

# Reporter

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Members of Imperial's Tae Kwon Do club show off their skills

## They think it's all open — it is now

Abigail Smith Communications

LEADING figures from the world of sport joined Imperial staff and students to declare *Ethos* officially open last week.

The opening ceremony was led by track and field legend Sir Roger Bannister and Sydney 2000 rowing gold medallists Simon Dennis and Louis Attrill with their coach Martin McElroy, all of whom are College alumni. Martin, who was also involved in rowing during his time at Imperial, commented that it was good to see students being given the chance to develop themselves physically as well as academically.

"That's the great thing about sport—you can be a complete beginner, as Louis Attrill was at 18 years of age, and four or five years later be an Olympic gold medallist. It's an example of what can be achieved in a College through sport," he said.

Also leading the opening was Michael Payne, formerly of the International Olympic Committee and now an advisor to Formula One chief Bernie Ecclestone, who commented that Imperial had played an important role in London's Olympic bid by offering its facilities.

"It was a very close race that London won," he said. "I think it wouldn't have been nearly as close if the IOC inspection team



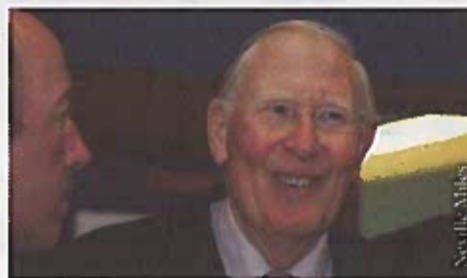
Members of Imperial's fencing club gave demonstrations on the day

had been able to see these facilities. I think you're going to have incredible competition between the 200 countries around the world as to which one gains the right to come and train here before the Games!"

During his opening speech, Imperial's Rector Sir Richard Sykes pointed out that the variety of facilities available at *Ethos* means there is something for everybody at any level of sporting ability. He paid tribute to Rees Rawlings, Pro Rector, Educational Quality, who conceived the original idea for



Sydney 2000 rowing gold medallists, and Imperial alumni, Simon Dennis and Louis Attrill



Sir Roger Bannister spoke at the opening

this kind of sports centre. Professor Rawlings explained that while the academic abilities of Imperial students are obvious to everyone, it is sometimes forgotten that they also excel in extra-curricular activities.

"It became clear that we weren't doing enough to support talented sportsmen and women and also to provide opportunities for students to try new things. Having *Ethos* changes that completely," he said.

Before sounding the scoreboard's claxon to mark the official opening, Sir Roger Bannister echoed these sentiments, commenting:

"I get asked to open a lot of sports centres, which I'm very happy to do, but I can't remember ever seeing one of this quality, in which the opportunity for taking part in so many different ranges of sport is open to all."

One person benefiting from the new centre is Midori Okamoto, a biology undergraduate and member of the fencing club, which gave a demonstration at the opening. She said:

"We used to practise at the Union gym, but it's much better at *Ethos*—it's bigger and easier for visitors to find us when we hold matches. The changing rooms are so much nicer as well!"

The opening ceremony concluded with a 200-metre race on rowing machines between Simon Dennis and Louis Attrill, who both rowed competitively despite a fear of splitting their trousers.

Professor Neil Ferguson, Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, who led the research, said: "The modelling shows there is no single magic bullet, which can control a flu pandemic, but that a combination of interventions could be highly effective at reducing transmission, potentially saving many lives."

The research shows that border restrictions are unlikely to delay the spread of influenza by more than a few weeks unless they are more than 99 per cent effective. Restricting travel within a country is predicted to have an even more limited impact on slowing spread of a pandemic within that country.

The modelling predicts that a pandemic in the UK will peak within two to three months of the first case, and be over within four months. "Speed of response is therefore essential," said Professor Ferguson.

The modelling shows that the number

## IN BRIEF

### Imperial top five in *Guardian* guide

Imperial has been placed fifth overall in the *Guardian's* annual university guide, and first for computer sciences and IT, and earth and marine sciences. The university league table, which assesses teaching quality, staff-student ratios and graduate job prospects, places Oxford in first position. See <http://education.guardian.co.uk/universityguide2006/>

### All abroad

Imperial students will have the opportunity to spend a year at Emory University, Atlanta, from 2007 following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding. The agreement will allow undergraduates from each institution to learn abroad as part of a student exchange programme, and is aimed at broadening the range of teaching that students receive and also promoting research collaboration. Professor Tony Barrett, head of the Synthetic Chemistry Research Group at Imperial who led the effort to develop the agreement, says: "Both Imperial and Emory are leaders in the fields of science and medicine, and this agreement will allow students to learn with top academics on both sides of the Atlantic". The programme will initially be open to two students a year from each institution.

