

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh celebrates former Chancellor's contribution to University

His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh visited Loughborough University in March for the official naming of the Sir Denis Rooke building, in honour of the University's former Chancellor.

Sir Denis stepped down in July 2003 after 14 years in the role, during which time he provided exceptional leadership for the University.

The Sir Denis Rooke building is located in the magnificent setting of Holywell Park, which was acquired by the University in April 2003, and expands the campus to more than 400 acres.

At the official naming ceremony HRH The Duke of Edinburgh met with dignitaries from the region and the University, including The Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire The Lady Gretton, the High Sheriff of Leicestershire Ms Julien Birchall, the Mayor of Charnwood Councillor Jack Moore, University Chancellor Sir John Jennings and Vice Chancellor Professor David Wallace.

His Royal Highness was then invited to see examples of the pioneering work being carried out at Loughborough, which included the development of the RespiVest, a garment created by University spin-out company Progressive Sports Technologies that athletes wear around the chest to train their breathing muscles and help boost performance.

After viewing the exhibits, His Royal Highness signed a portrait photograph and formally named the building by unveiling a plaque and a bust of Sir Denis Rooke.



His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh chats to Tom Waller of University spin-out company Progressive Sports Technologies about the development of the RespiVest.

"During his time as Chancellor, Sir Denis provided exceptional leadership in the University's development and saw it grow immensely in stature and achievements," said Professor David Wallace, the University's Vice Chancellor. "We are delighted that His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh agreed to lead the tribute to Sir Denis and to help us mark the huge contribution he made to the University."

The Sir Denis Rooke building currently houses staff from the SEIC – a collaborative venture involving BAE Systems, East Midlands Development Agency (emda) and Loughborough University – and imago, the conference and events commercial section of the University.



Sir Denis Rooke is pictured alongside the bust created in his honour.

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Job evaluation update

The University is now six months into its job evaluation exercise, having completed the initial process in Media Services, Security, the Library, the Business School, Estates and Engineering.

The team of evaluators now all feel very comfortable about the evaluation process, having had plenty of opportunity to put their training into practice.

April will see a break in the evaluation process whilst the University reviews and consolidates what has been done so far. Part of this review involves getting Hay to quality check the work.

Many questions have arisen during phases one and two, the most common of which have been answered on the 'Question Board' which can be found on the website.

If you have not yet looked at it, please do take time to do so, it can be found at:
<http://www.lboro.ac.uk/admin/personnel/jobevaluation/homepage.htm>

Copies of the information on the website are also available from Personnel Services for those who do not have easy access to the Internet. Earlier this year the University reached an agreement with the AUT to work with them locally and nationally to incorporate their job families into the scheme if possible.

This has been put on hold during the industrial action but will hopefully resume as soon as possible. Phase three of the exercise covers Science, Finance, Computing Services and Corporate Information Services. Briefing sessions for these departments will take place in April and May.



The Freedom of Information Act

The Freedom of Information Act, passed on 30 November 2000, is intended to promote a culture of openness and accountability amongst public sector bodies by providing people with rights of access to the information held by them.

It is expected that these rights will facilitate better public understanding of how public authorities carry out their duties, why they make the decisions they do and how they spend public money.

The Act gives a general right of access to information held by public authorities, including universities and will be brought into force in two stages, with full implementation by 1 January 2005.

Further briefing and training will be available as we approach the January 2005 date.

The University has completed the first stage of compliance by producing a publication scheme which is available at:

www.lboro.ac.uk/admin/ar/policy/foi/Schemeindex.html or by clicking on the Freedom of Information link on the home page.

A publication scheme is a guide to the types of information that the University regularly publishes, the format in which the information is available and whether or not the University charges a fee for the provision of that information.

All staff should be aware of the University's commitments to provide information upon request in accordance with the publication scheme. Whilst

most of the information is available via the web, the University should also be prepared to provide information in other formats upon request.

General information about the Freedom of Information Act can be found at the following website:
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk/

For more information on the University's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, please contact Miranda Whyte, Academic Registry by emailing m.t.whyte@lboro.ac.uk



University brings together world experts to study how different regions of the brain interact with each other

Loughborough University has been awarded a grant of almost £80,000 to help develop new techniques for analysing how different regions of the brain interact with each other.

The Leverhulme Trust grant will enable the University to pool together experts in this field from across the world and set up a Theoretical Neuroscience Network. Together, the Network members will try to develop innovative mathematical and computational techniques for the analysis of brain interactions using real neural data from EEGs (Electroencephalograms), MEGs (Magneto-encephalograms) and fMRI (functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging). In the future this work could help us to understand and treat debilitating brain disorders such as epilepsy, schizophrenia and Parkinson's disease.

The Network will be led by 27-year-old Dr John Terry, who is based in the University's Mathematical Sciences Department. Dr Terry has already carried out a lot of work in this area, both at a theoretical level and using EEG data to examine the differences in brain activity between 'normal' adults and those suffering with schizophrenia.

His study showed that in sufferers of schizophrenia the brain interactions are statistically different from those in normal subjects, providing support for clinical theories about schizophrenia, such as the 'disconnection hypothesis'. This suggests that delusions and hallucinations experienced by schizophrenics occur as a result of incorrect wiring between different regions of the brain.

