

# UNIVIEW

ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WALES, NEWPORT

November 2007

## New City Centre Campus: a Hothouse of Creativity and Business Skills



The architect's model of the new city centre campus – a hothouse of creative and entrepreneurial activity that will be architecturally striking and an essential element of the city's regeneration.

**A hothouse of creative and entrepreneurial activity – that's the aim of the vibrant new multi-million pound city centre campus being planned by the University of Wales, Newport.**

"The new hi-tech building will be architecturally striking and an essential landmark element of the city's regeneration," said Chris O'Malley, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Regional and International Development).

"The £35m campus, situated on

the banks of the River Usk, will be the first phase of an intended £50m development for the University with partnership funding from Newport City Council and Newport Unlimited.

"Initially it will house Newport Business School and part of Newport School of Art, Media and Design, marking a return of the School to the centre of the City. Our ambition is for the new campus to transform the city centre by becoming a magnet for cultural activity along the riverfront and

a centre for enterprise that embraces a contemporary arts centre and a national photographic archive.

"It will incorporate exhibition space that will put it on the map as a must-see venue for tourists to south Wales. The creative industries are going a long way to replacing what coal and steel once were to the area – and this campus will be the hothouse that produces tomorrow's top creative and business talent."

He added that the innovative new

campus, which should be completed in 2010 to coincide with the Ryder Cup coming to Newport, will add activity and vibrancy to the city centre while giving a vital boost to the local economy.

"Newport's University has an excellent and long established record of widening access to higher education, and this new city centre campus will enable us to achieve our aim of doubling student numbers and providing an excellent education to as wide a range of people as possible," he added.

## Jolly Good Fellows

Broadcaster Huw Edwards and Newport-born actress and presenter Josie D'Arby were two of the prominent people awarded Honorary Fellowships at the University of Wales, Newport during this year's graduation ceremonies.

(continued on Page 4)



Actress and presenter Josie D'Arby and newsreader Huw Edwards at the Awards ceremonies.



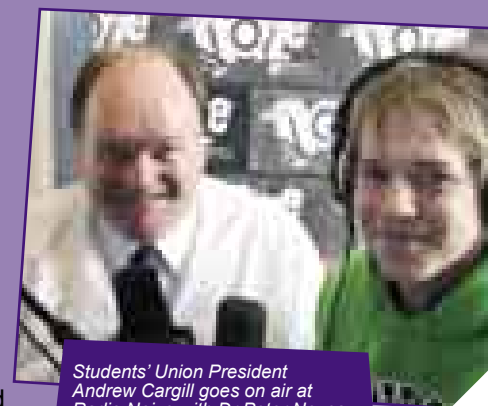
## Huw Voices Support for New University Radio Station

BBC newsreader Huw Edwards was happy to endorse a new radio station which was launched to welcome new students to the University of Wales, Newport.

The voice and face of BBC TV's Ten o'Clock News, recorded a personal message to be used as a jingle on the radio station – which currently goes out worldwide on the internet.

"We launched the radio station as part of our Freshers Week celebrations," said 20-year-old Andrew Cargill, the newly elected President of the Students' Union at the University. "I called it Radio Noize, after the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Peter Noyes, who has been really helpful in getting the whole thing off the ground. Initially, it will be broadcast on the internet but in a couple of months we hope to make it an FM station broadcasting to a wide area around Newport."

To listen into the lively mix of music and chat on Radio Noize visit [www.newportunion.com](http://www.newportunion.com).



Students' Union President Andrew Cargill goes on air at Radio Noize with Dr Peter Noyes, Vice-Chancellor of Newport's University, who has played a key role in getting the radio station off the ground.



"A warm welcome to all our new Parents & Partners Network readers. We hope you enjoy your first 'taster' of the latest news from Newport's University!"  
- Penny Jarman, Head of Development, University of Wales, Newport



# Talented Trio Strengthen Team at the Top

The University of Wales, Newport has appointed three highly talented people whose diverse range of experience and expertise will strengthen its senior management team:

Former MEP **Chris O'Malley**, whose achievements include leading the strategic development of Ireland's youngest university and developing BT's first European market strategy, has been appointed to the post of Pro Vice-Chancellor (Regional and International Development).



Commenting on the importance of the University as a powerful economic engine that can have a major effect on regeneration, Mr O'Malley said, "My first weeks in Newport confirmed my initial impression that this is a positive and dynamic University, committed to its role as catalyst for the development of the Gwent region, and to building stronger bridges to the community, industry and public service."

After gaining a BA in History from University College, Dublin, followed by a Masters of Business Studies, Chris began his career by serving for three years as a member of the European Parliament.

