



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

WINTER 2012|13

THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE + BILLET & GENERAL COUNCIL PAPERS

edit

PROFESSOR PETER HIGGS

ON BREAKTHROUGHS, THE BOSON
AND THE BEST OF EDINBURGH

TIDE OF INNOVATION

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ALSO INSIDE 300 YEARS OF CHEMISTRY, AND COUNTING | OUR ICONIC LIBRARY UNVEILED | CAREERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT



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FOREWORD

Welcome to the winter 2012/13 issue of *Edit*. It's always interesting to hear your stories about how your time at Edinburgh helped you stand out from the crowd, and in this edition we take the opportunity to introduce you to just a few of your fellow trailblazing academics and alumni. Professor Peter Higgs, whose 1964 theory led 48 years later to the discovery of the Higgs boson, is now a name known worldwide – but many of his passions remain close to home (p8). The unique marine testing facility due to open at King's Buildings in 2013 (p14) is another Edinburgh breakthrough with a debt to the past. Inside, we also celebrate the many milestones of the School of Chemistry (p22), take you on a tour of our revamped Main Library (p10), and highlight how our innovative online teaching programmes continue to break new ground for today's students (p26). Whether you're a recent graduate or studied at Edinburgh long ago, we'd love for you to share your stories and memories with us. With all best wishes for the holiday season.

Kirsty MacDonald
Director of Development and Alumni Engagement

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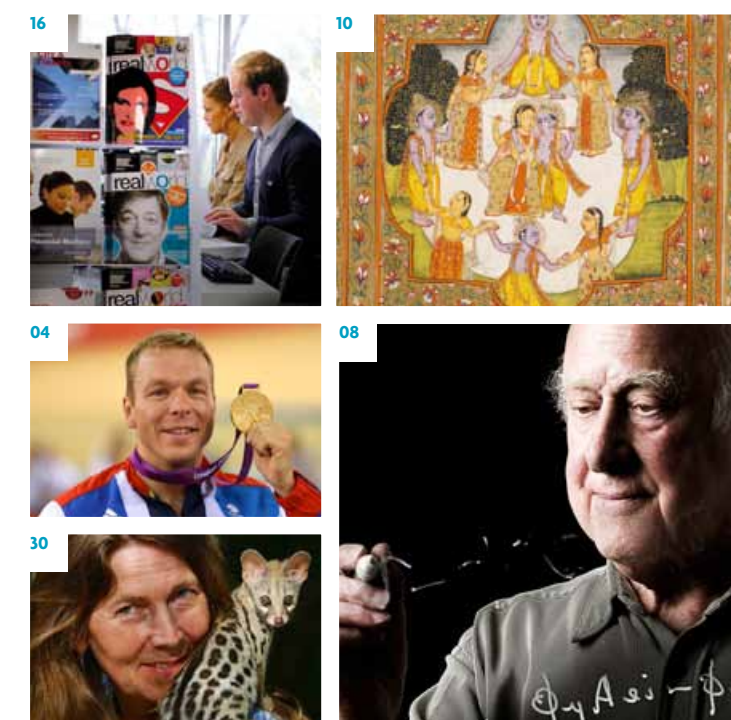
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UPDATE



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WWW.ED.AC.UK/NEWS



01 OLYMPIC HERO NAMED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

BRITAIN'S MOST SUCCESSFUL OLYMPIAN, SIR CHRIS HOY, HAS BEEN NAMED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR 2012.

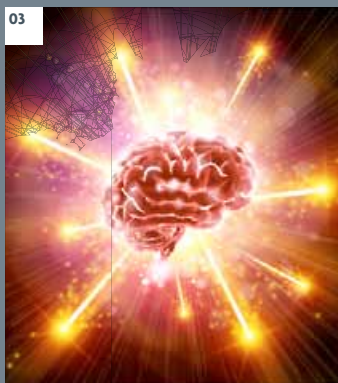
Sir Chris, who studied Applied Sport Science at Edinburgh and graduated in 1999, received the award in the autumn at a ceremony attended by 200 students, staff and invited guests. The accolade follows his success at London 2012, where he won two Olympic gold medals, in the team pursuit and men's keirin events.

Fellow graduate and Team GB member, rower Katherine Grainger, also achieved Games success, taking gold with teammate Anna Watkins in the double sculls. Ms Grainger's achievements were recently acknowledged by the University with an honorary degree, and the naming of a gym and scholarship in her honour.

University swim club member Michael Jamieson was another Edinburgh medal winner, taking silver in the 200m breaststroke. Also competing were Gemma Gibbons and Craig Benson, prior to matriculating as students at Edinburgh in September 2012. Ms Gibbons, who has deferred her place, became Britain's first medallist in Judo in 12 years, winning silver in the 78kg event, while Mr Benson reached the semi-finals of the 100m breaststroke.

At the 2012 Paralympic Games Craig Rodgie, a University swim team member, narrowly missed a place in the 200m freestyle final.

> TO WATCH SIR CHRIS TALKING ABOUT HIS EDINBURGH EXPERIENCE, VISIT WWW.ED.AC.UK/NEWS/ALL-NEWS/HOY-091012



02 CIRCUS NOVEL IS "BEST OF BEST"

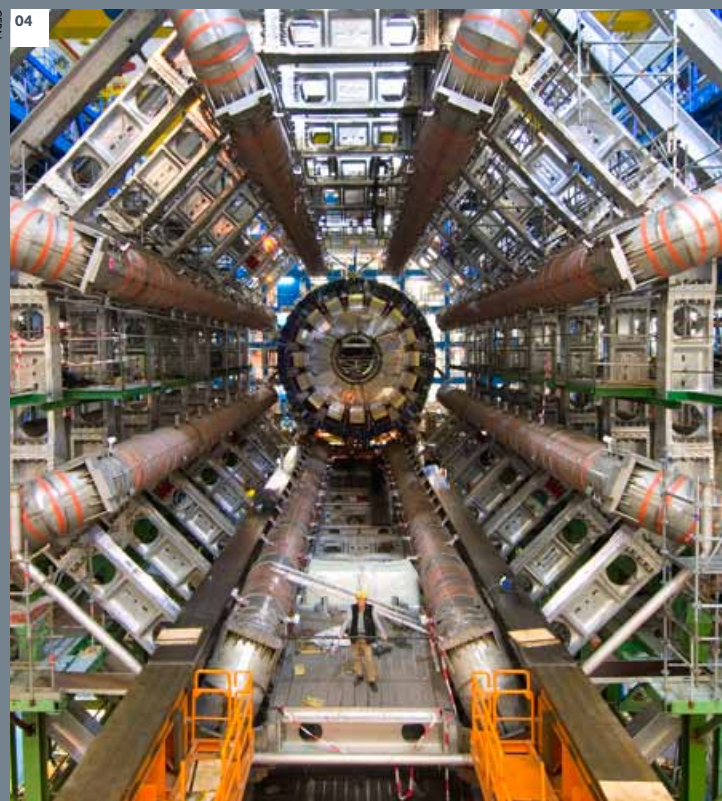
Angela Carter's *Nights at the Circus* has won the "Best of the James Tait Black" award.

The 1984 novel from the late English novelist and journalist was chosen from all the James Tait Black fiction winners since the prizes were established at the University in 1919.

The one-off "best of" award is part of celebrations to mark 250 years of the study of English Literature at Edinburgh. The winner was selected by a distinguished judging panel including Edinburgh alumni broadcaster Kirsty Wark and authors Alan Warner and Dame Stella Rimington.

The James Tait Black Prizes have been extended to include a third category: drama. The prize for the best original new play written in English, Scots or Gaelic will be announced in August.

> FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT WWW.ED.AC.UK/NEWS/EVENTS/TAIT-BLACK



04 PHYSICS CENTRE TO SEARCH FOR ANSWERS

FOLLOWING THE DISCOVERY AT CERN OF A PARTICLE BELIEVED TO BE THE HIGGS BOSON, A NEW UNIVERSITY CENTRE TO SUPPORT RESEARCH INTO THEORETICAL PHYSICS IS BEING ESTABLISHED.

The Higgs Centre for Theoretical Physics will bring together scientists from around the world to advance research into the fundamental nature of the universe. Its name honours the work of Professor Peter Higgs that led to recent efforts at CERN's Large Hadron Collider (above) to prove the existence of the boson.

The University will also establish a Chair in the name of Professor Higgs, and has committed an initial £750,000 for new academic staff, PhD studentships and a programme of international visitors and workshops at the Centre, which will be based within refurbished space at the James Clerk Maxwell Building at King's Buildings.

Professor Arthur Trew, Head of the School of Physics and Astronomy, says: "The next five years will be a decisive time for the future of theoretical physics. This will be the golden age for theoretical physics, and we must not miss it."

Turn to page 8 for our interview with Professor Higgs.

> TO WATCH PETER HIGGS DISCUSSING THE HIGGS BOSON, VISIT WWW.ED.AC.UK/NEWS/ALL-NEWS/HIGGS-060712

03 EXERCISE "KEEPS BRAIN HEALTHY"

People who exercise later in life may better protect their brain from age-related changes than those who do not, an Edinburgh study suggests.

Experts found that people over 70 who took regular exercise showed less brain shrinkage over a three-year period than those who did little exercise. Greater brain shrinkage is linked to problems with memory and thinking.

Dr Alan Gow of the University's Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology led the research. He says: "We're excited by the next stages of this research as we seek to understand more about what might underlie the effect, but in the meantime, increasing physical activity – even a short walk each day – can only be encouraged."

The Edinburgh team used MRI scans to measure the volume of brain tissue and the volume and health of the brain's white matter in almost 700 people.

RECORD BOOST IN STUDENT BURSARIES

A record number of students is benefiting from bursaries provided by the University after it tripled funding for the awards.

More than £2.5 million has been given to undergraduates from low-income families in the 2012/13 session – an increase of £1.7 million on the previous year.

The funding will help more than 1,000 students, including new students from England, Wales and Northern Ireland who are liable for annual tuition fees of £9,000.

Around 350 students will receive an Edinburgh RUK (Rest of UK) award, which provides the most generous bursary support of any UK university.

Awards ranging from £500 to £7,000 per year have been given to students who have a family income of less than £16,000.



05 HONORARY DEGREE FOR FOOTBALL STAR

Pelé, considered by many to be the greatest footballer of all time, has received an honorary degree from the University.

The degree was presented at a special reception honouring sporting success, held at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, in the summer.

The former striker was recognised for his contribution to humanitarian and environmental causes, as well as his sporting achievements, which include being part of the Brazil team that won the World Cup three times.

The award comes ahead of the planned opening of a University of Edinburgh Office of the Americas. To be based in São Paulo, Brazil, the office will streamline communication between the University and regional partners in education, business and government.

WARNING OVER FACEBOOK "STRESS"

Widening your contacts on the social networking site Facebook can cause stress, a report by the University of Edinburgh's Business School has found.

Adding employers or parents as online "friends" resulted in the greatest increase in stress, according to the research. Anxiety can arise when posts display the user doing something reckless or unhealthy – behaviour that may be unacceptable to some of their contacts.

The expectations of older people using the website may be very different from those of younger users, says Ben Marder, co-author of the report and Early Career Fellow in Marketing at the Business School.

"Facebook used to be like a great party for all your friends where you can dance, drink and flirt," he says. "But now with your mum, dad and boss there, the party becomes an anxious event full of potential social landmines."

UPDATE



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British Veterinary Association



Gareth Easton



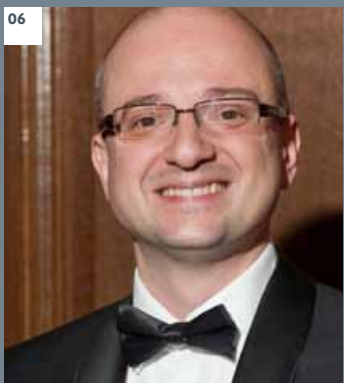
03



04



Simon Prince



Douglas Robertson

05 HIP-HOP SHOW HAS THE MOVES

Kate Prince is the creative talent behind a dance company and West End musical nominated for a prestigious Laurence Olivier Award in the category of Best New Dance Production.

Ms Prince (MA General Arts, 1997) is Artistic Director of ZooNation dance company whose show *Some Like it Hip-Hop*, a tale of love, mistaken identity and cross-dressing, was hailed by critics during its first run in 2011 and revival in autumn 2012. Andrew Lloyd Webber describes the show as "light years ahead of anything else in the West End".

Ms Prince was the show's director, writer, choreographer and lyricist. She has also choreographed for the BBC's *So You Think You Can Dance*, the film *Streetdance 3* and the Beijing Olympic and Paralympic Games handover ceremonies.

01 PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH EXPERT

EDINBURGH HONORARY PROFESSOR BRIAN PERRY HAS WON THE 2012 TREVOR BLACKBURN AWARD IN RECOGNITION OF HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE.

Professor Perry (BVMS 1969, MSc 1975) is an international consultant specialising in livestock health and broader agricultural development issues in countries of the developing world.

For 20 years he led multidisciplinary programmes at the International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi. He is a Visiting Professor at the University of Oxford, an Honorary Professor at the University of Pretoria, South Africa, and a prolific author of scientific books.

The award honours Professor Perry's personal commitment to poverty alleviation by tackling diseases of global significance. In accepting the accolade, he thanked the British Veterinary Association, which made the award, for its "recognition of British veterinary contributions to sustainable and inclusive economic development in emergent nations of the world."

> FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.ED.AC.UK/SCHOOLS-DEPARTMENTS/VET/STUDYING/CAREERS/BRIAN-PERRY

02 MUSIC LEADER HITS HIGH NOTE

Dee Isaacs, a lecturer in Music at Edinburgh College of Art, has been jointly awarded the Principal's Medal for Service to the Community.

The medal is awarded to staff or students who make a significant contribution to the wider community outside the University.

Ms Isaacs (BMus Hons, 1993) is the lead academic on the undergraduate course Music in the Community, which offers its students the opportunity to take part in outreach work through their music. She also works throughout Scotland and internationally as a composer, performer and lecturer.

Her work in Scotland has involved projects in the areas of mental and physical disability, and educational support through music for children and parents in deprived communities.

> FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.ED.AC.UK/NEWS/2012-MEDAL-WINNERS

03 FROM THE CLASSROOM TO THE CATWALK

Scottish fashion designer Graeme Black's designs recently graced the runway at Beijing's China Fashion Week.

Mr Black (BA Design & Applied Arts – Fashion, Edinburgh College of Art, 1989) is Creative Director at Chinese luxury cashmere label Erdos 1436.

In 2012 he oversaw a high-fashion catwalk segment of the Miss World competition in Ordos, Inner Mongolia.

Originally from Carnoustie, Mr Black has worked for and collaborated with internationally renowned designers, including John Galiano, Zandra Rhodes, Hugo Boss and Giorgio Armani.