It is because of Dr Terry's groundbreaking work that the University has been able to secure funding to set up a specialist Network for

this area of research. Dr Terry said: "I am delighted that the Leverhulme Trust has recognised the many contributions that mathematics can make in aiding our understanding of complex systems such as the brain. I am confident that the new Theoretical Neuroscience Network will enable us to make some exciting breakthroughs in this area of research.

"By developing techniques for understanding the complex interactions between brain regions we can discover what the differences are between 'normal' healthy adults and people who suffer from conditions such as epilepsy and mental illness.

By pinpointing what the differences are we can then try to find ways of correcting or altering brain activity in a bid to cure such conditions."

Several institutions are already part of the Network; these include the University of Nottingham, the University of Sydney, Australia, and Vrije University Medical Centre in Amsterdam.

Professor Neil Halliwell, Pro Vice Chancellor for Research at Loughborough University said: "Significant advances in our understanding of a research problem are much more likely to happen by teamwork than was previously the case.

Loughborough staff excel at research collaboration and the award of this grant to a Loughborough network leader is testimony to this."

Support Bring a Book Week

Community Action – the part of the Students' Union dedicated to student and staff volunteering – is holding a 'Bring a Book Week' from 10 – 14 May.

As the name suggests, people are being asked to bring in just one book suitable for children of primary school age so that they may be distributed and donated to schools in the Loughborough area.

Bring a Book Week is being organised as an extension to the Right to Read project, Community Action's biggest project run in conjunction with the Leicester Business Education Company (LBEC). There are currently over 70 Right to Read volunteers

working with five Loughborough primary schools. The project involves going into school for an hour every week and spending 15 minutes with four children helping them with their reading. This may not sound like a lot but consider these facts:

- One in four 11-year-olds cannot read and write by the time they go to secondary school.
- In 12 weeks it is possible to help a child increase their reading age by as much as six months.

However, due to budget restrictions and other pressures, primary schools do not have the resources to buy as many reading books as they

may like. This is the purpose of Bring a Book Week – it gives people a chance to get rid of any unwanted books and the satisfaction of knowing that they are going somewhere they will be appreciated. All that is asked is that they are suitable for children between the ages of four and 11.

To donate a book or books just put it in the internal mail, addressed to 'Bring a Book Week – Mail Room' between the 10 and 14 May.

For further information about the Right to Read project and how to get involved contact Annette Earl by emailing a.t.earl2-03@student.lboro.ac.uk or the Community Action office.

Student Complaints Seminar

Members of the Association of University Administrators (AUA) are invited to attend a seminar on student complaints.

The seminar will be presented by Nicola Hart, from Pinsents, a corporate law firm, on Tuesday 11 May from 12.30pm until 2pm. Admission to the event is free and a buffet lunch will be provided. For further information about Pinsents visit their website at www.pinsent.com For details on how to join the AUA or about the seminar contact Miranda Whyte by emailing M.T.Whyte@lboro.ac.uk

Work of researchers chosen to go on display at House of Commons

Four Loughborough University researchers were invited to a prestigious event at the House of Commons aimed at celebrating the work of Britain's top younger engineers and scientists.

Held in March, the reception was sponsored by MP Dr Brian Iddon and co-ordinated by Dr Eric Wharton of Scientists, Engineers and Technologists for Britain (SET).

The annual event is open to people aged 35 and under and is held to raise the profile of UK engineering and science – as well as inspire future generations of researchers in these areas.

Dr John Terry, who works in the University's Mathematical Sciences Department, displayed his work on the modelling of neural systems, Dr Bala Vaidhyanathan, a Research Associate in the University's Institute of Polymer Technology and Materials Engineering (IPTME) presented his work on 'Novel Processing of Nanostructured Ceramics Using Microwaves', and Rob Alcock and Jeremy Coupland from the Wolfson School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering displayed their work on the development of Interference based Imaging Spectroscopy techniques that are capable of discriminating between different materials being viewed. Rob and Jeremy also won a Commendation Award for their presentation.

John Harper, the Director of IPTME said: "Since applications for this event were invited from every UK university and industry, this sends out a strong message about the quality and relevance of research at Loughborough."



Crystal Clear Creative

Crystal Clear Creative, a new internet-radio organisation set up to record, produce, broadcast and promote new writers and actors for radio through its website, has been launched at the University.

An evening of readings and drama was held at the Martin Hall Bistro to mark the launch of the organisation, which has strong links with the MA strand in Creative Writing in the Department of English and Drama.

Poets, playwrights and actors who took part in the event included Deborah Tyler-Bennett, Jonathan Taylor, Simon King, Peter Lewis and Jane Liddiard.

Crystal Clear Creative was founded last year by Jonathan Taylor and Robin Webber-Jones, a former Loughborough student and manager of a radio station in Leicester. It was recently awarded a substantial grant by Arts Council England.

For further information visit: www.crystalclearcreators.org

WickesAid sponsors Loughborough's Retail Management degree course

WickesAid, the charitable trust set up by the DIY chain Wickes, has selected the Business School at Loughborough University for its first venture into supporting Higher Education.

the Retail Management programme, said: "We are very grateful for the generous support of the WickesAid Trust across such a wide range of areas within Retail Management. We feel

In a five-year sponsorship agreement, WickesAid is generously supporting a package of benefits for the BSc (Hons.) Retail

Management degree, through the Loughborough University

Development Trust. There is a prize for each year of the course, a Professional Studies Report prize, two first-year bursaries and a sponsored PhD studentship under the University's Research Scholarship Scheme. Additionally, WickesAid has generously sponsored the programme's Retail Resource Centre, where students have access to research material and multimedia resources.

