

Aber^rNEWS

ISSUE 18 - July 2014

Aberystwyth...one of the best places in the world to be a student



Credit: RNLI

Vice-Chancellor's Charity of the Year

Following a week of voting and hundreds of votes cast, we can now announce that the Aberystwyth Lifeboat and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) is the Vice Chancellor's Charity of the Year for 2014/15.

Now in its third year, the Vice-Chancellor's Charity of the Year appeal seeks to raise as much funding as possible for a worthy cause.

As a number of occasions arise during the year, where fundraising for a local charity is possible, the Vice-Chancellor's Charity of the Year provides a focus for community fundraising and charitable donations. This year's fundraising begins with an RNLI stall at the Arts Centre during Graduation Week.

The RNLI saves lives at sea. Their volunteers provide a 24-hour search and rescue service in the UK and Ireland from 236 lifeboat stations, including Aberystwyth. Additionally the RNLI has more than 1,000 lifeguards on over 180 beaches around the UK and operates a specialist flood rescue team, which can respond anywhere across the UK and Ireland when inland flooding puts lives at risk.

Nominations for the Vice-Chancellor's Charity were sought from students and staff. The list of nominations – all worthy in themselves - was whittled down to a shortlist of nine charities by the sabbatical team of the Students' Union and the University Executive. The shortlist was then voted on by staff and students.

The University looks forward to working with the Aberystwyth Lifeboat and the RNLI team during the forthcoming year and invite you to learn more about their work by visiting www.aberystwythlifeboat.org.uk.

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The next edition of Aber^{NEWS} will be available in **September 2014**. Copy deadline for this edition is **Monday 4th August**.

Revised Charter and Statutes agreed by Privy Council

As well as marking the start of the new academic year, 1 August 2014 will see the University's revised Charter and Statutes come into force, now that they have been approved by the Privy Council.

This will be the culmination of many months of hard work to bring our governing documents in line with current legislation and best practice in the sector. The University itself has developed considerably since the Charter and Statutes were last approved by the Privy Council in July 2007. We have therefore taken the opportunity to tidy up our Ordinances as well, and ensure that everything reflects current practice – replacing the current Ordinance on the faculties with one on the academic institutes being a prime example.

Some of the forthcoming revisions are naturally more significant than others.

One of the most noticeable changes will be to replace the roles of President and Vice-Presidents with those of Chancellor and Pro Chancellors respectively, in line with other institutions in the sector.

In essence, only the titles will be changing and the duties associated with the roles will be broadly similar. However, it does

mean that we will soon have a Chancellor, Pro Chancellors, a Vice-Chancellor, and Pro Vice-Chancellors – quite a tongue-twister!

We are also taking the opportunity to introduce procedures by which Council can appoint a Chair as a distinct role to that of Chancellor.

There will also be considerable improvements to the human resources policies which apply to staff members. Disciplinary, grievance, redundancy and dismissal procedures for academic and academic-related staff members are currently set out in Statute 9 – many aspects of which are no longer compliant with current employment legislation and good practice.

With the support of our recognised Trade Unions, the University has agreed a series of new human resources policies which will apply to all members of staff, regardless of whether they fall into the academic or non-academic category.



Geraint Pugh

These new human resources policies are a significant step forward, and from 1 August 2014 they will be incorporated as Ordinances which will require a Council resolution to change.

This of course is only a quick summary of the main changes. Further details can be accessed at the University's refreshed Governance web pages (www.aber.ac.uk/en/governance), which also offer information on our various committees.

Geraint Pugh
University Secretary

Fellows of the Learned Society of Wales



Seven Aberystwyth Professors have been elected Fellows of the Learned Society of Wales.

Election to Fellowship of the Learned Society of Wales is via nomination by existing Fellows.

The new Fellows are:

Professor Mark H Lee (Professor of Computer Science)

Professor Gennady Mishuris (Professor of Mathematical Modelling)

Professor Christopher Pollock (Emeritus Professor of Crop and Pasture Physiology)

Professor Howard Thomas (Emeritus Professor of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences)

Professor Lancelot Thomas (Emeritus Professor of Physics)

Professor David Trotter (Professor of French)

Professor Gruffydd Aled Williams (Emeritus Professor of Welsh)

University President Sir Emyr Jones Parry began his term as President of the Learned Society of Wales on 14 May 2014.

Bequest funds IBERS research scholarships

In September 2014, two IBERS students will begin their PhD studies in their chosen fields thanks to Owen Thomas Williams Price, the eldest son of a Breconshire farmer who made a significant contribution to the agricultural industry during his lifetime.

Born in 1924, Owen Price studied Agricultural Economics here at Aberystwyth and graduated in 1946.

A Ministry of Agriculture research scholarship enabled him to continue with his studies at Oxford and the University of Wisconsin. This was followed by a period lecturing in land economics at the Agricultural Economics Institute. Later he would work for companies such as Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank) in Washington.

Following his death in May 2012 he bequeathed a sum of money to the University which is funding PhD research studentships at IBERS.

The first beneficiaries will be Ilse Skujina and Rhys Jones.

Ilse will study avian genomes and their link to longevity, work which has come about as a result of her MPhil project that has been looking at the genetics of the Red Kite in Wales.

Rhys will study the interactions between liver fluke, a major issue in ruminant health, and rumen fluke which is an emerging ruminant parasite.

Owen Price obituary www.aber.ac.uk/en/development/alumni/obituaries/i-q/owen-price/

VICE CHANCELLOR'S COLUMN

The summer may be officially in full swing, but life here at Aber is as busy as ever.



We held our second Access All Areas community open day last month. The event was a huge success - the sun shone, the sea sparkled, the chocolate fountain flowed, and daleks roamed the Promenade. We estimate that we welcomed 2,000 visitors across our six venues, and provided them with a real insight into the excellent and exciting work that goes on here.

Even more recently, we have had our July Open Day, specially aimed at prospective students who are planning early for University entry in 2015. We know the single biggest factor in convincing students that Aber is right for them is getting them to come and visit, so it is brilliant that so many potential applicants and their families came along for this Open Day, with colleagues and Student Ambassadors making sure we kept our reputation for a warm and friendly welcome to all.

As I write this, the final preparations are being put in place for Graduation, one of the real highlights of the University calendar, which the Aber family of staff and graduates can enjoy together. As this year's cohort of 3,026 graduands look forward to celebrating their achievements with friends, families and supporters, it will also be our pleasure and privilege to honour eleven new Fellows.

IBERS will be exhibiting at the Royal Welsh Show as usual this year, showcasing its teaching provision and research and technical expertise. The University has two display areas on the Showground - in the Education Pavilion, adjacent to S4C above the main ring, and a marquee in the Countryside Care area. This year our Royal Welsh presence follows up on our very first stall at the Aberystwyth Show, an innovation which was well-received locally, and which we will be repeating in 2015.

Hot on the heels of the Royal Welsh Show is the National Eisteddfod in Llanelli from 1-9 August. Once again we will have a stand bustling with events and activities throughout the week, and whether they are seeking shelter from the rain, or shade from the sun, the Eisteddfod's 160,000 visitors will be assured of a warm welcome in our remarkably well-appointed tent, which I remain convinced offers the best catering on the Maes!

Thursday 14 August - the dreaded A level results day - is equally important for us at the University, as we confirm offers, and open our Clearing hotlines. While some prospective students plan early, estimates suggest that up to 20% of students who will come to university in 2014 may not apply until Clearing, which is therefore a more significant opportunity for students and universities than ever. At which point it will be nearly September and time for my next column for **AberNEWS!**

Professor April McMahon, Vice-Chancellor

Elections to Council

Two elections were recently held to elect staff members to Council for three years from 1 August 2014.

There are three Senate members on Council, and in the ballot of those members Prof Neil Glasser was re-elected. He will be joined on Council by Dr Joe Ironside and Prof David Trotter, who were also elected by Senate members.

In the second election, Nigel Thomas (Information Services) was elected by a clear majority as the non-academic staff member on Council.

We congratulate all four on their appointments, but also thank Prof Kate Bullen, Rachel Hubbard, and Prof Tim Woods who will be stepping down from Council over the summer.



