the first Professor of Biology in 1966 was a parasitologist – and has several current active research programs. Many papers from the various Salford groups have been published in the Journal over the years.

If you would like to know more about Geoff’s research contact him at: g.hide@salford.ac.uk
Awareness of the human impact on the environment has increased enormously over the years with global sustainability emerging as the key issue as to whether humankind will survive the perils of global warming and other potential dangers. It is not surprising therefore that alongside the need to conserve non-renewable resources and prevent pollution of land, sea and air has been the call to educate peoples all over the world to understand and improve their environment. Action to halt or mitigate decline requires governments, organisations and peoples to change the way they behave. Universities have a key part to play in this education process and the second Summit of the G8 countries Universities was held in Turin in April 2009 for the Universities to join together to declare a commitment to ‘education and research for sustainable and responsible development’.

The G8 country representatives were joined by representatives from G20 and the Developing world to discuss a declaration which Peter was asked to help draft with colleagues from Japan and the host country of Italy.

A special edition of Peter’s book ‘Evaluating Sustainable Development’ (which he wrote with a past PhD student of Salford’s Built and Human Research Institute, Patrizia Lombardi) was chosen to be the book distributed to the Rectors at this important event.

To find out more about Peter’s work contact him at: p.s.brandon@salford.ac.uk

To view the full declaration go to: http://tinyurl.com/obh2tp
Maya, working with Andrew, will undertake a further application of the theory she mastered in her PhD thesis. This time the focus will be on consumer switching from one financial product to another.

Andrew said “I am delighted that Maya is back in the UK and I look forward to working with her again”. As a result of the global financial downturn, characterised by the existing amplified credit risk, the enhancement of the relationships with existing customers is more than ever of pivotal importance to UK financial services companies. The cost of attracting new customers is becoming infinitely more expensive and challenging with hidden social and organisational costs. This type of work is of great importance for the collaborating organisation and scholars who seek a deeper understanding of the switching process, and the stresses consumers are subject to when chasing that “best possible deal”. Although switching behaviour has attracted increased attention in contemporary consumer research, existing research at the individual level has been driven by narrow theoretical frameworks incorporating the underlying motives and cognitive processes behind this behaviour. This knowledge gap calls for sounder theoretical frameworks, methods and empirical investigations on switching behaviour. Drawing on social psychology theory and applying it to switching behaviour in the financial sector is likely to yield significant contributions at the theoretical, empirical, and managerial levels.

For most financial institutions the ultimate challenge is to embed more effective connectivity with customers, and to embrace measures that go far beyond the so-called loyalty programmes. In the economic recovery period that lies ahead, beleaguered financial institutions are faced with the rising costs associated with lost business due to the customer switching from product to product. A significant dimension of this research identifies and reports these negative aspects of switching for consumers and organisations.

For more information on Andrew’s research contact him at: a.j.newman@salford.ac.uk
IMPORTATION RISK
OF DANGEROUS FOX PARASITE INTO UK

Professor Phil Craig has been studying the effect of a fox tapeworm which is amongst the world’s most lethal zoonoses i.e. diseases transmitted from animals to people.

Echinococcus multilocularis is a fox tapeworm which is amongst the human infection results in human alveolar echinococcosis (AE). The disease in humans presents as a slowly growing mass which behaves like a malignant tumour in the liver and is usually fatal if untreated. Although foxes are the usual hosts, dogs are also highly susceptible to infection and infected dogs present a considerable hazard to their owners. Presently the UK is believed to be free of E. multilocularis: a large surveillance study of British foxes in 2003 in which more than 600 faecal samples were tested in Phil’s laboratory failed to find a single infected fox. The parasite is, however, endemic in many parts of Europe. Germany, France and Switzerland are key endemic areas, where more than 500 human cases were identified between 1982 and 2000. Furthermore, the parasite is believed to be extending its range in Europe. Because of the current parasite-free status of the UK, an EU derogation was obtained for the UK (also by Ireland, Sweden, and Malta) for the PETS Travel Scheme ensuring domestic dogs and cats (in addition to rabies vaccination and tick treatment) are treated with a dewormer (praziquantel) within 48 hours prior to embarkation to the UK. If the derogation is removed, as proposed for July 2010, it will no longer be a requirement to treat pets before importation to the UK. The research team from the University carried out a simple risk assessment to estimate the likelihood of a dog becoming infected in an endemic European country in the time before importation into the UK.

This risk assessment indicates that there is a considerable risk of importation of dogs infected with echinococcus multilocularis if the requirement for treatment with praziquantel is relaxed. Indeed these calculations suggest it is almost inevitable that this will occur at some stage. The number of dogs being imported is rising each year and the total number that had participated in the PETS Scheme up until December 2008 was 423,219 (Defra, 2009). Because of the large number of dogs and the likelihood that a substantial proportion spent a period of time in an endemic area of Europe, this further substantiates the claim that in the absence of routine praziquantel treatment, introduction of E. multilocularis into the UK would be inevitable.

There are a number of suitable intermediate hosts in the UK including the bank vole and the field vole which are known to be excellent wildlife hosts in many endemic areas such as France and represent a considerable proportion of fox diet, therefore propagating the parasite to foxes. Phil estimates that if 10,000 dogs made a two week trip to a disease area of France, the probability that at least one dog would return to the UK infected with E. multilocularis is approximately 98%. In 2008 there were 93,719 dogs entering the UK participating in the PETS program (Defra, 2009).

The study concluded that continued compulsory praziquantel treatment of all dogs prior to importation into the UK should be continued under the PETS Scheme because of the high risk that a few infected dogs could enter the UK and the devastating consequences for human health if the parasite were to establish in UK wildlife. Further reading on this study can be found in the journal The Veterinary Record.

If you would like to know more about this work contact Phil at: p.craig@salford.ac.uk

Any dog arriving in the UK infected with E. multilocularis could have serious consequences. Firstly, there is the direct hazard due to close contact between the animal and its owner. Of more serious concern is the possibility of introducing E. multilocularis into the UK wild-life population. Infected dogs excrete viable parasite eggs and hence if infected dog faeces contaminates areas where there are concentrations of suitable intermediate hosts (principally rodents), then transmission is likely to occur eventually to red foxes (the main definitive reservoir host).
Salford academics’ work informs Canadian public and health professionals

The National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) workplace physical activity evidence review, which was used to develop national guidelines for promoting physical activity amongst employees in the UK, has been used by the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute who publish a series of brief articles that summarize recent research in physical activity and healthy living. One series is intended for practitioners in the field (The Research File) while a complementary series is intended for the general public (Lifestyle Tips). The purpose of the review was to identify effective and motivating factors for interventions that were workplace based or initiated from the employer, which aimed to increase physical activity of employees. The Research File is intended for Public Health practitioners in Canada, such as public health nurses, who are in charge of immunizations, smoking cessation programmes, breast feeding programmes, and who have recently been given the task of promoting physical activity but who have never had any background in it. The Research File is intended to help them get up to speed on current research and how to translate it into practice. The Lifestyle Tips are for the general public.

This research is timely as the Faculty of Health and Social Care at the University is currently endorsing the local Healthy Weight Strategy in Salford.