The total value of the sponsorship is £37,500.

Dr Mohammed Rafiq, Director of



Keith Stokes-Smith, of WickesAid Trust (second right) with year prize-winners Laura Simpson (first year), Peter Egan (final year), and Sarah Kenna (second year); and Bryan Johnston from the Loughborough University Development Trust.

privileged that the Trust should choose Loughborough as its first Higher Education institute to support."

Recently Keith Stokes-Smith, a representative of the WickesAid Trust, visited the University to take part in the annual Retail Management student awards, where prizes from both WickesAid and Barclays Bank were presented. Mr Stokes-Smith also officially opened the WickesAid Retail Resource Centre and met staff and students on the programme.

Book released

David Lavalley from the School of Sport and Exercise Sciences has recently had released a co-authored book entitled 'Sport Psychology: Contemporary Themes'.

The book, co-written by John Kremer, Aidan Morn and Mark Williams, focuses on the areas in sport psychology that have generated the most interest in recent years. The history, background and theory of each topic are discussed before being put into practice through the use of case studies and practical examples. Published by Palgrave Macmillan, the book costs £17.99.

University scientists prove they have the bottle for recycling

Scientists at Loughborough University have helped transform thousands of recycled plastic bottles and other waste into new lightweight panelling for trucks.

Researchers in the University's Institute of Polymer Technology and Materials Engineering (IPTME) have helped develop foam-filled panels for use in the bodywork of large commercial vehicles, which weigh 60 percent less than the traditional plywood panels currently used. This means lorries made with the new material will use less fuel or can carry a greater payload, reducing the amount of journeys needed to transport goods and helping businesses to save money.

The pioneering environmentally friendly product, called Panelplus, has been developed using funding from the Waste and Resource Action Programme (WRAP) and in partnership with Rothley-based technology transfer company Europrojects Ltd.

Around £500,000 has been ploughed into the two-year study, aimed at dramatically increasing the amount of plastic waste

recycled in the UK over the next five years.

It is now hoped the new lightweight panels will be used on a wide range of vans and trucks.

Two of the first vehicles to be fitted with Panelplus were at Loughborough University last month following their official unveiling at the Heritage Motor Centre in Gaydon, Warwickshire.

Barry Haworth of IPTME has been leading Loughborough's involvement in the project.

He said: "It is very exciting to finally see the panels we have helped develop in use.

The benefits of these new panels are massive – not only are they made from recycled waste, they enable the vehicle to carry larger loads. Ultimately this could



Barry Haworth (left) and John Harper, Director of IPTME are pictured with the first Panelplus trucks.

mean fewer trucks on our roads, and thus less road pollution.

As a double whammy, it is also anticipated that the panels themselves will be recyclable at the end of their own lifetimes in service."

Other potential uses for the panels are already being investigated. Eventually they could be fitted to caravans, used for stock pallets or developed into lightweight furniture.

NEWS @ 1001

End to driver stress?

Loughborough graduate Hannah Collip has been enjoying the sweet smell of success after being granted a UK patent for her revolutionary climate control system for vehicles.

The innovative new system, the 'Humid 2000', was designed during Hannah's final year as an Industrial Design and Technology student at the University in 2000. It works by seeking to counteract the effects of prolonged air conditioning and stress on car drivers by releasing humidity and aromatherapy scents into the vehicles' interior environment. Hannah explains: "Traffic levels are on a worldwide increase and with this comes an inevitable rise in driver stress. To combat this I

developed a system to monitor the humidity of the interior of a car and the driver's stress levels through a variety of tailor-made sensors. If the driver is recognised as being tired, lethargic or stressed, energising scents are released into the atmosphere to alleviate these conditions."

In addition to the success of her patent application Hannah also received an Audi Foundation Grant in 2000. The grants are specifically awarded with the aim of inspiring young people to seek to innovate in the field of design. Hannah is currently based in Worcestershire working as a freelance designer with her own company 'H.J.Design'. She is currently in the process of filing an international patent for 'Humid 2000'.

Rebuilding Bam

A Loughborough PhD student has returned from the earthquake-hit city of Bam in Iran after helping to rebuild water and sanitation facilities for the area.

More than 40,000 people died in the earthquake, which hit the city on December 26 last year. A relief effort was immediately launched by international organisations including the United Nations, the Red Cross and Oxfam.

Jean-Francois Pinera, a student in the University's Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC) was asked by Oxfam to help in the reconstruction of the area. He spent four weeks in Iran helping to build, refurbish and repair sanitation facilities in villages situated west of the city. It was vital this was done as quickly as possible to limit the risk of the spread of disease and to help bring about a return to normal life.

Jean-Francois's main role was to develop a strategy for Oxfam to enable it to best respond to the needs of the local people. Together with his Iranian colleague, Ali Marvasti, he carried out an assessment of properties in the area and oversaw the construction work. In the last days of his stay he also began assessing properties in downtown Bam, a second area Oxfam has started working in. Around 7,500 people live in the area where Jean-Francois worked and by June Oxfam is hoping to repair or rebuild 150 toilets and 80 showers.

Loughborough Students' Union to host its sixth annual International Day

Music, dance, art, food and fashion from throughout the world will be on display at Loughborough Students' Union (LSU) on Wednesday 28 April, as part of International Day 2004.