Since 2005 he has been a management consultant specialising in strategy and organisational development and has provided consultancy for large organisations such as Dublin City Council and Waterford City Council. He is also currently pursuing a PhD at the University of Sussex, where he has founded a number of partnerships between the university, industry, local authorities, and community development groups.

**Laura Morgan** is the new Corporate Affairs Manager. An award-winning PR and communications expert, she will be responsible for working closely with the Vice-Chancellor and Management Board to develop and maintain relationships with key stakeholders and strategic partners, and managing projects and communication plans which impact on the reputation of the University.

"I am delighted to be joining the University at such a momentous time, not just for the University but also for the City of Newport," said Laura. "Both have plans to develop and expand significantly and the next few years will see some exciting developments which I am looking forward to being a part of."

In addition to her Business Studies degree, Laura gained a Chartered Institute of Marketing Diploma, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Education Management from Cardiff University.



After graduating she worked as an Executive Officer in the School of Education at Cardiff University, an Account Manager for Grayling Wales, a Public Affairs and Public Relations agency, where she won the Wales IPR Silver Award for her work on a newsletter for British Telecommunications. From 2004 she was Communications and Policy Officer for Autism Cymru as well as undertaking freelance work.

**Graham Rogers** has been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Learning Support) with responsibility for the University's learning environment, quality assurance and enhancement, estates and the learning and information functions.

One of Graham's major tasks will be to lead the University's project to establish a state-of-the-art city centre campus.

Formerly Dean of the University of Central England's (UCE) faculty, the Technology Innovation Centre Birmingham, Graham is no stranger to large scale education-led regeneration projects. At UCE he managed a large diverse faculty and was responsible for establishing a new campus in the centre of Birmingham.

Graham is enthusiastic about his latest challenge. "The new University of Wales, Newport campus provides a superb opportunity to make a significant contribution to the community by providing educational opportunities and developing the region's high level skills base and driving economic regeneration and attracting inward investment to the city."

Graham has held a number of Directorships including the Technology Innovation Centre, Millennium Point, and chairing the Boards of the University of the First Age, and Monisys Ltd. He was also on the Board of Governors of the University of Central England.



## Hat Trick of Top Accountancy Posts for Newport Business School Graduates

Three former accountancy students of Newport Business School have been appointed to the top posts in the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) South Wales Members' Network.

Jo Williams is the new President for the ACCA South Wales Members' Network, Matt Topham is Vice President and Howard Potter is Deputy President.

Jo, who now works as the Finance and Procurement manager for the Department of Transport in Swansea, said that she

owes much of her success to Lionel Griffiths, a senior lecturer in Accounting at Newport Business School.

She said, "Lionel Griffiths was one of several excellent lecturers in accounting at Newport when I graduated. He was always very supportive and easy to relate to."

"Newport has an excellent reputation for its ACCA course which has built up over several years. I would recommend it to anyone who is looking for a career in tax or accountancy," she added.

## Students' Chip Fat Powers Campus Tractors

The University of Wales, Newport is always striving to improve its green credentials and address environmental issues. So much so that Newport was revealed as one of the top universities in Wales according to a Green University Guide published by the Times Higher Educational Supplement.

Newport was the first university in the UK to set up an on-site plant for turning waste cooking oil into eco-friendly biodiesel, pioneering the environmentally friendly process of recycling a waste product into a fuel that powers many campus maintenance vehicles and machinery and produces much less carbon dioxide than standard diesel.

The biodiesel production facility was the latest in a series of environmentally friendly measures at the University. The Kegie Building, which was opened this year to provide much needed teaching space to cope with the University's growing number of students, is full of eco-friendly design features.



Matthew Bellamy (left) the University's Environmental Officer, with Head Groundsman Mike Davies who worked together to set up the University's biodiesel plant which recycles waste cooking oil into eco-friendly biodiesel to power campus vehicles like the tractor Mike is driving.

## Superstar writer Tim Rice's Praise for University



Legendary Lyricist Sir Tim Rice, co-writer of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' and a host of other classic musicals, praised the facilities at the University when he was given a guided tour around the state of the art recording studios and view a selection of award-winning films.

"I've been very impressed with what I've seen here today," said Sir Tim. "I had a great time looking around all the media departments at the University and am quite amazed by all the different areas I have seen. The standards are very high, and the facilities are excellent - they remind me of the studios at Disney."

## UK Partnership Conference Success

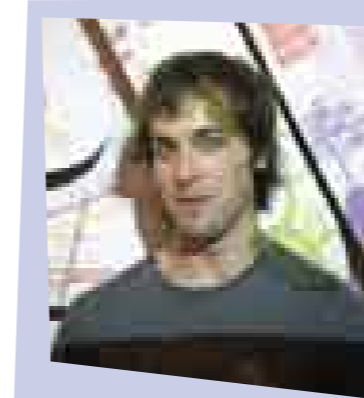
Over 50 delegates attended a UK Partnership Conference which was organised to help strengthen relationships with the University's partner colleges and stimulate ideas for future joint working, as well as to show off the excellent facilities on campus.

