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New Director for Manchester Business School

The University has appointed Professor Michael Luger from Kenan-Flagler Business School, part of the University of North Carolina, to be the new Director of Manchester Business School from January 2007.

Professor Luger is Professor of Entrepreneurship and Director of the Center for Competitive Economies at Kenan-Flagler Business School, recognised as one of the United States' leading business schools in rankings such as The Financial Times, Forbes and the Wall Street Journal.

He has published and presented extensively on economic development issues including infrastructure, research and technology parks, university impact, clusters, tax incentives, workforce dynamics and competitiveness in the new economy.

For further information visit:

<http://www.mbs.ac.uk/news/03-08-2006.htm?rssHP>

New Head of School Administration in AHC

Welcome to Jane Hallam who has recently taken up her appointment as Head of School Administration in Arts, Histories and Cultures. Jane was previously Head of Academic Administration at the Royal Northern College of Music.

School of Informatics

Following the strategic review of Informatics and Computer Science, it was decided that the best way to facilitate the further development of subjects allied to computer science, information systems and information and society at The University of Manchester was to transfer the staff and activity currently in the School of Informatics to either Manchester Business School or the School of Computer Science. This decision was taken at the end of July 2006.

An Informatics Implementation Group (IIG) has been established to plan and execute the transfer. The Group is setting up a number of task groups and is preparing an implementation plan to help manage the process. The implementation involves a number of major tasks, including:

- the transfer and integration of academic staff into their new Schools;
- the transfer of the current portfolio of programmes to either MBS or School of Computer Science;
- the fundamental review of the programme portfolio offered by the University in this area;
- the review of administrative structures and processes in the two receiving Schools and
- the transfer/redeployment of administrative staff out of Informatics.

All these activities will require detailed planning, which will take at least 4 months to complete.

It has therefore been decided that the School of Informatics should continue in existence until 31st July 2007 with staff and activity transferred progressively during that period. Over the coming months, the School of Computer Science and MBS will be hosting a number of events to welcome staff and students from Informatics to their new School

Congratulations

Congratulations to Dan Rigby and Trevor Young (School of Social Sciences), who co-authored a paper (with colleagues from the University of Western Australia) which has appeared in the Oxford University Press collection of 100 seminal papers.

The list of seminal papers, selected from OUP's 180 Oxford Journals, has been compiled as part of the celebration of its centenary as a publisher of learned journals.

Editors were asked to nominate what they felt to be important papers from their journals, selecting papers that had made a significant impact in a particular field, that had changed perceptions, were the most highly cited articles, or that were recognised as simply outstanding pieces of research.

The paper entitled "Consumer attitudes to genetically modified organisms in food in the UK" was written with Michael Burton and Sallie James and appeared in the *European Review of Agricultural Economics* in 2001.

For further information visit the Oxford Journals website at:
<http://www.oxfordjournals.org/news/centenary>

PGR News

Student Inductions/Welcome back sessions:

Inductions for new PGR students have commenced and will continue throughout the rest of September. New PGR students will also have the opportunity to begin the Skills Audit and their Personal Development Planning at faculty-run School-based sessions.

A Faculty Reception for new students from all Schools in the Faculty will be held on 5th October. It will include an information fair and a presentation by the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education.

An induction/welcome back session for year 2 PhD students will be held on 6th October.

An International Students Workshop will run on 9th October.

Students will need to book places on the above two events. Further details of both can be found at <http://www.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/training/calendar>.

UK Grad and UK Herd Annual Conference on 6th and 7th September

UK Grad and UK Herd held their annual conferences on 6th and 7th September. The UK Herd conference was attended by over 150 delegates working in the training and administration of Fixed-Term Researchers in UK higher education institutions. Dr Susan Hogan (Fixed-Term Research Training Officer) attended from the Faculty.

Dr Julie Reeves, Nichola Ellis and Esme Dodson attended the UK Grad conference on 7th September. The theme for the conference was 'Profiting from Postgraduate Talent: Supporting researchers – our investment for the future'. UK Grad are an organisation who run training for PGR students. Over 150 delegates from HE institutions from across the UK were in attendance, mainly from the areas of postgraduate administration, skills training and careers services.

PGR Staff News

Jo Kaiserman and Nichola Ellis will be returning on 2nd October to their posts as Senior Graduate Administrator and Graduate Administrator respectively.

Skills Training News

The Faculty Skills Training team were very successful in the recent round of bidding to the Skills Training Development Funds (Roberts money), securing over £200,000. The funding will provide for an On-Line Resources Development Project, an Academic Reading project, a PG Research festivals pilot and for a Research Training Officer.