The annual cultural event is organised by the LSU International Students' Association (ISA) and is held in the union building from 10am until 6pm.

Its aim is to increase the profile of international students and to promote a better understanding between the international and local communities living in the East Midlands. Entry to the event is free and everyone is welcome.

ISA President Deerajen Ramasawmy said: "Last year's International Day was an enormous success. More than 60 nations were represented and over 3,000 people, including diplomatic ambassadors from some of the countries represented on the day, visited the event. We hope this year's International Day, the sixth held at the union, will be even bigger and better!"

The number of international students in UK universities is fast growing, and there are currently almost 2,000 international students from around 100 countries studying at Loughborough University.

For more information about International Day and international students, please visit <http://www.isa-lboro.org.uk>



National Science Week

Loughborough's National Science Week 2004 has been hailed a massive success.

The Faculty of Science had a packed programme of events for the week, which aims to celebrate science and its importance to our lives by giving people the chance to participate in science activities and experiments, and to engage in science discussions in their local area.

A practical demonstration of what happens to your body when it gets cold and a chance to see how Frisbees are made at the Institute of Polymer Technology and Materials Engineering (IPTME) laboratories were just two of the sessions ran by the University for pupils from Loughborough's De Lisle RC School. There was also a guest lecture by the highly esteemed scientist Professor Heinz Wolff, which attracted a massive audience.

Professor Ken Parsons, Dean of the Faculty of Science said: "National Science Week is a fantastic opportunity for us to show young people how science can be fun and exciting.

"Within the faculty we organised lots of interesting events for local school pupils and other members of the community to take part in, and everyone who got involved had a brilliant time. The University is delighted with how the week went and looks forward to having another packed programme for National Science Week 2005."



Adam Major (16) and Emily Taylor (18) from De Lisle RC School with Frisbees made in the IPTME labs.

Women of Achievement Awards

Jo Derbyshire, Managing Director of Loughborough University Enterprises Ltd (LUEL), has been celebrating after reaching the finals of the Women of Achievement Awards 2004.

The awards were designed to recognise ordinary women who have achieved extraordinary things. Jo was chosen from almost one hundred applicants throughout Leicestershire and Rutland as one of three finalists in the Business Woman of the Year category sponsored by the East Midlands Development Agency (emda).

Nominated by her colleagues at Loughborough for her pivotal role in the creation of 23 University spin-out companies, Jo was delighted with her success.

She said: "I was thrilled to reach the final in the company of so many remarkable women. I am especially pleased that my

role at the University has enabled me to successfully nurture and commercially exploit so much of the University's innovative research."

Now managing director of Loughborough University Enterprises, Jo heads up a 17 strong team.

In addition to her role supporting University technologies, Jo founded the free business enterprise network Loughborough Enterprise Club in 2001. She also championed the development of Loughborough Innovation Centre, one of the region's largest high tech business incubators.

The Women of Achievement Awards 2004 were organised by Business Link for Leicestershire in association with LeicesteHERday.

New research grants and contracts, awarded in February 2004 over £1,500

research@lboro

Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering

CoJeN
Prof J J McGuirk
£122,000 European Commission

INTELLECT

Prof J J McGuirk
£274,000 European Commission

AIDA

Dr J C Carrotte
£300,000 European Commission

Business School

An investigation into the relationship between ethnicity and occupational stress in the teaching profession.

Dr C Travers and Ms Grace Miller
£3,000 National Union of Teachers

Chemical Engineering

Travel grant to establish joint res.collaborations in membrane separation, wetting phenomena and electrokinetics

Prof V M Starov
£4,305 EPSRC

Chemistry

Experimental work to investigate the long terms performance of proposed permeable reactive barrier

Dr P Warwick
£25,000 BNFL

Investigation of TPPB and its degradation products

Dr P Warwick
£19,400 Nirex Ltd

Civil and Building Engineering

Application Research for Freeform Construction Processes

Prof A Thorpe, Dr R C Soar, Dr A G Gibb and Dr F Edum-Fotwe
£53,679 EPSRC(IMRC)

Off Site Production Skills for the Future:Gap Analysis and Roadmap

Prof A D F Price and Dr A G Gibb
£52,645 EPSRC(IMRC)

Kerb and Flag Installation

Dr A G Gibb
£5,582 Interpave

SEEMSEED

Dr T Hassan
£78,000 European Commission

CRSP

Sure Start Charnwood Loughbrough East Baseline Satisfaction Survey

Ms K V Kellard and Miss K Legge
£14,175 Sure Start Charnwood Loughborough East

The Social Fund: Current Role and Future Direction

Ms S Middleton, Dr B R Stafford,

Mr N Smith and Ms K Legge
£96,508 Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Delivering Labour Market Policies through Local and Regional Partnerships

Dr S Roberts
£67,725 Leeds Metropolitan University

Electronic and Electrical Engineering

Travel and Subsistence for Distributed Power SUPERGEN Consortium

Dr D G Infield
£2,050 EPSRC

Pulsed Power Research and Trials Support

Prof I R Smith
£28,133 DSTL for MOD

English and Drama

Research Leave Scheme: Shifting directions - a new kind of theatre-making in the twenty-first century

Prof A Oddey
£13,625 Arts and Humanities Research Board

ESRI

Apsn
Ms R Grant
£59,904 European Commission

Geography

Cross-shore sediment transport and profile evolution on natural beaches (X-SHORE Project)