Nigel Thomas, who was elected as the non-academic staff member on Council



Celebrating excellence in teaching: (L to R) Professor John Grattan, Pro Vice-Chancellor; Dr Basil Wolf, IBERS; Dr Steve Atherton, School of Education and Lifelong Learning; Mary Jacob, E-learning Team; Dr Victoria Wright, Dept. of Psychology; Dr Liz Hart, IBERS; Professor April McMahon, Vice-Chancellor.

Recognising long serving staff

180 staff members were honoured and thanked for their hard work and dedicated service at the University's Long Service Awards which were held at the beginning of April.

The longest-serving member of staff to have been recognised at the Awards was Mike Gelly Jones, who has worked for the University for nearly 53 years.

Mike joined the Geography Department as a Cartographer in October 1961. After 41 years, feeling he would like to try something different, he took early retirement in 2002. After a few months he returned to work as the University's chauffeur and as a porter in the Hugh Owen building, and just over 11 years later, he is still going strong.

When he is not chauffeuring for the University, Mike enjoys walking his dogs, gardening, travelling, and touring on his BMW GS1150 motorbike. He has just returned from a cruise down the Panama Canal and during the past three years he has ridden the bike to Morocco, the Alps and Barcelona.

Mike's wife, Susan Jones, is also a long-standing member of staff at the Arts Centre along with their son, Simon Jones, who works as a computer technician in Information Services.

The Long Service Awards, now in their second year, are presented to academic and professional services staff who have worked at the University for 20 years or more.

As well as Mike, four individuals were awarded 40 years' service, 25 people received the 30 years award, 22 achieved 25 years' service and the remaining 128 have worked at the University for 20 years or more.



Longest serving: Mike Gelly Jones has worked for Aberystwyth University for nearly 53 years.

Exemplary Course Awards

Dr Madeline Carr from the Department of International Politics and Dr Victoria Wright from the Department of Psychology are the joint winners of the University's Exemplary Course Award 2014.

Established by the University's E-learning Team, which supports technology-enhanced learning and teaching, the annual Exemplary Course Awards honour modules which demonstrate exemplary practice in four areas: course design; interaction and collaboration; assessment and learner support.

Dr Madeline Carr won the award for the high standard of her course design and implementation of the module 'International Politics and the Cyber Dimension'.

Joint winner Dr Victoria Wright has worked with colleagues to develop the online presentation of the 'Introduction to Psychology' degree module.

All applications received by the Exemplary Course Award review panel were recognised as demonstrating good practice.

The work of Dr Tom Holt (Department of Geography and Earth Sciences) and Dr Hannah Dee (Department of Computer Science) was highly commended.

Commendations were also awarded to Dr Steve Atherton (School of Education and Lifelong Learning), Dr Liz Hart (Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences), Mr Matthew Richards (Department of European Languages) and Dr Basil Wolf (Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences) for their work.

The E-learning Team is inviting submissions for the second annual Aberystwyth University (AU) Exemplary Course Award. The deadline is 21 November 2014. Visit: <http://nexus.aber.ac.uk/xwiki/bin/view/Main/AU+Exemplary+Course+Award> for more information.

Bedwen Lyfrau annual book festival

Exploring the environment was the theme of CAA (Cyhoeddwr Adnoddau Addysg/Educational Resource Publisher) activities at the Bedwen Lyfrau annual book festival on 3 May.

Held in the picturesque village of Nant Gwrtheyrn on the Llŷn peninsula, over 100 people attended the festival, enjoying the wealth and variety of books available in the Welsh language.

Inspired by the adventures of our popular Welsh language children's series *Nansi a Nel*, visitors young and old were given the opportunity to get up close and personal with nature.

With the aid of microscopes and a flexiscope borrowed from the IBERS educational outreach team visitors could view magnified images of flowers, grains, moss and insects, and take part in a 'guess the grain' quiz.

Younger visitors got into character with mole masks and added a gallery of colour with our *Nansi a Nel* colouring sheets.

A fun-filled day of activity, CAA is looking forward to next year's event to be held in the South Wales valleys.

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Student-Led Teaching Awards

The winners of the Student-Led Teaching Awards, as nominated by students were announced on 2 May 2014.

Hosted by the Students' Union, with the support of the University, eight awards were given at a glitzy ceremony in Medrus:

- **Dr Brieg Powell** - Award for Excellence in Welsh-Medium Education
- **Dr Christian Enemark** - New Staff Member of the Year
- **Dr Tom Holt** - Outstanding Teaching Award
- **Dr Kevin Grove** - Personal Tutor of the Year
- **Ms Rose Sillars** - Postgraduate Teacher Award
- **Mr Ben Holihead** - Student Representative of the Year
- **Ms Ffion Hoare** - Support Staff of the Year
- **Department of Geography and Earth Sciences** - Department of the Year.

60+ Functional Fitness Workshop

A joint collaboration between Age Cymru Ceredigion and the Department of Sport and Exercise Science held the inaugural Functional Fitness Testing Workshop in April.

Dr Marco Arkesteijn (Department of Sport and Exercise Science) and David Langford (British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences) organised the event, which aimed to raise awareness of the benefits of physical exercise and activity amongst the over 60s, and involved students who benefited from intergenerational opportunities working with older people.

Eighty people from around Ceredigion ranging in age from sixty to ninety five attended the workshop to participate in functional exercise assessments that replicate daily tasks. The day also involved scientific measurements of strength and balance including body composition measurements in state of the art facilities.

Presentations provided information on UK government guidelines for physical activity, the ageing muscle, osteoporosis, research on muscle and bone health and Age Cymru Ceredigion.



David Langford Certified Practitioner with The British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences assessing Beryl Stephens



Inspiring the next generation of scientists and enhancing student employability

More than 1,300 school pupils from 25 schools in Ceredigion, Powys and Gwynedd enjoyed a hands-on science exhibition at the Sports Cage in March, as part of the annual National Science and Engineering Week activities, organised the University's Centre for Widening Participation and Social Inclusion.

The theme this year was 'Explore the Future' and, as well as the school groups, the exhibition was open to the public for an evening session, attended by more than 150 people.

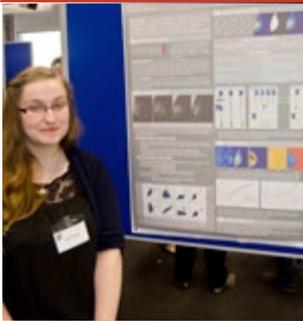
Roger Morel, Science Project Officer, said: "The Science Fair is about showing the excellent scientific work that is being done at the University to widen the knowledge of science among school children and show them how important it is in all our lives."

Those attending had the opportunity to take part in a wealth of demonstrations and activities, along with hands-on encounters with wild animals, understanding volcanoes and earthquakes, meeting Doris the Dalek and K9, and a host of other exciting student-led stands.

Debra Croft, Manager of the Centre for Widening Participation and Social Inclusion, said: "We could not do this without the enthusiasm, professionalism and knowledge of the Institutes and Departments – both staff and students. The transferrable skills learnt and deployed by our students, with this demanding audience of young people, were breath-taking and innovative."

I want to extend sincere thanks to the 130+ staff and students who took part from Maths and Physics, Computer Science, Sport and Exercise Science, Psychology, Geography and Earth Sciences, and Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences, who gave up their time and energy to make this a success, as well as support staff from Estates and the Sports Centre. Also, Ceredigion County Council, the RSPB, West Wales Geological Society, The Royal Society of Chemistry and CAA (Cyhoeddwr Adnoddau Addysg / Educational Resource Publisher)."

Attendees at the exhibition were asked to vote for their favourite stand, and the accolades went to: 1st place - Wild Encounters, 2nd place - Royal Society of Chemistry "Bubbles", and 3rd place – IBERS "The Seashore".



Jolanta Mirecka, who was awarded a People's Choice Award in the poster competition. Credit: Diana Silvia Teodorescu

BCSWomen Lovelace Colloquium

Five Aberystwyth Computer Science students were finalists in the poster competition at this year's BCSWomen Lovelace Colloquium.

An annual one-day conference for women students in Computing and related subjects, this year's event took place on 16 April at the University of Reading.