"We had a great deal of positive feedback and I'll very soon be following up on ideas with colleagues from Schools and Departments," said Anita Colley, Head of the Partnership Office at the Centre for Community and Lifelong Learning (CCLL), who is pictured showing some of the delegates around the new Kegie Building.



# Tomorrow's Top Talent Show off their Creativity

The designers, film-makers and artists of tomorrow revealed an impressive display of diverse and innovative work - including photography, animation, graphics, multimedia, film and video - at the annual Graduation Show at Newport School of Art, Media and Design.



Urban street subculture was the theme of the work of graphic design student Armin Seltz (left) who created modular designs for skateboards entitled 'Boardworks'.

"It's been a great experience studying here. I've enjoyed the practical side of producing and making work and being able to think outside the box," said 24-year-old Armin, who is from Dresden in Germany. He has landed a job running a small graphic design company in Essex.



Typical of the high standard of work on show was the thought-provoking work by Fine Art student Kate Montgomery.

"My works are a deliberately ambiguous statement about the meat production industry and show people stripped of their dignity and put in the vulnerable positions that animals are in," said 21-year-old Kate.

"The lecturers are really encouraging and I've been able to achieve a level of creativity that I couldn't at my other university," added Kate who now hopes to continue her studies at Newport by doing a Masters Degree.

Kerry Dyer's animation film 'Sura' is about three characters trapped in a room with a strange box.

"The thing I've enjoyed most about studying animation at Newport has been the work placements. They have been great because our course tutor has so many contacts in the animation film industry," said 21-year-old Kerry who comes from Bristol.



## University Leads Development of Online Games that Tackle Serious Issues

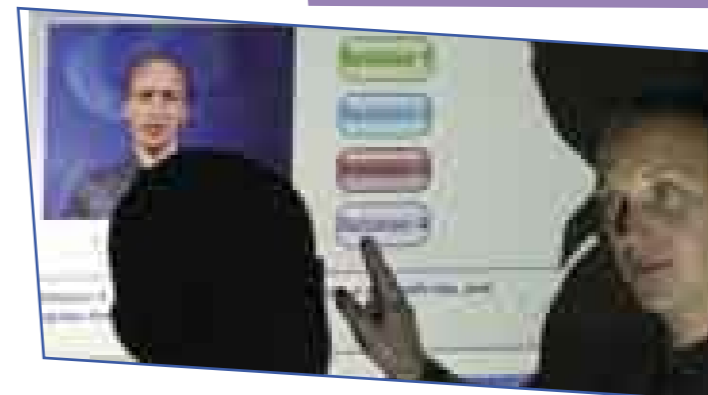
An innovative new range of online learning materials including free interactive games that help people explore topics such as disability, racial equality and homelessness have been developed by the Institute of Digital Learning at the University's School of Education.

The 'Addressing Barriers: Enhancing Services' series of Equality and Diversity toolkits, which incorporate expert video tutorials alongside interactive 'Bytesize Basics' serious games, have been developed to help further understanding of the many barriers people face in education and the workplace.

"Working through the Equinex project,

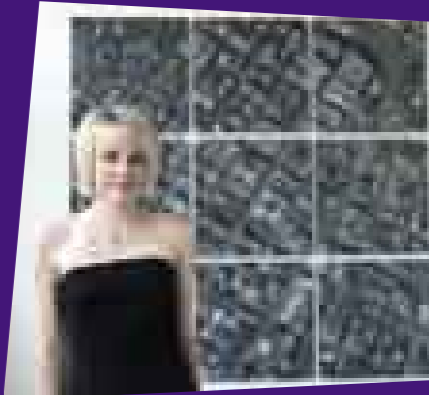
we have used the latest new media educational technologies to create these innovative open source e-training resources, which are free to all users in Wales, the UK, Europe and overseas at <http://equal.newport.ac.uk>," said Matt Chilcott, Learning Technologies Development Manager at the Institute of Digital Learning.

"The new resources were primarily developed for frontline workers in RISE, the Adult Learning Network of South East Wales, and provide an opportunity for people to practise and 'play' with



Fine Art student Clare Skidmore, who has already tasted success after being chosen as one of the finalists in the Mercury Music Prize for young artists, created two huge monochrome canvases based on Google Earth images of New York for her graduation project.

"I chose to paint an aerial view of New York because it's designed and built on a grid. My plan now is to rent a studio in Newport with other students from the course" said 22-year-old Clare who comes from Weston-super-Mare.



Another highlight of the Graduation Show was the film set of a colourful weather machine designed and constructed by 22-year-old Luke Hull for the movie 'Sani-Air'.