### New Undergraduate Prospectus out now

Imperial's 2007 entry Undergraduate Prospectus was published in April. Printed copies have been distributed to all College departments, and schools and colleges around the country will be receiving theirs in a few days. The online version will be live in the week commencing 8 May at [www.imperial.ac.uk/ugprospectus](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/ugprospectus).



### And the winner is...

Imperial's student television station, *stoic tv*, has received three awards, including the prestigious Best Broadcaster trophy, at this year's National Student Television Awards in Leeds. The awards ceremony, held at Leeds University Union, was the highlight of a three-day conference attended by 13 other student television stations from across the country. In addition to winning Best Broadcaster, Greg Foot and Frankie Young both collected the awards for Best On-Screen Male and Female respectively. The two MSc Science Communication students together present *Foot + Mouth*, one of *stoic tv's* light entertainment programmes. All *stoic* programmes are regularly broadcast on monitors in the Junior Common Room and online. To find out more log on to [www.stoic.tv](http://www.stoic.tv).

## Are we ready to face a flu pandemic?

Tony Stephenson Communications

IMPERIAL researchers have predicted how effective public health and medical interventions will prove in the event of an influenza pandemic.

The letter published this month in *Nature*

by the team at Imperial, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and RTI International, uses computer modelling to predict how a variety of interventions, including travel restrictions, school closures and antiviral treatment, would affect the spread of flu.

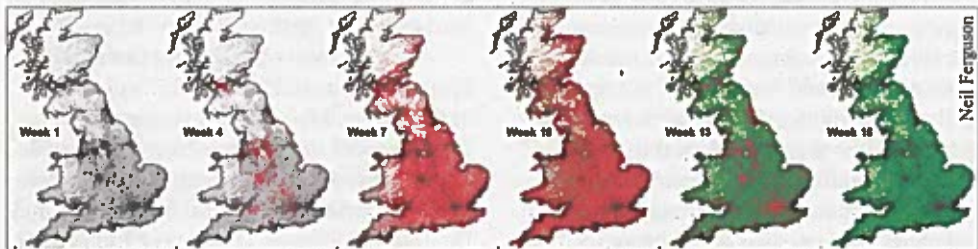


Image shows how flu may spread through Britain's population. Greyscale represents population density, red represents density of infected people, and green represents density of people who have recovered and are now immune

## Calling all researchers

See page four for details of the College's new Research Excellence Awards, launched this month.

continued on page three...



Mayor of London Ken Livingstone visited the lab of Imperial's Professor of Cancer Biology, Mustafa Djamgoz (left), last month to be photographed as part of Marie Curie Cancer Care's Back to the Floor campaign, which sees bosses go back to their first jobs. The Mayor began his career as a lab technician at the Royal Marsden Hospital working on cancer research



Sameena Misbahuddin, President of Imperial College Union gives a quick run down of what the Union offers to both Imperial staff and students in the first *Student Voice* of the term.

"AS we all know university is about more than just getting a degree and this is what the Union's all about—helping students to make the most of their time at Imperial.

The Union is here to cater for the welfare, social and recreational needs of students, be they undergraduate or postgraduate, full-time or part-time, and to represent students' views to College. In addition, most services are also open to staff and alumni of the College. For example, the 250 clubs and societies that the Union runs, can be accessed by everyone for a small fee, though current students have some of their costs subsidised. Clubs and societies invite all to get involved, whether you wish to try something new or to bring your experience and expertise to the group.

The Union's activities and outlets are run on all the teaching campuses, though most are based in South Kensington. Bars, catering, and the information and advice service are in the Union building, and the stationery shop and newsagents are on the Sherfield walkway, again available to all Imperial members to use.

