



# ANNUAL REVIEW 2004-05

# CONTENTS

*This Annual Review presents a few selected highlights from the University's activities under the following headings:*

<i>Major Developments at UWB</i> .....	4
<i>Excellence in Teaching</i> .....	6
<i>Groundbreaking Research</i> .....	10
<i>Playing Our Part in the Community</i> .....	14
<i>Highlights from 2004 - 2005</i> .....	18

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# A word from the VICE-CHANCELLOR



*"...Bangor was considered to be the best university in the United Kingdom for the care and support offered to students."*

"It is with some trepidation that one approaches one's first full Annual Review as Vice-Chancellor, but I am glad to say it is also with a sense of confidence and pride in the University's achievements and ambition.

During the year we have focussed our attention on those things that are important to us at Bangor: our academic reputation for excellence in teaching and research; our staff and students; our links with the wider community and economy.

Our students are central to our mission and it was wonderful to learn that in a survey of 50,000 first-year students published in the *Times Higher Education Supplement*, Bangor was considered to be the best university in the United Kingdom for the care and support offered to students. Our own student survey showed that 86% of our students are 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the quality of the Bangor student experience, and in the first National Student Satisfaction Survey Bangor performed brilliantly.

During the year a new focus on excellent, internationally-rated research was highlighted as the University strives to improve yet further its position in the Research Assessment Exercise in 2008, and to develop a longer-term strategy of uncompromising commitment to research excellence.

The University's management structure was also entirely overhauled during the year following careful consideration and widespread consultation. We now have a much leaner and more effective system, with clear lines of responsibility, which gives a central role to heads of schools and departments. This has freed up an enormous amount of time previously spent on committees.

All this has amounted to a new vision and a new course for the University which I have outlined on various occasions during the year - one which has resulted in a new Strategic Plan which clearly articulates our strategies for a successful future.

A high point of the year was the National Eisteddfod, held on our doorstep. As the major provider of Higher Education through the medium of Welsh (half of all the students studying in Welsh in Wales are in Bangor) we were delighted to be able to make a major contribution to the Eisteddfod this year.

Higher Education in the twenty-first century is a challenging and competitive environment, but Bangor is now in a position to face the future with confidence and energy. I hope you will find plenty of evidence of that in this Annual Review."



*Professor Merfyn Jones*

November 2005



# Major DEVELOPMENTS *at UWB*



*Adeilad Brigantia*

## *New Centre of Psychological Research*

Completion of the **School of Psychology's** Adeilad Brigantia has enabled the School to realise its vision of a **Centre for Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience**. The Centre is founded on a range of new cognitive neuroscience laboratories, including brain imaging facilities and world-class teams investigating the brain processes that underlie human consciousness and behaviour in health and illness. The research is providing a better understanding of brain disorders such as stroke, head trauma, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease and schizophrenia. The newly enlarged building also houses key staff from the **Institute for Medical & Social Care Research**, the **North Wales Clinical School** and the **North Wales Department of Public Health**, as well as other members of the School of Psychology.

## *Collaborations*

Collaborative discussions with other institutions led to two major bids to the **Higher Education Funding Council for Wales'** Reconfiguration and Collaboration Fund - relating to a research partnership in several areas with the **University of Wales, Aberystwyth** and to a proposed Wales Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience (with **Cardiff** and **Swansea** universities).

## *Degrees*

In April the University applied to the Privy Council for Degree Awarding Powers, which leads to a lengthy period of assessment and scrutiny of the University by the Quality Assurance Agency of HE.

## *Grants awarded*

The total value of research grants and contracts awarded to staff in 2004/05 was over £13M. An additional £3M was awarded in grants and contracts for other services provided by the University.

## *...multi-million pound building programme begins*

### *Focus for Environment*

Preparatory work began on a new Welsh centre of excellence for environmental science. **The Environment Centre for Wales** is a joint project between the **Natural Environment Research Council's Centre for Ecology and Hydrology** and the University.

Housed in a new, £7M purpose-built laboratory on the University campus, the Centre will allow CEH and University staff to work together more closely to provide a focal point for science research and training in Wales. The new Centre will bring together and build on the existing strengths of the two organisations. It aims to provide fresh opportunities for research spanning the boundaries of terrestrial, freshwater and marine sciences, to develop new approaches to managing both the land and sea in a sustainable way. The scientists will benefit from having state of the art facilities in a landmark building which will act as a focal point for environmental research within Wales.