If you would like to know more about Lindsey’s research please contact her at: l.dugdill@salford.ac.uk
VC LAUNCHES new research support Schemes

The Research & Graduate College has launched two new schemes that have received the personal backing of the new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Martin Hall.

These relate to key areas of strategic importance for the University as it seeks to implement the vision set out in the new Research and Innovation Strategy 2009-2015 – namely, the University’s presence at MediaCityUK and the development of promising early career researchers.

The first of these initiatives, The Vice-Chancellor’s Iconic Projects for MediaCityUK scheme, is designed to develop interdisciplinary projects that will either act as a beacon for the University’s cutting edge research in digital and creative technologies, or else take an innovative approach to the broader issues relating to MediaCityUK as a development e.g. regeneration and health issues.

The second scheme, The Vice-Chancellor’s Early Career Research Scholarship, has been established to support early career researchers of outstanding promise. As well as receiving a bursary, a minimum research workload allocation and support from a dedicated academic mentor, successful applicants will become members of an early career research network that will be personally headed up by Professor Hall. The network will meet regularly with other senior academics, including Professor Ghassan Aouad, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), to discuss new research ideas, the direction of members’ research and opportunities for interdisciplinary projects. The network will also play an important role in shaping the research agenda of the University as a whole.

The Vice-Chancellor said, “Our University has a long and proud tradition of excellent and relevant research. Our involvement in MediaCityUK is a prime opportunity for the University, and the Iconic Projects scheme will help us showcase our research to the world. As in any university, we need to pay special attention to the constant renewal of our research community and early career researchers are especially important for us, and for higher education as a whole. The Vice-Chancellor’s Early Career Research Scholarship will enhance key research talent at a time when it’s particularly needed”.

A call for applications was made in July and all new projects will begin in September 2009.

For more details please contact Dr. Matt Boswell at: m.j.boswell@salford.ac.uk

For more details on the Research and Innovation Strategy 2009-2015 go to: http://www.rgc.salford.ac.uk/page/research_innovation_strategy.

Essential tools for Management

University of Salford Visiting Professor Simon Burtonshaw-Gunn has brought together academia and industry as the basis for his textbook ‘The Essential Management Toolkit’ aimed at business students, practicing managers and consultants.

Although a full-time management consultant, Simon has also been an active visiting professor at the University since 2004, including the last two years in the Salford Business School. Recognising the power of using a model to explain a concept to a client prompted him to compile a useful collection of well-known and tested tools and approaches arranged in twenty main topic headings from Business Planning to Workshop Facilitation, the purpose of the book being not to replace formal learning but for readers to use the book to support either their studies or work assignments.

The book is currently undergoing translation into Lithuanian and the publishers have also requested that Simon write three sibling titles to provide more details on specific management areas, the first of these is ‘Essential Tools for Organizational Performance’ which is due to be published in July, with the other two “Essential Tools” covering Management Consulting and Operational Management due to follow at the end of the year. Although attached to the Salford Business School, Simon has designed and delivered two MSc modules to the School of the Built Environment construction Project Management students. His book ‘Risk and Financial Management in Construction’ was published by Gower in February this year.

If you would like further information on Simon’s work or publications contact him at: profsimonbg@hotmail.com
Visiting Professors in the School of the Built Environment

The University prides itself in working and collaborating with the best expertise, nationally and internationally and the School of the Built Environment (SoBE) is a prime example of good working relationships.

SoBE is very proud of its Visiting Professors (VPs); the School currently has 38 VPs drawn from the wider area of the Built Environment. These are men and women from the very top of industry, academia, professional institutions and the third sector, with a very strong national and international appeal, with engagements and contributions in connection with research, academic enterprise and teaching. Many of the VPs are also engaged in individual research projects, research centre activities, and multi-disciplinary project activities within the School. With the newly introduced ‘Professor and Visiting Professor Lecture Series’ (PVPLS) in SoBE, engagements with VPs are that much richer. This Lecture Series provide a forum for all Professors and Visiting Professors from SoBE to provide a one-hour lecture to students (UG and PG) and staff on an area of their expertise/interest. Students benefit immensely from the expertise, wisdom, and industrial experience. Eighteen of these lectures are planned every year. The SoBE staff cannot over emphasise the importance and contribution the VPs make to the life blood of the School, the value attached to the networks and contacts they provide and the many linkages made as a result of the School’s engagements with the VPs. In recognition of this importance, the School has recently created a position of ‘Associate Head of School – Visiting Professor’, with the primary remit of nurturing the School’s relationship with the VPs. Various communication plans are being put in place in order to maximise the potential of these visiting professors for students, research and teaching communities. An intranet facility has been set up, documentation is being shared and VP profiles are being made available and expertise accessed at: http://www.sobe.salford.ac.uk/people/visitingprofessors/. There is also moves afoot to set up a magazine dedicated to the VPs, to spread wider information on their activities, engagements, contributions, and their views on the School. Current initiatives generated by the VPs relate to the positioning of the School in leading research in the areas of Sustainable Development and Green Construction. The other relates to the possibility of book publications by VPs in areas of interest by the School. This positive engagement and constructive partnering has led to joint research bidding, joint publications, workshops, seminars, CPD and other academic enterprise activities, by informing the curricula and by improving students’ experience. The School and its VPs are continuously exploiting innovative ways of further improving outcomes from our engagements.

If you would like to learn more about the Visiting Professors in SoBE contact Charles Egbu: c.o.egbu@salford.ac.uk

Addendum: Unfortunately post this article being written one of our Visiting Professors, Professor Jeff Wix, passed away suddenly whilst on holiday in Oslo. Jeff was a valued member of the Visiting Professor network and he will be greatly missed, along with his expertise, enthusiasm, generosity of spirit and time and gentle nature. Our thoughts are with his family and colleagues.

MBE for Salford University science pioneer

Dr Haifa Takruri-Rizk, a Senior Lecturer within the University’s School of Computing, Science & Engineering, has been awarded an MBE for her work inspiring women and Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) people to take careers in science, engineering and technology.

Haifa has spent 17 years at Salford University researching and promoting science, engineering and technology to females and BME people – demographics traditionally under-represented in those industries.

Her research work has spearheaded a highly successful national initiative which has encouraged thousands of girls to study science and engineering, and go on to work in the field, leading various national and regional projects researching women and BME people’s lack of progression into science, engineering and technology, and addressing the issues preventing them from succeeding. One of her many achievements at Salford include organising annual residential courses for female year 12 pupils from across the world, encouraging them to consider studying science and engineering.

Haifa said: “To be recognised by Her Majesty the Queen is something I’ve never even dreamt of and I wouldn’t have wished for a higher honour. This means that my hard work and dedication is really valued. I shall keep going – no matter what!” She added: “There are many people that have made my work possible and I wish to thank the University, my colleagues, friends and family and all the organisations and funding bodies that have worked with me.”

If you would like to find out more about Haifa’s research contact her at: H.Takruri-Rizk@salford.ac.uk
Making Science Approachable

Two Scientists from the Centre for Molecular Drug Design at the University of Salford’s Biomedical Sciences Research Institute have had a busy few months taking their research out across the country and presenting to various groups.

Dr. Steven Rossington and Dr. Jim Wilkinson have been working hard sharing information about solids, liquids, gases and BORIS! Read on to find out more!

