



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH MAGAZINE

# edit

SUMMER ISSUE 2006

INCLUDING :: BILLET + GENERAL COUNCIL PAPERS

## Something old, something new?

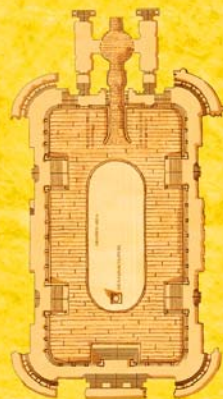
Why a makeover for the Old College Quad is long overdue



A



B



### + Pastures new

The Vet School makes an exciting new move

### + The School of Law turns 300

We look ahead to the Law School's tercentenary celebrations





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Old College Quad is a space at the historic heart of the University. Many alumni will have memories of its grandeur and plans are afoot to interpret Playfair's original designs for the 21st century. The result should be the creation of a multi-purpose venue, one in which it is hoped people can meet and enjoy the imposing classical architecture. See pages 14-15 for details of the fundraising initiative.

In contrast the University's plans for a new school will see students studying in a state-of-the-art facility. On pages 10-12 Professor Elaine Watson, Head of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies explains the benefits of a purpose-built home for the School.

For the first time, the General Council will hold a half-yearly meeting outside the UK. The June event will take place in Paris and promises to be an enjoyable and stimulating weekend. Full programme details can be found on pages 35-36.

Sharon Pringle  
Editor

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**Editor** Sharon Pringle  
edit.editor@ed.ac.uk

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## New Rector for Edinburgh

Green Party MSP Mark Ballard has been appointed the new Rector of the University of Edinburgh, following a closely-fought election featuring Tory MP Boris Johnson, former Scotsman editor Magnus Linklater and campaigning journalist John Pilger.

The election was held on 15 and 16 February and for the first time invited staff and students to vote using an electronic voting system. Ballard, who will replace Tam Dalyell as Rector, was closely followed in the results by Linklater. Boris Johnson and John Pilger came third and fourth respectively.

The University's Principal, Professor Timothy O'Shea said: "I am delighted that we had four such high-quality candidates contending this rectorial election, and that it has generated such interest and debate on issues of real importance to students and staff.

"I extend a warm welcome to Mr Ballard and look forward to working with him in our continued efforts to ensure that this University is an excellent place to study and work. I am quite sure that he will have a valuable and interesting contribution to make to the life of the institution."

He also praised the contribution of Ballard's predecessor, adding: "Tam Dalyell has done a super job as Rector over the past three years and his outstanding contribution is greatly appreciated."

Ballard pledged in his manifesto to ensure that the views of staff and students were listened to by the University and vowed to campaign on University issues such as bus passes for mature students, affordable accommodation and top-up fees as well as worldwide issues like fair trade, recycling and ethical investment.



Mark Ballard gives the thumbs up to his new role

## Leading lights lecture at Edinburgh

### Khan enlightens Edinburgh

More than 1,000 guests gathered at the Assembly Hall, New College to attend the first lecture in the University of Edinburgh Enlightenment Lecture Series, featuring Amnesty International's Secretary General Irene Khan.

Khan, who is the first woman, first Asian and first Muslim to head the global organisation, was visiting Scotland for the first time to take part in the lecture series, which is held in partnership with ScottishPower.

Khan's lecture "The War on Terror... A War on Liberty?" was the first in a series that seeks to examine aspects of the Enlightenment's legacy in the context of our own contemporary world.

Details of future events will be available at [www.ed.ac.uk/news/enlightenment/](http://www.ed.ac.uk/news/enlightenment/)

### Genomics Forum lecture with Ian Wilmot and Pallab Ghosh

In January Ian Wilmot, Professor of Reproductive Science at the University, and Pallab Ghosh, BBC Science Correspondent, presented a public lecture on the controversial issues of cloned human embryos in research and therapy. The lecture was hosted by the ESRC Genomics Policy and Research Forum.

Both lectures can be viewed online at [www.ed.ac.uk/explore/av/](http://www.ed.ac.uk/explore/av/)

## University annual turnover exceeds £400 million



The University enjoyed a year of strong financial performance with its annual turnover exceeding £400 million for the year ending 31 July 2005. This places it as the sixth largest university in the UK and the largest in Scotland in terms of overall income.

Professor Timothy O'Shea, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh, said: "The strong financial performance is driven by the success of the University of Edinburgh in student recruitment, research excellence and the good performance of the commercial spinouts and activities."

Jon Gorringer, Director of Finance for the University of Edinburgh, said: "The University of Edinburgh will continue to run its finances in a way that enables it to reinforce its many teaching and research strengths as well as take new initiatives so that it improves its position as the most internationally competitive Scottish university."

## Edinburgh scores highly with international students

The University is highly rated by international students for reputation, friendliness and teaching quality, according to the results of the Student Barometer Project, which is considered to be a global benchmarking study of expectations and experiences among international students, last autumn.

The project is undertaken by an independent organisation called i-graduate. Twenty-seven universities

participated, including 10 Russell Group universities. More than 18,400 students completed the survey, with 1091 students from 88 different countries at the University of Edinburgh responding.

Aside from being highly rated for reputation, friendliness and teaching quality, Edinburgh was voted 'the place to be' in Scotland and the second best 'place to be' in the UK.

## Edinburgh chemists aim to improve cancer drugs

Researchers at the University are a step closer to producing anti-cancer drugs with fewer unwanted side-effects than conventional chemotherapy.

The Edinburgh chemists, working with researchers at Greifswald in Germany, have developed platinum compounds which target and destroy cancer cells but leave surrounding healthy tissue unharmed.

The breakthrough, reported in the journal *Chemistry & Biology*, builds on previous work carried out at Edinburgh and Ninewells Hospital, Dundee.

Although light-activated cancer treatments are common, it is the first time non-toxic platinum light-sensitive compounds have been used to kill tumour cells. This 'Photo-Activated Chemotherapy' (PACT) developed at Edinburgh has a key advantage over existing light-sensitive therapies as it does not need oxygen – often limited at tumour sites – to become active.

It is hoped that these new platinum compounds will produce fewer side-effects than existing photo-activated drugs, which can linger in the body after treatment.

The study also suggests PACT will be more effective than existing platinum-based therapies. Platinum anti-cancer drugs are among the world's best-selling cancer treatments but, though effective at killing certain types of cancer cells, they are often linked to hair loss, nausea and damage to the nervous system.

PACT, however, targets only malignant cells. The compounds are placed on tumour cells in a 'dormant' state and then activated by lasers directed only at cancer cells, so that toxic damage to neighbouring healthy tissue can be significantly reduced.

"The results of this latest study are encouraging, as photo-activation of these platinum complexes appears to provide a unique mechanism for killing cancer cells," explains Professor Peter Sadler, of the University of Edinburgh's School of Chemistry.

"We were surprised at how quickly these novel chemical reactions take effect, but it's still too early to say how significant this new approach will be.

"Our ongoing research is now entering an exciting phase as we consider what further developments will be needed for potential clinical use."



Irene Khan speaks to an audience at the Assembly Hall, New College



University luminaries named Scots of the Year

Four of the University of Edinburgh’s leading figures have been recognised as Scots of the Year in a national list of merit recognising significant achievement in contemporary Scotland.

The inaugural Scots of the Year awards, presented by the Institute of Contemporary Scotland (ICS), acknowledge and recognise the achievements of individuals in 12 areas of modern-day Scotland including services to economics, literature and medicine.

The John Aitkenhead Award for services to education has been conferred on Professor Tom Devine, the eminent historian who holds the Sir William Fraser Chair of Scottish History and Palaeography.

Professor Geoffrey Boulton, Regius Professor of Geology and Mineralogy and Vice-Principal at the University, was awarded the David Tedford Award for services to science.

Associate director of the Centre for Theology and Public Issues, Dr Alison Elliot, who was the first woman moderator of the Church of Scotland, becomes the first holder of the James A Whyte Award for services to religion, and former Rector Dr Tam Dalyell MP, former Father of the House of Commons, has been awarded the Kenneth Alexander Award for public service.