A project the Union is currently working on is the redevelopment of its building in South Kensington. This is one of the flagship projects for the College's Centenary and has had investment from the College, Harlington Trust and from the Students' Union itself. Trevor Phillips, OBE, the UK's Commissioner for Racial Equality, as well as an ex-President of Imperial College Union, is also supporting the fundraising campaign as an ambassador.

You'll have noticed other projects run by the Union, with the various events advertised along the walkway and happening on

For more information, contact:

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The Union's Information & Advice Centre,  
advice@imperial.ac.uk or 020 7594 8067

Union reception, union@imperial.ac.uk or  
020 7594 8060

campus, such as Green Week's *Go Green* campaign last term.

This year we also have a new sabbatical officer, Deputy President (Graduate Students), who deals with postgraduate students' specific issues and ensures the Union caters for their needs better than it has done in the past.

One of the highlights for the coming term is the biggest celebration of the year, the Summer Ball. The event is organised by the Union with the support of College and will take over the South Kensington Campus on Saturday 17 June from dusk until the early hours of Sunday. With a formal dinner, bands, entertainments, funfair and more, it's an event to suit all tastes and a great way for the Imperial community to celebrate together.

The summer term sees a busy time for the Union. Watch out for more information in the weekly Union page in *Felix*, the Union newsletters and the Union weekly email. If you're a student and do not receive Union weekly emails, please email president@imperial.ac.uk to subscribe.



From left to right: Union officers, Sarah Khatib, Simon Matthews, Sameena Misbahuddin and Tim Aplin

# Archive corner

Anne Barrett Archives and Corporate Records

## The history of 170 Queen's Gate

HOME to the Rector and venue for meetings of the College Council, 170 Queen's Gate provides a formal dining space for members of College and is also used for College events.

Designed by Norman Shaw and completed in 1889, the house was commissioned by Frederick Anthony White, a wealthy cement manufacturer with an interest in art and architecture. The initials of the first owner and his wife are visible on the rainwater heads on the south façade and the White family crest forms part of the decoration of the front door.

Mr White was very proud of his house and issued a portfolio of photographs in the early 1890s, showing exterior and interior views. In 1925, he sold 170 to the sixth Marquess of Anglesey, who lived there until about 1938. At that time, the Imperial College Governing Body did look into acquiring the building but it was then leased to the Secretarial Appointments Bureau for 21 years. In 1947, the College acquired 170 with the assistance of the University Grants Committee, with vacant possession in 1959. The lease of the occupiers, the London College of Secretaries, was in fact extended to 1960.

It was agreed that the house should be adapted for use by the Governing Body with provision for the Rector's lodgings and other staff accommodation. The consulting architect to College, Sir Hubert Worthington, began alterations that were continued by T.W. Sutcliffe and completed in 1962. Dame Sylvia Crowe designed the landscaping of the garden, and other alterations included moving



National Monuments Record



170 Queen's Gate photographed whilst owned by the White family. The pictures were taken by Bryan Shaw, son of the architect Norman

the original southern boundary wall and some changes to minor architectural features.

Norman Shaw (1831-1912) was one of the most important English architects of the nineteenth century, specialising in town and country houses. No. 170 Queen's Gate was scheduled as a building of special architectural or historic interest in 1958 and is generally agreed to be a very important example of English domestic architecture of its period.

## 'Nose for safety' nets Rector's Award

THIS year's £2,000 prizewinner of the annual Award for Excellence in Health and Safety is Ian Hackford, Safety Officer within the Division of Medicine. The adjudication panel for the award, comprising Professor Steve Smith, Principal of the Faculty of Medicine and Chair of the Health and Safety Management Committee, Ian Gillett, Safety Director and Chris Gosling, HR Director, chose to reward Ian for his successful initiation of many projects including skilled and professional handling of dangerous incidents, improved planned preventative maintenance, guidance, and risk assessments, effective liaison with other College departments and a 'nose' for spotting potential problems.

The Rector said of Ian: "Ian's contributions have led to a much healthier and safer working environment within the Division and Faculty as a whole—he is a worthy recipient of this year's award."

He went on to describe the importance of Health and Safety, stating that it is: "among the most critical organisational risks facing the College."

