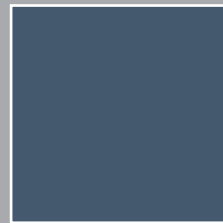
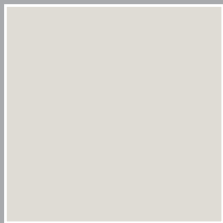
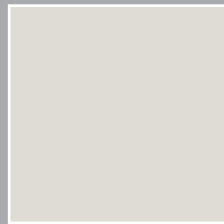
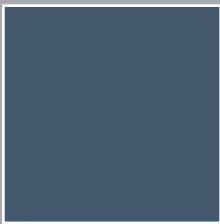


Annual Review 2009



Delivering pioneering higher education since 1839



University of
Chester

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Forewords



A university is not just about courses, 'bricks and mortar', or even a rich history and traditions, important though they are. It is about people - our students and staff. They make the University of Chester what it is. This Annual Review is a celebration of their achievements. I hope that it will provide a fascinating insight into this complex institution.

The Academic Year 2008-2009 has seen an incredibly diverse range of activities in the University, with links to the communities that we serve being at the forefront of the University's concerns. The University has hosted a number of significant international conferences and has seen an impressive range of inaugural lectures and visiting speakers, together with its significant participation in the Chester Festivals and the RHS Show at Tatton.

Staff of the University continue to publish extensively and they have obtained a number of prestigious and competitive research contracts. As the University's interests expand, it has put a particular emphasis on partnership and on strengthening links with its sister church universities and the wider international academic community.

The University continues to develop new courses, particularly at postgraduate level, and has seen the number of doctoral students enrolled increase significantly. All of these activities occur within the context of the University's mission, vision and core values.

The University puts particular emphasis on encouraging social responsibility for its students and this was demonstrated in the University's commitment to volunteering, where more than 320 students put in 33,000 hours of community work worth more than £200,000.

The University had a record surplus of nearly £6 million and this money will be reinvested in the coming years to enhance the quality of facilities that support our students' learning experience.

All of this is only possible through the efforts of able, energetic and committed staff and students.

**Vice-Chancellor and Principal,
Professor TJ Wheeler DL**



The institution has had another excellent year as it consolidates and develops its life as a full university. Recruitment remains strong, and we continue to expand and renew our buildings and facilities. The purchase of County Hall will give us a landmark presence elsewhere in the City of Chester.

In common with all universities, and indeed with most publicly-funded institutions, we now face a challenging period. We start from a strong financial base, and an excellent staff, so ably led by the Vice-Chancellor. We face the future with great confidence.

**Lord Bishop of Chester,
Lord President of the University Council
and Pro-Chancellor**



To obtain this information in an alternative format – large print, on audio tape or in translation – call 01244 511450 or email j.dodgson@chester.ac.uk

Mission

The University was established by the Church of England in 1839 and, within an open and inclusive environment guided by Christian values, we seek to provide our students and staff with the education, training, skills and motivation to enable them to develop as individuals and serve and improve the communities within which they live and work. This mission, which has helped shape our development and diversification, continues to inform our future planning and strengthening as a University institution.

Vision

At the heart of the University's vision is our commitment to: ensuring a rewarding student learning experience; developing the expertise of our staff; teaching excellence; and our growing research and scholarly profile. Fundamental to these ideals and aspirations is the positive impact that the University has on the lives of our students, our staff, and our community, all of which underpin the institution's significant and developing contribution to the region and beyond. In valuing and celebrating our long history and traditions, the University is modern, dynamic and enterprising in its approach to developing new opportunities. In particular, we are committed to engendering a sense of pride and shared ownership in all those associated with us and with what we do.





Core Values

In continuing expression of the University's Christian foundation and the discussion of moral and spiritual values, the institution's various activities are underpinned by a series of core values that help to define our identity:

The pursuit of excellence and innovation

We seek continuous innovation and improvement and constantly aim to secure the highest standards and quality in our learning and teaching and the creation and application of new knowledge.

A distinctive student experience

We are committed to providing all our students with a high quality, caring and supportive learning experience, including work-related learning, that equips them with the necessary personal and academic skills to engage confidently with the wider world.

Partnership and community

Through our staff, students and alumni, we seek to play a leading role in the intellectual, cultural, social, spiritual and economic life of the local, regional and wider communities we serve and with which we interact.

Inclusiveness and responsibility

We actively espouse the principles of equality of opportunity and diversity, and continually apply them in the conduct of our relationships and business. We are, in particular, committed to widening access to higher education. Within an ethically aware and professional environment, we acknowledge our responsibilities to promote freedom of inquiry and scholarly expression.

A supportive culture and environment

Based on team work and appropriately devolved authority and responsibility, we seek to promote a dynamic and cost-effective organisational culture within which all our staff and students feel empowered and actively supported to respond creatively and efficiently to the challenges of a changing environment.

A caring foundation

Valuing openness and inclusiveness, we seek to promote an environment within which all our students and staff are provided with opportunities to reflect on moral and spiritual issues affecting individuals and society.

Honorary Graduates

The welcoming of distinguished individuals into a closer relationship with the University is both an acknowledgement of their significant achievements, and evidence of the institution's growing influence at the highest level.

Dave Brailsford MBE, Doctor of Science, honoris causa

One of the institution's most eminent former students, Dave Brailsford MBE is the architect of what many see as the ultimate British sporting achievement. Dave, from Manchester, has been involved in cycling throughout his career and progressed to become Performance Director of the GB Cycling Team. Following successes at the Athens Olympics, the World Track Championships in 2005 and successive World Championships, the Beijing Olympics saw British Cycling winning eight golds, four silvers and two bronze medals. He now aims to help repeat or exceed this record for the 2012 Games in London.

Professor Sir Drummond Bone, Doctor of Letters, honoris causa

Listed as *Merseyside's Number One 'Mover and Shaker'*, Professor Sir Drummond Bone was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool from 2002 to 2008 and President of Universities UK from 2005 to 2007. In the run up to Liverpool's European Capital of Culture year, he steered the Culture Company responsible for the year's activities. His national positions include Chairman of the Foundation for Art and Creative Technology, and he received a knighthood in 2008 for his services to Higher Education and the regeneration of the North West.

Stuart Chambers, Doctor of Business Administration, honoris causa

One of only two British men to run a Japanese company, Stuart Chambers became the Chief Executive of Nippon Sheet Glass Company Limited (NSG Group) in 2008. This Cheshire resident held international roles at Shell and Mars, before joining Pilkington in 1996. In 2006 the NSG Group acquired Pilkington plc to form one of the world's largest manufacturers of glass and glazing products, employing 32,500 people worldwide. Stuart has also acted as Chair of the Northwest Business Leadership Team.

Dr Dave Brailsford MBE with Dr Lesley Cooke, formerly his personal tutor

Dr Stuart Chambers



Polly Dangerfield

Master of Education, honoris causa

Leading one of only four UK specialist dance schools, Polly Dangerfield has played a huge role in helping talented youngsters flourish, regardless of background. Polly became Head Teacher of Chester's The Hammond School in 1990, and over the next 18 years under her guidance it became the only government-funded dance school in the North West. Polly has also been governor of Hoole Primary School, served on regional and national committees on dance and education and was a team inspector for the Independent Schools Inspectorate.

John Richards OBE

Master of Arts, honoris causa

As a pioneer of British motoring, John Richards OBE, from Macclesfield, became Chief Executive of Project Zircon, a world-class team to build a super car, and also led the campaign to keep Rolls Royce and Bentley British. In 2002-3 John held the post of High Sheriff of Cheshire, founding the High Sheriff's Prize for Music, in collaboration with Chetham's School of Music and the High Sheriff's Cheshire Prize for Literature, in collaboration with the University. In 2007 he became a Deputy Lieutenant of Cheshire, and in the same year was appointed OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Dr John Sentamu

Doctor of Theology, honoris causa

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dr John Sentamu has used his position as the 97th Archbishop of York to speak out on a range of moral, social and political issues. After fleeing from Uganda, he was

ordained in 1979 and progressed to become Bishop of Stepney in 1996, Birmingham in 2002 and York in 2005. He is a Primate of England and Metropolitan, a member of the House of Lords and a Privy Councillor. His interests are reflected in his range of commitments, from Chairman of the Damilola Taylor Murder Review in 2002 to President of the YMCA in 2005.

Colonel William Spiegelberg MBE

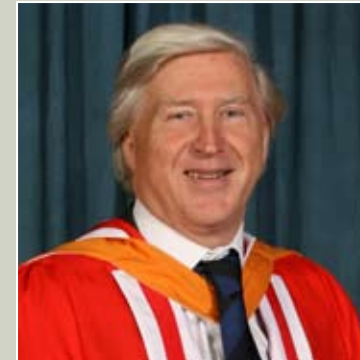
Master of Business Administration, honoris causa

William Spiegelberg MBE undertook National Service and continued to serve with the Territorial Army (TA) as a Major in the Cheshire Yeomanry until 1974. In the 1990s he was appointed Honorary Colonel of the Cheshire Yeomanry Squadron. He is Chairman of Trustees at the Cheshire Military Museum, a Director of Warrington Chamber of Commerce, chairs the Warrington Charities Trust and Cheshire Crimestoppers and has been a Deputy Lieutenant of Cheshire since 1995. In 1997 he was appointed MBE and acted as High Sheriff of Cheshire from 2001 to 2002.

Terry Waite CBE

Doctor of Letters, honoris causa

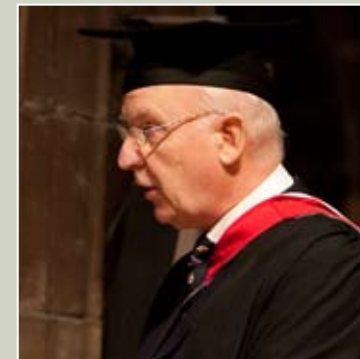
A remarkable life as a diplomat, hostage negotiator and humanitarian has earned Cheshire-born Terry Waite a truly global prominence. His various jobs, including working as Adviser to the Archbishop of Canterbury, saw him travel extensively. In January 1987, while negotiating the release of Western hostages in Lebanon, he was taken captive in Beirut and remained a prisoner for 1,763 days, four years of which were in solitary confinement. Despite his international renown as a lecturer, author and broadcaster, he still maintains many Cheshire connections, including his patronage of the Warrington Male Voice Choir.



Professor Sir Drummond Bone



Polly Dangerfield



John Richards OBE



The Most Rev and Hon Dr John Sentamu



Colonel William Spiegelberg MBE



Dr Terry Waite CBE

Renowned Visitors

The University's success in attracting key opinion leaders from many backgrounds to share their experiences with students and staff is an integral element of the academic experience and serves to broaden the horizons of all those involved.

Michael Morpurgo OBE, the 2003 Children's Laureate, returned to the University as part of its Autumn Festival. This bestselling author gained international recognition with *Private Peaceful*, his moving story set in the First World War, which won the California Young Reader Medal with half a million votes from students. Michael's celebrated novel *War Horse* has also been adapted as an award-winning West End production. His popularity as a captivating speaker was illustrated by the attendance of over 350 people.

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dr John Sentamu was the guest of honour at a fund-raising event in the Westminster Building on the Chester campus, held in aid of the Kisiizi-Chester health and education initiative. This was established by the University and the Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust with the Church of Uganda Kisiizi Hospital. During his visit, the Archbishop officially named one of the clinical skills labs the Kisiizi Room. On unveiling the plaque, Dr Sentamu referred to the difference the project would make in transforming the lives of 250,000 people living in dispersed rural communities and improving their long-term prospects.

The inaugural annual Law School lecture was given by **The Right Honourable The Baroness Hale of Richmond DBE, QC** on *Discrimination Law in the House of Lords* and attended by around 140 people. The first and only woman of 12 Law Lords, Baroness Hale is one of the country's most senior legal figures. During the lecture, she discussed the need for a review of equality legislation in the UK, particularly in relation to the concept of direct discrimination.

Author Michael Morpurgo OBE with fan Patrick Greaves, after whom a book character has been named





The Rt Hon The Baroness Hale of Richmond



Martin Bell OBE



The Rt Hon The Lord Patten of Barnes



Nicholas Crane



Wayne Garvie

Martin Bell OBE, 'The Man in the White Suit', gave an exclusive insight into his career through his talk on *The Death of News* to Journalism students. He spoke about his life as a foreign affairs correspondent for the BBC, and his legendary fight for the safe Conservative parliamentary seat of Tatton. He won the Royal Television Society's *Reporter of the Year Award* in 1977 and again in 1993. Now an ambassador for UNICEF, he describes himself as "too old" for journalism and politics, whilst remaining an outspoken critic of both.

One of the UK's foremost health experts offered a provocative insight into the challenges posed by the obesity epidemic, at the third Haygarth Public Health Lecture for Cheshire. **Professor Alan Maryon-Davis**, President of the UK Faculty of Public Health, posed a number of challenges to policy makers during the prestigious lecture, which is a joint venture between the University, the NHS in Cheshire, and the Communities of Cheshire Partnership. In *Shouting for Health: The Art and Science of Health Advocacy*, he discussed the challenges of conveying health messages to the public and decision makers.