The five finalists, who were awarded scholarships for travel and accommodation to attend the colloquium, brought home more awards than any other UK University and prize money totalling £800.

Katie Hobson won the Google Excellence award for the Best First Year, Angharad Cunningham won second place in the Airbus UK-sponsored Best Second Year contest, and Silvia Teodorescu and Jolanta Mirecka were both awarded People's Choice Awards.

The BCSWomen Lovelace Colloquium was started in 2008 by Dr Hannah Dee, now a lecturer in the Department of Computer Science. Aberystwyth University supports the event in a number of ways including financially, help with the student submission system, sponsorship links and organisational support.

Aberystwyth-Bangor Strategic Alliance Shared Services Conference

A Shared Services Conference was held at Bangor University on 16 April, bringing together senior managers from across the Aberystwyth and Bangor Universities' service teams.

The purpose of the conference was to provide an opportunity to build relationships and learn more about the shared services agenda between the two universities, and across Wales and the UK, with the intention to stimulate further consideration of shared services as an option.

Delegates joined the conference from Human Resources, Finance Office, Planning Office, Careers and Employability, Estates, Records and Information Management, Information Services, Registry and Academic Registry functions.

Presentations highlighted joint working as a key tool in enhancing the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of service provision, considered the shared services agenda nationally and reviewed the varied approaches for shared services between the institutions to date, including the development of common processes, sharing good practice and expertise, supporting each other in implementing new systems and procurement and also opportunities for further collaborative work.

Examples of good practice in shared service provision were presented by representatives of both universities in the fields of human resources, technology enhanced learning, and policy development.

Feedback from the conference was positive, with attendees particularly valuing the opportunity to build closer knowledge of colleagues in the other University, and it already looks likely that new areas of shared service provision will develop directly as a result of the event.

Cyclists flock to Aberystwyth for 2014 festival

The 2014 AberCycleFest, which took place from 23-25 May, attracted hundreds of cyclists, including Olympic Gold medallists and World Champions from all over the UK.

The event, organised by Aberystwyth University and local volunteers, ensured the festival's continued reputation as a safe and friendly celebration of cycling.

Over a thousand riders took part over the three days, with 500 racing Friday's 'Round the Houses' criterium, 100 'Conquering the Cliff' at Constitution Hill on Saturday, and 450 riding Sunday's Welsh Wild West sportive rides which were exclusively within the county boundaries of Ceredigion.

With another 100 attending Thursday evening's sell out Gala night at the National Library of Wales, the festival continues to grow with the aim of creating a week-long celebration of cycling in future years.

Aberystwyth University team took the honours in the 'Baravin' Town vs Gown race with Darren Hathaway from the University Sports Centre winning the event, supported by Wyn Morris and Matt Birkett.



© Larry Hickmott / Tour Series

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Green Impact Awards

Initiatives to encourage colleagues to use staple-less staplers, take regular exercise in the form of walks around campus and join an organic veg box scheme were amongst the ideas acknowledged at this year's Aberystwyth University Green Impact Awards which were held on Monday 19 May.

The Planning and Governance Office's 'Big Plan' team were presented with a Gold Award for their work. Team members Clover Winton-Polak, Geraint Pugh, Sarah Taylor, Helen Wyn Davies and Nerys Roberts developed a plan that included the staple-less stapler, regular walks around campus, a bug house to encourage ladybirds, and adopting the University's Board Room to make sure that heating and lighting were switched off when it was not being used.

A Silver Award was presented to the team from Information Services for their organic vegetable box scheme, developed by Lauren Harvey, Geoff Constable, Christianne Kloos and Sue Ferguson.

In all, thirteen teams involving over 70 members of staff from across the University entered this year's competition which is based on the National Union of Students' Green Impact Awards Scheme.

Outstanding contributions were also acknowledged as four members of staff, Sarah Taylor (Planning and Governance Office), Lewis Richards (Institute of Education, Graduate & Professional Development, Llandinam), Clover Winton-Polack (Planning and Governance Office), and Kristiane Kloos (Information Services) received Environmental Hero Awards.

Introduced in September 2013 by the University's Health, Safety and the Environment Department, the scheme is designed to raise awareness of green initiatives and promote a greener working environment.

All of this year's entrants worked through an extensive list of criteria to be awarded either a bronze, silver or gold accreditation, with all thirteen achieving the bronze standard.

The Awards were presented by Phil Madison, Director of the Health, Safety & Environment Department. "First of all, many congratulations to everyone who has been involved with the Green Impact Awards this year. It has been great to see the wide



Members of Big Plan (L to R) Clover Winton-Polak, Geraint Pugh, Sarah Taylor, Helen Wyn Davies and Nerys Roberts, receive their Gold Standard.

variety of projects that have come to the fore, which range from the promotion of public transport to the use of recycled paper in photocopiers and printers.

"It is great to be able to report that all the teams have successfully achieved the bronze accreditation, and it is particularly pleasing that some teams even went above and beyond the requirements of the scheme, earning themselves supplementary 'environmental hero' awards."

If you are interested in joining the IS organic veg box scheme, please contact Geoff Constable geoff.constable@aber.ac.uk.

The full list of teams that took part in the Green Impact Awards were:

Gold: Big Plan (Planning and Governance Office)

Silver: Information Services

Bronze: Aber Sport; Geography; Institute of Education, Graduate & Professional Development, Cledwyn; Institute of Education, Graduate & Professional Development, Llandinam; Institute of Literature, Languages & Creative Arts, Hugh Owen; Institute of Literature, Languages & Creative Arts, School of Art; International Politics; Milford; Psychology; Stapledon; Theatre Film and Television Studies.

For more information about the scheme, please visit www.green-impact.org.uk.



Members of the IS team (R to L), Sarah Ferguson, Christianne Kloos, Geoff Constable and Lauren Harvey, with IS Director Tim Davies.

SILVER



Green Impact Award Winners

HR for the modern business

Fiona Roberts, HR Director for Volkswagen Group UK Ltd, gave a well received and thought-provoking keynote presentation at the Aberystwyth University Business Network event, held on the evening of 19 May.

With a revised format for summer 2014, a Business Fair provided the backdrop for networking between colleagues from across the University and outside organisations, with stands including Finance Wales; the Welsh Government's Business Innovation Programme and the Federation of Small Business.

As part of her visit to the University, Fiona met with groups of students to provide an insight into what it is like to work for Volkswagen Group and the qualities the business is looking for in graduates.

Further information on the Aberystwyth University Business Network can be found at: www.aber.ac.uk/network



Fiona Roberts, HR Director, VW Group UK Ltd and Professor April McMahon, Vice-Chancellor

Aber student scoops KESS award

Congratulations to postgraduate student Ally Evans from IBERS who received the award for the best research presentation at the annual KESS (Knowledge Economy Skills Scholarship) awards evening held in Aberystwyth on 14 May.

Competing against other KESS scholars from across Wales, students took part in a presentation challenge to outline their industry-linked research project within 3 minutes. Guests at the event included students, academics and company representatives involved in collaborative research projects through the KESS programme.

A summary of Ally's research focusing on 'Coastal Defence Structures as Surrogate Habitats for Natural Rocky Shores' can be found on the KESS website at: bit.ly/1qtUx0U.

Speaking after the event Ally said; "It was really great to have the opportunity to promote our research to a roomful of people from industry and academia. I'm thrilled that our work stood out amongst such great research going on around Wales. The award will hopefully raise the profile of our work to those involved in marine conservation management and encourage them to adopt our findings for future coastal developments".



Ally Evans receiving her award from Gary Reed, Director of Research, Business and Innovation.

The Knowledge Economy Skills Scholarships project enables students, academics and companies to work collaboratively on a research project that is tailored to the company's needs. KESS is a pan-Wales higher level skills initiative led by Bangor University on behalf of the HE sector in Wales. It is part funded by the Welsh Government's European Social Fund (ESF) convergence programme for West Wales and the Valleys.

Open access update: 'REF 2020' policy

HEFCE have released details of their open access (OA) policy in relation to outputs eligible for assessment in REF2020 (bit.ly/1pHNJgV).