Solids, liquids and gases at the Royal Institution

Steven, from The Centre for Molecular Drug Design, recently presented a chemistry demonstration entitled ‘Greater Manchester’s Chemistry’ within The Faraday Theatre of The Royal Institution of Great Britain.

Steven presented two one hour long demonstrations to over 700 primary school pupils, teachers and members of the general public which highlighted and celebrated Salford born scientists James Prescott Joule and William Henry, highlighting the type of chemistry research undertaken at the university through an exciting ‘CRASH, BANG, WALLOP’ demonstration. Steven has presented chemistry demonstrations to over 4200 students, teachers and members of the general public since January 2009 throughout England. He said of the event “It is important to promote both the University and the physical sciences such as chemistry in a way which is fun, entertaining and memorable for the audience.

“The University of Salford has a rich history in the chemical sciences and the city of Salford has contributed greatly through Henry and Joule to modern day sciences’ understanding of the properties of gases and how energy and work are related. By showcasing both the City and the University within a famous and grand venue such as The Faraday Theatre I am truly honoured and I dearly hope my presentation has empowered the next generation of future scientists”.

Illustrating drug design using Molecular Modelling

Steven and Jim are taking their research out into the community with the aid of a giant 5ft model called BORIS.

The team of academics who are investigating new methods in the design, synthesis and evaluation of anti-cancer drugs have been taking their research work out into the local community in order to demonstrate how drug molecules are fashioned. Jim and Steven have, since January 2007, presented to secondary school and A-level students aged between 13 and 18 years throughout England and Scotland, an activity which uses a 5ft representation of a protein molecule (called BORIS from the semi-acronymic Biological ORIgins of Systems) which students use to dock a series of twenty-one known drug molecules into.

The students learn the role and importance of protein systems in the human body and how drug molecules are fashioned to fit precisely into proteins, resulting in the non-communication of an illness or disease.

This road show event has so far received sponsorship from The Royal Society of Chemistry, The Biochemical Society and The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, and is designed to not only showcase the University’s scientific profile to secondary school and college students, but to complement their syllabus. Steven said of the event “Here at the University we believe we have a distinctive way of bringing the student’s syllabus to life by highlighting the interface between biology and chemistry in an event which is novel and unique in the UK at the moment”.

If you want to find out more about Steven and Jim’s work, or would like the Roadshow demonstrations for your pupils, please contact them at:
s.b.rossington@salford.ac.uk
and j.a.wilkinson@salford.ac.uk

Boris (and Steven) are highly commended

Through all his recent work taking BORIS and other science research out across the schools and wider community, Steven was fortunate enough to be present recently at the House of Lords for STEMNET’s national celebration day for Science and Engineering Ambassadors.

Steven received two ‘highly recommended’ awards for the day, the first for the ‘most dedicated ambassador’ and the second for the ‘most original event’ (for the ‘BORIS’ drug design show). Steven said “I had a truly fabulous day and to be nominated and representing the University of Salford at the event was very pleasing. Our Faculty will hopefully continue with its public engagement and community involvement for years to come”.

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In December 2008 the Salford Centre for Research & Innovation (SCRI) submitted its 7th year renewal report to the Engineering and Physical Research Council (EPSRC).

This was an important milestone for the centre with future funding depending on a satisfactory review. The review was conducted by a panel of 6 international experts against a range of criteria including academic quality, academic impact and industry relevance. The centre was reviewed as a whole with the major research themes of the centre receiving individual reviews also. The review was comprehensive and included many compliments on the work that SCRI is doing together with suggestions for future direction. A summary of the review scores is shown below:

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<th>Industry Relevance</th>
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<td>Theme: Procuring Value</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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Scale: 1=Poor, 3=Good, 5 = Internationally Leading

Speaking after receiving the results of the review, Carl Abbott (SCRI Manager) commented: “The review is a huge endorsement of the work that the centre has undertaken since its inception in 2002. The results show that all of our research is considered at least internationally competitive with the big majority being internationally leading. This is not only a great testament to the leadership of the centre by Prof Ghassan Aouad (Director 2002-6), Prof Mike Kagiooglou (Director and formerly manager) and Prof Peter Barrett (Chair), it is also a recognition of the hard work of all the investigators, researchers and support staff that have worked within the centre. In compiling the data for the report one of the most striking features of the centre has been the progression of so many of its staff. Since 2002 five members of SCRI have become professors and eleven have obtained lectureships. So over the years the impact of SCRI will extend way beyond the immediate impacts of its research”.

Some of the highlights from the review show that since its inception in 2002 SCRI has:

> Published its research findings in over 170 journal papers, 12 books and 32 book chapters and over 400 conference papers. An independent review of IMRC’s published in 2007 showed that SCRI produced more journal papers per person and per pound than any other EPSRC funded IMRC centre.

> Demonstrated international academic leadership through the centre’s leading role in the International Council for Research & innovation in Construction and Building (CIB) research networks in Revaluing Construction, Procurement, Organisation and Management, Building Economics and within the International and European Groups for Lean Construction and the International Alliance for Interoperability. Its members have presented 77 keynote addresses and invited lectures in 18 different countries.

> Used its IMRC status to leverage further research income of over £2.2m through the EPSRC Star Recruit and Grand Challenge schemes and other collaborative activities with IMRC centres and other universities.

In addition, the 10 case studies of SCRI’s work produced in association with the renewal report illustrate some of the industrial impacts produced by the Centre. SCRI illustrates these impacts in three ways: Economic - SCRI has influenced over £2 billion of construction spend, helped create 56 new jobs and over £7m of sales, and produced direct savings of over £50k for one partner alone. Policy - SCRI has contributed to many policy reports for government departments including the National Audit Office, Office of Government Commerce, the Department of Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, the Department of Innovation Universities and Science, and have directly influenced policy within organisations such as Manchester Salford and Trafford Lift Co, Elevate East Lancashire and the Regional Procurement Centre of Excellence. Social impact - this has been achieved through the development of new courses in healthcare, the improved design of healthcare facilities and schools and our contribution to the government’s foresight report on wellbeing.

Prof Mike Kagiooglou (SCRI Director) added: “The positive feedback from the review is tremendous news for the centre and we should all be proud of our efforts over the years. However, one of the reasons for SCRI’s success has been that it never stands still. There are a range of challenges faced by the construction industry and we must ensure that our research continues to attack these issues. The centre is already in the process of agreeing a response to the review with its steering committee and is taking a series of actions in preparation for a new funding regime in 2012”.

To find out more about SCRI go to: www.scri.salford.ac.uk
Dr. Elaine Crawley, Director of the Salford University Centre for Prison Studies (SU CPS), recently undertook, via the HEIF Staff Placement Scheme, a placement at two Penitentiaries in Romania.

As a result of her visit the Director General of the National Administration of Penitentiaries has granted Elaine research access to nine prisons across Romania, where she will focus on the working lives of prison staff.

With her Romanian colleagues, Elaine is now developing a joint project application on this topic; their proposal will be submitted to the Leonardo Lifelong Learning Programme.

Elaine also met with senior academics at Babes Bolyai University to discuss the potential for a staff exchange programme and, following this, a postgraduate student exchange programme. It is anticipated that the first staff exchange could take place in early 2010.