"The film is set in an alternative world where people pay for the air they breathe," explained Luke, who comes from Brighton. "I've really enjoyed the course and my ambition when I graduate is to become a set designer in the film industry."

The film's director, Lucy Watkins, also gained a great deal from studying on the Film and Video degree course. "We were influenced by films like 'Brazil' by Terry Gilliam where a giant corporation runs people's lives and wanted to explore the idea of man being replaced by machines," said 21-year-old Lucy who comes from Cardiff.

On a more serious note, Documentary Photography student Conor O' Mearain (left) from Dublin, produced a series of portraits entitled 'Untold', focusing on the women Republican activists who were imprisoned because of the conflict in Northern Ireland.

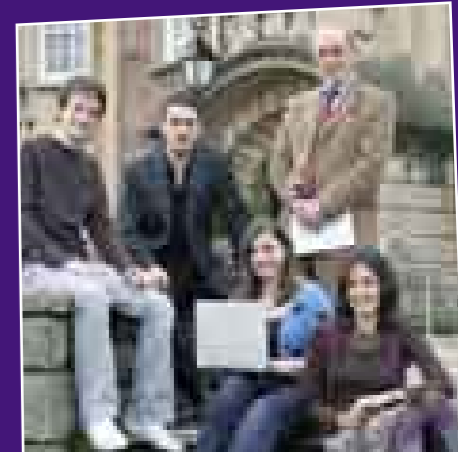
"I took these photos in response to the continuing peace process and in particular, to the evolution of politics since the prison protests of the early 1980s. They were ordinary women - with ambitions of being teachers and nurses - whose lives were shaped by extraordinary circumstances."

Conor plans to go back to Dublin and continue his work there combining documentary photography with commercial portraits.



Conor at his graduation.

## Writers Reign!



There was an unprecedented number of entries this year for the annual Writing Competition organised by the School of Education. Pictured with lecturer Ieuan Morgan Thomas are the winners (left to right) Tim Williams (University's Poetry prize), Richard Parfitt (University's short story prize), and English A Level students Kim-Louise Coles and Charlotte Maddix.



# FOCUS ON...

## THE GRADUATION CEREMONIES 2007

The sun shone down on nearly 2,000 students who graduated from the University of Wales, Newport in the awards ceremonies which took place over three days in the Sports Centre at the University's Caerleon campus. They included the presentation of awards ranging from Access and Foundation diplomas to degrees and doctorates from all of the University's academic Schools. Many students from partner institutions which offer the University's courses on a franchise basis also received awards.

This gallery of photographs capture the excitement and atmosphere of the ceremonies.



### Jolly Good Fellows (continued from Page 1)

Commenting on being awarded an Honorary Fellowship, **Huw Edwards**, who is known to millions of viewers as the main presenter of the BBC's flagship 10 o'Clock News, said, "I am deeply flattered and delighted to receive this Fellowship. Every honour is great in itself but because this one is on my home patch, it is all the more touching.

"For many years, Newport has led the way in widening access to Higher Education, and this university has been a star performer in giving access to education for people who otherwise wouldn't have it. It's a second chance for people of a later age, a chance to start a new career. I am passionately in favour of it," he added.



One of last year's Honorary Fellows, **David Watkins MBE**, who was unable to be present last year, came along to pick up his Fellowship. The only player to have captained both the British Lions rugby union side and the Great Britain rugby league team, David was awarded a Fellowship for his excellence in leadership, team building and promoting excellence development in the field of rugby, both at regional and international level.

A posthumous Fellowship was awarded to **Roger Peachey** who, during his time as a Governor of the University, served as Chair and Deputy Chair of its major committees and was Chair of the Board from 2000 to 2006. In these roles he was tireless and his boundless energy and strong commitment to the University of Wales, Newport played a key role in developing the University's ambitious plans for the future.



Roger fully intended being able to receive the Fellowship himself and the University is grateful to his family, and Mrs Lynne Peachey, in particular, who agreed to accept the posthumous Honorary Fellowship on behalf of her husband.

### Performing Arts Students are First Class Act

Performing Arts students are taking a bow after graduating with First class honours from the University of Wales, Newport. The students were the first to study on the course when it began three years ago and enjoyed the unique opportunity of working closely with students at the International Film School Wales (IFSW) which gave them valuable training in working in front of a camera as well as before a live theatre audience.

One of several students to achieve a First Class degree was **Greg Upham** who enrolled on the course because he was unhappy and unfulfilled in his administration job and now plans to set up his own theatre company.

"It's been challenging but rewarding especially writing a 10,000 word dissertation on myth and tragedy, and directing and adapting the surreal works of Spanish poet Garcia Lorca for my final project," said 31-year-old Greg who is currently acting in a film being made by staff and students at the University, which forms part of a research project about Greek myths.