Dr G Masselink
£38,171 Plymouth University

Cross-shore sediment transport and profile evolution on natural beaches (X-SHORE Project)

Dr G Masselink
£35,128 NERC

Human Sciences

Vision and Thermal Responses
Dr P A Howarth and Dr G Havenith
£11,450 Honda R and D Europe (UK) Ltd

Optimisation of Methodologies for Quantification of the Vibration Emission of Off-Road Machinery (Ref: VBN/RP/0342c)

Dr N J Mansfield
£67,500 Caterpillar Inc. USA

Scholarship - Optimisation of Methodologies for Quantification of the Vibration Emission of Off-Road Machinery (Ref: VBN/RP/0342c)

Dr N J Mansfield
£15,000 Caterpillar Inc. USA

Information Science

Research Leave Scheme: Contemporary discourses of public library purpose, value and strategy

Dr A Goulding
£13,625 Arts and Humanities Research Board

IPTME

The Effect of Precipitated Calcium Carbonate on the Processing and Properties of PVC Foam

Dr N L Thomas
£37,500 Solvay PCC

LUSAD

Laser Light Drawing installation for the Chapter House, Lincoln Cathedral, plus digital design drawings, Usher Gallery

J Berry
£4,839 Arts and Humanities Research Board

Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Plastic Deformation of Ultrasonic Consolidated Aluminium Specimens

Dr R Soar and Prof P M Dickens
£51,350 EPSRC(IMRC)

A Laser-Based Spin Measurement Device

Dr A Harland
£117,846 EPSRC

Flex-Eman

Mr P P Conway
£259,000 European Commission

School of Sport and Exercise Sciences

Children's Fitness Testing 129/2003

Dr J Harris
£13,000 National Assembly for Wales

Half Time Orange

Prof M Gleeson
£8,600 McDonald's via The Red Consultancy Ltd

Social Sciences

Images of Homelessness in Britain and New Zealand

Prof A Radley
£4,200 British Academy

Systems Engineering

Virtual Organisational Rig for Testing and Investigating Company Structures

Mrs C Siemieniuch and Mr M A Sinclair
£119,461 EPSRC(IMRC)

WEDC

Non-State Provision of Basic Services : Desk Study

Mr K Sansom
£5,435 The Governance Resource Centre/DFID

DFID KAR Regulating Public Private Partnerships for the Poor

Mr K Sansom, Dr S Kayaga, Dr A Obika and Dr S Coates
£38,857 Cranfield University

Chartging to enter the Shop - DFID KAR Research Project

Mr K Sansom and Dr S Kayaga
£10,543 Cranfield University

Loughborough University Development Trust Supports University Prizes

Thanks to the support of the Loughborough University Development Trust, the University will be offering the following prizes for award in the 2003/04 academic year.

Loughborough University Undergraduate Prizes

Ten first year prizes valued at £50, 10 second year prizes valued at £75 and 10 final year prizes valued at £100 awarded in the following departments and schools: Department of Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering, School of Art and Design, Business School, Department of Chemistry, Department of Civil and Building Engineering, Department of Design and Technology, Department of Economics, Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Department of Geography, Department of Human Sciences, Department

of Information Science, Department of Physics, Department of Politics, International Relations and European Studies, Institute of Polymer Technology and Materials Engineering, Wolfson School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, Department of Social Sciences, School of Sport and Exercise Sciences.

Please visit the University and Departmental prizes web page at <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/admin/committees/prizes/index.html> for detailed information on the criteria for the award of the prizes and for which prizes are available in which department or school. The prizes will be awarded in summer 2004.

Loughborough University Postgraduate Prize

A prize to the value of £400 may be awarded annually to a

student registered on an MSc or MA programme and of outstanding all round achievement in the University, including academic achievement. The prize will be awarded in December 2004. Students must be nominated for this award by their department. Details of how to nominate students for this prize can be found at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/admin/committees/prizes/post/pgp.doc>

Loughborough University Postgraduate Progression Prize

A prize to the value of £400 may be awarded annually to a student registered on an MSc or MA programme who has been accepted for registration as a Loughborough University PhD student, and of outstanding all round achievement in the University, including academic achievement. The award will

be payable upon registration for a Loughborough University PhD programme and will be awarded in December 2004. Students must be nominated for this award by their department. Details on how to nominate students for this prize can be found at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/admin/committees/prizes/post/prog.doc>

All the above prizes are funded through the Development Trust. The Trust exists to support the University in giving students an outstanding quality of educational experience. It raises funds from former students and other friends of the University. Their generosity has made these prizes possible.

For more information on University Prizes please contact Tawfiq Wolff, Secretary to the Prizes Committee, by emailing T.Wolff@lboro.ac.uk

imago at Holywell Park

imago, the name for conference and event facilities at Loughborough University, has just showcased its new day delegate centre - imago at Holywell Park.

With a ceremonial opening of the building by HRH The Duke Of Edinburgh in the preceding week, imago at Holywell Park launched to local businesses on 19 March.

Over 100 companies were invited to attend the opening day and were welcomed by the Director of imago Malcolm Brown. The audience were then given an update on the progress of the strategic development of the East Midlands with a presentation from the East Midlands Development Agency. Sponsors of the event – Lexus Leicester, the local car dealership who exhibited one of their prestigious models at the event, and the Leicester Mercury who distributed their 2004 business directory – were joined in the display area by a host of local exhibitors who took part. These included Loughborough University's Business School, Loughborough University Enterprise Limited, BeClear, a consultancy and training company for business, Internet security consultants Objectsoft, catering equipment suppliers Gamers, and Harringtons, the specialist contract furnishers and manufacturers.

