Prime Minister Drops in
Gordon Brown sees Imperial technology first hand
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Faculty of Medicine is 10!
See how Imperial celebrated inside
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in brief

Imperial expert named UK Chief Scientific Advisor
Professor John Beddington, who currently holds the Chair in Applied Population Biology, has been appointed as the UK Government’s Chief Scientific Advisor. Professor Beddington joined the College as a Reader in 1991, and was promoted to Professor in 1995. He has also held posts as the Director of the Imperial College Centre for Environmental Technology and Director of the T.H. Huxley School of Environment, Earth Sciences and Engineering, and was Head of the Department of Environmental Science and Technology.

New Department of Humanities
The Humanities Programme and the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHOSTM), previously in the Faculty of Natural Sciences, merged into a new Department of Humanities on 1 October. The new department is outside of the faculty structure and will continue to provide the current range of educational services to the College. It will develop the taught MSc programmes currently run by the Humanities Programme and CHOSTM, aiming to build on research undertaken in all these areas and in foreign languages. For its first year the Head of Department will be Dr Nick Russell, currently Director of the Humanities Programme and the Science Communication Group. He will then be succeeded by Professor Andrew Warwick, currently Head of CHOSTM.

Nick Leon to head Design-London
Nick Leon was appointed Director of the Design-London project on 1 October. He joins the project from the Tanaka Business School, where he is a Visiting Fellow and teacher in innovation studies. The project was created in July, bringing together the Royal College of Art and Imperial, with £5.8 million of backing from the Higher Education Funding Council for England and the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts.

Submissions welcome for new Outreach handbook
The Outreach Office are preparing for publication of their handbook Outreach 2008 – Raising Aspirations in Science and Higher Education, which advertises their activities to all UK schools and colleges. If you are planning to organise workshops, lectures or information sessions for pre-university students in 2008 and would like to advertise these, information can be included both in the handbook and on their website free of charge. To make an entry please send the name, date and a brief description of the event, along with the targeted age group and a contact for application, to outreach@imperial.ac.uk by 2 November.

Pro Rector leaves Imperial
Dr Tidu Maini left the College last month to take up an appointment with the Qatar Foundation. He joined the College at the end of 2001 and has made a substantial and significant contribution to raising the College’s international profile and to the generation of new funding and business development opportunities.

New faces
Professor Julia Buckingham has been appointed to the role of Pro Rector for Education and has relinquished her post as Head of the Division of Neuroscience and Mental Health. Professor Buckingham succeeds Professor Rees Rawlings who retired from the College last month.

Professor Lefkos Middleton has been appointed as the new Head of the Division of Neuroscience and Mental Health. Professor Middleton brings over 25 years of experience in clinical neurology and, in recent years, of senior management in GlaxoSmithKline.

Deborah Shorley has been appointed Director of Library Services, with effect from 15 October. Deborah has extensive experience of Library Management at a senior level and comes to the College from the University of Sussex where she has been Head of the Library Service since 2000. Deborah succeeds Clare Jenkins who retired from the College last month (see page 14).

Imperial College London

Sticky stories
100 years. 100 stories.

We’re celebrating 100 years of living science with 100 stories. We’ve collected some of them already, and invite you to share your own stories and memories. Throughout our Centenary year we will be adding new stories and want to hear yours.

To be in the running for selection of your story, please email your memories and any photographs to Centenary@imperial.ac.uk

www.imperial.ac.uk/Centenary

Bob Schroter
recollects 1968 Morphy Day student antics: “...I had to take part in the fight along the towpath. There was a young policeman who thought he was going to stop this rampaging, so he very foolishly rode his motorcycle into the middle of the fray and got totally but totally plastered in tomatoes and flour...”
PM sees Imperial health technology first hand

The benefits of applying technological know-how to patient care were demonstrated to Gordon Brown when he visited the College on 3 October, his first visit to a UK university since becoming Prime Minister.

The Rector and Lord Darzi, Professor of Surgery at Imperial and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department of Health, took the PM on a tour of the College’s newly launched Institute of Biomedical Engineering (IBE).

During the tour, the PM took a special interest in the virtual operating theatre used for cardiac micro-surgery in the Medical Imaging and Robotics Room.

The College’s Director of Medical Imaging, Professor Guang-Zhong Yang, discussed the potential advantages and applications of robotic surgical devices, such as the Da Vinci robot, while Lord Darzi carried out a virtual medical procedure in front of Mr Brown. His visit followed the launch on 1 October of the Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, and Mr Brown also met Professor Stephen Smith, Chief Executive of the new Trust, and Principal of Imperial’s Faculty of Medicine, and Mrs Ruth Carnall, Chief Executive of NHS London.

Explaining the benefits of robotic surgical technology, Professor Yang said: “Minimal access surgery reduces the impact trauma of an operation on patients but it requires pinpoint accuracy and a very steady hand. Enabling the surgeon to operate via a robot represents the perfect marriage of human skill with technological advances in biomedical engineering.”

Speaking about the important role that organisations like the IBE play in healthcare innovation, the Rector said: “It’s greatly encouraging that the Prime Minister recognises the importance of institutes like this, and wants to see for himself what Imperial is doing to make the vital breakthroughs that will transform healthcare for everyone.”

—Colin Smith, Communications

Deputy Rector named head of Medical Research Council

Deputy Rector Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz left the College at the end of last month to take up the post of Chief Executive of the UK’s Medical Research Council (MRC) on 1 October.

Sir Leszek had served at the College since February 2001, joining as Principal of the Faculty of Medicine from the University of Wales. In August 2004 he became Deputy Rector.

Reflecting on his six years at Imperial, Sir Leszek said: “It has been a great privilege and opportunity to serve as Deputy Rector and to lead the Faculty of Medicine during my time at Imperial. The College is today in a dominant position in terms of scientific leadership in the UK, it is an inspiring place to work, and I have had a fantastic time here.”

Sir Richard Sykes, Rector, praised Sir Leszek’s leadership at the College, adding: “He has been a tireless ambassador for Imperial and has combined his roles at the College with service on two successive RAE panels, and as a Wellcome Trust governor. The MRC is fortunate to have attracted such a rare talent—a doctor, an academic and a basic scientist with warmth, humour and a clear understanding of the challenges and opportunities ahead, and we wish him great success in his new role.”

