Green Light For Climate Change Research

£12 million cash boost for Imperial’s new Grantham Institute for Climate Change

STUDENTS GO GREEN
Green Week pledge to save energy
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BEST OF BRITISH
Award recognises College support for industry
PAGE 3
Plug in to 100 years of Imperial memories

Imperial's 100 years of fascinating history is now available online in the Centenary timeline.

view hundreds of historic images and snapshots
read about a staff member who was a member of the French Resistance — code name: “Annette”
listen to a Nobel prize winner lecture delivered during a time of power shortages
watch and be blown away at the opening of the Honda Wind Tunnel
visit: www.imperial.ac.uk/Centenary

Uganda visit highlights research links

To promote the College's international health research programmes in Uganda, Deputy Rector Sir Leszek Borysiewicz visited key researchers in the country as part of his alumni tour.

The Deputy Rector hosted an alumni gathering in Kampala on 12 February and, to mark the Centenary year, gave a presentation on 100 years of living science at the College.

Imperial has a range of health-focused international research groups. One example is Professor Alan Fenwick’s Schistosomiasis Control Initiative (SCI), funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which is fighting neglected tropical diseases.

There are also a number of ongoing collaborations between the Faculty of Medicine at Imperial and the Ugandan Virus Research Institute (UVRI) based in Entebbe.

The Microbicides Development Programme (MDP), funded by the Medical Research Council and the UK Department for International Development, aims to develop vaginal microbicides for the prevention of HIV transmission, led by Professor Jonathan Weber. This works alongside the Spartan study, funded by the Wellcome Trust, which is looking at the biology of acute HIV infection. Professor Frances Gotch is currently involved with the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative lab in Entebbe.

Sir Leszek explains: “One of the major strategic directions for Imperial is to make a real impact on the international health agenda. Nowhere is this more evident than in Uganda where we have programmes in ‘orphan’ diseases such as schistosomiasis, as well as control and prevention of HIV infection and the development of HIV vaccines.”

— NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

* The trip was one of a series of international alumni events and Centenary events during 2007. See www.imperial.ac.uk/centenary for further details.

There are at least eight research projects running in Uganda, working towards fighting neglected tropical diseases and HIV.
Equality and diversity are key issues for the twenty-first century

We are not a nation at ease with our diversity, argued Trevor Phillips, chair of the Commission for Equality and Human Rights, to an audience of over 200 staff and students at Imperial’s third annual Diversity Lecture on 8 February.

Imperial alumnus, Mr Phillips, said that communities need to find ways of coping with increasing migration and diversity.

There are currently more people meeting others from different origins than at any other time in history, he said, with about 200 million people living outside their country of birth and over 300 different languages spoken in London alone.

Mr Phillips called upon the help of scientists and praised the work of Imperial. “There are few black and minority ethnic students at Oxford and Cambridge, but Imperial is leading in this field and one in eight students here is of ethnic minority.”

Issues of gender, ethnic and religious difference need the appliance of science, he stated. “If we are to become a nation at ease with our diversity we urgently need to address a baffling mix of sometimes conflicting priorities.”

The issue of healthcare was also addressed by Mr Phillips. He said that where people are from affects their health as people from different areas can be prone to particular diseases and conditions. Therefore, the health service needs to treat everyone according to their needs, which will become easier in time as scientists collate more information.

“Two of the greatest issues dominating our lifetime are global warming and equality and diversity,” stated Mr Phillips. He concluded that there should be no barrier on scientific enquiry and emphasised that all data surrounding equality and diversity issues should be available to everyone to improve understanding of the subject.

— NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

Best of British marks links with UK industry

The vital role that Imperial College London plays in the UK’s industrial and economic success was recognised with a win at the inaugural Best of British Industry Awards on Thursday 8 February.

The College received the Supporter of British Industry Award, which honours organisations that proactively engage with industry and provide it with resources and support that make a demonstrable difference.

Imperial’s founding mission was to apply its scientific research to industry, a principle to which the College remains strongly committed according to Rector, Sir Richard Sykes: “Strong partnerships between industry and universities are win-win for both parties and are also vital for the UK’s economy, so I’m very pleased that our commitment to forging relationships has been recognised in this way.”

“Imperial is on a very sharp upward trajectory”

Professor Sir David King

Current successful partnerships include the Imperial-BP Urban Energy Systems project, which explores ways to improve the efficiency of cities, and the Systems Biology Industry Club, which fosters relationships between researchers and industrial partners with an interest in systems biology.

Imperial’s Director of Business Development, Dr Colin Wyatt, who accepted the award at the Tate Modern, commented: “The relationships we continue to build with our industrial partners are a fundamental part of the exciting progress we are making in areas such as drug discovery, cleaner energy production and biomedical engineering to name just a few.”

Professor Sir David King, Government Chief Scientific Advisor and one of the judges, said there was a “unanimous feeling” that Imperial should win the award. “Imperial is on a very sharp upward trajectory. If we look at where it was 10 years ago and where it is now, there is a massive transformation, especially in interaction with British industry.”

The Best of British Industry Awards are organised by The Sunday Times, AMEC and the Work Foundation to celebrate the success of UK industry and raise awareness of the skills and opportunities that British companies offer.

— NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

• Visit www.britishindustryawards.co.uk for more information and a full list of winners.

John Wood to be new Principal of Engineering

Professor John Wood, FREng, currently Chief Executive of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils, has been appointed the next Principal of the Faculty of Engineering.

Professor Wood, 57, will join Imperial in late summer, officially succeeding Professor Dame Julia Higgins at the start of the 2007-08 session.

Professor Wood, a materials engineer, took his first degree at Sheffield and his PhD at Cambridge. After appointments at Cambridge and the OU he became Cripps Professor of Materials Engineering at Nottingham University in 1989, where he was subsequently Head of Department and Dean of Engineering.

In 2001 he joined CCLRC, where he has been responsible for 1,800 staff and an annual turnover of £310 million, particularly focused on large scale scientific facilities. He was appointed CBE in 2007 for services to science.

Engineering at Imperial was rated the best in the UK and Europe and fourth in the world in the 2006 THES World University Rankings.

— ABIGAIL SMITH, COMMUNICATIONS

Visit www3.imperial.ac.uk/aboutimperial/events/onlinelectures to watch the lecture online.
Cracking the genetic code of type-2 diabetes

New treatments for type-2 diabetes may be a step closer thanks to recent research into the genetic makeup of the disease reported in Nature on 11 February.

The findings of scientists from Imperial, McGill University, Canada, and other international institutions should lead to the development of a genetic test to show an individual’s likelihood of developing diabetes mellitus type 2, commonly known as type-2 diabetes.

The researchers identified four points on individuals’ genetic maps, which correspond to a risk of developing the disorder, and believe their findings explain up to 70 per cent of the genetic background of type-2 diabetes.