Fixed Term Researchers Conference

Expanding your horizons conference

This one-day conference for Fixed Term Researchers will take place on 9 November 2006, 9-4 pm.

The event will be an opportunity for FTRs to meet with both senior University staff and former Post-Doctoral Researchers who have gone on to achieve excellence in academia and beyond. The event offers the opportunity to learn about changes in policy, to help shape the future training provision in the Faculty and for colleagues from across the Faculty to meet in an informal setting.

The point of contact for the conference and for all FTR activities in the Faculty is Dr Susan Hogan, Post-Doctoral Research Training Officer (telephone 5-0287/e-mail susan.hogan@manchester.ac.uk).

Congratulations to Susan who passed her PhD examination on 6th September.

Click on the link below for further details of the conference.

FTR conference details. (LINK TO FLYER)

A Fixed Term Researchers' web forum is due to be launched in mid November. The web address will be circulated in due course.

Research News

Congratulations to the following who were all appointed Faculty of Humanities Research Fellows in 2006:

- Dr Claire Taylor, AHC, Wealth, power and social change in 4th century Athens.
- Dr Elen Stokes, Law, The precautionary principle in Biotechnology and Nanotechnology regulation.
- Dr Philip Wallage, LLC, Changes to negation in the Modern English period (1500-1900).
- Dr Richard Payne, SED, Enhanced climatic cooling from volcanic impacts on peatlands?
- Louise Mycock, LLC, The typology of constituent questions.

Research Office Staff news

Dr Sandra Schmidt has recently joined the team as External Development Officer and will be based in Devonshire House.

Faculty RAE 2008 Preparation (September - December 2006)

All staff engaged in research and research support are encouraged to read the RAE 2008 preparation document (click on the link below this paragraph). This document has already been sent to Heads of Unit of Assessment, School Research Directors and Research Development Managers.

RAE 2008 preparation document. [LINK TO CIRCULATION DOCUMENT HERE](#)

Research Activity Survey (RAS) Workshop

A reminder to School Research Managers and PGR Administrators that the Humanities RAS workshop will be held on:

Friday, 20 October 2006 at 10-12 in the Knowles Committee Room A, Whitworth Corridor

The RAS data comprises postgraduate research students, research assistants and research fellows, and charities income. It is important that those who are responsible for checking the data in schools attend the workshops, even if they have attended them in the past. The workshops will cover what data needs to be checked and how, timescales and deadlines, and will give colleagues the opportunity to ask questions and clarify their understanding. More information will be sent to colleagues in schools soon.

Changes to research support since the creation of the new university

REMINDER: (Please note the change of venue)

An awareness raising forum for new academics and research staff.

Wednesday 1 November 1300-1400

Coupland 3, Theatre B

This short briefing session is aimed at new academics and research staff to inform them of the changes to research administration across the University since September 2004.

Many new arrivals will be joining the University from institutions that possess a more centralised approach to research management. Devolved administration at Manchester means that much of the traditional activity linked to supporting research is now successfully embedded at School and Faculty level.

This session will give staff an overview of the work that has been taking place in this area over the last two years and provide clarity on all aspects of research support from costing grant applications, research governance and preparation for RAE2008.

For further details please contact Jared Ruff, Faculty Research Office,
Email: jared.ruff@manchester.ac.uk Tel: ext 50288.

To register an interest in attending this event please contact Anne-Marie Howarth, Faculty Research Office, Email: anne.howarth@salford.ac.uk Tel: ext 50285.

Teaching and Learning news

The Faculty Teaching and Learning Office opened on 21st September at Unit 4 in the Student Precinct Centre. In recognition of the close working relationship of the QAE Team, the UG Administrator and the PGT Administrator, these offices have combined to form the Faculty Teaching and Learning Office. Contact details for all members of the team will remain the same.

Faculty Teaching Quality and Enhancement funds are available to support the development and enhancement of teaching, learning, assessment and student support during 2006/07. The process for bidding for funds including criteria and deadlines are available on the Faculty's Teaching and Learning Centre website at <http://www.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/humnet/acaserv/> .

Student Recruitment and Admissions Office news

Staff Update

Karen Varty, the Head of the Office, is on maternity leave after the birth of Lauren Grace at the end of August. Karen will return next June.

Andrew McDonald, the Recruitment and Admissions Assistant, has left the office and is now working in Chemistry.

The Student Recruitment and Admissions Office will now sit within Planning, and be managed by Helen Byrom.

Office Move

Michelle Bell, Recruitment and Admissions Officer, will be moving from Humanities Lime Grove to Devonshire House in the next couple of weeks.

