

April 2008 Bulletin

Devolution of PhD thesis submissions

Shortly after Project Unity, the submission of theses was devolved from the Examinations Section of the Student Services Centre to the Faculties. For Humanities, this meant that Ewan Hannah assumed responsibility for this activity, but continued to be based in SSC, before moving to the Faculty Office in Devonshire House early in 2005. Following a review of this activity in 2007, it was agreed that it would be more logical for it to be handled at School level. PhD Students relate to their Schools because that is where supervisors and support services are based, and that is the part of the University they are accustomed to interact with.

A pilot was run in the School of Environment and Development in March 2008. Following the success of that pilot, the remaining Schools in the Faculty will take over thesis administration from 28th April 2008, and a handover/training session with those staff involved has already been held. Faculty Office staff will be on hand to continue to provide advice during the handover period.

ICT News

CompShop Closure

The CompShop based in the Kilburn will be closing during the summer. Full details of alternative arrangements being made for the business handled by the shop will be provided in due course via eUpdate and UniLife. One impact is that from 1st August there will be no mechanism for refunding students' money for unused print credits in the University's printing system. A message about this has been provided on the "Message of the day service" on student cluster logins. Final year students are advised to run down any credit they have in hand with a view to having a zero balance by the end of their course.

eLearning Team

eLearning Managers

The University is pleased to announce the first appointments associated with the creation of Faculty eLearning Teams.

The 4 Faculty eLearning Managers are:

- Diane Bennett – Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences
- Cath Dyson – Faculty of Humanities
- Alison Hamilton – Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences
- Ian Miller – Faculty of Life Sciences

The Managers will now be involved in completing the restructuring process and populating their respective teams in line with University HR processes outlined in the 'Introducing Change to Organisational Structures' document.

Further details on the progress and final outlines of the restructure and the emerging model for supporting academic staff through the Faculty teams will be made available at appropriate intervals over the coming weeks.

The Teaching and Learning Team

Want to develop your course in Blackboard?

The Faculty and IT Services will be running training sessions to get you started using Blackboard. Dates have still to be confirmed but training will take place in May and June, however, drop in sessions have been scheduled - please check the following sites for up-to-date information:

www.manchester.ac.uk/elearning

<http://www.manchester.ac.uk/humanities/ict/tandl/elearning/blackboard>

For support, queries and questions please e-mail elearning@manchester.ac.uk

News in general

Contact Theatre

The Contact Theatre have extended their concessions pricing band to include all university staff, alumni and students. To take advantage of this offer, please present your University ID pass when purchasing tickets.

Forthcoming Events

Forthcoming events are listed <http://www.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/humnet/aboutus/events/>

Media News

Research on the architectural beauty of the Daily Telegraph made that paper's front page- as well as an editorial comment. The discovery of diaries written in hospital by first world war soldiers was given a full a page in a Saturday edition of the Times.

Professor John Harris from the School of Law remarks relating to the use of stem cells to make artificial sperm and eggs were picked up by many national newspapers. His comments on the practice of cancer patients trying untested drugs also received international attention.

Dr Yaakov Wise featured in a BBC one documentary on the growing numbers of British Jews who have emigrated to Israel and he also featured in a full page Manchester Evening News article. The academic search engine Intute, which is lead by a Mimas team - also continues to pick up national coverage, this time in the Guardian.

Featured Research story

A 'promenade' play has taken place at the Manchester Museum, tackling the difficult issue of its own links with the slave trade.

The performance of 'This Accursed Thing' is a product of an Arts and Humanities Research Council funded project led by Tony Jackson, who is a Senior Lecturer in Drama at The University of Manchester.

He said: "This is a history behind a history: it's a chance for Manchester to acknowledge its slave trade links - but also to remember the proud contribution the city made to its abolition."

Widening Participation News

Blue Planet Live!

The Faculty of Humanities contributed to the Education Packs available on the BBC site <http://www.theblueplanetlive.com/education.php> and ran workshops on 21st April on Campus and in Manchester Museum.

Renowned film composer George Fenton ran two music master classes in the Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall, Martin Harris Building, during the Education day. Sixth form students from Wardle High School and City College paired up with University of Manchester music students and students from the Royal Northern College of Music to compose music to accompany clips from the Blue Planet Live! Mr Fenton talked through his own compositional process and he along with Kevin Malone provided feedback to participants on their compositions.

Music students Emma Shires and Michael Betteridge developed a Music workshop for key stage 3 pupils, which looked at clips from the Blue Planet Live and how they might be depicted through sound and then notated using graphic score. This workshop forms Education Pack 6 on the above website

Janet Tatlock worked with colleagues in Manchester Museum to produce She sells Sea Shells, Education Pack 8 on the website and to facilitate a workshop which was attended by post16 students from City College.

Discover Criminology

Discover Criminology at The University of Manchester will take place on Wednesday 30th April. Students from All Saints Catholic College, Whalley Range High School, West Houghton Sixth Form centre and Bolton Community College will be attending.