In addition, one of the genetic mutations which they detected might further explain the causes behind type-2 diabetes, potentially leading to new treatments. The research revealed that people with type-2 diabetes have a mutation in a particular zinc transporter known as SLC30A8, which is involved in regulating insulin secretion. Type-2 diabetes is associated with a deficiency in insulin and the researchers believe it may be possible to treat it by fixing this transporter.

Professor Philippe Froguel, senior author from the Division of Medicine, said: “If we can tell someone that their genetics mean they are pre-disposed towards type-2 diabetes, they will be much more motivated to change things such as their diet to reduce their chances of developing the disorder. We can also use what we know about the specific genetic mutations associated with type-2 diabetes to develop better treatments.”

Professor David Balding, co-author from the Division of Epidemiology, Public Health and Primary Care, said: “Until now, progress in understanding how genes influence disease has been painfully slow. This study is one of the first large studies to report results using the new genome-wide technology that governments and research charities have invested heavily in during the past few years.”

—Laura Gallagher, Communications
Meningitis bacteria: New enzymes identified

Two enzymes in meningitis bacteria, which prevent the body from successfully fighting off the disease and make the infection extremely virulent, were identified in new research published in The EMBO Journal on 20 February.

The study by Imperial researchers found that the two enzymes, AP endonuclease and 3’-phosphodiesterase, which have different functions, work together to hamper the body’s efforts to fight off the disease. Together, they repair damage done to the meningitis bacterium’s DNA by the body’s white blood cells sent to fight the infection.

Understanding the part these enzymes play in the process could eventually help scientists develop novel new treatments for meningitis and the septicaemia it can cause. Both are extremely serious conditions with a high mortality rate, which take hold quickly and are difficult to treat—sometimes resulting in extreme measures such as limb amputation.

Professor Paul Freemont, from Imperial’s Division of Molecular Biosciences, explains: “Our research demonstrates that the ability of meningitis to repair its DNA is important for its ability to survive attack from the body’s immune system. This work provides an insight into the precise roles of two enzymes in meddling DNA and gives us a greater understanding than ever before into why these infections are so hard for the body to fight”.

Professor Christoph Tang, from the Division of Investigative Science, added: “After realising that the two enzymes had distinct roles repairing different types of DNA damage, we were able show the pathogen can ‘fend off’ different types of DNA damage while in the bloodstream. In theory, finding some way of disabling these enzymes would render the bacteria unable to repair itself, and therefore vulnerable to attack and defeat by the body’s immune system”.

— Danielle Reeves, Communications

Cleaner fuels come out of their shell

The Shell Imperial Grand Challenge Programme focusing on producing cleaner fossil fuels was officially launched at the Meeting the Energy Challenge lecture, given at Imperial by Shell’s Chief Technology Officer, Jan van der Eijk, on 15 February.

The multi-million pound joint research programme between Imperial and Royal Dutch Shell Plc will research processes to enhance extraction of difficult hydrocarbons with minimal release of greenhouse gases. It will examine processes from the extraction stage through to downstream delivery of energy and chemicals to the consumer.

Speaking at the lecture Dr van der Eijk said: “This is a unique collaboration with Imperial College and it clearly illustrates our goal to move towards more use of cleaner fossil fuels and to develop the necessary technology to enable this.”

Programme Director, Professor Geoffrey Maitland, Department of Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology, described the programme as an opportunity to bring together new ideas and concepts from a broad range of engineering and science areas across the College. He added, “It has the potential to change dramatically the way oil, gas and coal are produced over the next few decades.”

Science and engineering expertise from the Energy Futures Lab will drive the new programme. Established in November 2005, the Lab aims to produce an integrated view of future energy supply, demand and distribution that encompasses technological, environmental, economic and security aspects.

— Naomi Weston, Communications

Open Dialogue with the Rector

Academic departments across the College have invited the Rector, Sir Richard Sykes, to speak to staff and hear first-hand about their work in a tour that began in January. The Rector’s visits have so far taken him to the Division of Neuroscience and Mental Health, the Department of Earth Science and Engineering and the Institute for Mathematical Sciences.

Staff are given the opportunity to quiz the leader of Imperial’s mission on burning issues leading to useful discussions. Subjects covered to date include the balance of undergraduate and postgraduate students, maintaining access to students from different socio-economic backgrounds and the value of metrics as an assessment method post-RAE.

The Rector gives his views on these points on his blog at www.imperial.ac.uk/rectorblog where staff and students can also offer their comments.

— Caroline Gualter, Communications

Upcoming visits are:

- Humanities, SK
  28 February – 15.00
- Biomedical Engineering, SK
  15 March – 10.30
- Medicine, Hammersmith
  15 March – 12.30 and 15 March – 10.00
- SORA, St Mary’s
  20 March – 10.00
- Chemical Engineering, SK
  3 May – 9.30
- Chemistry, SK
  18 May – 9.30

Visits to other departments will be arranged for later in the year.

- Receive notification of new content on the Rector blog by signing up at: www.imperial.ac.uk/rectorblog
FP7 research funding launched

New exciting funding opportunities are open to Imperial staff following the launch of the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development, commonly called FP7, on 1 January. Acting as the EU’s main instrument for funding research in Europe, the programme has a budget of €50.5 billion running until 2013. The aim of FP7 is to deliver the pledge of the Lisbon Agenda to make Europe “the most competitive knowledge-based economy in the world”.

FP7 comprises four specific programmes, each corresponding to a different component of European research.

Cooperation
Funding multi-partner collaborative research projects across the EU, the Cooperation Programme is financially the largest, with a budget in excess of €32 billion. It is organised into 10 thematic areas corresponding to major science and research priorities in the EU:

- Health
- Food, agriculture and biotechnology
- Information and communication technologies
- Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies
- Energy
- Environment (including climate change)
- Transport (including aeronautics)
- Socio-economic sciences and humanities
- Space
- Security

Ideas
FP7’s Ideas Programme encompasses all the activities that are to be implemented by the new European Research Council (ERC). The aim is that by funding high risk, high impact research at the frontiers of knowledge, Europe will attract and retain the most talented scientists and thus deliver world class scientific research in new, fast emerging fields. The ERC operates on a ‘bottom-up’ basis without predetermined priorities, across all fields of research. Funding is available for single-centre projects and two types of grant will be available:

- ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grants (ERC Starting Grants) are designed to support outstanding researchers in the EU and associated countries at the stage of establishing their first research team or programme, whatever their nationality.
- ERC Advanced Investigator Grants (ERC Advanced Grants) aim to support excellent frontier research projects by leading established researchers across the EU and associated countries, whatever their nationality.

People
The People Programme concentrates on the training and career development of researchers via the mobility actions of the Marie Curie programme of Fellowships which includes Initial Training Networks and Individual Fellowships amongst others. It aims to encourage individuals to become researchers, to structure their research training and to promote mobility in order to share and transfer knowledge between countries and sectors.