Kenneth Roy, Director of the Institute of Contemporary Scotland said: “Education has always played a key role in the life of Scotland, and it is fitting that four figures linked with the University of Edinburgh feature in an impressive line-up of 12 individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to modern day Scotland.”

The Institute of Contemporary Scotland plc to stimulate awareness and discussion of the issues facing Scotland socially, economically and culturally.

University to host first Confucius Institute in Scotland



International musician and 4th-year economics student Yi Dong plays her Zheng (a Chinese harp) in celebration of the new Confucius Institute

The University is to host the first Confucius Institute in Scotland, a centre to promote study of the Chinese language and greater understanding of its visual and literary culture, history and business.

The announcement was made jointly in Beijing last March by First Minister Jack McConnell and Chinese Minister of Education Zhou Ji. It will be part of a global network of institutes created by the National Office for Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, a branch of the Ministry of Education in China, and in collaboration with the Chinese Embassy in London.

The Confucius Institute network has been created to spearhead the teaching of Chinese language and culture worldwide and to strengthen economic and business ties. The Ministry of Education in China intends to open around 100 Confucius Institutes across the globe by 2010.

The Confucius Institute for Scotland will be operational from this year, when it will launch a programme of language and business courses. From 2007 onwards it will offer a broader range of cultural and

academic programmes, including language and cultural exchanges and training, as well as services to enhance the business and trade relations between Scotland and China. The Institute will build on the University's links with Fudan University in Shanghai (one of China’s top three universities), which will provide staff on long-term secondment to the University of Edinburgh to support the work of the Institute.

The University’s Principal, Professor Timothy O’Shea says: “The University of Edinburgh shares a long history of over 150 years of productive collaboration with China. The Confucius Institute will be an excellent and welcome addition to the University. It will allow us to strengthen and develop our existing programmes in Chinese studies, including Chinese language, art and culture, and will open up exciting opportunities for joint research programmes and workshops, and staff exchanges. Indeed, I hope that the Confucius Institute in Edinburgh will prove to be a valuable resource for furthering Scottish engagement in China in a range of areas – both cultural and commercial.”



University medics help the nation’s health

The University of Edinburgh is to play a key role in a major national health project. Generation Scotland is an ambitious scheme that will investigate the ways genetic and lifestyle factors influence common hereditary illnesses.

Leading doctors and scientists from the medical schools at the Universities of Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow are driving forward the multi-million pound project, which will follow the health of 50,000 Scottish family members over the next generation.

Professor David Porteous, of the University of Edinburgh, said: “The idea behind Generation Scotland was hatched several years ago. It anticipated that the Human Genome Project, completed in 2003, would give us a fantastic opportunity to understand how the genes we inherit influence our health. Now we want to apply this knowledge to the benefit of all.”

The scientific partners have begun collecting health and genetic data from Scottish families to build a rich store of material to explore the causes of common diseases.

Families are being invited to help the Generation Scotland team explore not

only the inherited nature of some diseases, but also look at how lifestyle, diet and environment influence the development of conditions like heart disease, dementia, cancer and diabetes among others.

The findings will help identify those at high risk of developing genetic conditions, and allow early treatments with new drugs designed to combat such diseases. The genetic information will also help adapt prescription drugs to individual needs.

The first wave of volunteers, recruited through their general practitioners, will form the Scottish Family Health Study – the biggest family-based project of its kind in the UK.

Scottish Health Minister Andy Kerr said: “Preventative advice and medicine is an increasing part of our drive towards better health in Scotland. If we can identify groups of people at risk of particular conditions, such as heart disease, osteoporosis or mental illness, we can give them the support they need early in life to avoid problems, or if they are older, work with them to manage their conditions more effectively.”

Turning back the clock on heart disease



People with heart disease can now ‘turn back the clock’ on the fatty build-up that clogs up the arteries, according to results of a new landmark scientific study.

The two-year study, called ASTEROID, was presented last month at the American College of Cardiology conference in Atlanta. It demonstrates that for the first time a statin, a treatment used to lower cholesterol – rosuvastatin (Crestor) – can reverse the fatty build-up in the artery wall.

Dr Neal Uren, an investigator of the ASTEROID study, a consultant cardiologist at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and a senior lecturer at the University of Edinburgh, comments: “For the first time we have shown that it is possible to essentially turn the clock back in the arteries of people with heart disease. This is the first time we have seen significant reversal of the fatty deposits that clog up arteries. This has exciting implications for people at risk of heart disease.”



## Researchers optimise oil recovery

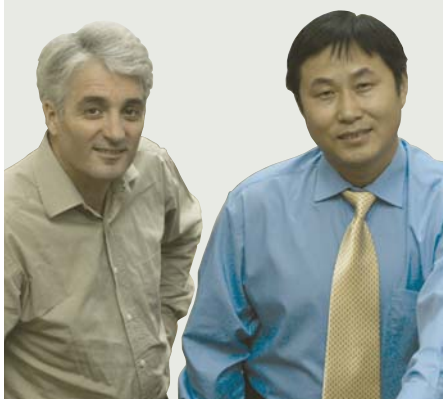
A research consortium, including Professor Ian Main and Dr Lun Li from the School of GeoSciences at the University of Edinburgh, has developed a technique to improve oil recovery from mature fields.

Producing oil from the subsurface is complicated and requires a detailed understanding of the geological complexities of subsurface structure. The physical modelling of reservoir behaviour is used to plan field development and to determine the location of injector wells to maintain fluid pressure in mature provinces, such as the North Sea.

The researchers have developed a complementary approach to reservoir modelling that will help predict future production rates for a given injection strategy. The technique has already been proven on two oilfields, including a North Sea site.

Principal Investigator of the consortium, Professor Ian Main, said: "This innovation could have a significant effect on the efficiency of operating oilfields worldwide, especially the more mature fields where optimising recovery is important."

Professor Ian Main (left) and Dr Lun Li



## University earns awards for supporting women in science



Professor Sarah Cunningham-Burley (left) and Professor Lesley Yellowlees

The University of Edinburgh has gained two awards in a nationwide initiative that seeks to support women involved in science, engineering and technology. The awards, derived from developmental work by the Scientific Women's Academic Network (SWAN) and now adopted as part of the Royal Society Athena Project, were presented at a ceremony at the Royal Society in London on 15 March.

The Athena Project seeks to promote the careers of women in science, engineering and technology in higher education and research, and to achieve a significant increase in the number of women recruited to top posts. Apart from one University silver award, the University of Edinburgh's School of Chemistry is the only other university department in the UK to receive a silver award, while the University as a whole is being given a bronze award.

The School of Chemistry will be given a silver award in recognition of its commitment to two key areas of SWAN's work – introducing practices which encourage a good work-life balance and fostering policies which encourage success among women involved in science. The University will be granted

a bronze award for its work in three key areas – helping to raise the staff profile of women involved in science, engineering and technology; providing positive support for women, particularly at key career transition points; and influencing the gender balance in the decision-making process.

Lesley Yellowlees, head of the University of Edinburgh's School of Chemistry (who is herself the first woman to lead a UK chemistry department), said: "The achievement of the Silver SWAN award is great news. Chemistry over the last few years has undertaken a number of initiatives to focus on creating a culture that is life-friendly, in that we support our staff in maintaining their work-life balance. We believe that this enhances the working experience for all staff and creates an open and enjoyable work environment. To receive the Silver SWAN is just reward for a number of years of hard work and dedication from all of our staff."

Michael Anderson, Senior Vice-Principal and Principal's nominee for Equality and Diversity oversight and development within the University of Edinburgh, has welcomed the announcement of the bronze award: "The University has been an active participant in Athena initiatives and projects since 2000. It is committed to diversity and equal opportunity for all staff and students, and aims to embed these principles as fundamental, assisting all its members to realise their full potential."

"To support this commitment, the University has developed an Equality and Diversity Strategy Action Plan and has set up the Equal Opportunities Technical Advisory Group to determine its progress. The University has also implemented and regularly updates a number of policies such as career development schemes, promotions and grading, performance management reviews, childcare vouchers, and flexible working policies."