First class graduate **Victoria Rimola** has had a variety of leading roles - she is pictured playing *Lady Macbeth*.



**Greg Upham** pictured at his graduation



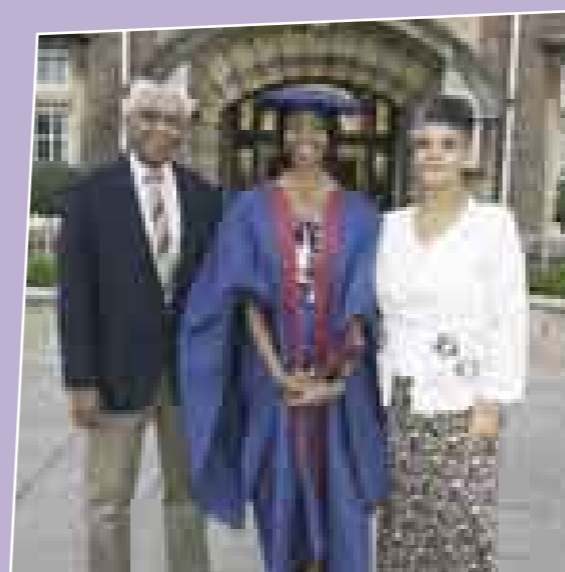
**Greg Upham** acting in a film being made by staff and students at the University, which forms part of a research project about Greek myths.

Former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wales, Newport, **Professor James Lusty**, was awarded an Honorary Fellowship in recognition of his immense contribution to Higher Education in a career that has spanned over 30 years and included being elected Chair of Higher Education Wales (HEW) in 2004.

During his tenure as Vice-Chancellor, he successfully led Newport to full University status and saw the University flourish and grow as student numbers increased and a new portfolio of courses was developed. His personal vision of a city centre campus is now well on track and is central to the city's plans for its regeneration.



An Honorary Fellowship also went to **Dr Jeffrey Thomas** who, as senior partner in the Isca Medical Centre practice in Caerleon, has played a key role in the medical support for students at the University for many years. Dr Thomas has held clinics for students at both Allt-Yr-Yn and Caerleon campuses and has overseen the regular campus visits of the practice every September as part of the Intake weekend of residential students to register them within hours of arriving at Newport. This high quality of medical care is a very positive part of the student experience at Newport.



Newport-born **Josie D'Arby**, an accomplished actress, presenter and Red Cross Ambassador received her Honorary Fellowship for her achievements both on and off screen.

"This is a real honour and it's overwhelming to receive it," said Ms D'Arby whose proud parents were in the audience as she received her Fellowship.

"To look down and see the looks on my parents' faces is very special," said Josie who was offered her first presenting job with the BBC whilst studying at RADA. Josie is one of only six celebrity ambassadors for the Red Cross and has campaigned on their behalf, by trekking and cycling in countries from South Africa to Cambodia and volunteers by helping out in her local Red Cross shop. She has also helped Greenpeace restore forgotten villages in Paphos. In addition, Josie works for the London-based charity, Surf, which raises funds for survivors of the Rwandan genocide.





## Fashion Students Catch Victoria Beckham's Eye

Victoria Beckham was just one of the celebrity visitors fascinated by the range of designs on show by students from Newport School of Art Media and Design at London Graduate Fashion Week.

The former Spice Girl admired the collection of clothes on the students' stand, and was particularly interested in the 'Best of British' collection designed by Linzie Elliott.

"I've really enjoyed doing the fashion course," said 22-year-old Linzie. "It's taught me to think outside the box. My ambition now is work in fashion illustration."

Tracy Pritchard, programme leader on the fashion design course, said, "It was marvellous that someone as high profile and fashion-conscious as Victoria Beckham took such an interest in our students' work. It's been a very busy and exciting year with several high profile events where we showcase students' work. These professional experiences provide the students with a competitive edge which they will carry with them into the future as successful fashion designers," she added.



The 'Modern Times' collection by 21-year-old Liz Heaven from Duffryn was inspired by silent films, which she loves, particularly Chaplin. "I've always been interested in a career in fashion and the course has given me the confidence and skills to pursue my ambitions," said Liz. Her designs are modelled by fellow students Emma Henley, Owen Petts and Ilsa Andersen.



At London Graduate Fashion week, Victoria Beckham was particularly interested in the 'Best of British' collection designed by Linzie Elliott, pictured here with fellow students modelling her designs.

Femininity and seduction were the inspiration for the 'Lolita' collection by Charlene Needs. "I believe it's important for women to feel sexy and confident in the clothes they wear," said 21-year-old Charlene who comes from Port Talbot. "I've really enjoyed the fashion design course at the University and my ambition is to be a lingerie designer."