"Legislation and codes of practice rightly impose ever more demanding constraints—get Health and Safety wrong and much of what we have, and can achieve, at Imperial will count for little. Health and Safety is the responsibility of us all and, as this award illustrates, staff at all levels can make an impact on improving the management, development and practice of Health and Safety matters in a wide variety of ways. I am grateful to those receiving awards, to those whose names were entered for an award and to those



Sir Richard Sykes presents Ian Hackford with the £2,000 prize of the Rector's Awards for Excellence in Health and Safety 2005

in the wider College community who work so hard to protect staff from harm" he said.

A further two commendation awards of £500 each went to Peter Sulsh, Department of Chemistry, who particularly impressed the panel with the way in which he has made safety a part of normal working practice rather than something 'imposed' from above, and Dr Hinke Multhaupt, Division of Biomedical Sciences, who was recognised for the very high scores she has achieved on her safety audits and in training programmes.

# A word with...

For this new feature *Reporter's Alex Platt* went to meet Dr Mike Hill, Royal Society Research Fellow and lecturer in inorganic chemistry who shared his experiences of life at the College.

**How long have you worked at the College?**  
"I've been here for three years."

**What's your job history?**

"I did my PhD in Bath and then completed my postdoc in North Dakota, which was a great experience for my family and me. I then spent 18 months working in industry and I'm proud to say that I helped invent the thin film that is added to Pilkington's self-cleaning glass to make it self-cleaning! My strengths have always been in invention, and when I felt that I'd brought all I could to that role, I returned to academia. I missed working in this sort of environment, where you make links with people all over the world who are working in your area of expertise, and really care about their subject. I'd missed the community aspect."



Chemist Dr Mike Hill thinks an interest in too many things is an occupational hazard

**What are you working on at the moment?**

"At the moment I'm working in areas that are not particularly well studied, which is very exciting. The team are working on developing chemistry from pure to applied science and often Imperial is one of the only places to have managed this. In particular, we're looking at making more active catalysts at the moment and I love this fundamental chemistry. My only problem is that I'm interested in too many things, but I think that's an occupational hazard for a chemist."

**What's next?**

"The freedom of being an academic is one of the best aspects of the job. You don't always know where you'll end up, but you always know you'll be doing something you feel passionate about. In the long term, I'd love to live in Australia, but unfortunately with a wife petrified of spiders, I guess we'll be staying closer to home for a while yet."

**Is this what you wanted to do when you were growing up?**

"No! I didn't ever know what I wanted to do and I stumbled into this really. I'm certainly not a career scientist. I guess I got on the science track for the first time at the age of 15 when I had to make the first decisions about my future. I think I could have just

have easily studied history, English literature or Latin."

**What's your favourite thing about working at Imperial?**

"The variety. I think that anyone calling themselves an academic should be able to carry out their research and be effective in teaching. Any students who come here really do deserve to do well, we work them very hard, and I think we owe that dedication back to them."

**What do you do to relax?**

"I enjoy watching movies, more often than not on DVD now we've had our children. I'm a big music fan and love to read a whole variety of things. Sometimes, I want to read about chemistry and others I just want something completely different."

**What's been your proudest moment?**

"It's nothing work-related, I'm afraid. My proudest moments are when I see my children being nice to people. My number one job is being a dad."

① If you would like to appear in this feature or know somebody we should have a word with contact the Editor Alex Platt at [a.platt@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:a.platt@imperial.ac.uk) or call 020 7594 6715.

## Flu pandemic

...continued from page one

of people getting ill in a pandemic could be halved if school closure was combined with using antiviral drugs, not just for treating cases, as is currently planned, but also to treat people in the same household as cases. The impact would be even greater if people in the same households as cases also voluntarily stayed at home. School closures on their own are predicted to have a minor impact on overall case numbers, but might slow the epidemic enough to reduce peak demand on healthcare resources by as much as 40 per cent.

It also shows that vaccines need to be available within two months of the start of a pandemic to have a big effect in reducing infection rates. With current manufacturing methods, this means vaccines would need to be stockpiled in advance. This could significantly reduce the numbers infected even if the vaccine was not perfectly matched to the virus that emerges. A vaccine stockpile sufficient to vaccinate 20 per cent of the population could reduce case numbers by a third if children were vaccinated within a few weeks of the start of a pandemic. Combining pre-vaccination with household prophylaxis could reduce case numbers by two thirds.