—Abigail Smith, Communications
Podcast update

From Brian Spratt on investigating foot and mouth outbreaks to Brian May on handing in his PhD thesis 30 years after starting it, Imperial’s monthly podcast provides a first-hand insight into the news and research from around the College. In October’s podcast, available now, Professor Spratt talks about what he found at the Pirbright site, from which the foot and mouth virus escaped in August this year, and Imperial scientists with celestial objects named in their honour describe how such recognition came about. The podcasts are available on inventors at Chinese company Haier. However, when asked by The Daily Telegraph to provide independent expert comment, Dr Anthony Kucernak (Chemistry) was more circumspect. “It will probably work to a certain extent, but I’d be sceptical about claims that it cleans more effectively than detergent,” he told the newspaper.

The Observer • 19 August

Bullet train speeds for London commuters
UK rail optimists welcomed a new era of high-speed train travel this summer when it was announced that 140mph vehicles, similar to Japan’s bullet trains, will be running on some London commuter lines operated by South Eastern from 2009. “We’ll only get high-speed rail if people have seen the advantages of it and realise what it can do,” commented Professor Rod Smith (Mechanical Engineering) when contacted by The Observer. “So introducing them to it through this is splendid, and hopefully they’ll clamour for more.”

Philanthropic alumnus pays a call

A year after donating £1 million to fund scholarships, Imperial alumnus Wilfred Corrigan returned to the College last month to view the science his generosity is supporting.

Wilfred Corrigan donated money via the Corrigan-Walla Foundation to the Institute of Biomedical Engineering (IBE) to provide funds for postgraduate students and help for postdoctoral staff who are conducting advanced research in nanotechnology.

Dr Konstantin Nikolic was one of the first to receive support from the fund. He works in nanoscale science and his research draws inspiration from the biological world: “Mr Corrigan’s support has helped me to develop an entirely new branch of biology, which I call engineering systems biology,” he said.

Having established a long and successful career in technology and nanotechnology, Mr Corrigan, who graduated from Imperial with a BSc in chemical engineering in 1960, wanted to fund a philanthropic venture which reflected his life’s work: “I’ve been heavily involved in nanotechnology and then I found that Professor Chris Toumazou was working on this effort and it was something I could see putting some funds into,” he said.

Professor Toumazou, Director and Chief Scientist of the IBE, said: “He is actually adding value to our work. His wealth of experience in nanotechnology also means that he knows exactly what we are spending his donation on.”

—Colin Smith, Communications
Things are looking up

New images available on Google Sky

A global project to map a distant strip of the universe released its data on 3 October as part of Google Sky, a new feature of Google Earth. The international team, which includes academics from the College, is taking deep images of an area of sky known as the Extended Groth Strip, which covers the width of four full moons and is close to the end of the Big Dipper’s handle. The NASA satellite telescope Chandra has been used to detect highly energetic X-ray radiation from objects in the sky.

Professor Kirpal Nandra (Physics) explained: “It all started in the early days of the Hubble Space Telescope with a programme to image a strip of the sky to look for distant galaxies. Over the last few years this has snowballed into a huge international project using the world’s most powerful telescopes, both on the ground and in space.”

He added: “We’ve worked hard to convince the rest of the scientific community that this is the best place to look at the evolution of galaxies, and now this hard work is really paying off.”

Users of the site can pan and zoom around these pictures of the sky to select individual galaxies for closer inspection. To download Google Earth and the extra file, visit: http://earth.google.com/gallery/kml_entry.html#!The%20Multicolor%20Sky

—NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

Not enough women in academic workforce

Female medics are under-represented in the UK clinical academic workforce, especially at the most senior levels, according to a new Imperial study.

Dr Anita Holdcroft (SORA), one of the authors, said: “This study has confirmed that women doctors are not achieving senior positions in academic medicine despite adequate numbers of women medical students and academic trainees. For women doctors, there is a choice of employers and this study suggests that women choose the NHS route for career advancement in preference to higher education.”

For women doctors, there is a choice of employers, and this study suggests that women choose the NHS route for career advancement in preference to higher education.

The study looked at clinical academics—researchers who are also medical professionals—at all 32 UK medical schools during the years 2004 and 2005. It found that women represented just 21 per cent of the total clinical academic workforce. The authors say that their research suggests that clinical academic women are facing the same difficulties as those identified in a 2005 National Institute of Economic and Social Research report. This report into the recruitment and retention of academic staff in higher education, which did not include clinical academics, found that women faced difficulties in promotion and suggested a number of reasons for this. For example, women spent more time teaching, resulting in less research output; the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) valued research as a measure of competence for promotion; and women’s career pathways had less mobility and more part-time working than those of men.

—LAURA GALLAGHER, COMMUNICATIONS

Genome of parasitic worm cracked

The DNA of a parasitic worm that causes the painful and disfiguring disease elephantiasis has been successfully sequenced by Imperial scientists.

The data, published on 20 September in Science, provides researchers with a genetic ‘blueprint’ of the filarial worm *Brugia malayi*, which they hope will lead to the identification of new genes to target with drugs, and eventually to the development of a vaccine to prevent infection.

One of the authors of the paper, Dr David B. Guiliano (Life Sciences), explained: “Proteins are essential parts of all organisms, and participate in every process within cells. Scientists can now conduct detailed analyses of the information in the genetic code of this worm to see what proteins it produces, thereby giving a clearer insight than ever before into this parasite’s biology.”

Filarial worms infect over 130 million people worldwide with an additional 1.1 billion believed to be at risk of infection, mostly in Africa and Asia. The parasites are transmitted by a mosquito bite and once inside the human body develop into adult worms in the lymphatic vessels, causing severe damage, pain and swelling. Elephantiasis is a classic sign of late-stage disease.

—DANIELLE REEVES, COMMUNICATIONS

*For the full versions of these stories visit: www.imperial.ac.uk/aboutimperial/news*
New era for engineering education

Imperial outlined its vision for the engineering undergraduate of the twenty-first century last month with a forum aimed at heralding a new era in UK engineering education.

The Minister of State for Science and Innovation, Ian Pearson, and leaders of industry and academia gathered at the College to consider Global sustainability: the future for engineering education.

Delegates from Arup, BP, Schlumberger, Engineers Against Poverty, the Institute of Education and Imperial discussed the changes needed to ensure that new graduates are better equipped to take a leading role in identifying areas of concern and designing solutions to address global issues.

Professor Dame Julia Higgins, former Head of the Faculty of Engineering, outlined how engineers are increasingly being asked to make professional decisions which not only rely on their technical expertise, but also draw on a cultural understanding of, and sensitivity to, the environmental, societal or political context.

—COLIN SMITH, COMMUNICATIONS

For more information, email: envision@imperial.ac.uk

To view RealPlayer video highlights of the forum, visit: www.imperial.ac.uk/envision

Freshers Fair kick-starts new term

Hundreds of eager fresher signed up to the vast array of clubs and societies offered by the Imperial College Union (ICU) at the annual Freshers Fair on 2 October. From capoeira and chess to gliding and golf, over 260 clubs and societies put up stalls to attract new recruits.