In 2005 he launched his own label, Graeme Black, and his pieces have been worn by a number of high-profile stars, from supermodels to Queen Rania of Jordan.

04 SETTING THE AGENDA ON BIODIVERSITY

BRAZIL'S DR BRAULIO FERREIRA DE SOUZA DIAS HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO THE UNITED NATIONS AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY.

His appointment coincides with the beginning of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, an initiative that aims to highlight the value of global biodiversity.

Speaking at the recent Convention on Biological Diversity held in Hyderabad, India, Dr Dias (PhD Zoology, 1981) encouraged members to adopt and champion global targets.

"Biodiversity should not be perceived only as a problem, but rather, for what it really is: a crucial asset which underpins sustainable development and is closely linked to many social and economic issues," he said.

Prior to this appointment, Dr Dias occupied a number of pivotal positions both in the Brazilian Federal Government, as Secretary of Biodiversity and Forests at the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment, and in a global capacity, as Vice-President of the International Union of Biological Sciences.

05 SURGICAL START-UP SCOOPS PRIZE

Start-up company EoSurgical has won top UK honours at the Santander Universities Entrepreneurship Awards.

Founded by Neurosurgical Registrar Dr Paul Brennan (BSc Experimental Pathology, 2000) and PhD student and trainee surgeon Roland Partridge, the company designs and manufactures training tools for surgeons to improve their operative skills.

It saw off competition from around 60 university start-ups to win the £20,000 postgraduate prize. It also won the Scottish Institute for Enterprise New Ventures Competition and was placed second in the University's Innovation Cup.

EoSurgical has been supported by LAUNCH.ed, the University's free support service for entrepreneurs.

> FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.LAUNCH.ED.AC.UK

06 TOP ACCOLADE FOR ACADEMIC

Professor Igor Rudan has won the 2012 Chancellor's Award for Research.

Professor Rudan (PhD Genetic Epidemiology, 2005), Chair in International Health and Molecular Medicine in the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine, was recognised for the contributions he has made to research in the fields of genetic epidemiology, international health and protein glycosylation.

Presented by the University's Chancellor, HRH The Princess Royal, the annual awards recognise excellence and innovation in teaching and research.



To share your experiences about where your degree took you, email us at alumni@ed.ac.uk or follow us on Twitter at [@edinburghalumni](https://twitter.com/edinburghalumni)

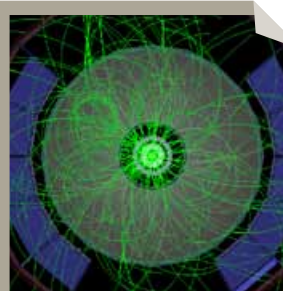
THE INTERVIEW

"IT WAS WORTH THE WAIT"

The discovery of the Higgs boson captured public interest worldwide, but the theory underpinning its existence was devised much closer to home – and nearly 50 years ago. Professor Peter Higgs tells *Cate MacKenzie* how the story unfolded.



CERN / Claudia Marceloni



THE HIGGS BOSON STORY... SO FAR

The Higgs boson is the signature particle for the mechanism that physicists believe confers mass on other elementary particles in the Standard Model.

1964: Professor Higgs' paper 'Broken Symmetries and the Masses of Gauge Bosons' shows how the symmetry of the electroweak interaction might be broken to give the W and Z bosons their masses.

1970s–1990s: Several elementary particles are found by experiment. The Standard Model gains ever-greater acceptance as experimental results match its predictions.

2000s: The first proton beams are smashed together by CERN's LHC.

2012: Both of CERN's Higgs-hunting experiments discover a new particle consistent with the Higgs boson.

Future: Scientists will continue to explore whether the Higgs boson behaves as predicted and whether there are several or just one.



For more information, visit www.ph.ed.ac.uk/higgs

Q When did you first come to Edinburgh, and what did you think of the city?

A I hitchhiked here with an old friend from my school days in the summer of 1949 when I was still an undergraduate. The intention was not to stay; we were just finding a place for the night and going on to explore some of the western highlands. We arrived after it had got dark; the city was all illuminated for the Festival and I sort of fell for Edinburgh at that point.

Q When did you return, and why?

A That trip got me certainly interested in Edinburgh. In 1953, a year before I finished my PhD at King's College London, Nicholas Kemmer, who was the most obvious person in the country for me to want to work with in particle physics, moved from Cambridge to Edinburgh to be the Tait Professor of Natural Philosophy (in succession to Max Born) and that gave me the excuse for coming, for both personal and professional reasons. I came for two years as a post-doc, from '54 to '56, had four years back in London and then landed a lectureship in mathematical physics here. I've been here ever since.

Q So Edinburgh got under your skin then?

A That first impression in '49 was a visual one, but what got me more hooked on Edinburgh was that I realised what I'd been missing as a student in central London – the social life was just not up to the standard of the University of Edinburgh. So I got to like living here – even back then in '54, when it was long before Edinburgh had developed in terms of the amount of music and theatre and restaurants and so on that it has now.

Q And what about the people you mixed with?

A When I was a post-doc, my social life was centred round a student society called the Cosmopolitan Club. I got to know a lot of people, students and others, from lots of different countries. It was a period in which the British Empire was being broken up – colonies were becoming independent, and these were students from all the emerging countries and it was a very interesting time. When I was on the University staff, the University Staff Club formed the centre of my social life. The atmosphere of the theoretical physics group also suited me well. It wasn't as intense, perhaps, as London, and Nick Kemmer had,

shall we say, a rather laissez faire attitude to what people got interested in. I was able to go my own way, and I liked that.

Q Having that freedom led you to propose a theory that wasn't initially embraced by some – did you ever feel like you'd gone out on a limb?

A In 1964, I suppose I was sticking my neck out in the sense that I was doing a kind of theoretical work that had become unfashionable. The kind of theory that I was involved in was imported into elementary particle physics from a different field, condensed matter physics, which most people in theoretical particle physics thought was not particularly relevant. It took considerable time and the work of a lot of other people to convince even the theoretical physics community that this was the right kind of theory to use. But my belief that it would eventually be found was because it was extremely difficult to understand why the rest of the theory could be so successful without that being part of it.

Q Were your arguments developed over time or did you have a 'Eureka' moment?

A It's really not very exciting! It was something that I became aware of over a weekend. I was at home or out and about, I don't know, and it was just putting together two things I already knew which I hadn't realised should be related.

Q Technology then had to advance substantially before equipment sophisticated enough to confirm the Higgs boson's existence could be constructed. Was it worth the wait?

A It's very pleasing to have it happen but it was obviously a long-term thing. It's a bit different from most theoretical work where people are doing calculations and testing them against experiments that are going on at the same time. It wasn't perhaps until the mid '70s, 10 years after my own work, that it became something which experimentalists were told they should look out for, not as a primary objective of their work but as something they should try not to miss. But at that stage it was very hard to see the timescale for designing and building machines that would look for it. I couldn't expect it to happen for considerable time.

Q So have CERN's latest results effectively closed the book on the Higgs boson? If not, what's the next chapter?

A It looks like the end of one story, which goes under the name of the Standard Model of particle physics. But you look at the Standard Model, which is very successful in describing a whole range of evidence about elementary particles, and there are things that it doesn't explain. There's much further to go and various speculative theories, which have evolved through the '70s and '80s, need to be tested, and a whole lot of interesting phenomena need to be explained – so the machine at CERN has a lot of work still to do and the programme stretches on until 2030 or so.

Q What do you hope the University's Higgs Centre for Theoretical Physics will achieve?

A I hope it will bring a kind of breadth of theoretical physics into the future of the School of Physics and Astronomy. From my personal experience I think it's a good thing for people working in a particular sub-field of theoretical physics to be aware of what's going on in other areas.

Q You've received countless accolades and have inspired others the world over, but does the wider 'Higgsteria' surrounding the particle's discovery surprise you?

[Students often queue for autographs, a Dutch couple recently christened their yacht *Higgs* and a Spanish brewer has created Higgs Boson Ale...]
A I'm certainly surprised that it seems to have caught the public's imagination so much. I didn't expect that. Students usually ask if I will sign something for them and for a photograph to be taken with them. It happens on the streets of Edinburgh too. It's a bit odd, yes – and it's certainly a contrast with how I was viewed in the University in the '60s! ■

We arrived after it had got dark; the city was all illuminated for the Festival and I sort of fell for Edinburgh at that point.

PETER HIGGS
EMERITUS PROFESSOR



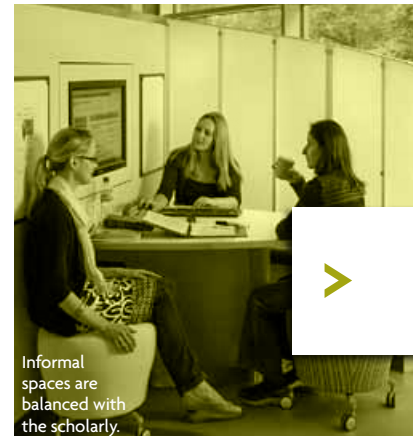
In collaboration with the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE), the School of Physics and Astronomy is celebrating the story of the Higgs boson with a unique exhibition. 'From Maxwell to Higgs' is currently on display at the RSE and it is hoped that an expanded version will be installed at King's Buildings in 2013. For details, visit www.rse.org.uk



Brighter, more accessible space has been created.



The main entrance today and (right) in the 1960s.



Informal spaces are balanced with the scholarly.



In 2013, redevelopment work on the University's Main Library will be completed, transforming a 1960s icon into a sophisticated centre of learning for Edinburgh's students, academics – and alumni. *Chris Small reports.*

Three things strike you when you enter the University's Main Library: its airy, open layout, the buzz created by so many students studying and socialising in one space – and a powerful sense of renewal.

The library is nearing the end of a five-year process of transformation, updating what had become a cramped and – for its staff – logistically challenging space into a 21st-century intellectual hub dedicated to teaching, learning and research.

Designed by the Sir Basil Spence architectural partnership as a Brutalist cube, the Main Library opened

its doors to students in 1967. Forty years later, it was time to reconsider its purpose at the heart of the campus.

"We had to take it back to its original concept of being a wide, open space with clear views out to Edinburgh landmarks, and where everyone was learning, interacting and socialising," says Dr John Scally, Director of Library and Collections.

A fundamental issue Dr Scally and his colleagues had to wrestle with from the outset was whether, in the digital age, students still wanted to gather in one place to meet and study.

"We found that they did, but what we've done is stretch the definition of what a library was in the 1960s or even the 1860s," he says. "We've turned it into a space which is fully networked, fully wireless, with multiple types of study spaces."

The new library reflects an evolution in the way students work, its layout accommodating a mix of what Dr Scally describes as "monastic and social learning".

The redevelopment did not shy away from radical thinking. At one point during planning, the idea of dispensing with the word "library" in favour of "Information Commons" was even

considered. "There are some words in civil society that can transcend any kind of change and 'library' is one of them," says Dr Scally. "What you find with 'library' is that it's a beautifully elastic and accommodating word."

That sense of flexibility informs every floor, even extending to the smaller scale details, such as the way the seats and desks are organised. "We follow the needs of students, so wherever we see them coalescing we'll put chairs and desks down," says Dr Scally. "We try to keep it as adaptable as possible."

Resulting in a brighter, more accessible space easily balancing the informal (a busy cafe next to the entrance) with the scholarly (a 250-seat quiet study area on the fifth floor), the redevelopment has been met with an upsurge in student use. "By any indicator, it's a success," says Dr Scally. "In 2008 there were around 900,000 students going through the turnstiles every

year. Now we're a few thousand short of two million. We have 2,200 study spaces and at many times during the semester we're full. In fact, we may have eight to 10 per cent of the whole student body in the library at any one time."

The High Use Book (HUB) Collection, which allows students to quickly obtain any book on their reading list, and gives students and staff easy access to highly used books and DVDs, is a popular innovation.

"The HUB basically soaks up 52 per cent of the physical circulation of the books – that's really important and was demand-led by the students," explains Dr Scally. "It helps orient students academically very quickly, allowing them to set their core reading under way with little hassle."

DRIVING FORCE

The revamp has also boosted the profile and facilities of the University Collections, which promotes access

to a unique mine of rare books and manuscripts. The Collections, which began in the 1580s, include an original quarto of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and a phial of the mould used to make penicillin – gifted by its creator Alexander Fleming, a former Edinburgh rector.

Arnott Wilson, Head of Special Collections and University Archivist, credits alumni as a driving force behind the accumulation of such a rich archive.

"A lot of the depth and range of what we have is to do with our alumni and their travels around the world," he says. "The great body of people who are in the student record go on to make very valid contributions worldwide, largely unsung. But the personal link [with the University] continues. One very important way that Collections have accumulated is through alumni bringing things back to their alma mater."

Many alumni may not be aware that they have full reading rights at the library. Dr Scally hopes that more graduates will take the opportunity to visit and read, and believes that there is a powerful connection between students' experiences of the library and their affection for the University in later life.

"I think the library is a kind of emotional reference point for alumni," he says. "We see it as one of the places where the positive experience of being a student at Edinburgh is rooted. In some senses the library is part of that memory of success and fulfilment that you can have after you've been to University and are reflecting back on your time there. I remember the library at my university as an enabling place. So we hope that our alumni will feel that warmth towards their library. We offer them the library throughout their careers – and throughout their lives."

In 2008 there were around 900,000 students going through the turnstiles every year. Now we're a few thousand short of two million. We have 2,200 study spaces.

DR JOHN SCALLY
DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY
AND COLLECTIONS



THE NEXT CHAPTER



The Noreen and Kenneth Murray Library. Below: the Main Library's Centre for Research Collections.



NEW AND IMPROVED

Library improvements are not just confined to George Square – New College and Kings' Buildings have also been transformed by redevelopment programmes at the University.

In 2005, the Reverend Robert Funk, an American who studied at Edinburgh in the early 1960s, made a \$1 million donation aimed at improving facilities for the University Collections at New College Library over a 10-year period.

Professor David Fergusson, New College Principal, says the money went towards improving security and conservation, and helped to create a reading room and several online catalogues. "It has resulted in much better visibility and easier access to materials, so scholars around the world are making much more use of the resource," he explains.

One of the UK's largest theology libraries, with more than 250,000 items, New College Library now also boasts improved lighting and flooring.

The King's Buildings campus is also a focus for redevelopment work, with the new Noreen and Kenneth Murray Library opening its doors in 2012.

Donations from more than 250 alumni and staff helped fund the £8.75 million library, which houses the University's book collections in biology, chemistry, engineering, geosciences, mathematics, physics and statistics.

Named in recognition of Edinburgh molecular biologists Professor Sir Kenneth Murray and his late wife Noreen, the building comprises informal and private study spaces across four floors, and a cafe, two-storey atrium and balcony. It is part of a wider revamp aimed at enhancing students' intellectual and social life at King's Buildings.

