

Fourth Queen's Anniversary Prize for University

In recognition of Loughborough's world leading role in sports development, education and research

Loughborough University has been awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education 2002 – the fourth time it has captured one of the prestigious awards, which are awarded biennially in recognition of outstanding educational achievement in areas of service and benefit to the nation.

The 2002 Prize, which was announced on 14 November, has been awarded in recognition of the University's position as the country's premier institution for sports development, and its world leading role in sports research and education.

Loughborough has an international reputation for its pioneering research and education in sports science, physical education, and health-related physical activity. Its pivotal position is enhanced by strengths in coaching, elite performance and wide-ranging participation, and is reinforced with an extensive network of partnerships with industrial companies, external agencies and major sports bodies, many located on campus.

"We chose the strap line for Loughborough Sport – 'Developing People, Developing Sport' – because I feel that this environment does precisely that," explained director of sports development Rod Thorpe. "Whilst the quotes from our famous alumni are tremendous, it gives me as much pleasure to meet, almost daily, people in all sorts of roles in sport, who acknowledge what Loughborough did for them and how much they enjoyed their time here."

Professor Stuart Biddle, head of the School of Sport and



Loughborough is home to the largest and most comprehensive sports development programme of any UK university; the integration of elite performance and wide-ranging participation creates a truly unique environment.

Exercise Sciences, added, "This award is due recognition of Loughborough's outstanding achievements in integrating sports development, research and education over the past sixty years or so. Many other countries have looked to Loughborough as a model for their own developments."

Loughborough has been outstandingly successful in the Queen's Anniversary Prizes scheme, gaining four awards – an achievement bettered by no other institution. The University received its first award in 1994 for its partnerships with the

aerospace industry, particularly Rolls-Royce and BAE SYSTEMS. Its second award was received in 1998, in recognition of the Institute of Development Engineering's unique service to developing countries, providing and managing sustainable infrastructure. Loughborough gained its third award in 2000, in



The School of Sport and Exercise Sciences' academic reputation – marked by pioneering research, first-class teaching and extensive international collaboration – is acknowledged world-wide.

recognition of the Optical Engineering Group's pioneering role in developing applications of modern optics and laser technologies to find practical solutions to real-world problems.

Her Majesty The Queen will make the official presentation of the 2002 Prize at a special ceremony at Buckingham Palace in February 2003.

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Project launched to help engineers learn mathematics

A Loughborough-led project is seeking to boost the key academic skills of future engineers by helping them to improve their mathematics.

The three-year study – Helping Engineers Learn Mathematics, or HELM – is being led by Dr David Green and Dr Joe Ward, and is being conducted in partnership with the universities of Hull, Reading, Sunderland and UMIST. As part of the project the team will enhance and extend the successful Mathematics Open Learning Materials, which were devised by staff in the Department of Mathematical Sciences.

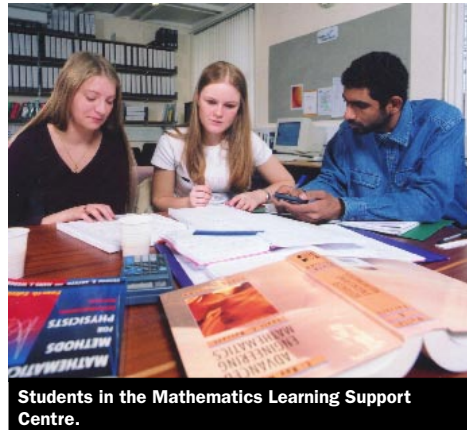
“The number of students opting to study mathematics at A level is limited, and the range of university courses is so great, that it is inevitable that there are fewer students

entering university who have the level of mathematical skills desirable to study engineering at degree level,” says Dr Green, who is a member of Loughborough’s newly formed Mathematics Education Centre.

“The Engineering Council demands a high level of mathematical ability and knowledge in its accredited engineers; this project, therefore, aims to ensure that

The team aims to produce forty workbooks containing mathematics topics and related engineering examples to help students learn how to apply mathematics to solve engineering problems. The workbooks will be complemented by web-based computer-aided learning packages and assessment programmes, which will allow both self-testing and more formal assessment. With the emphasis on flexibility, students will be able to undertake the work as private study, with a tutor or lecturer, or using a mixture, according to the needs of the student and the department’s preferred approach.

Once developed, the materials will be trialled extensively in at least fifteen universities, and then be made freely available to all higher education institutions in England and Northern Ireland.



Students in the Mathematics Learning Support Centre.

these requirements continue to be met by the UK’s engineering graduates.”



Students help to kick-start their careers



Loughborough students are already regarded by some of the UK’s leading companies as among the most employable students in the country, and this term they have shown just how keen they are to kick-start their careers.

“At 8am on the very first day of the autumn term, no fewer than 150 students were queuing to sign up for the two skills programmes that we run,” explains Dr Eveline Nicholls, deputy director of the Careers Service. ‘Top Graduate Skills’ and ‘Career Management Skills’ – a new programme for this year – are both run over a number of weeks by employers.

