



PRIFYSGOL
BANGOR
UNIVERSITY

Bangor International

December 2018



We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us at Bangor University



Another Award for Bangor University's Student Accommodation

Bangor University's student accommodation has been awarded 'Best Student Halls' by a major source of information for prospective students.

Student Crowd (www.student-crowd.com/) provides a space where students can review their university resources, and where potential students can learn about the universities they're interested in, from real student feedback.

Deirdre McIntyre, Head of Residential Life at the University

commented:

"We aim to provide our students with a home from home experience while living in Halls of Residence with peer support by Mentors to help everyone settle in. From bills and gym membership, to the extensive "Campus Life" programme of free events and trips; every aspect of communal living is covered – and it's all included! "To be certain that our students have a voice, student Halls Reps visit flats to find out what really matters to our residents, then we act on feedback."



Bangor invests heavily in accommodation refurbishment too, living spaces receive a regular refresh ensuring the student experience is positive from the outset."

This latest placement follows a hat-trick of Awards for the University's accommodation at the recent in National Student Housing Awards. The University was awarded Best Environmental Management and the Best Students Internet and also received an International Accommodation Quality Mark in the National Student Housing Survey Awards.



Pictured left is our Ffriddoedd Village, we also have St Mary's Village and Garth Hall (not pictured).

In this issue of our newsletter...

- Meet our Student Interns
- Scholarship Winners
- Research News
- Take a look at our International Student Newsletter here:

www.bangor.ac.uk/international/support/news/international-student-newsletter-christmas-2018-39044

Staff News



**We welcome
Louise Roberts
to the International
Education Centre!**



Louise Roberts

We would like to introduce you to a new member of the International Student Support Team - Louise Roberts.

Louise has gained vast experience while working within various departments including our University Halls office and Finance department since she began at Bangor University back in the year 2000.

Louise will be the first point of contact for students accessing our international student support services, and she will be dealing with a wide range of administrative and support tasks within the team.

Indian students at Bangor University meet First Minister of Wales



Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM, First Minister of Wales (pictured 5th from the right), Marcel Clusa, International Student Support Officer at Bangor University (3rd from the left) pictured with some of Bangor University's Indian students

Diwali is the Hindu festival of lights and this year, to celebrate the occasion, eight Bangor University Indian students were invited to Cardiff for a special event with the Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM, First Minister of Wales.

International Student Ambassadors together with Bangor Indian Society members travelled to Cardiff in November with the International Student Support Office. Nothing could have stopped the enthusiastically eager group to get to the Capital of Wales, where a big reception was waiting for them at the Millennium Centre. Students got to meet, mingle and even dance with the First Minister of Wales, who dedicated a few words in his speech to acknowledge the importance of the current 2,000 Indian students studying in the UK for the future of this country and for the future relations between Wales and India.

Simran Prasad, Chair of Bangor Indian Society and BSc student in Zoology and Marine Biology at Bangor University said,

"It was surreal to meet the First Minister of Wales and hear his views on the importance of multiculturalism. He thanked us for attending the event but more importantly for studying in Wales and providing a unique perspective on culture, integration and ethnic diversity. For many of us Indians, Diwali is a tough time away from home, and getting the chance to celebrate Diwali amongst so many different cultures and mindsets truly enhanced the entire experience!"

The Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM, First Minister of Wales said, *"With the way politics are going nowadays, we need to fight intolerance in every way possible"*.

Fulbright enables Triple Harp research

An American student has embarked on a postgraduate research degree at Bangor University having received a highly prestigious Fulbright Award.

Kathryn Hockenbury is the first recipient of the Fulbright Bangor University Award. This award enables students from the US to study a Masters degree, or the first year of a doctoral degree programme in the field of Celtic Studies, Creative Writing, or Ocean Sciences. It has been made possible through a combined fee waiver from the University, and an award to cover living costs made by The Bangor Fund. This is made possible through generous donations by the University's alumni community.

Kathryn came to Bangor University from Lebanon Valley College, near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and comes from Malvern, in the same State.

She says:



Kathryn in front of the University's Main Arts building

"Bangor University caught my eye with its award-winning education and stunning architecture, but the main reason I chose Bangor was to be surrounded by the spectacular bilingual culture that creates the setting for my historical research on the Welsh triple harp."

Read more here:

www.bangor.ac.uk/international/news/fulbright-enables-triple-harp-research-38254



Bangor University signs global commitment to bring plastic pollution to an end

As part of its on-going commitment to sustainability, Bangor University is one of the signatories of the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment, led by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, in collaboration with UN Environment and launched at the Our Ocean Conference in Bali (Monday 29 November).