The last governor of Hong Kong, **Chris Patten**, visited the University to give a lecture on his book *What Next? Surviving the Twenty-first Century*. The Right Honourable The Lord Patten of Barnes, as a commentator with vast experience at the highest levels of national

and international politics, gave a penetrating analysis of our global future and identified some of the challenges to be faced. These included international crime and drugs trafficking, nuclear proliferation, water shortage, migration and epidemic disease.

The Right Honourable The Lord Owen gave a lecture on his controversial book *In Sickness and in Power*. David Owen, the former Foreign Secretary and doctor, analysed the psychological illnesses affecting the decisions of world leaders. In particular, he reached conclusions over the state of Tony Blair's mind when he committed troops to the invasion of Iraq.

Nicholas Crane, the BBC presenter of *Coast* and *Map Man*, gave a unique insight into his *Great British Journeys* book and television series. Using his experience as an expert cartographer, historian and explorer, he selected eight of the most interesting traveller-chroniclers of Britain, including Gerald of Wales, Daniel Defoe and William Cobbett, for this ambitious project.

The driving force behind *Dragon's Den* and *Strictly Come Dancing* **Wayne Garvie**, reflected on the BBC's global role during his Annual Lecture at Warrington's North West Media Centre. As the BBC's Head of Entertainment, he was behind a number of hit shows. Now the BBC's Worldwide Director of Content and Production, he was appointed as Visiting Professor at the University in 2006, cementing

the strong links the Warrington campus enjoys with the creative industries. The University signed a partnership agreement with the BBC ahead of the Corporation's move to Salford in 2011, to open up pathways into employment in the media industry and develop new talent within the region.

The life and work of Sir William Crookes were explored by **Professor Colin Russell**, Emeritus Professor in the History of Science and Technology at the Open University, in a lecture entitled *Chester, Cathodes and Controversy*. Organised in collaboration with Chester's Society of Thirteen, the talk explored the life of Crookes, who in 1855 was appointed as Chemistry tutor and helped to establish Chester College as one of the foremost scientific institutions in the country.

Celebrated artists and photographers, **Richard Billingham** and **Tom Wood** took part in a series of guest lectures across BA Photography and Fine Art and Photography Professional Practice programmes. In 1997 Richard exhibited in Saatchi's notorious *Sensation* exhibition at London's Royal Academy and his entry was listed for the Turner Prize in 2001. Tom has published a series of photography books on Merseyside and his work is held in the permanent collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum, the National Museum of Film, Photography and Television, Bradford and the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

Hosting Conferences

The range and significance of the meetings associated with the University ensure that it remains a leading venue for disseminating academic research and best practice, while attracting a wide cross-section of visitors to the institution.



Dr Eugenio Biagini at the Gladstone Bicentenary International Conference

The Gladstone Bicentenary International Conference

Leading international academics converged on Chester for a landmark event to commemorate the bicentenary of Gladstone's birth in 1809. The Conference was organised by the Department of History and Archaeology and Centre for Victorian Studies, in conjunction with St Deiniol's Library in Hawarden. Dr Eugenio Biagini explained in his concluding lecture how the legacy of four-time Liberal Prime Minister William Gladstone still resonates across the landscape of British politics.

Chester Business School Research Colloquium

A decade of research activity was celebrated by showcasing some of the ground-breaking work which is being carried out by the Business School's academic staff. The Research Colloquium, held at the Warrington campus, encompassed a wide range of insights, from those into the business management practices in the English professional football industry to those into the financial markets and academic theories. The keynote presentation was given by Ossie Jones, Professor of Entrepreneurship at the University of Liverpool Management School.

Muslim Youth: Challenges, Opportunities and Expectations

This innovative international conference on key issues relating to Muslim youth brought together academics, organisations, institutions and youth work practitioners. An edited volume of selected conference papers will be published by Continuum Books in 2011.

Stepping Up - Meeting the Challenge of Education and Research Today

The Faculty of Health and Social Care organised Chester's first national conference for lecturers in health and social care. This provided delegates with the opportunity to hear presentations from academic leaders from all areas of higher education and all parts of the UK. The event included workshops on publishing and research bids, together with a substantial poster display.

The Other 19th Century Conference

This interdisciplinary conference, organised by the Department of English, explored all aspects of 'otherness' in 19th-century literature and culture. Some of the issues covered included how it was represented and what attempts were made to classify it within medical, scientific and imperialistic discourses. Guest speaker was Dr Catherine Spooner, from Lancaster University's Department of English and Creative Writing.

Inaugural Meeting of the Learning Disability Media Research Group

This forum aims to collect representations of Learning Disabled people in all types of media for a database and its launch took place at Chester with presentations by Pat Talbot and Professor Tom Mason on the history of learning disability. The guests visited the Faculty of Health and Social Care museum and an open discussion took place on the Group's future direction. The intention is to publish journal articles and construct research grants under the Group's auspices.

The Art of Appropriation & Kurt Schwitters in England

As part of a wider debate related to appropriation, found objects and photography, this conference aimed to stimulate new areas of research into the legacy of Kurt Schwitters. Organised by Dr Cian Quayle and supported by the Centre for Practice as Research in the Arts in conjunction with the Littoral Arts Trust, the keynote speakers were David Evans, John Stezaker and Roger Cardinal, with an international exhibition featuring Mike Sandle and John Stezaker.

Moves International Dance and Film Festival

The Department of Performing Arts hosted a masterclass, as part of the Moves International Dance and Film Festival, and students and staff also attended the main Festival in Glasgow.

Silence

An international symposium on the theme of silence was organised by the Centre for Practice as Research in the Arts. A broad spectrum of delegates explored performance, installation, sound and visual art.

Get Global, Sing Up and Science for Non-scientists

Three education events specifically for teachers covered the areas of globalisation within the primary curriculum, the use of singing across the school day to support children's learning and science for non-specialist science teachers in primary schools.

Stepping Out Conference 2009

Helping would-be teachers take the first step into the classroom was the directive of this Conference, held by the Faculty of Education and Children's Services at the Chester campus, which gave fourth year BEd students an opportunity to focus on the wider school community.

Early Childhood Conference

This inaugural event was held in November 2008, with the aim of celebrating the achievements of young children, families and practitioners in early years. Keynote speakers with particular expertise in this field shared their work, along with recent Early Childhood Studies graduates who were invited to disseminate their dissertation research with the audience.

Everybody In: Removing Barriers to Learning

Overcoming language obstacles and supporting children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) were among the topics covered at a national education conference hosted by the Faculty of Education and Children's Services. This primarily focused on the issues of inclusion in the classroom.

Researching Women's Experiences of Violence

This prestigious British Sociological Association (BSA) Violence Against Women Study Group Seminar at the University attracted high profile experts from across the UK for a discussion of current thinking.

Nutrition Summer School

As the only University in the North West to deliver training in dietetics for the National Health Service, its first Nutrition Summer School on campus provided a unique learning experience. Through hands-on workshops and activities, 17-year-olds spent four days with a dedicated team of nutrition and dietetics professionals, to discover more about the science behind healthy eating.

NEEC (formerly North of England Education Conference)

The influential 2009 NEEC was hosted by Wirral Council in partnership with the University. Delegates and speakers from the UK, Europe and Africa visited Chester and Wirral, bringing perspectives into learning and leadership in some of the most challenging situations. The President was Baroness Estelle Morris and The Right Honourable Ed Balls MP, Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families, used the opportunity to announce national training plans for Children's Services senior managers.



Baroness Estelle Morris at the NEEC

Staff Presentations

The delivery of lectures, conference papers and exhibition material by academic staff at a national level allows their specialised research interests, enthusiasm and knowledge to be appreciated by audiences of all kinds.



Coverage of Professor Roy Alexander's work to help establish the village of Ashton Hayes as the UK's first carbon neutral community saw the location being used as a case study to coincide with the launch of the White Paper, *The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan*. He was interviewed by Sarah Mukherjee, BBC Environment Correspondent, for BBC Breakfast, Radio 4's *Today* programme, BBC World and other BBC News channels. In his inaugural lecture, Professor Alexander reflected on how different aspects of geographical research can help inform the fight against climate change. As RSK Professor of Environmental Sustainability, he drew on his three decades of research into lichens, badlands, and community carbon reduction and how that could be applied to give an insight into sustainability. He documented the progress of the Ashton Hayes *Going Carbon Neutral* project and explored how it could inform community carbon reduction across the country. Professor Alexander also gave a keynote address at the Welsh Assembly/Groundwork Climate Change event in Wrexham, spoke at a Green Investor Day for Rathbone Brothers plc in Liverpool and presented to a further nine organisations.

Professor Roy Alexander
going carbon neutral

An insight into why good literature depends upon a synergy between creative and destructive writing was given by Alan Wall, an internationally-acclaimed novelist and Professor of Writing and Literature, during his inaugural lecture. By investigating work by Shakespeare, Pope, Beckett and others, Professor Wall highlighted the importance of a 'destructive' element in any writing for it to be successful. His work has been translated into nine languages and published in 11 countries, winning numerous prizes.

Ethical leadership and Machiavelli was the subject of a keynote speech at the Ashridge International Research Conference by Professor Phil Harris, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Business, Enterprise and Lifelong Learning and Westminster Chair of Marketing and Public Affairs. The theme of the Conference was *Global Leadership, Global Ethics?: In Search of the Ethical Leadership Compass* and it was aimed at a broad range of academics and professionals involved in devising and practising ethical leadership policies.

Thought-provoking questions about the categorisation of mental health conditions and the concept of evil were tackled by Professor Tom Mason, Head of Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, during his inaugural lecture. *The Clinical Construction of Evil* was informed by his career spanning 30 years in forensic mental health.

Drawing on her research into performance management, Caroline Rowland, Professor in Leadership Management and Sub Dean of the Faculty of Business, Enterprise and Lifelong Learning, gave a keynote address at this year's Economics, Business and Enterprise Association (EBEA) Conference in Chester.

Two members of the Department of Art and Design, Dr Jeremy Turner and Dr Cian Quayle, delivered papers at *The Art of Appropriation & Kurt Schwitters in England* conference at Chester and curated the Encounter group exhibition in Liverpool. Dr Turner spoke at the *Living Landscapes*

Conference at Aberystwyth and the *Silence* conference in Chester and had work included in the *Thoroughly Modern Dora* group exhibition in London. Dr Quayle presented a paper at the *Kurt Schwitters Autumn Herbst Schule* at Ambleside and contributed material to the *Under the Volcano* exhibition in Liverpool and the *This Was Now – The Russell Herron Collection* in London.

Professor Elizabeth Mason-Whitehead, from the Faculty of Health and Social Care, formally opened an exhibition at the Grosvenor Museum entitled *Kill or Cure, Medicines and Remedies* and gave a well-received public talk focusing on the work of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole.

As Professor of Evaluation Research in the Faculty of Education and Children's Services, Elaine Hogard reflected on 15 years' experience in assessing a wide range of public sector initiatives and how this type of scrutiny shapes our lives in her inaugural lecture entitled *Evaluating Evaluation: A Public Health Warning*.

Members of the Department of History and Archaeology presented a number of papers at conferences: Dr John Doran spoke at the Mediaeval Studies Seminar Programme (St Andrews); the International Medieval Congress (Leeds); the Ecclesiastical History Society Annual Summer Conference (Durham), the History Society (Lancaster) and the Lancashire Higher Education Convention (Lancaster). Dr Doran also chaired a session at the Mapping Medieval Chester Colloquium (Swansea) and was invited to contribute a chapter to the forthcoming volume about Medieval Chester. Dr Howard Williams presented at the Medieval Vocalities Conference (Durham); the 30th Theoretical Archaeology Group (Southampton); and a Research Workshop (Edinburgh). He also made a guest appearance in the Channel 4 programme *Christianity: A History*. Dr Meggen Gondek gave talks to the Cheshire Historic Landscape Society (Chester) and the University of Bangor Archaeology Society.



Professor Alan Wall



Professor Caroline Rowlands



Professor Phil Harris



Professor Elizabeth Mason-Whitehead



Professor Tom Mason



Professor Elaine Hogard

Strategic Importance

The University's considerable strengths in community engagement and interaction with local organisations of all kinds mean that it plays a pivotal role in the region, thus reinforcing its reputation as the area's leading provider of higher education.



Developing an existing long-term partnership, the Warrington Wolves RLFC agreed a deal for the University to be the club's 'back of shirt' sponsor for the 2009 season. This epitomises the close and pioneering relationship that has been successfully developed between the University and one of the North-West's top professional sports teams. The Warrington Wolves first and academy teams now use state-of-the-art sports facilities at the Warrington Campus. Great Britain star, Jon Clarke, is also currently completing a part-time undergraduate degree in Sport and Exercise Sciences at the University.

In order to attract young people from backgrounds of traditional low participation into higher education, the University continued as the lead higher education institution for the Aimhigher Cheshire and Warrington area partnership. Academic departments contributed to a record 39 events and activities for 1,217 young people. The widening participation residential summer school programme continued to expand, co-ordinated by the Student Development Team in the Department of Student Support and Guidance. Student Development also trained and supported student volunteers with the delivery of the University's highly-regarded Schools Mentoring Scheme in eight local secondary schools, which involved 29 mentors and 110 mentees.