### *In-house Development*

The University established a new **Development Fund**, and agreed to take direct responsibility for fund-raising.



*Artist's impression of the  
Environment Centre for Wales*

### *World-class development in Management*

The University has been awarded £14M in funding via EU Objective One, the **WDA** and **Gwynedd Council** to create a Management Development Centre in the School for Business & Regional Development. A world-class facility, the Centre will play an important role in the economic regeneration of north Wales. Professor Peter Barrar, former Deputy Director of the Manchester Business School, has been attracted to lead this exciting development.

# *Excellence in* TEACHING



## *Demand for Law proven*

Forty-eight students formed the first cohort to study Law at Bangor. The University has been delighted with the response - which certainly proves the demand for a range of Law degrees taught in north Wales, some involving innovative combinations.

The new '**Law School**' is both Welsh and European in nature. Over half the staff speak Welsh and the School offers personal tutoring in Welsh or English. Eleven students opted for Welsh medium tutorials, and when the three years of the course are populated there will be more students studying Law in Welsh at Bangor than in any other higher education institution in Wales. The momentous first year ended with the launch of a new Law with Welsh degree at the National Eisteddfod.

These developments enable the University to meet the increasing demand for competent bilingual legal advisers. Career opportunities in this field are expanding apace with the development of the National Assembly.

The School also has an international focus, with teaching in European Law and degree combinations with modern languages.

## *Academy to boost teaching*

The University has been innovative in recognising teaching excellence and student support through its award of Teaching Fellowships. Since its inception in 1996, 29 Teaching Fellows have been created, across a wide range of academic disciplines.

Having been identified by their peers and students as providing excellent and often innovative teaching and student support, Teaching Fellows represent a valuable resource to the University. An **Academy of Teaching Fellows** has been created as a means of utilising this pool of expertise to further the University's strategies to improve the quality of teaching and student support. This 'Academy' will provide opportunities to discuss and disseminate good practice in teaching, learning and student support and contribute to the University's teaching and learning agenda by providing feedback on matters such as innovation in teaching, learning through the use of IT, and student support strategies.

## *...providing education that students require, at home and abroad*

### *Educating for sustainable tropical forestry*

Timber and forest products provide important commodities in tropical and subtropical countries, supporting over 1 billion of the rural poor, while between one and two billion rely on wood for fuel. Forest resources are more often than not utilised in an unsustainable way leading to serious repercussions for the global climate and economy. The only hope for changing this trend lies with education of forest managers. Such education has become increasingly demanding, combining 'traditional' aspects of biology, ecology and technology, with socio-economic aspects, trade agreements and an awareness of the political realities governing the management of tropical forests.

A new MSc in Sustainable Tropical Forestry pools European expertise in this area under an EC Erasmus Mundus programme.



*Collecting fuelwood is usually women's work, in this case in Eastern Nepal. Sustainable wood production reduces deforestation and releases women from such drudgery*

**The School of Agricultural and Forest Sciences** is one of a five university consortium sharing their expertise to create this MSc course. The first year of study will take place at Bangor, Copenhagen or Dresden, and a second study year at one of the four remaining institutions in Denmark, Germany, France and Italy. These institutions lead the European field in research and education in tropical forestry, and their complementary skills will prepare EU and non-EU graduates for the huge challenges in contemporary tropical forestry.

*"The only hope for changing this trend lies with education of forest managers."*



# Excellence in TEACHING



*International Student Welfare  
Adviser, Jennie Holloway,  
chats to students*

## *Ten years of support from Student Services Centre*

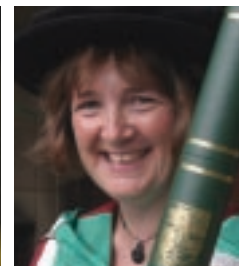
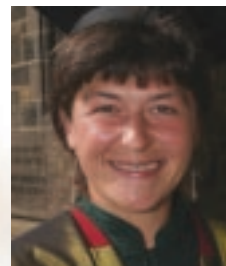
Starting from small beginnings, when a few departments which offered services to students were brought together under one roof, the **Student Services Centre** has grown into a one-stop advice service providing support to students, and an advice and consultancy service to staff.