Fresher Fair is the biggest event of Freshers Week, which commenced on 1 October. New ICU President Stephen Brown explained: “It is a great opportunity for all new students to find out about the wide range of activities open to them. From sports clubs to food and drink societies there is something for everyone. I would encourage all new students to get involved as much as possible.”

Darryl Mootoosamy, a first year computer science undergraduate, enjoyed the buzz of Freshers Fair. He commented: “It is a great environment here at Imperial. Everyone has the same mentality to work hard and play hard. I am looking forward to signing up to some of the sports clubs as the College has great sports facilities.”

One Union club benefiting from the Freshers Fair was the Yacht Club. “Over 50 new students have signed up to our mailing list so far today,” commented President of the club, Oliver Fairbairn, a third year mechanical engineering student. “We put on lots of activities out of London for our members including sailing round the Solent and the south coast.”

—NAOMI WESTON, COMMUNICATIONS

A full list of clubs and societies can be found at www.imperial.ac.uk/union/clubs-and-societies
registry changes explained

from the start of term registry has a new structure and a new student-facing look. it has been divided into three faculty-facing teams: engineering and natural sciences (including the department of humanities), student services and medicine (including tanaka business school) and a policy and quality assurance unit. the new teams offer a multi-functional service and replace the more traditional administrative functions into which the department was previously divided.

each of the new teams is headed by a deputy academic registrar and aims to offer a ‘cradle to grave’ service for their faculty, including dealing with admissions, registration queries, tuition fees and exams. the student services team is responsible for those services that can’t be split between the new teams—for example, general enquiries, study support bursaries and online registration.

as well as the change resulting from the restructure, the registry’s offices also have a new look, following a refurbishment and the addition of a student hub, a single desk where students can have all their questions answered. they will find dedicated staff there who can react to their requests and needs, ensuring a better service.

vernon mcclure, academic registrar, explained: “it is much better for students to be able to have their queries dealt with by one person, rather than being passed from team to team, which can be frustrating and confusing.” he added: “i believe that the new structure as a whole will ensure the provision of a consistent, thorough and straightforward service to all students, staff and departments.”

—alexandra platt, communications

living southside

new student accommodation opens its doors

communications’ naomi weston went to meet one of the first students to move into imperial’s newest halls of residence, southside.

arriving at 8.00 on 29 september, first year civil engineering student orestis adamou, from cyprus, was one of the first students to move into the new halls.

sitting in his brand new en suite bedroom, orestis explained: “i always wanted to come to england and study. imperial college is one of the best universities for civil engineering.”

his first impressions of the facilities of falmouth keogh hall, part of the southside development, were good: “my bedroom and living area here are much better than i expected. my room is big and the location is excellent.” he added: “it is one of the more expensive options for accommodation but it is definitely worth it. the wardens here are very friendly and approachable too, which helps students settle in.”

the accommodation is situated in prince’s gardens off exhibition road, on the site of the old southside halls, which were constructed in 1963 and knocked down in the summer of 2005. the new halls, which are anticipated to come in on budget at £51 million, are ultra-modern and extremely safe, with swipe card access and security cameras. they are packed with modern gadgets and green elements—the communal kitchens are equipped with recyclable waste cupboards and energy-saving lights which are activated by someone entering the room.

orestis is already enjoying the social elements of living in halls: “it is self-catering here with about eight of us sharing a kitchen. cooking and sitting in the kitchen, which all have tvs, is a great opportunity to mingle and socialise and also a chance to have a break from your studies.” there is also a communal games room with table tennis facilities within the halls.

new residents of the hall are receiving a 25 per cent discount on their first month’s rent, as the halls were not completely finished by the weekend when students moved in, with some shelves and fixtures still needing to be put up in study bedrooms.

southside comprises three halls: tizard hall, selkirk hall and falmouth keogh hall. in total the three halls accommodate 413 students in single and twin en suite study bedrooms.

the new building has been designed more efficiently at a lower height than the old southside, and contains medical and dental centres, a shop and café area for students, and the vacation accommodation centre. the next stage in the redevelopment of prince’s gardens is underway with the demolition of linstead hall, eastside. the new eastside halls of residence will be complete by autumn 2009.

—naomi weston, communications
Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust officially launched

UK’s first AHSC hits the ground running

The UK’s largest NHS Trust—Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust—launched on 1 October through the merger of two of the country’s best hospitals and integration with Imperial.

Hammersmith Hospitals NHS Trust and St Mary’s NHS Trust have come together with the College to form the UK’s first Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC).

Made up of five hospitals—Charing Cross, Queen Charlotte’s and Chelsea, the Hammersmith, St Mary’s, and the Western Eye Hospital—and integrating with Imperial, the new Trust has an annual turnover of £760 million and employs 9,700 staff. Offering more than 50 clinical specialities, from conception to end-of-life care, the new organisation has one of the largest portfolios of services in the country and expects to treat more than one million patients a year.

The AHSC will integrate healthcare services with teaching and research, at a level never seen before within the UK.

World-leading reputation

Collectively the three organisations already have a world-leading reputation. The Hammersmith and St Mary’s have two of the highest clinical ratings in the country, rated second and third best Trusts for clinical performance, quality of care and safety. Imperial is ranked fourth in the world for biomedical research in the Times Higher Education Supplement World University Rankings.

The Rector welcomed the exciting challenge of creating a completely new relationship between a university and an NHS Trust, calling it a key step forward in advancing the standard of healthcare in this country. He added: “The College was founded 100 years ago with the mission to apply its science for the benefit of industry and society. Through the Academic Health Science Centre, Imperial will advance science to create a higher quality of healthcare for patients. We hope all its staff will be inspired to share in this mission of finding and delivering better outcomes to patients.”

Professor Stephen Smith takes top position

Professor Stephen Smith, Principal of the Faculty of Medicine, has been appointed to the joint position of Principal of the Faculty of Medicine and Chief Executive of the Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust.

His joint appointment is the first in the UK to combine responsibility for an NHS Trust with leadership of medical research and teaching in an academic institution.

Professor Smith said: “I am proud to be leading the UK’s finest hospitals and one of the world’s foremost biomedical research faculties. This is a new endeavour to fuse our best research, teaching and healthcare so that we increase our research into new discoveries in clinical science which will benefit our patients faster.