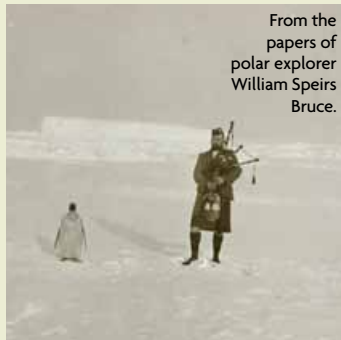
For more information about the Noreen and Kenneth Murray Library, visit www.edinburgh350.com



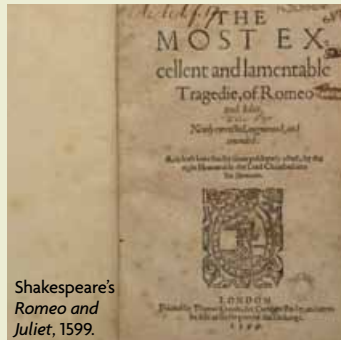
Students are making much more use of the resources at the revamped New College Library.



Shawl design (artist unknown) from a rare book.



From the papers of polar explorer William Speirs Bruce.



Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, 1599.



From the *Book of Hours*, c1430, reputedly Scotland's most beautiful book.

JEWELS IN THE CROWN

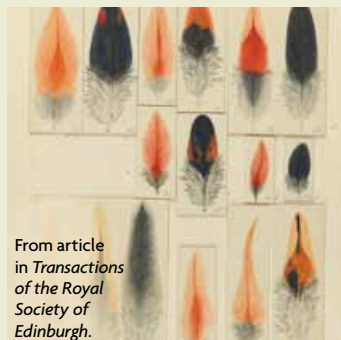
The University Collections contains a wealth of historical items in multiple formats. Acquired through gift, deposit or purchase, they encompass virtually every aspect of human endeavour over the past 600 years.

The Collections bring particular benefits to students and staff, who can view and discuss materials. The revamped Centre for Research Collections has seminar rooms for practice-based teaching, focusing on manuscripts and objects, alongside its high-quality Digital Imaging Unit.

Among its store of 480,000 rare books are around 300 incunabula

(books produced before 1501), and the only copy in Scotland of the first book printed in Gaelic, John Knox's *Liturgy of 1567*. Other items include a single leaf from the final draft of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*, a 230-foot long silk Mahabharata (Hindu epic) and papers belonging to the 19th-century Scots folklorist Alexander Carmichael.

A large portion of the archive is devoted to the University's life: dating to the 1580s, the first Laureation Album records the degrees awarded to the earliest class of Edinburgh students.



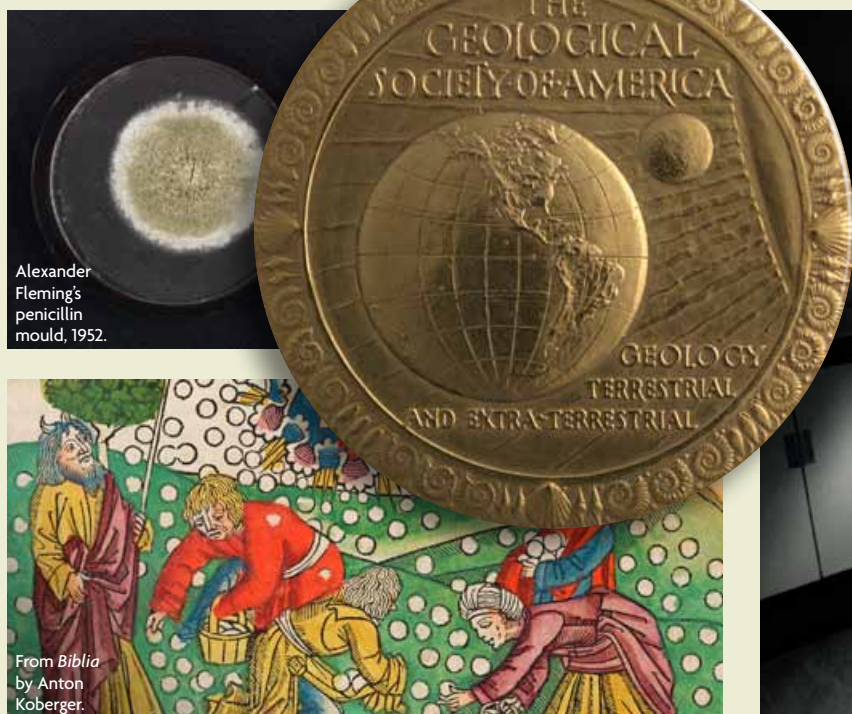
From article in *Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh*.



Image of Irelande by John Derrick.

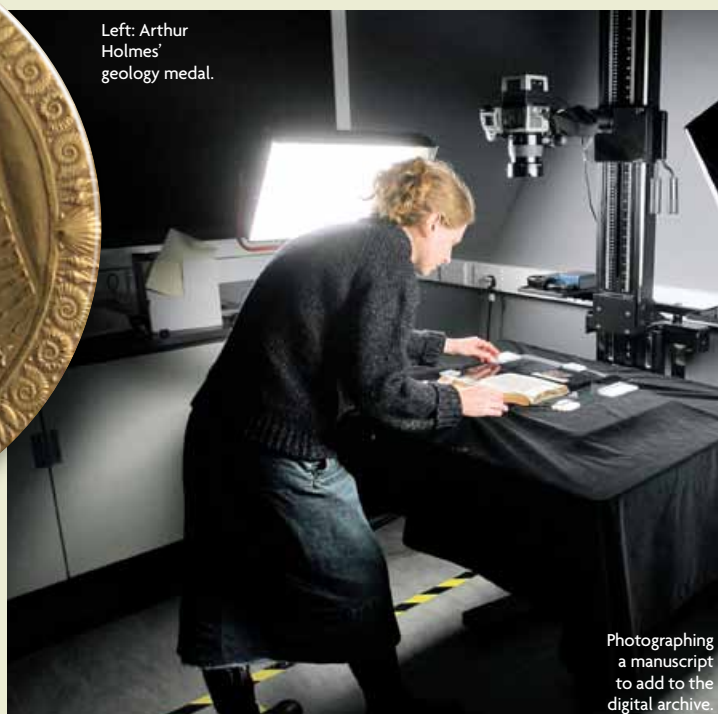


Mahabharata (Hindu epic) from 1852.



Alexander Fleming's penicillin mould, 1928.

From *Biblia* by Anton Koburger.



Left: Arthur Holmes' geology medal.

Photographing a manuscript to add to the digital archive.

TIDE OF INNOVATION

Edinburgh has been a leader in marine energy research for more than 40 years – and now a unique facility at the University's King's Buildings campus promises to make the city the worldwide centre for testing and technological development.

By Gareth Overton

To call what is being built by engineers at the University's King's Buildings campus "the new wave tank" is to miss the point. It's about more than just waves.

And while the full title might be a bit of a mouthful, the All-Waters Combined Current and Wave Test Facility has that what-it-says-on-the-tin quality.

"It's actually a sea simulator," explains Stuart Brown, Chief Executive of FloWave TT, a University subsidiary company that will run the facility when it opens in summer. "There are no other test tanks on the planet like this."

Those words "combined current and wave" spell out the uniqueness of what is being created: the world's first large test tank to combine the production of waves – ripples on the surface, whipped up in the oceans by the wind – with a flow of current, the movement of the whole body of water, most commonly caused by tides.

"You can create a realistic seascape, a complex multidirectional wave state,

far more accurately than can be achieved in any other kind of tank," says Mr Brown.

The FloWave tank will be "a world-class facility that will bring benefit to UK science and help push forward renewable energy technologies", according to the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, which has jointly funded the project's £9.5 million construction costs with the University.

As well as helping researchers at the College of Science & Engineering's Institute for Energy Systems stay at the forefront of marine energy research, the tank will also be where commercial developers of equipment and projects bring large-scale models to test.

And with the support of the University's commercialisation office, Edinburgh Research and Innovation (ERI), the project's potential is already attracting interest beyond marine power, in sectors including rough-sea platform access and seabed cable inspection. As a not-for-profit company,

FloWave TT will re-invest any surpluses, and is also mandated to fund academic research.

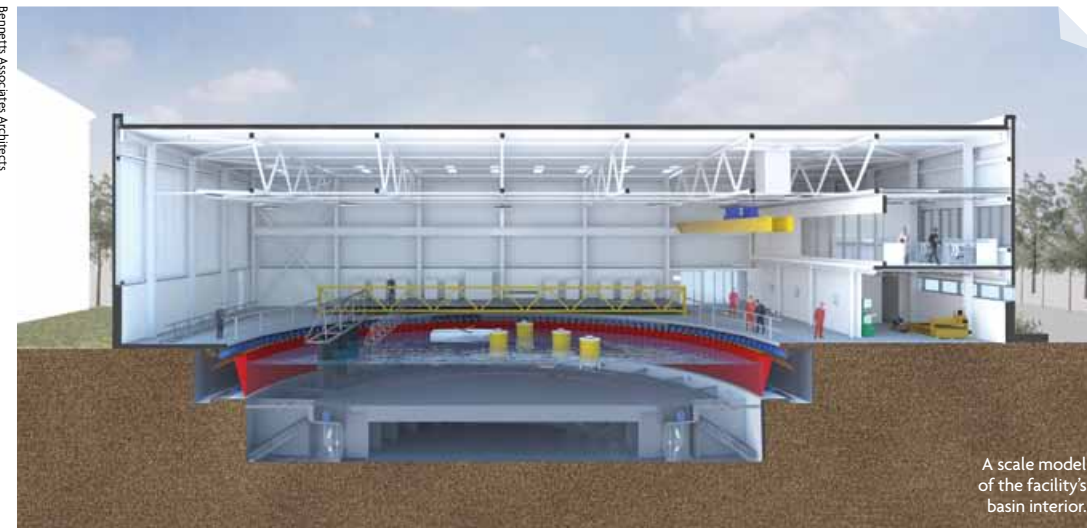
The facility's circular shape is key to its "next generation" capabilities, explains Mr Brown. The 28 giant propellers that produce the tidal current and the 168 paddles that make the waves are arranged symmetrically around the pool.

"We can add waves from any direction just by changing the control algorithms, without having to move the model or the instrumentation," he says.

The tank can simulate the complex changing currents found in locations that hold the world's greatest marine energy potential. "The tide never goes out in directly the opposite direction to which it came in, because when it goes out the moon has moved a bit further round the earth," Mr Brown continues.

And size matters. Complementing the School of Engineering's existing "Curved Tank", the new facility will enable larger prototype devices to be tested, and provide new scope to

Bennetts Associates Architects



A scale model of the facility's basin interior.

test "arrays" or "farms" of generators, as well as single devices.

WINNING COMBINATION

Edinburgh has always been a world leader in marine power. Indeed the field was founded at the University through the work in the 1970s of Stephen Salter, who is now Emeritus Professor of Engineering Design and in 2012 won the Royal Academy of Engineering's Sustained Achievement Award.

The Edinburgh Duck, also known as "Salter's Duck" – a device designed to bob on the surface of the sea – famously achieved unheard-of efficiencies when converting the energy of waves into electricity. Professor Salter's work has directly informed today's marine power devices and their designers.

Take the Leith-based company Pelamis. It is the first firm to have built a commercial wave farm, having installed in 2008 an array of its giant "sea snake" devices off the coast of Portugal, feeding electricity generated by waves into the Portuguese national grid. It is currently working with utility companies on tests in Orkney.

Pelamis's founder and Director, and the inventor of its distinctive

floating serpents, Dr Richard Yemm, is a double Edinburgh graduate and was supervised by Professor Salter during his PhD. Dr Yemm was awarded the 2012 Saltire Prize Medal by the Scottish Government for his contribution to the development of marine power. (The 2011 inaugural Saltire Prize Medal went to Professor Salter himself.)

Other leading companies whose roots lie firmly at the University include spin-outs Edinburgh Designers, the global specialists in wave-making equipment for test facilities (including the FloWave tank), and Artemis Intelligent Power, which is developing the "hydraulic transmission" at the heart of the Edinburgh Duck for use in giant offshore wind turbines and other applications. "I'm very proud of what Pelamis, Edinburgh Designers and Artemis are doing," Professor Salter says. "People who came to me almost as school-leavers are now running big industries. That's a good feeling."

FloWave TT's Stuart Brown is equally inspired: "It's not just the unique capability that's here – and as far as test tanks are concerned, this is the Hubble Space Telescope – but it's also the expertise that resides in the research, the academics and the University as a whole. Combine those things together and this is a winner."

As far as test tanks are concerned, this is the Hubble Space Telescope – but it's also the expertise that resides in the research, the academics and the University as a whole. Combine those things together and this is a winner.

STUART BROWN
FLOWAVE TT CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Take a virtual tour of the FloWave tank at www.flowavett.co.uk/the-facility/virtual-tour



If you would like to share how your University experience linked you to industry, email alumni@ed.ac.uk or connect with us on LinkedIn at www.tinyurl.com/edalumni



FORGING LINKS WITH INDUSTRY

Dr Tom Davey's career epitomises the benefits of strong links between the University of Edinburgh and industry.

Dr Davey first took advantage of those ties while undertaking his mechanical engineering degree and coastal engineering PhD at Edinburgh. During his studies, he was introduced to the "business side of engineering, as opposed to the pure technical side" and given the freedom to steer his research towards what was most useful in the commercial field.

"It's about knowing how to speak to industry effectively, knowing the right organisations, not living in an academic bubble," he says. "You go to these companies that do this work, and that steers your research."

Building on this collaboration, Dr Davey subsequently worked as a research fellow for European consortium Equimar developing protocols for the marine power sector, before taking up his current role as Technology Transfer Manager (Marine) at the Energy Technology Partnership (ETP). Today he is forging relationships between external commercial organisations and FloWave TT.

"Industry is coming to us, and we're going to industry," he says.

NEW HORIZONS

Today's employment market is tough, but the University's Careers Service is helping to give graduate job seekers a head start. *By Rob Tomlinson*



Advice and assistance is at hand.

There's no getting away from it – times are still hard. And when you're a student thinking about life after university, or a recent graduate looking to get on to the career ladder, taking that next step can seem daunting.

But for Edinburgh job seekers like Adam Duchateau the future is looking bright, thanks to the advice and assistance on hand at the University's innovative Careers Service.

Mr Duchateau is in his final year studying for an MA in History and hopes to graduate in summer. He wants to pursue a career in commercial law and describes the application process just to get on the so-called "winter vacation schemes" run by some law firms as "rigorous".

"It's very competitive but the staff at the Careers Service have been really helpful," he says. "There are lots of books and guides about the relevant firms and I've had a lot of assistance with tailoring my applications. It's really quite time consuming and I only wish I'd sought their assistance sooner."