Elaine is also in discussions with Babes Bolyai University and Romania’s National Administration of Penitentiaries with regard to the setting up of an e-learning platform for UK prison officers on the SU CPS website (www.sucps.salford.ac.uk). Returning from her placement, Elaine said “The HEIF funded Staff Placement Scheme gave me a great opportunity to develop my research relationships in Romania and to network with academics and practitioners I would not otherwise have met. I would certainly recommend the scheme to colleagues.

For more information on Antony’s work contact him at: a.c.rowland@salford.ac.uk
UK and USA Innovative Poetry

Dr. Scott Thurston, School of English, Sociology, Politics and Contemporary History, has recently been awarded an AHRC grant for his research project entitled ‘Talking Poetics: Dialogues in Innovative Poetry’.

Scott’s research will be based around conducting interviews with four innovative poets in the UK and USA. The poets are Karen Mac Cormack, Caroline Bergvall, Jennifer Moxley and Andrea Brady. This year so far Scott has traveled to Buffalo, New York to interview Mac Cormack, Orono, Maine to interview Moxley and more recently conducted interviews with Bergvall and Brady in London. The project aims to explore the theoretical, political and aesthetic issues these writers are engaging with and how they address these issues in the actual process of making work. The practice-led element derives from the fact that Scott has chosen these poets because of developing concerns in his own poetry writing: Scott will be researching further how Moxley and Mac Cormack explore the relationship between autobiography and poetry; how Brady explores the relationship between political argument and poetry; and how Bergvall practices across many different media. By engaging with these practitioners in complex dialogue, as writer to writer, about issues of mutual importance, Scott hopes to inform the development of his own creative work, and potentially that of his subject also. The reflection on these conversations can be a valuable way of theorising contemporary practice more generally, and, in the context of innovative poetry, the statements that authors make about writing (poetics) are invaluable for gaining a better understanding of their challenging work.

If you would like to know more about Scott’s work contact him at: s.thurston@salford.ac.uk

Iraqi national security adviser to speak at research conference

A team of terrorism and security experts at the University of Salford’s European Studies Research Institute has secured a prestigious funding award to organise a conference on Western policies towards Iraq and the wider Middle East at the headquarters of the British Academy in London in March 2010. One of the keynote speakers is to be the Iraqi National Security Adviser.

The main aim of this topical conference is to examine the extent to which the goal of democracy promotion has been in conflict with or, in contrast, supported by other goals (geo-strategic, economic, and cultural) in the policies of the major actors towards the region. Whilst the conference will focus on the foreign policies of important external powers (nation-states as well as inter- and transnational organisations), it will also examine the policies of influential domestic Iraqi political actors and other regional powers, such as Saudi Arabia, Iran, Syria, Israel and Egypt, whose international role has been affected by the political developments in Iraq.

The conference will serve as a forum for the analysis of Iraq and the wider region from a multiplicity of cultural, professional and disciplinary perspectives. Bringing together practitioners such as the Iraqi national security adviser, European Union officials and other diplomats with a number of international renowned Iraqi, British and US academics, it is expected to attract significant national and international media attention.

For more information on this conference or on the research team’s work, please contact: l.berger@salford.ac.uk
End of life care planning in Salford Care Homes

Professor Martin Johnson and Dr Ian Jones from the University have been working in partnership with Dr Moira Attree from Manchester University, Salford Primary Care Trust’s End of Life Care experts Robin Gene, Christine Taylor and Steve Ingle and Consultant in Palliative medicine Dr Stephanie Gomm, on a research project into end of life care planning in Salford care homes, ensuring that preferences of how we die and how aggressively we should be treated are taken into account.

The research aims to ensure that anyone with an incurable illness, such as chronic breathing problems, heart failure or dementia can live as well as possible until the time comes when it is clear that they will gain no further benefit from active treatment and/or hospital admission.

The planning process, which builds on a set of standards first used in Primary Care by nurses and doctors there, includes support for their family and the opportunity to talk through issues about where the person concerned would prefer to spend their last days. It’s called the Gold Standards Framework and was first developed by General Practitioner, Dr Kerry Thomas. Research shows that the majority of people (50-70%) would prefer to die in their own home, or a home-like setting such as a nursing or residential home. However, in Salford a massive 65% of people who die in any year do so in hospital.

Whilst this may be inevitable in cases of accident or sudden illness, it certainly is not the case for the many older people who are suffering from life limiting illnesses like dementia. A survey was undertaken of nursing/care home staff at two large homes focusing on their confidence in using the end of life planning process, and the research team are currently undertaking further fieldwork involving participation in the homes and interviews with both staff and residents. Through Kim Wrigley, the Lead for end of life care, the Greater Manchester and Cheshire Cancer Network has become involved in this study.

Martin said “The project so far has been challenging and exciting to see how staff, residents and others cope with dealing with this difficult area of work.” The Project also involves the development and testing of a method for assessing resident or relative involvement in care planning for the end of life. This presents perhaps the greatest challenge given the frailty and potential vulnerability of this client group. Martin and the team believe the work will help improve curricula and enable better practice development in other homes.

If you would like to find out more about this research contact Martin at: m.johnson2@salford.ac.uk

EU China information society project

University Researcher Andy Hamilton, Director of the Virtual Planning Research Group, has recently been invited, as an EU senior expert, to work with and advise Yan Tai city administration in China on their information systems. Andy took up the role of an EU recognised Consultant when he advised the Lithuanian Government on urban infrastructure systems.

Of particular interest to Yan Tai city was the work that the Virtual Planning Research Group had undertaken with Stuttgart University of Applied Sciences and Stuttgart city as part of the EU funded ‘Virtual Environmental Planning systems’ (VEPs) project 2004-2008. Yan Tai is interested in the functionality developed by VEPs, which facilitates an integrated view of urban issues, essential for sustainable development. Andy still has strong links with Stuttgart and has accepted an invitation to give a series of lectures at the university in September.

The Yan Tai event produced a useful exchange of ideas between Europe and China. In particular aspects of urban modelling were discussed. The Yan Tai city model is already well integrated to other city applications, and had the connectivity to integrate with a wide range of applications to support interoperable city services, and discussions were had on how to further support the sustainable management of Yan Tai city.

If you would like to know more about Andy’s research contact him at: a.hamilton@salford.ac.uk
Cognitive mapping, system dynamics (SD) and the Bullwhip Effect

Two Salford University academics, Dr. Aris Syntetos and Professor Brian Dangerfield, have joined forces with Professor John Boylan, Buckinghamshire New University, on an Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) funded project, that aims to re-conceptualise the complex problem of the Bullwhip Effect through the integration of Cognitive Mapping and System Dynamics (stock and flow) modelling. Also involved in the project is a Salford University Visiting Professor, Nicholas C. Georgantzias, Fordham University, USA.

This inter-disciplinary project requires expertise in the areas of: Forecasting, Inventory Management, Supply Chain Management, SD and Cognitive Mapping. A prototype generic map of factors impinging on the Bullwhip Effect has already been constructed; part of the project aims are to: refine the generic model and embed a classic SD ‘stock and flow’ model within it; develop archetypal models, which are variations of the generic model, and to conduct case-studies on the development of cognitive maps to customize an archetypal model to the requirements of a specific supply chain.