## Edinburgh Alumni honoured by Queen

A number of University of Edinburgh alumni have been recognised in the New Year's Honours List:

**CBE** – Commander of the Order of the British Empire

**Professor (James) Louis Appleby CBE**, 1977 BSc (M), 1980 MB ChB, National Director for Mental Health and Professor of Psychiatry, the University of Manchester. For services to Medicine.

**Professor Patricia Broadfoot CBE**, 1977 MEd, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Education, the University of Bristol. For services to Social Science.

**Professor Alan Fairlamb CBE**, 1968 BSc (M), 1971 MB ChB, Professor of Biochemistry, the University of Dundee. For services to Medical Science.

**OBE** – Officer of the Order of the British Empire

**Sheriff John Allan OBE**, 1962 BL, Sheriff, Lothian and Borders. For services to the Administration of Justice.

**Professor Patricia Peattie OBE**, 1974 BSc (SS), Lately Assistant Principal, Napier University. For services to Education and to Health in Scotland.

**Ms Sally Witcher OBE**, 1999 MSc, Chair, Disability Employment Advisory Committee. For services to Disabled People.

**MBE** – Member of the Order of the British Empire

**Mr Patrick Stirling-Aird MBE**, 1966 LLB, Secretary, Scottish Raptor Study Groups. For services to Wildlife Conservation.

**Mr John Willder MBE**, 1962 MA, Lately Management Information Systems Manager, Gateway Sixth Form College, Leicester. For services to Further Education.

Alumni in the Diplomatic Service and Overseas List:

**MBE** – Member of the Order of the British Empire

**Ms Naomi Clapham MBE**, 1967 BSc (SS), For services to the British Community in Algeria.

Member of University Court in the Civil List

**Ms Shonaig Macpherson CBE**, Chair, Scottish Council for Development & Industry. For services to Entrepreneurship.

## At the cutting edge

Robust cutting technology designed to withstand the rigours of the North Sea could soon be adapted to perform delicate surgery, thanks to engineers at the University of Edinburgh.

Tools which can sever undersea cables using powerful jets of water are being redesigned to cut human bone and tissue in hospital operating theatres. Trials suggest that a new generation of surgical water jet tools could offer greater speed and accuracy than existing medical instruments.

Surgical cutting tools have changed surprisingly little since medieval times, but they are inexpensive, manoeuvrable and popular with surgeons. They do, however, have drawbacks which water jet tools could overcome.

Sawing with a serrated blade can, for example, cause heat damage to surrounding tissue, killing otherwise

healthy cells and inhibiting healing. Procedures using these instruments can also produce a lot of bone debris and carry a risk of infection. Additionally, the tools have a limited lifespan and sometimes lack adaptability.

Water jet tools would minimise trauma to surrounding tissue and reduce blood loss because there is no physical contact with the patient. They would also make cleaner cuts and offer greater precision which would reduce operating times.

Researchers now hope to overcome some of the disadvantages, which include excessive noise and water splashback. They also want to scale down the tools for theatre use and make them operable at lower water pressures. A detailed feasibility study, seeking the views of surgeons, will be carried out in due course.

"This type of technology has been used for about 25 years in the North

Sea, where the speed and accuracy is desirable because divers' time is so expensive," explained Professor Joe McGeough, of the University of Edinburgh's School of Engineering and Electronics.

"Now it could offer real benefits in the medical field. By speaking to a number of surgeons, I became aware of the difficulties associated with conventional cutting tools used in theatre, even though surgeons are, for the most part, happy using them.

"We are keen to develop a high-pressure water jet scalpel which offers flexibility, and is quick and comfortable for a surgeon to use."



## Study discovers diesel dangers



Inhaling diesel exhaust at levels typically found in large cities may disrupt normal blood-vessel and clotting activity, according to a new study carried out by the University.

The report, published in *Circulation*, the journal of the American Heart Association, may explain the link between air pollution and heart disease, said lead researcher Dr Nicholas Mills, of the Centre for Cardiovascular Science at the University of Edinburgh.

In the study, researchers from Edinburgh and Sweden found that exposure to diesel exhaust for one hour during exercise caused a significant decrease in blood vessels' natural ability to expand (dilate). Exposure to air pollution also decreased levels of an enzyme that helps prevent clots from forming.

Increases in air pollution are linked to death and illness involving the heart and blood vessels. The link between air pollution and heart disease is strongest for very small dust particles, of which the combustion of diesel and petrol in road transportation is the major source. But the underlying factors responsible for these effects of small particles on the heart and blood vessels have remained largely unknown.

In previous work, the group has reported abnormal blood vessel function in cigarette smokers, and this provided a clue. "Cigarette smoke is an important indoor air pollutant," Mills said. "We hypothesised that the particles in diesel exhaust are likely to be just as harmful as particles derived from burning tobacco."

The researchers tested their theory on 30 healthy, nonsmoking men from 20 to 38 years old. The study participants underwent two separate one-hour evaluations, two weeks apart. Researchers conducted the test in a specially-built diesel exposure chamber, where the men were exposed to either filtered air or diesel exhaust while riding a stationary bicycle.

Two and six hours after being in the exposure chamber, the men received infusions of vasodilating drugs – substances that cause blood vessels to relax and expand – in one arm. Researchers measured blood flow in the infused and non-infused arms. They found that forearm blood flow decreased significantly two hours after diesel exposure, and the reduced response to the vasodilators persisted at six hours. Such changes in the blood vessels are a risk factor for heart attacks.

"Whether these findings apply to gasoline-powered engines is unclear," said Mills. Diesel fuel and gasoline are burnt differently during engine operation.

"Diesel exhaust consists of a complex mixture of particles and gases. Before we can advocate the widespread use of particle traps in diesel engines, we need to verify that combustion-derived particles are the responsible component," Mills said. "If we do that, then it is likely that particle traps on exhaust pipes and cleaner fuels, currently under development, will greatly benefit public health."

## Edinburgh scientists develop groundbreaking contraceptive

A team of experts from the University of Edinburgh are developing a contraceptive pill which they hope may protect against breast cancer, as well as being helpful in the treatment of fibroids, endometriosis and pre-menstrual syndrome.

Professor David Baird, Emeritus Professor of Reproductive Endocrinology and lead researcher on the project, said the work was still at a very early stage, but indicated the new pill could be available within five years. He revealed the news at a briefing held to mark the 50th anniversary of the first clinical trials of the contraceptive pill.

The Edinburgh scientists hope that the new treatment will not carry the same increased risk of breast cancer thought to be associated with the current pill, which contains the hormones oestrogen and progesterone. The new contraceptive may also reduce the risk of thrombosis for older women who smoke or are overweight.

The new pill works by blocking the hormone progesterone, which causes eggs to be released into the womb each month, stopping the monthly cycle of periods. Initial trials have provided positive results, with what researchers describe as very few side effects.

Professor Baird and Professor Richard Anderson, Professor of Clinical Reproductive Science at The University of Edinburgh and Professor Anna Glasier, Director of Sexual and Reproductive Health at The University of Edinburgh and lead clinician for Lothian Primary Care NHS Trust, were all present at the event.



## Woodland revival may be blowing in the wind

Researchers at the University of Edinburgh have discovered that depleted natural woodlands may be better equipped to reverse the effects of deforestation than was previously thought. A new study of a remote and barren Scottish hillside suggests that scientists have greatly underestimated the ability of tree populations to disperse their genes over a wide area, which is good news for conservationists seeking to revitalise the remnants of Britain's native woodlands, as well as those striving to protect fragile tropical rainforests.

The study of scattered ash trees in the Southern Uplands found that seeds carried by the wind play a surprisingly significant role in helping to regenerate tree populations. Earlier research had indicated that, compared to pollen, wind-carried seed played only a minor role in helping trees to spread their genes. But, because seeds carry two copies of every gene (whereas pollen carries only one),

depleted woodland areas appear to be less genetically isolated – and therefore biologically 'fitter' – than previous studies had indicated.

Dr Richard Ennos, of the University of Edinburgh's School of Biological Sciences, said: "Concern has been expressed about the prospects for these potentially genetically isolated populations. If remnants are no longer able to exchange genes, then their ability to adapt to future climate change will be compromised. They will also possess genetic features that make them inappropriate as sources of seed for restoring native woodlands.