During the first day over 600 students in total passed through the Careers Service’s doors, and the first three weeks of term saw over 2,000 finalists packs – which are sponsored by

employers and contain useful careers information – collected by the students. Another big success was the Engineering, Finance and IT Fair, held in the Edward Herbert Building, which attracted over fifty employers and 2,000 students – the Fair’s largest ever attendance.

The Careers Service has also launched a new resource this year called TargetedGRAD – a web site that puts employers in direct contact with subscribing students in targeted universities. See www.targetedgrad.com/ for more information.

Excellent term

“As well as all this, we’ve also been successful in acquiring funding from the Learning and Skills Council to conduct a project into ‘Resources for Non-Traditional Applicants to Higher Education’, so it’s been an excellent term for us,” adds Eveline.

University makes bid for Advantica site

The University is currently in discussion with National Grid Transco plc over the purchase of the company's Ashby Road technology park, in a deal which would confirm Loughborough as one of the country's leading universities for partnerships with business and industry.

The University has made a bid to buy the land and buildings to the west of campus which are currently occupied by Advantica. National Grid Transco plc – Advantica's parent company – has accepted the offer and discussions are now taking place to conclude the sale of the technology park to the University.

Advantica will continue to occupy part of the site; on the successful conclusion of the deal, the University would utilise the remainder to enhance and extend its research, innovation and knowledge transfer activities.

The proposed acquisition would augment the existing 223 acre campus by another 160 acres and would provide a further 40,000 m² of high quality building stock. The proposal is the largest single investment in the University's history and would make Loughborough one of the largest universities in the country.

"We are delighted to be working with Advantica in this way and to have this opportunity to develop our research and innovation facilities," the Vice Chancellor

Courtesy of Advantica



The technology park.

commented. "The park is a superb site, housing excellent facilities; this agreement would help to cement the University as one

of the country's leading institutions for innovation and technology transfer."

The University has now developed a business plan for the site, which indicates that, in addition to the huge opportunities afforded for expansion in research, innovation and knowledge transfer, the technology park has the potential to be a significant income generator. Working groups have been established to consider both the space implications and commercial opportunities for the University.

The purchase of the site would also provide the University with a unique opportunity to rethink its overall estates strategy. There is potential for increasing postgraduate and research student numbers, and the acquisition could have a positive impact on local employment. It is not intended, however, that the purchase should change the University's current strategy on UK/EU undergraduate numbers, which is to plan for modest increases at Loughborough, with widening participation primarily through the University's further education partners.

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(L-R) The Vice Chancellor, Sir John Beckwith and Paula Radcliffe.

Paula Radcliffe opens Sir John Beckwith Centre for Sport

Loughborough graduate Paula Radcliffe returned to campus on 3 December to open the Sir John Beckwith Centre for Sport.

The new building brings together under one roof a range of key sporting organisations – including the University's School of Sport and Exercise Sciences, the Sports Development Centre, and the Youth Sport Trust, which was

established by Sir John in 1994 – enabling them to work together to further the development of sport in this country. Located near the New Sports Hall, the Centre will host visiting international sports professionals and academics and serve as a hub for research, training and development. It

will encourage communication between professional sportspeople and bring together the existing expertise of Loughborough's world renowned sports science and sports medicine facilities, governing bodies and sports management organisations.

Introducing Paula, who was named BBC Sports Personality of the Year on 8 December, the Vice Chancellor commented, "It could not be more appropriate to have Paula marking this event for us today. Not only is she a graduate from this University and an active Patron of the Youth Sport Trust, but she represents the qualities of a

remarkable sportsperson – a first class student, an elite athlete and a role model for others."

Sir John added, "I'm very pleased to see this project come to fruition. It started as a dream and it is most satisfying to see it completed today. Sport is an excellent vehicle for young people whatever their level of ability. It develops confidence and self-esteem and the values that make them responsible members of the community. There are also many talented young sportspeople in the UK who I hope will be able to reap the benefits of this new Centre."

Council report

Highlights from the meeting held on 25 October 2002

Addressing the Comprehensive Spending Review, the Vice Chancellor noted that the Government strategy paper was likely to contain several controversial recommendations for both staff and students, with rumours circulating that tuition fees would be de-regulated and structures for performance-related pay could be introduced. Focussing on the University's drop in the recent *Sunday Times* league table, the Vice Chancellor explained that it was largely due to the use of student drop-out rates in projections, which had considerable uncertainties that were amplified in the Table. The Vice Chancellor concluded with the news that recent visits to the Far East and China were expected to lead to successful international collaborations, and that the opening of the University's new swimming pool, by HRH The Princess Royal, had been judged a success.

Reporting on research grants and contract applications for August 2002, the Pro Vice

Chancellor (Research) noted that during a traditionally quiet time of year, IPTME had made six applications, and that the University is aiming to achieve an average of two applications per member of staff per year. Council was then informed that the format of the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) was under review, with institutions being asked to comment on four distinct approaches to assessment. The final report will be published in May 2003.

