

Newsletter

November 2008



THE LATEST NEWS FOR ALL UNIVERSITY STAFF

New Arts and Innovation Centre for Bangor

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Plans for an exciting and ambitious new Arts and Innovation Centre to replace the Theatr Gwynedd and the Students' Union buildings in Bangor have been announced by Bangor University.

Options ranging in cost between £25m to £30m have been developed by the architects of the award-winning Wales Millennium Centre, Capita Percy Thomas.

Facilities will include accommodation for Student services, a replacement nightclub and Students' Union as well as a variety of new teaching and learning spaces incorporating wireless internet access which will be available for the local community as well as the University

It will also include greatly improved arts facilities for the whole community including a theatre, lecture theatres, exhibition spaces, bar and café. There is also provision for an external amphitheatre that could be used for some performances.

Amongst the options being considered is the possibility of providing a flexible link that will allow the theatre to expand into a



Amongst the options being considered is the possibility of providing a flexible link that will allow the theatre to expand into a 900 seat auditorium for some performances by combining it with a lecture theatre located above

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The building will include a Music Innovation Centre incorporating a multimedia performance area with the latest sound and visualisation technology.

The arts and creative industries will be able to work side-by-side with science and technology experts to develop innovative performances as well as new skills and jobs in the local area.

You will no doubt be aware that both the Theatr Gwynedd and the Students' Union buildings need substantial amounts spent on them and they are no longer fit for purpose. During the summer of 2006 the University agreed in

consultation with the Arts Council and Theatr Gwynedd to remedy some of the more urgent defects in the existing Theatre building at a cost of over £250,000 funded primarily by the Arts Council. However it has become apparent that a new building is now the best and most cost effective way forward because of the significant amount of funding required to address maintenance issues including mechanical and electrical infrastructure and asbestos in the building.

As previously announced, the timescale for the new development will see the current Theatr Gwynedd building closing in the autumn of 2008, and now that the feasibility study has been completed on schedule, building could start as early as 18 months from now and be opened in late 2011, given the availability of funding.

For more information see:
www.bangor.ac.uk/artsandinnovation

in Brief

RECRUITMENT SUCCESS

The University has achieved another successful intake this year, registering around 2,500 new undergraduates. Once post graduates are included, the new students at Bangor amount to around 3,350 this year. This is the largest intake ever, representing an increase of around 10% in undergraduate recruitment and the fifth year in succession to see an increase in admissions.

Although excellent news, there is no opportunity to rest awhile, and efforts must be maintained throughout the year to maintain a successful recruitment programme.

BMA AWARD FOR PROF. REES

Professor Michael Rees, Professor of Vascular Studies and Acting Head of the University's new School of Medical Sciences has been awarded an Association Medal by the British Medical Association. The Medal is in recognition of his outstanding and sustained service to the BMA and his contribution to medicine and academia.

An active member of the BMA throughout his career, Professor Rees' extensive work for the BMA's Medical Academic Staff Committee (MASC) has been exemplary and inspiring according to the Medal citation. Professor Rees has been a member of MASC since 1995 and its Chairman since 2003. He successfully negotiated new academic contracts for university based clinicians and played a key role in the negotiations regarding new academic training pathways for clinicians. According to the citation, his "involvement with planning of academic medical training is outstanding, as well as his critical analysis of consultant issues relating to research and education."

His achievements for the Association and for clinical academics in the UK are all the more impressive considered alongside his academic career, which includes over 90 peer-reviewed journal publications related to his research interests in interventional radiology, as well as book chapters and other educational and policy related publications. He is also certified to practice in both nuclear medicine and radiology.



Bar Uno Extravaganza

The eagerly anticipated Bar Uno Café-Bar on the Ffriddoedd Residential site opened its doors recently; the latest addition to the exciting £35m development at the Ffriddoedd Residential Site.

The Café Bar provides a social hub and is an integral part of the remodelled Ffriddoedd site. Whilst providing a social space for students, Bar Uno may also appeal to staff and their guests as a great place to meet, eat or hold informal meetings during the day or early evening.

Located underneath the Estates & Facilities Offices, with entry via Ffriddoedd Road, Bar Uno has an appealing, healthy, and exciting new menu and will remain open during vacation. Opening hours are 8.00am to midnight with food served until

▲ Estates & Facilities staff are among those enjoying the opening festivities at Bar Uno

9.00pm. Sunday opening is at 10.00am.