Capacities
The Capacities Programme operates in seven broad areas comprising: research infrastructures; research for the benefit of SMEs; regions of knowledge; research potential of convergence regions; science in society; support to the coherent development of research policies; and international cooperation.

FP7 at Imperial
The EU team in the Research Office has already held a successful Introduction to FP7 day with a speaker from UKRO (UK Research Office) in Brussels which was attended by 150 members of staff. The team is now planning further presentations at Faculty level and is holding advisory meetings with staff intending to submit applications to the first calls for proposals.

— CAROLE MEADS, RESEARCH OFFICE

Contact
Engineering and Natural Sciences departments formerly in Life Sciences
Carole Meads, telephone 020 7594 6579 (c.meads@imperial.ac.uk).

Medicine and Natural Sciences departments formerly in Physical Sciences
Matthew Rackley, telephone 020 7594 6578 (m.rackley@imperial.ac.uk).

► Visit Imperial’s FP7 web pages at www.imperial.ac.uk/researchservices/contract-sandec/fp7 to stay informed of FP7 calls for proposals and College policy and procedures.

Personal development scheme backed by EU

A new scheme which will allow up to four Imperial female researchers to benefit from mentoring and mobility has received an injection of funding from the EU.

The programme, called TANDEMplus, will be launched by the IDEA League and aims to increase the number of women in high level scientific positions by supporting female scientists along their career path to obtaining professorships in natural sciences and engineering.

From the start of the next academic year, the scheme will provide opportunities for female researchers who completed their postdoctoral studies approximately two years ago. Four researchers will be chosen from each of the institutions participating in the scheme (TU Delft, ETH Zürich, RWTH Aachen and Imperial) and matched with an experienced scientist, also from one of these partner universities, who will act as a mentor.

Kim Everitt, Deputy Director of Human Resources, is a member of the IDEA League Equality Group that has helped to drive the new programme. She says: “Involving facilitators, trainers and academics from all four institutions will allow the female researchers participating in the programme to benefit from a wide range of expertise in a mixture of mentoring and training. Since these universities attract staff from all over the world, the scheme will have a truly international feel.”

The funding of €466,000 is for 36 months from 1 April 2007 and was received as part of the Sixth EU Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6) in the area of science and society.

— CAROLINE GAULTIER, COMMUNICATIONS
How green is your cathedral?

Putting into practice a new sustainability programme that encourages people to become better stewards of the environment, the Church of England recently invited Imperial students to undertake an environmental audit of St Paul’s Cathedral.

Forming part of the MSc course in Environmental Technology, Business and Environment option, the annual auditing exercise has previously taken place in College departments, South Kensington museums and the Royal Albert Hall. The aim is to identify the organisation’s environmental impacts and suggest ways to reduce or preferably eliminate them for the benefit of the environment, often resulting in significant cost savings.

Andrew Blaza, the MSc course convenor at Imperial, says that the objective was to provide a real-life learning experience for the students as well as performing a valuable service for the client organisation. He explained that operating in an environment such as St Paul’s presented particular challenges. “Apart from the time pressures of having to complete the audit within one working week, St Paul’s is one of the UK’s major tourist attractions, subject to strict preservation and conservation regulations, and operates daily as a working church for the diocese of London.”

In establishing the scope of the exercise, Major General John Milne, the Cathedral’s Registrar and head of administration, hoped to see practical solutions to the environmental issues faced by the Cathedral. “We are keen, for example, to reduce our energy consumption through introduction of the best appropriate technologies”, he said, “but if you come back and suggest we install a wind turbine on the Cathedral roof, no-one will take you seriously — it’s just not possible under our strict conservation regulations!”

Following a thorough week-long investigation involving interviews and data gathering, the students made recommendations that could be implemented immediately on the Cathedral’s environmental policy and communications, energy usage, waste and water. The findings were so warmly received that the students have been invited to present them again at a Church of England conference at Lambeth Palace in May.

— CAROLINE GAULTER, COMMUNICATIONS

Awards and honours

Innovation award for green energy research

A team of Imperial scientists are the recipients of this year’s Royal Society Brian Mercer Award for Innovation in Nanotechnology, worth £50,000. Donal Bradley, Lichun Chen and Jinsong Huang from the Department of Physics, John de Mello from the Department of Chemistry and Omar Cheema from Imperial Innovations received the award, which aims to reward and encourage entrepreneurialism, for their plans to develop the potential of plastic electronics. Their winning proposal focuses in particular on organic solar cells and solid state lighting applications, which the team believes could have a major impact on carbon control both through reducing energy consumption and producing energy in a non-polluting way.

Medical student wins Kennedy Scholarship

An Imperial undergraduate will travel to Harvard University this summer after becoming one of just 10 UK students to be awarded the prestigious Kennedy Scholarship by the Kennedy Memorial Trust. Final year medical student Michelle Krishnan, who was alerted to the scheme by Professor David Edwards while working with him at the Hammersmith Hospital, will use the placement to continue her research using MRI scanning to monitor the progress of premature babies. The Kennedy Scholarship, established in memory of the former US president, gives 10 UK students each year the opportunity to study at MIT or Harvard with the aim of deepening their expertise and promoting transatlantic relations.

Retrovirus pioneer wins Ernst Chain Prize

Robin Weiss, Professor of Viral Oncology at University College London, has been announced as this year’s winner of the College’s Ernst Chain Prize, in recognition of his pioneering work on retroviruses and HIV in particular. His achievements include the identification of the CD4 molecule on lymphocytes as the binding receptor for HIV and the demonstration that antibodies to HIV provide a tool for blood screening, a finding that formed the basis for UK and French blood screening tests. The Chain Prize, worth £10,000 and funded by the Kohn Foundation, is awarded annually by Imperial to a career scientist judged to have made a contribution to science that furthers understanding or management of human disease. Professor Weiss will receive the award and deliver his prizegiving lecture Blocking the docking of HIV on Tuesday 13 March.

— Log on to www.imperial.ac.uk/events for further details.
Climate change research gets £12 million boost

Jeremy Grantham, a US-based investment manager, and his wife Hannelore are making a philanthropic donation of £12 million to establish the Grantham Institute for Climate Change at Imperial, it was announced this week. This donation represents the largest private funding given to climate change in the UK.

The Institute, which is part of the Faculty of Natural Sciences’ major research initiative in climate change, will bring together under one banner researchers working in this field in all of the College’s faculties. The funding will also provide for 10 new academic posts in the first instance, including a Director and a post that will provide a link between researchers and policy makers, building on the existing work of Imperial’s Centre for Environmental Policy.

Bringing together the wealth of Imperial’s climate change expertise

All researchers involved in, and recruited to, the Grantham Institute for Climate Change will remain based in their academic departments, but there will be a centrally-located headquarters for the Institute on the South Kensington Campus. These facilities, situated in refurbished space formerly occupied by the Media Services team in Dalby Court, will comprise the Director’s office and team, a central reception area, administration space with open plan ‘hot desking’ facilities, plus a boardroom for meetings and seminars.