Student numbers

A bid for additional student numbers will be submitted shortly to the Funding Council, the Pro Vice Chancellor (Teaching) reported. The Vice Chancellor reiterated that, in line with the Strategic Plan, the University was not planning to significantly increase its undergraduate student population, but would instead continue to make modest bids for additional student numbers and meet widening participation objectives through partnerships with

colleges. As at 11 October, the University's student intake position for 2002 was healthy, with UK/EU undergraduate numbers almost at the target figure, and international UG figures showing significant improvement. Postgraduate taught student numbers were also up on last year, with the increase in UK/EU figures particularly encouraging given that there had been a sector-wide decline for a number of years. The summer's A level problems meant that 40 Loughborough applicants were subject to re-grading, with only four students subsequently entitled to the offer of a place for next year and only one taking advantage of this.

A review of semesterisation and modularised examinations has been initiated to address issues relating to efficient use of academic time. It is hoped that the outcome of the review would be a reduction of the burden of administrative functions on academic staff and thus free up time for research activity.

NEWS@LBO

Festive prize winners

Christmas has come early for former tennis coach Anne Meredith and director of sports development Rod Thorpe, who struck it lucky in the University's 250 Club prize draw to win a combined jackpot of £1,500.

Anne and Rod won the November and December draws of the 250 Club, which helps to raise funds to support the University's sports scholarship scheme.

Two hundred people have now signed up to the Club, paying a fee of £25 per year. For this small contribution, each member is eligible to take part in ten monthly draws for a £50 prize, the £500 November prize, and the bumper Christmas draw of £1,000. The remaining funds help to support our sports scholars.

The sports scholarship scheme provides financial and in-kind support to help talented Loughborough students succeed in both their sporting and academic development. Past Loughborough Sports

Scholars include Commonwealth gold medallist and world record holder Paula Radcliffe.

This year's festive prize draws were made on 28 November by Caroline Nash from Gill Cooke Personnel Ltd, which, for the last two years, has generously matched all individual 250 Club donations pound for pound, helping the scheme to generate much-needed funds for our sports scholars.



(L-R) Professor Jim Saker, chair of the Loughborough Students' Sports Foundation; three of the University's sports scholars; and Caroline Nash from Gill Cooke Personnel Ltd.

Evaluation contributes to national policy

An evaluation of Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) pilot schemes, led by Loughborough's Centre for Research in Social Policy (CRSP), has provided crucial background information in the decision to turn the Government pilot scheme into national policy.

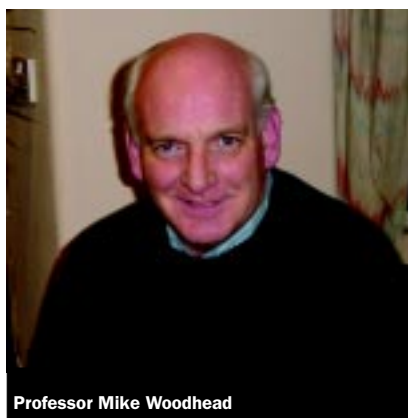
At present, young people are eligible for EMA support if they live within one of the 56 pilot areas, their household income is less than £30,000 per year, they are aged between 16 and 18, and they are in full-time education. Eligible young people receive a maximum weekly allowance of up to £30 in most areas. Young people are also able to gain bonuses based on attendance and achievement criteria.

In the Government's Annual Spending Review, it was announced that the Education Maintenance Allowance is to become national policy from September 2004, at the end of the pilot phase. This follows ongoing evaluation, which has revealed a number of successful features of the scheme, namely that: participation among eligible young people has risen by 5.9%; young people value the financial support offered within the EMA pilot scheme; school and college staff support the notion of providing young people with financial support in return for their motivation and effort; and local authority staff that currently administer the EMA pilot scheme have a positive view of the level of support it offers to young people.

The EMA evaluation consortium is comprised of, in addition to CRSP: the Institute for Fiscal Studies, the Institute for Employment Research, the National Centre for Social Research, and the National Institute for Careers Education and Counselling.

The birth of a new department

On 1 August this year, a new department – the Department of Systems Engineering – was created, with Professor Mike Woodhead appointed as its Head.



Amanda Pearce

Professor Mike Woodhead

Loughborough has been developing expertise and strength in Systems Engineering over the last twelve years, and the decision to create a brand new department – the first on campus for over 25 years – came after much consideration and contemplation.

“Systems Engineering considers both the business and the technical requirements of its customers, with the goal of providing a quality product that meets the users’ needs,” explains Professor Woodhead. “It draws information, expertise, skills and talent from a variety of sources, integrating a range of disciplines into a team effort, and for this reason it was believed that having a single discipline department may be infeasible.”

Shared expertise and knowledge for a common goal

“However, staff from Computer Science, Information Science, Human Sciences, the Business School, Mathematical Sciences, IPTME and, of course, the engineering departments have, at one time or another, shared their expertise and knowledge for a common goal, and have therefore helped to build our reputation and shape this new presence on campus. The new department will want to preserve and build on this

richness and diversity of talent, rather than lose it: the whole University stands to gain from the new department’s inception on campus, and the future growth of the discipline,” says Professor Woodhead.