The outcomes of the project will progressively be added on a dedicated web-site. Several organisations have already agreed to contribute but more companies are currently being sought for participation in the project, in terms of exchange of ideas and qualitative input. The companies in return will be supplied, at the end of the project, with reports consisting of tailored-made suggestions.

If your company/organisation would like to take part in this project, or you would like further information on this research, please contact Aris at: a.syntetos@salford.ac.uk

Support for research bidding pays dividends

Over the last twelve months the Research & Graduate College has developed an award scheme to support the University’s strategic objective of achieving an annual research grants and contracts income of £30 million by 2015.

There have now been three rounds of the Research Bidding Support Fund (RBSF) that have been accessed by a wide range of researchers – and this has translated into a host of successful bids.

One notable example is Dr Andy Moorhouse, who has recently been awarded a grant of £255,000 by the EPSRC for a project that will look into ways of measuring and predicting structure-borne sound. One application of the research will be with regard to roof-mounted wind turbines where sound can be transmitted through the building structure and cause annoyance to occupants below. Other examples in vehicles and aircraft will also form part of the research. The fund allowed a postgraduate student to undertake preliminary tests that were instrumental in persuading the Research Council of the significance of the project.

Andy said: ‘The fund was helpful both in financial terms and also in focussing our energies on making a high-quality proposal to this specific funding call.’ The fund is run twice per year and is designed to help offset the costs of preliminary activities associated with putting together large-scale research bids, especially collaborative proposals involving industrial or academic partners. The fund provides awards up to a maximum of £3,000 and can be used to support a range of activities, including travel, teaching time buy-out and preliminary research studies such as Andy’s. Another round of the scheme is scheduled for the Autumn semester.

For further information go to: www.rgc.salford.ac.uk/page/internal_funding or contact Dr Matt Boswell from the Research & Graduate College at: m.j.boswell@salford.ac.uk

GMP working with the University

Members of the School of English, Sociology, Politics and Contemporary History (ESPaCH) and the Institute for Social, Cultural and Policy Research (ISCPRe) have been developing several important and productive links with Greater Manchester Police (GMP), starting with a short course for its staff: ‘Communities and the Police’.

The course provides officers at Inspector, Chief Inspector and Superintendent level with a sociologically and research-informed view of what makes a community and how various communities have interacted with the police, both historically and currently. Building on these links between GMP and the University there has been a successful joint application for an ESRC-funded PhD Case Studentship. The aim is for the student to assess best practice in developing long-term solutions to local problems, and to study the sociological processes involved in partnership working in the public sector.

A further avenue of joint working has developed through an evaluation of the ‘Street-A-Week’ operation, currently underway in select Priority Neighbourhoods in Manchester. The evaluation will continue into next year, with a final report due in Autumn 2010. These links and the subsequent projects with Greater Manchester Police have proven to be successful and informative for all involved. Salford University’s growing expertise in the areas of crime, security and policing studies has proven to be of benefit, not only for our students, but also for the wider community in the contexts of research, policy and practice.

If you would like to know more about the research work with Greater Manchester Police contact Megan O’Neill at: m.e.oneill@salford.ac.uk
UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD
Academics help pave the way towards reconstruction and rehabilitation in Sri Lanka
Dilanthi and Richard have recently been back in Sri Lanka at a major seminar entitled ‘Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of the Northern and Eastern Provinces’ held in Colombo, where Dilanthi led a session on ‘Social Challenges of Rehabilitation and Reconstruction’ and Richard led a session on ‘Capacity building for rehabilitation and reconstruction’. Other presenters included the Minister of Rehabilitation and Development, Director General of National Physical Planning Department and Executive Director, Board of Investment of Sri Lanka.

The Chamber of Construction Industry (CCI), Sri Lanka, the Apex Body representing every stakeholder of the domestic construction industry, hosted the seminar to create a public dialogue on all aspects of rehabilitation and reconstruction laying emphasis on the social challenges and the obstacles that will be encountered in capacity building and encouraging community participation. The seminar was designed to initiate a broader dialogue on the subject of rehabilitation and reconstruction with a large number of highly respected individuals from different backgrounds coming together to enlighten those who are less informed, by bringing with them a wealth of exposure and experience. Sri Lanka’s almost 30 year old civil war has left desolation in its wake resulting in loss of life, human suffering, and mass displacement of people while bringing the economy virtually to its knees, not to mention the destruction caused to the environment. The industrial production apparatus has broken down. The social fabric has been torn to shreds and infrastructure networks have been wiped out while the precarious condition of its institutions makes it difficult to rapidly implement conventional long term development programs.

During their visit to Sri Lanka, Dilanthi and Richard created formal links with the Vice-Chancellor of the Eastern University of Sri Lanka, which is situated within affected areas and also conducted many training sessions and workshops. Several research initiatives in disaster management and conflict mitigation too were discussed along with major NGOs, government organisations and universities.

In particular, ‘Post-conflict Reconstruction for Ethnic Sri Lankan Communities Returning Innovative Beneficial Effects (PRESCRIBE)’ research initiative was launched to enhance the capacity of humanitarian agencies and higher education institutions to instil ethnic sensitivity within post-conflict reconstruction projects. The University of Salford’s Dr Chaminda Pathirage and David Baldry from the School of the Built Environment are also involved in this initiative. Richard and Dilanthi along with their colleagues in the School of the Built Environment at the University continue to work very closely with the Sri Lankan authorities in contributing towards the establishment of coherent and consistent links between relief, rehabilitation and development.

If you would like to know more about Dilanthi and Richard’s work contact them at: r.d.g.amaratunga@salford.ac.uk or r.p.haigh@salford.ac.uk
COMMERCIAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

“Encouraging Innovation, Exploiting Opportunity”

With a vision to become renowned for excellence in the exploitation of research and innovation, the Commercial & Technology Transfer Team, based in Faraday House, provide a portfolio of services both internally to staff and students, and externally with the business community.

Public space events
A call for ‘Public Space’ event themes

The University will be organising a series of activities designed explicitly to identify opportunities for engaging in collaborative research and other knowledge transfer activities with commercial and public sector partners. Described as ‘public space’ activities they will be focused on specific challenges (such as producing ‘zero carbon’ buildings) which are expected to present both a variety of research challenges and, through the application of research outcomes, opportunities for both commercial and public sector innovation.

The ‘public space’ of a university refers to those activities in which researchers engage with potential research users in a neutral context. The aim is to promote discussion on topics of interest in a way in which worthy problems, requiring cooperation between co-investigators from universities and partners, may be identified. Examples include conferences, industry networks, joint boards, and advisory committees. The objective of these specifically designed public space activities will be to create an environment which fosters the identification of potential partnerships though a focus on problems and issues which are likely to provide a high chance of research challenges meeting innovation opportunity. They will take the form of presentations, workshops and discussions and will ideally include a leading ‘problem owner’ from the industrial sector who will be able to help map the application challenges to the research themes and opportunities.

The attraction of such a ‘problem owner’ is expected to act as a draw to both researchers interested in research themes of relevance to the sector, and to potential supply chain members, who may also be potential research collaborators. We have already pencilled in some major topics around which the events could be based, and will be discussing these with research and innovation leaders soon, but in the meantime we would be pleased to have ideas from any quarter.