Meanwhile, Estates & Facilities staff are receiving favourable reports from among nearly 700 new students who have moved into the 6 newly opened halls. These provide the type of modern accommodation that today's student expects, and have now replaced the majority of the older residential stock. The second phase, representing a further 450 new rooms is expected to be available by September 2009. The new halls mean that the University is able to offer current and future students top quality accommodation.

LAW RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL GIFT

The School of Law have received a donation to support the growth of international students at the School. The donation was made by the parents of an Irish Student, [David Nevins, Law Graduation Class 2007] in recognition of the excellent student experience their son had while studying Law at Bangor University.

The single donation will form 'The Wexford International Liaison and Cultural Development Programme' at the School.

"This generous donation enables the new

School to make some very exciting developments, and matches some of the historical funds available to Bangor's more established Schools," explains Professor Dermott Cahill, Head of the School of Law. "The fund will enable us to offer student awards, scholarships and bursaries to undergraduate and postgraduate students from European and other overseas countries and will facilitate staff and student exchanges between ourselves and overseas institutions."

Prince Madog Launches Policy for Co-Op

More used to working as a teaching and research vessel for staff and students at the School of Ocean Science, the University's Research Vessel, the Prince Madog, made a trip with a difference recently. Ship, staff and guests of the School of Ocean Sciences were invited to London to help launch a new responsible sourcing strategy for all fish products in Co-op brand food ranges. The Co-op is also committing £200,000 over two years to support UK fisheries in attaining Marine Stewardship Council certification.

The Co-op had turned to Michel Kaiser, Professor of Marine Conservation Ecology at the School of Ocean Sciences for advice and guidance in setting up the new policy. Professor Kaiser is an authority on sustainable fisheries and is a Board member of Seafish, a public body which promotes and supports the seafood industry.

Prof Kaiser said: "We were keen to support the event because of what the Co-op and



Prince Madog emerges from under Tower Bridge

others are doing to promote sustainable fishing practices. We were delighted to offer our expertise on fisheries related issues to help the Co-op achieve its goal".

"The Co-op are investing money to encourage more fisheries to apply for certification from the Marine Stewardship Council, an organisation that sets the highest standards for qualification as a sustainable fishery."

He believes that Co-op's policy would make a big difference to UK fishing.

"I've been working in this research area for

about 17 years and in the last three years I've seen an incredibly positive change in the behaviour of fishermen in the UK," he said.

"By taking this stance, the Co-op and other retailers have eliminated the markets for seafood caught using unsustainable fishing practices. Fishermen will be rewarded for landing fewer but better quality fish, and in the long-term this means healthier seas and fish stocks, and ultimately more fish that we can eat".

The University was able to assist the Co-Op realize their aspirations through advice and expertise.

Professor Sian Hope, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Knowledge Transfer and Enterprise at Bangor University said: "This is a simple yet effective illustration of the way that making our expertise available to others can have immediate and important impacts on our daily lives. We are committed at Bangor, to working with industry, business and public bodies to make our expertise and research capabilities available."

HE Academy delegate at Bangor



Professor Smith in discussion with Karen Jones of the School of Social Sciences during the workshop.

The first in a series of workshops on learning and teaching organised by the Academic Development Unit took place recently. Professor Brenda Smith from the Higher Education Academy delivered two sessions for University staff. The morning session focussed on how we assess our students and provided examples of practical ways to enhance the overall student experience. During the afternoon, Professor Smith explored how we can make feedback more effective for both staff and students. Both sessions included delegates from a wide range of schools across the University. Professor Smith, a Senior Associate at the Higher Education Academy, is regarded as a leading figure within the UK. She has been involved in a number of UK initiatives such as the Scottish Quality Enhancement Agenda, the Centres for Excellence in Teaching and Learning initiative, and undertook the analysis of the Welsh institutional Learning and Teaching Strategies. The programme of future workshops can be accessed via the Academic Development Unit Website www.bangor.ac.uk/adu/

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE



Being congratulated by Professor Merfyn Jones, the Vice-Chancellor, are (l-r) Maldwyn Jones, Sue Peet and Gwynne Parry

Three members of staff each received an Award for Excellence and an cheque for £1,000 at a presentation evening hosted by the Vice-Chancellor and Registrar at the Management Centre recently. The Award recognises and rewards outstanding achievement or service by members of the support staff of the University.