In summary, the policy states: 'Post-prints' (accepted, final peer reviewed drafts) of all journal article and conference proceedings, submitted for assessment

to REF2020 and accepted for publication after 1 April 2016, must be deposited in an institutional or subject repository on acceptance for publication.

The policy does recognise that access embargoes may be applied to the outputs by publishers but does highlight that it is expected that such periods should not exceed 12 months within the STEM subjects and 24 months within Social Science and Humanities subjects and the Arts.

Full compliance with this policy is expected but a series of possible exceptions have been stated within the policy as eligible reasons why the output could not be made available via the open access route specified.

Research, Business & Innovation will be looking to offer information sessions to staff on all aspects of open access, including these new policy details in the near future.

Turning business ideas into reality

Having a great idea for a product or service is key, but converting this into a viable business venture presents many opportunities and challenges along the way, as this year's Business Start-up Week attendees discovered.

Business Start-up Week 2014 was designed around the key issues which face a start-up and offered inspiration and first-hand experience from successful entrepreneurs, practical guidance, signposting and networking opportunities.

Guest presenters shared the highs and lows of their business start-up journey together with the rewards of 'being your own boss'.

The week's programme included eleven workshops focused on essential business skills training including: how to manage your own business; market research, marketing and digital marketing; pricing and costing; financial planning and management, and intellectual property.

Held on campus from 2-6 June, over thirty five attendees took part in this annual event organised by the Department of Research, Business & Innovation working in partnership with Antur Teifi and Menter a Busnes.

For details of upcoming enterprise events open to students, staff and graduates, please visit www.aber.ac.uk/crisalis, or find us on www.facebook.com/AberUni.Enterprise.



Business Start-up Week 2014

Business Development Forum

The Business Development Forum is a new regular meeting organised by the Department of Research, Business & Innovation for industry facing support staff at the University. The sessions provide the opportunity to network with colleagues from across the University in a friendly environment and discuss themes directly relevant to engaging with companies and other third parties. For more information, contact Dr Rhian Hayward rih@aber.ac.uk

'Florence Taylor' scoops £20,000 prize

InvEnterPrize 2014, the University's version of Dragon's Den worth £20,000 to the winner, has been won by Lucy-Jane Newman.

Lucy, a final year student at the School of Management and Business, was one of five finalists to pitch their business proposals to panel of experts.

Her winning pitch 'Florence Taylor', an initiative to manufacture and sell bespoke premium beauty tools hand made in Britain, was highly praised by the panel.

Speaking after the announcement, Lucy said; "I've been working relentlessly at this business idea for the last two years. With the graduate job market more competitive than ever, winning the InvEnterPrize competition is priceless. It will enable me to create my own job by launching Florence Taylor full-time upon my graduation in July."

Chair of the Judges, Professor Donald Davies, Aber alumnus and a Founding Director of ML Laboratories plc said; "Our warmest congratulations to Lucy-Jane Newman on winning InvEnterPrize 2014. The panel was impressed with the number and scope of the applications and had a very difficult task in selecting those to make a presentation. There were several innovative proposals and in the view of the panel many had the potential to become viable businesses."

InvEnterPrize is a novel student business idea competition, designed to give essential backing and financial support to an early stage business idea judged to have 'star potential' by a panel of successful alumni.

Further information about the competition, including details of all the finalists who pitched their ideas to the Dragons can be found at: www.aber.ac.uk/inventerprize

Working in partnership with the Development and Alumni Relations Office, InvEnterPrize is organised by the Department of Research, Business & Innovation with support from alumni donations through the Annual Fund 2013/4.



Lucy-Jane Newman with Chair of the Judges, Professor Donald Davies

FEATURE



Dr Kimberley Peters is a lecturer in human geography in the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences. For the past five years, her research has focused on the pirate radio phenomenon and its significance to British society.

Sounds of the seas:

Investigating territory and politics in offshore radio broadcasting

This year marks the 50th anniversary of offshore pirate radio, with Radio Caroline taking to the air waves (and sea waves), on the 28th March 1964.

Radio Caroline was the first ship-based broadcasting station to transmit programmes to a British audience. Yet why was the station on a ship, at sea? And why are we still celebrating offshore pirate radio today?

Whilst many of us will turn on our radios or listen online to a wide selection of music, talk, news and sports programmes, there was a time when listening choice was strictly limited.

In 1964 when Radio Caroline first broadcast, Britain had a restrictive policy on broadcasting.

When radio first emerged as a mass communications medium at the turn of the twentieth century, governments were concerned by the power this new technology might harness. Accordingly, by Royal Charter it was decided that just one corporation, working for the public interest, would be permitted to broadcast. That corporation was the BBC.

Until 1964, the BBC had a monopoly on British broadcasting with just three radio channels, the 'Light', the 'Third' and the 'Home'.

However, with a number of social and economic changes, the population was demanding a change. Moreover, a raft of new music was emerging that took the country by storm: the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, The Kinks and Dusty Springfield. Yet the BBC's restrictive policies meant that they were unable to play much of this music, except for a Pick of the Pops slot on the 'Light' show.

Radio pirates such as Radio Caroline sought to fill this broadcasting void.

With only the BBC having permission to broadcast in the country, Radio Caroline had to find a loophole in order to be able to fill the gap in broadcasting and play 'non-stop' pop for a young, hip audience.

By locating the station on a ship, at sea, outside the borders of British territory, they would be outside of the restrictions on broadcasting. Yet, crucially, they could still reach listeners onshore through the power of medium-wave broadcasting. Accordingly, stations could then broadcast without breaching any regulations.

In spite of their legality, stations such as Radio Caroline were soon labelled as 'pirates'; because of both their position at sea and their resistance against the climate of broadcasting in Britain.

STUDENT NEWS

Students' Union: Students' Power



What a pleasure it is to be writing this article as the new President of the Students' Union.

Since coming here in 2011, I have fully immersed myself in the community and the student movement here in Aberystwyth. I am looking forward to working with great Officers over the next year to deliver on pledges and commitments.

From improving accessibility and democracy, we can offer so much more to our students. The AberSU net will be flung further and we will strive to represent all voices in the student body. The year ahead will be challenging and rewarding for the Union, and we really want our students to be at the heart of it.

We have a duty as an SU to inform and allow for fair debate around elections – which is why we will be working closely with students in the run up to the 2015 General Election.

Elsewhere, we look forward to increasing our relationship with the University and wider community here at Aberystwyth and further afield. There will be exciting projects to look out for in September.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the new Student Officer team for 2014/15:

Harriet O'Shea is our Activities Officer. Harriet, originally from Somerset, studied Countryside Conservation. Harriet will be working to create opportunities for students to get involved in sports, societies and volunteering.

Grace Burton returns for a second year as Education Officer. Grace, originally from Hampshire, studied International Politics. Grace will be representing students on all things education and working with Institute Reps.

Will Atkinson has been elected as Welfare Officer. Will, originally from the Yorkshire Dales, studied Physical Geography. Will's work will focus on developing the welfare provision for students, covering areas such as mental health provision, student housing issues, and making support more accessible.

Miriam Williams is our Welsh Affairs and UMCA President. Miriam, originally from Trefor in Gwynedd, studied International Politics. Her remit includes representing Welsh students and organising events for the Welsh community.

Jacob Dafydd Ellis
AUSU President



Left to right: Will Atkinson, Miriam Williams, Jacob Ellis, Grace Burton, Harriet O'Shea

Radio Caroline had two stations – one named Caroline 'South' (broadcasting from the North Sea to South East England) and the other named Caroline 'North' (broadcasting from the Irish Sea to Northern England, Ireland, the Isle of Man and Wales).

The station was a huge success and many other 'pirates' soon followed in their footsteps. There were over 14 ship and fort-based radio stations at sea during the latter part of the sixties.

For the first time listeners had a real choice in what they heard. The stations revolutionised broadcasting, and also broadcasting style, with popular shows, DJs and competitions.

The stations were, however, quite short-lived.

Although they were simply transmitting music and talk shows to a captive audience, they did so unofficially, without licenses and outside of British control.

As such, the Labour government of the late sixties sought to impose legislation to shut down the stations. This came into force in August 1967 and most of the stations promptly shut down.