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Booking a Passage to India

Three Newport students are taking part in the first ever Wales-India film student exchange. MA students Paul Allen, Nicolas Booth and Benjamin Brundle have flown out to New Delhi to gain first hand experience of India's dynamic film industry at the prestigious Asian Academy of Film and Television (AAFT). The exchange is being coordinated and funded by the Skillset Screen Academy Wales and anticipated to be the first of many.

### Award-Winning Teacher

Graduate Nathan Jenkins won the Design and Technology Association Teacher of the Year Award, which was presented to him at the Royal Society in London. Nathan currently works at the John Cabot Technical College in Bristol, but also lectures in many other places as well as working with children with special educational needs.

### Photographer Selected for Prestigious Workshop

Documentary Photography student Gareth Phillips was awarded a place on the Eddie Adams workshop in NYC which aims to create a forum in which an exchange of ideas, techniques, and philosophies can be shared between both established members and newcomers to the profession of picture journalism.

"This is a prestigious event awarded to 100 emerging photographers internationally on the merit of their portfolios and we are very proud of Gareth's achievement at being selected to take part," said Ken Grant, programme leader on the Documentary Photography course.

## Hi-Tech High-Flyers! Computing Students Notch up First Class Honours



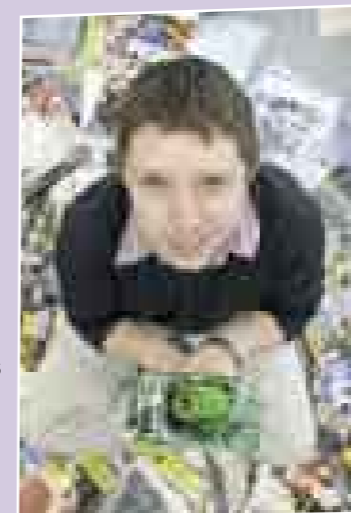
Among the many students who are celebrating after achieving the top classification in their degrees is Adam Griffiths, who having gained a First in Games Development & Artificial Intelligence, has already set up a company that could provide employment for Wales' talented games designers.

"The computer games industry is one of the biggest in the world yet there are very few companies

in Wales making games," said 30-year-old Adam. "As a result, many people like myself who are gaining degrees in computer games design have to leave the country in order to find jobs. Newport's University has two computer games development courses producing talented students with lots of potential – and I hope my company will be able to tap into this and put Wales on the map when it comes to computer games development."

Thomas Emden, who also gained a First class degree in Games Development & Artificial Intelligence, plans to design new computer games for younger children after the success of his graduation project, 'Fred's Food Adventures', a game about healthy eating.

"It was a bit of a surprise to find I had a First Class honours degree but I was really pleased," said 23-year-old Thomas. "It's been a great three years and the time has flown past. All the tutors were great, always there if we had any problems. Newport isn't the world's biggest university but that's an advantage because it's a very supportive environment where you meet more people and make lots of friends," added Thomas who now hopes to do a Masters degree.



## Robotics Research Fosters French Connection with Wales

Robots that are programmed to explore underwater and send images to the surface were among the research projects tackled by students from France who spent four months working closely with lecturers at the University.

The four students, from Ecole Nationales Superieure de Mecanique et des Microtechniques (L'ENSMM) in Besancon in Eastern France, came to Wales to work on a series of ongoing projects at the Mechatronics Research Centre in the University's

Departments of Computing and Engineering.

"It was a pleasure to welcome these overseas students whose work on a number of diverse robotics-based projects will enable us to continue our research by providing us with the hardware and software to try new control systems and artificial intelligence algorithms," said computing lecturer Dr Christopher Tubb.

"The students came here on the SOCRATES programme which supports European cooperation in key areas including new technologies. They have spent four months working with the Department of Computing on projects that make up the final year module element of the University's degree programme and also meet the requirements of their programme of study which involves an internship with an industrial partner."

## Journeying to Jerusalem

'A meeting point between cultures and identities' was the theme of the 21st International Conference for Philosophical Inquiry with Children. Dr Shirley Egley and Dr Lynn Foulston of the School of Education journeyed to Jerusalem to attend the Conference and brought back some lasting memories of what they describe as "a beautiful and chaotic city".

"The Philosophy for Children movement - or P4C as it is known - has been developed in the UK for over 20 years and is used not only with groups of children but with adult learners, too," said Shirley.

"During the course of the conference, we had the opportunity to share some of our work with P4C here in Wales and hear about the work of others in South and North America, Europe and Israel itself. We were also fortunate to be able to visit both a Jewish and an Arab school in Jerusalem and hear from teachers, children and their parents at the latter about the issues they face living in a city in which the tensions between cultures and inequalities are ever apparent."