Rapidly becoming the UK’s leading university for systems engineering, Loughborough’s collaboration with BAE SYSTEMS provided much of the impetus, motivation and investment for the University’s development into this new area. Their sponsorship has matured into partnership over the years, and the University has now been designated the company’s Strategic Capability Partner for Systems Engineering, which, as Professor Woodhead points out, is both an honour and a responsibility.

“Many other universities undoubtedly envy our designation as a strategic partner of BAE SYSTEMS, but with this recognition comes a real duty, as BAE SYSTEMS consider command of this discipline to be one of the keys to their long term survival.”

The Department of Systems Engineering is currently housed in the Stewart Miller Building, and is part of the newly-formed School of Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering and Systems Engineering.

Student news

Business School student **Kerry Boyes** has been awarded the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) prize for 2002. The award is given annually by CIMA to the best student on the second year Management Accounting module of the Accounting and Financial Management degree programme in the University’s Business School.



CIMA prize-winner Kerry Boyes, with Ron Giffin.

The prize – of a cheque, an engraved clock and a certificate – was presented by Ron Giffin, who is a past president of CIMA and an active member of the local CIMA branch.

Alfred Leung and **Chris Shiells** have been awarded the PricewaterhouseCoopers prizes for 2002. The awards are given annually to the best first year students on both the

Accounting and Financial Management, and Banking, Finance and Management programmes run by the Business School.

The cheques were presented by Miryam Mulla, who is a manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers. As a graduate of the Loughborough University Accounting and Financial Management degree programme, Miryam was delighted to be able to visit the University for the presentation and congratulated Alfred and Chris on their achievements. Miryam worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers during the placement year of her degree programme. She graduated from Loughborough in 1998 and qualified two years later.



(L-R) Keith Pond, Programme Director of BSc Banking, Finance and Management, and his student Chris Shiells; Miryam Mulla from PricewaterhouseCoopers; Alfred Leung, who is studying Accounting and Financial Management; and Ruth King, Programme Director for BSc Accounting and Financial Management.

At the annual Proffered Papers meeting of the Society for the Study of Human Biology, which is the UK’s leading scholarly society for human biological research, two of the University’s second year Human Biology students, **Charlotte Blencowe** and **Nicky Davis**, were awarded the prize for the best student presentation. Having beaten off competition from six PhD students from the Universities of Oxford, Durham, UCL, London, Copenhagen and New York, their achievement is all the more remarkable. During the summer Charlotte and Nicky undertook scientific research and learning about the research process with Professor Noel Cameron. They were financially supported by the Nuffield Undergraduate Bursary scheme and the Science Faculty.

Aeronautical & Automotive Engineering

Trent 900 Isothermal Test Programme 2
Dr P Denman
£43,174 Rolls Royce

ANTLE Injection Flow Field Investigation
Dr P Denman and Dr JC Carrotte
£12,062 Rolls Royce

DARP:PUMA DARP:Unsteady CFD prediction of Vertical Landing Craft
Dr GJ Page and Prof JJ McGuirk
£181,569 EPSRC

Equipment Award
Prof JJ McGuirk
£12,798 BAE Systems

Industrial Case Training Grant
Prof JJ McGuirk
£39,175 EPSRC

Chemistry

Microwave-Enhanced Electrochemistry-Voltammetry Under Extreme Conditions
Dr F Marken
£173,594 EPSRC

Ion Cooling Technology for ICP-MS-CLS
Dr L Sharp
£14,000 BNFL

Civil & Building Engineering

CLASSIFIES
Dr DJ Edwards
£170,048 EPSRC

CRSP

Drug and Alcohol Misuse as a Barrier to Employment
Mr A Cebulla
£74,453 Department for Work and Pensions

Design & Technology

Integrating Human Factors Information with CAD and Other Technologies
Mr G Torrens
£15,000 Dexterity Research

Electronic & Electrical Engineering

Refurbishment of 4 BICC 50 micro-fahrad capacitors
Prof IR Smith
£3,581 Ministry of Defence

Human Sciences

IBD in Adolescence
Dr DJ Middleton and Dr H Gross
£45,000 National Association for Colitis and Crohn's Disease

A staged approach to improving health and safety in the workplace
Dr R Haslam
£107,752 Health and Safety Executive

Influence of Carrying Heavy Loads on Soldiers' Gait
Dr R Hooper and Dr N Mansfield
£40,786 Ministry of Defence

Information Science

Cardiac Operations Waiting Lists
Prof R Summers
£26,000 University Hospitals of Leicester

IPTME

Phase Transformation Kinetics in Continuously Cooled Steels and Steel & Steel Welds
Dr RC Thomson
£21,000 CORUS

Physics

Role of Topological Excitations in Quantum Fluids:Phase Transitions,Quantum Evaporation and other Phenomena
Prof F Kusmartsev
£139,371 EPSRC

School of Sport & Exercise Sciences

NIKE ZONE PARC /NIKE Girls 3
Prof S Biddle and Dr M Nevill
£27,120 Youth Sports Trust