"Our study is good news for conservation. Thanks to its effective seed dispersal, ash can defy the genetic threats posed by fragmentation. Furthermore, local ash populations, despite their small size, can be used with confidence as seed sources for native woodland restoration."



## University celebrates its Fleming connection

The historic association between Sir Alexander Fleming and the University of Edinburgh was celebrated, when Edinburgh Technopole's latest state-of-the-art building was named after him.

The 36,000<sup>2</sup> ft Fleming Building, which houses high-quality office and laboratory space, is the latest high-profile addition to the world-class science park, jointly developed by the University and property company Grosvenor. The park has been the home to two of the world's fastest supercomputers, as well as Xilinx, a global leader in the semiconductor industry.

Ian Murphy, Director of Technopole, commented: "The completion of the Fleming Building hails the next stage in Edinburgh Technopole as a dynamic environment and outstanding place to work, as well as being a world-leading facility for science and technology innovation."

Professor Timothy O'Shea remarked: "We felt it was fitting to name our latest building after Sir Alexander Fleming, to celebrate his association with the University but also to recognise his spirit of pioneering change and scientific advancement."

Alex Fleming was Rector of the University from 1951-1954.





An ambitious £37 million appeal is helping to keep Edinburgh at the forefront of developments in veterinary medicine. Ronald Kerr charts its progress.

# vets set their sights ON PASTURES NEW

**It is a familiar story to anyone who thumbs through the property pages: urban dwellers seeking to escape the confines of the city. But, for that most venerable of Edinburgh institutions, the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, the imminent move from city centre to country setting is born of necessity rather than a whim.**

Relocating to fresh pastures in Midlothian is fitting: not only does the pastoral setting seem apt for those whose vocation is the welfare of animals, but, more significantly, it comes at a time when veterinary medicine as a whole is breaking new ground.

These days, thinking of vets primarily as people who treat the family Labrador is rather like imagining the modern fire service is principally concerned with the rescue of cats from trees. Although one in two British households now owns a pet,

domestic animals are not the Dick Vet's sole concern: its wider goal is to help address the global skills shortages in such key areas as farm animal practice, biomedical research and food safety.

The demand for veterinary expertise has never been greater: the Foot-and-Mouth outbreak of 2001 underlined the leading role vets will play when future epidemics strike; major scares such as E. coli, Salmonella and BSE mean that vets will be key players in the food industry too; and, in the public health arena, vets will help monitor the threat of SARS, AIDS and avian 'flu, which have their origins in animals.

Meeting the demand is a costly, complex business and so a drive to raise £37 million for a new veterinary school has begun. With a funding package of £29 million in place, a campaign to raise £8 million from philanthropic sources is under way.

The departure from Summerhall after more than 90 years will be an emotional one – not just for staff and students, but also for countless alumni worldwide for whom the distinguished old building represents the first steps on their career ladder.

The move is one which would have pleased that most forward-thinking of practitioners, the school's founder, William Dick. His studious countenance, captured in a stained-glass window in the Summerhall foyer, will also make its way to Easter Bush, a continuing reminder of the spirit of scientific inquiry which informed his pioneering work.

The upheaval will be worth the effort. Once the six-mile move from the Meadows is completed in 2009, Edinburgh's unrivalled new facilities will be second to none.

Professor Elaine Watson in Summerhall



“We will be uniquely placed in the UK to provide the best possible environment in which to train tomorrow’s vets, and the new building is crucial if we are to provide the profession with the people that it so urgently needs.”



The Head of School, Professor Elaine Watson, believes it is the most exciting opportunity for the School since it relocated to Summerhall in 1916 from its original site in Clyde Street: “We will be uniquely placed in the UK to provide the best possible environment in which to train tomorrow’s vets, and the new building is crucial if we are to provide the profession with the people that it so urgently needs.”

The new school will form part of a larger complex of clinics, veterinary research buildings and farm facilities at Easter Bush, where there has been an impressive investment of £11.5m since 2000.

A new purpose-built school will allow significantly more students from a wider range of backgrounds to study in state-of-the-art facilities, which will offer hands-on experience from the first day of teaching. An innovative new curriculum will allow more student choice, and more self-directed and problem-based learning.

The students will be in good company. They will observe at close quarters the work of researchers like Dr Mark Bronsvort, a lecturer in Veterinary Epidemiology, whose work in Cameroon on the spread of foot-and-

mouth disease – and, more recently, the H5N1 virus that causes avian flu – is typical of the dynamic role which vets have to play in the modern world.

Although his work frequently takes him abroad, Mark sees the move to a single site at Easter Bush as beneficial: “It’s far better if you can bring everyone together on the one site – that way people like me, who are working in the field, can interact more readily with pure scientists such as the virologists and bacteriologists who are based in the lab.”

It is a view shared by Dr Sarah Cleaveland, another well-travelled lecturer based in the Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine, who is working on a dog vaccination programme in Tanzania which, if successful, could play a vital role in the battle against rabies. Her group’s plan to vaccinate 40,000 dogs each year should drastically cut rates of infection and save lives.

Says Sarah: “The sort of questions that my team and I are asking can only be properly addressed by involving people from a range of disciplines. The broader the spectrum of expertise that you have in new purpose-built facilities, the better it is for everyone.”



## Spirit of Enlightenment Photography Competition

# photography competition winners

In Edit’s Enlightenment-themed Summer edition, we gave our readers the opportunity to demonstrate their creative photography skills by launching an exciting photography competition. We asked both professional and amateur photographers to submit images that best captured the “Spirit of Enlightenment”.

### Winners

The winners and runners-up stood out for their excellent use of light and colour, as well as their individual interpretations of the theme. Mariah Skellorn, in the professional category, received a Fujifilm Pro digital camera, and Jonathan Henderson, in the amateur category, received a Fujifilm S20 digital camera. Both runners-up shared £300 in Fujifilm vouchers.

### PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY

1st Prize	<b>Mariah Skellorn</b> Title: “River”	1
Runner-up	<b>Alex Hewitt</b> Title: “Reach for the Sun”	2

### AMATEUR CATEGORY

1st Prize	<b>Jonathan Henderson</b> Title: “The Ring of Brodgar: George Mackay Brown’s Enlightening Landscape”	3
Runner-up	<b>Fred Jagger</b> Title: “God in the Details”	4



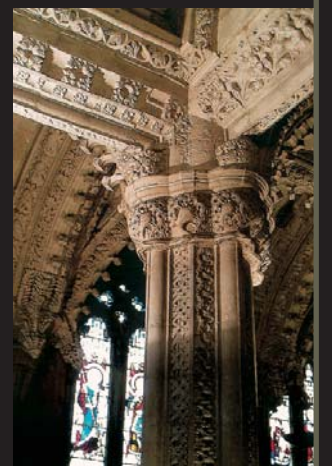
1



3



2



4





# something old something new?

**Old College is not only the landmark of the University of Edinburgh, but also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is difficult not to be impressed by the building's architecture, but a potential £1m makeover of its quadrangle – which has never been fully completed – could add the vital finishing touches to a site that has the potential to become one of the city's top landmarks. Claire Simpson investigates.**

It's Summer 2009 and excited graduates mill on the fresh, green lawn, clutching their University of Edinburgh scrolls, while sipping on champagne and nibbling strawberries. Proud parents gaze at the grandeur of the spectacular building that surrounds them on the paved terrace that offsets their surrounding beautifully.

This is not a Higher Education marketing brochure fantasy but a realistic vision of what the University's Old College Quadrangle could become, should an ambitious £1m makeover go ahead. The development has been the personal project of Dr Lyndhurst Collins, who has been campaigning for improvements to the Old College Quad since his arrival at the University 35 years ago.

He says: "The Old College and its Quadrangle, designed by Robert Adam and William Playfair, is one of Scotland's foremost architectural masterpieces. As custodians of this superb edifice, embodying the core philosophy of the Scottish Enlightenment, there is now a moral imperative on the University of Edinburgh to undertake an 'interpretation' of what Playfair may have envisioned for one of the most important elements of Scotland's and Edinburgh's heritage."