"This award is to recognise excellence, and to acknowledge the vital contribution that support staff make to the University. All members of staff - whatever their role - play a part in the University's success," commented Dr David Roberts, University Registrar.

The three recipients were:

Gwynne Parry Jones, Technician in the School of Ocean Sciences who was recognised for his exceptional work, energy and enthusiasm in managing the fleet of small boats in the School. It was stated by one nominator "For almost two decades he has maintained an accident free small boat operation for the School and much valuable research has been successfully completed due to

his enthusiasm and professionalism".

Maldwyn Williams Jones, Security Supervisor, Estates. Mashi as he is known to staff was nominated by 5 members of staff from outside his department. His nomination included such phrases as "I rely on him 100% and notice his absence on the days he is not around", "he's always willing to help you out, nothing is too much trouble for him and he always has a smile on his face".

Sue Peet, Teaching and Learning Administrator, School of Psychology. Sue has been central to the teaching activities of Psychology for almost two decades. Her nomination papers were full of unreserved support and recognition of her dedication, efficiency, attentiveness and faithful contribution to the School over the years. Sue is also recognised for her outstanding support to students both academically and personally.

These are the second set of Awards of Excellence to be given. Those eligible for consideration are full or part-time members of the support staff of all grades.

WELSH HISTORY TRAVELS

Four Bangor historians travelled to Toronto over the summer to take part in the North American Association for the study of Welsh Culture and History Annual Conference.

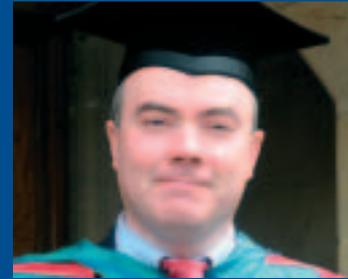
The papers presented reassessed key aspects of modern Welsh history, reflecting the School of History, Welsh History and Archaeology's dominant expertise in post-war Welsh history, and its determination to explore topics of contemporary significance.

Dr Andrew Edwards and Dr Wil Griffiths' papers were based on chapters for a forthcoming monograph on Welsh devolution to be published by Oxford Press. They examined how political and cultural attitudes to devolved government were changing among Welsh nationalists (inside and outside Plaid Cymru) between 1945 and

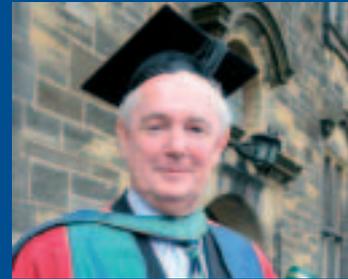
1968. The publication of the monograph also marks the culmination of the School's successful ESRC funded project on the history of Welsh devolution.

Postgraduate students Mari Wiliam and Michelle Walker's papers contributed to a panel looking at little-studied but significant aspects of recent social history. Mari's paper, intriguingly called "Welsh Dolls in Sunny Rhyl", examined the impact of beauty pageants and a new affluent Welsh identity in the mid 1950s. Michelle's paper examined attitudes of English immigrants who moved to Wales between 1970 and 2008, was based on findings from the School's first oral history based PhD project. Michelle's trip was funded by the ESRC and Royal Historical Society.

SUM



Andrew Edwards



David Sullivan



Peter Flinn



Elizabeth Carver

Bangor academics were rewarded for their excellent teaching and student care during the summer's degree ceremonies. Six Teaching Fellowships were awarded to: Elizabeth Carver, School of Healthcare Sciences; Andrew Edwards, School of History, Welsh History & Archaeology; Peter Flinn, School of Music; Margaret Gould and David Sullivan, College of Education & Lifelong Learning, Iestyn Pierce, School of Electronic Engineering.