Step into Sport
Dr DS Eley and Dr M Nevill
£90,000 Youth Sports Trust

Social Sciences

Studentship
Prof J Potter
£42,465 Alcoholic Education Research Council

Therapeutic Approaches Project
Prof S Becker
£33,000 Nottingham City Council

Systems Engineering

Whither Systems Engineering in the Wider World Context ?
Prof M Woodward and Mrs C Siemienuch
£249,400 BAE Systems

Wolfson School of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering

Website Critique
Dr PJ Palmer
£2,843 Quo-Tec Limited

Modelling of the Airflow and Heat Transfer in the through air bonding Process

Dr M Acar and Dr W Malalasekera
£31,440 North Carolina State University

Organisation,Management and Implementation of Rapid Manufacturing

Dr R Hague, Prof N Burns and Prof P Dickens
£366,606 EPSRC

Industrial Case Training Grant
Prof RM Parkin
£39,175 EPSRC

New scholarship scheme for outstanding students

The University has launched a brand new 'Research Scholarship Programme' in a bid to encourage outstanding students to enter into the research field through the pursuit of PhD studies. The scheme is targeted at businesses, organisations and trusts that are able to provide scholarships for students throughout their courses.

It can cost in the region of £45,000, over a three-year period, for a research student to graduate with a PhD, which deters good students from

taking up a research career. The new scholarship scheme aims to encourage students to pursue their studies with the security of financial support. Companies, businesses and trusts are asked to donate a scholarship of £5,000 a year for three years to support a PhD student throughout their studies. The University in turn finds all other additional funding for the student.

The benefits of the programme are not limited to the students themselves; it can also be very valuable to the companies that sponsor them. The opportunity for companies to specify a

general area of research in which they are interested in is available, and regular research reports can be provided. PhD students can be invited to spend time within the business, and sponsors can, if they wish, lend their company name to the scholarship or use it as a memorial.

Loughborough researchers contribute to a wide range of subjects, and every field is important. Neil Halliwell, Pro Vice Chancellor for Research, comments, "Businesses sponsoring our PhD students will have the satisfaction of knowing their contribution

makes a difference. Good research benefits the whole community and we all have a stake in it."

Many businesses have already become involved in the scholarship scheme, and a well-known national trust, WickesAid, has recently made a donation towards PhD studies in retail management. Loughborough covers a huge area of research work and the research undertaken by PhD students often has a direct impact on society, working through real-life projects alongside external experts and leading academics.

Innovative two-seater plane wins NASA-sponsored award

A team of students from Loughborough University and Virginia Tech in the USA has been awarded second place in the Technology Innovation category of the prestigious Aircraft Design Competition in the United States. Sponsored by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the annual competition seeks to foster student interest in revolutionising general aviation.

The team's design – the 'Ikelos' aircraft – is capable of carrying two people and uses a box-wing configuration, with powerful flaps to allow take-off and landing within 150ft. A Rand-Cam rotary engine is mounted transversely to drive twin ducted fans, which allow for a dramatic reduction in noise compared to current light aircraft. The aircraft is predicted to have a range of 575 miles and to fly at speeds up to 160mph.

The 24-strong design team consisted of an equal number of students from Loughborough's Department of Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering and Virginia Tech's Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering. Having spent just two weeks working face to face, the group worked as a virtual team for much of the project, using the internet and video conferencing to conduct

meetings – a collaborative practice which is common in the multinational design field of the aerospace industry.

Commenting on the students' success, Dr Gary Page, from Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering, said, "The combined UK and US team truly worked as

Courtesy of the team.



The team from Loughborough and Virginia Tech.



The 'Ikelos' aircraft.

one to create a unique and innovative design and the success is a reflection of their commitment to the project."

In addition to a cash prize for the students and each of the two academic departments, the team were invited to present their design at the Experimental Aircraft Association meeting in Oshkosh, Wisconsin and to display a 1/10 scale model of their design at NASA. Further information on the team's project can be found on their web site at www.aoe.vt.edu/design/ikelos/

This is the second time that a collaborative team from Loughborough and Virginia Tech has won an award at the competition. Two years ago, a 'roadable' four-seater light aircraft, which was also capable of driving on the road, was awarded first prize in the Innovative Design category of the competition.

Graduate scoops prize at education awards

Former Loughborough student Matthew Hancock, who graduated this year with a First Class Honours MEng degree in Automotive Engineering, has been awarded the Best Mechanical Engineering Student Award at this year's Science, Engineering and Technology Student of the Year Awards (SET) in London.

Matthew was nominated for the awards by his supervisor Professor Tim Gordon on account of his final year project, 'The use of electronically controlled differentials in road vehicles'. Matthew devised his project in conjunction with

Jaguar Cars, where he spent an exemplary year in industry as part of his programme, and for whom he now works.

"Matthew's final year project is a genuinely outstanding piece of work; a truly major effort," enthused Professor Gordon. "As an undergraduate project it shows an extraordinary level of competence and completeness in covering the many possibilities for control and modelling. The whole exercise is however driven by a mature understanding of the industrial need. It is the most mature and professional undergraduate project I have ever seen."