Current Projects

The Autumn months are a busy time with PG brochures and the UG prospectus to update. We are also looking forward to the UG Open Day on Saturday 7 October where the Faculty has a stand in Whitworth Hall. We anticipate that there will be in the region of 12,000 visitors to the University that day. All of the Schools in Humanities are involved, some have their own stands, and all are offering discipline specific talks throughout the day. Copies of the Open Day programme will be available shortly. Please contact Michelle Bell if you would like any further details – michelle.bell@manchester.ac.uk / 53038

The Faculty is also currently involved in several centrally led projects. These include the introduction of a CRM system which has already been piloted in Manchester Business School and the design of a system which will allow Schools to take control of their own programme listings.

ICT News

Staff Email Upgrade Plans

The University is planning to move all staff email accounts to a new, much more stable, back end email system by the end of 2006. This will not change the current programs that you use for your emails, such as Outlook or webmail access, but it will improve the stability of the system.

Upgrade to the Oracle Connector software

To prepare for making this process as smooth as possible, please could you do a simple check on your Outlook system to ensure that you have the correct version of the Oracle Connector software. This is only required if you are not using the standard CLIP image on your PC.

If you do not have the correct version then there is also a simple procedure to update the software, ready for the migration of your email to the new back end system. It is expected that CLIP machines will be updated automatically.

Please follow the simple instructions located at:

http://it.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/ithelp/hottopics/FAQ_OCS_Upgrade.html

Shared Mailboxes

Some staff share email inboxes, for example so that a personal assistant can deal with a manager's email. If you currently use the ICON email system to access someone else's inbox who is not in the Faculty of Humanities then please contact J.H.Smith@manchester.ac.uk to alert him to this fact. When your email account is migrated it needs to be done taking into account the users you share accounts with. Staff accounts within the Faculty will be located on the same server and no issue should arise.

Publications Database

Academic staff in all schools apart from Informatics and MBS, are now able to add and maintain their publications records by going to:

<http://publications.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/>

The application, produced by the Humanities Development Team, will reduce the administrative overheads involved in producing the RAE return as well as raising the profile of Manchester research.

New ICT Office website

New improved ICT Office website is now available from

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

ICT Office Newsletter

Start of year issue of ICT News, the IS Newsletter from the Faculty of Humanities ICT Office is available at <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/humanities/ict/atoz/aboutus/news/>

Faculty Communications

Welcome back to Jo Grady who has recently returned to the position of Faculty Communications Officer following her maternity leave.

HumNet

The new Faculty intranet is now live at <http://www.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/humnet/>

We hope that colleagues will find the new design and features user friendly. Feedback on the new site would be very welcome and should be sent to Jo Grady at jo.grady@manchester.ac.uk.

Humanities in the news

During July and August there has been wide coverage across broadcast, print and online media, including Professor Mel Ainscow on BBC National News on the pupil's voice in schools and Carol Smart's research into Civil Partnerships. Dr Ann Featherstone appeared on numerous broadcast and print media to talk about her great grandfather's Joke book which was apparently the first of its kind. Professor Stiglitz' views on globalization were covered in the *Sunday Times*, *Daily Telegraph* and the *Scotsman* and the Confucius Institute and Centre for Chinese Studies initiatives given good prominence in the *Independent*.

Forthcoming events

CIDRA, Hallsworth & IPOW 'War and our World' International Conference, 19th-21st July 2007

This three-day major international conference on the theme of war/conflict is in the planning stages. The conference will be devoted to the conceptualisation, conduct and aftermaths of war in the modern world. The conference will be funded by the University of Manchester Hallsworth Fund, CIDRA, In Place of War via the AHRC.

Papers from any discipline and from contributors at all stages of their career are invited. The organising committee will select papers that correspond to the broad and interdisciplinary aims of the conference. Outline proposals (maximum 300 words) should be sent to Dr Bex Lewis: wow@manchester.ac.uk **no later than 20 October 2006**.

For further information on this event, including the outline programme, visit: <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/warandourworld>

Work Foundation events, Monday 25th to Wednesday 27th September

Staff and students are invited to attend fringe events being organised by the Work Foundation at the Labour Party Conference. The events are open to the public, free to attend and there is no need to book in advance. Refreshments will also be provided. All the events are being held at Manchester Town Hall. The events are all short and take place early morning, at lunchtime or in the evening.

Click on the link below for details:

Work Foundation events [LINK TO PDF HERE](#)

If you have any items you wish to include in the October bulletin, please contact jo.grady@manchester.ac.uk, telephone 5-2018.