Also celebrating were four members of staff who graduated with first degrees in Social

MER HIGHLIGHTS



Sian Lloyd



Rhodri Glyn Thomas



Griff Rhys Jones



Llyr Williams



Margaret Gould



Juan Carlos Castilla



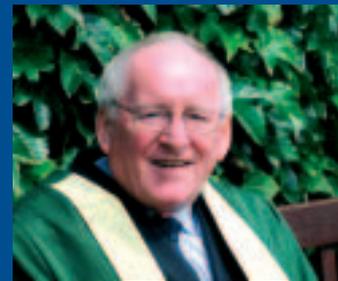
Guto Harri



Iestyn Pierce



Peter Bennett-Jones



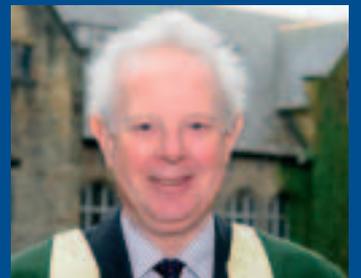
Elfed ap Nefydd Roberts



Merfyn Jones with Meic Povey and Gwilym Owen



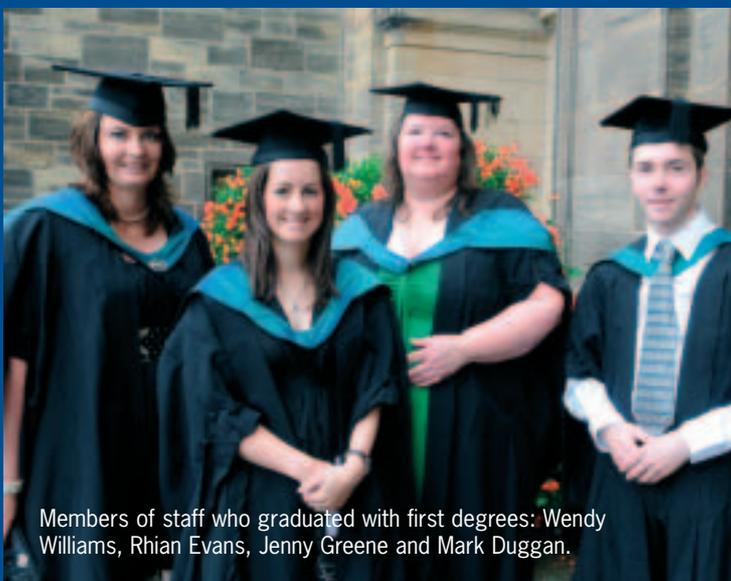
Jim Perrin



John Thomas

Sciences from the School of Lifelong Learning's part-time degree programme, They are: Mark Duggan, Library Service, who gained a BA in Internet, Learning and Organisations, and Rhian Evans, Corporate Communications & Marketing Department, Jenny Greene, also of the Library Service and Wendy Williams, Academic Registry, who all attained the BA Social Studies degree.

They were joined at various ceremonies by twelve individuals from backgrounds and professions as diverse as law, science, theology, media and mountaineering who received



Members of staff who graduated with first degrees: Wendy Williams, Rhian Evans, Jenny Greene and Mark Duggan.

Honorary Fellowships during this year's graduation week. They were: Chair of Tiger Aspect Television, Peter Bennett-Jones; the Mayor of London's Communications Director, Guto Harri; television presenter, Griff Rhys Jones; weather presenter Sian Lloyd; journalist and broadcaster Gwilym Owen; actor and playwright, Meic Povey, Retired minister and author, Rev Elfed ap Nefydd Roberts and Bangor University alumni, Juan Carlos Castilla, Professor of Marine Ecology, Chile, alumni, Rhodri Glyn Thomas A.M. and rock climber and travel writer, Jim Perrin

AWARDS FOR POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH BY HISTORIANS AT BANGOR

The School of History, Welsh History and Archaeology will benefit from two awards for postdoctoral research on the history of Wales. These illustrate current opportunities for early career researchers to obtain research fellowships, and highlight the important contribution postdoctoral scholars can make in the humanities.

Dr Katharine Olson has joined the School in October following her success in the highly competitive British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowships competition. A three-year award will enable her to write an innovative, multidisciplinary social history of religion in Wales from the Pre-Reformation Church to the Civil War: **'Local Contexts of Change: Popular Religion, Community, and Confessional Identity in Wales, c.1500-1640'**. A graduate of the universities of Chicago and Harvard, and currently holder of

a Sir John Rhŷs Studentship in Celtic Studies at Jesus College, Oxford, Dr Olson is no stranger to Bangor, having spent a term here as an exchange student in 2003; in addition, Professor Huw Pryce was the external member of her Harvard Ph.D. dissertation committee. She will further enhance the School's strengths in medieval and early modern history, as well as being a valuable addition to the wider body of scholars – in Bangor's College of Arts and Humanities and beyond – whose research is linked with the Institute of Medieval and Early Modern Studies (IMEMS).