With growing numbers of students from diverse backgrounds, the Centre has developed a wide range of services such as the Money Support Unit, which assists students to access the financial support to which they are entitled, helps with budgeting advice and annually distributes hardship funds and bursaries totalling over half a million pounds. Disability support teams; professional counselling provision; dedicated International Student Welfare Services; all contribute to the University's Widening Access and Student Retention Strategies.

The Centre, located within the Students' Union building, has close links with the Students' Union and its own advice and advocacy services. As well as providing support to students, Student Services has a wider role also within the University community; providing information to personal tutors; offering staff development on specialist subjects; giving advice on, and co-ordinating, University welfare procedures and protocols.

The University has a well-deserved reputation for the provision of student support, and the Student Services Centre plays a key role.

*This year's Teaching Fellows  
Mr Cynrig Hughes (Education),  
Dr Mibela Erjavec (Psychology),  
and Dr Sally Sambrook (School of  
Nursing, Midwifery and Health Studies).*





## ...Bangor tops student poll

### *Aid to extend Welsh medium teaching*

The University's commitment to expanding higher education courses and opportunities for students to extend their Welsh language skills has been assisted through the award of two new Teaching Fellowships by the **Higher Education Funding Council for Wales**. The Fellowships enable the University to extend Welsh medium teaching yet further by increasing the range of courses and numbers of higher education lecturers able to teach in the Welsh language.

The two new Fellows are Dafydd Tudur, at the **Theology and Religious Studies Department** and Dr Guto Pryderi Puw at the **School of Music**. Although both departments have a strong history of teaching through Welsh, the Fellowships enable the University to focus on extending and updating courses.



*Dr Guto Pryderi Puw*

*Dafydd Tudur*



*Modern Languages student,  
Cheryl Horsley, outside  
Hamburg's famous fish market*

Dr Guto Pryderi Puw is developing two exciting new modules in Music Composition and Music and the Web, in response to interest shown by students and prospective students alike. This should stimulate the growth of the music industry that uses new media in Wales.

Dafydd Tudur is developing two new modules; on Puritanism in Wales and Christianity and Welsh Nationhood, which will be taught to first, second and third year students. These two fellows will also be joined by a number of Welsh Medium Scholars, who will be enabled by their awards to complete their doctoral studies during the next years and contribute to teaching in their departments this academic year.

### *Satisfied customers*

The first National Student Survey, conducted in the spring, showed that Bangor's students were extremely satisfied with their experience at the University, with the University being placed 8th in the UK by a *Times Higher Education Supplement* ranking of the results.

Bangor's **Department of Modern Languages** recorded the highest overall satisfaction rating, scoring 4.7 out of a possible 5, with only four other departments (in all disciplines) scoring so highly in all UK universities. Bangor's 'Performing Arts' students (the majority of which are **Music** students) also recorded the highest satisfaction points for their courses.

The Department of Modern Languages offers one of the UK's broadest and most flexible ranges of degree courses in French, German, Italian, and Spanish. One student thriving under its guidance and tutelage is Cheryl Horsley, who was awarded the Professor Carl Lofmark Scholarship for her outstanding progress in German.

Cheryl is studying three languages for her degree: German and Spanish with French. As well as enjoying the excellent teaching and facilities at Bangor, Cheryl has the opportunity to immerse herself in the linguistic culture of three language areas during her degree course. Following a semester in Hamburg, Germany, Cheryl studied in Salamanca, Spain for five months.

# Groundbreaking RESEARCH



*“The School is now one of very few European centres that focuses on the conservation of fish genetic diversity”*

## *The future for fish*

Many of our familiar fish species are threatened by climate change, over-exploitation and habitat degradation through activities such as bottom trawling. Indeed, freshwater fishes have become the most endangered group of vertebrates in Europe, and North Sea cod is formally a threatened species.

The **School of Biological Sciences** has enhanced its ability to develop the scientific basis of fisheries management by appointing Gary Carvalho as Professor of Molecular Ecology and Dr Martin Taylor as Research Fellow in Fisheries Genetics and Conservation. Professor Carvalho's group was among the first to show that over-fishing can reduce genetic variability in exploited populations. Hence although there are many millions of fish in our oceans, future populations are vulnerable because their reduced “genetic health” makes them less able to survive environmental change. The School is now one of very few European centres that focuses on the conservation of fish genetic diversity, with the aim of minimising detrimental impacts of natural and man-made changes to the environment. Because of these strengths in integrated fisheries and environmental science, the **Environment Agency** has identified UWB as one of the universities with which it seeks to develop close links, including placement of Dr Nigel Milner, its Head of Fisheries Science, within SBS.