The new day delegate centre has six meeting rooms with a capacity of 12 to 15 people per room, and four of these rooms can merge to offer two larger meeting locations with a capacity of 24 and 30. All rooms are equipped to a high specification and offer the latest audiovisual equipment and are air-conditioned. There is also a 160-seated tiered lecture theatre, a breakout area complete with a cyber bar offering data access and a Business Centre for fax, photocopying, print facilities and Internet access. A split-level restaurant offers freshly prepared hot and cold foods and tea and coffee are available throughout the day.

For information about imago at Holywell Park and its other facilities contact Emma Boynton by calling 0845 0364624 or visit www.welcometoimago.com

Code of Practice

A collaborative research team based in the departments of Civil and Building Engineering and Social Sciences has been commissioned to develop a new Diversity and Equal Opportunities Code of Practice for the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE).

The team comprising of Chrissie Pepper, Dr Andy Dainty, Professor Alistair Gibb and Professor Barbara Bagilhole based the code on the findings of a series of in-depth interviews with industry stakeholders on how to encourage the employment of women, ethnic minorities and disabled people in the construction industry. The code is due for launch in May.



London Olympic bid chief Barbara Cassani praises Loughborough University

Barbara Cassani, Chairman of the London 2012 Olympic Bid, paid a special visit to Loughborough University in March as part of a campaign to build support for the Bid across the UK.

During her visit she was accompanied by the University's director of sports development, Chris Earle, who took Ms Cassani on a tour of Loughborough's state-of-the-art sports facilities.

She also met some of the University's renowned sports coaches, including Ian Armiger, the director of swimming, and director of athletics George Gandy, as well as some of Loughborough's elite sports men and women.

"A successful London Olympic Bid will bring benefits to the whole of the UK, and Loughborough is well positioned to make the most of these benefits." said Ms Cassani. "The excellent sporting facilities at Loughborough mean that the University is ideally placed to benefit from a London Games by being able to offer its facilities as pre Games athlete holding camps for the many different countries that will be



Barbara Cassani is pictured with Loughborough University World breaststroke champion and Olympic hopeful James Gibson.

competing, or to host sporting events in the run-up to the Games. I have heard lots of good things about the facilities at Loughborough and know how many top athletes the University has produced."

In the afternoon Ms Cassani travelled to Telford in Shropshire to make a keynote address to over 1,000 PE teachers and leading sports administrators at the Youth Sport Trust's Reform and Innovation conference.

In her speech she outlined how the bid for the 2012 London Olympic Games and Paralympic Games needs the full support of the UK, and how all of the UK could benefit.

She also talked about how the Games can inspire the nation to get active and create a new generation of sporting champions.

Re-vamped PowerBase and Gymnastics Centre completed

The total refurbishment of PowerBase, the University's high performance sport strength and conditioning facility is now complete and open for use - boasting some of the most advanced equipment for elite sport training in the country.

Use of the centre is split between the region's world class ranked performers supported by the English Institute of Sport and the University's own sports performance squads. The new facility is part of the £6 million redevelopment of the former PE Centre (PEC) into the new Loughborough Performance Centre and has been Lottery funded.

As well as PowerBase, the old PEC now houses state-of-the-art sports science and medicine facilities, offices and is the hub of Loughborough's English Institute of Sport provision. The overall development sees the Performance Centre linked to up-graded sports science laboratories, to the new Gymnastics Analysis Centre, and to a new suite of changing rooms servicing the outdoor pitches.

Scholar Wins Modern Pentathlon World Championships

Loughborough Geography graduate and Sports Scholar Georgina Harland claimed the Modern Pentathlon World Championship in Athens, in what was a precursor to the Olympic event later this Summer.

Her victory secured her a place at the Olympics where she will try to emulate Stephanie Cooke, who won Modern Pentathlon Gold in Sydney in 2000.

Harland, who also won Gold at the 2001 World Championships, clinched victory in Athens in the final event - the cross-country - where she earned enough points to push Tatyana Tereshchuk of the Ukraine into the runner up spot. Tereshchuk also automatically qualifies for the Olympics in Athens.

Role of Honour

Appointment to Open University

Emeritus Professor Richard Wilson from the Business School has been appointed Visiting Research Professor at the Open University, which has Europe's largest Business School, and Visiting Professor of Accounting and Finance at University College Northampton.

Prize awarded

Dr Mark Groves, a Reader in the Mathematical Sciences Department has been awarded the German Applied Maths Society 2004 Richard von Mises prize. The prize is awarded for outstanding scientific performance in applied mathematics and mechanics. Chris Linton, head of the department said: "The quality of Dr Groves' work and his strong affinity with the German mathematical community has been recognised in the past through the award of three separate Alexander von Humboldt Fellowships.

This prize reflects the enormously high regard for his research in Germany."

University joins forces with EMPA

Loughborough's Human Thermal Environments Laboratory has signed a cooperation agreement with the Swiss National Materials Testing Agency EMPA.

The laboratory, based in the department of Human Sciences has agreed to intensify joint research activities with the agency. The cooperation will draw together Loughborough's expertise of the physiological behaviour of humans in relation to the climate and the clothing worn and EMPA's vast research experience in textile materials and the development of research tools related to textile performance in clothing applications.