The University continued to perform well against national benchmarks in widening participation. In June 2009, it submitted its Widening Participation Strategic Assessment for 2009-2012, a significant new requirement, to the Higher Education Funding Council for England. This outlines the University's commitment to enhancing the student experience, from outreach activity and admissions through to support for retention, success and employability.

Sunny Kang, Students' Union Vice-President (Warrington), Michael Monaghan from Warrington Wolves and James Kirkby, Students' Union President, celebrating the Warrington Wolves sponsorship

Close community links were established by Gill Miller, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Geography and Development Studies, through working with Chester World Development Forum. This resulted in events such as a lecture by Ann Pettifor, Director of Advocacy International, and founder of the Drop-the-Debt campaign. Gill also established the Chester branch of the Geographical Association, in collaboration with her Department. A number of successful events were organised for local sixth formers, and the inaugural lecture was given by Professor Michael Bradford (University of Manchester), the former President of the Geographical Association.

Professor Roy Alexander, from the Department of Geography and Development Studies, hosted a visit by The Right Honourable Hilary Benn MP, Secretary of State for Defra, to Ashton Hayes. This small Cheshire village is at the centre of a pioneering renewable

energy 'microgrid' model that could transform the way in which power is generated in rural communities. Thanks to an £86,558 grant from Carbon Connections UK, the University-backed *Going Carbon Neutral* project is conducting a feasibility study into a new approach for generating and distributing electricity.

James Pardoe, Senior Lecturer in the Department of History and Archaeology, was appointed a member of Cheshire West and Chester Council's Heritage Forum. This informal group was established to reflect the wider geographical remit of the new local authority for this area and seeks to establish new procedures through an exchange of ideas and dissemination of good practice.

A geophysical survey was carried out by Dr Meggen Gondek and students from the Department of History and Archaeology, at

Cheshire's Kelsborrow Castle, contributing to Cheshire West and Chester Council's Archaeologist, Dan Garner's ongoing Habitats and Hillforts project. Staff and first-year Archaeology students also completed fieldwork for the second stage of an ambitious project to learn more about a nationally-recognised historic landscape in North Wales. They carried out intensive survey work on the mining landscape at Halkyn Mountain, which preserves a unique and distinctive ore field area that was mined in the late 17th to 19th-centuries.

A solo exhibition of sculpture took place at the Grosvenor Museum and Gallery in Chester as part of a long-standing collaboration between the Museum and the University's Department of Art and Design. An exhibition of work produced by Fine Art staff also travelled to Liverpool for a showcase in the Novas Contemporary Urban Centre.





Aimhigher and Zengage at Blacon High School



Advertising students and NHS Warrington health promotion project

The North West Mental Health Nurses Forum was launched by Professor Mike Thomas, Executive Dean of Health and Social Care, and Maureen Deacon, then Lead for Continuing Professional Development in the Faculty of Health, Psychology and Social Care at Manchester Metropolitan University (now a Professor at Chester). This group provides mental health professionals in the North West with an arena to discuss different issues affecting their profession.

A total of 240 blood pressure measurements were carried out over a six hour period (and eight individuals referred for GP appointments) by five students from the second year Pre-Registration Nursing programme. They took part in the Rotary Clubs of Chester Stroke Awareness Day at the Forum in Chester for the sixth year running.

Drama students from the Department of Performing Arts worked with male offenders in HM Prison Manchester and female offenders in HM Prison Styal for their third year module focusing on the way performance can be used as a research data gathering and dissemination tool. Research interpretations and claims were shared by spending 24 hours on the minibus in which they had travelled between the University and the prisons. The minibus was parked at the Kingsway campus and students, staff and other visitors invited on board. The research documentation for *24 Hours Going Nowhere* was submitted in a minibus tool box and deposited in the library for reference purposes.

Advertising students showcased large scale prints, videos, brochures, posters and artefacts, as well as materials produced for St Helens-based charity, Helen Marie Friends, as part of an exhibition in Warrington's Golden Square Shopping Centre. This work met seven 'live' briefs set by local businesses and organisations.

The Programme Team for the MA in Military History from the Department of History and Archaeology, in conjunction with the Cheshire Military Museum, organised a visiting speaker

series, *A Military Miscellany*. Notable military historians such as Dr Mike Snape, University of Birmingham, and Matthew Bennett, Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS), delivered lectures on a variety of different topics. Dr John Doran from the Department of History and Archaeology also addressed the Annual General Meeting of the Chester Tour Guides' Association in Chester and gave a talk at Knutsford Heritage Centre.

As part of the Archaeology experiential learning module, Drs Meggen Gondek, Programme Leader for Archaeology, and Howard Williams, Senior Lecturer, from the Department of History and Archaeology organised a popular community Open Day at the excavation in Chester's Grosvenor Park. In conjunction with Cheshire West and Chester Council's Historic Environment Team, students and University staff gave guided tours and explanations of the dig and ran interactive finds sessions for children, which attracted around 1,000 people.

Very Important Britons and *War and Memory* were the themes for the latest two highly popular community Blue Coat Lunchtime Lecture series, hosted by the Department of History and Archaeology and attracting a total audience of around 450 people across eight lectures. The Department was also involved in running two 'History Days' at Burton Manor College. Four lectures were delivered on two specific themes; *Decisive Battles in History* and *Transportation through the Ages*, along with the opportunity for discussion.

A hard-hitting campaign to raise awareness among young people in Warrington about the links between excessive alcohol consumption and high-risk sexual behaviour was designed by Advertising students at the Warrington campus. They completed a year-long project in partnership with NHS Warrington to develop an advertising and communications strategy showing the connection between excessive drinking and sexual behaviour and sexually transmitted infections and unplanned pregnancies.

Understanding how creatures fly and learning how their training can be improved were some of the topics covered when almost 120 young people were given a taste of studying animal welfare at the University. In conjunction with VETNET LLN, a national Lifelong Learning Network, visiting students from North West further education colleges were invited to attend an Animal Welfare Taster Day. This gave them the opportunity to experience lectures, meet current Animal Behaviour students, participate in a question and answer session and have a Chester campus tour.

The prestigious High Sheriff's Cheshire Prize for Literature attracted entries from around the world on the theme of children's literature. Inaugurated in 2003, this major regional competition is funded by the Bank of America and administered by the University's Department of Corporate Communications. It aims to encourage the literary talents of new and existing Cheshire writers. Professor John Latham was delighted to win the competition with his story, *Magnifying Glass*. He is an internationally-acclaimed physicist, meteorologist and consultant to NASA, who splits his time between Colorado and Frodsham. Guest of honour at this year's awards ceremony was author Geraldine McCaughrean, who was chosen for one of the children's publishing world's most coveted commissions - to write the official sequel to *Peter Pan*.

A short film produced by pupils from a Chester primary school, in conjunction with the University, has received national acclaim. Ten young, talented film makers, from Saighton Church of England Primary School, created the documentary after staff received training from the Faculty of Education and Children's Services. Entitled *Our School, Our Village*, the work beat competition from over 400 entries to be screened at the prestigious Co-operative Young Film-Makers Festival 2008 in Bradford.



Animal Welfare taster day with students from Eccles, St Helens and Reaseheath Colleges



Author Geraldine McCaughrean (centre) with the Children's Panel for the Cheshire Prize for Literature



James Pardoe, member of Cheshire West and Chester Council's Heritage Forum



Saighton Primary School's film project with Education and Children's Services students

New Learning Opportunities

The University continues to provide innovative additions to its popular portfolio of courses and constantly strives to enhance the delivery of its educational content and support, to ensure that students receive the best possible grounding for the future.

University staff
celebrating the
RAE results



A significant proportion of the University's research was declared to be of international quality following the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise. These results, across 10 Units of Assessment (UOA), represent a major improvement across the University's research profile and reflect its growing reputation. Each UOA contained work that was internationally excellent, with world-leading work in several areas, including Drama, Dance and Performing Arts, English Language and Literature, History, and Sports-Related Studies. Overall, 58% of the submitted research was judged internationally significant, with 19% internationally excellent or world leading. The Department of Performing Arts' work was all judged to be of international standard, with 5% of the highest grade possible. These results have led to a large increase in the University's Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) research funding from £338,000 in 2008-09, to £790,000 in 2009-10.

Building on the groundbreaking Foundation Degree (FD) in Policing at the Warrington Campus, Professor John Borland from the Department of Social and Communications Studies has been working with Cheshire Police to develop additional programmes. The Graduate Diploma in Criminal Investigation, which meets the requirements of the National Police Improvement Agency, aims to build on the FD by developing the student's ability to utilise their research skills, evaluate existing bodies of knowledge, and critically evaluate new information and ideas. The new Professional Certificate in Neighbourhood Policing is a one-year part-time course for officers, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and Special Constables working in Neighbourhood Policing Units in Cheshire, and is delivered through day-release classroom activity and experiential learning within the community.

The introduction of the new MA in Education has proved to be extremely popular, attracting a high number of students in its first year. Some 50 students enrolled onto

the programme, which is designed primarily for school teachers and other allied professionals who wish to study at postgraduate level.

In response to the *Every Child Matters* agenda and workforce reforms, two faculties at the University of Chester have developed new, integrated programmes at all levels. The collaboration of the Faculties of Education and Children's Services and Health and Social Care has led to innovations welcomed by local and national bodies. These include new foundation degrees (FDs), such as Integrated Working with Children, Young People and Families, an A-level top-up programme to form a progression route from FDs and a postgraduate MA in Leading Integrated Practice with Children, Young People and Families.

A new approach has been developed to deliver the Applied Sciences in Nursing module to all Pre-Registration Nursing students in their first year. This blended module covers anatomy and physiology, sociology and psychology and their application to practice and has most of the taught content delivered online. This is supported by individual tutorials and six seminar sessions where the students discuss the concepts they have learnt in the previous weeks and link them to a scenario related to nursing practice.

Decision makers, who administer Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance within the Pension, Disability and Carers Service (PDCCS), part of the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), have been awarded professional accreditation thanks to a ground-breaking programme delivered by the University. Staff from PDCCS, who are responsible for determining customers' entitlement to benefit, have completed a Work-Based Learning programme in Professionalism in Decision Making and Appeals (PIDMA) which supports them in developing and professionalising skills in gathering and evaluating evidence.



The Criminal Investigation Graduate Diploma launch in Warrington.



Pre-Registration Nursing student Clare Anne Lunt working on the Applied Sciences module



University staff involved with the new MA in Education



Dr Terry Waite CBE and the MSc in Psychological Trauma panel

A panel of leading trauma experts – including the renowned former captive, Dr Terry Waite CBE – has been formed to confirm the quality of training offered to students on the University's MSc in Psychological Trauma. The course helps to standardise training for professionals whose jobs routinely bring them into contact with vulnerable people. The purpose of the Advisory Group is to ensure that students receive the best possible preparation for a career at the cutting edge of responding to psychological trauma and those on previous cohorts include counsellors, people working in the prison service, representatives from the Armed Forces, police officers, and mental health nurses.

Exploring how maternity services can be 'family centred' in line with current NHS and Government policy is the objective of the Department of Midwifery and Reproductive Health's *Birth & Beyond* initiative. Dr Mary Steen is developing a programme of midwifery education and training, public awareness raising and policy development with Duncan Fisher OBE (formerly of the Fatherhood Institute). This launch is backed by a national support network and strives to take a national lead on promoting family centredness and care.

The Neonatal Nutrition module, delivered by the Faculty of Health and Social Care, was awarded a Certificate of Commitment from the UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative, which signals the start of a drive to receive similar accreditation for modules on Breastfeeding and Infant Feeding in Midwifery programmes.

The Postgraduate Certificate in Work-Based Learning Facilitation has been launched as the first programme of its kind in the UK. It is aimed at those engaged in this area in higher education and is accredited by the Higher Education Academy (HEA). The University's first ever Doctor of Professional Studies programme, targeting senior workplace practitioners in a variety of disciplines,

has also been validated. This is a flexible, negotiable programme of Work-Based Learning, where academic reward is granted for major research projects in the workplace.

Teachers were given the opportunity to refresh their knowledge of Geography – and specifically the elements of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) which feature in the A-level Geography specifications as part of a new programme. Delivered over eight weeks as part of the *University's Top-Up 4 Teaching Geography* initiative, they were particularly able to enhance their knowledge and understanding of digital mapping.

Online social networking was piloted by the Department of Geography and Development Studies to support prospective students, prior to their induction to University. This was viewed very positively, because it facilitates a familiarity with people and places, and encourages a sense of belonging and identity.

A taster course, designed to encourage people from Black and Minority Ethnic communities to consider a career in teaching by giving them an insight into the primary environment, was delivered at the University after it secured a successful bid to run the programme from the Training and Development Agency (TDA).

Practitioners working in services for children and young people are being equipped with the latest ideas and techniques, thanks to a programme delivered through the University's Business School in the Faculty of Business, Enterprise and Lifelong Learning. The Postgraduate Certificate in Multi-Professional Leadership has been developed with the Learn Together Partnership, which brings together providers of services for children and young people in Cheshire, Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton, Warrington and Wirral.



UNICEF recognition for the Faculty of Health and Social Care

Senior police hostage negotiators now feature in an annual lecture for final year students on the Occupational Psychology module. This aims to introduce students to how principles and theories of psychology are applied in the workplace, and can aid their understanding of the roles where psychology is used, particularly given one negotiator's international reputation and secondments in Iraq and Bosnia.