“Our task is to break down the artificial barriers that have existed between research and healthcare so that our teams spend more of their time and resources in laboratories and with patients to deliver truly world class clinical research, teaching and healthcare.”

Lord Tugendhat, Chair of Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, welcomed Professor Smith’s appointment and said: “I am delighted that Professor Smith has been appointed following an extensive international recruitment campaign. He has led the UK’s leading biomedical faculty and worked very closely with Hammersmith and St Mary’s. The combination of his track record of success at Imperial, his vision for what the NHS and academia can achieve together, and his leadership and managerial experience, make him the best choice to be the UK’s first Chief Executive and Principal of the UK’s first Academic Health Science Centre.”

—Alexandra Platt, Communications
Steve Smith chatted about the new Trust with medical students after welcoming 350 freshers on their first day at Imperial as doctors-to-be.

“Our fusion of healthcare, research and teaching is breaking down barriers. It’s about being clever in two different ways, and being joined up in our approach to them both. We must be good at discoveries and inventions, but then we must be positive and quick at introducing these advances into our healthcare system. Our bottom line is patient outcomes and we will never lose sight of the most important relationship, between our carers and our patients.”—Professor Stephen Smith

To mark the launch of the new organisation, Chief Executive and Principal Professor Stephen Smith, Chair Lord Tugendhat and Managing Director Mark Davies visited St Mary’s, Hammersmith and Charing Cross hospitals and Imperial’s South Kensington Campus on 1 October, meeting with staff and students and opening new facilities.

What’s new?

- New name and logo for Trust:

  Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

- New generic email address for Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust:

  forename.surname@imperial.nhs.uk

  (Imperial College London addresses remain the same)

- New external phone number for the Trust:

  +44 (0)20 3311 3311

- New address:

  The Bays,
  South Wharf Road,
  London W2 1NY

The AHSC Pocket Guide for Staff includes information on key milestones, biographies of the executive team, services and useful cross-site contact numbers. It is available across the hospitals and Imperial campuses or can be downloaded from: www2.hhnt.org.uk/ahsc

For more information

View Q&As on the AHSC at:

www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/about/intranet/ahscinfo

(you will need to log into the Faculty of Medicine website)

If you have a question that isn’t covered in this list, you can send it to ask@imperial.nhs.uk

Copies of 360°, the new Trust newspaper, can be picked up from every hospital campus and in the Faculty and Sir Alexander Fleming Buildings at the South Kensington Campus.
Happy 10th birthday, Medicine!

Starting in September and ending in December, the Faculty of Medicine is having a double celebration, as a series of special events are held to commemorate both the 10-year anniversary of its formation and Imperial’s Centenary.

Imperial’s Charing Cross Campus was a hive of activity with people from across the Faculty taking part in celebratory events at the end of last month.

For a week, Imperial staff and medical students gave visitors to Charing Cross Hospital the opportunity to take part in various medicine-related activities and find out about the research that takes place there. Among many other exhibits, staff from the National Heart and Lung Institute offered passers-by a free test to measure how well their lungs were functioning, and staff from the Department of Primary Care and Social Medicine chatted to visitors about their work and about how a healthy diet and exercise could improve their health.

About 150 secondary school students descended onto the campus on 25 September for an event entitled The science of becoming a doctor. They watched some fun lectures, with speakers including Professor Chris Kennard, Deputy Principal of the Faculty of Medicine (pictured right), and Professors Tracy Russell and Jagdeep Nanchahal (Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology), and took part in an interactive session with members of the Students’ Union, which included stitching prosthetic wounds.

Torrential rain did not dampen the enthusiasm of the 175 members of staff who came together for a celebratory barbecue on the afternoon of 26 September. Sheltering in the Reynolds Bar, staff enjoyed food and a slice of birthday cake.

How it felt to be a practising medic on the front line is the subject of a new book, launched as part of the celebrations. Doctors at War is a collection of letters written to the St Mary’s Gazette, primarily by St Mary’s medics, during various conflicts between 1897 and 1945 including the two World Wars. The letters were discovered in the Medical School archives by a retired Imperial Professor, Alasdair Fraser, who compiled the book with Emeritus Professor Oscar Craig.

On the evening of 26 September, an audience, including St Mary’s alumni and former staff of the Medical School, was treated to dinner with readings of the letters by current Imperial medical students. Janet Holland, Operational Projects Manager (Medicine), said: “It was an excellent evening and a great opportunity for people from the St Mary’s Campus to get together.”

Eminent surgeons have been giving keynote lectures as part of the celebrations. Richard Reznick, Professor of Surgery from the University of Toronto, Harold Ellis, Emeritus Professor of Surgery from Imperial, and fellow Imperial Professor of Surgery Lord Darzi were among speakers on 20 September at a Centenary Surgical Symposium.

Professor Lord Robert Winston, fertility expert, gave a lecture on 2 October entitled Manipulating the human, and Professor Jeremy Nicholson (Biological Chemistry) led a workshop on metabolomic medicine on 1–5 October, entitled Metabonomic and metabolomic tools in integrative systems biology and medicine. Metabolomics involves measuring the dynamic metabolic response of living systems to different stimuli or genetic modification.

One of the largest specialty meetings in neonatal medicine will be taking place at the College, with a five-day international meeting entitled The science of newborn care. Senior clinicians will meet to talk about new research and state-of-the-art clinical practice, from 26 to 30 November.

Nobel laureate Professor Ferid Murad visited the Royal Brompton Campus on 25 September to present his lecture Discovery of NO and Cyclic GMP and role in drug discovery and development. Professor Murad is Director Emeritus of the Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases and the John S. Dunn Distinguished Chair in Physiology and Medicine.

You can watch Lord Winston’s sell-out lecture at: www.imperial.ac.uk/aboutimperial/events/onlinelectures

For a full list of events to celebrate the 10-year anniversary, visit: www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/news/p72108

— LAURA GALLAGHER, COMMUNICATIONS

To read about the events above in full, visit: www.imperial.ac.uk/aboutimperial/news
Change of head for Engineering

Professor Dame Julia Higgins retired from the College last month, handing the role of Principal of the Faculty of Engineering to Professor John Wood. Reporter's Alexandra Platt and Colin Smith went to meet them.

Professor Dame Julia Higgins

What’s your career background?
I joined Imperial in 1976 after a brief stint teaching and then four years in research posts in France. I became a Professor of Polymer Science in 1989 and was Dean of the City and Guilds College — precursor to the Faculty of Engineering — from 1993 to 1997. I chaired the Academic Opportunities Committee from 1997 until 2006 and was Chair of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for four years until April this year. I am also a Fellow of the Royal Society and of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

What have been the highlights of your time as Principal?
There have been many. One is the EnVision project. It’s been exciting to be involved with getting it up and running and watching it really start going places. Helping with the bedding in of the Institute of Biomedical Engineering was another, culminating with the official opening by the Queen this summer.