Obituaries

Professor Reg Phillips

It is with great sadness that we report the death of former Loughborough University Professor Reg Phillips, who passed away on 12 March aged 88.

Professor Phillips was born in Wales and went to school in Cardiff. From there he won a scholarship to Oxford, going to Jesus College where he read Chemistry, graduating with a first in 1937. He then attended University College, London as a postgraduate student and obtained his PhD in 1940 before joining the Royal Ordnance in the Chemical Inspectorate Department. He worked there on research and development from 1940 to 1945, leaving to join Northampton Polytechnic as a lecturer.

In 1952 he moved to Loughborough College to take up the post of Head of the Department of Pure and Applied Science.

At that time the department was responsible for all teaching and research, not only in chemistry but also mathematics, physics, materials and the newly developing subject of chemical

engineering. It was based in various buildings spread throughout the town.

Professor Phillips went on to foster and develop all the areas under his leadership, especially chemistry and then chemical engineering, which he saw as a subject of growing importance. An example of the kind of dedicated teacher and scholar he was lies in the fact that in order to better teach and oversee this subject he studied and passed the Associate Membership examinations of the Institution of Chemical Engineers - these were the most difficult tests of all the four major professional engineering bodies.

He was correct in his judgement of the subject's importance because in 1956 it was decided to make Chemical Engineering a separate department with its own head. After four more years both chemistry and chemical engineering moved into new purpose built premises on the present University campus.

The department had now grown considerably in size and as well as becoming well-known for its

teaching was producing some outstanding research.

Soon after the move into the new building the college and the way it was administered changed dramatically, moving away from a largely autocratic institution ruled by a principal and a relatively small number of heads of departments to one with a board of studies, about half of whose members were elected. Professor Phillips played an important part in this transition as he did in the next stage, which was the move from a college to a university.



The period from 1960 to 1970 saw other significant changes in which the department of Pure and Applied Science became a Board of Studies and new departments of mathematics, physics and materials were formed, each with its own head. It is to his lasting credit that Professor Phillips never once opposed the formation of these departments although each new one meant a reduction in his own 'empire'. Instead he welcomed all the new heads, giving them his support and cooperation. Loughborough then established

a Senate and Council, both of which Professor Phillips was a member. He also served a three year period as Senior Pro Vice Chancellor. He stepped down as head of department in 1977 and spent the last three years of his working life at the University partly in the Department of Chemistry and also in the sister department of Chemical Engineering. He handed over a flourishing department, which was well-known and respected for its teaching and research and he could look with pride at what he had achieved at Loughborough.

He retired in 1980 and continued to live in Loughborough where he was seen often in the town helping his wife Vera with the shopping on market day or attending various local functions. He continued to enjoy singing in the Loughborough Male Voice Choir, playing bowls and walking. Professor Phillips married Vera in 1944 and he leaves a son, two daughters and six grandchildren. He was very much a family man who took a keen interest in all their activities. He was a good man and will be sorely missed by his wife, his family and many friends.

Don Freshwater

Professor Ronald Philip Howson, BSc, PhD, FInstP, CPhys

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Professor Ron Howson, who passed away on the 28 February, aged 68 following a long illness.

One of the longest serving members of the Department of Physics, Ron built one of the UK's leading thin films research groups, publishing well over 100 academic papers. His research interest was the advance of techniques for vacuum deposition of coatings on large area substrates, particularly reactive planar magnetron sputtering and his expertise in physical vapour deposition was recognised throughout the world.

Professor Howson attended High Storrs Grammar School in his hometown of Sheffield, before reading Physics at the University of Sheffield. After graduating with first class honours in 1956, he moved on to Exeter University where he received a PhD in 1959. After completing his PhD, Ron went to work for six years as a research scientist at the Allen Clark Research Laboratories of the Plessey Company in Towcester. This was followed in 1965 by a two-year spell as a Senior Lecturer at Nottingham Regional Technical College (now Nottingham Trent University) with a research only contract.

He moved to Loughborough as a Lecturer in 1967, and was successively promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1978, Reader in 1984 and Professor of Applied Physics in 1991.

Following the success of early industrially funded research, and with support from the SERC, the EEC and industry he set up the Vacuum Coatings Group, which combined academic research with development work and consultancy for industry. He was widely recognised as a leader in the field of vacuum coating and was employed as a consultant by many major companies, including those based in the UK, EU, USA and Asia. His work on the deposition of heat reflecting coatings onto large area flexible substrates won him the BP Energy Research Prize at national level in 1983 and international level the following year. Several of his process designs for conducting and ophthalmic coatings were also commercialised and licensed to UK industries.

Professor Howson was elected a Fellow of the Institute of Physics in 1996, the same year that he retired as a full-time academic to spend a year as visiting professor in the Ion Beam Engineering Experimental Laboratory at Kyoto University. He returned to Loughborough as a part-time academic and even following his complete retirement he still kept up his links with the University, participating in a teaching company scheme.

He was always an active member of the Physics Department, encouraging colleagues, postgraduates and undergraduates to get involved in physics with real applications. He contributed fully to all aspects of University and Departmental life; he was both President and Secretary of LAUT at different times and led the campaign for Trade Union recognition of LAUT by the University in the 1970s. When not involved with physics Professor Howson was a keen golfer, a fan of football, an enthusiast for fast cars and a committed family man. Our condolences go to his wife Val, his three children and many grandchildren. He will be sadly missed.