Bangor University is one of 40 global universities to have made this commitment. The University already works to put sustainability and the wellbeing of future generations at the heart of its teaching, learning, research and innovation. Its BioComposites Centre is at the forefront of research, development and the commercial application of bio-based alternatives to synthetic materials in manufacturing and industry. The University's Sustainability Lab works closely with staff and students on all aspects of sustainability, taking a particular interest in waste management, having recently completed a whole week of Waste Awareness activities.

Commenting on signing this document, the Vice-chancellor, Professor John G Hughes said:

"As the VC of a University that's committed to Sustainability I'm delighted at the opportunity to endorse this latest campaign to eliminate plastic pollution at source and to promote a circular economy approach to production and consumption."

Gwen Holland, the Campus waste co-ordinator, said:

"Bangor University fully supports the vision for a circular economy for plastics, and is a very proud signatory of the New Plastic Economy Global Commitment. Whilst plastic pollution has grasped the public's attention recently, it is vital that we work together to come up with long-term solutions that will not have any unintended negative impact on the environment. Eliminating problematic and unnecessary plastic is key, whilst making sure that the plastic we do use, can be safely reused, recycled or composted. If plastic is recycled, it should be of a quality that can be recycled several times, to ensure it remains in circulation."

Meet some of our International Scholarship Winners for 2018



CHEVENING

The Chevening Scholarships are awarded to outstanding scholars with leadership potential and includes the full tuition fee of the students chosen course at Bangor University.

Awarded the Chevening Scholarship were, Mohamed Khan from South Africa, Eman Mohamed Vedaste Havugimana from Rwanda, Etheldreda Leinyuy Mbivnjo from Cameroon, Delisa Majobenganwa Mamba from Swaziland, Rafael Beni Pinto Soares da Dilva from Timor/Indo, Leidy Alejandra Ordonez from Colombia and Kerkula Mulbah from Liberia.



The Commonwealth Shared Scholarships are jointly funded by Bangor University and the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission. They include full tuition fees, return airfare, monthly stipend.

Pictured L-R: Ibrahim Mohamed Aden from Kenya (Commonwealth Shared Scholarship), Adewunmi Omobolaji Adenaiaya from Nigeria (Commonwealth Split-Site PhD), Emmanuel Okot from Uganda (Commonwealth Shared Scholarship), Prof. Oliver Turnbull and Sarah Jones-Morris both of Bangor University, Ephraim Kisangala from Uganda (Commonwealth Masters Scholarship), Denis Olweny Opiyo from Uganda (Commonwealth Shared Scholarship), Harold Pariyo from Uganda (Commonwealth Masters Scholarship)



The GREAT scholarship is jointly funded by the British Council and Bangor University.

The British Council 70th Anniversary Scholarship programme for Indian Women pursuing a Masters in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths in the UK, also had an event in London on 2nd November.



Sreya Chattopadhyay (centre) was awarded the British Council GREAT Scholarship, she is pictured with Sarah Jones-Morris, and Prof. Oliver Turnbull of Bangor University



All of the women awarded the British Council 70th Anniversary Scholarship pictured above with British Prime Minister, Theresa May (centre) outside 10 Downing Street, London.

Sarah Jabeen, Alisha Jhadav and Akanksha Mary Balmuch are amongst those pictured above and are studying at Bangor University.



Alexandra Eleanor Stirling pictured left with Prof. Oliver Turnbull of Bangor University was awarded the Santander Scholarship along with Emily Hannah Shaw and Angelina Abigail Gapare who were unable to make the presentation evening.

The Santander scholarship is valued at £5,000 and awarded to students studying a Masters degree.



Another successful Visceral Minds Summer School

The Visceral Mind Summer School (in the School of Psychology, Bangor University) this September again attracted a large number of very highly qualified and motivated applicants. As ever, they came from all over the world, for the 40 available places. This year students travelled from Italy, Germany, Spain, Austria, Ireland, Holland, Luxembourg, Norway, Canada, Israel, South Africa, and of course from across the UK.

The summer school, now almost a decade old, continues to be popular with ambitious young researchers and clinicians, keen to share in Bangor Psychology's world leading expertise in the field of cognitive neuroscience. It was founded with the support of the James S McDonnell foundation and now runs with the support of Bangor's School of Psychology. The primary aim of the course is to redress an inadequacy in neuroanatomical knowledge in young neuroscientists, and give students the opportunity to experience the working with directly with human brain specimens.