Interestingly Radio Caroline continued to broadcast in spite of this law. The law could only control elements of pirate radio that fell within British territory (such as advertising or supplying) – it could not stop the stations broadcasting at sea, because there was no provision in the Law of the Sea to prevent radio station transmissions from ships or forts.

Radio Caroline continued to broadcast until 1990, when an amendment to the Broadcasting Act was made, closing them down completely.

Given such a long and significant influence, the radio pirates of the sixties are often credited with shaping the style of radio we now know. As such, some 50 years later, we still celebrate the emergence of these stations today.

So the next time you listen to the radio – in your car, at work, or at home – it's worth thinking of the DJs at sea who made that possible.

CONFERENCE FOCUS

Google sponsors internet censorship symposium



Dr Uta Kohl

Representatives from Google, Microsoft, the European Commission, UNESCO and academics from both sides of the Atlantic will be amongst the delegates for an international symposium on censorship of the internet which takes place at Aberystwyth on 10-11 September 2014.

Entitled 'Internet Jurisdiction Symposium: National Law v Global Online Communications – Re-Negotiating Westphalia?', the symposium is

organised by the departments of Law & Criminology and International Politics.

Sponsored by Google Inc, it brings together academics from disciplines such as law, politics, media studies and human geography, representatives from industry, government and non-governmental organisations.

It will investigate the sharpening conflict between national law and state sovereignty on the one hand, and global online communications on the other hand.

According to conference organisers, the world is on the brink of a potentially drastic transformation of the internet into a much more territorially fragmented space, consisting of a number of separate, yet overlapping national and regional networks.

They argue that even European leaders are investigating the possibility of a European-only communication network, strongly reminiscent of China's approach to online governance. The Westphalian model of state sovereignty is fighting back - but at what cost and what are the alternatives?

Conference organiser, Dr Uta Kohl said; "China has long been known for its tough internet censorship regime. More recently the anti-Islamic movie trailer 'The Innocence of Muslims' was in the headlines when YouTube decided to 'voluntarily' block it in Egypt and Libya and later in other countries where the video clashed with local laws. Hot off the press is the news that the Turkey Constitutional Court held that the general ban of YouTube in Turkey was unconstitutional.

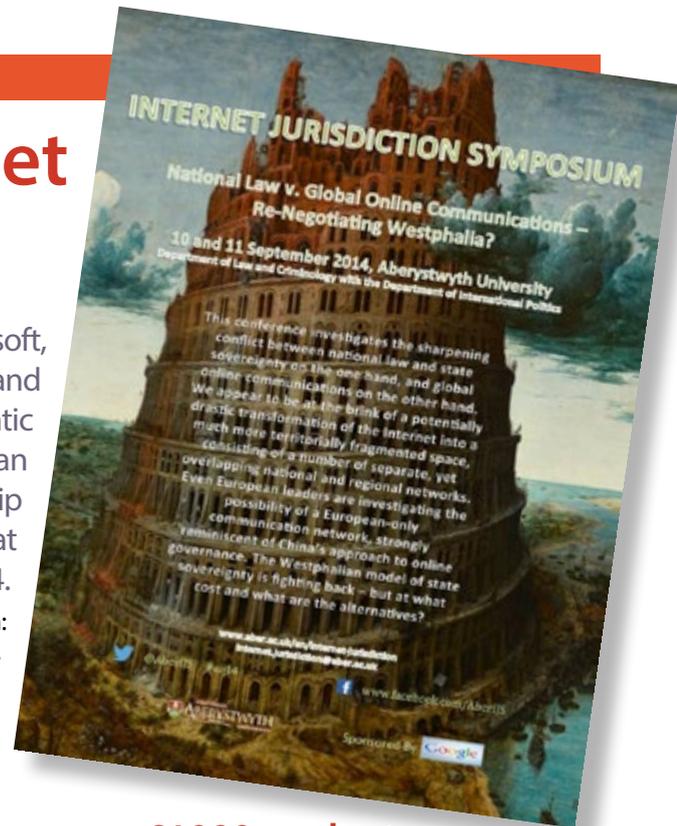
"Such censorship barely raises an eyebrow today, but what is perhaps less obvious to the ordinary internet users and news readers is that online censorship is also increasingly becoming the reality for us Europeans with a long standing history of democracy and freedom of expression.

"The discussion of this conference seeks to advance the established yet stale academic debate on internet jurisdiction by taking a multi-disciplinary approach, going beyond the conventional parameters of the legal analysis.

"Rather than focus on specific jurisdictional rules and frameworks (all of which are premised on the continued viability of effective national laws in the global arena, i.e. the very matter in contention), the starting point of the discussion of this conference is the proposition that effective national law and unhindered transnational communications are irreconcilable and that any 'compromise' is indeed a compromise that comes at a cost either to peculiar national laws/values or free transnational communications or in fact both: you cannot have your cake and eat it too.

"With the acceptance of this position, it becomes possible to ground the debate in higher legal and political values, such as freedom of expression, democratic governance and the preservation of cultural identity/diversity, and to interrogate the possibilities of catering for these values through re-negotiated forms of governance."

Full conference details are available online at www.aber.ac.uk/en/internet-jurisdiction/.



£1000 student essay competition

Symposium organisers have launched a student essay competition with a prize fund of £1000 and a full symposium package including travel, accommodation and participation for the winner.

Essays of between 2000 and 3000 words are invited which address the question: "Are we doomed to accept a much more territorially segregated internet in which States or regions erect cyber-borders in an effort to uphold their peculiar cultural, political or legal values as well as protect national economic interests? In other words, to what extent is the future of the internet emerging as one delineated by sub-global political and legal borders and what are the alternatives?"

Submissions are welcome from anyone who is reading for an undergraduate or postgraduate degree of any University and in any subject; or anyone who graduated in 2014, and must not have previously been published.

The closing date for the competition is Friday 1 August.

Competition details are available online at www.aber.ac.uk/en/internet-jurisdiction/competition/

Further information:

Dr Uta Kohl,
Department of Law and Criminology,
01970 622738 uuk@aber.ac.uk

SPOTLIGHT

Spotlight on...

Development and Alumni Relations

The University's Development and Alumni Relations team keep in touch with Aberystwyth alumni in all corners of the globe. To learn more about what their work involves and what is on the horizon for them, we spoke to the Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Louise Jagger.

What does the Development and Alumni Relations Office do?

The Development and Alumni Relations Office (DARO) ensures that the University manages communications and engagement effectively with our community of 50,000 alumni around the world.

Our alumni support us in many ways beyond fundraising and philanthropy including with recruitment (e.g. attending fairs, securing exchange programmes and facilitating introductions), employability (e.g. e-mentoring programme and work placements), and with their knowledge, influence and networks round the world on all aspects relating to the University and our activities and plans.

The department also has a fundraising role, liaising with alumni and other individuals, trusts and foundations and corporate partnerships to inspire and develop their philanthropic support at a range of levels.

How does the University communicate with its alumni?

We communicate directly with our alumni through the annual alumni magazine *PROM*, and through monthly e-newsletters and events.

Alumni are partners in our vision and mission, and we consult them on plans and projects, both within DARO but also across the University, to harness their knowledge and maximise their influence.

It is increasingly the case that we are but one of a number of universities communicating with alumni, as many now hold multiple degrees. We need to ensure that we cultivate the relationship in a way that continues to bring them ever closer to Aberystwyth but also respects their affection and involvement with other institutions.

Our lifelong relationship with alumni has inspired alumni to leave considerable

sums to us through their wills for endowments and scholarships.

What's on the horizon for DARO?

Over the last couple of years, we have established a programme of events for our alumni in London and Cardiff. We recently launched alumni groups in New York and Washington, and we hope to launch more around the world as we will grow rapidly from our current international base of 1,000.

We are starting to join in the planning for two forthcoming centenaries – Geography and Earth Science in 2017 and International Politics in 2019, and to also discuss early ideas for the University's 150th anniversary in 2022.

DARO will be working with key alumni and colleagues across the University to establish a fundraising strategy by the end of 2014 - the 'New Life for Old College' project will be a major aspect of this strategy.