## ...in a research-led University

### Conversational research

*t'isio mynd â'r carrier bags? (D'you want to take the carrier bags?): mae'n hopeless (It's hopeless): dwi'n supportio Cymru (I support Wales ')*  
 These are the types of things one might hear in everyday Welsh speech, but what process is actually taking place here?

The switching back and forth between two languages within one conversation is a common phenomenon of casual speech in bilingual or multi-lingual communities which linguistics scholars refer to as 'code-switching'. The study of this phenomenon in Welsh and English bilinguals' speech is a major research theme at the University's **Department of Linguistics & English Language**.

One project conducted during the last year tested a particular theoretical model of 'code-switching'. To this end the project team transcribed and analysed data recorded from conversations and informal radio programmes. Led by Prof. Margaret Deuchar, the project "Structural aspects of Welsh-English code-switching", was funded by the **British Academy**. This work is set to be expanded over the next five years via **Arts & Humanities Research Council** funded research to the tune of £350,000. The new project will not only test several competing descriptive models, but also explore the relation between code-switching and social factors.

### Reaching and grasping

If reaching and grasping objects was as simple as it seems, our household chores would be done for us by household robots. In fact, the grasping action that we do countless times a day involves a number of complex processes in the brain.

Neuroscientists at the University's renowned **School of Psychology** have extended our understanding of the processes involved. Their results were published in August's issue of *Current Biology*, an international peer-reviewed science journal published in America.

It appears that while one part of the brain interprets what we see, a separate part of the brain is triggered when we see an object that offers the option of an action. For example, if we see a cup, one part of our brain allows us to consciously recognise the object, while in another, a 'trigger' process prepares us to reach and grasp the object.

The team at Bangor have positively established this second process in the brain and have established that it can assist in drawing our conscious awareness to an object - especially in certain cases where brain damage has affected visual processing.



*"Neuroscientists at the University's renowned School of Psychology have extended our understanding of the processes involved in grasping."*

# Groundbreaking RESEARCH

*Celebrating the launch of 'Tir Newydd' were (left-right) Prof Gwyn Thomas, Mrs Eryl Nikopoulos, Mrs Luned Meredith (daughters of the late Alun Llywelyn-Williams) and Prof Gerwyn Williams. The writings of Professor Gwyn Thomas and Alun Llywelyn-Williams are considered in the volume.*



## *Research throws light on Wales*

Among publications by University staff were two volumes representing valuable new research in the field of Welsh culture and history.

***The Acts of the Welsh Rulers 1120-1283***, represents over ten years' research by Professor Huw Pryce of the **Department of History & Welsh History**. Gathered together in one volume for the first time are edited texts and summaries of around 450 documents, including charters, letters and treaties, which throw light on the Welsh rulers, their relations with the English crown, the French court and the Pope. The documents, now transcribed in English and available to all, provide an insight into perceptions of the Welsh rulers' sense of identity and to their individual responses to events of the day.

***Tir Newydd: Agweddau ar Lenyddiaeth Gymraeg a'r Ail Ryfel Byd***, by Professor Gerwyn Williams of the **Department of Welsh** provides a comprehensive literary critique of Second World War-related Welsh literature. Welsh war literature is an area of literary research which Professor Williams has made his own. The volume encompasses poetry and prose, first-hand combatant experience and the response of conscientious objectors, written during the War years, and extends beyond the period to consider the legacy of those events in post-war literature.

*“Valuable new research in the field of  
Welsh culture and history.”*

## ...of national and international standing

### Centre for Advanced Polymers

The arrival in Bangor of Professor Tony Johnson, a leading researcher in the polymer field who has close links with the **OptIC Technium**, has led to establishment of a **Centre for Advanced Polymers (CAP)** in the **School of Informatics**. Professor Johnson's expertise is in the tailored synthesis of polymers for specific end-uses through the control of the polymerisation chemistry and the associated reactor technology employed for the production of quantities of material.

CAP work is supported by research grants won together with Professor Martin Taylor. One project worth over £1.7m is supported by EPSRC/DTI/industry and supports joint work with the **University of Bath**. This is supplemented by other grants in excess of £600k from the **Knowledge Exploitation Fund**. These grants have enabled the Centre to establish polymerisation reactor capabilities in Bangor and a polymer characterisation suite at the OptIC Technium.