This is not the first time that an attempt to redevelop the Quad has been established. In 200 years there have been 22 unsuccessful attempts to revamp the quadrangle area at Old College. So, why try again? John Leishman, Assistant Depute Director of Estates and Buildings credits Dr Lyn Collins as the main driving force behind the Quad development. He also reminds us that: "Buildings need to evolve to the needs of the day."

Old College, as we know it today, gradually evolved from 1789 when the foundation stone was laid, to 1887, when the Golden Boy was put in place following an act of philanthropic giving. The building of the University's landmark has not been without its problems. The redevelopment of the Quad could become the final piece in the jigsaw for a building that some would argue is not truly complete without finalising the vision of its original architects.

The first architect commissioned to work on Old College was Robert Adam, a former University of Edinburgh student, who was part of a large architectural family and was considered to be one of the leading architects of his time. He was appointed to the project with a view to

creating one building to replace the collection of College buildings that housed the academic life of the University.

His plans for the Quadrangle were quite different to what we see today. His double quadrangle consisted of a small First Court, which would have given access to the professors' lodgings, followed by an inner Great Court, which would have led to the academic halls and lecture rooms.

This vision was never realised, however, as Adam died two years after building began. His brothers, William and James, continued as the supervising architects but financial issues, arising as a result of the outbreak of the Napoleonic Wars and the introduction of Income Tax, halted proceedings until 1816, when 27-year old architect William Playfair was commissioned, following a public competition to complete the project.

Playfair's winning plan stayed close to Adam's intentions for the remainder of Old College but his vision for the courtyard differed slightly, as he opted for the single rather than the double quadrangle. But it was this area of the design that suffered when the financial problems surfaced during the second phase of Playfair's project. The Quadrangle, along with the dome, failed to be completed as the plans intended. The dome was added at a later date, following a generous donation from Gorgie lawyer Robert Cox but the quadrangle remained incomplete.

Although no-one can know for sure what Playfair's intention for the Old College Quadrangle was – whether he planned to use paving or grass – most are agreed

that the area was never designed to be covered in the grey gravel that we see today. The new proposed design for the Quadrangle is an interpretation of what Playfair might have created today.

The proposed design was submitted by Edinburgh-based architects Simpson & Brown, which was one of four firms invited to submit a plan for the Quadrangle. John Leishman, who along with Dr Collins helped to select the plan, says: "Simpson & Brown's design was the most traditional and the most in sympathy with the design of Old College itself."

James Simpson, of Simpson & Brown, was excited to become involved with the project. He says: "Old College is one of the great spaces in Edinburgh. I love the way Old College is connected to the city. It epitomises the classical foundations of Scottish education."

Speaking about Simpson & Brown's design for the Quad, he says that interpreting Playfair was "fairly easy" as there are already three Playfair quadrangles in Edinburgh – at New College, Donaldsons and possibly George Heriot's School. But Simpson & Brown did stray from classic Playfair to accommodate the modern-day functions of the building.

Playfair's plan did not provide a vehicle entrance, something that Simpson & Brown's design needed to accommodate. The firm also introduced grass into the design, as it was felt that the Quadrangle may be "too austere" without it.

However, the Old Quad redevelopment is about much more than aesthetics. The improvements will offer many benefits for the University as a whole, as well as

its staff and students. Dr Collins has a specific vision for the new Quad design, as the perfect venue for graduation celebrations, but it is hoped that it will also be able to operate as a high-class venue for festival shows and will help cement Old College's position as a city landmark.

John Leishman says: "It will attract many more visitors and tourists and will therefore provide people with memories of the building that they can take home with them, enhancing the profile of the University."

An extra benefit will be to provide a clearer access point to the Talbot Rice Gallery, something that the gallery's Principal Curator, Pat Fisher supports. She says: "Any enhancement to the quadrangle to welcome the public is an enhancement to the Gallery and our business. We have 30,000 visitors a year, many of whom have difficulty finding us because many people believe the quadrangle to be a private area. An enhancement to the space will allow us to act as a cultural hub for the University and encourage people to linger longer in its environs."

The aesthetic, functional and business benefits that the Quad makeover will bring are indeed numerous but, above all, the redevelopment of the Quad will reinforce Old College's status as the University landmark and will signal the pride the University takes in the historic building. John Leishman says: "Old College is the flagship building for the University. The redevelopment will reinforce its position and its permanence."

“It will attract many more visitors and tourists and will therefore provide people with memories of the building that they can take home with them, enhancing the profile of the University.”



# gallery



Talbot Rice Gallery is the public art gallery of the University of Edinburgh. The Gallery has a commitment to showing exhibitions of work by Scottish and International artists, promoting knowledge, understanding and new ideas through thematic exhibitions, events and publications.

The University's permanent collection is housed in the Georgian Gallery and the current display consists of the Torrie Collection of Old Master paintings and bronzes.

A dynamic education programme is presented throughout the year, check [www.trg.ed.ac.uk](http://www.trg.ed.ac.uk) for listings or email [info.talbotrice@ed.ac.uk](mailto:info.talbotrice@ed.ac.uk) to sign up to a free bulletin providing further information.

Admission to all exhibitions is free.

## Friends of the Talbot Rice Gallery

By organising fund-raising activities, lectures and visits, Friends help support the work of the Gallery projects. One particular aim of the Friends is to encourage visits to privately owned works of art not normally on show to the public. Further information on the Friends can be found on the website. Applications are available in the Gallery.

► **The friends are currently recruiting for an Honorable Secretary to join the Committee. Please call the Gallery Administrator on 0131 650 2211 if you would like further information about this opportunity.**

► **22 April – 3 June 2006**

## Divided Selves: The Scottish Self-Portrait from the 17th Century to the Current day

20 June – 2 September 2006  
The Fleming Collection, London

The University of Edinburgh and the Talbot Rice Gallery is proud to present Divided Selves, a collaboration with the Fleming Collection. This major exhibition showing the first comprehensive survey of the history and distinctive character of the self-portrait in Scottish art is launched at the Talbot Rice Gallery in April 2006. The exhibition not only includes the finest examples of the Scottish self-portrait but also traces its varied development within the constant changing social history of Scotland from the 17th century up to the present.

This wide-ranging survey of a truly fascinating topic will include over 80 works in a variety of different mediums and modes of presentations - from painting and sculpture to photography and video installation.

► **17 June - 15 July 2006**

## Margot Sandeman

► **4 August - 30 September 2006**

## GirlPower-BoyHood

► **14 October - 2 December 2006**

## Lucy McKenzie

round room, **Keith Farquhar**  
Georgian Gallery, **Henry Raeburn and his Printmakers**

► **20 January - 10 March 2006**

## Jamie Shovlin, Aggregate

## Talbot Rice Gallery

The University of Edinburgh  
Old College, South Bridge  
Edinburgh EH8 9YL

T: 0131 650 2210  
F: 0131 650 2213

W: [www.trg.ed.ac.uk](http://www.trg.ed.ac.uk)

To receive regular email bulletins on the Gallery's exhibition and events programme please email [subscribe.talbotrice@ed.ac.uk](mailto:subscribe.talbotrice@ed.ac.uk)

**Opening hours**  
Tuesday - Saturday, 10am-5pm

Admission free

For education enquiries and to receive information on events

T: 0131 650 2085  
E: [info.talbotrice@ed.ac.uk](mailto:info.talbotrice@ed.ac.uk)



**Scottish  
Arts Council**



1



2



3



4



5



6



7

## 1 Self-portrait, c. 1804/5

Sir David Wilkie (1785-1841), Divided Selves

## 2 Kathrine Ærtebjerg

External, Internal, GirlPower-Boyhood, 2004

## 3 Christina with Katy

Margot Sandeman, 2004

## 4 Smoking Ban

Lucy McKenzie, 2006

## 5 Brush Your Teeth

Keith Farquhar, 2004

## 6 William Robertson

Sir Henry Raeburn, R.A., 1792

## 7 'Work and documentation of Naomi V. Jelish'

Jamie Shovlin & John Ivesmail, 2004



# Edinburgh makes Legal history

From Charles Erskine, the first Chair of Public Law and the Law of Nature and Nations in 1707, to the recently-conferred Professor Emeritus of Medical Law, Alexander McCall Smith, the University of Edinburgh can boast a fine tradition, stretching 300 years, of developing first-rate legal education. As the University launches its Law tercentenary campaign, *Edit* celebrates the School of Law's special anniversary with two of its eminent professors.