The Department of English organised a series of lectures from visiting speakers that included the following diverse contributions: *The Renaissance Garden* by Judy Hayden from the University of Tampa, Florida; *Travel Writing* by Ian Marchant; poetry reading and questions from Kevin Brophy of the University of Melbourne and *Developing Research* from Professor John Bowen at the University of York.

The results of a ground-breaking research project could influence how social workers are educated in the future. Piloted at the University's Warrington campus, this saw service users and carers contributing to the way in which the subject is taught at post qualification level. The programme was the result of a successful joint bid to Skills for Care from the Forum of Carers' and Users' of Services (FOCUS) and the University, with the active support of the former Cheshire County Council, Warrington Borough Council, and seven other local authorities. The findings will be disseminated to employers within the profession and North West Higher Educational Institutions through a detailed research report.

A high impact collaboration, the Pre-registration Nursing Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) Initiative, was developed by the Faculty of Health and Social Care, to design and instigate a valid and robust summative assessment of nursing practice. Second year students now undertake a practical patient care

assessment within the practice environment, and are assessed by a Clinical Mentor. The assessment tool was devised by a group of University module leaders, to incorporate the Nursing and Midwifery Council's professionally defined essential skills and core nursing values. The close consultation with numerous clinicians and practice educators, which helped realise this project, maintains a strong partnership between education and practice and will lead to the continued development of the OSCE, ensuring it remains valid, reliable and practicable in the future.

The Rugby Football League (RFL) selected the University for the delivery of the sport's inaugural Level 3 United Kingdom Coaching Certificate (UKCC) programme, with former Great Britain international and England captain, Steve Molloy among the first cohort of students. The qualification, which will be the minimum requirement for all coaches working in the professional game, is endorsed by the RFL, and was taught for the first time in the UK. Staff from the Department of Sport and Exercise Sciences provide specialist teaching for the fitness and physiology aspects of the course, and students enjoy full access to teaching, sports and laboratory facilities.

Dave Sykes and Craig Twist from the Department of Sport and Exercise Sciences celebrating the RFL UKCC programme



Business Engagement

The close collaboration with the network of leading private and public organisations in the region ensures that the University's education and research is tailored to the needs of the local and national economy, with all the attendant advantages for its students.



A three-year funding agreement with Santander continues to enable staff and students to participate in research projects, field trips, and volunteering or community projects. Research has been carried out on topics such as the influence of climate change in Southern Spain and the study of spider monkeys on the Yucatan peninsula, while grants have helped students undertake international development work. Santander Universities channels over 100 million euros per year into academia through the co-operative agreements it has established with over 840 universities worldwide since 1996. Scholarships and travel awards, as well as a Research Grant Fund, are made available for students and staff of the University to study or research in 11 Iberoamerican countries, and for students from these countries and the UK to study at Chester.

The Centre for Public Health Research (CPHR) successfully gained a Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) bid in May 2009 to work with Cheshire Jets Basketball. The funding was provided by the Department of Health, the Economic and Social Research Council and Technology Board for a two-year KTP Associate post. The project aims to extend the scope and nature of the Jets Basketball community engagement strategy to address the public health and community safety agenda and provide direct financial benefit to the club. It would also like to attract more customers and fans, something the company is unable to do without the research-based knowledge and expertise available through the partnership. The academic expertise is provided by Professor Miranda Thurston (CPHR), Dr Andy Smith (Department of Sport and Exercise Sciences), Jane Martin (Marketing) and Dr John Kerins (Department of Computer Science and Information Systems), who all support the KTP Associate.

Exceptional businesses, which encapsulate the spirit of enterprise and entrepreneurship in Cheshire, Halton

and Warrington, were honoured at The High Sheriff's Award for Enterprise, run and hosted by the Chester Business School, in conjunction with the Department of Corporate Communications. Thanks to sponsors including Barclays Bank, Cheshire County Council, Warrington Borough Council, Halton Borough Council, Northwest Development Agency, Cheshire and Warrington Economic Alliance, Business Link Northwest and the University itself, this represents one of the highest values of any competition of its kind in the country. In 2008 the speech was given by Ian O'Doherty of Bank of America and Crewe-based CHK plc won the top prize for its success in manufacturing steel-based components and products.

The commissioning of a report by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) into the University of Chester's Work-Based and Integrative Studies (WBIS) framework highlighted an outstanding example of how universities can work with the business community to accredit learning and add value. The resulting account was entitled: *Facilitating Employer Engagement through Negotiated Work-Based Learning: A Case Study from the University of Chester* and highlighted the training partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions' Disability and Carers Service.

A valuable insight into the business achievements of price comparison website, moneysupermarket.com, was given by Simon Nixon, its Founder and Executive Deputy Chairman, during a question and answer session with some of the region's most prominent businesspeople. *An Audience with Simon Nixon* was hosted by Chester Business School, as it celebrated 10 years of serving the business community, in conjunction with thebestofchester. Guests had a unique opportunity to meet the entrepreneur and gain an understanding of the reasons behind his phenomenal success.



James Hamilton from Cheshire Jets Basketball



Santander Universities spider monkey research on the Yucatan peninsula



The High Sheriff's Award for Enterprise winners

The Foundation Arts Degree in Early Years Practice achieved Sector Endorsement from the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC). This acknowledges that developed foundation degrees meet the requirements of the workforce and are suitable for use within their specific sector.

The Informatics Centre received Knowledge Transfer funding in 2008 to build software solutions for internal and external clients. The team engaged in a range of development projects (including work for Unilever) and a small number of initiatives for regional Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) under the Northwest Development Agency's Innovation Voucher Scheme. By July 2009 the Centre was engaged in 12 projects across the North West, primarily constructing web applications to support key business processes. Students gain employment skills in a supportive environment, while the interaction with clients and exposure to real-world IT requirements facilitates

partnerships with industry and provides case-study material for the computing curriculum.

Another partnership with Unilever was fostered by the Department of Law with an initial visit by Peter Elliott, Patent Group Manager. He subsequently took seminars in the final year option of Discrimination Law and a group of students undertook work experience at the company.

A project, developed to help recent graduates meet the challenges of today's job market, has been launched by the Department of Careers and Employability and the Faculty of Business, Enterprise and Lifelong Learning, which also gives businesses across Cheshire, Warrington and Halton access to additional short-term staff. Having secured £168,322 from the HEFCE Economic Challenge Investment Fund (ECIF), and working in collaboration with Job Centre Plus (JCP) Cheshire and Warrington, the *Business Skills and Professional Development* initiative aims to use the University's expertise to minimise the regional fallout from the recession. Through a postgraduate course, structured work placements and individual career coaching for graduates, the scheme also helps individuals and SMEs to gain immediate access to specialist

skills. Having secured the ECIF funding until September 2010, the University secured a further £153,599 to extend and enhance the programme up to July 2011.

The first campus-based employment scheme Unijob was launched in June 2009, following a six-month pilot. Led by the Department of Careers and Employability, working closely with Human Resource Management Services, this has already included part-time roles for students as clerical assistants, lifeguards, print unit assistants, fitness centre workers, disability support assistants, caretakers and survey research staff.

Two PhD studies in the area of public health have been supported by full time Gladstone Bursaries, jointly funded by the Centre for Public Health Research and NHS Western Cheshire.

Working alongside the Department of Performing Arts, resident graduate company, 2engage, has enhanced the student experience by sharing expertise in performance management, and in educational and applied drama. The group also employs undergraduates on small-scale projects, providing valuable paid work experience.

Links have been strengthened between the Faculty of Business, Enterprise and Lifelong Learning and Liverpool City Council by supporting an awards ceremony, which recognises the achievements of the Council's staff. Since 2001, the University has delivered management development programmes to almost 250 Liverpool City Council managers, and it was invited to sponsor the *Partnership Working* category at this year's *Be Proud Awards*. Professor Phil Harris, Dean of Business, Enterprise and Lifelong Learning and Westminster Chair of Marketing and Public Affairs, presented the award, which recognised an individual or team who have demonstrated exceptional 'joined-up' work with colleagues or partners.



Professor Phil Harris at the, Liverpool City Council's *Be Proud Awards*

Outstanding Achievements

The University of Chester has enhanced its reputation as a leading higher education institution with the celebration of excellence in many spheres, ranging from cutting edge academic research to awards and accolades.

Staff celebrating the British Quality Foundation Awards





University staff and students toasting the success of the RHS Garden at Tatton



The Rt Hon The Baroness Sayeeda Warsi with Stephen Mosley MP (then Deputy Leader of Chester City Council) at the Diversity Festival

The British Quality Foundation awarded its *Recognised for Excellence Award* at the five-star level to the Departments of Student Support and Guidance and Careers and Employability. This was a significant achievement as they are the only higher education representatives in the UK to have gained this standard. In addition, they were recognised for Excellent Employee Relations, the first university departments to receive such recognition.

For the fourth consecutive year, graduate employability ratings continued to increase, with 68.9% of graduates from full-time, first degree courses in employment securing graduate level jobs. Based on the Higher Education Statistics Agency *Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education* survey, this represents a 25.2% rise on the equivalent figure for 2004, comparing favourably with the majority of universities in the region.

The University joined the influential group of UK universities to be awarded the *Frank Buttle Trust Quality Mark*. The Trust's *Quality Mark for Care Leavers into Higher Education* acknowledged the University's commitment to ensuring that care leavers enjoy the same access to higher education as other young people. The measures include the strengthening of relationships with local authorities and support packages for all care leavers, in order to improve participation rates. The accreditation process was co-ordinated by the Department of Student Support and Guidance, which remains responsible for ensuring that standards are maintained.

The highest possible marks were awarded by the National Youth Agency to the University's Christian Youth Work programme following its annual assessment. From over 50 youth work programmes across the country, only seven others achieved the grade of 'satisfactory with distinction'. This latest recognition from the validation body means that the Christian Youth Work

programme at Chester has been placed in the highest grade annually since the launch in 2002.

The institution celebrated its 170th year in style after its unique garden, which was designed to commemorate its special anniversary, won a silver gilt medal at the RHS Show at Tatton Park in July 2009. The Garden design incorporated many historic elements of the Chester campus, and a modified version has been re-built as a permanent Alumni Garden for past and present students. Its theme was *Let Knowledge Grow*, taken from a quote from Tennyson's poem *In Memoriam*, that appears in a stained glass window near the Chapel.

Continuous improvements in quality assurance by the Academic and Quality and Support Services have ensured that standards are maintained across the University. Innovations include the introduction of a new Foundation Degree Assessment Board, Faculty Periodic Reviews, a Handbook for Professional Programmes and the implementation of quinquennial reviews for support departments.

The University's fourth Diversity Festival was shortlisted for the *Times Higher Education Leadership and Management Awards* as an *Outstanding Human Resources Initiative*. The theme for the event, held in February 2009, was *Questioning Equality* and activities included the Chester Pride pantomime, wheelchair basketball, debates, films and a *Reaching Out to Communities* fair (in conjunction with the former Chester City Council). Notable speakers included The Right Honourable The Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, the Shadow Minister for Community Cohesion and Social Action, and the author and broadcaster Kenan Malik.



Chinese Dragon performance at the Diversity Festival

Teaching self-management of diabetes is the aim of an innovative University research study, funded by Diabetes UK and set up in response to the country's poor levels of diabetes control in children and young people. Professor Helen Cooper (from the Department of Community and Child Health) and two researchers, Joy Spencer and Sara Edwards, are developing a computerised Adolescent Diabetes Needs Assessment Tool (ADNAT study) which will provide a cost-effective way of individualising support and educational planning, and for monitoring progress. It has been nationally recognised through peer review and is registered with the Medicines for Children Research Network and the Diabetes Research Portfolio.

Through a multi-purpose student safety campaign, the Departments of Student Support and Guidance, Corporate Communications and Health and Safety Advisory Services worked with Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service to highlight the consequences of excessive drinking, including house fires and irresponsible behaviour. This initiative was linked with a high profile national lobby in America, Campus Firewatch.

A number of external research grants have been successfully secured by the Faculty of Health and Social Care. These include funding from the Centre for Excellence in Professional Placement Learning, at the University of Plymouth, for Jan Gidman, Teaching Fellow, and Dr Annette McIntosh, Associate Dean, from the Department of Learning and Teaching, to explore the perceptions of students and mentors regarding support for learning in practice. The Department of Mental Health and Learning Disability has also been awarded a grant to explore brokerage in a Foundation Mental Health Trust. The evaluation aims to examine the processes of Individual Budgets (IBs) within Self Directed Services, (SDS), for an integrated mental health service in the North West.

The Department of Mathematics was awarded a significant Leverhulme Trust International Network grant in 2008 in order to establish the Leverhulme International Network at the University. This group was founded to bring together experts from the areas of mathematical modelling, mathematical analysis, numerical and computational methods and stochastic analysis of functional differential equations. It is led by Professor Neville Ford, Dean of Research, and the Network's meetings encourage collaboration on open problems, enable methodologies to be shared and allow the development of new working methods.