The fundamental work to be undertaken in CAP will assist the growth of polymer-based industries in Wales including the development of a low-cost fabrication method for high-grade plastic lenses for optical communications and displays. CAP work complements that of Professor Shore in Optoelectronics, Professor Taylor in Polymer Electronics and lab-on-a-chip developments led by Professor Ron Pethig and Dr Julian Burt.

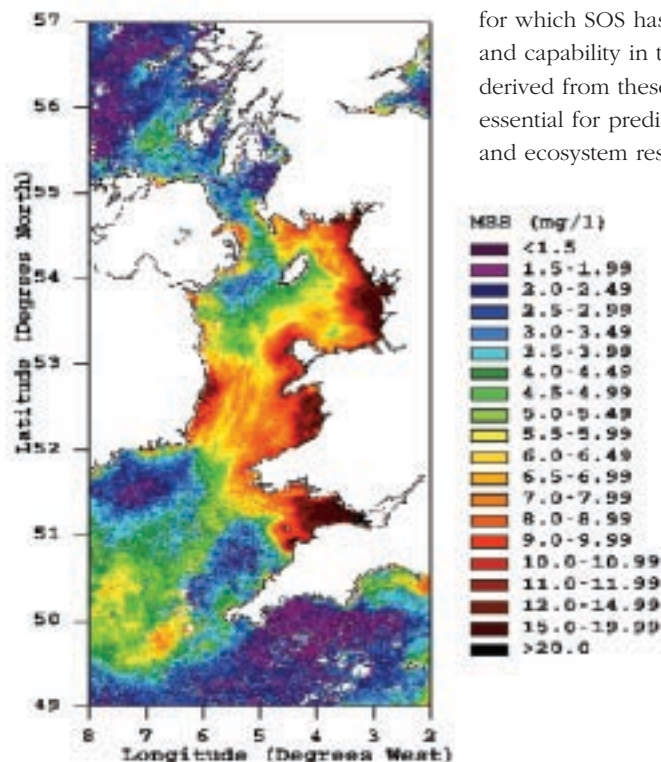
### Health of the Irish and Celtic Seas

Five large interconnected research programmes concerned with water quality in shelf seas are currently being carried out in the **School of Ocean Sciences** funded by the **National Environment Research Council** and the **EU**. These programmes are using the Irish and Celtic Seas as testbeds for observational and modelling studies of the coupling of the bio-physical processes that govern water quality, and hence ecosystem functioning, in shelf seas. State of the art technologies, deployed from the RV Prince Madog, are providing new data on turbulence,

suspended matter, nutrients, and phytoplankton in relation to water column structure and the seasonal cycle. Professor John Simpson and Dr Tom Rippeth are generating fresh insights on turbulence control of phytoplankton dynamics and primary productivity, Dr Sarah Jones and Dr Colin Jago are contributing new understanding of suspended particulate matter in relation to turbulence, plankton and nutrients, and Dr Gay Mitchelson-Jacob and Dr David Bowers are using satellite imagery to remotely sense water properties. These studies require intensive, simultaneous measurements of a wide range of physical, chemical and biological parameters in the same parcel of water, for which SOS has unrivalled expertise and capability in the UK. Models derived from these studies will be essential for prediction of water quality and ecosystem response to climate and

anthropomorphic change in shelf seas that are especially susceptible to such impacts.

*Suspended matter concentration in Irish and Celtic Seas from SeaWiFS satellite image*



# Playing our part in the COMMUNITY



*Children extracting DNA under the guidance of Professor Deri Tomos (Biological Sciences), at the Eisteddfod Science & Technology Exhibition*

## *Eisteddfod Eryri a'r Cylch*

With the **National Eisteddfod** visiting the outskirts of Bangor, the University was keen to take a full part in the event this summer. The University was delighted to sponsor the Eisteddfod's *Science & Technology Exhibition*, along with partners **Serco**. University staff also took part in the Exhibition.

On the Maes, the *Hysbys* was a hive of activity (more details opposite). An extended exhibition of old photographs of students delighted visitors to the University stand and a full programme of events highlighted various University initiatives. *The Cymdeithas Meddalwedd Cymraeg* stand, representing language technology and

IT development at **Canolfan Bedwyr**, the **Department of Lifelong Learning and Information Services**, and private software companies and voluntary software organisations, promoted Welsh language software and IT facilities and held a full programme of events.