**At almost 300 years old, Edinburgh's School of Law is older than the piano, the telephone, the automobile and even Old College, the building which houses it today.**

A series of events, including receptions, lectures, reunions and honorary graduations, begins this summer to celebrate next year's special anniversary, which marks 300 years since Charles Erskine, the first chair of Public Law and the Law of Nature and Nations, was appointed. Almost 300 years on, the holder of that position today, Professor Sir Neil MacCormick says: "Law teaching at Edinburgh has gone from strength to strength and the tercentenary is a good moment to pause and take stock."

And there is plenty to reflect upon throughout the School's 300-year history. Professor MacCormick reminds us: "Over the 300 years, the School of Law has produced more of Scotland's judges and senior advocates than any other institution. Generation by generation this law school has produced a huge number of distinguished public servants and figures of public life in Scotland and beyond."

His colleague Professor John W Cairns, the Professor of Legal History agrees: "Edinburgh graduates have a dominant role on the bench, but are also found in many other walks of life, such as Neil MacGregor, who was the first director of the British National Gallery, and is now the director of the British Museum."

The exciting programme of events provides a vital opportunity for the School of Law to enhance its links with former students, something that Professor MacCormick is keen to achieve: "[The Tercentenary] is a good chance to re-establish better relationships. It's good for graduates to remember that the University takes pride in their achievements," he says.

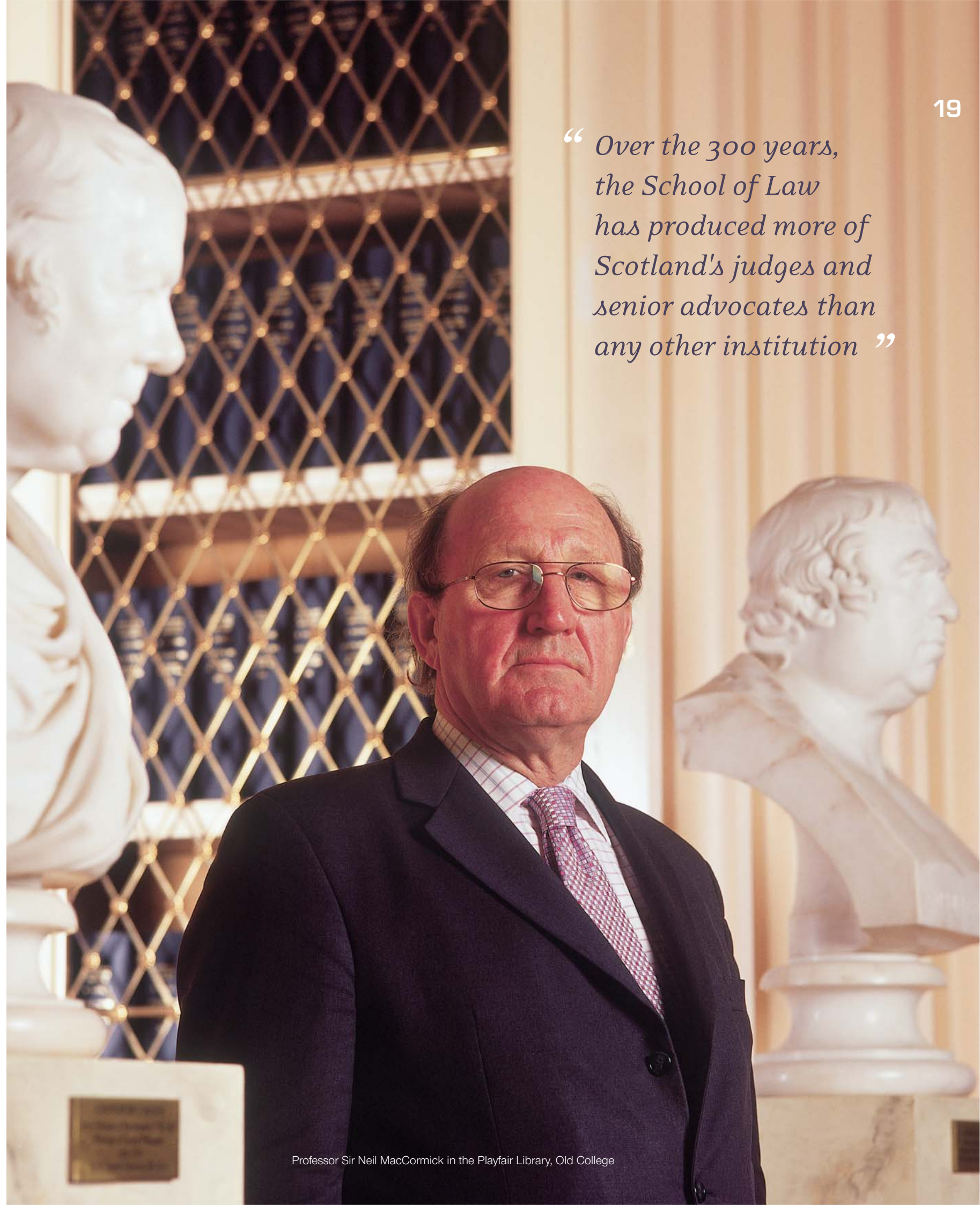
The anniversary not only provides a chance to reflect, and reunite, but also to look to the future. An ambitious campaign has been established to secure funding for a range of projects that will help enhance the continuing standards of excellence that the School has long been associated with. The projects include the establishment of a new Chair in Medical Jurisprudence position, a programme of Tercentenary scholarships and bursaries, the Tercentenary Fellowship, developments to the Law Library and the creation of a purpose-built moot court facility.

Professor MacCormick stresses the importance of the Tercentenary campaign: "It provides the opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of legal education to the community at large, the University community and to reinstate the significance of this law school in the world of international legal scholarship."

He adds: "We already have high visibility and quality and it's a chance to wave the flag higher."

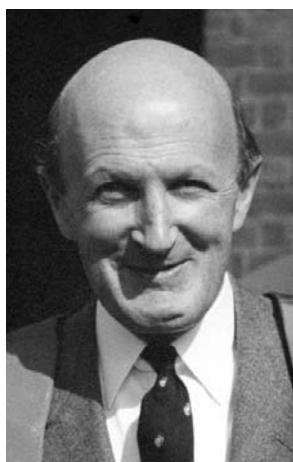
To find out more about the campaign and the programme of events, visit [www.edinburghcampaign.com/campaign/tercentenary.aspx](http://www.edinburghcampaign.com/campaign/tercentenary.aspx)

“ Over the 300 years, the School of Law has produced more of Scotland's judges and senior advocates than any other institution ”



Professor Sir Neil MacCormick in the Playfair Library, Old College





Professor Archibald Sutherland Duncan 17/7/14 - 1/10/92

## Archie Duncan Memorial Legacy for Fellowships

The wife of Professor Archie Duncan, former Dean of Medicine, has left a legacy of £700,000 to fund The Archie Duncan Memorial Fellowships in Medical Education and Medical Ethics.

The first two fellowships will commence in September 2006.

## Happy Birthday, James Clerk Maxwell!

What is light? How can it travel through empty space? Why does it never slow down? How can you connect a phone without wires? What are Saturn's rings made of? And how did a 19th-century Scotsman answer these questions just by thinking about them?

At the Royal Museum's Summer Science Show, Professor Graeme Ackland of the University of Edinburgh will give an exciting lecture-demonstration, with audience participation, to celebrate the achievements of Scotland's greatest scientist from his schoolboy paper read to the Royal Society through his masterwork on electromagnetism to his early death on the threshold of discovering relativity.

This is just one of a series of events being held in celebration of the 175th anniversary of the birth of James Clerk Maxwell.

After graduation from the University of Edinburgh with distinction, Maxwell went on to become one of the most influential physicists of the 19th century. His research was to have profound implications for the way we view reality, and led to some of the most important discoveries of modern times. In defining the nature of electricity, gases, magnetism and light, Maxwell paved the way for the invention of everything from radar to mobile phones, and even Einstein's Theory of Relativity. Einstein once said: "One scientific epoch ended and another began with James Clerk Maxwell."