OPEN INNOVATION CHALLENGE SERIES

The Commercial & Technology Transfer Team is launching the ‘Open Innovation Challenge Series’. The initiative will promote collaboration between business, the community and the University’s research and innovation staff to address real world industry and community driven problems and issues. The development of innovative solutions will be addressed using the University’s Innovation Cells process, which will bring together collaborative and multi-disciplinary groups to tackle the challenges.

Challenge us!
If your organisation has a specific problem or need please get in touch. The Open Innovation Challenge Series could provide you with fresh and innovative solutions.

Contact us
If you would like to know more about any of our services please contact Marie Foley at:

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Enterprise & Development, The University of Salford
Faraday House, The Crescent, Salford, Greater Manchester
M5 4WT, United Kingdom

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www.business-services.salford.ac.uk
President of the Royal Society and poet – Sir Humphry Davy

Professor Sharon Ruston and colleagues at the University of Salford have recently been successful in securing an Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Collaborative Doctoral Award creating a new PhD post at Salford University, project entitled ‘Poetry and Science: The Case of Humphry Davy’. The new PhD student will be jointly supervised by Professor Sharon Ruston (author of Shelley and Vitality) and Professor Brian Maidment at the University of Salford, and Professor Frank James (Head of Collections and Heritage, editor of The Correspondence of Michael Faraday) at the Royal Institution of Great Britain (www.rigb.org).

S. T. Coleridge wrote that Sir Humphry Davy was ‘a man who would have established himself in the first rank of England’s living poets, if the Genius of our country had not decreed that he should rather be the first in the first rank of its philosophers and scientific benefactors’. Today, few people know that Davy wrote poetry, though he continued to do so throughout his life and left at least fifty poems in manuscript form in his surviving notebooks and letters. It is hoped that the examination of Davy’s literary and scientific writings will involve the reassessment of the term ‘Romantic’ as a cultural movement, throw new light on literary circles and social networks in this pre-disciplinary period, and consider how Davy’s scientific practice differed from that of his contemporaries both in Britain and abroad.

The University of Salford has particular expertise in the interrelations between poetry and science, supported by the Literature, Science and Culture research cluster in the Centre for Literary Studies.

For more information on this research contact: s.ruston@salford.ac.uk

Blazing a trail for PhD careers

Salford’s first ever ‘PhD Futures’ careers event took place in the Lady Hale Building on Tuesday 23 June 2009.

This new, full day careers event saw the Research and Graduate College and Student Life’s Careers and Employability team up for the first time in order to inspire and inform existing PhD students about career options both inside and outside academia. It was also open to Masters students who are considering doing a PhD. The event was attended by nearly 100 students and there were over 25 speakers. The flavour of the event was informal with workshops, panel discussions, and a mini-exhibition of Student Life support services. PhD student volunteers acted as chairs of the panel sessions. Throughout the day there were 5 parallel sessions running that students could choose between. This helped to create a real buzz as there was so much going on!

Speakers at the event were primarily from the University of Salford and some were also Salford PhD alumni but there were also representatives from the University of Manchester and more still from within business/industry and the public sector including Microsoft, AstraZeneca, Turner and Townsend, i-prophets as well as the Civil Service. There will be video footage available from the event which will focus on the career stories of some of the speakers. Fiona Christie, event convenor said: “I think events like this are vital in this current economic climate in building confidence among our students to focus on their future possibilities, while acknowledging that the job market is tough right now. PhD graduates have always been in a strong position in the labour market, and PhD Futures aims to act as a catalyst in assisting our students to achieve their potential in their future careers.”

James Akrigg from Microsoft who was part of a panel talking about “What employers want” wrote “I think it was a great success… and once the questions started there was no stopping them!”

Feedback from students attending was overwhelmingly positive. Everyone who filled in a feedback form said they would like to see such an event happening annually! So a bit of a challenge there for the organisers! Some asked for the event to be spread over 2 days so they could attend more of the workshops. There was also a strong appetite from the Masters students who came that they would like to know more about PhD opportunities at Salford. These are all issues the organisers will take forward. One MA student said “The event was like a beacon for MA students. Necessary and vital for us in deciding whether to do a PhD.” A PhD student said “A great starting point to focus on how to become an academic and how to get into industry”.

If you are interested in finding out more about the event, please contact Fiona Christie, careers co-ordinator for postgraduate researchers at: f.christie@salford.ac.uk

For full details of the event programme and follow up resources, e.g., videos go to: www.careers.salford.ac.uk/students/phd/blog
EU Erasmus workshop, Czech Republic

60 postgraduate students (34 from University of Salford) and 24 staff from 8 European universities have just returned from a European Union Erasmus funded two week intensive workshop in the Czech Republic.

The workshop theme was based around a disaster recovery and rehabilitation scenario after a simulated earthquake in the town of Telc and involved four days of lectures and 8 days of international multidisciplinary group work. Salford’s students were joined by students from Valencia Polytechnic University, Institute Superior Technico, Lisbon and University of Minho both from Portugal, the Czech Technical University of Prague, and Dublin Institute of Technology. The students represented a wide range of built environment disciplines including architecture, quantity surveying, building surveying, construction management, project management, civil engineering and town planning. They also represented a diverse range of nations including Sri Lanka, India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Libya, Venezuela, Guatemala, Israel, Spain, Portugal, Czech Republic, Ireland and the Netherlands.

The Mayor of Telc attended the final presentation of the workshop findings and was so impressed that he wanted the group to return next year to follow up on more detailed developments of the Urban Regeneration programme. Programme Director Professor David Eaton from Salford’s School of the Built Environment said that the workshop had exceeded everyone’s expectations and, despite the enormous burden of managing such a large multicultural group, it had been an enormously enjoyable undertaking.

To find out more about the workshop please contact David at: d.eaton@salford.ac.uk
Postgraduate research conference

This year’s SPARC (Salford Postgraduate Annual Research Conference) took place on the 7th and 8th May, and proved its most popular year so far, with over 130 delegates.

SPARC ’09 was opened up to universities across the North West region, and Salford postgraduates were joined by PhD students from 12 other institutions. Professor Ghassan Aouad, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), provided the keynote address on ‘How to Succeed in Doing a PhD’. This was followed by themed panel sessions, during which a total of 88 postgraduates presented papers. The sessions covered a wealth of research areas, including e-banking, translation, disaster management, urban ecosystems, traffic modelling, social media in education, and contemporary art practice, among others. Speakers have the opportunity to submit their papers for the conference proceedings, which will be published early 2010. A further 40 presenters took part in the poster competition on the second day. This was judged by representatives from local business, Iain Watson (Godliman-Watson Homes), Chrissie Gibson (Connectivity Associates Ltd) and Barbara Hastings Asatourian (Contraception Education Ltd). The competition tested the ability of presenters to communicate their research to audiences outside their own discipline. The first prize of £200 went to Valerie Todd from Liverpool John Moores University for her poster on ‘Mood regulation in Obesity Surgery Patients’. Response to the event was very positive. Participants valued the opportunity to practice presenting their research in a supportive environment, and enjoyed meeting fellow researchers from other universities. In the run up to the event, delegates made use of a conference social networking site to find out about one another’s research interests. A conference dinner provided further social opportunity as did a trip to the Urbis Exhibition Centre on the Friday afternoon. This was rounded off with an Urbis walking tour of the city.