What does the future hold for both you and the Faculty?
Personally, I’m not totally sure yet! I have been slowing down a bit, giving up some of the bigger jobs, but I will still have interaction with various advisory committees and low-key research collaborations. I’m going to be chairing one of the 15 main RAE panels and staying on in Chemical Engineering as a Senior Research Investigator part-time, so I’m not saying goodbye to Imperial just yet. I’ll also be moving house — there doesn’t seem to be enough space any more now my partner and I are retiring!

For the Faculty, I think the future must see a continuation of making sure we recruit the best staff and students. There is finally a realisation of how crucial newly qualified engineers are to industry, and Imperial produces, and will continue to produce, world class graduates.

Do you have any advice for Professor Wood?
The Faculty has been wonderful to lead. My advice is to remain continuously ambitious. John already thoroughly believes in the talented staff and students of the Faculty. His biggest challenge is to help them believe in themselves and achieve all they are capable of.

Professor John Wood

Filling the shoes of the much respected Professor Dame Julia Higgins is no easy task; admits Professor John Wood, but it is a challenge he is eager to face.

“I’ve been an acquaintance of Dame Julia’s for some time and I am aware of the excellent initiatives put in place during her time here. I hope I can build on her legacy,” he said.

Before taking up his post at Imperial, Professor Wood was the Chief Executive of the Council for the Central Laboratories of the Research Councils. He is also the current chair of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI), which provides policy support and develops scientific research initiatives Europe-wide.

One of the ESFRI’s major projects is the construction of the X-ray Free Electron Laser in Hamburg, Germany. Professor Wood is the current chair of the international steering group which is building the laser. This 3.4 kilometre-long particle accelerator will enable scientists to produce super-brilliant, ultra-short flashes of X-ray light. John views this project as a new opportunity for the College and hopes that several members of staff will become involved in its development.

Professor Wood has held positions at Cambridge, Nottingham and the Open University. He has been involved in a number of initiatives, including the Foresight programme, which provided a vision for UK industry and government. He hopes his extensive experience will help to foster more strategic partnerships for the College throughout the world, especially in emerging countries: “Vast investments in education from India and China are making the global market more competitive. It is vital that we invest in strategic partnerships. I hope my background and large international network will act as the impetus to further realise this aim.”

Juggling the demands of a world class engineering Faculty, he admits, won’t be easy, but through hard work and able leadership, he hopes to earn the respect of his fellow colleagues.
Emeritus Professor Mino Green shares his views on commercialising research

Mino Green is Emeritus Professor of the Science of Electrical Devices in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. He is currently working on a number of projects in the nanoscience and technology field that are being commercialised by Imperial Innovations. Professor Green has been working with the company since its creation in 1986.

Professor Green, who describes himself as a scientific multi-tasker is a founder of recently formed Nexeon, a company developing batteries with high energy density, which is expected to make a significant contribution to this multi-billion pound market. He is also working on a couple of other projects which it is hoped will be licensed to industry, one on biomolecule detection and another on a method for giving a nanoscale pattern or texture to a conducting surface.

With over 40 years working in industry in the UK and the US, Professor Green has become commercially minded and believes that the UK government’s policy towards technology transfer and commercialisation for universities shifted in the 1990s. He added: “This shift has coincided with the modification in the role of universities. They have evolved from largely scholarly enterprises to organisations where we are educating and training people for industry. We are playing catch-up with the US.”

Professor Green believes that universities’ attitudes towards industry have changed: “In the 1960s after scientific training, very few people in the UK followed the path into industry. It was believed if you took that route you’d never be heard of again! You just couldn’t return to academia.” Taking advantage of this change in viewpoint, Professor Green returned to Imperial in 1972 after a period in industry, having previously worked at the College as a postdoc.

His attitude towards his work is that research is primarily about solving a scientific problem. However, if the answer appears to have a commercial application that is practical or useful then it is important to commercialise it. Professor Green believes this commercial side should be secondary to research, but admits that it can often take over research activities. He added: “It is also a lot easier to obtain funding these days if your work has commercial application.”

—Charlotte Stone, Imperial Innovations

* Imperial Innovations may be able to help you find an alternative commercial application for your research. For further information, please visit www.imperialinnovations.co.uk or contact the technology transfer team on 020 7581 4949.

An evening of horse racing in celebration of Imperial’s Centenary and to raise money for the Student Opportunities Fund (SOF) took place on 27 September. The Support Services Runners and Riders Benefit Dinner attracted over 650 guests from more than 80 of the College’s major advisors, suppliers and consultants and was one of the biggest fundraising events of the year so far. Six races were shown over the evening and guests placed their bets on their favourite horse, with 50 per cent of the pool going to the SOF. Those who won were also encouraged to donate their winnings. In total the event raised over £41,000. Pictured above are Peter Kitchener (centre), Managing Director of Wallis, one of the evening’s winners, being presented with a laptop by Alan Brown, Project Director for Arup Project Management.

Celebrating 10 years of teaching grants

A decade of allocating teaching grants was celebrated on 24 September with an event for past winners and organisers of the scheme.

The awards are given in two categories. Established in 1998, the Teaching Development Grants (TDGs) have awarded over £540,000 to academics across the College. The grants are for developing and producing materials and can also be awarded for changing courses. They are normally up to £5,000, or, in exceptional cases, up to £15,000.

The Teaching Research Grants (TRGs) were set up in 2000, and over £180,000 has been awarded. The grants are for investigating educational questions relating to teaching and learning and can be up to £15,000.

Dr Roberto Di Napoli, the coordinator of the TRG scheme, explained: “Among other things, these awards help to create a community of researchers who have a vested interest in teaching and learning.”

David Riley, TDG scheme coordinator and Senior Lecturer in Educational Development, added: “Over 500 staff have been involved over the last 10 years and their achievements have often led to publications in academic journals.”

The schemes are financed by College funds and in more recent years help has been provided by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

—Naomi Weston, Communications

* For information on applying for teaching grants in 2008–09, visit: www.imperial.ac.uk/edudev/fundingopportunities/teachingdevelopmentandteachingresearchgrants
PensionSMART could add pounds to your pocket

Many staff are set to benefit when a change is introduced to the way pension contributions are paid.

The new Inland Revenue-approved scheme, PensionSMART, will be introduced on 1 December 2007. The scheme reduces the amount of National Insurance Contributions (NICs) that members of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) pay and could increase their take-home pay by up to £200 per annum.