For more information about the programme of events log on to [www.maxwellyear2006.org/html/events.html](http://www.maxwellyear2006.org/html/events.html)

## New Collection for St Cecilia's Museum

An outstanding collection of musical instruments now has a new home at the St Cecilia's Hall Museum of Instruments thanks to the generosity of benefactors Rodger and Lynne Mirrey.

Dr Rodger Mirrey started collecting keyboard instruments in 1956 and as the collection grew over the years he and his wife welcomed many visitors, including well-known scholars and players, to their home to see and play the instruments.

The instruments that form the Rodger Mirrey Collection stem from most of the major instrument-making traditions and span approximately 250 years from the earliest to the latest.

The Collection remarkably forms a perfect complement to the existing instruments in the University of Edinburgh Collection. There is essentially no duplication of models – even in instruments by the same builder – with others already in the University's Collection being notably different. Most of the instruments are in good playing order, several having been restored and documented by leading experts.

Following a meeting of the British Clavichord Society held at St Cecilia's Hall, Rodger Mirrey stated his preference for keeping his collection intact and rather than sell it, or parts of it, decided to donate the entire collection to St Cecilia's Hall.

St Cecilia's Hall is the oldest purpose-built concert hall in Scotland, acquired by the University of Edinburgh in 1959 to provide a home for the collection of early keyboard instruments of the late Raymond Russell, which forms the core of the present collection, and a department of early keyboard instruments within the Faculty of Music (now part of the School of Arts, Culture and Environment). The two collections, now housed in St Cecilia's Hall, illustrate the history of keyboard instruments from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century.

For more information see [www.russellcollectionfriends.org](http://www.russellcollectionfriends.org)

## Scottish & Newcastle Fund Russian Scholarships

Students from Russia are to benefit from the first programme of scholarships for study at the University of Edinburgh funded by Scottish & Newcastle plc. Twelve Russian post-graduate students over the course of five years will be awarded the scholarships, which will total a quarter of a million pounds. Half of the scholarships have been allocated to the Management School.

The Principal, Professor Timothy O'Shea, said: "This is a significant vote of confidence in the University of Edinburgh that will do more than change 12 lives. Russia is entering its seventh straight year of growth and, thanks to Scottish & Newcastle, we will soon be supporting students who will go on to do great things for Russia."



John Nicolson, Chairman of Scottish & Newcastle's European Division said: "There have been strong ties between our countries for centuries and Scottish

& Newcastle is proud to further support the strong links between Russia and Scotland. We have a long and proud tradition of supporting the exchange of people, ideas and values between Edinburgh and Russia. I look forward to meeting the first students and to the contribution they will make in further strengthening the relationship between our two nations."

Scottish & Newcastle plc owns 50% of Baltic Beverages Holding, which in turn owns a majority stake in Russia's market leader Baltika Breweries.

This announcement is a continuation of a 120-year relationship between the University of Edinburgh and Scottish & Newcastle. In 1886 Sir William McEwan, MP and Chairman of the brewing company that later became part of Scottish and Newcastle, stepped in to fund the construction of the McEwan Hall, a popular Edinburgh landmark that is used for graduation ceremonies to this day.

## Chinese Film Festival First

The University of Edinburgh is the first institution in the world to sign up to an ambitious initiative which makes it possible to bring Chinese films to Scotland for the first time in a world-class event. The UK festival of Chinese cinema, Cinema China, will be the UK's biggest-ever festival of Chinese cinema. It represents a milestone in Scottish/ Chinese relations, underpinning the University's founding of the Confucius Institute in Scotland.

Presented at the Filmhouse in January 2007, the festival will show 25 to 30 films from silent movies of the 1930s (accompanied by live music including original pieces) to new films with China's hottest young stars. Few countries have undergone more upheaval in the last century and throughout, Chinese filmmakers have been eyewitnesses.

The festival will be on tour in cinemas around the country and will be

accompanied by special events involving Chinese film-makers, cultural exchanges and an academic symposium.

Over the period of two weeks each film will be introduced by the festival organisers, Dr Dorota Ostrowska and Mark Cousins, film critic, broadcaster and journalist.

Dr Ostrowska commented: "The University of Edinburgh will benefit from the success of this venture on a number of levels. Firstly, it places the University as a hub of teaching and research expertise on China. On an academic level the symposium will underpin the work of the Confucius Institute, bringing together Film Studies, Chinese and Cultural Studies, greatly benefiting research in and across each area and enhancing recruitment of MSc and PhD students. With such a high-profile event, we would be seeking international press coverage, supported by a television documentary produced by



Mark Cousins to accompany the festival and a similar documentary produced by the Beijing Film Academy to be broadcast on China Central TV. Such profile-raising will further enhance the University's reputation in China, making a positive contribution to our relations with the Film Academy and student recruitment whilst also connecting with the Chinese population here in the UK."

For more information contact [dorota.ostrowska@ed.ac.uk](mailto:dorota.ostrowska@ed.ac.uk)



## The General Council/The University of Edinburgh in Paris, June 2006

Tickets are still available for the weekend of events on 16 and 17 June in Paris. To book your place, please go to [www.edinburghcampaign.ed.ac.uk](http://www.edinburghcampaign.ed.ac.uk) to download an application form, or contact Development & Alumni at the address on page 25.

The programme of events for the weekend is as follows:

### FRIDAY 16 JUNE

**12.30pm – 6pm** Let's Talk Business – Seminar at the British Embassy, Paris

**6pm – 7.30pm** Reception, Embassy Terrace and Garden

### SATURDAY 17 JUNE

**10.30am** General Council Meeting, Cité Internationale Universitaire

**1pm** General Council Lunch, Cité Internationale Universitaire

**Afternoon** Guided tour of Cité Internationale Universitaire

**7.30pm – 10.30pm** Reception and Gala Dinner, Le Sénat, Palais de Luxembourg

We look forward to welcoming you to Paris in June.

## The University of Edinburgh New College 160th Anniversary Celebration Friday 16 - Sunday 18 June 2006

New College will be 160 years old in June and New College Library in its present location will be 70 years old.

All former students are warmly invited to come back for this major occasion of reunion and celebration, which will include presentations, dinners, an exhibition and ample opportunities for meeting old friends.

### Friday 16 June evening

**6pm:** Reception and Photo Display of Past Events and People, in the Martin Hall

**7pm:** Dinner, in the Rainy Hall, chaired by the Principal of New College, Professor Graeme Auld.

### Saturday 17 June morning and afternoon

**10am – 4pm:** Anniversary Lecture by Lord Sutherland of Houndwood followed by presentations on religion and the media and the impact of New College.

Pre-lunch drinks and lunch in the Rainy Hall, opportunity to view an exhibition in New College Library of its Special Collections of rare books and manuscripts and to tour New College.

**Saturday 17 June evening** in the Playfair Library, Old College

**7pm:** Festive Dinner – chaired by the Head of the School of Divinity, Professor David Fergusson.

### Sunday 18 June morning

**11am:** Anniversary Service in Greyfriars Tolbooth and Highland Kirk

**Afternoon options:** Border Abbeys Tour or Scottish Parliament Visit.

For full details of the programme, costs, accommodation options, and to book your place, please contact Andrew Morton, Alumni Officer, New College, Mound Place, Edinburgh EH1 2LX, [Andrew.Morton@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Andrew.Morton@ed.ac.uk) or go to [www.div.ed.ac.uk/anniversary.html](http://www.div.ed.ac.uk/anniversary.html)

## Chemical Engineering at Edinburgh 50 Years Old

**The 2005/06 academic year marks the Golden Jubilee of Chemical Engineering at the University of Edinburgh, which is being celebrated with a symposium and other events in June.**

The founding of the Chair of Chemical Technology in 1955 and the appointment of Kenneth Denbigh FRS to this chair heralded the establishment of an independent Department of Chemical Technology, which became the Department of Chemical Engineering in 1960.

The Golden Jubilee is being celebrated with a symposium and dinner on 16 June 2006. All those who have some current or past association with the Department and its predecessors (including Chemical Technology and Technical Chemistry) and their families are invited to these events in June.