The supercomputer model simulated pandemic spread in Great Britain and the United States, using detailed data on population density and demographics, together with data on human travel patterns.

## Self-service SAMS points to paperless future

Caroline Gaulter Communications

SHUFFLING student papers from desk to desk, and between departments and the Registry is set to become a thing of the past with the introduction of new admissions IT system features this month.

SAMS (Student Administration Management System), introduced in summer 2004, already allows postgraduate applicants to apply online and all prospective students to seek answers to their admissions queries from a web-based FAQ service.

The new ability for staff to update admissions decisions directly on SAMS is part of a set of self-service improvements, which aim to speed up the admissions process and reduce the flow of paper around the College, from this summer.

"It means no more writing an application decision on a copy of the form," said Stephen Reid of Tanaka Business School and SAMS Project Director, "You can now just enter your decision directly on SAMS speeding up the application process even more."

Applicants to Imperial will also benefit through the ability to track the status of their application online.

For staff in academic departments, SAMS will give faster access to the central student database and ownership of the information it contains.

"The new self-service SAMS is a chance

to modernise student administration and provide a first-rate, efficient service to students and applicants, while significantly reducing the admin burden on all staff," said Vernon McClure, Academic Registrar.

He encouraged all admissions-facing staff to take up the offer of short (two-hour) training sessions, available on every campus, to learn more about the new system.

Further improvements to SAMS will arrive this summer. Continuing students will be able to register online and update their personal contact details directly, reducing the administrative burden for departments

and Registry. Once undergraduate examination results are known, they will be fed into SAMS from departmental databases and go automatically by email to students.

Stephen Reid applauded the work of all involved in introducing the new benefits: "This project is all about delivering a better service to students, admin staff and faculty academics; the project team deserve real praise for the hard work they have put in; it is really beginning to reap rewards".

① To find out more or to book a place on a SAMS training course, contact Lisa Elliott [lisa.elliott@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:lisa.elliott@imperial.ac.uk). For any general enquiries, please contact Linda Jones [l.jones@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:l.jones@imperial.ac.uk).



From left to right: Back row: Lorna Richardson, Lisa Elliott, Linda Jones, Stephen Reid. Front row: Julia Anderson, Sue Flockhart, Avril Blagbrough. The SAMS team



## Media mentions

Abigail Smith Communications

**From couch potato to fitness fanatic**

Topping up levels of a naturally occurring hormone found in the stomach could provide a safe and effective treatment for obesity, new research by Steve Bloom, Investigative Science, has found. The hormone oxyntomodulin limits appetite and at the same time increases physical activity. Professor Bloom foresees that people struggling with obesity would be able to inject themselves with top-ups of the hormone. "If people strip half-naked in the street, exposing themselves to the public to undertake this exercise called jogging then I can't see that they would have

a problem with taking this hormone," he says to *BBC News Online* (26.04.06).

**Creating sparks in EEE**

Students of electrical engineering are faced with a unique challenge, according to *The Independent* (27.04.06)—they can't see what they are working with. "One has to imagine an electron flowing," agrees Senior Lecturer Bikash Pal, Electrical and Electronic Engineering. "Rather than seeing, you're thinking. That makes electrical engineering unique. It's something between thinking and doing." For Imperial MEng student, Sohasini Sudtharalingam, this opportunity to match the theoretical and the practical is one of the main attractions of the course. "I like the problem-solving," she says.

**Computer models find new causes for Venutian craters**

Theories on how the surface features of Venus evolved may have to be rewritten thanks to new work carried out by Mike Warner and Timothy Bond, Earth Science and Engineering. Computer modelling by the pair has found that the generally accepted idea of massive but short-term volcanic activity 500 million years ago is not the only explanation for the fact that craters on the planet's surface are randomly distributed. Instead the researchers argue that there is a range of possible reasons, including a slow decline of volcanic activity. "We haven't shown that a very short event isn't possible, we've just shown that there are a much wider range of possibilities," Professor Warner tells

*BBC News Online* (16.03.06).