Under PensionSMART, USS members will no longer make employee contributions to their pension. The total contributed to an employee’s pension fund (equal to 20.35 per cent of their salary) will not change but will be paid in full by the College. The final pension benefits will stay the same.

This new arrangement is known as a ‘salary exchange’. The employee ‘exchanges’ the amount of their salary that they previously contributed to their pension for an increased employer contribution. Employees will make financial savings on NICs, leading to an increase in take-home pay in most cases. The College will make savings in the same way, which it will use to support its academic mission and could, for example, help fund teaching, research or local infrastructure.

At this stage, PensionSMART will apply to members of USS only, but it is anticipated that a similar scheme will be available to members of SAUL (Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London) by early next year. There may be very small numbers of USS members for whom joining PensionSMART is not advisable, including those whose earnings are close to the national minimum wage.

The College will be writing individually to each USS member advising them of how they personally will benefit from the introduction of PensionSMART. The mailing will include an introductory letter, questions and answers on all aspects of the scheme, and new annual salary details. It will also contain details of how to find out more about PensionSMART, including a series of roadshows around the main College campuses.

—Wendy Raeside, Communications

Tanaka needs you!

Entrepreneurs’ challenge

Are your students innovators? Do their ideas have the potential to cross over to become successful businesses?

Each year Tanaka Business School hosts the Entrepreneurs’ Challenge, searching for the College’s most promising teams of business-savvy innovators. Running since 2000, the challenge is an excellent opportunity for students to build teams and make contacts that will be helpful in the future, not to mention the chance to win part of the £55,000 prize fund.

Entrants from across the College are welcome to apply.

» For more information visit: www.imperial.ac.uk/entrepreneurship/entrepreneurschallenge

Energetic presentations

Next January, Tanaka Business School will be hosting an event on Innovation in Energy Systems, and it is calling for presentations on a range of themes across several disciplines.

The symposium is being arranged with the University of Tokyo’s Institute of Industrial Science and is part of the BP-sponsored, College-wide Urban Energy Systems Project, set up to address the problems of diminishing natural resources, climate change and increasing urbanisation. Submissions of proposals are welcome until the end of this month.

» The deadline for receipt of proposals is 31 October. For further details contact Dr Ritsuko Ozaki at r.ozaki@imperial.ac.uk

—Elliott White, Tanaka Business School

Obituaries

Dr John Stonehouse • Dr Stonehouse died of cerebral malaria on 26 September at Dakar, Senegal, after a short period of illness. Professor John Mumford from the Centre for Environmental Policy (CEP) worked with him. He writes: “John had worked in the College since 1991 and was most recently a part-time Research Lecturer in the CEP. He was working on a European Commission project to establish the need for a programme of fruit fly management across West Africa, to improve opportunities for small-scale fruit growers to produce market-quality fruit, and had been engaged in similar long-term projects with the College over the years. John, who was 47 when he died, began his career at the College as an undergraduate and went on to complete an MSc and PhD here. He was particularly effective as a scientist working in international development because of his tremendous ability to work with everyone he met in their own circumstances, and he had a combination of critical judgement and good-humoured patience that built confidence in all who worked with him. His Senegalese counterpart has sent a moving tribute, saying that he died like a soldier facing the threat to the welfare of millions of people across West Africa, referring to the fruit flies that destroy their livelihoods but also the mosquitoes that brought about his death. His role in helping so many has been recognised in letters from agricultural ministries in Senegal, Guinea, Ghana, India and Afghanistan and from the EU, UK, US, and UN aid and development agencies where he was so well known and respected.”

—Wendy Raeside, Communications

» 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
A fond farewell to Clare and Susan

September saw Imperial saying goodbye to Clare Jenkins, Director of Library Services, and Susan Hartman, Assistant Secretary in the Faculty of Medicine, who have both retired from the College. Reporter’s Alexandra Platt went to meet them to hear their Imperial stories.

Clare Jenkins

Clare Jenkins retired from the post of Director of Library Services at the end of last month after seven years of leadership.

Clare joined the College from the University of Birmingham where she was Assistant Director of Information Services. She had also previously held senior management posts at the Consortium of Research Libraries and at the libraries of the London School of Economics and the University of Southampton.

Clare arrived at the College knowing that changes needed to be made. She explained: “My main priority was to move from an organisation that had grown in a somewhat haphazard way, following the merger with the London medical schools, to make a single integrated service.”

Under Clare the Library has achieved this goal, undergoing major physical, organisational and technical changes, and adapting to the evolving needs of users. Clare said: “I’m confident that we now provide a high level of service to support learning and research excellence. By continually adapting to change, the service is less likely to need a huge review in the future.”

High points of her time include the Library achieving Investors in People status, establishing funding for the current Central Library building development, and the resolution of long-standing issues over space for services on the medical campuses. She said: “Gaining external recognition for the investment we were making in our staff was fantastic. Now I leave them with the promise of a better working environment too. This is an amazing place to work and I’m so privileged to have been involved in offering Imperial staff and students a top-class library service.”

Clare says she will miss her team and stresses her appreciation for the way they have stuck with her through some tough times: “My team have been fantastic. They care passionately about what they do and I think this shows. They have never ceased to amaze me with their commitment and what they manage to deliver.”

Clare’s plans for retirement will see her moving house and spending time with her family, in particular her first grandchild. She explained: “I’m looking forward to having a different life doing all the things that work stopped me doing! I may undertake some further study to gain an MA in the history of art, take up the piano and dust off my Spanish.”

Susan Hartman

Susan Hartman retired last month after a career that she describes as “keeping track of things, ensuring decisions were made and acted upon, and keeping all aspects of the Faculty connected.”

As Assistant Secretary in the Faculty of Medicine, her responsibilities were varied and included ensuring that the Faculty’s HR procedures remained in line with College and NHS requirements, and overseeing the Faculty’s website and main committee timetable.

Susan has a long association with the College, having first worked here in 1969 in the undergraduate office in Chemical Engineering. She said: “When I first arrived here from the US, Imperial was one place where I could get a work permit. Having parents who were teachers meant I felt at home here.”

When the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School and the Royal Postgraduate Medical School merged with the College on 1 August 1997, Susan was appointed as Assistant Secretary to the School of Medicine. She said: “It was felt to be more efficient and effective to have administration at the centre of the School rather than at a divisional level. This was an exciting time. We had the chance to develop whole new ways of working.”