DARO is also working closely with Gareth Roberts, Director of Aberystwyth Arts Centre, on developing the contribution of alumni to his plans, including fundraising.

What are the common misconceptions that people have about the work DARO does?

Perhaps that we can do it all ourselves!

We are the interface with alumni, and broker and steward their engagement and support and ensure all activity complies with best practice and charity law.

However, we need to work in partnership with staff and students across the university to co-produce plans and approaches to alumni and supporters, and manage on-going relationships.

This ensures that our work is driven and informed by the needs of the University, but it is also essential as we will always be a small team relative to the opportunity and levels of interactions.

Person Profile – Louise Jagger



Tell us a bit about yourself

I relocated to Aberystwyth in 2011 after 25 years in London. I have family connections to the area and we chose to move here above anywhere else in the world. The University was a major factor in our decision. It was fantastic opportunity to take my Masters in International Politics here in 2012/13 and to specialise in Welsh Politics. My current role is a dream come true.

I have a 25 year career in fundraising and development. I am driven by a strong passion for social change and equality of access to opportunity through access to education.

In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, learning Welsh, travelling and the arts and current affairs.

Describe a typical day in DARO?

I love the fact that there is never a typical day... but in essence, it is a mixture of the 'science' of relationship marketing (i.e. the planning, budgeting, management and stakeholder engagement) and the 'art' (i.e. the creative matching of opportunity to supporters, the stewardship of alumni and supporters and responding opportunistically and entrepreneurially to new developments).

What element of your work gives you most job satisfaction?

Introducing a supporter to the work they have funded and showing how they have made a difference to the lives of an individual or to an organisation's vision.

And finally, which is it, alumna, alumni, alumnus, or alumnae?

Our alumni typically call themselves 'Aber alums' so I think we can go with this totally unique and loving term and not worry about it! For those that want the definition, look at Wikipedia - en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alumnus

SPOTLIGHT

Annual Fund – causes and callers

The Annual Fund is an approach made each year to every member of the Aberystwyth family of alumni, staff, Council and other friends of the University.

Its aim is to provide the resources to fund relatively modest and achievable projects and awards which will enhance and broaden the life and educational development of students during their time here at Aberystwyth.

This year the Annual Fund celebrates its fifth anniversary. Now a firm fixture in the University calendar, it continues Aberystwyth's long history of philanthropy.

AberNEWS spoke to students Harry Taylor and Seb Balcombe, who acted as 'callers' through several Annual Fund telethon campaigns during their time at Aberystwyth, about what made them want to get involved in the Annual Fund campaign, and which of the worthy causes meant the most to them.

Both graduate this summer having studied at the Department of International Politics. Harry is an ardent Kidderminster Harriers fan and former editor of Aberystwyth's student newspaper *The Courier*, and Seb is a keen photographer and baking enthusiast.

For both the opportunity to earn some money was an attraction when they applied to be part of the Annual Fund campaign, but Seb also saw it as an opportunity to further develop his CV, and Harry to develop his telephone skills.

Harry explained how the Annual Fund works: "The telethon is the process of campaigns that run twice a year, February and November, in which callers (of which there are usually around 45 per campaign) ring alumni to keep them up to date with what is going on in Aberystwyth, speak to them about their time here and ask for their support for specific projects that have been designed to directly benefit Aber's students. These will often range from funding a PhD Studentship to the Student Hardship Fund."

"The high points make it all the more worthwhile, getting donations for the projects and hearing about the experiences of alumni, hearing how much the town and University has changed, but at the same time how much has stayed the same. There's something unique about Aber, and after experiencing it for the last three years and speaking to alumni that have found the same thing, it's definitely somewhere special", he added.



Harry Taylor (left) and Seb Balcombe

The Alumni Student Hardship Fund was established in recognition of our belief that no student who has successfully embarked upon their studies should be forced to drop out of University as a result of unexpected financial hardship.

Seb commented that the Call Room has a "fantastic atmosphere" and described how eating cakes entered into the 'Call Room Bake Off' lifted the spirits of callers during a long shift. The only downside to the role, as Harry explained, was the number of calls that concluded with an answerphone: "I think 30 in a row is the record!"

We asked Harry and Seb which of the Annual Fund causes was closest to their heart. "For me, I am really passionate about the Student Hardship Fund," explained Seb. "I think that it is something unique to Aber and really is proof that our Alumni are generous, being solely funded by them. At its core, though, it holds the value that everyone should have a right to education and that's what I really love about it."

Harry agreed, adding: "A degree can change the course of your life forever, and to have that potentially affected by financial problems that are beyond your control or welfare problems such as depression or homesickness is terrible to ponder."

"It goes without saying that all of the projects are superb and worthy, without doubt they are all life-changing. To help to play the most minor of roles in helping students get through their degree by raising money for the fantastic Nightline organisation for example is immensely rewarding."

To read more about some of the causes supported by the Annual Fund visit: www.aber.ac.uk/en/development/support/annfund/af1314/

The cost of running the Nightline Service last year for 5 nights a week was £1,053. The grant provided by the Students Union to this was £200 – the same as any other club or society. The rest came from the generosity of donors.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Corporate Health Standard

The University is currently working towards the Bronze level Corporate Health Standard. This is the national mark of quality for health and well-being in the workplace.

Rebecca Davies, Pro Vice-Chancellor Student and Staff Services is our Lead Champion for the achievement of this award and a Corporate Health Steering Group has also been established to work on the action plan.

The mock assessment for the award took place on 12 June to undertake a preliminary examination of our approach to activities and policies that promote and support good working practice as well as encouraging participation in health and well-being activities.

The University's Health Champion, Michele Prescane and staff from HR have been working with colleagues across the University to highlight the activities and policies in place that meet the criteria for the Standard.

The Standard covers the following specific health issues: tobacco, occupational health and rehabilitation, mental health, alcohol and substance misuse, musculoskeletal disorders, nutrition, and physical activity.

The assessment for the Bronze Award will take place shortly and the assessors will examine the ethos and culture of the University and how staff health and well-being is incorporated into our processes, as well as examine evidence to demonstrate that staff are aware of the support available to them including the relevant policies and procedures and to know where to go for this information.

If you are a member of staff with line management responsibility, you should already be aware of how and where to refer individuals for support and guidance if they require it.

If in doubt, please refer to the Human Resources Department or HR Website at www.aber.ac.uk/en/hr. You can also view the University's Health and Wellbeing policy at www.aber.ac.uk/en/hr/employment-information/wellbeing/

Additional information on Health and Wellbeing issues is available at www.aber.ac.uk/en/supporting-staff/work/healthanddisability/health-wellbeing/ and these pages also publicise events and activities taking place across the University.

If you have any questions, concerns or would like to feed in your suggestions for health and wellbeing activities or improvements to the webpages, please email Michele Prescane on mvp9@aber.ac.uk.



Positive about disabled people

We are delighted that following a detailed and comprehensive assessment by the Job Centre Wales, the Two Ticks symbol has been retained by

the University for the eleventh year running.

This award is for our commitment to the needs of candidates who declare a disability when they apply for jobs at the University.

The University is committed to the support of applicants with a disability in a number of ways including: interviewing all applicants with a disability who meet the essential criteria for a job vacancy and considering them on their abilities; supporting staff who become disabled while working for the University; raising awareness with all employees of disability issues and, through SDPR, giving the opportunity to staff with a disability to discuss any support they may require.



CIPD People Management Award shortlist

The University has been shortlisted for the 'Best Employee Relations Initiative' award at this year's CIPD People Management Awards, for the pilot 'matching and slotting' process introduced as part of the reorganisation of the Institute administrative functions. Aberystwyth is the only University to be shortlisted for an award.

The award ceremony takes place on 30 September at the Grosvenor Hotel in London's Park Lane.



Accelerated Increments Contribution Points (AICP)

Following on from publication of the full timetable for the AICP process in the April edition of *AberNEWS*, a reminder that the closing date for applications is 28 November 2014.

Matching and Slotting process

The Matching and Slotting process, which was discussed and agreed with the trade unions, has now been introduced following a successful pilot in respect of the restructure of the administrative and clerical provision in the Institutes.