Mr Duchateau is just one of many Edinburgh students who can look forward with some confidence to securing employment in their chosen field, and the statistics bear out the reasons for this optimism: six months after graduation, only six per cent of Edinburgh graduates are seeking employment compared with nine per cent nationally, and two-thirds already have graduate-level employment compared with 50 per cent nationally.



Careers Fairs have proved popular.

In terms of its track record on employability, the University stands third in the Russell Group of the UK's 24 leading universities, and it's clear that employers value Edinburgh students: recent figures show that nearly 240 organisations attended four careers fairs over a 12-month period, with a further 57 doing on-campus presentations.

Taking the opportunity to "talk to everyone" she could at a careers fair at Potterrow helped Li-San Chan (BSc, 2004) to gain valuable insight into the graduate employment market. "I'd advise everyone to visit the careers fairs," she enthuses. "Even if you already know what your next step is, it's the best way to understand a profession and company. Different companies have very different cultures and the deciding factor for me when choosing between job offers has always been the people."

Coupled with these on-campus events are the biannual virtual

careers fairs that allow students and employers from around the world to chat live online. The 2012 events covered North America and Greater China, and attracted a range of multinational and local organisations, including Amazon, Halliburton, Freddie Mac, Atkins China, Siemens, Goldwind and BP China.

"INVALUABLE" ASSISTANCE

Now based centrally in George Square's Main Library and with additional presence at the King's Buildings campus, Careers Service staff work hard to help prepare graduates for the jobs market. Alumni can use the service for free for up to two years after graduation, and staff can offer help via workshops and one-to-one sessions covering everything from CV writing through to applications and psychometric testing to preparing for interviews and making the most of social media.

Ms Chan says she received "invaluable" assistance when she

approached the service: "A careers adviser helped me think about what I wanted, and gave me material to prepare for the recruitment process. I watched videos of debates, did practice tests, and thought through how I would answer interview questions. This is such a great service."

Job seekers can't afford to be complacent, says Careers Service Director Shelagh Green. "But there are lots of opportunities out there," she believes, "for intelligent, skilled and motivated people and it's this sort of person we're helping to provide for employers thanks in part to the careers support services we can offer."

One such service is the new Campus Internships Programme, which started in summer 2012 and introduces graduates to the working world. The first cohort of 15 interns were paid for a two- to three-month period to spend time in departments across the University ranging from Finance to Communications and Marketing.



A careers adviser helped me think about what I wanted, and gave me material to prepare for the recruitment process... This is such a great service.

LI-SAN CHAN
BSc (HONS), 2004

NEW HORIZONS

Being prepared
gives reason
for optimism.

Do your research when applying for the job and be able to answer why you want to work at the company you have applied for – be enthusiastic.

ANDREW MCLAUCHLAN
MA (HONS), 2000



"We were able to offer the participating departments a high-quality, dedicated resource and we got fantastic feedback from the students," says Ms Green. "They all said they felt more confident about tackling new challenges and problems as a result of the internship."

Among the interns was 21-year-old Francesca Sobande, who is in her final year of studying for an MA in Sociology and Politics. Her internship with the Careers Service was so successful it has since been extended, she says: "The amount of responsibility I've been given has allowed me to build on my skill sets and I've been treated as an equal. It's made me much more marketable."

The Careers Service also offers a free online vacancy advertising facility, with 2011 figures showing that it advertised more than 5,000 vacancies on behalf of some 2,400 employers. "Many of our alumni are potential employers and I would hope that the idea of employing one

of our students would appeal to them," says Ms Green.

One alumnus who has been able to help in this way is Andrew McLauchlan, who studied philosophy and politics and graduated in 2000. He is a founding partner of GreySpark Partners, a capital markets consultancy firm, and contacted a recent graduate through LinkedIn's Edinburgh Alumni Group to suggest he apply for a job with his company. After four stages of interviews, the graduate was offered a position.

With the assistance of the Careers Service, Mr McLauchlan also staged a presentation and Q&A session targeting Chinese students, while he was recruiting for GreySpark's Hong Kong office. He has this advice for job seekers: "Look outside of the traditional graduate schemes and do some research on small to medium-sized enterprises. If you join an SME it's more than likely that you will be given more responsibility and more quickly than you would in a

multinational household name. Also, do your research when applying for the job and be able to answer why you want to work at the company you have applied for – be enthusiastic."

Ms Green agrees that taking an upbeat and positive approach, and being well prepared, gives good reason to be optimistic. "There's been quite a bit of negative coverage in the news about the state of the graduate employment market but I would reiterate that the prospects for well qualified and well prepared young people with the right attributes – the kind of students graduating from the University of Edinburgh – remain strong," she says.

For more details,
visit www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/careers

I signed up as I benefited from mentoring when studying. It was really useful to have someone with whom I could discuss my plans and thoughts about my future career.

KAREN HINTON
ALUMNI eMENTOR



WE NEED
YOUR HELP

A new University online mentoring platform aims to provide Edinburgh students and graduates with valuable insight into the employment market – and we'd like to call on you to share your experience and expertise.

To be launched in 2013 in partnership between the Careers Service and Development and Alumni office, the innovative University of Edinburgh eMentoring Scheme will recruit a diverse team of alumni as online advisers.

The eMentors, to be recruited from as wide a field of occupations and locations (including international) as possible, will advise students and recent graduates about job prospects in their chosen vocation, share their own experiences of work and help in career planning and decision making.

Job seekers will be able to search for eMentors based on a number of factors, including occupation, industry sector, degree subject and location.

"We're now at the stage where we're looking to recruit," explains Careers Service Director Shelagh Green. "Whether you're a lawyer, scientist, teacher, accountant, graphic designer, engineer or IT consultant, we need your skills, knowledge and experience."

"We're developing the eMentoring platform to enable access to a rich knowledge resource and to help ensure that Edinburgh graduates continue to stand out from the crowd."

Newly recruited eMentor Karen Hinton is keen to get started.

"I signed up as I benefited from mentoring when studying. It was really useful to have someone with whom I could discuss my plans and

thoughts about my future career," says Mrs Hinton, who graduated from Edinburgh in 2003 with an MA in Sociology.

"I see the mentoring relationship as an opportunity to support others in making decisions and planning their futures."

Mrs Hinton, who works in the higher education sector, believes she will also benefit from connecting with newcomers to her industry: "I think it's important to constantly reflect on your own career, and I know that the mentoring experience will encourage me to reflect on my experiences and what I want from my future career." ■

WANTED! CAREER MENTORS

Help Edinburgh
job seekers to stand
out from the crowd

Would you like to help students and graduates prepare for taking that crucial first step on to the career ladder? By signing up to the University of Edinburgh eMentoring Scheme and sharing your expertise and experiences, you'll be helping us to ensure that the future remains bright for Edinburgh job seekers.



For more details,
email us at
ementoring@ed.ac.uk

ALUMNI PROFILES

From artists to academics, many graduates view their time at Edinburgh as the starting point for their careers – and the source of their success. Here's an update on just a few of your achievements, milestones and memories.



THALIA BLACKING PhD by RESEARCH (COMPARATIVE CELL BIOLOGY/ONCOLOGY) 2011

A scholarship enabled Thalia Blacking to study at Edinburgh, and subsequently gain a position as a lecturer.



"I came to Edinburgh in 2004 to work as an intern at the Hospital for Small Animals. I love my work as a veterinary clinician, but I always wanted to work within the academic environment, where I would have opportunities for further research and teaching.

"About a year after finishing my internship, I won a scholarship, which allowed me to return as

a student, conducting research into the mechanisms of cancer initiation and progression. During my PhD, I worked as an anatomy demonstrator and occasional lecturer for the preclinical veterinary students, which I really enjoyed as it was always one of my favourite subjects when I was an undergraduate. It also provided an opportunity to meet people in the department and to gain more teaching experience.

"This summer, an opportunity arose back at the Vet School – I applied successfully, and I now teach on the preclinical course as a lecturer. I also have plenty of ideas for further research.

"I'll be continuing my clinical work, on Saturday mornings to 'keep my hand in' – no veterinary pun intended – to keep myself, and so my teaching, up to date."

"I work in Edinburgh in the cultural sector, preparing it for climate change – reducing its climate impacts, encouraging it to adapt to forthcoming changes and working out how it can help encourage attitudinal and behavioural change amongst the wider public around climate change and sustainability.

"What did I take from the course that I use today? Specific knowledge and skills – carbon footprinting, carbon management, background knowledge of climate change science and economics – all of which I use to persuade and encourage the organisations I'm working with as to why they should take action.



"The Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation has also been very useful, as it provides contacts, support, ideas and interesting conversations. We have collaborated on some research and keep in touch."

BEN TWIST MSc (CARBON MANAGEMENT) 2010

Ben Twist hasn't looked back since returning to university as a mature student.

"Carbon management had a real interest for me, because I could see that it offered opportunities outside the sector I had worked in previously. I was a theatre director and arts strategist for 25 years, but I felt I'd done all I could in that field.

"I wanted something that would offer opportunities to work strategically and on a national scale. It was also important to work in a

field that contributes to the public good, and yet has the potential to be every bit as engrossing and exciting as theatre directing. Ironically, the programme enabled me to combine my old knowledge and experience with new skills and to do something that overlaps the two. It was very affirming going back to university after 25 years, and discovering I wasn't only keeping up – I was actually pretty good!

@ We are happy to forward correspondence to graduates for whom we hold current address details. Email us at alumni@ed.ac.uk

NAOMI ROBERTSON BA Hons (TAPESTRY) EDINBURGH COLLEGE OF ART 1990

Naomi Robertson is a master weaver at Edinburgh's unique Dovecot Studios.



"I learned to weave at school but my time at Edinburgh College of Art set me on this course. I specialised in tapestry after my first year.

"What attracted me was the whole excitement of the department – it was full of huge looms and tapestries, and there was so much going on. I loved my years at College; there was a fantastic atmosphere.

"I've worked for Dovecot since I graduated. I'm lucky – I love what I do and at Dovecot you can do what you were trained to do, which I think is quite rare in the art world.

"I'm now qualified as a master weaver. I always say I'm still learning – every new commission you get, you learn, or you face a new problem. We've worked with some incredible artists – Eduardo Paolozzi, Elizabeth Blackadder, Barbara Rae, Victoria Crow... A few years ago I worked with a fashion designer called Chris Clyne and wove a corset, shoes and a headpiece with her.

"The fact people can watch us weave at Dovecot means they can see the process rather than just the finished product. Weaving is quite physical and you're always thinking about the next bit, or whether the colour's working, or how to keep the tension. I do have the sense that it's a skill that's now quite rare.

"Dovecot celebrated its centenary during 2012 with the exhibition 'Weaving the Century', showing the studio's work past and present. An opera inspired by Dovecot was written by Alexander McCall Smith and Tom Cunningham and performed on the studio floor as part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. It was very exciting."



STAY CONNECTED

Our student calling team had a busy start to the academic year, phoning thousands of alumni in our latest telephone campaign. Callers updated graduates on Edinburgh news, sought feedback on events and communications, and talked about the University's bursary scheme. Thank you to everyone who participated. For more details, and for a selection of student memories shared with our callers, visit

[www.edinburghcampaign.com/
 alumni-giving/telethon](http://www.edinburghcampaign.com/alumni-giving/telethon)



KAREN DONNELLY BSc (NEUROSCIENCE) 1992

Undertaking a versatile degree allowed Karen Donnelly to enjoy a varied career.

"I chose Edinburgh as the Biological Sciences programme had the option to specialise in particular areas of biology. I recall being the only person (perhaps brave enough!) to study both science and social science courses, and in my honours year I studied neuroscience, which, at that time, was a relatively new subject.

"Upon leaving university, I worked as a research technician at King's Buildings [KB] and then moved to the Institute for Animal Health, also at KB.

"After working in research laboratories for more than six years, I decided I had handled one too

many Eppendorf tubes and moved into technical writing, working with an Edinburgh-based global contract research organisation. I have since moved into clinical writing with the same company and as Medical Writing Manager I work with different specialists across the globe, including medics, statisticians and project managers.

"My education (pharmacology, physiology and neuroscience) has certainly been invaluable to me in this role, plus I get to keep up to date with advancements in medicine through working within the drug development sector."

THEN & NOW

300 YEARS OF CHEMISTRY

THEN & NOW

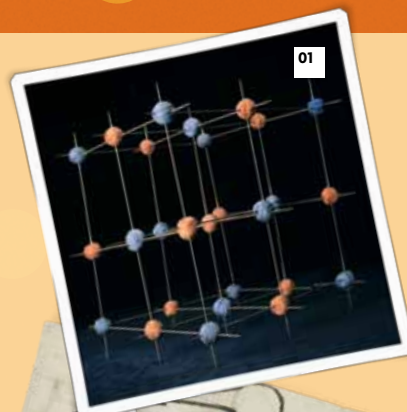
The teaching of Chemistry at Edinburgh began 300 years ago with the appointment of James Crawford to the Chair of Physick and Chymistry. Since then the School has flourished, seeding chemistry departments around the world and producing alumni such as Joseph Black, who discovered carbon dioxide, and Benjamin Rush, one of the signatories to the US Declaration of Independence. Today, the School continues to innovate, having produced a student winner of the prestigious UK Chemistry Salters Prize every year for the past 16 years, and achieving a coveted Gold standard in the Athena SWAN Charter, which recognises an institution's commitment to the advancement and promotion of the careers of women in science, engineering and technology, mathematics and medicine (STEM) in academia.

In images of its curios, milestones and icons, we chart the life of the School over three centuries.

To mark its tercentenary, the School of Chemistry will be holding a series of events throughout 2013, including a symposium, social functions and a major exhibition at the University's Main Library. For more information, visit www.chem.ed.ac.uk/tercentenary/index.html

STAY CONNECTED

If you want to share your favourite memories from Edinburgh's chemistry labs – or if you have a story to tell about any of the images on these pages – we'd love to hear from you. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/edalumni to post your comments and photos.



School of Chemistry Digital Imaging Unit, Centre for Research Collections



THEN: 01 An 1883 model, using wool and knitting needles, of the structure of salt, devised by Crum Brown, Professor of Chemistry (1869–1908). **02** Registration book from 1953. **03** Sketches from Joseph Black's papers. **04** Chemistry graduates, 1932. **05** Preparing to get started in the lab (date unknown). **06** Floor plan of Joseph Black Building, with VIP tour marked. The building was officially opened in 1924. **07** Chemistry Society committee members, 1931. **08** A locket honouring Joseph Black. **09** Students in the lab during wartime, 1915.



NOW: 10 In 2012 Professor Polly Arnold received the Royal Society Rosalind Franklin Award, for her proposal to promote women in STEM, and was made a Royal Society of Edinburgh Fellow. In 2008 she won the Rising Star Chancellor's Award. **11** Graduate Emanuel Blei takes air samples 60 metres above a rainforest canopy. **12** Postgraduates at work. **13 & 14** Colourful compounds and concoctions. **15** A precise science. **16** Research in the laser room. **17** An enquiring mind at the Edinburgh International Science Festival. **18** In 2012, Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Science & Engineering, Professor Lesley Yellowlees, was made the Royal Society of Chemistry's first female president and a Royal Society of Edinburgh Fellow.