Susan retired on the eve of the formation of the UK’s first Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC), Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, a chance as she sees it “for the Faculty of Medicine to go even further and achieve more”. She added: “I will certainly be looking on in interest, but I am happy to leave at this point. New processes will need to be developed and there are staff here with the energy and enthusiasm to make this a real success. My advice is always that if you keep in mind how best to support the work of the academics, you won’t go wrong.”

Retirement will see Susan and her husband renovating a Victorian house, working on its garden and spending time caring out her hobbies of textiles and sewing. She’ll also be taking up the challenge of learning to read hieroglyphics. Susan added: “I’ll really miss all my colleagues, but I’ll certainly be keeping my eye on the AHSC—after all, I’m a potential patient now!”

Corrections and clarifications

Please note that Robert Wilkinson, Professor of Infectious Diseases (Medicine), was omitted from the list of new professors in edition 181 of Reporter (page 5).
new starters

Miss Lisa Armstrong, Student Residences
Dr Joanne Athos, EPHPIC
Mr Edward Benbow, Mechanical Engineering
Mr Jonathan Blatchford, ICT
Mr Gaetano Caserta, Aeronautics
Ms Jennie Catchatsiotariou, NHLI
Dr Rebecca Chandler, Medicine
Dr Kamilsh Chauhan, Faculty of Engineering
Zhao Chen, Civil and Environmental Engineering
Mr Faeruque Choudhery, Faculty of Medicine
Mrs Erika Collison, Library Services
Ms Holly Crane, Tanaka Business School
Miss Esme De Courcy, NHLI
Miss Gemma Donaldson, Human Resources
Mrs Leila Favaudi, EEE
Miss Melanie Finn, Mechanical Engineering
Mr Dorian Gaertner, Computing
Dr Claudia Gonzalez Lopez, Investigative Science
Dr Steve Hawkins, Development and Corporate Affairs
Miss Lauren Hector, NHLI
Miss Natasha Johnson, Faculty of Medicine
Mr John-Paul Jones, Human Resources
Dr Rositsa Karamanska, Molecular Biosciences
Miss Angela Kehoe, Faculty of Medicine
Mrs Jacki Kendall, Estates
Mr Mashaf Khan, ICT
Miss Sarah Lakin, Engineering
Dr Ian Lean, Centre for Environmental Policy
Mr Sherhan Lingham, Registry
Dr Yunfei Liu, Mechanical Engineering
Dr Olga Malandrakis, Physics
Miss Becky Manning, Human Resources
Dr Anca Margineanu, Chemistry
Miss Jen Martin, International and External Academic Affairs
Miss Melissa McLune-Boyland, EYEC
Ms June Phillips, College Headquarters
Miss Liz Hall, Investigative Science
Dr Yuan Guo, Molecular Biosciences
Dr Bob Grover, Medicine
Dr Fabian Gonzalez Jara, NHLI
Mrs Revital Golan, EPHPC
Mr Nicholas Foin, Bioengineering
Dr Bo Feng, Physics
Dr Paul Evans, Biology
Dr Giles Duffield, NMH (5 years)
Mr Mickael Drozdz, Mechanical Engineering
Miss Nicola Donaldson, Health and Safety Services
Professor Janet Drew, Physics (12 years)
Mr Michael Drazd, Mechanical Engineering
Mr Sabada Dube, EPHPIC
Dr Giles Duffield, NHLI (5 years)
Dr Stephen Ellmerich, Investigative Science
Professor Julian Evans, Biology (10 years)
Dr Paul Evans, Biology
Dr Andrew Feame, Agricultural Sciences (15 years)*
Dr Bo Feng, Physics
Dr Andrew Ferguson, Agricultural Sciences (10 years)
Mr Nicholas Foin, Bioengineering
Ms Ashley Frize, EPHPIC
Dr Simon Gamble, SOLA (8 years)
Dr Richard Geering, Agricultural Sciences (9 years)*
Ms Revatil Golan, EPHPIC
Dr Fabian Gonzalez Jara, NHLI
Mr Nick Green, NMH
Ms Gaynor Gregory, Investigative Science
Dr Bob Grove, Medicine
Dr Xavier Guichard, Chemistry
Dr Yuan Guo, Molecular Biosciences
Ms Laura Hailes, Registry (15 years)
Miss Liz Hall, Investigative Science
Ms Kate Harrison, Biology
Ms Kirsty Hedditch, NHLI (9 years)
Ms Nicky Henson, EPHPIC (6 years)
Dr Amy Herity, Clinical Sciences (6 years)
Dr Andrew Ho, Physics
Miss Samantha Holland, Clinical Sciences
Dr Nick Holton, Biology
Miss Xena Hooley, Conference Office
Mr David Howey, EEE
Mrs Sotilana Ishmukova, Catering Services
Dr Razaq Issa, NHLI (5 years)
Mrs Carrie Jarvis, Agricultural Sciences (6 years)
Dr Christopher Johnson, Institute of Biomedical Engineering
Dr Philip Jordan, Agricultural Sciences (10 years)
Dr Marcelo Kern, Biology
Dr Bernard Lambert, Biology (38 years)
Nathalie Lebrasseur, Chemistry
Miss Nora Lecoeur, Chemical Engineering
Dr Wai Leong, EEE
Miss Gloria Lin, Development and Corporate Affairs
Miss Sophie Lubbok, Estates
Mrs Geraldine Lubizc-Nawrocka, Medicine (7 years)
Miss Shadia Luzmay, Faculty of Medicine
Dr Kathryn Mackarness, NHLI
Dr Sanathesh Maheswaran, Clinical Sciences
Dr Tidu Maini, Development and Corporate Affairs (5 years)*
Dr Olivier Marches, Cell and Molecular Biology
Dr Takashi Matsusita, Physics
Dr Peter McIntosh, NMH
Miss Kars Mickie, SOLA
Dr Katerina Michaelsides, SOLA
Miss Kavita Miplur, Investigative Science (5 years)
Dr Wayne Mitchell, Investigative Science
Dr Carlos Monto Rippoli, Chemistry
Dr Michael Monaghan, Biology
Dr Charles Monroe, Medicine
Dr Neil Murray, Medicine (8 years)
Mr Cristian Muselli, ICT
Miss Siboji Nadaraja, Medicine
Dr Shimio Niedzwetzki, Cell and Molecular Biology
Dr Gary Needham, Biology
Dr Debra Nestel, SOLA
Dr Jon Nield, Molecular Biosciences (10 years)
Dr Oliver Niemee, Chemistry
Dr Clare Notley, Kennedy Institute
Mr Simon O'Hanlon, EPHPIC
Dr Sofia Olhede, Mathematics
Ms Teena Ollington, Registry
Dr Tommaso Pacini, Mathematics
Mr Daniel Charnock, Investigative Science
Mr Jason Carr, Security Services
Dr Marco Carbonne, Computing
Dr Jonathan Chang, Security Services
Dr Daniel Charnock, Investigative Science
Dr Paul Dellar, Mathematics (10 years)
Mrs Susan Hartman, Faculty of Medicine
Dr Amy Herlihy, Clinical Sciences
Professor Dame Julia Higgins, Engineering (35 years)*
Mr William Chisholm, Estates
Miss Catherine Dwell, NHLI (32 years)
Mr Bill Dudeney, ESE (33 years)*
Dr Christopher Guy, Physics (28 years)
Dr John Sharp, Agricultural Sciences (33 years)*
Ms Claire (jenkins), Library Services (7 years)
Mr Neil Masson, Security Services (11 years)
Mr Tony Mitcheson, College Headquarters (10 years)*
Mr Reg Perera, Mathematics (37 years)
Professor Rees Rawlings, Materials (40 years)*
Mr Brian Scofield, Physics (30 years)
Professor Peter Selway, Agricultural Sciences (15 years)
Professor Nick Russell, Agricultural Sciences (11 years)
Mr Francesco Russo, Computing
Dr Anne Rytkonen, Investigative Science
Dr Shiuain Sachdev, SOLA
Professor David Sanderson, ESE
Dr Gabriela Saldanha Viva, Humanities Programme
Dr Maria Schonbacher, ESE
Miss Sandhya Sengat, SOLA
Dr Alessio Seralfi, Physics
Dr Amar Sharif, Medicine
Dr John Sharp, Agricultural Sciences (19 years)
Miss Sandra Storchi, Student Residences
Dr Simon Stewart, SOLA (7 years)*
Miss Yvonne Stewart, Biology
Miss Kathryn Taylor, Human Resources
Ms Elfrida The, Student Residences
Dr Chaitya Vuppusetti, NHLI
Dr Jonathan Wharton, Clinical Sciences
Dr James Whiteford, NHLI
Dr Allan Williams, Medicine (5 years)
Dr Sarah Wilson, NHLI
Mrs Xiang Wu, Kennedy Institute (6 years)
Dr Ke Xu, NHLI
Ms Yiyun Yang, Library Services (5 years)
Dr Cathy Ye, Chemical Engineering*  
Dr Patricia Zsuzsanna, Cell and Molecular Biology (6 years)