The awards, which are Britain's most important science,

engineering and technology education awards, are open to students from any UK university. Sponsored by leading companies such as Cadbury Schweppes and GKN, there are thirteen different awards in the areas of science, technology and engineering.

As his prize, Matthew received a trophy and cheque, while the University was presented with a framed certificate and cheques worth £2,000.

Matthew is the second Loughborough graduate in two

years to have won the Best Mechanical Engineering Student Award. The prize was last year awarded to James Birtwhistle, whose project – 'An investigation into Micro Air Vehicles' – also earned him the overall Science, Engineering and Technology Student of the Year Award 2001.



Matthew Hancock receiving his award from GKN Chief Executive Markus Beresford.

Official photographer

Celebrating 25 years' service

In October, thirty two members of staff were presented with a certificate by the Vice Chancellor to mark 25 years' service. Each person was also invited to choose a gift to the value of £150. This year's recipients were:

Gloria Brentnall

(Economics); **Janet Butlin** (Residential Organisation); **Dr Thiam Chung** (Wolfson School); **Beverley Colburn** (School of Sport and Exercise Sciences); **Dr Duncan Cramer** (Social Sciences); **Jennifer Crowther** (LUSAD); **Simon Frost** (Estates Services); **David Goodson** (Electronic and Electrical Engineering); **David Hall** (IPTME); **Professor Maximilian Hall** (Economics); **Angela Hayden** (Residential



Organisation); **Dr Chris Hinde** (Computer Science); **Geoffrey Hogg** (Estates Services); **Derrick Hurrell** (Wolfson School); **Heather Jennings** (Pilkington Library); **Dave Jordan** (Estates Services); **June Lorimer** (Residential Organisation);

Robert Ludlam (Wolfson School); **Linda Morley** (Estates Services); **Terence Neale** (Chemical Engineering); **Rod Page** (Design and Technology); **Stephen Rimmer** (Estates Services); **Dr Ged Salt** (Faculty of Science); **Peter Senior** (Electronic and Electrical Engineering); **Kevin Sharpe** (Estates Services); **Barbara Spiby** (Residential Organisation); **Professor Harry Thomason** (External Relations Office);

Judy Thompson (Estates Services); **Elizabeth Ward** (Loughborough University Enterprises Ltd); **Dr Joe Ward** (Mathematical Sciences); **Alan Wilkinson** (Wolfson School); **Martha Wörsching** (European and International Studies).

Academic promotion procedures CRSP makes links

Last academic year, three members of the University's Human Resources Committee – Russ Bowman, Bryan Buffham and Adrian Wilkinson – were elected to act as independent observers for each of the three Faculties' Reward Review meetings. A summary of the University's promotion procedures, and the three observers' views on them, follows.

Almost all academics aspire to promotion; the first major step being promotion to Senior Lecturer. Not so long ago all academic promotion cases were considered at a two-day Staff Review Committee meeting each February, with the committee ranking the cases according to its perception of their merit, which invariably involved difficult comparisons of cases from different disciplines. Council had previously decided the number of promotions it could afford, allowing a line to be drawn. The committee thought that some excellent promotion cases were being denied, so they recommended that the line be drawn lower, which Council accepted. Next year the number that could be afforded was lower than it would otherwise have been and the cycle repeated.

This procedure was changed a few years ago, and now cases are heard three times a year at special Reward Review meetings of the Faculty Directorates, with each of the faculties deciding their own procedures for judging the cases. This new procedure means that rationing of promotions has been abandoned and an objective standard

introduced which, when reached, results in promotion. Cases are also dealt with by a team that is more generally informed of the disciplines in question.

Responsibility for overseeing the Directorate meetings lies with the Human Resources Committee, with three elected members, one from each Faculty, attending each of the Reward Review meetings of the Directorates as an observer. An elected member cannot oversee their own Faculty's Reward Review meetings, however.

As the elected observers last academic year, we were impressed by the fair and thorough way in which this aspect of the University's business was handled at the Reward Reviews. Since promotion and the procedures by which it is attained are personally important to staff, we reported our views to the Human Resources Committee at its last meeting, and pass them on now to readers of **news@lboro**

**Russ Bowman, Bryan Buffham
and Adrian Wilkinson**

'Down Under'

Laura Adelman, a Research Associate at the Centre for Research in Social Policy (CRSP), is currently being hosted by the Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC) at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, for 12 months.

SPRC is a highly regarded research centre in the field of social policy and is directed by the eminent international social policy analyst, Professor Peter Saunders. CRSP is keen to develop links with the centre, and is already working with SPRC on the International Social Security Association project 'Assessing the Coverage Gap'. Laura's visit will provide an opportunity for further links to be established between the two centres. It will also give Laura the chance to learn about Australian social policy and the work of the Centre, and inform SPRC of the work undertaken by CRSP and other researchers within the Department of Social Sciences.

During her visit Laura will continue to work on two projects: the first to analyse access to and exclusion from minimum income in European countries, and the second to determine the extent of severe child poverty in the UK and the characteristics associated with it.