ARTS REVIEW

Whether for work or play, the arts have always featured prominently in our alumni activities. We showcase some of your artistic endeavours and feature a few favourite cultural escapes.

60 SECONDS IN THE SPOTLIGHT GAVIN FRANCIS



BORN: Dunfermline, 1975
EDUCATED: BSc (Hons) Neuroscience 1996 and MBChB (Hons) 1999
CURRENT HOME: South Queensferry, Edinburgh
CURRENT JOB: GP and travel writer
FAVOURITE AUTHOR: JD Salinger (fiction) and (travel writers) Bruce Chatwin, Sven Lindqvist and Annie Dillard.
FAVOURITE BAND: The Smiths. I have the entire collection on vinyl.
FAVOURITE FILM OR TV: If I'm feeling highbrow David Attenborough or Michael Wood documentaries, but if I've had a hard week something like *Master & Commander*.
THE PLACE THAT MOST INSPIRES YOU: The places in Scotland that I go to again and again are the Isle of May and Cape Wrath.
GREATEST INFLUENCE: Again, the Isle of May, or Cape Wrath because it's the juncture of two worlds – the Celtic world and the Nordic world. It's such a dramatic landscape, with sheer cliffs going down to a boiling sea.

Gavin Francis trained in emergency medicine at Edinburgh's Royal Hospital for Sick Children and the old Royal Infirmary. He then spent 14 months as a medical doctor at one of the Antarctic's remotest stations, living and working with 13 others on the Caird Coast, where Ernest Shackleton's ship *Endurance* sank in 1915. The base, unreachable for 10 months of the year, is next to one of the world's largest colonies of emperor penguins. Gavin wrote about his experiences in *Empire Antarctica: Ice, Silence & Emperor Penguins* (Chatto & Windus). He is also the author of *True North – Travels in Arctic Europe* (Polygon).

While at the South Pole I read a lot about Shackleton's and Scott's doctors. Many of the things they wrote about are just as relevant today. There is the potential to be called upon for absolutely anything – tooth extractions, fractured skulls, gastroenteritis, psychiatry... But I felt the training I did equipped me to deal with the whole range.

GAVIN FRANCIS
BSc 1996, MBChB 1999



POLITICAL THRILLER HITS SILVER SCREEN

Shadow Dancer, a film adapted from journalist and writer Tom Bradby's first novel, recently hit cinemas after debuting at the Sundance Film Festival. Adapted by Mr Bradby (MA History, 1990) from his book of the same name, the political thriller, set in 1990s Belfast, is directed by Academy Award-winner James Marsh and stars Andrea Riseborough (above) and Clive Owen. Mr Bradby was ITN's Ireland Correspondent from 1993 to 1996.

THE HIT LIST

TO WATCH...

A film about ballet shoes by Edinburgh College of Art graduate and trained dancer Tali Yankelevich has been longlisted for an Oscar nomination in the "Documentary Short Subject" category. *The Perfect Fit* explores the life of a specialist shoemaker. Oscar nominations are announced on 10 January.



www.scottishdocinstitute.com/films/the-perfect-fit/



TO READ...

Alumnus Ron Butlin celebrates the landscape, atmosphere and people of modern Edinburgh with a poetry collection that will charm anyone who knows and loves the capital – and anyone new to it. A novelist, playwright and opera librettist, Mr Butlin has been Edinburgh Makar, or Poet Laureate, for the past four years.



The Magicians of Edinburgh, Polygon



TO LISTEN TO...

Lapslap, a band featuring University music staff members Dr Michael Edwards and Dr Martin Parker, has released a new CD. The trio's fourth record, *Granita*, is a series of long compositions that draws on traditions ranging from avant-garde classical to free jazz and improvised electro-acoustic.



www.lapslap.co.uk



@ If you would like to contribute to Arts Review, email your suggestions to editor.edit@ed.ac.uk

THE FAB FIVE

We've all been on the edge of our seat during a gripping theatre performance. The Bedlam Theatre Committee lists its pick of productions from the past five years.

01 A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE OCTOBER 2010

"The moonlit scene between Mitch and Blanche. It's Williams at his most low-key and moving, and it was perfect for a tight wee intimate venue like Bedlam."

DIRECTED BY PAUL BROTHERSTON



02 AMADEUS NOVEMBER 2010

"This won several awards at the National Student Drama Festival in Scarborough in 2011, after the initial run in Bedlam."

DIRECTED BY ALICE BONIFACIO

03 THE JUNGLE BOOK MARCH 2010

"This was Edinburgh University Theatre Company original writing from Beth Friend (adapted from Rudyard Kipling, of course!)"

DIRECTED BY BETH FRIEND



04 EIGHT FESTIVAL FRINGE 2008

"The beginning of Ella's career as a successful playwright began at Bedlam Theatre."

WRITTEN BY ELLA HICKSON

05 THE COSMONAUT'S LAST MESSAGE 2007 SEASON

"A perfect example of a show that pushed boundaries in what students can achieve in set design and construction. Several actors were suspended from the ceiling inside the building."

WRITTEN BY DAVID GRIEG



What was your favourite performance at Bedlam? Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/edalumni to join the discussion and post your comments and photos.

The Scotman



A NOSE FOR INNOVATION

Edinburgh College of Art graduate Kate McLean has attracted the attention of international tourism organisations with her "sensory maps", which chart the smells wafting around cities. Ms McLean (MFA Graphic Design, 2011) has recently exhibited smell maps in Glasgow and Newport, Rhode Island. Map users sample bottled aromas – from juniper bushes to Lorne sausage – whose whereabouts in the city are plotted visually through colours and contour-like traces. Ms McLean (left), a former Edinburgh Designer-in-Residence and currently a senior lecturer at Canterbury Christ Church University, has also charted Edinburgh, Paris and New York. She is building on work with the US tourism sector to recreate an "all-round" experience of scent, in collaboration with Dutch olfactory and fragrance experts.

WHAT'S ON AT TALBOT RICE

These thought-provoking exhibitions showcase the creativity of past and contemporary artists. For further details, visit www.trg.ed.ac.uk



Zoe Beloff

A HISTORY OF DREAMS REMAINS TO BE WRITTEN THE WHITE GALLERY, UNTIL 16 FEBRUARY 2013

In her first solo exhibition in Scotland, native-born Zoe Beloff turns the main gallery space into a Freudian funfair, comprising drawings, sculptural models, found films and ephemera. Upstairs, the now New York-based artist shows *The Days of the Commune*, a video work made during the Occupy Wall Street protests of 2012.



Serge Charchoune Impressionisme Ornamental (1930)

THE EXHIBITION IS OPEN THE GEORGIAN GALLERY, UNTIL 16 FEBRUARY 2013

This unique exhibition highlights the work of Franco-Russian painter Serge Charchoune (1888–1975). Connected to movements including Cubism and Dada, Charchoune nevertheless evaded easy definition, once commenting, "I keep a low profile, and thus a lot of freedom."

ON OUR RADAR

ALUMNI WHO ARE CELEBRATING APPOINTMENTS IN THE BIG AND SMALL SCREEN INDUSTRIES INCLUDE DR LINCOLN WALLEN (PhD AI, 1988), STUDIO DREAMWORKS ANIMATION'S NEW CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER, AND BBC STALWART BILL TURNBULL (BSc, 1977), WHO HAS JOINED THE PRESENTING TEAM OF THE CORPORATION'S LONG-RUNNING *SONGS OF PRAISE*.

MASTER & APPRENTICE

THE MASTER

JAMES GARDEN

is Regius Professor of Clinical Surgery and Honorary Consultant Surgeon. He graduated BSc (Medical Sciences) in 1974 and MBChB in 1977, completing his MD in 1987. He undertook surgical training in Edinburgh, the west of Scotland and Paris before returning to Edinburgh in 1988.



"I enjoy the stimulus of working within a team."

What is the most satisfying part of your job?

I consider myself extremely fortunate to have a unique position that has allowed me to practise my specialist surgical skills, train younger surgeons, enthuse medical students, participate in clinical and scientific research and more recently, to have delivered innovative distance-learning programmes that have had significant impact on surgical training worldwide. I enjoy the stimulus of working within a team and leading a stellar academic group of younger academic surgical colleagues who have all developed unique skills and leadership roles in their own right.

... and the most challenging?

Each day brings a new challenge. Success in completing one task just seems to bring invitations to take on another!

What changes have you seen in your department over the years?

Many universities have stopped investing in the surgical specialties. We have adapted and run more of a virtual department of surgery and maintain a strong presence in undergraduate teaching and postgraduate training. We have an increasing number of bright young academics working in multidisciplinary research facilities. This resulted at one stage in

Most graduates will have forged a special link with a teacher who mentored and motivated them at university. We hear about the work of one of your role models – and what you learned from them while you were at Edinburgh.

Edinburgh Surgery holding five of the 14 clinician scientist awards in all surgical specialties in the UK. The current growth in our academic activity is increasingly focused on distance learning and we now boast more than 350 matriculated masters students and have had representation from almost 50 countries in our four surgical distance-learning programmes since these commenced in 2007.

What are the advantages of the online MSc in Surgical Sciences?

The MSc in Surgical Sciences is innovative in combining the professional and academic development of the surgical trainee. It was launched as a three-year distance-learning masters programme and provides academic credit for the trainee as the curriculum for the professional surgical examination is covered (MRCS). The feedback has been very positive.

Can you describe your experience of teaching, and collaborating with, Grant Stewart?

Grant stood out as an enthusiastic medical student during his clinical attachments and showed an early inclination to pursue a career in surgery. He scored early training posts in our academic unit and was a keen clinical researcher. He is making his mark as a quality researcher and senior trainee in urology and much is expected of him as a future leader in academic urology. ▶



Look out for MBChB classes of 1963 and 2003 reunions in 2013. For more details, visit www.ed.ac.uk/alumni

THE APPRENTICE

GRANT STEWART

has a BSc (Hons) (1997), an MBChB (2000) and a PhD (2008) from the University of Edinburgh. He is now Clinical Lecturer in Urological Surgery in the Department of Urology and Edinburgh Urological Cancer Group, based at the city's Western General Hospital.

Professor Garden was an inspiring, motivating and always encouraging teacher. When I first started as a surgical student he did the bedside teaching – it's actually very unusual that the most senior person on the ward would do that. He nurtured my interest in surgery and surgical research and even supported my move to specialise in urology. He's allowed me to excel.

GRANT STEWART
CLINICAL LECTURER IN
UROLOGICAL SURGERY



DID YOU KNOW...?

Edinburgh's academic surgical group is one of the strongest in the country. The transplant programme in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary has undertaken 1,000 liver and more than 1,000 renal transplants in the past 20 years.



"Professor Garden nurtured my interest in surgery."

THE TWO OF US

Many a friendship is forged during our university days, and we want to hear how you met your partner or lifelong friend. For Neha Gohil (née Vahali) and Dr Amit Gohil, attending a disco at the Pleasance was the best move they ever made.



With sons Akaal and Shaan.



Celebrating a milestone.

Amit gallantly walked me back to Pollock Halls and was rewarded with my phone number before he trudged home in an early morning snowfall.

NEHA GOHIL
BA (INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)



Neha Gohil (née Vahali)

BA (International Relations), The University of Southern California, 2001

"We met when I left Los Angeles to study in Scotland for a year in 2000. I adored every 'authentic' thing I saw in Edinburgh – from the Castle to deep-fried Mars Bars – and one night at a party I fell for this young English medical student with a 'real' English accent.

"Hearing that Amit felt the same way, a few days later my friends organised a night out and then hastily orchestrated a quick exit. Amit gallantly walked me back to Pollock Halls and was rewarded with my phone number before he trudged home in an early morning snowfall.

"From our very first date to the day I was due to leave Scotland four months later, we were inseparable. With the beautiful city as his backdrop, Amit impressed me with hot chocolates at Negociants, fancy dinners, nights out in the Grassmarket

and weekend trips up to Killin. We were both completely smitten and promised to stay together.

"The next three years were challenging. With more than 7,000 miles between us, my starting at Yale Law School and Amit finishing his initial medical training, we became experts on where to buy cheap phone cards, and were attached to our email accounts. In August 2003, our diligence paid off when we were married in California – many Edinburgh alums were in attendance.

"We now live in San Carlos, California, and we've been blessed with two beautiful sons – Akaal and Shaan. Amit works as a pulmonary critical care physician and I spent the last several years working at a civil rights organisation for Sikh Americans, but left work before our newest arrival.

"Edinburgh has a very special place in our hearts. Our 10th wedding anniversary is coming up... Maybe a trip back will be our present to ourselves!"

Dr Amit Gohil

BSc 1998, MBChB 2001

"We met at a party at the Pleasance. It was Bhangra night (a type of Indian disco). Neha was actually a bit drunk but funnily enough, the first thought that crossed my mind was 'is she the one?'

"Even after meeting only a few times there was the feeling that we had a lot more in common than things 'skin deep', and over time we realised how many core values we shared.

"We shared a love of our Indian culture, as well as having fun and going out. We loved grabbing coffee and Nachos Supremos at Negociants, enjoying Friday nights at Teviot and Potterow and eating out at the French restaurant Chez Jules.

"It was a fast romance – we really only had a few months together in Edinburgh before Neha went back to the US to complete her studies.

"When she left, my life was very much empty. I still had two years left to complete of my medical degree and the long-distance relationship was extremely challenging at times. I wasn't sure whether we would be able to make it work. But ultimately we built an extremely strong foundation for our married life.

"After finishing my degree, I worked for a year at the Western General Hospital, then moved to London to work at St George's A&E. I took every possible holiday to fly over to see Neha, and I started doing all my American medical exams so that I could potentially move to the US and finish the rest of my training.

"I've lived all over the world, but Edinburgh is truly a special city. It's where I learnt about medicine and where I met my wife, and I have many fond memories – from learning how to treat patients at the Royal Infirmary to playing in a band called Pacemaker at Potterow." ▶

@ If you met your partner or lifelong friend at Edinburgh and would like to share your recollections, email us at editor.edit@ed.ac.uk

FLASHBACK

The University has a rich past – and an exciting present. On these pages, we highlight your stories and memories, report on reunions and celebrate Edinburgh's iconic alumni.



MAN ON A MISSION

Studying at Edinburgh in the late 1950s, Jim Haynes set up the Paperback Bookshop, a countercultural hub and the site of an incident that helped blaze a trail for radical books.

Fifty-three years ago the epicentre of Edinburgh's main campus wasn't a gleaming Informatics Forum but a groundbreaking bookshop dedicated to counterculture.