## Video Podcast Helped A Level Students Get Clued Up About Clearing

Anxious A Level students awaiting their results got clued-up about Clearing by accessing a fact-packed video podcast created by film students at the University.

Lianne Taylor, who directed and shot the video, remembers how

she felt waiting for her results, "I was only too pleased to make a video for the University website which explains in a fun and informative way how students who don't get the results they had hoped for can use Clearing to find the right course for them."

"We were one of the

few universities with an online video about Clearing made by students for students," said Sandra Veasey, the University's Schools and Colleges Liaison Officer, who appeared in the podcast giving her top tips for coping with Clearing.



## Award-winning Photographer Snaps Up More Honours

Award-winning Documentary Photography graduate Ivor Prickett scooped two more major awards. Ivor's portfolio of striking images of displaced Serbo-Croats won him the 2007 Ian Parry Scholarship which awards him £2,500 towards a photography assignment. He also won the British Journal of Photography Nikon EndFrame Award for his photos which tell the story of people displaced during the Serbo-Croatian war, a subject that has captured his imagination since he first visited Kosovo in 2005. The images he took then of Kosovan gypsies won him the Tim Webster Photographic Award.

"Everything I do now is a direct result of what I learned at Newport and I can't imagine where I'd be without having studied here," said 23-year-old Ivor. "My tutors were the biggest influence on me. The ethos and long tradition behind the course make it stand out and I'd recommend it to anyone serious about studying documentary photography."



## National Poet of Wales will Inspire Students

The first National Poet of Wales, Gwyneth Lewis, composer of the words that adorn the landmark Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff, has been appointed Writer-in-Residence at the University of Wales, Newport.

Prize-winning poet and non-fiction writer Gwyneth will be attached to the BA (Hons) Creative Writing and English courses at the University's School of Education and aims to stimulate creativity and raise the profile of contemporary Welsh writing in English throughout the University and the wider community.

Commenting on her role at the University, Gwyneth said, "Being a South Wales woman I couldn't be more pleased to be developing a relationship with the University of Wales, Newport, and to have contact with the local community and the students at the University.

"I am very grateful for the warm welcome I have been given by the staff at the School of Education. I've found the creative writing course very enterprising and the atmosphere warm and nourishing – which is what you need for creative writing."



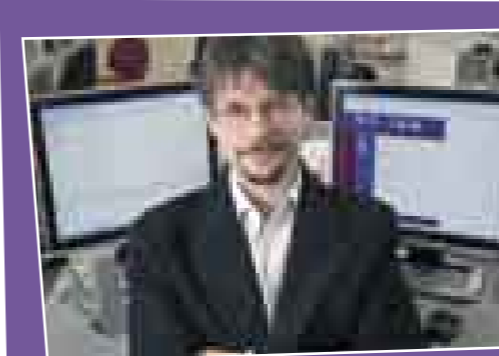
## Big Brother's Glyn Inspires Students to go to University



"Work hard, follow your dream and you'll succeed," was the advice from Big Brother celebrity Glyn Wise to pupils from Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw when he spoke to them at an event organised by the First Campus project which helps pupils engage fully in education by using innovative forms of learning and support.

As the former head boy of his school who has gained a place at university to train to be a teacher of Welsh, 19-year-old Glyn, who came second on Big Brother 7, was the ideal role model to talk to the youngsters about making the right decisions about their future education and encourage the use of the Welsh language.

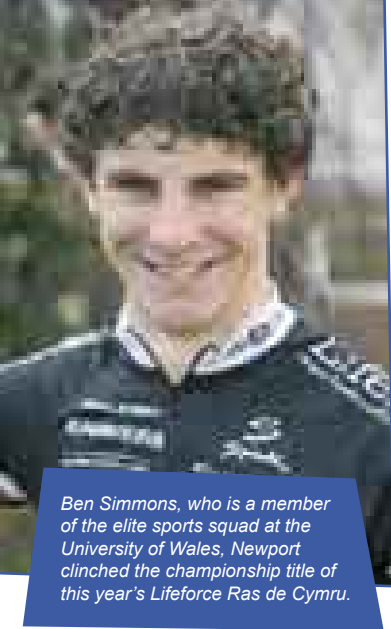
"I've really enjoyed coming here today and telling these students the importance of doing well at school and following their dream," he said. "If they're determined to get something they will get it. I have always worked hard for what I want in life and I told them if they do the same they can succeed."



"I'm very pleased to have got a First class honours degree - it's what I've been working towards over the last three years," said 30-year-old Graeme who moved to Wales from Edinburgh in 1991. "The computing degree at Newport is a really good course and all the tutors are very approachable. I'd heard horror stories about lecturers at other universities but at Newport they're great. You can go to them any time. They're always there for you."