Research expertise has been developed by the Faculty of Education and Children's Services in a number of areas. The Research Unit for Trans-Professionalism publishes material of international significance on inter-agency working between education and related public services. This attracted knowledge transfer and exchange funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). The area of social theory and education policy has included theoretical work on professionalism and critical education policy analysis. The Faculty has increased its number of active researchers through participation in the ESRC Teacher Education Research Network and produced publications on the use of action research in teacher education. Innovative approaches include a focus on drama in conflict resolution and comparative and international education policy. One area for development is the cross-fertilisation between drama education and policy to develop more effective strategies for unleashing professional creativity.



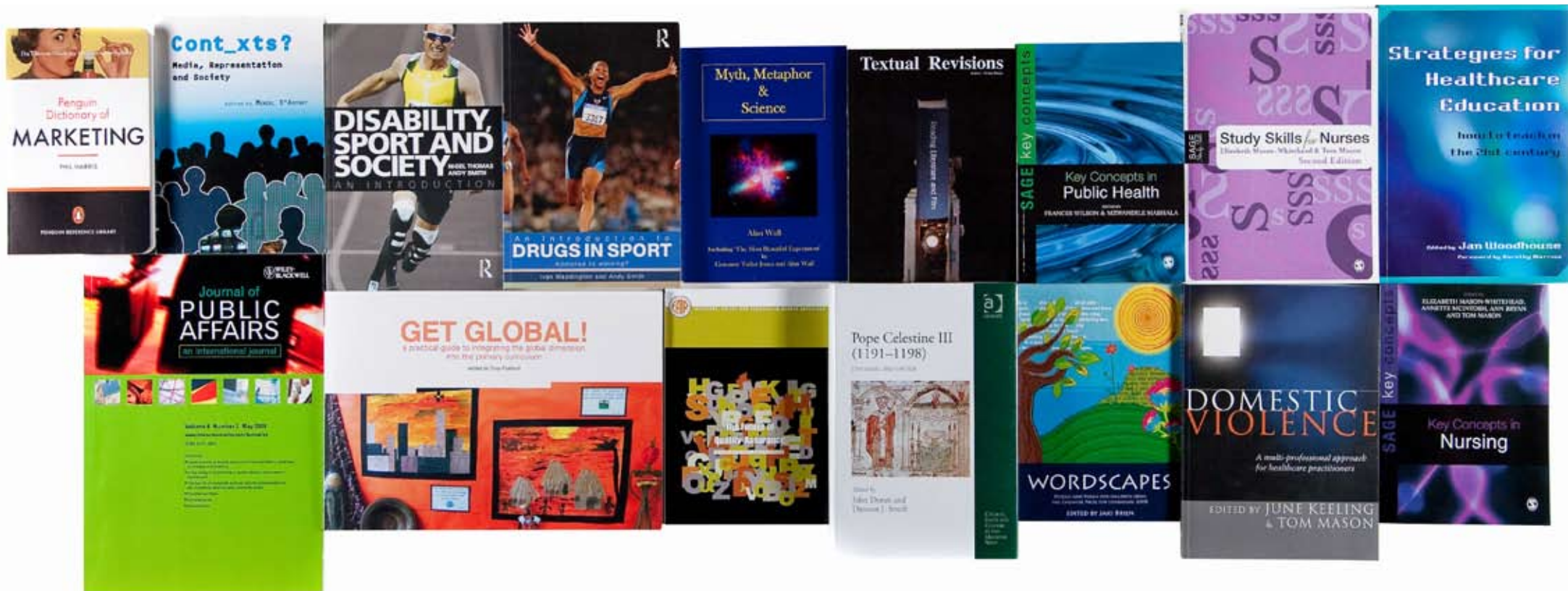
Professor Rob Hulme at the launch of the Research Unit for Trans-Professionalism in Public Services



Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service with Chester students

Publications

The newest literary contributions from staff demonstrate the wealth of expertise at the University, now being extended to, and appreciated by, a wider audience, whether through the Chester Academic Press or other publishing partnerships.



Professor Phil Harris, the University's Executive Dean of Business, Enterprise and Lifelong Learning and Westminster Chair of Marketing and Public Affairs, is now the joint Editor in Chief of the *Journal of Public Affairs*, one of the leaders in its field. He is also the author of *The Penguin Dictionary of Marketing*, the only one-volume dictionary of its kind to offer full sections of international marketing terms, giving it a truly global readership.

Five books have been published by prolific authors from the Faculty of Health and Social Care. These are: *Key Concepts in Public Health*, edited by Frances Wilson and Andi Mabhala, which identifies principles used across the discipline to give a broad perspective of the core topics relevant to training and practice; *Key Concepts in Nursing*, edited by Professor Elizabeth Mason-Whitehead, Dr Annette McIntosh, Ann Bryan and Professor Tom Mason, which provides a much-needed guide to the debates shaping nursing theory, policy and contemporary practice; *Strategies for Healthcare Education: How to Teach in the 21st Century*, edited by Jan Woodhouse, which gives a thorough, critical analysis of various healthcare teaching strategies; *Domestic Violence: A Multi-professional Approach for Health Professionals*, edited by June Keeling and Professor Tom Mason, which takes a multi-agency approach to the wide range of issues that impact on those working in the health and social care field; and the second edition of *Study Skills for Nurses*, by Professor Elizabeth Mason-Whitehead and Professor Tom Mason, advising on techniques which can be developed for stress-free nursing training.

Using subjects and themes to encourage children to explore international links is the premise behind *Get Global! A Practical Guide to Integrating the Global Dimension into the Primary Curriculum*. Produced by Tony Pickford, Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Education and Children's Services, in conjunction with the Faculty's primary subject specialists, the book presents a clear rationale for broadening horizons through the primary curriculum.

Together with Dr Nigel Thomas, Head of Sport and Exercise at Staffordshire University, Dr Andy Smith from the Department of Exercise Sciences has written *Disability, Sport and Society*, the first publication of its kind to provide students, researchers, professionals and sports

policy-makers with an easy-to-read introduction to many of the issues in disability sport. His other co-authored book, with Ivan Waddington, Visiting Professor at both the University and the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, was *An Introduction to Drugs in Sport: Addicted to Winning*, giving a detailed and systematic overview of the subject.

A monograph, *The Future of Quality Assurance*, was co-edited by Professor Jethro Newton, Dean of Learning and Teaching, with Professor Roger Brown (former Vice-Chancellor of Southampton Solent University, and former Chief Executive of the UK Higher Education Quality Council) on behalf of the European Association for Institutional Research. Contributors were all world experts on the topic and CEOs of the national higher education quality agencies/accreditation agencies for the UK, USA, Australia, and Netherlands.

Complex relationships between mediation, representation and public attitudes on social issues such as domestic violence, drug use, racism, stigma and surveillance were examined by Meriel D'Artrey, Deputy Head of the Department of Social and Communication Studies, in her editing of the collection of papers, *Cont_xts: Media, Representation and Society*.

The way in which language is used in fiction, poetry and science was the subject of *Myth, Metaphor and Science*, written by Professor Alan

Wall, from the Department of English, with a joint contribution from Goronwy Tudor Jones (Reader of High Energy Physics at the University of Birmingham).

Wordscapes: Stories and Poems for Children from the Cheshire Prize for Literature 2008 represents the excellence of many of the entries for the 2008 competition. This wide-ranging and sometimes startling anthology of writing suitable for seven to 14-year-old readers was edited by Jaki Brien, a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Education and Children's Services.

How novels, plays and short stories have been adapted for screens big and small occupied the six academics from the Department of English, who contributed to the collection of essays, *Textual Revisions: Reading Literature and Film*, which was published by Chester Academic Press and edited by Brian Baker from Lancaster University.

The life of Hyacinth Bobone, one of the great religious figures of 12th-century Europe, is the focus of *Pope Celestine III (1191-1198): Diplomat and Pastor*, co-edited by Dr John Doran from the Department of History and Archaeology, with Damian J Smith, Associate Professor at St Louis University, USA. This volume forms part of the Church, Faith and Culture in the Medieval West series.



The *Get Global!* team from the Faculty of Education and Children's Services



Professor Phil Harris, author of the *Penguin Dictionary of Marketing* and joint Editor in Chief of the *Journal of Public Affairs*

Educational Partnerships

The fostering of closer links with partner institutions allows the University to extend its educational remit and lay the foundation for a new generation of students from all backgrounds to experience higher education.



Warrington Collegiate student (centre)
Jumakhan Alizada receiving his award from
Professor Peter Harrop, Pro-Vice Chancellor and
Provost for the Warrington Campus and Colin
Daniels, Chairman of Warrington Collegiate

All the hard work paid off for Warrington Collegiate students when their achievements were recognised at the Higher Education Awards in 2009. The ceremony, held at St Elphin's Church in the town, was a celebration of the determination and commitment of those who had completed HNC, HND, NVQ, Foundation Degrees and teacher training. As well as the academic certificates, several students also received special awards for outstanding achievements in their subject areas. Jumakhan Alizada was awarded the *Phil Callaghan Memorial Award for Outstanding Achievement in IT*. Many students have already secured permanent employment or are progressing to further education, with several continuing their studies at the University, which recently accorded the Collegiate Associate status.

The Associate College status of Reaseheath and West Cheshire Colleges was successfully reviewed for both institutions in May 2009, with panels recommending it be renewed for a further six years. Approvals for new partner organisations included The Hammond School (which has elected to defer delivery of the BA Professional Dance and Musical Theatre Performance until 2010/11), Learning to Inspire and the United Reformed Church. Successful periodic reviews were conducted of the collaborations with Cheshire Approved Mental Health Professional Partnership, Mid-Cheshire College, Wirral Metropolitan College, Isle of Man College, The Light Project, The Committee for Ministry of and among Deaf and Disabled People (CMDDP) and Isle of Man DHSS Education and Training Centre. Preparations were made through the year for the Institutional Audit Briefing Paper to be considered by Senate in December 2009, prior to submission to the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA). As an awarding body, the University participated in successful Integrated Quality Enhancement Review (IQER) developmental engagements at West Cheshire, Reaseheath and Wirral Colleges.

West Cheshire College students on the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Foundation Degree had



Graduates of Warrington Collegiate



Mentor David Charles-Hendy

placements at the National Waterways Museum, to stimulate interest in its projects by using an electronic presence via YouTube and Facebook. Two former West Cheshire College Foundation Degree students have progressed to the University and achieved first class degrees and two have embarked on postgraduate programmes. The Foundation Degree Early Years students had a *Question Time* visit from Tim Vaughan, Principal Manager Early Years Foundation Stage, and John Stephens, Director of Children and Young People's Services, from Cheshire West and Chester Council, to discuss local childcare issues. Certificate of Education students have undertaken placements within the lifelong learning sector, to review and broaden their understanding of diverse physical training roles, for example, dance teachers and police trainers undertook exchange visits.

A young volunteer was so inspired by his involvement in the University's mentoring initiative that he proceeded to become a mentor himself at his school. David Charles-Hendy, from The Bishops' Blue Coat High School, was a 'mentee' in the project, which sees students visit eight schools across Cheshire every week to help pupils reach their full potential in their GCSE year. He found the experience so valuable that he now pairs up with Year 12 students at the school, to assist them through their first year. The mentors provide an objective role model who can offer the young people a chance to confide in someone other than their parents and teachers, and feedback shows that they make a big difference to school life, help improve exam grades, and raise aspirations.

International Activities



The University's global presence has been reinforced by the participation of students and staff in a range of development initiatives, cultural projects, overseas conferences and exhibitions, which have promoted greater understanding and interaction with a worldwide audience.

The Kisiizi-Chester Project was established to share skills, knowledge, information and experience between the Church of Uganda (COU) Kisiizi Hospital, the Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and the University. Ann Bryan, Head of the Department of Community and Child Health, leads the project after travelling to Uganda in 2008 and subsequently setting up a programme of educational provision and co-hosting a visit by two members of the COU Kisiizi Hospital nursing staff. The School of Nursing at COU Kisiizi currently has 122 comprehensive enrolled nursing students and aims to use the collaboration with the University and Hospital staff to lead to the provision of diploma status programmes on site. The project also enhances the University's existing international dimension in the areas of practice development, research, education and training.

A highly-esteemed Visiting Fellowship at the John W Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, Washington, DC, was secured by Katherine Harrison, Lecturer in Communication Studies, who was previously a resident AHRC-ESRC Fellow at the Center. She was invited to return to develop her research into the visual culture of the nuclear mushroom cloud. Dr Harrison conducted archival research in the Library's substantial periodical, photographic and moving picture archives, as well as at the National Archives and Records Administration in Maryland. She presented a paper on her findings to Library of Congress researchers and staff and at the Department of Social and Communication Studies' annual conference in March 2010.

A trip to Egypt for Juliet Leadbeater, Senior Lecturer, and two students from the Department of Biological Sciences involved terrestrial work at a field centre near St Katherine's Monastery, a trek through the desert and a course on coral reef ecology near Dahab. Activities included catching bats in mist nets at night, trapping small mammals and recording tracks, droppings and plants and the results of their surveys will be used by the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency to manage its National Parks. The visit was organised through the Operation Wallacea Trust, founded to support the conservation of biodiversity.

Members of the University's Department of Theology and Religious Studies (TRS) were responsible for organising the Conference of the Society for the Study of Theology in the Netherlands in April 2009. They also gave five papers; organised and chaired two seminars; contributed to a double book launch (with the Student Christian Movement); joined the executive committee; and edited the edition of *International Journal of Systematic Theology* that arose from the Conference.