The College’s research expertise across the Faculties of Medicine, Natural Sciences and Engineering means that it is uniquely placed to provide solutions to the wide range of healthcare, environmental and engineering problems caused by climate change. The breadth of work in this field currently underway at the College includes: public health specialists assessing the health risks of heatwaves; engineers identifying changes to flight plans which could reduce environmentally unsound condensation trails; and physicists measuring the impact that changes in solar activity have on climate.

Professor Sir Peter Knight, Principal of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, said: “This new Institute will foster collaborative research and joined up thinking across the College’s academic departments, in the field of climate change. By bringing together this wealth of expertise in one body, we’ll be ideally placed to tackle the multitude of problems that a changing climate causes.”

A generous contribution to vital climate change work

Mr Grantham, who is a dedicated supporter of environmental causes, explained his decision to fund the Grantham Institute for Climate Change, saying: “Climate change is the most important issue we face over the next 50 years. It is imperative we find technologies that can be implemented in government policies worldwide. I am confident that the Institute for Climate Change at Imperial College London will be an idea leader and a strong voice in championing that endeavour.

“Imperial College is one of the most respected institutions in the world for scientific study. It not only has world class facilities and brilliant people but also an unmatched reputation for innovation. It is a great privilege for us to be associated with such a wonderful and dedicated organisation.”

“Climate change is the most important issue we face over the next 50 years. It is imperative we find technologies that can be implemented in government policies worldwide.”

Jeremy Grantham

Imperial’s Rector Sir Richard Sykes added: “Mr Grantham’s vision in making such a generous contribution to the vital climate change work of Imperial, means that our scientists will be able to continue and
Professor Ian Owens from the Division of Biology is carrying out research to construct high resolution maps of global biodiversity, highlighting the environmental factors that are associated with diversity, and with rare and threatened species. His findings have shown that the areas of the Earth that are richest in terms of biodiversity are also those that are most likely to be at risk through climate change—namely highland and island ecosystems.

Professor Owens explains: “Tropical mountains and islands have acted as a ‘cradle’ of diversity by producing new species at a very high rate, but this process will come under threat with as the climate changes, with upland environments becoming more arid, and rising sea levels covering archipelagos.”

The next steps in Professor Owens’ research will involve trying to predict exactly which areas of the globe, and which species, are going to be most affected by climate change. His team are particularly interested in how fast species will be able to evolve as the climate changes. Previous work has shown that evolution can be very fast indeed among certain bird populations, but it remains to be seen whether they will be able to keep up with the changing environment.

Climate change will alter the distribution of extinction risk among species across the planet, explains Professor Owens. “For conservation strategies and policy to be effective as the climate changes in the future, they need to use new data, models and maps that reflect and predict these changes”, he says.

— Danielle Reeves, Communications

Dr Bob Noland

Dr Bob Noland from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering has been working on policies to mitigate the major climate impact of vapour trails from aircraft. ‘Contrails’, as they are known, are sensitive to temperature and humidity levels and vary with altitude.

Dr Noland explained that contrails can produce up to 10 times the quantity of carbon dioxide emitted by aircraft and spread out into cirrus clouds, trapping heat. “We are working to implement operational strategies for air traffic controllers. They can use these to navigate aircraft round the regions of the atmosphere particularly prone to the effects of contrails.” He added.

The research was conducted by Dr Noland, Research Fellow Dr Victoria Williams and Professor Ralf Toumi from the Department of Physics. Current work will contribute to a guide book for air traffic controllers being produced by the European Commission to deal with environmental issues. As well as policies relating to climate change, the document will cover other effects of air travel such as local air quality and noise.

Speaking of the new Climate Change Institute, Dr Noland praised the benefits of interfaculty working. He said, “The Institute hopes to break down the barriers between the different areas of research. It’s all about interaction, an approach that adds value to the work of all the researchers involved.”

— Caroline Gaulter, Communications

Jeremy Grantham is the chairman and co-founder of GMO, a $140 billion global investment management company based in Boston with offices in London, San Francisco, Singapore, Sydney and Zürich. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Sheffield and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

— Danielle Reeves, Communications

The donation is being made by the Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, established by the Granthams in 1997. The Foundation already supports a number of international and American environmental charities, including the Nature Conservancy, WWF, Oxfam and Environmental Defense.

Dr Tidu Maini, Pro Rector for Development and Corporate Affairs, led the negotiations with the donor and the College’s Office of Alumni and Development worked closely with the Grantham Foundation to finalise details of the donation. Dr Maini said: “Securing this level of private finance for climate change is an achievement unmatched by any other major university, and we’re delighted with the potential it will give Imperial’s scientists to lead the way in this vital field.”

Jeremy Grantham is the chairman and co-founder of GMO, a $140 billion global investment management company based in Boston with offices in London, San Francisco, Singapore, Sydney and Zürich. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Sheffield and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

— Danielle Reeves, Communications
Students go green by turning off

“The Power of Off” was the official slogan of this year’s Green Week (19–23 February) which focused on the issues of climate change and energy. Students were encouraged to sign a pledge to reduce their energy use by turning off lights, turning appliances off standby, turning their thermostat down and washing their laundry at a lower temperature. Energy saving light-bulbs, books and other eco-friendly goods were given out in a raffle.

The Green Week organisers also put forward a proposal for an environmental policy for Imperial College Union. The policy proposes waste reductions of 60 per cent by 2009 and carbon neutrality by 2012, along with an environmental officer who would be responsible for the suggested target.

Vice Chair of the Environmental Society and organiser of Green Week, Joao Serra says: “Green Week was a huge success. It is all about raising awareness and encouraging students to recycle more and save energy where possible.”

During the week, a number of talks were given by industry experts and Imperial academics on issues from the cost of climate change to the future of transportation. An ethical careers exhibition in the Great Hall showcased the wealth of careers that involve ethical issues, focusing on environmental sustainability, social justice and corporate social responsibility.

Other Green Week highlights included Saab’s new biodiesel car on display by the Queen’s Lawn and a screening of the documentary An Inconvenient Truth, narrated by America’s former Vice President Al Gore.

— Naomi Weston, Communications

100 acres of living rainforest

In celebration of Silwood Park’s Diamond Jubilee and the College’s Centenary year, Silwood students are raising money to buy 100 acres of rainforest in Ecuador.

The project is coordinated by the charity Rainforest Concern, which promotes the sponsorship of areas of rainforest for permanent protection. Through the charity, an acre of rainforest costs £25, meaning that 100 acres will cost £2,500, which the students plan to raise throughout 2007. Thanks to their fundraising efforts, part of the Choco-Andean Rainforest Corridor in north west Ecuador will become the ‘Silwood Park Centenary Reserve’.