Fellow First class student, Graeme Nisbet had a number of "dead end jobs" before deciding that he needed to study for a degree in order to increase his career prospects. Now, following a rigorous selection process, he has been chosen from thousands to be one of eight computer experts working on a new programme for supermarket giant Tesco.





## Student Sports Star Ben Wins 'Tour de Wales'

A student sports star from Cwmbran was the champion of this year's Lifeforce Ras de Cymru, the five-day cycle race dubbed the 'Welsh Tour de France' because it takes place over some of Wales' toughest roads.

Ben Simmons, who is a member of the elite sports squad at the University of Wales, Newport clinched the championship title by just 21 seconds and played

a key role in his Lifeforce team coming first in the team event.

"This is a tremendous result for Ben who is one of seven students who are members of the University's elite sports squad which qualifies them for a generous bursary of £1,000 each to cover training and travel expenses," said Dr Nicky Lewis, Head of Social Science.

Ben Simmons, who is a member of the elite sports squad at the University of Wales, Newport clinched the championship title of this year's Lifeforce Ras de Cymru.

## Roger's Book Looks at Contemporary Theatre in Education

A new book on the state of Theatre in Education has been published by Roger Wooster, Senior Lecturer in Performing Arts at the University.

"Theatre in Education, which involves using theatre and drama techniques in learning situations in schools through participatory projects, evolved in the sixties and seventies and, based on new ideas in theatre and progressive education, became a uniquely valuable teaching tool," explained Roger who previously set up a Theatre in Education company in south Wales and went on to work with Theatr Powys community as an actor and director.



Roger arranged for Gwent Theatre to present their latest production for schools at the University. Performing Arts students Lauren Brown and Antonio Rimola are pictured chatting to director Jain Boon about theatre in education.



## Equinex Project "gives help where there wasn't any"

"The Equinex Project changes people's lives and gives help where there was none," according to Hannah Phillips, Manager of the Physical Disabilities team at Newport City Council. "It is showing people with disabilities that they have choices and is helping them to find employment or to study for a better future."

Hannah was one of the delegates at a highly successful conference providing an overview of how the Equinex Development Partnership - led by the Centre for Community and Lifelong Learning at the University of Wales, Newport and funded from the ESF, Equal initiative, supported by the Welsh Assembly Government - addresses some of the barriers faced by people from disadvantaged groups when trying to access education, training and employment.



Equinex Project Manager Margaret Davies is pictured with Joe Powell, a beneficiary of the National Autistic Society/Equinex project (left) and Paul Ferguson, Manager of the Holiday Inn, Newport.

## Take That! A Lesson in Marketing a Musical at Millennium Centre

A unique marketing event focusing on a musical based around the songs of Take That struck a chord with GCSE students from Bassaleg School when they were given a rare insight into what it takes to stage a hit show by lecturers from Newport Business School.

The youngsters were taken to the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff for lessons in how to analyse the marketing strategy behind the musical based on the boy band's biggest hits.



"I've really enjoyed getting a glimpse of how hit musicals are staged," said 14-year-old Cari-Ann Evans, pictured with fellow Bassaleg School student Dan Anderson and marketing lecturer Katherine Mutter of Newport Business School.

## Florence's Film Forges Links with Cardiff Women Footballers

A friendship link has been forged between Cardiff City LFC and a women's football team from Zanzibar - thanks to a documentary film directed by lecturer Florence Ayisi.

Florence's film, 'Zanzibar Soccer Queens', which focuses on the lives of a team of strong-willed Muslim women determined to better their lives by playing football, was premiered at the Black Film Festival at Chapter Cinema in Cardiff.

The link between the two clubs aims to exchange ideas between players on their way of life and culture. The Cardiff women hope to support their counterparts in Africa by donating kit and equipment and are asking players and friends to donate outgrown football shirts,

shorts, tracksuits, trainers and boots to send out to the youngsters and women in Zanzibar.

"I made this film because I wanted to present a constructive view and positive images of African women's lives," said Florence. "I admired the women's passion, strength, and courage to follow their football dreams beyond the cramped borders of gender lines and cultural expectations despite limited facilities and opposition,"

Anyone wishing to donate kit for the women and girls in Zanzibar should contact Cardiff City LFC Club secretary Karen Jones on [www.cardiffcityladiesfc.co.uk](http://www.cardiffcityladiesfc.co.uk). For more information about Women Fighters and the film, visit [www.zanzibarsoccerqueens.com](http://www.zanzibarsoccerqueens.com)



Michele Adams, the team coach for Cardiff City LFC, welcomes the Zanzibar team's coach Nassra J. Mohammed. Cardiff City LFC Club presented Nassra with two sets of kit to take back for her team in Zanzibar.



Lecturer and documentary film-maker Florence Ayisi.