The School's expertise in modern and contemporary history has been recognized by the University of Wales Publications and Collaborative Research Committee, which has awarded its one-year research project in Welsh History for 2008/9 to Professor Duncan Tanner

and Dr Andrew Edwards, who will direct **'Welsh Language Acts and Welsh Language Activism 1964-2001: A Pilot Project'**.

Drawing on the directors' well established track record in oral history, as well as Professor Tanner's pioneering use of the Freedom of Information Act to disclose official documents relating to recent history, the project will investigate why the Welsh Language Acts of 1967 and 1993 were introduced, the operation and influence of the Welsh Language Board, and the relative importance of pressure from language activists and other groups, including people within government, in the passing and evolution of Welsh language legislation.

The research will be undertaken by a postdoctoral researcher (to be appointed), and will lead to an application to support a larger scale project building on its findings.

Technician Development Programme



Technicians attending the programme

A 'Technician's Development Programme' for University Technical staff was launched in May 2008 as part of the HR Department's Staff Development Unit's enhancement of its provision of tailor made programmes for staff. The initiative encompassed a series of learning events to develop skills and knowledge and raise awareness of the importance of the technician's role.

The programme included 6 sessions based around the University Strategies. Presentations included:

- Changes in Learning and Teaching: the role of technicians

- Health and Safety
- Role of the Technician in Science
- Innovation at Bangor
- Enhancing capabilities and development opportunities
- Excellence in Research

Each two hour session included a presentation and guided tour of the various technical areas across the University. These proved very popular; sites visited included Ocean Sciences at Menai Bridge, the new Environment Centre, the Print Unit, Education Skills Labs, UIB, and the Schools of Chemistry and Psychology.

The Staff Development Team would like to thank all the contributors for their assistance that ensured the programme's success. The speakers were Prof Colin Baker, Dr John Latchford, Gareth Wynn Jones, Prof Maher Kalaji, Dr David Joyner and Prof Graeme Harper. The Staff Development Team will be arranging another programme in 2009 and anyone wishing further information or to register their interest should email Mari Ellis Roberts on pose04@bangor.ac.uk.

Personalia



NEW PVC APPOINTED

Bangor University has appointed Professor Hilary Lappin-Scott as the new Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research & Enterprise. She will succeed Professor John

Farrar who retired earlier this year.

Professor Lappin-Scott is currently Dean of the Faculty of Postgraduate Studies at the University of Exeter.

A graduate of Warwick University, she was appointed Professor in Environmental Microbiology at Exeter in 1999. She is a Fellow of the American Academy for Microbiology and President of the International Society for Microbial Ecology.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Merfyn Jones said: "I'm delighted to announce Professor Lappin-Scott's appointment. Research is central to Bangor University's mission and

this appointment will strengthen and take to the next level our capability and performance in research and enterprise activity."

Professor Lappin-Scott will start at Bangor on 1 January, 2009.

DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION & LIBRARY

SERVICE Mr David Leamont has been appointed to the new post of Director of Information and Library Services. He will be taking up his post full time in January. Mr Leamont is an experienced senior consultant in the area of Information and Communication and has been responsible for a number of large projects within recent roles. He is currently at the University of Arts, London.

NEW HEAD FOR CREATIVE STUDIES & MEDIA

Dr Stephanie Marriott has been appointed to

the position of Head of the School of Creative Studies and Media and will commence employment in January 2009. She is currently employed at the University of Stirling in the Department of Film, Media and Journalism. Dr Marriott is currently Chair of the department's Research Committee and has also played a major role in the development of teaching and learning strategies at the University.

CHAIRS AND READERSHIPS Congratulations to the following who have received Personal Chairs: Andrew Hiscock – School of English; Nancy Edwards and Raimund Karl – School of History, Welsh History & Archaeology; Oliver Turnbull and Guillaume Thierry – School of Psychology.

Dyfrig Hughes of IMSCAR and Robert Ward of the School of Psychology have been promoted to Reader.