Roll of honour

Stuart Biddle – Professor of Exercise and Sport Psychology, and Head of the School of Sport and Exercise Sciences – has been appointed by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to chair the Behavioural Section of the 7th IOC Olympic World Congress on Sport Sciences, to be held in Athens in October 2003.

Economics' **Professor Max Hall** recently presented the findings of a World Bank-sponsored consultancy project on 'A Deposit Insurance System for the People's Republic of China (PRC)' at an international workshop in Shanghai. The workshop was organised by the People's Bank of China and comprised presentations from international experts, both practitioners and academics, from around the world. The event was staged to assist the PRC government in designing an appropriate deposit insurance scheme should conditions allow for its implementation in PRC.

Julian Hill, from the University's Vehicle Safety Research Centre, met HRH the Duke of Gloucester last month, when the Duke officially opened Nottinghamshire Police's new Riverside building – the HQ of their Operations Support Department. Julian is the manager of the On-The-Spot Crash Research Project team, which is based at Loughborough and aims to improve road and vehicle safety. During a tour of the new building, the Duke was told how the project has enabled expert crash investigators to work in conjunction with Notts Police to collect data from the scene of accidents in the region.

At this year's annual scientific conference of the International Research Council on the Biomechanics of Impact (IRCOBI), the award for the 'Best Paper by a Young Researcher' was won by Loughborough's **Alan Kirk** from the Vehicle Safety Research Centre, for his paper and presentation on airbag effectiveness. The award consists of a cash prize, a subscription to the Journal of Crash Prevention and Injury Control for one year and free registration for the 2003 conference.

Social Sciences' **Dr Kate Moss** has been invited by the Office for the Deputy Prime Minister to help update its advice for the police, local authorities and all agencies involved in planning out crime. This will

form good practice guidance on effective methods of implementing crime prevention measures and securing community safety through the planning system. Dr Moss, an expert on the relation between crime prevention and planning, will help oversee and monitor this process, and monitor progress.

John Presley, Professor of Economics, has been awarded the IDB (Islamic Development Bank) Prize in Islamic Banking. He is the first non-Muslim to receive the award, which is the most prestigious prize within the field of banking in the Islamic world. He was awarded the prize jointly with Alhaj Saeed bin Ahmed Lootah from the United Arab Emirates. "It is a great honour for me to receive this recognition from the Islamic Community Worldwide," said Professor Presley. "I am also most grateful to my own University for its support over the past 34 years."

Chemical Engineering's

Dr Basudeb Saha has been awarded a secondment to Syngenta – one of the world's leading suppliers of conventional and biotechnology crop solutions – under the Royal Academy of Engineering Industrial Secondment Scheme. The scheme provides university lecturers in engineering to gain state-of-the-art industrial experience.

Peter Taylor, Professor of Geography, has been selected by the Honours Committee of the Council of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) to receive the Distinguished Scholarship Honours. The Honours will be conferred in March 2003 at the annual meeting of the AAG, which will be held in New Orleans.

Three Loughborough researchers received 'Best Poster' prizes at the 10th International Environmental Ergonomics Conference, in Fukuoka, Japan. PhD student **Shuna Powell** received a prize for her work on the effect of hand skin blood flow on cooling rates of hands in contact with cold objects; Visiting professor **Dr Hiroyuki Ueda** received an award for his work on clothing microclimate ventilation that was performed together with Dr George Havenith as part of an EPSRC project; and MSc student **Kent Hatcher's** work on determination of clothing microclimate volume was also recognized with an award.

Annual golf match pits past against present

A beautiful sunny autumn day provided the perfect setting for the 5th annual golf challenge match at the Rothley Park Golf Club in October, with the Loughborough Alumni Association and the University golf team once again competing for the Maxwell trophy.

The University team ended the day triumphant, winning by 5 1/2 to 3 1/2 matches, and the trophy was presented to the team captain Paul McCann by the Vice Chancellor.

Marilyn Johnson



After the customary dinner that evening, Irene and Beverley Yates – wife and daughter of Loughborough alumnus Geoff, who had taken on the duties of 'Match Starter' last year for the event – presented Geoff's Colours blazer to the Alumni Association.

The blazer had been awarded to him in 1948 for football and cricket. Geoff was due to attend the match again this year, but sadly he died in June.

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Miscellaneous sales

Books for sale, Sherwood L (1991), Fundamentals of physiology: a human perspective. St Paul: West Publishing; Wilmore JH, Costill DL (1999), Physiology of Sport and Exercise (2nd ed), Champaign, Ill: Human Kinetics; Rogers AW (1992), Textbook of Anatomy, Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone – Offers; Email A.E.Hardman@lboro.ac.uk

Miscellaneous wants

Loughborough, **One bed flat/house** to let, urgently needed by new research student; Email E.A.Edirisinghe@lboro.ac.uk or Tel 228234.

Are you left handed? Volunteers wanted for discussion groups looking at what it means to be left handed and how this is treated in society. If interested please contact C.V.Galasso-00@student.lboro.ac.uk

Vehicles for sale

Rover 416, 16V, J Reg, 60,000 miles, MOT til July '03, taxed, silver grey, 4 dr saloon, automatic, all leather, power windows, doors, sunroof, central locking, alarm system, good stereo, 2 new tyres in 2001, all service details – £700 ono; Email K.M.Young@lboro.ac.uk or Tel 226332 or 07719 572676.