The Eisteddfod also provided an opportunity to host five 'Business Breakfasts'. Each was themed to a different business sector, showcasing the facilities and expertise that the University has to offer.

Numerous lectures were delivered by University academics as guest speakers for societies and organisations. Croeso-Welcome Bangor also accommodated several hundred guests at the University's Halls of Residence.

*"With the National Eisteddfod visiting the outskirts of Bangor, the University was keen to take a full part in the event this Summer."*

## *...opening our doors and taking an education message into the community*

### *On the road!*

**Hysbys**, the community learning bus, is an exciting initiative between the University's **Department of Lifelong Learning**, the **BBC** and the **Welsh Language Board**. Kitted with computers and a broadcasting studio, the Hysbys team bring technology, learning and broadcast opportunities to communities across north Wales, by visiting events, towns and communities in the region, delivering short courses, taster sessions, and opportunities to become 'web-wise' to people of all ages. The team tailor their activities to suit each audience and advise on the range of courses offered by the Department of Lifelong Learning and the best courses to suit them.

Hysbys represents a significant investment in the University's overall strategy for providing accessible learning based in communities and illustrates the University's commitment to taking higher education out into the community.

*"Hysbys represents a significant investment in the University's overall strategy for providing accessible learning..."*



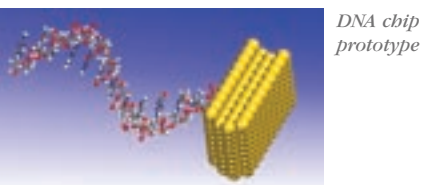
*Hysbys, the community learning bus*

### *Students reach out*

As a lead partner in the *Reaching Higher Reaching Wider* project, the University is pioneering innovative ways of increasing the numbers of people entering higher education, following both English and Welsh medium courses, by developing new pathways to higher education and creating a demand in schools. Mentoring sessions led by students, with children of all ages in 'Communities First' area schools, encourage pupils to consider higher education for themselves.

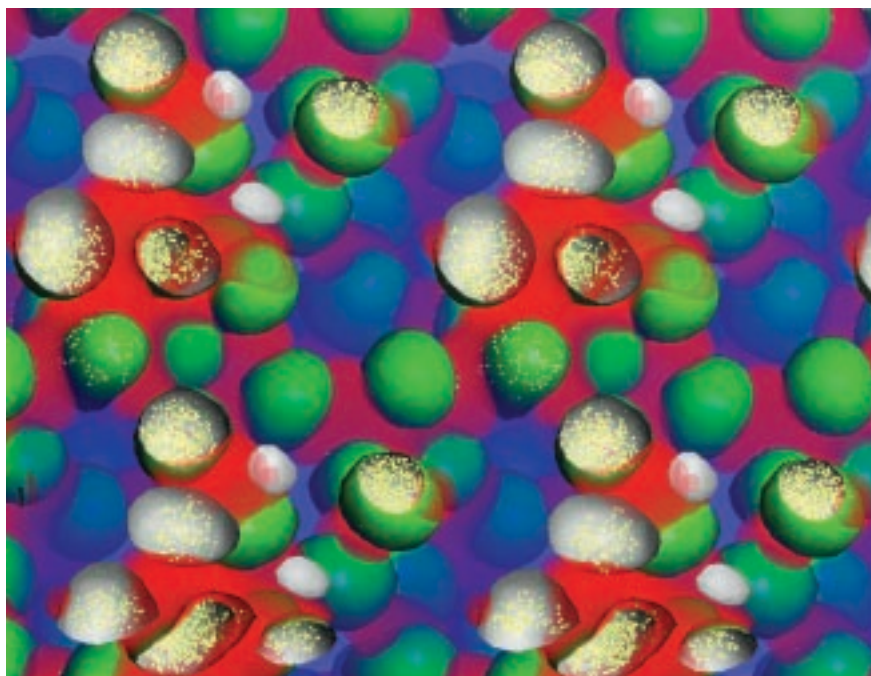
The first Summer School, part of the same project, gave sixth-formers an opportunity to sample University life over three days. The 'students' stayed at University Halls of Residences and attended a range of 'mini lectures'. Meanwhile, the *Talent Opportunities Programme* also takes students to schools to share their experiences and brings pupils to the University to 'shadow' students for a day.

# Playing our part in the COMMUNITY



DNA chip  
prototype

images provided courtesy of Accelrys Inc.