In advance of the Swine Flu pandemic, Ann Bryan, Head of Department, and Gay Rabie, Senior Lecturer, from the Department of Community and Child Health, were awarded a grant by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) in Stockholm for developing a curriculum, training materials and pilot course on *The Design and Implementation of Programmes of Human Seasonal Influenza Prevention and Control*. The programme offers a flexible and dynamic programme that prepares senior European strategists to advance and facilitate expertise within their own working environment for the prevention and control of human seasonal influenza. The ECDC and EU Commission have commended the quality of the curriculum and teaching materials produced by the Faculty team and have invited the staff to deliver the programme within the EU on behalf of the ECDC.

A selfless Nutrition and Dietetics student from the University provided healthcare education to orphans and vulnerable children during a two-week volunteer placement in Zambia. Heather Pratt travelled as part of a health care team from the Forge Community Church, near Ipswich, in association with Hands @ Work, a charity with projects based in six African countries. The Church sent three teams to work where poverty and HIV/AIDS are at their highest and the support structure is poor. Nine community schools were visited and 1,074 children received a de-worming tablet. In addition, health education teaching materials were provided for 180 volunteer teachers, nurses and home-based carers and training given in the teaching of nutrition, malaria prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention and the psychosocial care of orphans and vulnerable children.



Ugandan nursing link with the Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and the University



Ann Bryan (third from right) with ECDC Influenza Programme representatives



Student Heather Pratt in Zambia



David Coyle investigating US Mental Health services



Dr Jeremy Turner with work for the Florence exhibition

Mike Brownsell, Deputy Head of Pre-registration Nursing, Joe McArdle from NHS North West and Margaret Abbott, Senior Lecturer from the University of Cumbria, presented a policy paper on *Using Collaboration and Co-operation to deliver a Blended E-Learning Approach to Non Medical Prescribing Education in the United Kingdom* at the Association for Advancement of Computers in Education Conference in Las Vegas in November 2008.

The Department of Performing Arts celebrated the tenth anniversary of the partnership with the Educational Drama Association of Romania (EDAR) and 73 undergraduates from Chester have now participated in the annual field trips. Another three undergraduates from the Department travelled to the SOS Children's Village, Malawi, as part of an ongoing research project being conducted by Jane Loudon, Senior Lecturer. Among the Department's outstanding students, Sarah Spies won a coveted scholarship to *Impulstanz*, Europe's largest festival of Contemporary Dance, working with renowned choreographers, such as Anna Tereasa de Keesmaeker, Jonathan Burrows and William Forsythe. She also had an invitation to curate a programme of installation art in Mozambique. Pavlos Kountouriotis was asked to perform with a Magpie Dance Company in Amsterdam and presented work at the Serralves em Festa Festival in Portugal. He was also invited to present a performance lecture at the Incubator Festival at Tilburg in the Netherlands.

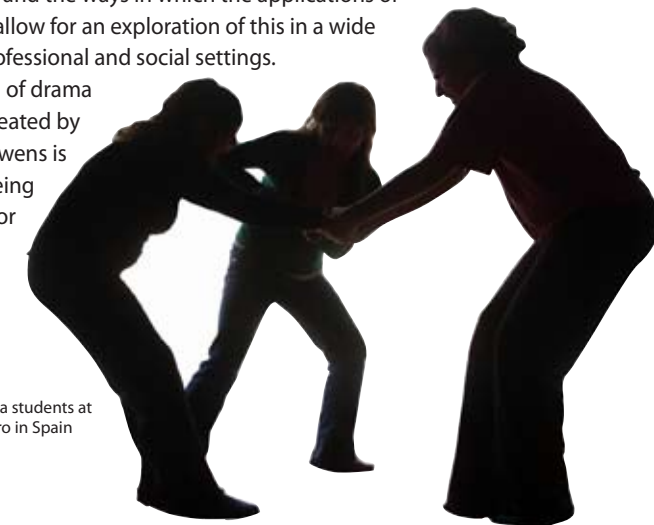
Field research was conducted by Dr Martin Evans, from the Department of Geography and Development Studies in the Middle Casamance region of Senegal, West Africa where he studied post-conflict recovery in villages neglected by the international aid community. Gill Miller from the same Department was appointed Trustee to the Mines Advisory Group, an international non-governmental organization, which removes land mines and remnants of war so that people can safely return to their homes and villages after a conflict. It also educates people living and working in and travelling through contaminated areas to minimise the risks of being killed or maimed.

A transatlantic trip undertaken by David Coyle, a Senior Lecturer in Mental Health, and funded by a Knowledge Transfer Partnership grant, examined how mental health services are delivered in the US and researched self-directed support (which enables service users to control the support they need). He met with practitioners from mental health services who are carrying out this work and compared their methods with those in the UK.

A collection of sculptures inspired by industrial materials and processes, produced by Dr Jeremy Turner, Senior Lecturer in Fine Art, has been exhibited in the prestigious Conservatorio Luigi Cherubini in Florence. The exhibition at the specialist school of music continued the strong links between the University, the Conservatorio and the Fiesole Art School. Entitled *The Heavens Reflect Our Labours*, Dr Turner first exhibited this collection at Chester's Grosvenor Museum in 2008. This was curated by Peter Boughton, the Keeper of Art and Architecture, and continued the collaboration between the University and the Museum. The exhibition catalogue was funded by the Research and Knowledge Transfer Office at the University. Dr Cian Quayle, Programme Leader for BA Photography, also contributed material to the *This Will Kill That* exhibition in Antwerp.

Professor Allan Owens from the Faculties of Education and Children's Services and Arts and Media was invited to extend his *Process Drama* development work in Barcelona to Mataro City Theatre in Spain. It was attended by 30 artists, educators, social workers and NGO staff from across Catalunya and work focused on 'life politics' and the ways in which the applications of drama can allow for an exploration of this in a wide range of professional and social settings.

A collection of drama pre-texts created by Professor Owens is currently being translated for publication in Spring 2010.



Drama students at Mataro in Spain

SBS TV in South Korea broadcast an interview with Professor Roy Alexander, from the Department of Geography and Development Studies, about the Ashton Hayes project, in which he demonstrated energy meters. The footage appeared as part of a one hour documentary to coincide with the C40 Large Cities Climate Summit in Seoul in May 2009.

Forensic techniques associated with crime scene investigations have been used to extract DNA from the feathers of one of the world's most endangered species for the first time. In groundbreaking research by scientists at the University, the complete mitochondrial genome of the Piping Guan is being sequenced for the first time, as part of a campaign aimed at saving the pheasant-like bird from extinction. Dr Ian McDowall, Forensic Biology Programme Leader, and behavioural biologist, Dr Lottie Hosie, worked to devise a robust, non-invasive method of extracting DNA from moulted feathers to enable conservationists to learn more about the species. Louise Robinson, a PhD student, is now continuing with the project having completed Work-Based Learning during her degree in Cheshire Constabulary's DNA Bureau and fingerprint, imaging and chemistry laboratories. Data will now be given to GenBank, which is a global genetic sequence database of all publicly available DNA.

A contract was signed between the University of Chester and Caucasus University, in Tbilisi, which signalled the delivery of joint Business and Law programmes. It followed a visit by academics from the University to explore a variety of educational collaborations. Under the contract, Business and Law students from the Caucasus School of Business (CSB) and Caucasus School of Law (CSL), will complete their initial studies in Georgia and finish the rest of their course at the University of Chester. This partnership builds upon the successful student exchange programme for Georgian students to study in Chester.

Memory, Materiality and Landscape in Viking Period Boat-graves was the subject of a workshop by Dr Howard Williams from the Department of History and Archaeology at the Valsgärde Boat-Graves Workshop at the University of Uppsala in Sweden. He also

presented a paper on *Barbarians & Civilization in the Archaeology of Richard Cornwallis Neville*, at the European Association for Archaeologists Annual Conference at the University of Malta.

The UK has been unanimously elected as a member of the world's largest independent law students' association, largely thanks to four University students. Membership of the European Law Students' Association (ELSA) had lapsed, leaving the country without a role in the prestigious network of 30,000 students across 35 countries. The efforts of Wojciech Jozeph Kolodziejczak, Pete Reynolds, Laithe Jajeh and Magdalena Niemier, in conjunction with students from Glasgow, London, and Bristol, meant the UK was accepted into the ELSA network as an observer, after presenting a strong action plan and strategy to the international council meeting in Montenegro. As the largest law student association in the world, membership of ELSA offers students the opportunity to learn with some of Europe's brightest legal minds.

The successful Erasmus European exchange student programme continues to enrich the life of the University and 31 European students visited in 2008-9 from France, Germany, Spain, Finland, Turkey and Ireland. They stayed for one academic year studying subjects ranging from Nutrition and Education to English and Maths. One German student from Magdeburg came as an exchange student in 2007-8 and stayed to complete her studies at the University, graduating with a first class degree in 2009. She was subsequently employed in the Department of Student Support and Guidance and is now considering a PhD at the University. Simultaneously, 38 Chester students travelled to universities across France, Germany and Spain. They studied a variety of subjects, including sign language, Arabic, Portuguese and Chinese, or undertook work placements in companies. While the European exchanges are predominantly aimed at Languages students, the University is striving to make Erasmus opportunities available to every student.



Caucasus University visit to Chester



The revived European Law Students' Association



Erasmus exchange students from Spain studying in Chester

Volunteering and Community Participation

The University's core commitment to the wider locality is illustrated by the colossal range of activities carried out by students and staff, which bring immense benefit to the communities involved.

Student Julie Illingworth beat off competition from across the UK as one of just 18 prize winners chosen from more than 750 entries to earn a Student Volunteer Award at the 2008 *Higher Education Volunteering Awards*. She was recognised for devoting more than 500 hours to working voluntarily with Cheshire Probation Service, Innovation Means Prisons and Communities Together (IMPACT), and Supporting Others through Voluntary Action (SOVA), on placements which included mentoring offenders with mental health problems at HMP Styal.

The **v** Awards took place in March 2009 to celebrate the achievements of the University's dedicated volunteers. For the first time, the event was expanded to include volunteers from partner organisations across West Cheshire and acknowledged their collective contribution to the community. Since September 2008, 423 University staff and student volunteers have been recruited to the national charity **v**'s National Youth Volunteer Programme, and UCV, the University's own scheme, recognising volunteers aged 26 and over. In that time, the volunteers have carried out 12,400 hours of work at around 300 placements and the University has also identified over 1,000 new volunteer opportunities. The Cheshire partnership includes the University, the Youth Federation, the Volunteer Centre Chester, and CVS Cheshire East and the team promotes new and exciting volunteering opportunities to 16 to 25-year-olds across the region. Student participants in the scheme, Rachelle Johnson, Stephen Foot and Jessica Carolan, received awards from the Lord Mayor of Chester at the Volunteer Centre Chester's annual ceremony for completing more than 100 hours of voluntary work each, while Cassie Elliott, another volunteer, was invited to a Royal Garden Party in recognition of her voluntary work.

Students' Union Charity Sports Day

Otters living in Chester's Caldley Valley are now enjoying life in bespoke accommodation, thanks to the efforts of staff and student volunteers. Working in conjunction with national conservation charity BTCV, they built a new otter holt as part of CSV's Make A Difference Day, the biggest programme of events for hands-on volunteering in the UK. This involvement encouraged the Blue Planet Aquarium to offer students the opportunity to volunteer in its own otter enclosure.

Students from the sports teams posed tastefully for a calendar designed to increase awareness of testicular cancer, as part of an *Apprentice*-style competition to raise money for charity. The project was the brainchild of Communications Studies students, who competed against each other, to see who could raise the most money for a good cause. A second group, who campaigned for Breast Cancer Care, organised a 'pink' hijack night at the Students' Union which included face painting, raffles and pink food. Both sets gained support from a range of local businesses.

A team of volunteers has also helped the conservation of the Natterjack Toad and Mining Bee in Flintshire. Working with rangers from Flintshire Countryside Services, the students and staff cleared scrub bushes from the dunes at Talacre Beach, which has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest by the Countryside Council for Wales.

Five daredevil students scaled the heights of Cheshire's imposing Peckforton Castle during a charity abseil which raised £15,000 for Hope House Children's Hospice. Lynsey Shingler, James Down, Diane Blything, Harriet Childs and Lauren Ryde all completed the 65-foot descent from the turrets to the ground.

As part of National Volunteering Week, staff and students spent the day at Beacon Park, near Liverpool, taking part in a range of environmental activities, including the gathering of the hazel which is used to make the hurdles at Haydock racecourse, as well as furniture and walking sticks. They also helped turn an overgrown area back into a 'working woodland' by coppicing

and thinning, and assisted the West Lancashire Rangers in managing the area.

Many students overcame wintry conditions to take a nostalgic trip back to their school days in aid of Hope House Children's Hospice by competing in a Sports Day, complete with old favourites like the egg and spoon, sack, wheelbarrow and space hopper races, and a tug of war.

Facing her fears to complete a tandem sky-dive from 14,000-feet above Lancashire, Warrington student Stephanie Jenkinson raised funds for the charity Helen Marie Friends, to support sick children in St Helens.