Natalie Cooper, a postgraduate biology student, is one of the leading organisers of the project. She explains: “Our acres will form part of a corridor in the rainforest. Corridors have been shown to increase plant species, richness and this particular corridor will ensure continuity of forest between the three largest reserves in western Ecuador.”

The students are organising a number of fundraising events including Silfest 2007 in June, an outdoor music festival, the Silwood Arts Society concert and the Extinction Ball in the autumn.

“We have already raised money for 15 acres,” says Lizzie Jones, another biology postgraduate. “This is a subject Silwood Park students are passionate about as most of us are studying subjects related to animal and plant conservation.”

Ecuador is home to the largest number of species per unit area in the world. There are approximately 350 mammal species, 1,600 species of bird and 2,500 plant species.

— Naomi Weston, Communications

You can support the project by contacting Lizzie Jones at elizabeth.jones05@imperial.ac.uk or Natalie Cooper at natalie.cooper04@imperial.ac.uk or visit www3.imperial.ac.uk/silwoodparkcampus/aboutthecampus/diamondjubilee/100years100acres to find out more.
Growing support for ‘marathon man’

Over £21,000 has been promised so far to Imperial’s very own ‘marathon man’.

PhD student Ben Ryall has (as reported in the last issue of Reporter) been chosen to run the London Marathon on 22 April on the College’s behalf.

His sponsorship money will go towards the College’s Student Opportunities Fund, providing scholarships for gifted undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Ben, who is finishing a BBSRC-funded PhD in the Division of Biology, is training hard for the event. Over the last month, spinning classes at Ethos, regular practice runs of up to 20 miles and long walks in the Lake District, have been included in his schedule.

– Wendy Raeside, Communications

Visit www.imperial.ac.uk/alumni/marathon2007 to catch up with Ben’s latest preparations and to pledge your support. You can also see the latest total money pledged on the projection in the front entrance on Exhibition Road.

Imperial College Arts Fest 2007 brought a range of dancing, singing, drama and martial arts performances to the South Kensington Campus last week (12–16 February).

Organised by students, the festival is now in its fourth year and aims to encourage and promote the active arts scene at the College. Over 20 clubs and societies were involved including the drama society, ICU dance company, the jazz and rock society, Imperial College Sinfonietta and the chamber music society.

Highlights of the week included the dance, art and drama workshops featuring students performing capoeira and martial arts, the Battle of the Bands concert and the Grand Finale concert held in the Great Hall, showcasing all the dance and music from the week.

Eugene Chang, Arts Fest committee chair and maths undergraduate student said: “Last week was fantastic. The daily busking, exhibitions, workshops and the fantastic finale concert, were all of the highest quality.” He added, “It could only have happened through the hard work and dedication put in by each of the team.”

– Naomi Weston, Communications

Students tour London for Rag Week

Student fundraisers getting ready for the annual London Raid as part of this year’s Rag Week (5–9 February).

Equipped with a list of challenges to encourage the public to hand over some cash, the students toured London collecting for three charities: Cancer Research UK, Shooting Star Children’s Hospice and WaterAid.

Thriving College arts scene on show

Members of the martial arts society practise their moves for the week-long Arts Fest.
Dining through the ages

The 1907 menu on the Centenary launch day was an example of the fine dining enjoyed by staff since the nineteenth century, even pre-dating the foundation of Imperial. Dining clubs were fashionable and particularly popular with the Royal School of Mines was the Red-Lion Association, formed in 1845 by the palaeontologist Edward Forbes. Those attending the dinners in London hotels or restaurants showed their approbation or disapprobation of speakers by roaring or growling and waggling their coat tails in the manner of lions.

Such lavishness was a far cry from the dining facilities in the College's early days, provided for the most part by the Students' Union and the Hostel, the first student residence in Beit Quad. Senior College staff took control of the menu with the foundation of the Refectory Committee in 1930 but students' views continued to be represented. The student membership campaigned for the number of rashers of bacon at breakfast to be increased from one to two, a debate that ran for two years until it was finally resolved in favour of the students in 1933.

So successful was the Refectory Committee's approach that in 1931 King's College London sought its advice on the revamp of its refectory facilities, enquiring if a table d'hôte was provided. Indeed it was, for two shillings and sixpence (12.5p) including a choice of meat and two veg, a sweet or cheese and biscuits, and coffee.

News of the College's facilities spread and spurred on the start of the conference business. In the early 1930s the annual meetings of the Institute of Sociology and the Science Masters Association, along with the Centenary Meeting of the BMA, were held at the College, using Hostel and refectory accommodation.

— Anne Barrett, Archives and Corporate Records

Design education: new approach needed

The UK is Europe’s powerhouse for design, but tough times lie ahead for the current crop of design students unless a new approach to design education is adopted, according to a report by Tanaka Business School researchers.

The report Making the most of design excellence: equipping UK designers to succeed in the global economy was launched by its authors, Dr Jennifer Whyte and Professor John Bessant, at a major industry debate hosted by the Audi Design Foundation on 8 February.

Their research found that design companies and agencies do not feel that the majority of design students receive the training necessary for them to succeed in the field. The consequence of this mismatch of graduates with employment needs means that over 10 per cent of design graduates are unemployed six months after graduation—a high percentage compared to business and management graduates (5.9 per cent) or civil engineering (3.9 per cent).

The report suggests a set of complementary skills that designers need in order to make the most of their design skills in innovation. This includes brokering skills and the ability to manage client relations and international supply chains, having hands-on knowledge of production and the ability to use tool-kits for innovation. In other words, they need to have a full understanding of the fast-moving world of new techniques.

— Eoin Bedford, Tanaka Business School

Work to redevelop Dalby Court on the South Kensington Campus is underway and will be complete by the end of April. Key features, as shown in the artist's impression of how the area might look, will be new lighting, seating areas and planting. The space previously occupied by Media Services on the walkway is also being developed and will become the headquarters for the new Grantham Institute for Climate Change in May.

Corrections and clarifications

The photograph featured in the article EnVision launched on page three of Issue 173 is of IC Racing's car and team members and not of Racing Green. The article was about the Racing Green project, which will be one of the first under EnVision 2010. IC Racing team members are from the Department of Mechanical Engineering and compete every year in the IMechE Formula Student event.
Fiona Kirk, Director of Development at Imperial for the past three years, has a pivotal part to play in the campaign to raise £207 million to celebrate the College’s Centenary. Communications’ Wendy Raeside met Fiona to find out more about her role and the increasing importance of fundraising.

How did you first become involved in fundraising?
By mistake! My background is in chartered accountancy and I worked in the City for BDO Binder Hamlyn for 17 years before being headhunted to lead fundraising at the Science Museum. The museum particularly wanted someone with a corporate background to drive corporate income for the new £65 million Welcome Wing. Over the next three years, I headed up the development team and the new wing successfully opened on time and to budget in June 2000. I stayed at the Science Museum for a further year working on the Dana Centre, an innovative meeting place for contemporary science dialogue and, I understand, a great place for lunch if you’re ever stuck! I then spent two years fundraising for English Heritage before joining Imperial in late 2003.