This data is supplied by HR and covers the period 9 September – 8 October. 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. Asterisk (*) indicates where an individual will continue to play an active role in College life.
what’s on

17 OCTOBER  17.30–18.30
Relations among nations on a finite planet
Centenary Prestigious Lecture by Lord May of Oxford
Clore Lecture Theatre G66, Sir Alexander Fleming Building
 рядом A ticket is required for this event—email: events@imperial.ac.uk

17 OCTOBER  14.30–15.30
Achieving environmentally and economically viable biofuel feedstock crops
Porter Institute Special Seminar by Professor Steve Long, University of Illinois
Lecture Theatre G34, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

17 OCTOBER  17.30–18.30
Air traffic safety: continued evolution or a new paradigm?
The Imperial College London and Lloyd’s Register Educational Trust Annual Lecture in Transport Risk Management by Professor Peter Brooker, Scientific Advisor to Helios Technology Ltd
Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley Building
 рядом Registration in advance: amy.thompson@imperial.ac.uk

17 OCTOBER  18.30–19.30
This House believes in strategic research
Graduate Schools debate with Professor Sir Peter Knight and Professor Steve Bloom
Lecture Theatre 1, Blackett Building

18 OCTOBER  17.30–18.30
Earth system science: Gaia and the human impact
Inaugural T.H. Huxley Lecture by Sir Crispin Tickell, British diplomat, environmentalist and academic
Room 1.47, Royal School of Mines
 рядом A ticket is required for this event—email: centenary@imperial.ac.uk

23 OCTOBER  17.30–19.00
Genomics—from humans to the environment
Centenary Prestigious Lecture by Dr J. Craig Venter, Founder, Chairman and President of the J. Craig Venter Institute
Great Hall, Level 2, Sherfield Building
 рядом A ticket is required for this event—email: centenary@imperial.ac.uk

29 OCTOBER  17.30–18.30
Invisible cloaks and a perfect lens
Graduate Schools Lecture by Professor Sir John Pendry, Chair in Theoretical Solid State Physics
Great Hall, Level 2, Sherfield Building

31 OCTOBER  17.30–18.30
Celebrating 15 years of EPIC
Inaugural Lecture by Professor Elia Riboli, Head of the Division of Epidemiology, Public Health and Primary Care
Clore Lecture Theatre
 рядом Registration in advance: amy.thompson@imperial.ac.uk

10 SEPTEMBER – 20 DECEMBER  12.30
The climate change season
Discover more about the impact of climate change. Events take place during term time at 12.30 on Mondays (films), Tuesdays and Thursdays.
Natural History Museum
 рядом For information visit: www.nhm.ac.uk/visit-us/whats-on/daily-events/nature-live/index.html

volunteering

Oxfam shop assistants needed

Urgent project: Shop Assistant
Project ID: 975
Organisation: Oxfam
Date(s): Ongoing
Time: Once a week, either 9.00–13.30 or 13.30–17.30
Location: Gloucester Road, SW7 (nearest tube Gloucester Road)

Volunteers are needed as shop assistants in an Oxfam shop in South Kensington. The shop is open every day and sells a variety of donated goods, including clothing and homeware.
Volunteers will carry out a range of tasks, including sorting donations, steamng clothes, pricing, till work and window dressing. This is an opportunity to help Oxfam on a very practical level while learning some secrets of the retail business. Oxfam is a development, relief and campaigning organisation dedicated to finding lasting solutions to poverty and suffering around the world. At the moment shifts are available everyday except Wednesday afternoons and Friday mornings.

For more information
To take part in a scheme or to hear more about volunteering in general, contact Minna Ruohonen + 020 7584 8133  m.ruohonen@imperial.ac.uk
For full details of over 250 volunteering opportunities visit: www.imperial.ac.uk/volunteering
Subscribe to the weekly newsletter by emailing: volunteering@imperial.ac.uk

take note

Health Centre move
Imperial College Health Centre is moving to 40 Prince’s Gardens from 22 October. Please note that only emergency services will be provided on 19 October and 22 October, and ensure that you request any repeat prescriptions before 16 October. For more information about the move, along with surgery and out of hours services, call 020 7584 6301 or visit: www.imperialcollegehealthcentre.co.uk

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