With a mission to sell avant-garde British and American titles, leftfield literary magazines and strong coffee, renowned publisher and theatre producer Jim Haynes opened the Paperback Bookshop in Charles Street in 1959.

Mr Haynes (pictured), who took classes at the University in the 1950s, boasts a dazzling CV of achievements in the arts, including a role as co-founder of the Traverse Theatre. Now living in Paris, he returned to Edinburgh in summer to mark the unveiling of two sculptures on the site of the bookshop. One immortalises the rhino head that hung outside in the early 1960s while the other, depicting a burning book, celebrates an incident that sparked worldwide interest.

"Once upon a time, a woman came in and asked if I had *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, which Penguin had published but which they'd put a stop to," Mr Haynes explains.

True to the virtues of any radical bookshop, he had the novel in stock, and alerted a photographer friend when the customer came back to collect it.

"She refused to touch the book, she picked it up with coal tongs and

carried it outside the shop, poured kerosene on top and lit it and ran," he recalls.

The image of the book alight on a chilly winter day in the heart of Edinburgh (above, inset) rapidly circulated around the globe, Mr Haynes says: "Sir Alan Laing, who founded Penguin Books, wrote me a letter, you know: 'Dear Jim – I knew him personally – you've put *Lady Chatterley* on the world map!'"



MEMORY LANE

Ian and Katharyn Callan, 95 and 91, just might be Britain's oldest university graduate couple. Here, Katharyn reminisces about their time at Edinburgh.

In 1941 there were only two of us taking Botany IV, so we each had a lab to ourselves, complete with a darkroom fitted with a Bunsen burner – good for making hot drinks! Ian and I were both taking classes at the Royal Botanic Garden, and used to catch a tram to Canonmills costing one penny. If we had time, we walked all the way, patting Greyfriars Bobby as we passed. My study bedroom in Masson Hall was on the top floor and some of the men in the adjacent Cowan House used to climb across the roofs and talk to me through the skylight. During the War this was blacked out. We had fires in our study bedrooms and we were rationed to two buckets of coal per week. How very different life was for students then, but I don't think that we ever felt deprived.



HISTORY MAKER: JAMES HUTTON

Farmer, chemist and founder of modern geology, James Hutton is one of the University's most significant alumni – and arguably one of its most overlooked.

After studying Latin, Greek and mathematics at Edinburgh High School, James Hutton enrolled at the University in 1740.

Three years on and equipped with a Classics degree, he embarked on a mercurial career that would encompass legal work, medicine, meteorology, animal husbandry and engineering.

Hutton was a polymath and innovator. In the 1750s he set up Scotland's first chemical works manufacturing salt used for dyeing. After inheriting the farms of Slighouses in Berkshire he trialled agricultural practices viewed as radical at the time. And in the late 1760s he used his geological expertise to steer the construction of the Forth and Clyde Canal.

Following further study abroad he settled back in Edinburgh to research the city's geology, taking particular interest in the distinctive volcanic outcrops at Salisbury Crags.

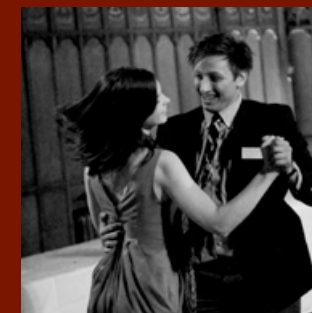
With contemporaries including John Playfair, Joseph Black and Adam Smith, Hutton was one star

in a constellation of Enlightenment talents. He had a methodical style and his research developed slowly, culminating in the 1785 publication of his *Theory of the Earth*. In it he proposed that the Earth was ancient but that evidence of the interrelationships between the planet's different rock formations proved that it could renew itself.

These concepts of geological or "deep" time and a self-regenerating Earth posed a stark challenge to the religious orthodoxy of the day. But their influence was profound, shaping not simply our understanding of geology but the work of Charles Darwin and modern theories of ecology, including James Lovelock's Gaia hypothesis.

FITTING TRIBUTE

In a tribute to one of the University's most iconoclastic figures, plans are under way to celebrate James Hutton's achievements in the form of a permanent exhibition at Edinburgh's Our Dynamic Earth tourist attraction. The new space is being designed by Professor Stuart Monro, a Visiting Professor in the School of GeoSciences.



LET'S GET TOGETHER

Friendships were rekindled and new connections made at two recent University reunions.

MARKING A MILESTONE

The Politics & International Relations department marked the beginning of its 50th anniversary celebrations recently with a weekend event. The programme included a debate from alumni, including current and former politicians, on "What Future for Scotland?"; a networking session in which graduates shared with current students their insights into career planning; and social events including a ceilidh (above), whisky tasting and comedy show. For details on upcoming 50th anniversary events, email ruth.nicol@ed.ac.uk, visit www.pol.ed.ac.uk/50th_anniversary/register_interest or like the department's page on Facebook.

TOASTING 25 YEARS

Past and present members of the University's Hillwalking Club (above) travelled from around the UK and Europe recently to Comrie Croft, Perthshire, to celebrate the outfit's 25th anniversary. Participants kept the club's enduring traditions alive by posing for summit shots amidst breathtaking scenery and enjoying a barbecue, a Burns Night supper and a ceilidh.

A University reunion will help you stay connected to your fellow graduates. For details on upcoming reunions, or for help with organising your own event, email alumni@ed.ac.uk

REDISCOVER YOUR EDINBURGH

Alumni Weekend 21–23 June 2013

With a varied programme of events, tours and talks, our Alumni Weekend is a fantastic opportunity to reconnect with the University and revisit your favourite student haunts. Social events will range from comedy shows to ceilidh dancing and we'll also be opening up some of the University's cutting-edge facilities and sharing insights into our latest teaching and research developments. Reunions can also be staged over the weekend. Booking opens 1 March 2013.

For more details and booking information or to organise a reunion for the weekend, email alumni@ed.ac.uk, visit www.ed.ac.uk/alumni or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/edalumni



MY EDINBURGH



EVELYN ROE
BSc (BOTANY),
1982



Edinburgh's stunning streetscapes, rich cultural history and all-round cosmopolitan vibe combine to make studying in this unique city a memorable experience. We invite you to share what made your student days so enjoyable.

A stroll through the Meadows is a must.



Island life in Zambia, Africa.



Up close and personal at the Royal Botanic Garden.



Where do you live now, and why?

I'm currently doing an MSc in Holistic Science at Schumacher College in Devon. When the course is over, I'll return to Zambia where I've been living for about 10 years, carrying out ethnobotanical research, occasional consultancy work on sustainable harvesting of wild plants, and floristic surveys. I live in a simple house on an island in the Zambezi, and am helping the local community build a school on the mainland. I've lived in Africa for more than 20 years, with the previous 10 years in Botswana, where I was working as a biology teacher.

When did you live in Edinburgh?

I moved from Fort William to Edinburgh in 1977 to start my studies. For some years after I graduated, Edinburgh remained my home base, even as I was travelling in Europe and doing volunteer work in Nigeria. I also did a one-year PGCE in secondary teaching of science and biology at Moray House College of Education, from 1986 to 1987.

What was your first impression of the city?

I'd first visited Edinburgh as a young teenager; the cobbled lanes of the Old Town and the patchouli-scented shops of Cockburn Street and South Clerk Street seemed so mysterious and alluring. Arriving there alone as an 18 year old, however, was different: the chill wind across North Bridge; steamed-up cafe windows; a disconcerting mixture of intimacy and aloneness in the narrow closes and twisting streets... Then, I experienced an autumn day, skipping through piles of golden leaves, frost on the pavements and in my breath, and I was enchanted.

Where were your favourite student haunts?

The Bedlam Theatre; I was around when the Theatre Club moved from their former premises in Hill Street to this extraordinary venue. But I think my favourite place was the flat where I lived for my final year, in Gayfield Square, with a curious and wonderful mixture of students.

Then, I experienced an autumn day, skipping through golden leaves, frost on the pavements... and I was enchanted.

EVELYN ROE
BSc (BOTANY)



What do you miss about the city?

The outstanding libraries, frosty walks in Marchmont, groovy second-hand clothes shops in Stockbridge, the Royal Botanic Garden, being able to choose to either nestle in a cosy pub or brave the elements on a walk up Arthur's Seat.

What did your university experience do for you?

It gave me the opportunity to meet a much wider range of people than I would otherwise have encountered. It offered the space, physically, intellectually and emotionally, to become myself.

Which member of academic staff influenced your life most when you were here?

Dr PM Smith, of the Botany department, whose lectures were informative, inspiring and delivered with a dry but warm humour.

What is your favourite view of the city?

The one from the plane, when I arrive back from Africa: the flight path takes us out across the Forth, and I can see the history, the human endeavours and the landscape, in one thrilling panorama.

What would you recommend tourists put at the top of their 'to-do' list?

Walk everywhere. Take a route from the Royal Observatory through Marchmont, across the Meadows, George IV Bridge, the Mound, Hanover Street... and finish off in the Royal Botanic Garden. ■

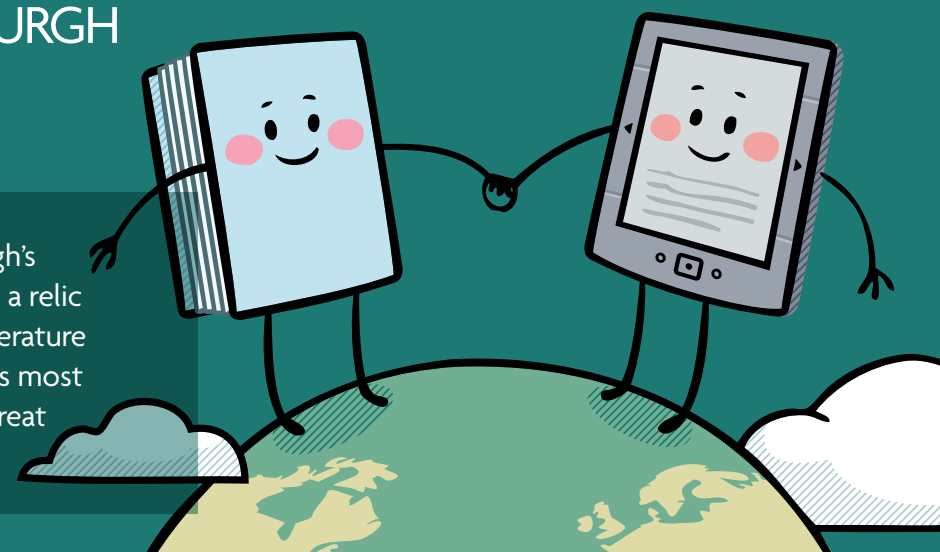


Send us your recollections of your student days to editor.edit@ed.ac.uk

THE LAST WORD

ALAN WARNER
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE
AND NOVELIST

For the next generation of Edinburgh's graduates the printed book may be a relic of the past. Will a deeper link to literature disappear with it? One of Scotland's most successful novelists ponders the threat posed to an art form he loves.



Maverick Photo Agency/Cullum Bennetts



But they can. Physical books make a demand on you. After you've bought them they sit on your shelf and stare back at you with the inference that you're letting them down. If they're electronic, that pressure, that relationship, is gone. You won't have a good book "waiting" for you at home.

The popularity of e-books is an expression of our more complex society. Your computer can do 5,000 things but it won't do something simple. If we could digitalise the knife and fork we'd have done it.

In the 1970s radicalised artists deemed paintings and sculpture to be bourgeois garbage. They said the canvas was finished. Their aim was to dematerialise the art form utterly.

Something similar is happening to the book in 2013. With the rise of Kindle it is slowly becoming a purely electronic medium and thus, in a bizarre way, it is ceasing to exist. If there were a computer crash in a future society purged of paper books what would happen to our archive of words? It would vanish.

I remember being 15 and thinking books were for wimps. Then for school I had to read Alan Paton's *Cry the Beloved Country*. I was overwhelmed. I even picked it up and read it on a Saturday. I remember finishing it, shaking with emotion and thinking, what is this? I didn't think books could do that.

Now just to get to a book involves a convoluted electronic process. Instead I can just go to a shelf, pick a book and open a piece of engineering that's unchanged since Gutenberg: it's 500 years old and perfectly designed. The paperback book is a fantastic piece of technology – and it's thought to be not good enough for our world any more.

The proselytisers of the electronic medium talk about how democratic the e-book is. But I've never heard of a democratic system that requires a £130 deposit – the average cost of a Kindle – to take part.

Perhaps I'm being too partisan. People like me get very heated about the threat to the art form they love, and I admit there can be a hand-wringing Hampstead attitude: my wondrous

I can envisage lots of situations when a Kindle would be handy. But how do you turn the pages when you're up a mountain, just nearing the end of *War and Peace* and you realise you're about to run out of charge?

ALAN WARNER
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE AND NOVELIST



library of first editions is being threatened! And I can understand why, with its ability to store acres of text, an e-book would appeal to a lawyer or a business leader. I can envisage lots of situations when a Kindle would be handy. But how do you turn the pages when you're up a mountain, just nearing the end of *War and Peace* and you realise you're about to run out of charge?

Ultimately this is an aesthetic issue: how will the popularity of the e-book affect the experience of reading? There is a casualness and tentativeness about reading on a Kindle that concerns me. I think it might lead to people reading much less, and having a shallower, more superficial relationship with books.

I teach on the MSc Creative Writing programme at Edinburgh, and the most telling lesson about the true

status of the e-book comes from my students. If you ask any of them whether they think electronic books are the future they will say yes. But if you ask, "after you've graduated, how would you like to be published, in paper or electronically?" every single one wants to be published in book form. Even for this young generation, completely au fait with iPhones, tablets and Facebook, e-books do not have the same status as paper. ■

The Deadman's Pedal by Alan Warner will be published in paperback in April 2013. Visit www.vintage-books.co.uk

BILLET

The General Council of the University of Edinburgh



REPORT

By Professor Charles Swainson
Convener of the Business
Committee of the General Council

The General Council provides graduates with a continuing voice in the management of the University's affairs, and every graduate automatically becomes a member. Academic staff and members of the University's governing body, the University Court, are also members of the General Council. It meets twice a year and has the right to comment on matters affecting the University's prosperity and wellbeing. For more information on the work of the General Council, visit www.general-council.ed.ac.uk

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE GENERAL COUNCIL PRINCE PHILIP FUND, VISIT
WWW.GENERAL-COUNCIL.ED.AC.UK/GENERALCOUNCILSCHOLARSHIPS.HTM

I am delighted and honoured to be elected as the Convener of your Business Committee, and look forward to a productive four years in support of our University.

I am following Dr Alan Brown, who made a signal contribution during his time as Convener, from 2008 to 2012. The most important event during that period was the election of a new University Chancellor, HRH The Princess Royal. Others were the successful Half-Yearly Meetings held abroad, in 2010 in Hong Kong and last year in Berlin.