What were your aims on joining Imperial?
I was appointed as Director of Development with the specific aim of embedding a culture of philanthropic fundraising within the College and establishing a sustainable alumni relations function. Although various parts of Imperial had a good record for receiving gifts – particularly in Medicine – there was, and remains, still plenty of work to do in identifying and cultivating new prospective donors, matching them to Faculties’ priority needs and improving the way we handle relationships with funders. Shortly after I arrived, a government task force (led by Professor Eric Thomas, Vice Chancellor of Bristol University) strongly encouraged UK universities to follow their US counter-parts’ lead and take a much more strategic approach to fundraising. My aim at Imperial is to create a more focused programme to gain financial support from our alumni and other major donors.

What have you been particularly proud of?
Fundraising is a mix of being proactive, reactive, flexible, structured, process-driven and creative. I’ve built a great team who between them exhibit all of these attributes and who have great potential to take Imperial to another level in terms of fundraising. It’s that potential that I am particularly proud of. Being a fundraiser can be a little bit like running a dating agency – trying to find great partners for Imperial to work with, finding a match of values, a meeting of minds and putting the right people forward to meet prospects.

I am also proud of our renewed relationship with the Wolfson Foundation – which has supported projects such as the refurbishment of the Biochemistry Building and the Wolfson Conference Centre at Hammersmith—and regaining contact with some of our ‘lost’ alumni, including Winston Wong (PhD Chemistry, 1976) who has, since we ‘found’ him, joined our Development Advisory Board and become a major donor to a Chair in Biomedical Circuits. However, we still have a long way to go — my 20-strong team at Imperial compares with 35 at Edinburgh and 77 at Oxford. And, although we have over 2,000 registered donors, that’s from an alumni base of 90,000. Our penetration is incredibly low, but it takes time to build up support. We need to let people know how they can help us and show our gratitude when they do.

Can you tell us more about the Centenary Campaign?
Basically, it’s a 10-year campaign to raise £207 million by 2010. To date, we have raised £123 million, so we have £84 million still to raise. We are aiming to do this by involving staff, students and alumni in our Centenary and encouraging them to feel part of the Imperial community. My team are particularly involved in events for alumni including a special reunion weekend in the UK this September. The Rector and his senior management team will also be visiting key regions of the world to celebrate the centenary with our international alumni and friends. In addition, we are keeping in touch with former students in all the usual ways — with our bi-annual Imperial Matters magazine and regular e-bulletins for 30,000-plus subscribers.

Money raised from the campaign will go to a number of different priorities for Imperial, including the Student Opportunities Fund which is currently providing bursaries for 60 undergraduate and postgraduate students. Money will also go towards refurbishing facilities across our campuses, and new academic initiatives such as the Institute for Mathematical Sciences which alumnus David Potter (PhD Physics, 1970) has donated £1.25 million to start up. We ‘found’ him, joined our Development Advisory Board and become a major donor to a Chair in Biomedical Circuits. However, we still have a long way to go — my 20-strong team at Imperial compares with 35 at Edinburgh and 77 at Oxford. And, although we have over 2,000 registered donors, that’s from an alumni base of 90,000. Our penetration is incredibly low, but it takes time to

Finally, are you happy in your work?
I wouldn’t be here if I wasn’t! Experience in other sectors, and indeed at other UK universities, shows that embedding a proper understanding of fundraising bears fruit. I am motivated to achieve this for Imperial so that the fundraising function is sustainable and truly supports the needs of our academics.

My working hours are often long, but I am mostly able to keep weekends free to spend time at home with my husband and 15-year-old son.

Is there someone you’d like to see Reporter have a word with?
Contact the editor Alexandra Platt. Email a.platt@imperial.ac.uk
Obituaries

Professor Patrick Purcell
It is with great regret that Reporter records the death of Professor Patrick Purcell, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, just before his 78th birthday. Professor Purcell was an Irish-born academic and researcher in social computing, the application of digital media, and human-computer interaction (HCI). Based in the Department for the last 13 years, he was previously Professor of HCI at the University of Ulster (1990-94), a visiting professor at the MIT Media Lab (1982-90), and a senior research fellow and tutor in design research at the Royal College of Art. His book, Networked Neighbourhoods: The Connected Community in Context, was published last year and considered the impact of the internet on familial and social relationships, the way people work and live, and even their civic involvement. According to Sir Christopher Frayling, RCA Rector and Chairman of Arts Council England: “Patrick was a pioneer of computing and design long before art and design education caught up with the digital age. As a result, he was something of a prophet without honour in his own country.” He was known for being supportive of his colleagues, and especially students, and will be sorely missed.

The Editor is pleased to accept brief appreciations in remembrance of colleagues, reserving the right to edit these before publication. Please email a.platt@imperial.ac.uk

Celebrating long service

Mr Ashok Jamdagni
A part-time student job turned into something more permanent for Physics Research Officer Ashok Jamdagni who is celebrating 40 years’ service with the College. Ashok joined the High Energy Physics team during his evenings off to provide analysis of Bubble Chamber films. He was offered a full-time post and has since played a key role in projects including the ZEUS experiment, providing programming and hardware support for a Central Tracking Detector based in Hamburg, Germany. “I’ve stayed so long at Imperial because the atmosphere is fantastic and the people are so nice,” says Ashok, who faces a further milestone this year. He is training for his first marathon—at Tresco on the Isles of Scilly on 22 April—running with colleagues to raise money for cystic fibrosis. Ashok also hopes to spend more time on his other interests including swing jazz, golf and athletics.

Mrs Louise Green
“I knew from my first day here that it suited me and I wanted to stay,” says Louise Green, Academic Administrator in Civil and Environmental Engineering who is marking 20 years’ service. Louise joined the College as a junior clerk in the Registry's Admissions Office, moving to Civil Engineering as Admissions Officer in 1989. Her promotion to academic related grades in 1991 marked her increased responsibilities handling undergraduate admissions and development of her post. Louise has a long commute into Imperial from Milton Keynes and in 2004, helped found a local rail user group to bid for better travelling conditions. She also enjoys walking—particularly in the Lake District—whenever she gets the chance and is something of a ‘foodie’, encouraged by her husband who’s a chef.

Mr Martin Gill
An interest in geology and an inspirational leader are behind Martin Gill’s 40 years’ service for Imperial. Martin, a Research Technician in Earth Science and Engineering, says: “I enjoyed geology at school and, in fact, followed my chemistry teacher to Imperial. My Principal for many years was Professor Doug Shearman who was both inspirational and wonderful to work with.” Martin started in the sedimentology section, but now divides his time between running the gas chromatography laboratories and, once a week, overseeing X-ray powder diffraction in the Natural History Museum. He walks to work every day from his home in Battersea and, away from College, enjoys watching ballet, theatre and film, as well as travelling overseas whenever possible.