China Welcome

Stephen Mudge from Bangor University's School of Ocean Sciences was received by the former Vice-Chairman of the National People's Congress of China (effectively Vice-President) Prof. Zhou Guangzhao at an Environmental Forensics meeting in Qingdao, China. Environmental Forensics is the scientific study of the sources of pollutants or other not naturally occurring elements found in the environment.

Stephen Mudge was Vice-Chairman of the first Environmental Forensics meeting held in China under the sponsorship of the State Oceanographic Administration, The North China Sea Environmental Monitoring Centre and The Key Laboratory of Marine Spill Oil Identification and Damage Assessment Technology. He delivered four papers including a keynote address on the need to quantify old contamination from new contamination which is particularly relevant to our own new legislation on environmental damage (Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) Regulations, 2008).

As part of a wider collaboration and adoption of Environmental Forensics by China, Stephen Mudge was appointed a Visiting Professor and Invited Expert at The North China Sea Environmental Monitoring Centre.

The coastal city of Qingdao hosted the sailing events for this summer's Olympic

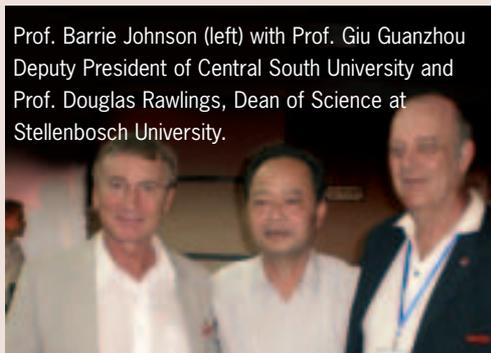


Dr Stephen Mudge receives the official appointment as Visiting Professor and Invited Expert from Dr Zhenhui Gao, Director of the North China Sea Environmental Monitoring Centre.

Games. "I have never seen a country so passionate about the Olympic Games, references to the Games were everywhere and the people on the street seem to be very proud to host the games," commented Dr Mudge.

Sharing our expertise

On a recent visit to China, Professor Barrie Johnson of the School of Biological Sciences was appointed as a Guest Professor at the Central South University, Changsha. The university has a major mineral processing engineering department and has interests in developing bioprocessing of ores and minerals. Biomining or processing: using naturally-occurring micro-organisms to extract metals from ore, is a growing biotechnology worldwide, and Professor Johnson's internationally recognised area of expertise.



Prof. Barrie Johnson (left) with Prof. Giu Guanzhou Deputy President of Central South University and Prof. Douglas Rawlings, Dean of Science at Stellenbosch University.

Professor Johnson was also appointed an honorary (visiting) Professor at Exeter University earlier this year. He also organised a very successful workshop for scientists from China at Bangor University in August 2008, which was sponsored jointly by the Royal Society and the Chinese Ministry of Education. Research links between Bangor and universities in China in the field of mineral bioprocessing are due to develop further in 2009.

Collaborating on all fronts



At Bangor's launch of WISERD were (l-r) Professors Graham Day, Huw Beynon (Director-Cardiff University) Howard Davis, (Co-Director) and Stuart McLeay.

Two new higher education collaborations have recently been entered into by the University.

The **School of Social Sciences** is contributing to a £9m project which will help government, policy makers, and businesses tackle major social problems in Wales.

The Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Data and Methods (WISERD) brings together leading university social scientists to develop a more detailed picture of the people of Wales through the collection, analysis and dissemination of data in areas from economic activity and growth to education, community participation, health and social care.

The project is jointly funded for three years by the Economic and Social Research Council and Higher Education Funding Council for Wales. Also contributing are Cardiff, Aberystwyth, and Swansea Universities and University of Glamorgan.

First Minister Rhodri Morgan said "This is a substantial advance in social research of relevance to Wales. This new centre of excellence will take us much further down this road because making effective policy depends on high quality data and when that information has been assembled it becomes a starting point for problem-

solving and policy development. WISERD's work will enable the social science community to make a bigger contribution to addressing the key issues we face here in Wales."

Professor Ted Gardener, Head of Bangor University's College of Business, Social Sciences & Law said: "Social science research at Bangor has internationally renowned experts in the study of economic and social change, culture and community, health and lifestyles. The Institute will ensure that research will compete with the best internationally and will have practical applications for the benefit of every community in Wales".