The process, which can be found at www.aber.ac.uk/en/hr/employment-information/match-and-slot/, aims to reduce the potential impact on staff involved in any restructuring exercise; ensure that employees are placed in a role which enables them to utilise their skills, knowledge and abilities; and to reduce the need for employees to be placed at risk of redundancy.

Staff Development and Performance Review (SDPR) 2014

Staff are reminded that SDPR meetings should take place by 30 September 2014.

Staff Development and Performance Review (SDPR) is the process of reviewing ourselves and our work. All staff employed by the University take part. SDPR is about recognising achievements over the previous year and reaching a common understanding of what is expected during the coming year. It is about identifying what we have done well and what changes we can make and what support we need to improve our work. It is about how our work contributes to the success of the University. Above all else, it is about having a reserved time to talk about our own work, professional development and career aspirations.

Details and the Word document to be used to record the outcomes of the meeting can be found at www.aber.ac.uk/en/sdpr/.

UHR Wales



Sue Chambers, Director of HR, has been appointed Chair of Universities Human Resources (UHR) Wales, and a member of the UK UHR Executive.

UHR is the professional organisation for Human Resources practitioners in the United Kingdom and Eire universities.

ABER PEOPLE

Appointments

DIRECTOR OF ETHICS AND EQUALITY



Professor Kate Bullen has been appointed as Director of Ethics and Equality, the first Director role of its kind at the University. Working alongside the University Executive Group, Professor Bullen will be responsible for developing, publicising and assuring the University's strategic direction in ethics and equality, and for ensuring outcomes are monitored and

delivered successfully. Professor Bullen is currently the Institute Director for Human Sciences and prior to establishing the Psychology Department here at Aberystwyth in 2008, she was a lecturer at Swansea University. She will start in her new role on 1 August.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

Phil Maddison has been appointed as the new Director of Health, Safety and Environment, having previously been the interim Health, Safety and Environment Manager. Phil has over 15 years' experience in complex and varied Health, Safety and Environment leadership roles on government contracts, and across both the public and private sectors. Phil's many qualifications include Chartered Membership of the Institute of Occupational Safety and Health; registration as a Registered Safety Practitioner, in addition to being a member of the International Institute of Risk and Safety Management, and the Chartered Management Institute.



IBERS

Professor Mike Gooding has been appointed as the new Director for IBERS. Professor Gooding is currently a Professor of Crop Science and Agronomy, and Head of the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development at the University of Reading, where he also holds the positions of Director of the Crops Research Unit and Course Director for the BSc in Agriculture. His research interests address the sustainable intensification of agriculture; particularly how to enhance nutrient uptake and use by crops so that yield and quality can be improved in changing environments. He takes up his new post on 1 October 2014.



Huw Watkins has been appointed Campus Project Director for the Aberystwyth Innovation and Enterprise Campus at Gogerddan. Huw has over 23 years' experience gained in technical and commercial roles, initially within the regulated and industrial divisions of the water industry and latterly as a director of a leading innovation services consultancy. For the past decade he has focused on innovation management, running several government funded programmes and supporting the development of high growth businesses throughout Wales. He has a degree in Environmental Management and is a full member of the Chartered Institute of Waste Management.



John Davies has started work as Business Manager of the Pwllpeiran Upland Research Platform. His role is to establish and manage the new facility, which is supported by £3.2 million investment from the BBSRC. John was educated at Ysgol Gyfun Penweddig, Gelli Aur Agricultural College and the Welsh Agricultural College, and for the past twelve years has been the Director of Food Centre Wales, providing state of the art technical support for the Welsh Agri-Food industry.



ABER PEOPLE

Appointments continued

VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

Kim Dyer has been appointed to the post of Head of the Vice-Chancellor's Office. Kim joins the Vice-Chancellor's Office from the Human Resources team where she worked as Human Resources Quality and Compliance Manager. An Aber graduate (English and Education), Kim joined the Human Resources Team in 2008. She is currently following the University's Effective Leadership Module and the Advanced Certificate in Human Resource Management.



STUDENT SUPPORT

Angharad Jones joined the Student Wellness Centre team in January 2014 as a University Nurse. She is a graduate of Staffordshire University and has also completed post registration courses from NEWI (now Glyndwr University) and Newport University. Angharad has held various nursing roles in Hywel Dda University Health Board and maintains a current position of Education Liaison Nurse alongside her university role.



INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Katerina Stivasari-Jones is the new Compliance Officer ensuring Home Office Compliance and safeguarding the University's Highly Trusted Sponsor (HTS) status. An Aberystwyth alumna with a BScEcon in European Politics and an MScEcon in Security Studies, Katerina has worked for the Welsh Assembly Government, Academic Office, SELL as Tutor and Moderator for Greek and Recruitment & Admissions before joining the International Office. She will be graduating with an MBA this July.



Rosa Soto is the new International Student Adviser (ISA) and she will be offering support to international students on visa and immigration issues while promoting their engagement within our University. After graduating from the University of Portsmouth, Rosa Soto worked at Oxfam's headquarters in Oxford. She joined Aberystwyth University ten years ago advising undergraduate and postgraduate students of the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences on all aspects of their courses.



Retirements

THEATRE, FILM AND TELEVISION STUDIES

Dr Daniel Chandler joined the department in 2001 having taught in the then Department of Education since 1989. He launched the successful Media and Communications Studies undergraduate degree soon after and has made a major contribution to the work of TFTS in many ways.



Richard Cheshire leaves the Department after 34 years' service. During that time he has played a major role in developing creative practice within the Drama, Theatre and Performance Group and has also taken on major administrative roles in the department. He has also contributed in so many ways to the life of the community in Aberystwyth.



Joan Mills has made a major contribution to the work of the department over a number of years, particularly in the area of voice and performance. Her work within the wider Aberystwyth community has been significant and she has provided a vital bridge between academia and the wider world.



Charmian Savill, teaching fellow in theatre practice, has been a member of staff in TFTS (on and off) since 1977. Her energy and passion have inspired countless cohorts of English- and Welsh-medium students and she has successfully led on a new MA in Applied Theatre which has recently been validated.



Nick Strong leaves the department as one of the longest-serving members of staff. He has played a key role in teaching technical theatre skills, and sound in particular, to a generation of students and has taken an energetic lead on admissions and recruitment in TFTS for a number of years.



We will miss them all and wish them well in the future.

HEA Senior Fellow

Dr Debbie Nash from the Institute for Biological Environmental and Rural Sciences has been awarded Senior Fellow status with the Higher Education Academy.

Debbie is a Senior Tutor and Lecturer in Equine & Animal Science and is one of only two women to receive the Award at the University, the first being Alison Pierse, Art and Design Coordinator for Lifelong Learning within the School of Education and Lifelong Learning.

The HEA provides a professional framework through which lecturers in higher education can be recognised for good practice, professionalism and excellence in teaching. There are several, increasing levels of recognition that can be attained.

The Fellow status is commensurate with attaining a PGCE and the PGCE course offered at AU is accredited for this status. Senior Fellow status is achieved by making an evidence-based application which demonstrates leadership and inspiring and supporting others to develop their teaching.



AMBIWLANS AWYR CYMRU
WALES AIR AMBULANCE

Wales Air Ambulance Raffle

Members of staff from Information Services raised £286 for Wales Air Ambulance, the Vice-Chancellor's Charity of the Year, at the recent HEWIT/WHELP Gregynog Library and Information Services Colloquium, raffling two prizes kindly donated by Samsung.

The Colloquium, which is for Library and ICT staff from HE institutions throughout Wales, is held every five years, and was organised this year by Aberystwyth. The programme and abstracts are available at www.gregynog-lis.org and recordings from the programme will be made available on the website later in the month.

Law Librarian of the Year

Lillian Stevenson, Subject Librarian for the Department of Law and Criminology, International Politics and Academic Services Manager, has been awarded the Wildy BIALL (British and Irish Association of Law Librarians) Law Librarian of the Year Award 2014.

Lillian received the award from John Sinkins, Managing Director of Wildy & Sons Ltd, at the BIALL Annual Dinner which took place at the Royal Hall, Harrogate on Friday 13 June.