**Newton: master or magician?**

Although Isaac Newton is considered the father of modern science, his parallel interest in alchemy has been seen as slightly embarrassing by some scientists. Now, however, a group of chemists at Indiana University is reproducing some of his 'chymical' experiments to find out if they were simply a way to uncover the chemical laws of nature. Whether or not Newton is revealed to have been as innovative a chemist as he was a physicist, says Rob Iliffe of the Newton Project in *New Scientist* (08.04.06), these experiments are valuable because they give "a more detailed and subtle understanding of exactly where his brilliance and creativity lay."

## A day in the life of...

David Smith has been the Campus Manager for South Kensington for almost a year and is part of Imperial's Estates Division. David describes his job as having responsibility for: "All soft service contracts, which include cleaning, gardening, pest control, window cleaning, ground and pool staff and waste management. Pretty much all the things people take for granted about the way the campus is run!"

Reporter's Alex Platt went to meet him to find out about a typical day in his working life.

**8.00** David is at his desk by 8.00 after leaving his house in Newbury at 6.00. The first thing he does is check his emails. He explained: "I'm actually at my desk very little during the day so I have to use this time wisely! I usually have about 50 emails waiting in my inbox and I'll try and get through the most urgent ones at this point. It can be frustrating being out and about so much, but equally the diversity is one of the best aspects of my job. I am responsible for soft services across all the campuses and I enjoy being able to get out and about and see them all regularly."

**9.00-10.00** Meeting with ExtraCalm, Imperial's cleaning contractors. David said: "This is a meeting which takes place each morning in their offices. It's a chance for me to feed back any issues and work out resolutions to these and equally for them to raise anything they need to with me. Having these meetings can pre-empt problems and hopefully result in a better quality service."

**10.00-12.00** Monthly Campus Managers meeting. "This meeting is vital. Being in the same room as the other campus and building managers gives us a chance to update each other and discuss relevant issues face to face," David explains.

**13.00-14.00** After a quick sandwich at his



The diversity of his work is one of the best aspects of David Smith's job

desk David attends a Project Managers coordination meeting. He must be aware of how building projects on site will progress, as it is his job to ensure the smooth running of the campus services. He said: "Work from these meetings can vary hugely. I may be asked to close roads or work out how best to position cranes needed for building work."

**14.30** Site inspection with ExtraCalm management to check quality.

**15.00** Checking emails and returning calls.

**16.00** South Kensington site check. David said: "I use this time to walk around the campus. This job certainly keeps you fit! During my walk around I can be dealing with anything from finding out about unplanned skips to sorting rubbish disposed of in the wrong way. I'm also keen to check the recycling bins, which we have recently been distributing around the campus. These, in conjunction with a long term waste review I am working on, should go a long way in saving the College money. Literally making money out of our waste."

**17.00** David always tries to leave on time whenever possible. He explained: "I walk to Paddington station from the College which is enough time to clear my head of the day and this way I can be home in time to put my two year-old son to bed."

## Working towards good health

### College introduces tax free bike purchase scheme

Dougie Mason Occupational Health

FROM 15 May all staff will be able to buy a bike tax free, as long as it is used mainly for cycling to work. Basic rate tax payers will be able to save 33 per cent on high street prices. Higher rate tax payers will be able to save up to 41 per cent. Any safety equipment bought at the same time as a bike will also qualify for tax exemption.

The Cycle2Work scheme takes advantage of a change in tax laws to encourage people to keep fit and reduce car use for commuting. The scheme will be run in conjunction with Halfords and bikes can be bought at any of their stores, or from their website. They will also supply bikes made by other companies, if one from their range doesn't suit you.

Roadshows to promote the scheme will be held on 9 May in the Sheffield Building foyer, South Kensington Campus, from 11.00-15.00, in the Commonwealth Building, Hammersmith Campus, 10.00-12.30, and on 12 May in Reynolds Building, Charing Cross Campus, 14.00-16.00.



As summer approaches occupational health are offering staff the chance to get on their bikes

Go to [www.imperial.ac.uk/spectrum/oc-health](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/spectrum/oc-health) or email [d.mason@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:d.mason@imperial.ac.uk) for more details.

## Rewarding excellence – apply now

Carole Hobden Strategy and Planning

DEPUTY Rector, Professor Borysiewicz, has announced the establishment of a Research Excellence Awards scheme, which has been designed to reward some of the College's most outstanding research teams. The scheme will run annually, with awards being in the region of £150K.