Staff and students experienced living on the streets after raising money for Chester Aid to the Homeless' (CATH) annual sleep-out. Five students and one member of staff were part of the hardy group of volunteers who braved the sub-zero night-time temperatures in a city centre car park.

Dozens of students from 15 of the sports clubs turned Chester into a rainbow of different shades for the night, to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Society. They dressed from head-to-toe in one colour for the event, which was organised by Hannah MacLeod from the swimming team and the Captain of the women's football team, Jade Rabjohn.

Staff members donned their running shoes to take part in the Chester Race for Life, in aid of Cancer Research UK. Keen runner Nathalie Rees from the Department of Careers and Employability finished sixth overall and she was joined by Lisa Rogers from the same Department and Maria Skinner, Claire Britton, Jen Fewtrell and Catherine Benning from Student Support and Guidance. Other runners included Kerry Ankhiah from the Bursar's Office, Vicky Giddens from Chester Business School and a nine-strong team from Registry Services and Postgraduate Admissions (Michelle Barrington, Sue Bennion, Jane Dymond, Elisabeth Lelu-Deyme, Emma Love, Emma Mahoney, Naomi Saunders, Chris Stanley and Gaynor Lovett).



Julie Illingworth and her national *Student Volunteer Award*



Building an otter holt at Caldley Valley



Chester Aid to the Homeless sleep-out

Students and Graduates

The University's students continue to excel in many fields, from scholarship to national awards, while graduates have attained great success and fulfilment in their subsequent careers.

After receiving a life-saving kidney transplant, Holly Shaw is determined to help others needing similar treatment by raising awareness of organ donation. As part of her campaign 'The Gift of Life,' Holly, who studied Early Childhood Studies at the Warrington campus, organised a national Donor Day, to encourage more people to sign up to the Organ Donor Register. She staffed a donor desk in London, appeared live on *GMTV* and *Sky News*, wrote for *The Guardian* online, and even received a personal thanks and endorsement from the Prime Minister, Gordon Brown. Holly was also one of the campaigners in Channel 4's *Battlefront* initiative; a multi-platform project aimed at encouraging 14 to 21-year-olds to engage actively in campaigning about a cause in which they believe.

The creative industries' equivalent of an Oscar was won by Advertising students from Warrington. Will Bollen, Jerry Clark, Christine King, Muna Mohammed and Sharleen Smyth produced a viral video and integrated marketing campaign using the social network site Facebook, for the mobile phone company Blyk as part of a module created and led by Kate Sillitoe, Senior Lecturer. Their entry was the only UK nominee in the 'Integrated Advertising' category, of the D&AD Yellow Pencil Awards, as the other universities nominated were from Spain, the US and Sweden. D&AD is an educational charity that represents the global creative, design and advertising communities, and its award winners represent the best new talent in the world today.

Donor campaign
champion Holly Shaw



Dr Dave Brailsford MBE, a graduate of the University of Chester, won the *Coach of the Year Award* at the BBC's *Sports Personality of the Year 2008* ceremony. British Cycling's Director of Performance, collected his Award from Dame Kelly Holmes and former England cricket captain, Michael Vaughan, in recognition of the unprecedented success enjoyed by his teams at both the World Championships and the Beijing Olympics and Paralympics. He beat the Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson and Wales Rugby coach Warren Gatland to take the honour.

Accomplished students on the Photography side of their Combined Honours degree achieved an especially high standard. Claire Davies worked across cinematic, film noir, fashion and staged studio and prop-based projects, supported by a strong extended essay and exhibition. Stephanie Wardle produced 'performance-based snapshots,' compelling images on the theme of self-image and family trauma. An inspiring Work-Based Learning placement with internationally renowned photographer Tom Wood, prompted student Alexandra Claire Davies to produce her highly individual work in the final year. For the first time, student-authored photobooks started to be used as a medium for long term documentary photography projects. Essylt Evans' book *A'r cwblwr mwyn hyn*, is a poignant record of her grandparents' possessions in the aftermath of Alzheimer's. *Jim's Yard*, a photobook made by adult returner Brenda Sharpe, is a witty observation of a recluse and his private scrapyard.

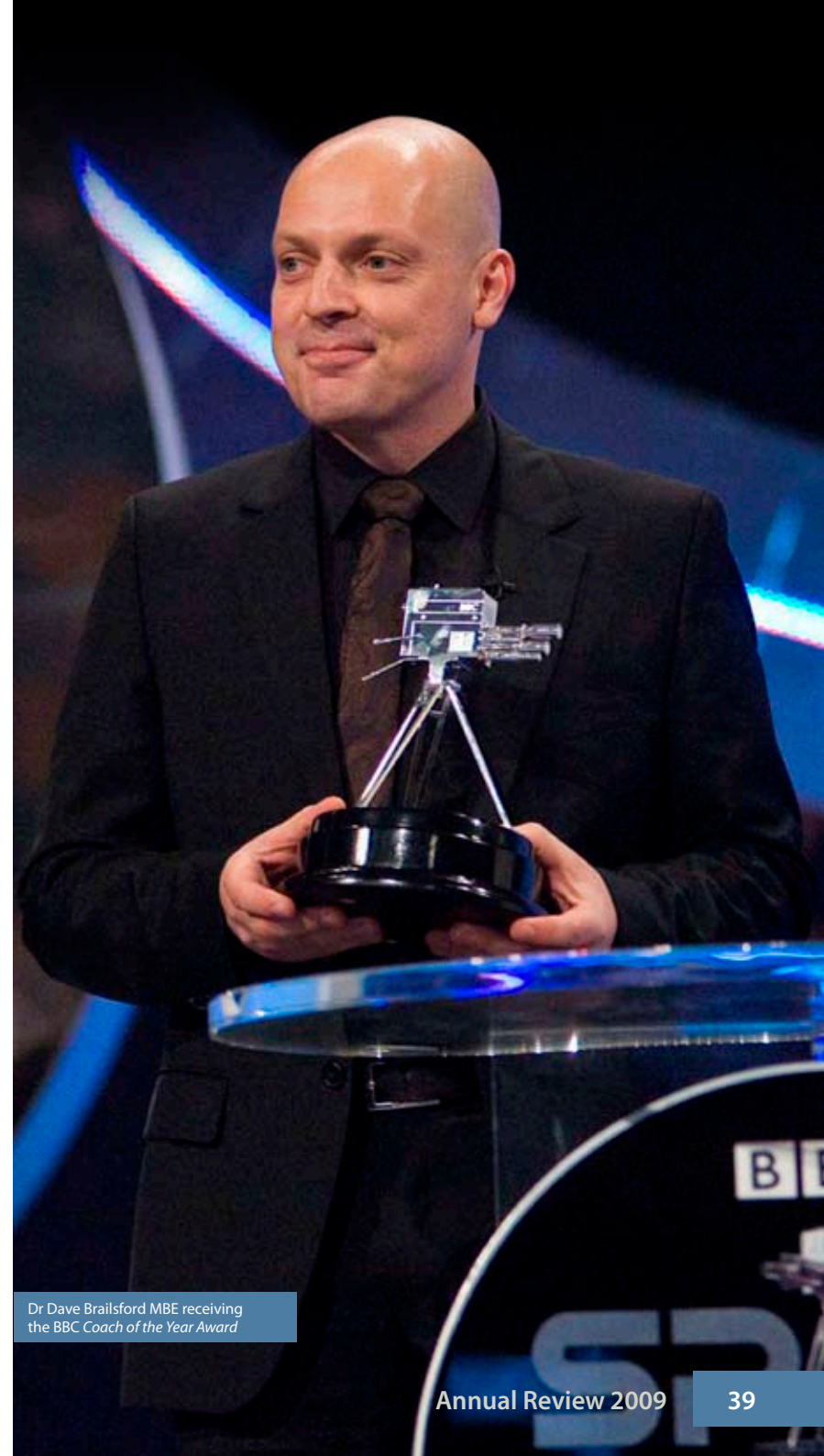
How well can we read emotions from other people's facial expressions? Research undertaken by Julie Lloyd, a final year Psychology student, suggests that the answer may lie in how our current mood influences our perception of how happy a face appears. Julie worked as a Data Collector and Project

Administrator on a University-funded project which looked at the role of these physiological factors in emotion recognition. Along with Dr Libby Damjanovic (Principal Investigator) and Dr Heather Wilkinson (Co-Investigator), she will present this project at the 2010 Joint Conference of the EPS-SEPEX in Granada, entitled: *Top-down Modulations of the Happiness Advantage in Emotional Visual Search*.

A talented artist has won a series of awards since setting up a studio at the £1million Atelier development, based at Burton Manor College. Fine Art graduate Barbara Singleton believes her workshop at the development provided the perfect setting in which to work.

Running a healthy eating children's gardening club at Bridgemere Primary School, near Nantwich earned Psychology with Nutrition student Fiona Mahon one of the University Mission Bursaries. This, together with the work she did for an assignment on encouraging children to eat nutritious school meals, led to her dissertation topic, supervised by Liz Whelan, covering the effectiveness of the healthy eating information on children's dietary behaviour at the School.

Although former Media Studies and Business Management student Paul Salt always wanted to work in radio, he could never have dreamt that a career on the airwaves would see him broadcasting from the European Cup Final in Istanbul in 2005, playing football at his beloved Anfield, and touring the North West with his own breakfast show for Century Radio. Eleven years after graduating from the Warrington campus, 'Salty' has amassed a wealth of broadcasting experience. During his University days, he completed work experience at BBC Radio Merseyside, Signal and BBC Radio 5 Live. He later joined Liverpool's Radio City 96.7.



Dr Dave Brailsford MBE receiving the BBC *Coach of the Year Award*



Amanda Wood, Jake Campbell and Cassie Elliot with their Santander awards



Emmeline Heaphy with the Rev Ian Delinger and the altar at Warrington



Stephen Foot, Jessica Carolan and Rachelle Johnson at the Volunteer Centre Chester's Awards Ceremony

An eye-catching altar for the Warrington campus Chapel was created by Fine Art with Graphic Design student Emmeline Heaphy. Inspired by elements of Christian art, she unveiled the new piece at an official ceremony held at the Chapel, having visited different cathedrals to gain inspiration for the design of the piece as part of her Work-Based Learning placement. She incorporated wood and metal from the original altar into the structure of each of the three panels and used light to symbolise the Holy Trinity.

In addition to acknowledging academic prowess, the annual Valedictory Service and Prize-Giving honoured students for their unsung voluntary work, sporting success, environmental awareness and contributions to University life. Amongst those recognised were Jessica O'Neill and Jessica Fletcher who won the Ede and Ravenscroft Award, an accolade to recognise work outside students' academic studies. Jessica O'Neill helped Ellesmere Port police station to develop an initiative to safeguard the welfare of children using the internet, and Warrington-based Jessica Fletcher is part of the Great Britain junior squad for Synchronised Swimming. Having represented her country at the European Championships in France, she won a gold medal at the British Synchronised Swimming Championships and has her eyes firmly set on the Olympic Games in London 2012. Holly Shaw received the University of Chester Award for Citizenship and the McCormick Prize for Voluntary Work for her campaign to raise awareness of organ donation. The Santander Awards for Community Service went to Jake Campbell for his fantastic voluntary work for the University's Summer Schools, Cassie Elliott, a dedicated

volunteer for St John Ambulance Young Carers, Chloe Hynes, a keen member of the Youth Action Team and promoter of work abroad specialists, BUNAC, and Amanda Wood, who volunteers for Home Start and is in the process of setting up a similar scheme targeted specifically at grandparents and grandchildren. Amanda, who also set up a Walking Bus scheme won the Business Connection Award. Rebecca Morgan won the Hilary Tucker Prize, an award for the student who had made the greatest contribution at Warrington, while Andrew Findlay was awarded the K M Herring Award for showing the greatest personal development during his Media course. The J L Dobson Trophy went to Wendy Amner, who was selected by her fellow students for the contribution she has made to student life.



Amanda Wood receiving her Business Connection Award from Kirsty Craig

Staff in the Spotlight

Employees from both academic and support departments play a central role in achieving excellence, both in terms of displaying their professional prowess at the University and investing their time, skills and efforts for the benefit of projects further afield.



Marathon runner Briah Andrews

Ten weeks spent completing a 5,500-mile solo bike ride across the USA, Europe and Great Britain earned Wayne O'Brien, a Senior Lecturer in Television Production at the Warrington campus, £3,000 for the charities Help for Heroes and the Tim Parry Jonathan Ball Foundation for Peace. To publicise his efforts and raise even more funds, he joined forces with staff and students from the Commercial Music Production programme to produce a single entitled *The Bike Ride of My Life*.

Briah Andrews completed his second Flora London Marathon in memory of his late father in April 2009. Briah, who works as a Porter and Security Guard, took part in the gruelling challenge to raise money for the Hospice of the Good Shepherd in Backford. He finished the distance in a creditable four hours 30 minutes, and succeeded in raising a grand total of £1,500 for the charity.