Course Director, Prof Oliver Turnbull, said: *"This is now the 9th running of the Visceral Mind Summer School, bringing many excellent early career academics and clinicians to Bangor to study neuroanatomy. Sharing this knowledge not only spreads scientific knowledge, but also puts the Psychology's (and Bangor University's) research excellence on the map".*

As well as contributions from several Bangor faculty, Prof Turnbull was also joined by visiting academics Dr Alan Watson (Cardiff University), Dr Nils Muhlert (Manchester University) and Dr



The summer school participants pictured with course director, Prof Oliver Turnbull (Front row, second from left) and other visiting academics

Michel Thiebaut de Schotten (L'Institut du Cerveau et de la Moelle Épinière, Paris), and Dr Kristen Koller (Cardiff University). The course is structured to teach the functional neuroanatomy of the human brain, through demonstrations of the effects of brain lesions by meeting neurological patients, and the integration of these observations with clinical neuroimaging and neuroanatomy labs. The programme includes 'hands-on' brain anatomy sessions, patient case conferences, lectures/presentations including the Brain in 3D and special dissection techniques. It also includes the popular "Illustrating the Brain" sessions of drawing and labelling (including paintings) of a range of views of the whole brain, and brain sections.

Over the past decade the course has attracted students from all the world's continents (excluding Antarctica). It has enabled graduates of the programme to

learn cutting edge research techniques and knowledge developed at Bangor to their home countries, to support research in these crucial neurological issues worldwide.

Margarita Blazevisa, from the University of Hull said: *"Visceral Minds was an unforgettable course! Holding a real brain, dissecting and trying to find all the structures – so interesting! The course being so international was also a fantastic opportunity to share the experience and see what people are up to at all the parts of the world!"*

The School is already looking forward to organising the 10th Visceral Mind Summer School in 2019.

If you would like to be placed on a priority mailing list for 2019 please email:

visceralmind@bangor.ac.uk

Bangor University receives two Athena SWAN awards

Bangor University is delighted to announce that the recent Athena SWAN application for an Institution-level Bronze Award has been successful. Furthermore, the School of Ocean Sciences' application for a department-level Bronze award was also successful. These awards recognise the university's commitment to tackling gender inequality in higher education.

Professor Jo Rycroft-Malone (Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research & Impact) and Chair of the Athena SWAN Task Group, said:

"I am delighted that we have been awarded an Institutional Bronze Athena SWAN award in recognition of our work towards gender equality at Bangor. We are committed to continuing our work in this area, to embedding equality into everything we do and to implementing our ambitious activities outlined in our Athena SWAN action plan."

Prof David Thomas, Head of School



of Ocean Sciences, said:

"I am really thrilled that the School of Ocean Sciences has been awarded an Athena Swan Bronze Award. We have had to take a very close look at ourselves and change the way we do things. Staff at the School have enthusiastically engaged in the process and there is a keen desire for the identified actions to take effect. It is a proud moment but we know that achieving the Bronze award is only the beginning!"

The Athena SWAN charter was established in 2005 to encourage and recognise commitment to advancing the careers of women in science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine (STEMM) in higher education.

International Officer Awarded for services to Saudi students

Noor Al-Zubaidi, International Officer at Bangor University was recently recognised for her services to the Saudi student community at a ceremony held at Bangor University on November 8th.

Noor was awarded the 'Support and Cooperation Award', the award recognised Noor's exemplary support for the Saudi students coming to Bangor throughout their journey from the enquiry and application stage, right through to their arrival at Bangor.

Our International Office here at Bangor University is proud of the work that we do in supporting international students and this award reflects the spirit and ethos of what we strive for.



Noor Al-Zubaidi

Bangor University hosts Music Masterclasses in China



Iwan Llewelyn Jones

Iwan Llewelyn Jones, an academic from the School of Music and Media, Bangor University visited China in October to perform and host masterclasses for music students in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

Iwan Llewelyn-Jones has firmly established himself as one of the finest pianists of his generation. He is a graduate of the University of Oxford and the Royal College of Music and has performed at many of the world's prestigious concert halls such as London's Wigmore Hall and Queen Elizabeth Hall as well as Sydney Opera House and Leipzig Gewandhaus. He has also presented masterclasses and adjudicated competitions at all the major British conservatories with many of his students graduating from the Royal College of Music, the Royal Academy of Music, the universities of Oxford and Cambridge as well as Durham, Kings, Cardiff and Manchester.

Prof Chris Collins, Head of the School of Music & Media commented:

"This is a wonderful opportunity for Bangor University to showcase not only its fantastic School of Music but also to showcase the high calibre of its teaching staff."

Meet our student interns for 2018/19...