Lillian Stevenson

Jas Breslin, President of BIALL, said: "This Award is our chance to reward an outstanding Law Librarian. This year's winner is an academic law librarian who has volunteered on both BIALL Committees and on Council. She has been an exemplary ambassador for BIALL on many occasions, and we thank her for this contribution to our organisation."

More information: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2014/06/title-151863-en.html

New Rendel Chair in English Language and Literature appointed



Professor Sarah Prescott

Professor Sarah Prescott, Director of the Institute of Languages, Literature and Creative Art, has been appointed the Rendel Chair in English Language and Literature.

The Rendel Chair was endowed in 1914 in memory of Baron Stuart Rendel (1834-1913). An industrialist, Member of Parliament and philanthropist, Baron Rendel played a prominent part in promoting Welsh interests, particularly in connection with the Welsh Intermediate Education Act of 1889.

Baron Rendel was President of the then University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, from 1895 until his death. In 1897 he purchased the land at Grogytha, Aberystwyth, and presented it to be the site of the National Library of Wales.

More information: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2014/06/title-151181-en.html

Snowdon Charity Event

University Security Officer, Paul James, accomplished a gruelling climb to the summit of Snowdon on 5 April to raise money for the British Heart Foundation and The Fire Fighters Charity.

Dressed in full firefighter kit and carrying breathing apparatus, and braving some particularly unpleasant weather, 57 year old Paul completed the ascent and descent in just under 5.5 hours, and raised over £2,500.

Paul, who is the Ceredigion County Councillor for Llanbadarn Fawr ward, joined a team from Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service for the event, in his capacity as Ceredigion County Council's representative on the Mid and West Wales Fire Authority.



Paul James

WHAT'S ON

Order of Ceremonies for Graduation 2014

Ceremony 1

11am	Monday 14/7/2014	School of Education and Lifelong Learning Department of History and Welsh History
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Ceremony 2

3pm	Monday 14/7/2014	Department of Mathematics and Physics Department of Computer Science
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Ceremony 3

11am	Tuesday 15/7/2014	Department of International Politics Department of European Languages
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Ceremony 4

3pm	Tuesday 15/7/2014	School of Management and Business
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Ceremony 5

11am	Wednesday 16/7/2014	Department of Theatre, Film and Television Studies Department of Welsh
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Ceremony 6

3pm	Wednesday 16/7/2014	Department of English and Creative Writing School of Art
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Ceremony 7

11am	Thursday 17/7/2014	Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS) Department of Sport and Exercise Science
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Ceremony 8

3pm	Thursday 17/7/2014	Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS) Department of Psychology
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Ceremony 9

11am	Friday 18/7/2014	Department of Information Studies Department of Law and Criminology
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Ceremony 10

3pm	Friday 18/7/2014	Department of Geography and Earth Sciences
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SCHOOL OF ART EXHIBITIONS



Japanese woodblock print on silk, 19th century

Untitled by Unknown

19 May - 12 September 2014

Curating 'hidden' works from the School of Art Collection
An exhibition curated by students of the School of Art

Wood, Down, Farm and Field: Art in the Aftermath

9 June - 1 August 2014

Prints, drawings and artefacts acquired between 1921 and 1936

From the School of Art Collection

An exhibition of work acquired by curators Sidney Kyffin Greenslade and Dan Jones for the university during the interwar years.

The themes, media and manner of execution of the interwar prints and drawings are often interpreted as manifestations of a reaction to the devastating effects of the First World War, a counteraction to modernism and a return to what were perceived to be ancient and consoling traditions. The exhibition will explore and question this assumption.

Includes work by Enid Butcher, Paul Drury, F. L. Griggs, Kathleen Hale, Edward Bouverie Hoyton, William Larkins, Samuel Palmer, Louise Powell, Mabel Allington Royds, Graham Sutherland and Joseph Webb.



'The Sluice Gate', etching, 1924, purchased from The 21 Gallery, courtesy of and copyright Estate of Graham Sutherland



'Re-enchantment 1', Reuben Knutson

Reuben Knutson: PhD Exhibition

11 August - 12 September 2014

Utopian images of the past, present and future in a 1970s Welsh landscape

This exhibition mines the utopian dreams of a countercultural practice that took root in West Wales in the 1970s. Through films, photographs, objects and text it looks at an openness to new forms of living being enabled by both a break with history (recent and archaic), as well as embracing history's revolutionary potential.

WHAT'S ON

ABERYSTWYTH ARTS CENTRE

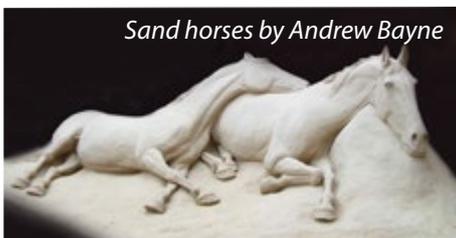
Sister Act

25 July – 30 August

A (Mother) superior show!! The Arts Centre's summer musical production for 2014 is the fabulous, family-friendly, feel-good show, *Sister Act*. Packed with songs inspired by motown, funk, soul and disco, it's guaranteed to raise the Theatre y Werin roof and have you dancing in the aisles! So come along and join the Sisterhood for this divinely funny musical – after all, it would be a sin not to!

I Like This Place

Gallery 1: 26 July – 20 Sept



Sand horses by Andrew Bayne

This exhibition brings together artworks which reflect an aspect of our rural seaside town and Wales – including a sculpture made of sand, photographs of piers, the sounds of coal and wind farms, portraits of animals and more. Artists include Andrew Baynes, Chris Clunn, Robert Davies, Danny Markey, Jenny Mulcahy, Anna Noel, Jill O'Sullivan, Tim Skinner, Jenni Steele, Catrin Webster and Stephen West.

COMING SOON

The Faulty Towers Dining Experience

25 – 30 September

Book now for the funniest restaurant in town! Enjoy a 70s style three course meal in the company of Basil, Sybil and Manuel – anything can happen!



MUSICFEST

Aberystwyth International Music Festival & Summer School

26 July – 2 August

Musicfest is an invigorating fusion of Music Festival and Summer School.

The programme includes over 40 performances taking place throughout the day and into the evening, in and around the Arts Centre and throughout the town, including lunchtime recitals in Old College.

A highlight for 2014 is the 'Great Animal Orchestra', a new work for symphony orchestra commissioned jointly by Musicfest and Cheltenham International Music Festival and performed by the 100 strong London Schools Symphony Orchestra, which merges the sounds of wild animals, insects and whales recorded by Bernie Krause and an original score by Richard Blackford.

We also welcome back Musicfest favourites Tom Poster (piano), David Campbell (clarinet) and the Musicfest Chamber Ensemble.

And if you have younger family members don't miss the Tiddly Prom with 'Bert's Magical Musical Farnyard'.

Alongside the Festival, the Summer School will be offering courses in Clarinet, Violin, Cello, Classical Vocal, Musical Theatre, Conducting, Chamber Music, Practical Psychology and Composition for Film & TV.

Bursaries are available for young people to attend the Summer School, thanks to support from the Friends of Musicfest.

For more info visit www.abermusicfest.org



OUTDOOR PERFORMANCES OVER THE SUMMER

The Arts Centre has three special performances in August which will take place outside on Chapel Court (the grassy area adjacent to the venue) – so pack a picnic and a rug and come and join us!

On **Wednesday 6 August** the popular Illyria theatre company return to Aberystwyth bringing two shows. At 2pm they'll perform **Robin Hood**, a fun collection of tales featuring all the well-loved characters, swashbuckling action and riotous comedy. In this show, suitable for ages 5 and above, they promise you'll laugh, you'll cry and you'll join in cheering the archery competition! Then later that day at 7.45pm the company will perform **Shakespeare's Macbeth**

on a stage closely replicating those of the 17th century touring troupes.

Ten days later on **Saturday 16 August**, the spectacular Square Peg Contemporary Circus group will perform **Rime**, a new circus show based on Coleridge's *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*. With thrilling acrobatics, song and story, Square Peg combine circus with theatre and dance, using group acrobatics and human towers, Chinese poles, silk and flips and tricks, it promises to be an amazing evening.