The General Council was represented well at the Berlin Half-Yearly Meeting, which was held in the Humboldt University. The Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, emphasised the international ambitions, achievements and goals of the University of Edinburgh, and after lunch Professor Chris Breward, Principal of Edinburgh College of Art and Vice-Principal Creative Industries & Performing Arts, spoke enthusiastically about the artistic and cultural links between the great universities of Europe.

The supporting events were organised brilliantly, led by our Secretary, Dr Mike Mitchell, and Jane Denholm of Development

and Alumni. The weekend began with a seminar at the Hertie School of Governance. The guest of honour and lecturer was Dr David McAllister, the Prime Minister of Lower Saxony, who gave a fascinating and well argued insight into the German view of the Euro and relationships with the United Kingdom. The University of Edinburgh then conferred an honorary degree on Dr McAllister at a ceremony in the British Embassy, a modern building that has won many architectural awards. The programme finished with a dinner in the Museum of Communication and guests, including many graduates, were treated to another marvellous talk from alumna and novelist Dame Stella Rimington.

The Half-Yearly Meeting was webcast, allowing questions from a dozen alumni to be asked by email. The weekend's success demonstrated again how much graduates living away from Edinburgh appreciate the opportunity to re-connect with their alma mater, and the fine partnership between the General Council and the University.

In winter 2012, the Graduation Fee was abolished, making membership of the General Council simpler. It is hoped that this will facilitate

easier and earlier engagement of graduates with their University, and I urge all members to think about that aspect. There are many opportunities available to General Council members, particularly mentoring and advising graduates on career choices.

Dr Brown's legacy to the General Council is the Effectiveness Review of your Business Committee, which he instigated in 2011. The review was chaired by Vice-Convener, Dr Frances Dow, who sought many internal and external views. There were a number of well argued discussions, and Dr Dow's report was accepted by the Committee in July 2012. Dr Dow, Dr Mitchell and myself have drawn up an Action Plan and we will deliver the proposed actions over the next year or so. Highlights include a more prominent role for the Standing Committees, and a clear set of priorities informed by the University's *Strategic Plan 2012–2016* and Scottish Government plans for higher education.

Your Committee will support the University as it continues to improve the student experience over the next few years. The University gives the most generous bursaries of any University, and your support of these is

appreciated greatly by the students. I have met a number of recipients and it is startling to learn how many are at the University because of their bursary. They are deal breakers for many.

Finally, Development and Alumni hosted a visit by the Yale Alumni Association for a few days in July last year. It was instructive to learn of the different history and approaches taken by alumni organisations on both sides of the Atlantic. A highlight for the visitors was another generous gesture from Dr Brown and Mrs Elizabeth Ballantyne-Brown, of a charming reception at their home, the historic Arthur Lodge.

Videos of previous Principal's and Convener's Reports, and a selection of after-lunch addresses, can be viewed at www.general-council.ed.ac.uk/video_gallery.htm



BILLET NEWS



BERLIN EVENTS ENJOYED BY ALL

The historic Humboldt University in Berlin was the setting for the General Council's June 2012 Half-Yearly Meeting. The Meeting formed part of a highly successful weekend of events, as described in the Convener's Report (opposite). The varied events were enthusiastically received, and here, we offer a taste of feedback from some of the participants.

Francis Brewis, MA 1972:

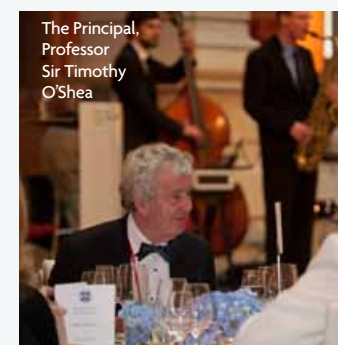
"I enjoyed the reception at the British Embassy, the meeting/ lunch at the Humboldt University and dinner in the Communications Museum. It was good to meet people, including British people based on the Continent as well as German and Polish graduates."

Dr Bruce Ritson, MBChB 1961:

"It was wonderful to see the city flourishing and reunited. I had not been in Berlin since 1989, the year that the Wall came down. Most of my previous visits had been to the East. Dame Stella Rimington's account of her experiences vividly recalled that dark time of mutual distrust."

Dr Alan Brown, MBChB 1963:

"More than lived up to the memorable occasions of previous years. These meetings reach out successfully to the vast majority of members who live



Brend Fruswaki / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

outwith Scotland. A fittingly glorious end to my many memorable years on the Business Committee."

James Murray, BSc 1962:

"An outstanding two days, simply a class act. The Friday afternoon conferences are always really worthwhile. Combining a General Council meeting with University events is an excellent way for members to assist the University in promoting itself."

Neil Hynd, BArch 1969: "This meeting was the best yet and a momentum is building within our General Council membership to attend whenever they can. A memorable series of events."

Alan M Johnston, MBA 1989:

"Reaching out to graduates – truly international institution – forging important academic and political links and reinforcing the University's world-class reputation."

LINKS WITH YALE STRENGTHENED

Alongside colleagues from Development and Alumni and the International Office, the Business Committee hosted a visit in the summer by members of the Alumni of Yale Association as part of the Yale Global Alumni Leadership Exchange (YaleGALE). The Principal hosted a friendship dinner in New College's Rainy Hall, and integral to the visit was a debate and workshop on alumni associations and alumni engagement. Both lively affairs generated interesting new ideas and discussion about enhancements to current practices, and it was anticipated that this visit would lead to increased interaction and cooperation between the two university communities.



FORMER CONVENER HONoured

In recognition of his superb work as Convener of the Business Committee until 31 July 2012 and his outstanding support of the University, Dr Alan Brown (above) has been appointed a University of Edinburgh Regent. This is a new honour bestowed on those who significantly support the University either financially or with their expertise or by sharing their networks, and is designed to give such people a continuing role in supporting the University.

BILLET NEWS

INSIGHT INTO AMERICAN ART AT THE TALBOT RICE GALLERY

Ms Pat Fisher, Principal Curator of the Talbot Rice Gallery, welcomed members of the General Council and their guests, the Graduates' Association, and Friends of the Talbot Rice Gallery to a private viewing of the work on display during the summer's Edinburgh International Festival. Ms Fisher provided a fascinating insight into the work of two American artists, Tim Rollins and Donald Judd, before guests were able to roam the gallery and enjoy a reception.



BBC STALWART TO DELIVER ADDRESS AT FEBRUARY LUNCH

Following the February Half-Yearly Meeting, General Council members, alumni, partners, family and friends are cordially invited to the General Council Lunch in the Playfair Library Hall, Old College. Mr Allan Little, BBC Special Correspondent, will be the after-lunch speaker.

If you would like to attend the lunch, please complete and return the form opposite no later than Thursday 31 January 2013.

Tickets at £20 include pre-lunch wine reception and a buffet lunch in the Playfair Library Hall. Table wines will be available to purchase.

THE GENERAL COUNCIL LUNCH, 9 FEBRUARY 2013

Playfair Library Hall, Old College, Saturday 9 February 2013, 12.30pm for 1pm

Please send me _____ tickets (£20 each)

A cheque for £ _____ is enclosed payable to the University of Edinburgh

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Name(s) of guest (s) _____

Dietary requirements/preferences _____

Please return to: Mrs Mary Scott, Assistant to the Secretary of the General Council, The University of Edinburgh, Charles Stewart House, 9–16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1HT, Scotland, UK, or, alternatively, you may order online at www.general-council.ed.ac.uk/forthcoming_events.htm

Closing date for applications: Thursday 31 January 2013

VET SCHOOL TO HOST JUNE MEETING AND EVENTS

HALF-YEARLY MEETING, 22 JUNE 2013

The General Council will take its June 2013 Half-Yearly Meeting to the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies at Easter Bush. Head of School, Professor David Argyle, will address the meeting and a high-profile speaker will give the after-lunch speech. The meeting and lunch will form an important part of the 2013 Alumni Weekend, a programme of events organised by Development & Alumni from 21 to 23 June. The programme will include informal social events on the Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoon, together with visits and tours of some of the University's campuses. It is anticipated that the weekend will be enjoyed by a wide range of members, staff, students, families and friends. For details, see page 29 or email alumni@ed.ac.uk



ELECTIONS

GENERAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS, FEBRUARY 2013

CANDIDATE FOR GENERAL COUNCIL ASSESSOR TO THE UNIVERSITY COURT

The following nomination has been received for the election of one Assessor to Court to serve until 31 July 2017.

 Doreen Davidson, BA 1977
Proposed by Charles Patrick Swainson, MBChB 1971
Seconded by Alan McDougall Johnston, MBA 1989

I was a recent member of the General Council Business Committee and Convener of the Finance and Services Standing Committee. I work in a large global listed company as European Senior Human Resources Director and Senior Management Committee member. This enabled me to contribute new perspectives to General Council issues and I established beneficial business relationships and encouraged meaningful interaction with the variety of University leaders who joined our committee meetings. I would love to build on this and offer in particular my established general management, communication and people skills to serve and further enhance the Governance of our University.

STATEMENT ON COURT ASSESSOR ELECTION


As only one valid nomination was received for the one available position of Court Assessor no election will be required. Accordingly the sole candidate, Ms Doreen Davidson, will be deemed to have been successful and her appointment will be announced at the Half-Yearly Meeting on 9 February 2013.

– Secretary to the General Council


CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERS OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The following nominations have been received for the election of five members of the Business Committee to serve until 31 July 2017.

The names of the candidates appear in random order, as drawn by ballot. This is also the order in which they will appear on the voting screen and paper.

 Matthew Jack McPherson, MA 2011
Proposed by Stuart Peter Tooley, MA 2012
Seconded by Harriet Jane Page, MA 2010

As EUSA President 2011–2012, I am passionate about binding together our University community. If elected, I will use my experience as a former parliamentary officer and campaigner to better engage our increasingly diverse membership, and work hard to communicate to students the vital work of the General Council.


 Ian Herbert Stevens, MA 1985
Proposed by Alan McDougall Johnston, MBA 1989
Seconded by John MacLaren Ogilvie Waddell, LLB 1978

I am a Chartered Accountant and Company director with fifteen years fundraising, strategic planning and international business leadership experience in the healthcare sector. A former Treasurer and current Vice-President of the University Sports Union, I wish to continue my University involvement by contributing energetically to the activities of the committee.

 Scott Alexander John Peter, MA 2005
Proposed by Stuart James Ritchie Walker, MA 1968
Seconded by Caroline Anne Milligan, MA 2005

Coming from the Edinburgh housing scheme (Wester Hailes), I was fortunate enough to graduate twice, MA (Hons in Scottish History and Ethnology) & PGDE as a mature student. As a primary school teacher

I passionately believe in access to education for all and welcome this opportunity to repay the university.

 Jacqueline Anne McDonnell, PhD 1983
Proposed by Edward Bruce Ritson, MBChB 1961
Seconded by Michael Wilson, MBChB 1973

My career has ranged from advertising and marketing in London and New York to a postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of Edinburgh and to founding and chairing a children's charity. A director of Midlothian Sure Start, my main interest is to provide a better future for our young people.


 Dorothy Turvey MacLeod, MBA 2001
Proposed by Kirsty Joan MacGregor, MA 1981
Seconded by Alan David Gillespie Brown, MBChB 1963

I can contribute to the work of the Business Committee through skills in partnership building, allied to experience as a project manager working on private/public sector initiatives that involve coordination of investment, development and support services. I will provide sound business knowledge through business planning and budgetary control.


 Francis Roger MacTaggart Brewis, MA 1972
Proposed by Alan McDougall Johnston, MBA 1989
Seconded by Neil Robertson Hynd, BArch 1969

I want the excellence of research and teaching in the University to be maintained and developed. The Business Committee can provide critical support to academic staff and administrators. I will use my

public administration experience to help improve communications between graduates and the University, especially through electronic media.

 June Allison Edgar, BSc 1974
Proposed by Joseph Harrower, BSc 1979
Seconded by Allan Hill Cameron Edgar, MA 1983

Knowledge of University's potential and issues as a three times student, and partner (through Scottish Enterprise) in economic development and property prospects. Extensive networks, and experience at Board and managerial level of governance, business development and strategy. Proud of our academic excellence and enthusiastic to maximise its delivery and benefits.

 William Brend Graham Carmichael, MBA 1994
Proposed by Jane Elizabeth Kille, MA 1973
Seconded by William Ruthven Gemmell, LLB 1979

Throughout my career I have championed the importance of placing graduates into the right positions. They have then enabled those organisations to succeed in their aims. I see my role on the Business Committee as helping to ensure a continued stream of educated and motivated graduates into society and commerce.

 Anne Wingate Paterson, BSc 1968
Proposed by Gavin William Thomson Scott, BCom 1979
Seconded by Mukami Irene Ndegwa McCrum, MA 1984

My work experience was in social work and community education, including youth work and health promotion. If reappointed to the Business Committee I wish to contribute to the promotion of the highest quality of education and

ELECTIONS

welfare of students and staff, and of equal opportunities and diversity within the University.



David James Robert Houston, MBA 1976

Proposed by Gretta Pritchard, MBA 1987

Seconded by Christopher John Price, BDS 1976

I have strong strategic finance and management skills which have served me well as a chief officer of two large local authorities, a director of a professional society and a management consultant. I offer to return to the University and assist its strategic planning and governance.



George Walker, MBA 1991

Proposed by Paul Ian Mills, BSc 1998

Seconded by Charles Patrick Swainson, MBChB 1971

I have worked for over 20 years in business with experience in finance and investment. Extensive experience working internationally. I will bring analytical and financial skills to the committee. A record of working effectively within large organisations. In addition my international perspective and governance skills as a Non-Executive Director.



John Gilmore Clifford, MSc 1990

Proposed by Alan David Gillespie Brown, MBChB 1963

Seconded by Alan McDougall Johnston, MBA 1989

A graduate of Oxford (German/French) and Edinburgh (European Legal Studies), and Austrian Consul for Scotland, my professional life is focused on inter-national discourse across the range of public affairs. I would wish to contribute to strengthening Edinburgh University's links with European, and other, places of learning, government and people.

VOTING IN THE GENERAL COUNCIL ELECTION

This is the time for you to participate in the governance of the University. This

can be by voting for a Court Assessor who is a full member of the Court, the supreme governing body. You can also vote for members of the Business Committee of the General Council, who are responsible for much of its work.

In February 2012 the General Council introduced online voting on a secure website. Voting now takes place online through the Elections channel of the MyEd Alumni Portal, which will be open from Monday 7 January 2013 until 17:00 GMT Wednesday 6 February 2013. You must register via the EASE registration process as explained below by 17:00 GMT on Tuesday 5 February 2013.

Voting Papers are only enclosed where members have specifically requested them by 30 November 2012 and should be completed and returned in the enclosed addressed envelope to the Secretary of the General Council. Details of all candidates appear left and on page 35. Anyone still wishing to vote by post may do so for subsequent elections by requesting a postal vote from the General Council Office before 30 November in the year prior to any election.