More recently, the **School of Healthcare Sciences'** involvement in the Wales School for Primary Care Research has been announced.

Backed by the Welsh Assembly Government, the All-Wales School will provide relevant research to help the development of high quality primary care in General Practice, Pharmacy, Nursing, Optometry and Dentistry in the first instance. It aims to develop and share excellence in primary care research and, in time, work with professionals across all relevant disciplines to improve the quality and quantity of primary

care research in Wales.

According to First Minister Rhodri Morgan "Research shows that those countries which have a strong primary care health services are best able to control health costs and have populations that are satisfied with care provision and have a high level of health.

"The main emphasis of the Wales School of Primary Care Research will be to promote a 'step change' improvement in the quality and quantity of multi-disciplinary research. World-class research of international standard will then generate evidence that is locally applicable and internationally relevant to inform practice and policy in Wales and beyond."

The Centre for Health-Related Research, at the School of Healthcare Sciences is part of the partnership. Centre Director Professor Jane Noyes said: "This is a great opportunity for our researchers to contribute their expertise to the partnership. The partnership will provide opportunities to investigate primary care issues that people face in North Wales and enable us to undertake research of international relevance."

Other University partners are Cardiff, Swansea and Glamorgan Universities.

Capitalising on our coastline

Bangor University is leading an ambitious bid (to the Welsh European Funding Office, under Convergence) to coordinate and integrate marine expertise in Wales to create an important new partnership.

SEACAMS (Sustainable Expansion of the Applied Coastal And Marine Sectors) will draw on Bangor's expertise in marine science at the **School of Ocean Sciences together with** complementary environmental scientists and policy experts from Aberystwyth, Swansea and Cardiff Universities.

The venture will combine a unique range of internationally-recognised expertise, sufficiently broad to inform the policy needed for sustainable management of coastal and shelf sea resources against a



background of climate change.

"Our aim is to expand the commercial marine sector, in collaboration with SMEs and Government Agencies, in order to maximise the benefit to Wales, in a manner that is sustainable to both the marine environment and the industrial sector. We aim to integrate fundamental and applied research and policy to underpin this sustainable development, both at home and globally," explains project leader and Head of the School of Ocean Sciences, Professor

Colin Jago. "With evidence-based information and policies in place, there is scope both to address challenges and to capitalise on opportunities in the marine environment. For example, there are huge potential developments in marine aquaculture and marine

renewable energy, and much of this could be concentrated in Wales".

SEACAMS will encompass coastal oceanography and resource exploitation, environmental quality assessments, sustainable resource developments, geological resources and technology and coastal zone management and policy. There has already been a successful joint venture with The Cooperative supermarket group which has recently launched a new, sustainable range of seafood.

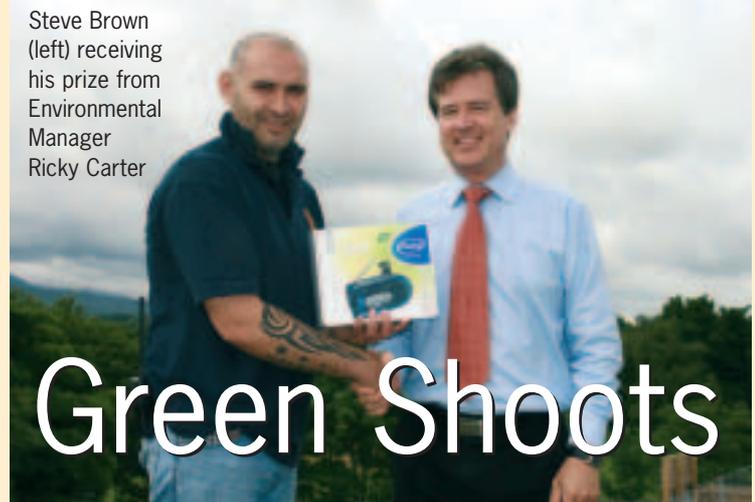
PRIZE WINNING COURTYARD



Hortus Monensis Garden Design - responsible for the design and installation of the garden within the Brigantia Building's inner Courtyard have been announced winners in the category of Best Use of Plants in a Landscape and Best Commercial Project at the "Horticulture Week" UK Awards for landscape last week. Winning both categories is pretty much unheard of, so this is quite a feat. The categories are: Best Use of Plants in the Landscape - Ferns for Brigantia and Best Commercial Project - Brigantia Project Bangor

You can visit the courtyard via Brigantia's Reception area. If you'd like to read more about it visit the magazine's website at www.hortweek.com.