The dedication and achievements of loyal staff over a period which collectively equates to more than five millennia were recognised by the University with a celebration of long service in March 2009. As part of the institution's 170th anniversary, 332 current staff, with between 10 and 43 years at the University (and its predecessor institutions), were honoured at a special service on Founders' Day in the Chapel. Almost a quarter of the 1,570 staff then at the University had 10 or more years' service; 47 staff had 25 plus years and three had been employed for more than 40 years continuously. Certificates and letters of congratulation from the Chancellor, His Grace the Duke of Westminster KG, CB, OBE, TD, CD, DL, were sent to all long serving staff and gifts for those with 25 or more years' service. The Founders' Day service was addressed by the Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, and a keynote lecture was given by Dr Angus Hawkins, from the University of Oxford, which focused on Edward Stanley, 14th Earl of Derby, one of the institution's founders.

Aspects of psychology are more familiar, thanks to Tina Thomas, a Senior Lecturer in the subject, who has been appointed as Vice-Chair of the North West branch of the British Psychological Society (BPS). Activities aimed at raising public awareness include: careers events for schools; forensic, occupational and clinical psychology conferences; science fairs; BPS postgraduate conference sponsorship; production of newsletters; website maintenance; professional training and Continuing Professional Development events for regional members and external professionals.

Professor Peter Gaunt, Deputy Head of the Department of History and Archaeology, became the President of the Cromwell Association in April 2009. This body aims to advance public education in both the life and legacy of Oliver Cromwell, politician, soldier and statesman, and the wider history of the 17th century. Professor Gaunt is also part of a team of editors, collaborating on a new edition of Cromwell's letters and speeches, to be published by Oxford University Press.

Maxine Bristow, Programme Leader for the MA in Fine Art, was a member of the Sub Panel for Art and Design in the 2008 National Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), which produced quality profiles for each higher education institution's submission of research activity, which then determined its research grant received in 2009-10. She is also a member of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Peer Review College. This is a group of around 900 people, which gives specialist advice via peer reviews, and so provides valuable assistance to the Peer Review Panels in evaluating proposals.

Professor Derek France was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship for teaching excellence at the 2008 Higher Education Academy Awards Ceremony at Middle Temple Hall.

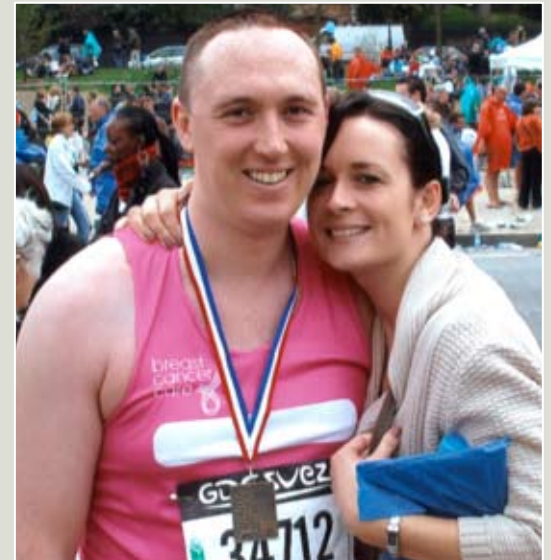
Newly-engaged Mike Eccles, a Quality Services Co-ordinator from the Faculty of Health and Social Care, combined a trip to the world's most romantic city with his new fiancée in April 2008, with the Paris Marathon. He completed the gruelling 26.2-mile race (his fourth for charity) in five hours 38 minutes, raising an impressive £1,775 for Breast Cancer Care.

From March to August 2009, Major Mike Brownsell, also a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Health and Social Care, was at the heart of the heat, dust and intense pace of military operations in Helmand Province. Deployed with 202 Field Hospital as the Emergency Department Trauma Nurse Co-ordinator within Bastion Field Hospital, this diverse role included being a member of the Emergency Department's clinical team, supporting mortuary staff and collecting forensic evidence and trauma incident data for analysis of injury patterns back at the Royal College of Defence Medicine in Birmingham. This role allowed Mike, formerly a Charge Nurse in orthopaedic trauma, to utilise both his clinical nursing skills and his academic abilities. His enduring memories, aside from the opportunity to experience pioneering practice, relate to the stoic and dignified way in which he saw the Afghan people face each day.

The personification of lifelong learning is Michael Grumett. The 70-year-old Lecturer in the Department of Media, was awarded an MA in December 2008, having only started his academic life five years' earlier at the Journalism programme's inception, following a long career in national and regional print media. He has since qualified with a PGCE.



Professor Derek France receiving his HEA Academy Award



Mike Eccles after completing the Paris Marathon



Major Mike Brownsell serving in Afghanistan



Michael Grumett



Innovative Environments

Impressive new and historic additions to the University's estate of state-of-the-art teaching environments give considerable scope for future expansion and enrich the learning experiences of staff and students alike.

The University has purchased County Hall, the imposing former headquarters of Cheshire County Council in Chester. This will enable the institution to achieve the modest growth which is proportionate to the current and projected size of the student population. Acquiring a flagship, classically-designed building in such a prime location is also an unrivalled opportunity for the University to be represented closer to the city centre. The newly renamed Riverside Campus will be a focus for the two faculties which most directly relate to those public services, Health and Social Care and Education and Children's Services, together with staff from support services such as Marketing, Recruitment and Admissions.

Relocation of the Faculty of Health and Social Care's Wirral Centre from its base at Arrowe Park Hospital to more extensive, bespoke premises has resulted in an environment better suited to the needs of its students and staff. The move to Wirral University Teaching Hospital Foundation NHS Trust's second site at Clatterbridge Hospital gives the Centre approximately 50 per cent more space, with the flexibility to extend its scope. The Centre is used to deliver both pre-registration and post-registration nursing programmes, catering for trainee nurses and those furthering their existing nursing qualifications.

Riverside Campus
(formerly County Hall)

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dr John Sentamu, Archbishop of York, officially opened the £3 million, state-of-the-art, Tucker Building at the Warrington campus. He was joined by other distinguished guests, including the former Principal of Warrington Collegiate Institute, Hilary Tucker, after whom the building is named and local stakeholders. Signalling one of the latest stages of the ongoing multi-million pound campus redevelopment, the structure, which houses the Campus Business Centre, has been majority funded by the Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA). Boasting the most up-to-date computing equipment, the Building is home to excellent teaching facilities for students studying courses within the Faculties of Business, Enterprise and Lifelong Learning, Applied and Health Sciences and Social Science. It also provides a focal point for businesses in Warrington and the sub-region, offering a wide variety of support services.

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has awarded a £488,000 grant to Burton Manor College, for the restoration of an historic glasshouse, built in 1904 for Henry Neville Gladstone, and a prestigious walled garden, together with the creation of a Learning Centre and new community spaces. In a collaborative partnership with the University, which is providing staffing and expert guidance to the scheme, the funding supports the second phase of plans which initially saw the launch of the 'Atelier', a creative arts incubation enterprise reviving disused historic buildings on the College site. The latest initiative will provide demonstration and teaching allotment spaces and interactive information points around the site on the history of the Manor and the surrounding area, while events will be held within the walled garden and grounds. A volunteer team is critical to the project's success, helping to manage and maintain the restored site and then delivering associated learning activities within the Centre as guides and ambassadors.



Wirral's new Health and Social Care Centre at Clatterbridge Hospital



The Tucker Building, Warrington



County Hall, Chester, with Deans Anna Sutton and Prof Mike Thomas



The Most Rev and Rt Hon Dr John Sentamu opening the Tucker Building



Burton Manor glasshouse before restoration



Burton Manor glasshouse restored (artist's impression)

SENIOR STAFF

Senior Management

Vice-Chancellor and Principal:

Canon Professor Timothy Wheeler
DL, BA, PhD (Wales), FE Teachers' Cert, CPsychol, CSci, AFPBsS, FSS, FRSA, MIPR, MIOSh, MIIRSM

Deputy Vice-Chancellor:

Dr Dorothy Marriss
BEd (Huddersfield), MA (Lancaster), PhD (Salford), FCMI, ONC, RN, RCNT, RNT, DN, Cert Ed

University Secretary and Bursar:

Mr David Stevens
BA (CNAa) (Liverpool John Moores), ACIS

Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Resources and Quality):

Dr Malcolm Rhodes
BA (CNAa), MA (Keele), EdD (Durham)

Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Provost (Warrington) (from 1/8/09):

Professor Peter Harrop
BEd, PhD (Leeds), FHEA

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Development and Enterprise):

Dr Chris Haslam
BSc (Newcastle), PhD (Southampton)

Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Academic Secretary/ Director of Legal Services:

Mr Adrian Lee
MA (Oxford), LLM (Staffordshire)

Deans of Faculties

Applied and Health Sciences:

Professor Sarah Andrew
BSc (London), PhD (Nottingham)

Arts and Media:

Mr Brendan O'Sullivan
GDipMus (Huddersfield), PGCE (Manchester Metropolitan), MA (Liverpool)

Business, Enterprise and Lifelong Learning:

Professor Phil Harris
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Education and Children's Services:

Ms Anna Sutton
Cert Ed, BEd, MEd (Wales)

Health and Social Care:

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PhD (Nottingham), MA (Law) (Liverpool John Moores), BNurs (Manchester) RMN, RNT, Cert Ed, ENB655 (Professional Qualification in Psychotherapy), FHEA, MBPsS

Humanities:

Professor Chris Walsh
BA (Lancaster), DPhil (Oxford), FHEA

Social Science:

Mr David Balsamo
BA (Middlesex), MSc (London), MSc (Oxford), CQSW

Deans of Support Departments

Dean of Academic Quality and Standards:

Professor Graeme White
MA, PhD (Cambridge), FRHistS, FSA

Dean of International Development (from 1/8/09):

Professor Kevin Sykes
MSc (Loughborough), PhD (Liverpool), DASE, DPE, CertEd, ASI, FBAPT, CBiol, MIBiol, MHEA, MRSM

Dean of Learning and Teaching:

Professor Jethro Newton
BSc (Bradford); MSc (Salford), PhD (Wales), Grad Cert Ed; FHEA

Dean of Research:

Professor Neville Ford
MA (Oxford), MSc (Manchester), PhD (Liverpool), FIMA, FHEA

Dean of Student Guidance and Support:

Dr Lesley Cooke
Cert Ed, BEd (Cambridge), MA, PhD (Leeds), AFBPsS, FHEA

Members of the University Council 2008/09

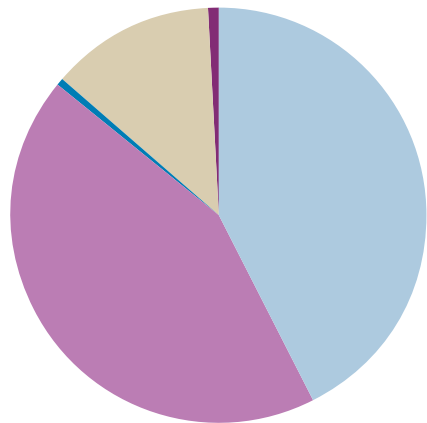
President: The Right Reverend Dr Peter Forster, the Lord Bishop of Chester

Deputy President: Mr Jeff Turnbull

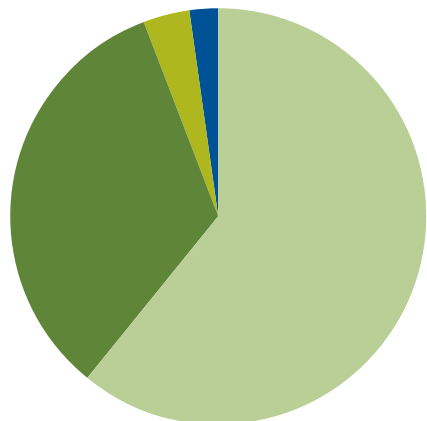
The Reverend Dr Ruth Ackroyd - Staff
The Right Reverend Alan Chesters CBE
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Mr John Evans
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Mr Jeremy Taylor
Mrs Hilary Tucker
Chester Students' Union President Mr James Kirkby (finished office 31-7-09)
Professor Timothy Wheeler, DL, Vice-Chancellor

Secretary: Mr David Stevens

Financial Results for the 16 months ended 31st July 2009



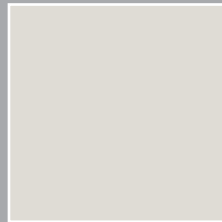
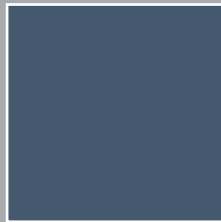
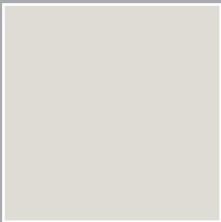
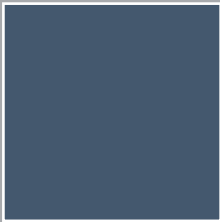
Income 2008/2009	£
Funding Council Grants	41,718,938
Tuition Fees and Support Grants	42,588,579
Research Grants and Contracts	534,756
Other Operating Income	12,572,996
Interest Receivable	579,347
Total Income	97,994,616



Expenditure 2008/2009	£
Staff Costs	56,079,549
Other Operating Expenses	30,763,923
Depreciation	3,261,072
Interest Payable	2,011,388
Total Expenditure	92,115,932
Retained Surplus for Year	5,878,684

Credits

Designer: Angela Bell, Cover: Emma Shipman
(*Graphics Services, LIS*)
Editorial Team: Sarah Griffiths, Jayne Dodgson
(*Corporate Communications*)
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Louisa Scarre (*Media Services, LIS*), staff and students
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