To register for online voting please go to www.myed.ed.ac.uk and complete the EASE registration process if you are a new MyEd Alumni Portal user. Those who registered for previous elections do not need to do so again, simply use the same username and password. If you have already used the Portal as a student, you can use your student username and password to access the Alumni Portal. If you have a University username (UUN) or know your original matriculation number you may be able to register through EASE directly. If you have your matriculation number you can normally use this as your UUN by adding an 's' before the number and register online using this. If you do not know either of these you will need to email the Information Services helpline at IS.Helpline@ed.ac.uk requesting access to MyEd and giving your full name, date of and degree awarded at first graduation from Edinburgh. A username and initial password will then be sent to you. If you experience problems when registering for, or accessing, the Alumni Portal, please also email Information Services at the above address, identifying yourself by matriculation number (if known), full name, year and degree awarded at first graduation from Edinburgh.

OFFICERS

Chairman:	HRH The Princess Royal	
Secretary:	Michael J Mitchell, BSc, PhD	2015
Registrar:	Kim Waldron, PhD, University Secretary	ex-officio

GENERAL COUNCIL ASSESSORS ON THE UNIVERSITY COURT

A Margaret Tait, BSc	2013
Alan M Johnston, MBA, CSci, CChem, FRSC, CBiol, FIBiol	2015
Ann M Smyth, BSc, PhD, MPhil	2015

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Convener: Charles Swainson, MBChB, FRCPE, FRCSE, FFPHM	2016
Vice-Convener: Frances D Dow, MA, DPhil	2016

P	Convener of Public Affairs Standing Committee: Neil R Hynd, LVO, FRIAS, FSA Scot, BArch	2013
A	Convener of Academic Standing Committee: Bruce Ritson, MD, FRCPE, FRCPsych	2014
F	Convener of Finance and Services Standing Committee: Kirsty MacGregor, MA, MBA DipEd	2015
C	Convener of Constitutional Standing Committee: Gordon D Cairns, LLB	2016

MEMBERS

'A' denotes a member of the Academic Standing Committee, 'C' a member of the Constitutional Standing Committee, 'F' a member of the Finance and Services Standing Committee, and 'P' a member of the Public Affairs Standing Committee:

CHANCELLOR'S ASSESSOR

Sheriff Principal Edward F Bowen, CBE, TD, QC	ex officio
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A	William Ruthven Gemmell, LLB	2013
A	William Shields Henderson, MA, CA	2013
P	Jane E Kille, MA, MBA	2013
A	Ian Sutherland, BSc, PhD, DSc, TD	2013
P	Simon Fairclough, MBA (co-opted)	2014
F	Luise Locke, BA, MA	2014
P	Elizabeth Morris, MBChB, MRCGP	2014
C	Ann M Sutherland, MA, FBCartS	2014
C	Morven Brown, MA, DipEd, DipEd Psych, AFBPsS	2015
F	Waverley Cameron, BSc, SM	2015
C	Michael Lugton, MA	2015
P	Ritchie Walker, MA, BSc, DipEd	2015
F	Robert (Bobby) Burt, MD, FRCA, FRCPE, FACP	2016
A	Stuart Macpherson, BSc	2016
F	Hamish McKenzie, MA	2016
C	David M Munro, MBE, BSc, PhD	2016

ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY

Mary T Scott, BA

The Constitutional Arrangements for the working of the General Council of the University of Edinburgh and its Business Committee and the Regulations for General Council Elections can be found at www.general-council.ed.ac.uk/constitution.htm

BILLET GENERAL COUNCIL PAPERS

BILLET
CONTINUED

THE GENERAL COUNCIL HALF-YEARLY MEETING, SATURDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2013

10.30AM: ROOM LT175, SCHOOL OF LAW, OLD COLLEGE

10am to 10.30am: Coffee, tea and biscuits in the Lorimer Room, School of Law, Old College

10.30am: General Council Meeting in Room G175, School of Law, Old College

After the meeting: Lunch in the Playfair Library Hall (see page 34 for details)

* Members are invited to submit questions to the meeting by email to generalcouncilquestions@hotmail.co.uk either in advance or live during the meeting. The meeting will be web cast and may be viewed live at www.general-council.ed.ac.uk/livewebcasts.htm

AGENDA FOR THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

- 1 Results of the elections of a General Council Assessor to the University Court and five members of the General Council Business Committee
- 2 Minutes of the meeting of the General Council held in the Humboldt University, Berlin, on Saturday 16 June 2012 (PAPER A)
- 3 Matters arising
- 4 Report of the Business Committee
- 5 Dates of future meetings of the General Council
- 6 Notice of forthcoming elections
- 7 Presentation by Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, of the Annual Report to the University
- 8 Any other competent business
- 9 Adjournment

PRESENT

SHERIFF PRINCIPAL
EDWARD BOWEN
Chancellor's Assessor,
in the Chair

DR KIM WALDRON
University Secretary
and Registrar of the
General Council

PROFESSOR
SIR TIMOTHY O'SHEA
Principal and
Vice-Chancellor

DR MICHAEL MITCHELL
Secretary of the
General Council

DR ALAN BROWN
Convener of the Business
Committee

55P AND 38V = 93
OTHER MEMBERS
(P = Physical; V = Virtual)

REV DR HARRIET HARRIS
Chaplain to the University

PAPER A MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL HELD IN THE HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY, BERLIN, ON 16 JUNE 2012

1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL HELD IN OLD COLLEGE, ON 11 FEBRUARY 2012

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 February 2012 were approved.

2 MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman reported that there were no matters arising from the Minutes.

3 REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Dr Alan Brown, Convener of the Business Committee, gave the report. He welcomed all participants, in Berlin and online. He appreciated the meeting being held in the Humboldt University with its long line of outstanding alumni and its prestigious future as part of the "Universities of Excellence" (*Exzellenzuniversitäten*) programme. The importance of such "away" meetings was emphasised, bringing the General Council closer to its members who were predominantly outwith the UK and

BILLET GENERAL COUNCIL PAPERS

supporting the University's internationalisation efforts. The General Council, in its role of overseeing the wellbeing of the University, had been active in the Scottish Government Higher Education Governance Review. Its response had focused on the benefit of having an independent body such as the General Council participating in the governance of the University. The report from the panel contained many sound recommendations which were already in place at Edinburgh. However others seemed counter-productive and the Business Committee had continued to remain vigilant for further developments.

There had been a presentation on the University's draft *Strategic Plan 2012–2016*. Subsequently the Business Committee commented on the Plan, which was impressive and noted that the key performance indicators required to be sufficiently challenging.

The Standing Committees had been busy and received regular presentations from senior University staff and EUSA, the student's association. These had covered the complexities of the admission procedures, particularly in light of changes to higher education funding and student fees; discussions with senior officers of EUSA, focused on common interests such as the student experience; a presentation from Professor Chris Breward, Principal of Edinburgh College of Art and Vice-Principal Creative Industries & Performing Arts, on the encouraging progress being made with the integration of the College of Art with the University and bringing together the Schools to create exciting new possibilities.

The Effectiveness Review of the Business Committee had been proceeding successfully under the chairmanship of Dr Frances Dow, Vice-Convener. It had been preparing its report and recommendations included

clarifying relationships and responsibilities, streamlining procedures and having a more active relationship with stakeholders.

The General Council Prince Philip Fund had flourished. In particular it had been possible to create another endowed access scholarship thanks to the generosity of the University's US Development Trust. Such awards were ever more essential in the changing financial climate. Gratitude was expressed to all who had contributed.

An exciting joint event with the Association of Yale Alumni – the Yale Global Alumni Leadership Exchange – was anticipated. This had been organised by the International Office, Development and Alumni and the General Council, demonstrating successful partnerships in action. Closer links with Yale were one of the desired outcomes.

Dr Brown informed the meeting that he was stepping down after eight highly enjoyable years on the Business Committee, the last four as Convener. He noted the tremendous progress the University had made under the inspired leadership of the Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, and its very promising future. After thanking all who had contributed to his convenership he wished the University and the General Council well under the forthcoming convenership of Professor Charles Swainson.

The report of the Business Committee was approved.

The full text of the Convener's remarks are contained in the *Annex* to the *Billet*.

4 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

The next Half-Yearly Meeting would take place on Saturday, 9 February 2013, in Old College.

Any motions for discussion at this meeting should be received in the General Council Office by 21 November 2012. The following Statutory Half-Yearly Meeting would be held on Saturday 22 June 2013 and any motions for discussion at this meeting should be received in the General Council Office by 3 April 2013.

5 NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS

There would be elections for one General Council Assessor to the University Court and five members of the Business Committee in February 2013. Nominations on forms available from the General Council Office and on the website should be received in the General Council Office by 21 November 2012.

6 PRESENTATION BY PROFESSOR SIR TIMOTHY O'SHEA, PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Principal thanked the General Council for its contributions to the University and its role in governance, which included the work of the General Council Assessors on Court. The presentation focused on the internationalisation of the University. It had been internationally orientated since its foundation, with a curriculum based on Paris; the medical curriculum derived largely from Leiden and Utrecht. Edinburgh also played a major role in the Enlightenment in the 18th century. However, it was particularly appropriate to be in the Humboldt University as this was where the modern research-based PhD degree, which Edinburgh adopted, was created. The international outlook had been strengthened by having a very international curriculum with staff speaking many languages – for example, Arabic had been taught since the 18th century. Just as importantly, Edinburgh had had a high proportion of international students historically, with even

more today. Many had become influential when returning home and some had become heads of state. This international ethos was essential to attract the very best staff and students, and to ensure that the research was of global significance.

Edinburgh Global, a strategy developed by Vice-Principal Professor Steve Hillier, had been highly influential. The postgraduate programme had been very successful, especially at Masters level. This had expanded to include distance and e-learning initiatives, and also continuing professional education. Not only did these support internationalisation they were also important for the University finances. They reduced dependency on travel and visa regulations, and a successful example was the Edinburgh Surgical Sciences Qualification, developed in partnership with the Royal College of Surgeons. The Global Academies concept, taking in the Global Academies of Health, Development and Environment & Society, had been wonderful. The academies offered high-quality postgraduate courses which were interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary. They also supported large international research programmes and addressed global challenges.

Numbers of international students, currently 36 per cent, had grown considerably for both undergraduates and postgraduates. Although the countries of origin were varied, the success in attracting from the USA was most creditable given the strength of US universities. Asia was growing in importance but also mainland Europe. Germany had been a considerable source for some time, particularly of law students. This was partly due to the similarity of the legal systems but also because of Edinburgh's strength in international law.

Edinburgh was the only Scottish representative in the League of

European Research Universities (LERU). It was also increasingly successful in winning grants from the EU as well as UK research funding. Total research funding this year was anticipated to be at or above previous record amounts, a tribute to staff quality.

The EUSA contribution was important, including improving teaching through a teaching award scheme. It had also been active in supporting internationalisation with support to students and events and the introduction of a student International Officer.

Area Studies were important, including the Centres for African Studies, Chinese, Japanese and many more. Having the capability to teach a wide range of languages was also vital and increasingly unusual, for example in Sanskrit which resulted in support from the Indian Council for Cultural Relations. The Confucius Institute for Scotland had been hugely successful, being given "Institute of the Year" awards for a number of years. Other major centres included the HRH Prince

Alwaleed Bin Talal Centre for the Study of Islam and the Princess Dashkova Russian Centre, the only one of its kind in a British university. Many have highly prestigious partner institutes in other countries.

Future key priorities included the student experience, partnering, outreach and the staff experience. As important as attracting students and staff to Edinburgh was Edinburgh's outreach to the world. Partnering was highly selective, and restricted to high-status institutions, particularly those with complementary research interests. There were three Liaison Offices, in China, Brazil and the USA, to facilitate interactions with government, research partnerships and University staff. Rather than having branch campuses the intention was for students and researchers to move seamlessly from one partner to another and back again, hence the need for the very highest quality partners.

The presentation was closed with a stimulating and wide-ranging question session.

The full text of the Principal's remarks, and the record of the discussion that followed the presentation, are contained in the *Annex* to the *Billet*.

7 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

There was no other competent business.

8 ADJOURNMENT

The Motion by the Convener of the Business Committee that, for the purpose of considering matters which may be transmitted to the General Council by the University Court or any other business of a competent nature, the Business Committee be empowered to act on behalf of the Council, and that this meeting be adjourned to a date to be fixed by the Business Committee, was approved.

Rev Dr Harriet Harris closed the meeting with a benediction.

The *Annex* to the *Billet*, which contains supporting papers for the Agenda, including communications from the University Court, full Standing Committee reports, a transcript of the Principal's presentation, and the Business Committee's report to the meeting on 16 June, 2012, is available at www.general-council.ed.ac.uk/annex.htm. General Council members may also request it by post from: Mrs Mary Scott, General Council Office, Charles Stewart House, 9–16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1HT. Tel 0131 650 2152; general.council@ed.ac.uk; or a copy can be picked up at the location of the Council Meeting from 30 minutes beforehand.



Previous copies of *Billet* can be found at www.general-council.ed.ac.uk/Billet.htm

BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS UPDATE

As mentioned in the Convener's Report (page 32), the provision of various bursaries is often vital for some people to be able to attend and then succeed at the University. This was why the General Council set up its own fund to provide bursaries and access scholarships, to be able to enlarge their provision, even in a relatively small way to begin with.

Our newly renamed General Council Prince Philip Fund recognises the enormous support that HRH The Prince Philip

provided over so many years. We have made gradual but significant progress, and currently have two endowed bursaries, one active and one to begin next session. The latter arose from a very generous donation from the USA Development Trust, and more details will be available after it has been awarded.

We also receive regular donations to the fund, and recently received a generous legacy donation, from the estate of one of our well known alumna Miss Mary E Mackenzie.

Miss Mackenzie was very active and took a great interest in the General Council and the University, and we appreciate her thoughtfulness very much and, with regret, send our sympathies to her family.

We hope that we can continue to receive further donations to be able to create another endowed bursary in the near future.



For more information, visit www.general-council.ed.ac.uk/GeneralCouncilScholarships.htm



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

3:14 PM 32%

Looking back, Thinking forward

LIBRARY

"Your passion can be our future. By remembering the University of Edinburgh in your will, the University Library and Collections can continue to grow and develop, ensuring Edinburgh students have access to the best resources, information and inspiration in the world."

Dr John Scally
Director of Library and Collections

Library

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its shape or size, is vital to
The University of Edinburgh.

To find out more about making a gift to The University of Edinburgh in your will, please contact Morag Murison on +44 (0)131 650 9637 or morag.murison@ed.ac.uk

We are happy to arrange a chat or simply send you an information pack.
Alternatively, visit www.edinburghcampaign.com