For further information on SPARC, please see the website at: www.pg.salford.ac.uk/page/SPARC or contact Victoria Sheppard at: v.m.sheppard@salford.ac.uk

BBC North or South

The University has been working with the BBC to aid in the decision making process for its employees who have to make the choice whether or not to move North.

To this end Beth Hewitt, Programme Leader of MA Television Documentary Production at the University initiated a project in collaboration with Vicky Matthews, BBC Internal Communications Specialist and Josie Cahill (now working across both BBC Project North and BBC Children’s), and offered MA students at the University the opportunity to make a series of short films revealing their take on the North.

Each film was pitched and commissioned by Vicky and Josie, and from the outset both gave a huge amount of support to the students. This encouragement resulted in a strong sense of commitment from the students. They worked hard on the project, delivering to briefs and deadlines. A day of workshops at BBC North was organised, bringing in people such as Adrian Woolard, Head of the Innovation Team at BBC Future Media and Technology, and Tim Hopewell, Director of Waterloo Road.

The project culminated in a screening of the films at BBC North. Students, University staff, BBC staff, plus guests of the students, were all invited to watch the films after Richard Deverell, Chief Operating Officer and Head of Children’s, opened the evening by endorsing the project, saying it was a great example of collaboration, highlighting how positive and sustainable creative partnerships across the North could be at their best.

If you would like to find out more about this project contact Beth at: b.a.hewitt@salford.ac.uk

For further information on SPARC, please see the website at: www.pg.salford.ac.uk/page/SPARC or contact Victoria Sheppard at: v.m.sheppard@salford.ac.uk
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<td>Noor Yazan</td>
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Attracting the brightest minds to Salford

In order to build on the success of its postgraduate recruitment in 2008, the University of Salford has made ambitious changes to its scholarship and bursary award scheme.

Piera Gerrard, Head of International Relations, stated “These awards will help the University to attract the brightest minds from across the globe.” The new scholarships offer up to £5000 for the most talented students in the fields of Science and Engineering, and £4000 for those studying Business, Arts and Social Sciences. In another change to the scheme, all postgraduate students will qualify for a £1000 bursary, with undergraduates qualifying for £1000 to £2000 depending on the fees they pay.

The total value of the awards on offer is £2.4 million making it the largest scheme ever offered by the University and one of the largest offered by any UK institution to international students. It is expected that the scheme will be very attractive to prospective students and lead to a significant increase in applicants.

The scholarships will enable the University to target individual country markets. Andrew Finch, Senior International Officer, thinks that Turkish students will respond positively to the new scheme, “Turkey is a growing international market for Salford with good demand for Postgraduate taught programmes of study. As such the international scholarships will be welcomed by the growing number of Turkish applicants to Salford, especially in the areas of engineering, business and social science and will help to attract highly-qualified candidates to our university”.

A significant proportion of students are sponsored at Salford, and the new scheme will also benefit our sponsoring partner organisations around the world. Stuart Howells, who works closely with sponsors in the Gulf region, commented, “By introducing market leading bursaries and scholarships to students we can help our sponsoring partners to offer the opportunities of a UK qualification to a larger number of students each year”.

**University bursary**

**tips the balance in India**

From September 2010 the University of Salford is introducing a new bursary and scholarship scheme which will help prospective students meet the costs of tuition fees. In the current economic climate, the University recognises that even a relatively modest award can have a big effect on student’s study choices.

The awards are part of the University’s strategic aim of helping students from certain countries to study with us, addressing our internationalisation aspirations. An example of the impact of receiving one of our awards can be seen below.

Akanksha Mohan from Ghaziabad, near Delhi, had been counting on an education loan to finance her studies abroad. So when the University, offered her a bursary of £2,000 for her Masters in Corporate Finance, she was delighted. “£2,000 is really very helpful for a student like me,’” says Mohan, 21. Her course fee has reduced to £7,300. With the offer of the bursary Mohan is sure that getting an education loan from an Indian bank will now be easier.

As global student demand for overseas education rises, universities are increasingly viewing bursaries and scholarships as a way of attracting the best students, and to increase their own institution’s visibility and reach.

Mohan’s bursary is an individual example of how the University of Salford is responding to this trend. “The University is offering students from certain countries a small bursary to reduce the impact of the tuition fees, with a more substantial scholarship being offered to academically brilliant students” said Jeremy Burgess, senior international officer.

Though bursaries are offered automatically to students from certain countries, and scholarships are based on academic record, both forms of financial aid help Salford to attract international students, a substantial source of revenue. This year will see our largest ever investment in scholarships with over £750,000 available to new students.

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**Chinese relations**

Professor Ghassan Aouad, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation) and Dr Song Wu, School of the Built Environment, recently visited four leading universities in China - Tshinghua University, Southeast University, Chongqing University and Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture - where he received a warm welcome and had productive and enjoyable discussions with his colleagues from all the universities.

During the visit a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with Chongqing University and Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture and Professor Wang, Vice President of Southeast University, was invited by Professor Aouad to visit Salford on his next European visit.

The University’s visit to China was part of the long running Salford/China collaboration in the School of Built Environment (SOBE). A relationship formed in 2004, it has been supported by an EPSRC Interact Grant, UK China Fellowship for Excellence and China Scholarship Council. There have been a number of staff exchanges in SOBE with several Chinese universities since 2004. The aim of this last visit was to further promote Salford research and establish formal relationship’s with these universities.

Since the visit, a number of projects have been planned, including EPSRC visiting researcher, UK-China Fellowship for Excellence and UK China summer school.

For more information about the visit, please contact Song at: s.wu@salford.ac.uk
University co-hosts design conference with premier Chinese University

The School of Art and Design has successfully co-hosted a design management conference with China’s top university, Tsinghua University.

The Design2Business 2 (D2B2) conference was held at Tsinghua University between 23 and 26 April, and was attended by over 200 delegates from 32 universities in 15 countries. The central theme was “Innovation, Design, Management”. Over four days, delegates worked to improve understanding of the cross-cultural implications of major contemporary design management issues, including brand management, corporate sustainable responsibility, eco-sustainability and its social impact and innovation management.

Keynote speakers included James Woudhuysen, Kathryn Best, Bill Hollins, Yao Yingjia, Kobayashi Takayuki, Gordon Bruce and Thomas Lockwood. Salford delegates included Professor Alex Williams, Professor Ghassan Aouad and Dr Chris Andrew, plus a cohort of six PhD students from Salford’s Art and Design Research Centre. The conference marked the formal launch of the Salford-sponsored D2B network of universities and companies, which is intended to facilitate future cross-cultural design management research collaboration. Salford also announced plans to develop a virtual doctoral school for design management, which would be the first of its kind in the UK.

Design students from Tsinghua University and local universities were among the audience for a public session. Considerable growth is expected in the numbers of students joining UK design courses during the next five years. Salford was chosen as co-host for this conference as a result of its previous collaboration with Tsinghua, and its longstanding links with universities and design schools across Asia and Europe as part of the Asia Link initiative. The University of Salford officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Tsinghua University in 2004.