Staff featured have celebrated anniversaries during the period 7 to 27 February 2007. Data is supplied by HR and is correct at the time of going to press.

Dr Molly Stevens tells Reporter about her life-changing year

The last year has certainly been an eventful one for Dr Molly Stevens, Reader in Regenerative Medicine and Nanotechnology and head of the large eponymous research group. Dr Stevens has become the mother of twins as well as a founding scientist in a new company, BCT Ltd, which develops tissue engineering products. In scientific circles, she had already made a name for herself—being voted one of the world’s top 100 scientific innovators under 35 by Technology Review magazine in 2004 and receiving the Philip Leverhulme Prize for Engineering in 2005, as well as several other notable awards. BCT will develop synthetically active tissue engineering products, aimed initially at the orthopaedic and maxillofacial markets. She is confident that additional interaction with the orthopaedic industry and surgical teams will be of great benefit to her core research group at Imperial.

Dr Stevens believes that her research group’s success lies in a focus on high quality innovative work and the group’s multidisciplinary nature, resulting in new exciting ideas emerging all the time. She is excited about seeing a number of the therapies that she is working on help patients in the future.

Asked how she balances her many responsibilities, Dr Stevens says: “It comes down to a lot of organisation, creativity and hard work, but it is also a lot of fun. The members of my research team are excellent and without their hard work and motivation, balancing everything would be an impossible feat.” She adds: “I would strongly encourage more women in academia to feel that they can balance their work role with a family. We need to encourage institutions across the UK to provide much more support to female academics. I have a large number of excellent female researchers in my group, one of whom has just had twins herself.”

Charlotte Stone, Innovations
moving in. moving on.

welcome

new starters

Miss Reena Ali, Investigative Science
Dr Elsa Arcuate, Physics
Mr Vasileios Argyriou, EEE
Dr Anna-Karin Axlsson, Materials
Dr Francesco Belardinelli, Computing
Dr Adel Benlahrech, Investigative Science

Mr John Griffith is a Senior Project Manager in Support Services and joins us from the NHS where he worked as Construction Group Leader on the new Barts and Royal London PFI project and in senior management roles at several other trusts. At Imperial, he will concentrate on the College’s programme of medical-related developments at the Hammersmith Campus.

Dr Paul Bentley, NHM
Ms Eleni Bitziou, Biomedical Engineering
Mr Paul Bowyer, Cell and Molecular Biology
Mr Jon Breeze, Materials
Dr Sarah Brice, SORA
Mr Kevin Canis, Molecular Biosciences
Mrs Maggie Causley, Humanities
Miss Florence Chow, NHM
Mr Richard Coombs, SORA
Ms Joanna Cruden, Faculty of Medicine
Mr Pieter De Beule, Physics
Mr Rom Dube, ICT
Dr Carlos Esteban, Biology
Dr Bridget Fox, SORA
Miss Sally Gadson, Biology
Dr Halina Garavini, Medicine
Mr Nicholas Green, NHM
Mr John Griffith, Estates
Dr Murtaza Gulamali, ESE
Mrs Sophie Helaine, Investigative Science
Dr Andrew Horsfield, Materials
Mr Nigel Houghton, Faculty of Medicine
Professor Norbert Hubner, Clinical Sciences
Dr Miien Jen, EHPC
Ms Sarah Jones, NHLI
Dr Ageliki Karatza, Medicine
Dr David Kimber, Materials
Dr Constantine Konstantoulas, Clinical Sciences
Dr Michalis Koutinas, Chemical Engineering
Dr Yuet-Ming Lam, Computing
Dr Andrey Lyalin, Physics
Ms Devinder Mehet, NHM
Miss Natalie Moghaddam, SORA
Dr Valerie Nadeau, SORA
Dr Hema Narayananwamy, NHM
Dr Alice Norton, EHPC
Dr Tessa Ogden, Business School
Mr Demetri Panayi, SORA
Ms Sophie Pegorier, NHLI
Dr Fanie Peliter, Biology
Dr Peter Petrov, Materials
Mr Marco Porrett, Civil and Environmental Engineering
Dr Rob Pullar, Materials
Mrs Adi Querido, EYEC
Mrs Evelyn Rosowatz, Cell and Molecular Biology
Dr Clive Sabel, EHPC
Dr Sejal Saglani, NHLI
Dr Jose Saldana, Kennedy Institute
Mr Sara Zargio Sawh, SORA
Dr Sarah Sebastian, Cell and Molecular Biology
Dr Vineet Sharma, Medicine
Mrs Poonam Singh, NHM
Dr Andrew Smith, SORA
Ms Relese Spread, College Headquarters
Miss Siyama Taj, Catering Services
Mr Geoff Thompson, Investigative Science
Dr Gulden Uchgift, Business School
Dr Matijaz Valant, Materials
Mr Maarten Van Reeuwijk, Civil and Environmental Engineering
Dr Qiang Wu, Computing
Dr Katie-Jane Wynne, Investigative Science
Dr Ying Xu, NHLI
Dr Sarah Zakher, Medicine
Ms Sara Zandrelli, Investigative Science

farewell

moving on

Dr Patricia Aguilar, ESE
Mr Peethamparan Angalahan, Mechanical Engineering
Miss Cheryl Apsee, Communications
Miss Victoria Arbabadah, Natural Sciences
Mr Jose Baben, Security Services
Ms Nora Bahardarin, Medicine
Ms Yustara Bakar, NHLI
Mrs Christine Bensted, NHLI
Mr Gareth Bilisett, SORA
Mrs Gaynor Bovis, Research Services
Miss Clare Bowler, Catering Services
Mr Guilherme Bozola, Catering Services
Ms Clare Brown, NHLI
Mr Mateo Car, EHPC
Mr Peng Chen, Conference Office
Dr Steven Clowes, Physics
(5 years)
Dr Patricia De Souza, NHLI
(5 years)
Miss Ediee Dourain, CEP
Mr Stephen Dowsett, SORA
(9 years)
Mrs Marie-Louise Dudley, EHPC
(7 years)
Ms Claire Erskine, Graduate Schools
Ms Farrah Fatih, Biology
Dr Matt Finn, Mathematics
Miss Samantha Fox, SORA
Dr Anna Furmanski, Cell & Molecular Biology
Dr David Green, NHM
Dr Arianne Hager, Cell & Molecular Biology
(6 years)
Miss Jane Hildon, EHPC
Mr Terry Hosten, Biomedical Engineering
Dr Haiji Hu, Medicine
Dr Grigoris Iitkos, Physics
Mr Srinath Kamineni, SORA
(5 years)
Ms Marie Kearns, Chemistry
(11 years)
Dr Nitesh Panchal, Chemistry
Dr Trupti Patel, NHLI
Dr Elspeth Pickering, SORA
Dr Robert Porter, SORA
Dr Gunnar Pruessner, Physics
Mr Bob Pullen, Computing
Dr Ravi Rao, NHLI
Mrs Caroline Rouault, ICT
(5 years)
Dr Sheila Sadeghi, Molecular Biosciences
Dr Barry Seemungal, NHM
Miss Laura Snowling, Faculty of Medicine
Ms Ayelet Spiro, Medicine
Ms Veena Supramaniam, NHM
Mr Daniel Symes, Physics
Dr Viswanath Talasila, EEE
Mr Bhuvan Tiwari, Clinical Sciences
Dr Nadia Wahab, Medicine
Dr Mark Witkowski, Computing
(9 years)
Professor Nigel Wood, Chemical Engineering
(5 years)
Ms Caroline Woollin, Estates
(14 years)
Dr Qin Yang, Medicine
Dr Atsuko Yoneda, NHLI
(5 years)
Dr Christopher Zappala, NHLI
Dr Helin Zou, EEE
(6 years)