We have three student interns who started working with us on their International Experience Year this summer, they are Samuel Dickens, from the UK, Aditi (Dot) Saigal from India/UK who will both be carrying out their internships at the International Education Centre, at Bangor University and Sum Ming Lee from Hong Kong who will be carrying out her internship in our China Office in Beijing.

Each week we will introduce you to each one of our interns and this week it's **Sam!**

“Hello! I’m Sam, one of the International Exchanges interns working in the International Education Centre (IEC) this year.

Outside of what I’m doing this year I’m a first going on second year Chinese and German student from Shrewsbury in the Midlands. Honestly, I wasn’t keen on the idea of studying in Bangor at all initially. It was the university my sister was going to and I was into the idea of being more independent but when I came for the open day I ended up setting my heart on studying here! The size of the town, the department and how beautiful the area is just clicked for me.

Being a languages student, I wasn’t entirely sure what I would want to do with my degree after I qualified so I thought this internship would be perfect for getting a glimpse of what sort of thing I could end up doing. A typical working day for me is pretty varied. I deal with some of the issues some of our exchange or study abroad students may have, organise visits for potential, future students and from time to time I’ve done some market research for the university.

The thing I enjoy about my internship the most is definitely dealing with any issues or queries incoming students may have. Being in a position to help someone when they’re doing something as daunting as studying in a foreign country makes me feel as though what I’m doing really is important.

Undertaking a similar internship is something I would recommend to any of my peers, regardless of background. It’s so important now to explore multiple avenues when it comes to potential fields of work and an internship like this is an ideal way to go about it.

In terms of what it might bring to my degree, I’ll be traveling abroad with the university on a few occasions over the year. The dream for any linguist! As well as that I’ve been able to use my languages in a working context. Something which I ordinarily would have had to have waited until I qualified. I suppose it’s still early days for me but as I learn



Samuel Dickens is from the UK and is carrying out his International Exchanges Internship in our International Education Centre at Bangor University

more and more about the role and what I do diversifies, I enjoy what I’m doing that little bit more!”

In the next issue we will meet Sum Ming Lee from Hong Kong, our International Marketing and recruitment intern over at our China Office in Beijing!

ELCOS launches our new look

Pre-sessional courses

Bangor University is pleased to launch our new English Language programmes.

Over the last year Bangor University has reviewed our English language provision based on feedback from students, sponsors and agents. As a result, we have focussed our courses much more intensely on improving English language skills, removing the more general academic skills elements.

As a result, we have been able to reduce the length of our programmes and are now able to take students from IELTS 2.5 – 6.0 within a year and IELTS 4.0 – 6.0 in 8 months

The new provision consists of:

1. Pathway to Pre-sessional – For students below B1. This course takes students from Elementary/A2/IELTS 2.5 (approximately) to B1/IELTS 4.0 in 3 months. Students will be tested on arrival and put into a class to suit their level.
2. Pre-sessional courses – for students at IELTS 4.0 or above. Start dates throughout the year.

Full details of all the programmes including start dates, length and costs can be found in the flyer on the right and on our website:

www.bangor.ac.uk/elcos

Or get in touch via email:

elcos@bangor.ac.uk

We will be happy to help and advise!



ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
CENTRE FOR
OVERSEAS
STUDENTS
ELCOS

NEW FOR 2018/19

PATHWAYS TO STUDY

Intensive English language preparation for Pre-sessional courses

Pathway to Study IELTS 2.5 to 4.0 in 3 months (CEFR A2 to B1)

Pathway 1 (2.5 entry)	September / January / April intakes	£3000
Pathway 2 (3.0 entry)	October / February / June intakes	£2000
Pathway 3 (3.5 entry)	November / March / July intakes	£1000

- No evidence of English language ability required for Pathway 1.
- Evidence of English language ability required for Pathways 2 and 3.
- Progression onto a Pre-sessional course IELTS 4.0 to 6.0 depends on successful completion of Pathway to Study or an IELTS test.

For more information:

T: +44 (0) 1248 382252

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www.bangor.ac.uk/elcos



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Meet us in your country in 2019

We shall be visiting the following countries between January - March 2019

Saudi Arabia	-	Jan	Pakistan	-	Feb/Mar
Hong Kong	-	Feb	Singapore	-	Mar
China	-	Feb	Malaysia	-	Mar
Greece	-	Feb	Romania	-	Mar
Italy	-	Feb	Vietnam	-	Mar

If your country is not listed above then you may contact the relevant **Country Manager** listed below, OR visit our country visits page for more information: www.bangor.ac.uk/international/visits

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International students in the UK

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Please do contact us if you would like one of our international officers to visit your school or if you need any advice.



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