*Virtual image micelles formed during drug delivery. Micelles form when fats and oils dissolve in water. They have water-loving (hydrophilic) and water-hating (hydrophobic) parts. This virtual image illustrates what happens when a drug (encased in a capsule) dissolves in water. The drug (coloured in white) seems to like being in the water-loving part of the capsules, which will help when it is dissolved in the stomach.*

## Visualising the 'Virtual' world

A cutting-edge research centre investigating the world of 'quantum' and virtual chemistry, one of only two such facilities in a chemistry department in the UK, has been brought to Bangor's **Chemistry Department**.

The **Molecular Modelling and Visualisation Centre** enables the Department to conduct research of international standing and provides a specialist resource to the materials science business community and other specialist high tech materials producers in the region. The Centre was made possible through £1.4 M funding from the European Regional Development Objective 1 Fund and is a partnership with **Gaia Technologies Plc, Accelrys Plc, WDA, Sir William Ramsay Memorial Trust, WEFO** and **Fakespace**.

Using the facility, chemists from the University and industry will gain a greater understanding of the properties and performance of different materials, without actually having to experiment on the materials themselves. The 'virtual' aspect of the facility enables the user, through a technique called 'data immersion', to 'get inside' and in-between molecules in a virtual quantum world.

*"The Molecular Modelling and Visualisation Centre enables the Department to conduct research of international standing..."*



## *...sharing knowledge for the benefit of the economy*

### *New vision for company*

A successful Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) at the University's **School of Informatics** has enabled a local company to develop a new product and break into new markets.

**Vision Support** is a charity providing support for visually-impaired people in the North Wales and Chester region. VST (Vision Support Trading), their trading arm, offer commercial transcription services (to large print, Braille and audio) which allow organisations to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act. Profits are covenanted back into the charity.

The recently completed two-year KTP involved accessing University expertise to develop state-of-the-art IT systems which automate transcription services that were previously low margin and labour-intensive. VST have won new clients, such as MBNA and M&S Money, and are entering new markets.

VST's heightened profile is helping to drive up transcription quality and improve the standard of service for visually-impaired customers. The company has doubled its workforce and has moved to new enlarged premises.

"The KTP has made a significant contribution to improving our profitability and customer service," says Wendy Wedmore, Chief Executive of VST.

### *Supporting small companies*

Fifty postgraduate researchers have been recruited to work on research and development with small local companies. Each has received tailored higher-level skills and is working towards a PhD. This follows a successful Objective 1 West Wales and the Valleys Programme bid to the European Social Fund. The project simultaneously prepares individuals for careers as researchers while strengthening the region's research and technological base.

The project has developed partnerships between the **University** and businesses in the environmental goods and services, biotechnology, chemical, aquaculture, software, professional and health services and tourism sectors in

north west Wales. The majority of the businesses employ less than ten people. The training delivered is customised and developed in partnership with businesses. It provides opportunities for the placement of researchers into industry and presents an excellent opportunity for bringing HE and businesses together and of generating recruitment prospects.

Without the skills developed through the project, the region would not be able to compete with other more prosperous regions that contribute more of their wealth towards research and development.



*Andrew Norton (right) is collaborating with a Bangor based company, **Plant Fibre Technology Ltd**, on his research project. He is seen here with Gary Newman from the company.*

# Highlights from 2004-2005

*Dr Simon Creer is congratulated on his award by Dr Sue Assinder, Head of the School of Biological Sciences*



## September

A total of 9,739 students register at the University in 2004/05. Of these, around 8,200 are undergraduate students (including Certificate and Diploma students) and 1,600 postgraduates.

Dr Simon Creer of the **School of Biological Sciences** is awarded the 2004 Joseph B. Slowinski Award for Excellence in Venomous Snake Systematics as the senior author of the most distinguished paper on snake systematics to appear worldwide during the last year. The Award is presented by the Board of Directors of The Center for North American Herpetology.



*Andrew Davies AM opens the University's base in St. Asaph*

## October

**Andrew Davies AM**, Minister for Economic Development, opens the University base in St Asaph, describing the University as the 'jewel in the crown' with regard to its contribution to economic development in the region.

## November

**Sir John Krebs**, Chairman of the **Food Standards Agency** presents a lecture; *Risk: Food, Fact & Fantasy* to mark the launch of the University's **Institute of Food, Active Living and Nutrition, Cymru (ifanc)**.