Ms Cheryl Apsee has recently moved on from the College to live in Bristol where she is currently working freelance. As Publications Officer in the Communications Division, Cheryl was responsible for the layout of this paper over the past three years and played a key role in its redesign last year. Other publications that she designed and produced include the College Strategy 2006-09 and the EnVision 2010 launch brochure. Her colleagues wish her well for the future.

Dr Hahnseung Kim, Computing
Mr Aris Krikelis, Molecular Biosciences
(5 years)
Ms Olga Leytes, Catering Services
(5 years)
Dr Georgina MacArthur, Investigative Science
Dr Donna Mackay, NHM
Mrs Patricia Mason, Catering Services
Miss Thucinda Moodley, NHLI
Mr William Oldridge, Estates Division
(22 years)
Dr Susan Outram, Cell and Molecular Biology
(8 years)

retirements

Dr Anne Staton-Bevan, Department of Materials
(35 years)

This data is supplied by HR and covers period 28 January and 17 February. It was correct at the time of going to press. Years of service are given where an individual has been a member of College staff for over five years. An asterisk (*) indicates where an individual will continue to play an active role in College life.

take note

24-hour access to the Central Library

The Central Library on the South Kensington Campus will be offering 24-hour access earlier in the year than previously. Based on its popularity with students last year, and noting that current building works may at times be disruptive, the library will be open for 24-hour periods from Monday 5 March until Friday 22 June. It is hoped that the extension will help support students as they prepare for exams.

As usual, there will be a short period of service closure between Friday 23.00 and 9.30 on Saturday to allow for cleaning and maintenance. The Library will also close between 17.30 on Thursday 5 April and 9.30 on Monday 9 April for Easter.

Please send your images and/or brief comments about new starters, leavers and retirees to the Editor, a.platt@imperial.ac.uk who reserves the right to edit or amend these as necessary.
what’s on

28 February 2007 17.30–18.30

Hippocrates and the Beast of Business
Professor Duncan Gillies
INAUGURAL LECTURE
› Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley Building, South Kensington Campus
Registration in advance: amy.thompson@imperial.ac.uk

8 March 2007 18.00–19.00

Behavioural Finance: what has it achieved thus far, and where is it headed?
Professor Nicholas Barberis
INAUGURAL ANNUAL PUBLIC LECTURE OF THE WOOLLEY CENTRE
› Lower Ground Floor Lecture Theatre, Tanaka Business School
Registration in advance: b.vegh@imperial.ac.uk

1 March 2007 18.30–19.30

HIV AIDS: the expanding ethical challenges
Professor Jim Keenan
Lecture Theatre 201, Skempton Building
Registration in advance: lourdasc@smuc.ac.uk

1 March 2007 13.00–13.45

Noriko Ogawa (Piano)
LUNCH TIME CONCERT
› Read Lecture Theatre, Sherfield Building

1 March 2007 16.30–18.00

Policy Instruments and their Use in Tackling Climate Change
Chris Huhne MP, Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT POLICY SEMINAR
› Lecture Theatre G36, Sir Alexander Fleming Building
Registration in advance: amy.thompson@imperial.ac.uk

6 March 2007 17.30–18.30

Learning from iPod: strategies for succeeding in digital consumer environments
Professor Nelson Phillips, Tanaka Business School
INAUGURAL LECTURE
› Tanaka Lecture Theatre, Lower Ground Floor, Tanaka Business School
Registration in advance: amy.thompson@imperial.ac.uk

7 March 2007 19.30–22.00

J.P.R. Williams Rugby Varsity Match
Imperial’s biggest sporting event. Imperial College Union RFC versus Imperial Medicals RFC.
› Richmond Athletic Ground, Kew Foot Road, Surrey, TW9 2SS
Tickets to be purchased in advance: l.bharadia@imperial.ac.uk

8 March 2007 13.00–13.45

Melissa Daly (Piano)
LUNCH TIME CONCERT
› Read Lecture Theatre, Sherfield Building

13 March 2007 13.00–14.00

Using Routinely Collected Data to Evaluate Cancer Care Provision
Professor David Forman
› Rothschild Lecture Theatre, Level 2

13 March 2007 18.00–19.00

Blocking the Docking of HIV
Professor Robin Weiss
ERNST CHAIN LECTURE
› Tanaka Lecture Theatre, Lower Ground Floor, Tanaka Business School
Registration in advance: amanda.cerny@imperial.ac.uk

15 March 2007 18.00–20.30

IG Nobel Awards Tour Show
The Ig Nobel Prizes honour achievements that first make people laugh, and then make them think. The prizes are intended to celebrate the unusual, honour the imaginative — and spur people’s interest in science, medicine, and technology. PRESENTED BY THE GRADUATE SCHOOLS
Registration in advance: events@imperial.ac.uk

18 March 2007 19.00

Memorial Concert for Emeritus Professor E.H. Brown
Eric Brown was Professor of Structural Analysis in Civil Engineering and also conducted the IC Choir and Madrigal Singers for over 47 years.
› Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Road

All events are at the South Kensington Campus unless otherwise stated.

volunteering

The Volunteer Centre, part of Imperial Outreach, currently has over 250 active projects and all are listed on www.imperial.ac.uk/volunteering. You can also subscribe to the weekly newsletter by sending an email to volunteering@imperial.ac.uk.

Urgent project...

Help school pupils design airport playground
Project: Senior School Club Assistant
Project ID: 1903
Organisation: Baytree Centre
Date(s): Thursdays 15.45–17.30
Location: SW9 (nearest tube Brixton)

Eight girls aged 11 to 14 are looking for support as they work towards the Crest Award for Science and the final round of the Young Engineers Award competition. Their entry includes an airport playground to entertain young people in the departure lounge. Volunteers would assist their science teacher in delivering the physics/engineering project. As this role is in direct contact with beneficiaries, only female volunteers are accepted.

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