Prof Ghassan Aouad, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation) said: “It was pleasing to see our colleagues from the School of Art and Design working with top institutions in China including Tsinghua and Shanghai Jiao Tong University in an area of immense importance, and I was privileged to be there at the opening ceremony of the conference on behalf of the University.”

Further information about the Design2Business conference including photos and video, can be found at: www.design2business.org.uk

Salford ‘finds’ more students

Changes to HESA classifications result in increased numbers of international students. There are many more international students at the UK’s universities than previously thought, a study by the British Council suggests.

The figures suggest there were 513,570 such students in the academic year 2007/08, not 389,330 as previously thought. Many students had been classified by the UK address from which they had applied, not the country on their passport.

The increase means the UK rivals the USA as the top destination for overseas students, and follows the decision to include nationality for the first time in 2007-08 as a compulsory field in data submitted by universities to the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). Previously the agency has counted international students on the basis of “domicile” - the country where they lived when making their application.

When applied to Salford, the change has resulted in an increase of 39% to the number of international students registered for the academic year 2008/09. Paul Makinen, market intelligence analyst for the International Relations department said “This increase is good news for the University as the average increase across the UK sector was 32%”.

In 2007 the University invested significantly in its international strategy designed to attract more international students. In terms of the new data we have benefited from having a high proportion of students from nationalities with a significant community of expatriates in the UK - Pakistan and Poland for example, and nationalities where foundation year programmes are popular – Greece and China. Countries which are currently politically unstable, for example Zimbabwe, also contribute to the increase.
An enterprising future

Enterprise Futures has recently launched across the university and covers a variety of different enterprising events available to both students and graduates.

At the beginning of June, the Creative Enterprise Futures Boot Camp took place at a number of locations and involved 30 first and second year students from the University of Agders in Kristiansand, Norway, RISEBA in Riga, Latvia and from the University of Salford. The Boot Camp was a 10 day intensive programme for enterprising students who would like to start their own company in the future or to enhance their employability skills. The main focus was creative industries and their impact on urban regeneration. In teams, the students were asked to create and develop a business idea, write a business plan and pitch their idea to a panel of judges.

Creative Enterprise Futures was a huge success and the students enjoyed and benefited from the experience. Not only did they learn how to write a business plan and how to deliver a perfect pitch but teamwork, ideas generation, marketing, finance and proof of concept were key skills that were covered. They also worked across cultures and experiences and overcame boundaries to produce some exemplary work.

With continuous funding from the Erasmus Lifelong Learning Programme, the boot camp will benefit another 30 students next year and will be hosted in Riga, Latvia.

If you would like to know more about Enterprise Futures contact Louise Kenworthy at: l.kenowrthy@salford.ac.uk

Prime Minister’s project

The University is working hard on the Prime Minister’s PMI2 project (Prime Minister’s Initiative for International Education), and on 29th June held a China Symposium, one of the main activities of the project.

The event was chaired by Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Professor Ghassan Aouad, and organised by Dr Richard Li-Hua, Director of China Programmes, and Ms Xiang Li, Project Manager for the University’s PMI2 project. The event was hosted by Salford Business School and the School of Art and Design. The Symposium was held with a number of objectives in mind: to raise awareness of current and intended activity across the University in relation to China; explore the potential for cross University collaboration to help achieve the aims of each School and Faculty; consider how enhanced collaborative working can contribute to the University’s internationalisation strategy in relation to China; consider how best to maximise University-wide participation in PMI2. The event involved a context-setting presentation by Sam Burney and Michael Lurie of International Relations, followed by Faculty-based presentations by Dr Song Wu and Dr Ed Doran (Business, Law and the Built Environment), Professors Sue Kilcoyne and Phil Craig (Science, Engineering and Environment), Professor Brian Longhurst, Dr Chris Andrew and Professor Alex Williams (Arts, Media and Social Sciences), Professor Cynthia Pine OBE (Health and Social Care) and Ms Xiang Li and Dr Richard Li-Hua (PMI2 project). Following the presentations a summary was provided by Professor Tony Dickson, Visiting Professor.

The event was well attend (58) including Ms Suzanne Gardiner PMI2 Project Delivery Manager from the British Council, Dr Gerry Yeung from Yang Sing Group of Restaurants and Manchester Inward Investment Agency, and Dr Lee KaiHung from Leepark Holdings Limited, Lee Kai Hung Foundation and North West Chinese Council (UK). The Symposium highlighted the current scale and potential of the University’s links with Chinese universities and businesses and provided an excellent foundation for future internal and external collaborative activity and for achieving the objectives of PMI2.

If you would like to know more about PMI2 contact Xiang Li at: X.Li1@salford.ac.uk

The presentations from the Symposium are available at: http://tinyurl.com/npzwxs

If you would like more information on any of the articles in the international section please use the contact details below:

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www.salford.ac.uk/international/index.php
FORTHCOMING EVENTS

15th–16th September, 2009 – Professor Sue Clegg, Leeds Metropolitan University, Professor Murray Saunders, Lancaster University, Professor Martin Hall, University of Salford – The Fifth Education in a Changing Environment Conference, Mary Seacole Building, University of Salford.

For more information contact: E.N.O Doherty@salford.ac.uk

8th–9th September, 2009 – Seeing, Reading, Interpreting Conference, University of Salford.

For more information contact: g.white@salford.ac.uk

10th–12th September, 2009 – Gothic Sensations: a conference exploring the complex fields of emotion in gothic and Sensation fiction from 1765 to 1900.

For more information contact: gothic-sensations@salford.ac.uk


For more information contact: w.moran@salford.ac.uk

21st October, 2009 – Professor Hugh McKenna, University of Ulster – Caring Ability: Nature or Nurture?

For more information contact: w.moran@salford.ac.uk

11th November, 2009 – Professor Mike Kelly, Director, Centre for Public Health Excellence National Institute for Health & Clinical Excellence, London ‘Evidence Based Public Health’.

For more information contact: s.a.woods@salford.ac.uk

26th–27th November, 2009 – Professor Kirin Gabbard, State University of New York, Mediating Jazz Conference, An International Conference hosted by The Popular Music Research Centre, Adelphi Research Institute for Creative Arts & Sciences, University of Salford.

For more information contact: t.whyton@salford.ac.uk

2nd December, 2009 – Professor David Thompson, Professor of Cardiovascular Nursing, University of Leicester – The Challenges for Cardiovascular Nursing Research.

For more information contact: w.moran@salford.ac.uk

4th December, 2009 – Peter Kitson, University of Dundee, and Grevel Lindop, author of ‘Thomas de Quincey, Manchester and Medicine, 1785-1959’. A one day conference to be held at the University of Salford, sponsored by BARS, (British Association for Romantic Studies).

For more information contact: s.ruston@salford.ac.uk

4th–5th December, 2009 – ‘Polish Cinema in an International Context’, a two-day international conference organised by The Cornerhouse Manchester, Adam Mickiewicz Institute Warsaw, University of Salford and University of Central Lancashire.

For more information contact m.goddard@salford.ac.uk or EHMazierska@uclan.ac.uk
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