He said: "These awards recognise the enormous contribution made to Imperial College by research teams, not just individuals. This scheme enables all participants in a project to be recognised by dint of exceptional achievement and allows us to showcase some of the outstanding research which

underpins our activities at Imperial."

Unlike a research project grant, the funding is intended for blue-skies research. It is hoped this will provide research teams with an opportunity to carry out research that may be more innovative in nature and which, without the award, may not have been possible.

The College is committed to recognising the achievements and potential of those involved in research. Research teams are recognised by this new awards scheme and outstanding individuals through the Rector's bonus scheme.

Around three research excellence awards, each of ~£150K, will be made in September and research teams are invited to apply now. Application forms and guidance notes are available from Sibe Mennema, [s.mennema@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:s.mennema@imperial.ac.uk), telephone 020 7594 1593. Forms should be returned to Sibe, via your Faculty, by Friday 30 June.

There will then be a two-stage selection process. The applications will first be considered by an internal College panel, which will decide a shortlist of six. The shortlist will be announced by Friday 21 July. During the second stage, an external panel, headed by the Rector, will determine the three winners. These will be announced by Friday 29 September.



Research teams invited to apply for research excellence awards now

## Change in College travel insurers

WITH effect from 1 April 2006, College staff or students travelling overseas on College business will be insured by AIG Lifeline Plus, policy number 10681853.

Claims for incidents occurring up to, and including, 31 March 2006 will be covered by the old ACE Europe Assistance policy.

Under the new policy accompanying partners and dependent children can now be insured without the requirement for addi-

tional premium contributions. Similarly, additional premiums will no longer be payable for personal vacation time taken in conjunction with College business travel, however such personal vacation time will be limited to seven consecutive days.

Visit [www3.imperial.ac.uk/portal/page?\\_pageid=948,4446781&\\_dad=portallive&\\_schema=PORTALLIVE](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/portal/page?_pageid=948,4446781&_dad=portallive&_schema=PORTALLIVE) for more information.



### Lectures and seminars

#### Inaugural lectures

**Monday 8 May 17.30**  
Professor Paolo Vincis, (Epidemiology)  
De Rothschild Lecture Theatre, St Mary's Campus

**Tuesday 9 May 18.30**  
Professor So Iwata (Molecular Biosciences)  
Clare Lecture Theatre

**Tuesday 16 May 18.30**  
Professor Robert MacCulloch (Tanaka Business School)  
Tanaka Lecture Theatre

**Wednesday 17 May 17.30**  
Professor Kenneth Long (Physics)  
Blackett Lecture Theatre 1

**Monday 22 May 18.30**  
Professor Azeem Majeed, (Primary Care and Social Medicine)  
Glenister Lecture Theatre, Charing Cross Campus

**Monday 15 May 18.00**  
2006 Athena Lecture  
*Rethinking Informed Consent*  
Dr Onora O'Neill, Newnham College, Cambridge, Lecture Theatre 220, Mechanical Engineering

**Tuesday 23 May 17.30**  
2006 GE Healthcare Lecture  
*Are we predisposed to being overweight?*  
Professor Jeff Friedman, Rockefeller

Events are at South Kensington Campus unless otherwise stated. Visit [www.imperial.ac.uk/events](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/events) for a full listing of events at Imperial. Email [events@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:events@imperial.ac.uk) to subscribe to the Events E-Bulletin.

University and Professor Steve O'Rahilly, University of Cambridge G16, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

**Wednesday 24 May 18.00**  
2006 Diversity Lecture  
*Are you being served? Winning fair treatment in education and at work for gay people in 21st century Britain*  
Ben Summerskill, Stonewall  
Lecture Theatre 220, Mechanical Engineering

### Art and music

**8-29 May**  
Painting exhibition of new work by Teresita Dennis, Mindy Lee and Claude Temin-Vergez  
*Between eyes and fingertips*  
Blyth Gallery, Level 5, Sheffield Building

### Obituary

Martin Blomley, Professor of Radiology in the Division of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, died on 11 April 2006.

### Noticeboard

#### New switchboard hours

Imperial's switchboard operators have been working extended hours since 1 March. The longer hours during which an operator service is available begin at 8.00, 45 minutes earlier than before. Operator hours are now 8.00 to 18.00 Monday to Friday.

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