Steve Brown (left) receiving his prize from Environmental Manager Ricky Carter



Do you know how much we spend on energy and water each year? Or how much waste, greenhouse gas, and effluent we produce? How are we doing with our recycling, and how do we compare with other universities when it comes to Green issues? All of this, and more, can now be revealed by visiting the University's brand new environmental web pages at www.bangor.ac.uk/eo/environment

Armed with this knowledge, Steve Brown, Handyman in Estates and Facilities found himself the proud owner of a wind up and solar powered radio when he scooped the first prize in the recent United Nations "World Environment Day" quiz organised by the Estates & Facilities Department. The theme this year was "Carbon Dioxide - Kick the Habit", and the Department's Estates & Property section joined forces with Environment Agency Wales to produce a display stand in Main Arts to highlight the University's environmental performance, and some of the future challenges we face. Steve was particularly pleased with the prize - not only does he take an active interest in environmental matters, he's also a keen camper, and batteries can be hard to come by in the middle of nowhere!

Look out for more environmental prizewinning opportunities soon!

If you have any thoughts on environmental issues at Bangor University, please e-mail them to environment@bangor.ac.uk

SWIMMERS ACHIEVE MEDALS & WELSH RECORDS

Two members of staff brought medals and records to Bangor while representing their local swimming club - Arfon Masters - in the British Masters Long Course Championships at Manchester's Aquatics Centre. Stel Farrar, who teaches Welsh at the College of Education and Lifelong Learning, and Gill Windle, a research fellow at the Dementia Services Development Centre Wales, achieved great success with 2 Welsh records and 9 medals between them. This sees them making the top 10 in the British rankings for each of their events.

Stel Farrar had superb gold medal winning swims in the 800m and 1500m freestyle event in the 45 – 49 years age group. She is currently ranked 1st for these efforts. Stel collected medals of all three hues with silver medals in the 200m butterfly and 100m freestyle and bronze medals in the 200m individual medley and the 100m butterfly.

Gill Windle competing in the 40 – 44 years age group improved on her own Welsh record time in the 50m freestyle in which she finished 2nd in a strong field with a time of 30.93 seconds. Unfortunately the record and gold medal position was grabbed by a



Stel Farrar (left) and Gill Windle following their recent victories

Cardiff swimmer who finished just 1/100th second faster! She won the bronze medal in the 200m butterfly, setting a new Welsh record. Gill also set a new record in the 100m freestyle, and got personal best times and 4th place for the 200m individual medley and the 400m freestyle.

Masters swimming encompasses the whole range of ability from casual fitness

swimming to highly organised competitive swimming. A 'masters' swimmer needs only to be over 25 years of age, but there are a number of competitions that incorporate events for younger adults above the age of 19. For more Arfon Masters information see www.arfonmasters.org.uk or speak to their coach Jenny Shaw on 01248 430811.



Peru Trek for Bowel Cancer

Dave Lloyd, a Lecturer at the School of Healthcare Sciences is trekking Peru's 'Inca trail' in May 2009 to raise funds for the charity, 'Beating Bowel Cancer'.

Dave explains, "Bowel cancer has impacted upon much of my life. My mother died of it 30 years ago, as had her mother before her. My brother beat bowel cancer a couple of years ago; one of my very good friends - Dr Rodney Hughes, formerly of the School of Healthcare Sciences, sadly died as a result of the condition earlier this year. Several other relatives and friends have also had bowel cancer, some have beaten the beast and some have not. The charity Beating Bowel cancer seeks a world where all will beat bowel cancer."

Dave, also a second dan Seki Ryu Zan karate club instructor, based at the Normal site and Maes Glas, will be paying all his personal expenses for the trip and completing it in his own time. He invites contributors to visit his contributions page at <http://www.justgiving.com/davelloyd>. Corporate sponsors can contact him at daveperu2009@yahoo.co.uk

Items for inclusion in the next edition of *Newsletter* should be sent to the Editor: Elinor Elis-Williams, Bangor University, e-mail: press@bangor.ac.uk Newsletter is published by the Corporate Communications & Marketing Department, Bangor University.

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