Renault Clio, 1.2, navy blue, MOT, tax and service since April 2002, 33,000 miles, excellent condition – £2,500; Email hmapplebeck@yahoo.co.uk or Tel 829901.

Houses for sale/rent

Loughborough, 2 rooms available next year in well kept, 4 bed house on Cumberland Road, 2 female housemates wanted to share with female students – £54/wk; Email E.J.Hudson-01@student.lboro.ac.uk

NYC Marathon update

Courtesy of Irene O'Malley

Congratulations to Computer Science's Irene O'Malley, who ran the New York Marathon on 3 November, completing in a very creditable 5 hours and 17 minutes and raising a fantastic £1,658.92 for the local Rainbows Children's Hospice.

"It was hard work, but a fantastic experience when I finally reached that finish line!" admits Irene.

"I'd like to thank all those people who sponsored me in the event – my family, friends and many of my work colleagues here at the University," says Irene, who also received sponsorship from the Danwood Group and Whittaker's Office Supplies, two of the University's suppliers.



Irene with her medal for completing the New York City marathon.

Inspiration

If Irene has inspired you to take part in next year's New York Marathon, then contact the Rainbows Appeals Office, Tower Street, Leicester.

Rainbows Children's Hospice cares for children with life-limiting illnesses, and offers support to the whole family. It needs to raise £1.2 million every year, through fund raising activities and contributions, to continue caring for children and their families in the local community.

Thanks AstraZeneca!

Loughborough Innovation Centre, one of the region's largest and newest business incubation centres, received a tremendous boost when Loughborough's medicines research company, AstraZeneca, R&D Charnwood donated a wealth of surplus office equipment.

The £45 million Pharmaceutical Development Facility at AstraZeneca's Charnwood site replaced the old Clinical Supplies Unit which has been awaiting demolition. Existing equipment was relocated within the business where possible, but rather than see the rest go to waste, AstraZeneca made a generous donation to Loughborough Innovation Centre, where the equipment will soon be put to good use by fledgling companies.

The equipment enables the Loughborough University campus-based facility, which provides 40,000 ft² of office and workshop space for up to 40 fledgling companies, to offer furnished offices to many tenants setting up in business for the first time.

"As a significant number of new companies fail within the first two years of operation, we want to do all we can to support our tenants' success by providing business mentors, practical advice and maximising networking and funding opportunities," says Jo Derbyshire, managing director of Loughborough University Enterprises Ltd.

"Through its generous donation, AstraZeneca is also playing a significant role in nurturing new business growth. Our start up tenants – including students with innovative business ideas – will be given an excellent start in their new ventures and we are extremely grateful for AstraZeneca for its great generosity."



Emma Nadin, of Loughborough University Enterprises Ltd, takes a break during the removals.

**Friday 10
January 2003**

**Democracy and accountability in the EU:
the role of the House of Lords** **1.00pm**

Talk by Dr Valsamis Mitsilegas, Legal Assistant, Select Committee on the European Union, in room A.2.04 Schofield building, everyone welcome. For further details contact Dr Maurice FitzGerald, Tel 223659.

**Thursday 16
January**

Belcea Quartet **7.30pm**

A wonderful opportunity to hear an internationally renowned quartet. Cope Auditorium, Adults: £7.00, Students: £4.00, Concessions: £6.00 Further information from the Arts Centre, Tel 222899.

**Tuesday 21
January**

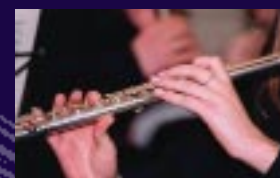
Royal Aeronautical Society **7.30pm**

Boeing 747-400 Success Story. Capt. Alan Robinson will discuss 747-400 operations in the British Airways fleet. Further information available from Goff Tearle, Tel 227260.

**Tuesday 21
January**

Burleigh Club **8.00pm**

D B Hunter – Graphology.
For further details contact Betty Cattell, Tel 233911.



The Mott Lecture 2002

This year's Sir Nevill Mott lecture was delivered by prominent theoretical physicist Professor Phil Anderson from Princeton University in the USA, who received the Nobel Prize jointly with Sir Nevill Mott and Van Vleck in 1977. Professor Anderson has made major contributions to condensed matter physics, and some of the novel phenomena now bear his name. Hosted by the Department of Physics, the eighth annual lecture took place last month.

In his lecture, entitled *History of the Mott Metal – Insulator Transition*, Professor Anderson

covered the area of solid state physics to which both he and Sir Nevill Mott have made significant contributions.

Among the guests at the lecture were the University's Chancellor Sir Denis Rooke, Professor K W H Stevens from University of Nottingham, Professor John Enderby from Bristol University, and Dr Ruffles, Director of Engineering and Technology at Rolls-Royce Plc in Derby.

The first Sir Nevill Mott lecture took place in 1995 and the series takes its name from the eminent speaker on that occasion.