Michael Crapper, Department of Physics



Walter Freud

It is with great sadness that we report the death of the renowned Loughborough graduate Walter Freud, who passed away on 8 February aged 82.

Walter was a grandson of the great Sigmund Freud and came with the family to England when they were all allowed to leave Austria in 1938 and so escape extermination in the Holocaust.

He was just 16 and after a year of intensive academic work he came to Loughborough College to study Chemical Engineering. At that time there was no separate department in the subject and like several others such as physics and mathematics it came under the general umbrella of Pure and Applied Science.

Walter's studies were interrupted rather dramatically as he was arrested as an enemy alien in 1940 whilst in the middle of an examination. As a security risk he was sent to Australia. He was sequestered there for some three years, but as time went on it was realised that such men might be useful to the war effort because of their knowledge, not only of the language but also the country that would eventually be occupied.

He was shipped back to England and recruited into the Special Operations Executive where he was trained to go into enemy occupied territory – specifically his home country of Austria.

In 1945 when the end of the war in Europe was in sight Walter and a companion were parachuted into Austria. He lost contact with his companion after they left the plane but having arrived safely he made his way to an airfield which he discovered not far from where he landed. He went up to the command post, identified himself as the forerunner of a British Army column which was invading Austria and demanded the surrender of the airfield. The commander and the whole of his staff were only too happy to agree and he thus captured the place single-handed.

After the war he returned to England to continue his studies at Loughborough College. Walter and his fellow classmates formed a peculiarly strong allegiance to the college and their tutor Harold Suttle, and at the end of their course they vowed to meet up every year – and they did in fact keep this up for 50 years in total!

They also established a prize in honour of their tutor, the H.K. Suttle Prize, which is still awarded today to the chemical engineering student 'most likely to succeed' in the profession. After he graduated Walter worked for a number of years with the Distillers company in London and when he retired from this he practiced as a consultant.

He was a modest almost self-effacing person and one would never have known from his behaviour or his conversation of the quite dramatic part he had played in the later stages of World War Two. He was a delightful person to be with, his disarming manner made him the most pleasant of companions and it was a privilege to have known him.



Don Freshwater

whats on@lboro

A more comprehensive 'What's On' diary is available on the University web site at www.lboro.ac.uk/service/publicity/whatson/

Afternoons 2004

ArtSpace in Human Sciences

An exhibition of fine art by members of the Charnwood-based Art Cooperative "ArtSpace". The exhibition reflects an emerging conversation between local artists and academics in the Human Sciences department. Corridors of the Wavy Top Building. Further details from Charles Crook, T: 01509 223032.

Wednesday 21 April

Workshop on Research Requirements

12.30pm

Workshop to consider research requirements in the area of Safety and Loss Prevention with respect to the Chemical and Oil and Gas industries. Room S.2.56, Chemical Engineering. Further details from Yasmin Kosar, T: 01509 222533.

Wednesday 28 April

International Day 2004

10.00am to 6.00pm

Music, dance, art, food and fashion from throughout the world will be on display. Auditorium, Loughborough Students' Union. Further details from Ya-Chien-Huang, T: 01509 635062.

Thursday 29 April

Music Scholars' Concert

7.30pm

Music Centre.*

Wednesday 5 May

London Mozart Players with Pascal Roge

7.30pm

Emmanuel Church, Forest Road, Loughborough. Adults: £8, Students: £5, Concessions: £7.*

Friday 14 May

London Opera Players in Mozart's 'Cosi fan tutte'

7.30pm

Two young officers' blind faith in their girl friends' devotion is put to the test by an older and wiser friend in a comedy of disguise and subtlety, set to Mozart's most seductive and sublime music. Sir Robert Martin Theatre. Adults: £10, Students: £6, Concessions: £8.*

Wednesday 19 May

Flow patterns and T-junctions

1.30pm

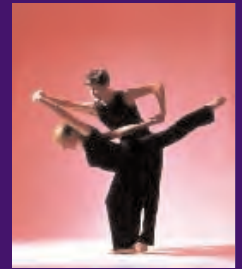
A seminar by Professor Barry Azzopardi, Nottingham University. Room S.2.56, Chemical Engineering. Further details from Yasmin Kosar, T: 01509 222533.

Ulrich Heinen (cello) Robert Markham (piano)

7.30pm

Debussy - Sonata for cello and piano; Webern - Three Little Pieces Op.11; Schumann - Five Pieces in Folkstyle; Janacek - Prohodka (A Fairy Tale) Schubert - Arpeggione Sonata. Music Centre. Adults: £6, Students: £4, Concessions: £5.*

* Further information from the Arts Centre, T: 01509 222899.



ads@lboro

Wanted

Sailing Club seeks new members. Do you like sailing, or want to learn to sail? Small friendly sailing club approx 12 miles from Loughborough is looking for new members of all ages. The club is a recognised Royal Yachting Association training establishment and owns a selection of boats for training purposes. Courses offered for

all ages. Comfortable family-friendly clubhouse with large windows overlooking the picturesque lake. Very reasonable membership fees (concessions for students, cadets, and social members). For further details contact the Secretary: Gillie Clarke, T: 0116 260 2729.

French teacher wanted. It could be a French student. Contact: P.Prokopovich@lboro.ac.uk