*Sir John Krebs is flanked by ifanc Director Professor Gareth Edwards-Jones and Deputy Director, Dr Clare Paisley at the launch of ifanc*

*"Andrew Davies AM...describes the University as the 'jewel in the crown' with regard to its contribution to economic development in the region."*

*The orphanage  
in Sri Lanka*



## December

Dr Judy Hutchings of **Incredible Years Cymru** at the **School of Psychology** is awarded the 'Woman as Educator' Award at the **Western Mail Welsh Woman of the Year Awards**, and Professor Sian Hope, **Informatics**, is a runner up in the 'Woman in Science & Technology' Award.

Professor Howard Davis (**Social Sciences**) is awarded an Honorary Doctorate from **Kazan State University**.

Research by evolutionary biologist Wolfgang Wüster and final year students at the **School of Biological Sciences** is published by the **Royal Society**. Using plasticine snake models, they proved that bright colours are not necessary as warning signals in poisonous 'prey'.

## January

Health and medically-related provision continues to develop with the launch of the **North Wales Clinical School** in partnership with **Cardiff University**, **NEWI** and the **NHS Trusts** in north Wales.

## February

The **School of Informatics** hosts the regional office of **IT Wales**. IT Wales acts as a broker between companies and academic expertise in the field of information technology. IT Wales also provides the latest information and developments in IT to businesses.



## March

Student Ben Deakin becomes the University's first **Peer Guide of the Year** - awarded during the Peer Guide Certificate Awards evening, recognising the contribution made by the Peer Guides to student life at Bangor.



## April

Three months after the Asian tsunami, students from the **School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Studies** Wrexham campus decide to respond to the overwhelming needs of the Tsunami Relief Appeal. Fundraising locally enabled four Nursing Degree students and their tutor to assist with the reconstruction of an orphanage in Sri Lanka.

The **BioComposites Centre** secures a Knowledge Exploitation Fund grant of £550K to establish a technology transfer centre to engage with industry. The new Centre's focus will be the development of low-impact materials.

# Highlights from 2004-2005



Catrin  
Finch

## May

Orchestral composition 'Reservoirs' by **Music** Lecturer, Guto Pryderi Puw, is nominated for the 2005 Royal Philharmonic Music Awards.

## June

The **BAFTA Cymru** Gwyn Alf Williams Award is presented for the S4C documentary series *Cymry Rhyfel Cartref America*. Scripted and presented by Dr Jerry Hunter (**Welsh**), the series was also founded on his research and book on the history of the Welsh in the American Civil War.

Dr Jerry Hunter and Ifor ap Glyn of television company Cwmni Da, receive the BAFTA Cymru award



A **School of Sport, Health & Exercise Science** graduate student, Jamie MacDonald, is invited to the 55th meeting of Nobel laureates in Lindau, Germany. Jamie, who is working toward a PhD in Sport, Health and Exercise Science, is one of only around 500 PhD students and young researchers worldwide to be selected to attend the event.

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## July

**Degree Ceremonies:** Honorary Fellowships awarded to **Ms Catrin Finch**, Harpist, **Professor Herbert Wilson**, Physicist, **Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones AM**, Politician, **Ms Hafina Clwyd**, Journalist, **Mr Elfed Roberts**, Director of the National Eisteddfod, **Mr Medwyn Williams**, Horticulturalist, **Professor Roy Evans**, former Vice-Chancellor, **Rev John Gwilym Jones**, Minister & poet, **Ms Olwen Williams OBE**, Consultant physician, Wrexham Maelor & Glan Clwyd Hospitals, **Rear Admiral Alastair Ross CB,CBE**, Clerk to the Most Worshipful Company of Drapers, **Mr Carwyn Jones AM**, Minister for the Environment, Planning & Countryside, **Mr Richard Parry Jones**, Group Vice-President, Ford Motor Co.

**Sir Peter Davis**, a main board director of **UBS AG** of Zurich, Europe's largest bank by assets, and former Chief Executive of three major FTSE companies, joins the Advisory Board of the **School for Business and Regional Development**.

## August

**Department of Lifelong Learning** student, Sue Massey of Penmaenmawr, won the prestigious Welsh Learner of the Year accolade. Elwyn Hughes, Senior Co-ordinator for Welsh for Adults at the Department, was awarded the Elvet & Mair Elvet Thomas Prize for his excellence as a tutor, and for inspiring learners.