Pathways to Law

The first cohort of Pathways to Law students will go on a trip to a London Law firm at the end of the month, which will provide them with an insight into the workings of a large London firm. Firms sponsoring the students are Mayer Brown, Clifford Chance and Berwin Leighton Paisner.

Blake study day

Due to popular demand there was a second Blake Study day on Friday 18th April, which was comprised of an interactive lecture at the Whitworth Art Gallery, a chance for students to explore the exhibition and Blake workshops at the University which encouraged students to approach Blake's work from a number of perspectives. 36 students from Xavarian college attended.

BME Outreach

Introductory Course

The Introductory Course to the Role of Community and Youth Studies began this week with 30 participants and will be held over the next 6 weeks.

Building Bridges

A 10 week course (January -April 2008) a WP Project, has ended this week.

4 Participants from this course have since applied to progress to the Degree Programme in Community and Youth Work Studies starting in September.

Also...

A Young people's conference organised by Young Ambitious and Proud (YAP) and Aimhigher (BME) was held on the 29th March 2008. These young people are part of the cohort of young people we are working with as part of our Aimhigher project.

The conference was well attended - 75 young people. A workshop was facilitated by Dr Addy Lazz-Onyenobi about Raising aspiration and motivation- Feedback was very positive. Addy has since nominated one of the young people for a Greater Manchester Aimhigher Award 2008

A Parents seminar was organised by The University of Manchester (Aimhigher BME) in collaboration with GIFT and Cariocca Projects entitled "Educating Together" on 15th March 2008 to encourage parents, particularly those of them that have no history of FE or HE. The seminar focussed on benefits of education for both the adults and young people- was well attended and feedback was positive.

School News

Centre for New writing

***Poetry Review* hits the north!**

The UK's leading poetry magazine, *Poetry Review*, came to Manchester on Monday 14 April, to launch its spring 'green issue'. Editor Fiona Sampson was joined by featured north-west poets Michael Symmons Roberts, Michael Murphy and (Centre PhD student) Sarah Corbett, who each read a selection of their work.

For further information about this and for a review of the Literature Live Event on 7th April, please go to: <http://www.arts.manchester.ac.uk/newwriting/news/prlaunch/>

Horses released

2006 MA in Creative Writing alumnus Mark Piggott will have the novel he wrote on the course, *Fire Horses*, published on 31 May.

For further information about the book and the author, please go to: <http://www.arts.manchester.ac.uk/newwriting/news/horsesreleased/>

Centre for Educational Leadership

ECM Conference Call for Papers – 9th October 2008

Following the success of last year's ECM conference a second conference around the ECM agenda has now been organised by the Centre for Educational Leadership (CEL) - Facing the future: Multi-agency collaboration within the ECM agenda. The conference will include keynote presentations delivered by Gerry Stoker, Professor of Governance in the Division of Politics and International Relations, University of Southampton, and Mel Ainscow, Professor of Education at The University of Manchester and Chief Adviser of the Greater Manchester Challenge.

One of the most successful elements of the previous conference was the workshop sessions and the opportunity for people to engage in dialogue with presenters. We are now seeking workshop contributions for this next conference. The event is on Thursday 9 October 2008 at CEL, at The University of Manchester. Those wanting to participate should submit proposals for their presentations by 09/05/08. Submissions could include case studies, research papers and innovative projects.

For more information about the event and to participate please contact Dominic Seedall on 0161 275 7807 or dominic.seedall@manchester.ac.uk. Alternatively visit the CEL website www.manchester.ac.uk/cel for details and last year's conference report.

School of Social Sciences

Stanley Jevons Postgraduate Loyalty Bursary - £1,500

The School is proud to announce a new loyalty bursary for University of Manchester undergraduates who will be starting an ESRC recognised Masters in September 2008.

Full details are available at:

<http://www.socialsciences.manchester.ac.uk/Postgraduate/taught/funding/documents/Stanley%20Jevons%20Loyalty%20Bursary.pdf>

School of Social Sciences forges links with Shanghai

Head of Social Sciences Professor David Farrell has visited Shanghai to discuss developing collaborative links between the School and one of the oldest and most prestigious Universities in China.

The visit to Fudan University was facilitated by Professor Hong Liu, Director of the University's Centre for Chinese Studies, which recently ran an Easter study programme in Shanghai for over 200 undergraduate students.

IPEG Research to be presented at National University of Singapore

Alongside colleagues from the Research Institute for Cosmopolitan Cultures (RICC, University of Manchester), Matthew Goodwin will be presenting some of our latest research on ethnic diversity and 'community cohesion' at the 'Perspectives on City Scales and Cosmopolitan Cultures' workshop on 12-14 May.

The workshop aims to bring together scholars and researchers from different regions to engage in a fruitful dialogue and debate on cosmopolitanism with the aim of developing comparative perspectives on the diverse range of urban experiences in cities across Europe and Asia.

For further information: http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/migration/newsevents/e_citywkshp1.html