A number of year reunions are also planned around the celebrations. If you would like to find out if your year is having a reunion or would like to organise a reunion for your year, please contact the chairman of the organising committee, Dr Mark Biggs, Institute for Materials and Processes, Kenneth Denbigh Building, King's Buildings, Mayfield Road, Edinburgh, EH9 3JL, [m.biggs@ed.ac.uk](mailto:m.biggs@ed.ac.uk).

You can find out more by visiting [www.chemeng.ed.ac.uk](http://www.chemeng.ed.ac.uk)

## Fencing Club 75 years



Fencing at Edinburgh can be traced as far back as 1779, although it was not until 1866 that a hall was regularly set aside for it. In the early part of the 20th century, under the guidance of Colonel RB Campbell, the first Director of Physical Education, the sport became increasingly prominent. This culminated in the creation of a formal fencing club, with the first committee meeting being held on 16 October 1930.

So in February 2006, the present-day fencing club celebrated their 75th anniversary with a dinner in Blonde restaurant, attended by present and a good number of past members.

The highlight of the night for many was the memoirs of Professor HT Bracewell, a former member of the Fencing Club. This included how he first became interested in fencing and in particular how the war helped him develop his skills. He then moved on to his time at the fencing club, providing both humorous anecdotes and an insight into some of the many differences that exist between what fencing was like in his time as opposed to the modern day.

The fencing club is currently in the process of creating an alumni club for all past members. This will enable former members of the club to re-establish contact and keep up to date with how the club is currently performing, enjoy social activities, and if demand enables, create a regular fixture between the current members and the alumni.

Any former members of the club who are interested in joining the alumni club should email [e.fencing@gmail.com](mailto:e.fencing@gmail.com) or write to: Edinburgh University Fencing Club, c/o EUSU, Sports Union Office, 48 Pleasance, Edinburgh, EH8 9TJ.

For information regarding the current club please take a look at our website at [www.eufc.org.uk](http://www.eufc.org.uk)

## Psychology Centenary

It is still not too late to sign up for the all-day symposium on Friday October 27 2006. Details can be found on the psychology website at [www.psy.ed.ac.uk](http://www.psy.ed.ac.uk), or by contacting the Centenary Secretary at Psychology, 7 George Square, EH8 9JZ. This will be a celebration of the department both past and present with alumni speakers including Professor Gus Craik from Toronto University (BSc 1960) and Dr Alison Elliot (PhD 1976) the first woman moderator of the Church of Scotland in 400 years.

The symposium will be followed in the evening by a celebratory ceilidh party at 7 George Square.

Looking further ahead, we are holding an Alumni Dinner in the Playfair Library with deputy leader of the House of Commons, Mr Nigel Griffiths MP (MA 1977) as guest speaker, together with an associated exhibition and talks on Saturday June 30, 2007. Again details are available either at the website or from the Centenary Secretary directly.

## Management School Appeal Progresses

The Management School continues to attract support from both graduates and companies to help the work of both staff and students and would like to thank and acknowledge its donors.

In a wonderful commitment to the School, Scottish & Newcastle recently announced scholarships totalling £120,000 to 4 Russian students, who are eager to follow postgraduate business courses here. See page 21 for full details.

Dr Joseph Stanislaw, a School alumnus, has established a research fund in his own name worth \$50,000 over five years to support work in the area of energy, sustainable development and growth.

The Citigroup Foundation has renewed and increased its funding to our financial programmes in the School including visiting speakers from the US, specialist software and specialist case studies worth \$68,500. This builds on support of \$50,000 received last year and further enhances our relationship with the company.

As part of the MBA 25-year anniversary celebrations, the School is seeking support for a number of scholarships to help students from Africa and Latin America. Thanks to one of our first donors, Mr Gordon McCulloch, a University alumnus, whose support will enable five students to study here.

Contact Joanne Finnie on [Joanne.finnie@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Joanne.finnie@ed.ac.uk) for more information.

## Alumni questionnaire prize draw

The winners of the 2006 alumni questionnaire prize draw were Mr & Mrs MacCormick. We wish them a very enjoyable two-night stay at Peebles Hotel Hydro.



Does 2006 mark a significant anniversary of your graduation from the University of Edinburgh? Perhaps five, ten, 25, even 50 years? Maybe your class is already planning a reunion – that's great and hopefully we already know about it, but if not please let us know. If you haven't started organising your reunion yet, then don't worry, it's not too late. Development & Alumni can help you to contact your former classmates, find a venue, and give other general advice and assistance. Simply visit our website at [www.edinburghcampaign.ed.ac.uk](http://www.edinburghcampaign.ed.ac.uk) or email [beth.munro@ed.ac.uk](mailto:beth.munro@ed.ac.uk) to request a copy of our Guidelines on Organising a Reunion. We look forward to hearing from you.

Reunions in 2006

- 1946 MB ChB**  
Joan Campbell & Joyce Grainger  
**17 - 18 May 2006**, Braid Hills Hotel

**1950 BSc Geography**  
John Barclay  
**11 August 2006**, 11am,  
Raeburn Room, Old College

**1954-56 Chemistry students**  
Dilys Jeffrey-Smith  
**27 September 2006**, 7pm,  
Raeburn Room, Old College

**1955 BSc Chemistry**  
Dr Rod Neale  
**27 May 2006**, 6.30pm for 7pm  
Raeburn Room, Old College

**1955 - 1957 Economics**  
John Warnock  
**Date and venue tbc**

**1956 MA Classics**  
Mr Iain Macaskill  
**5 July 2006**, Elder/Lee Rooms,  
Old College, Edinburgh

**1956 Bsc Agriculture Ordinary**  
Dr Ronald Harkess OBE  
**8 June 2006** – Abden House  
Noon for 12.30pm

**1956 BSc Chemistry**  
Alastair Kerr & Roy Nelson  
**June 2006** - Edinburgh

**1956 Forestry**  
John Dargavel  
**20 - 21 June 2006**, Edinburgh

**1956 MA Psychology**  
Professor Robert Rodger  
**28 October 2006**, Edinburgh

**1956 MB ChB**  
Rose Clarke  
**13 - 14 September 2006**, Peebles Hydro

**1956 MA Geography**  
Angus MacKay  
**8 July 2006**, Edinburgh
- 1956/57/58 BSc Civil/Mech/Elec/Mining Eng**  
Bruce Field and John Allman  
**12 - 13 October 2006**, Edinburgh

**1956-62 BVM&S**  
Karl Linklater  
**5 - 8 October 2006**, Edinburgh

**1960 BSc Physics**  
Doug Finlayson  
**Mid October 2006**, England

**1961 MB ChB**  
Judith Hodgson  
**6 September 2006**, Kendal, Cumbria

**1965 Chemical Technology & Chemical Engineering**  
Mark Biggs & Jack Ponton  
**14 - 15 June 2006**, Edinburgh

**1966 BDS**  
Eric Battison & Alan Lafferty  
**September/October 2006**, Edinburgh

**1966 BVM&S**  
Dr Hugh Reid  
**6 - 8 October 2006**, Edinburgh

**1966 MB ChB**  
Ruth Mackenzie  
**1 - 3 September 2006**, Peebles Hydro

**1969 Chemical Engineering**  
Keith Dixon  
**June 2006**, Edinburgh

**1971 Mechanical Engineering**  
Don Grant  
**Date & venue tbc**

**1971 BDS**  
Ian Lanfear  
**18 - 21 May 2006**, Vancouver

**1976 German**  
Anne Simon & Ian Manning  
**Summer 2006**
- 1981 Bsc Agriculture**  
Mrs Susan McDonald  
**14 October 2006**, Raeburn Room

**1981 BVM&S**  
Sally Stuart  
**Date & venue tbc**

**1986 BDS**  
Carole Tweedie  
**6 October 2006**, Edinburgh

**1986 MB ChB**  
Dr Fiona Macgregor  
**9 - 11 June 2006**, Peebles Hydro

**1986 BEd**  
Pauline Lawrie  
**30 September 2006** tbc

**1986 BSc Agriculture**  
James Logan  
**18 November 2006**, Edinburgh

**1986 BSc Geography**  
Andy Main  
**30 September 2006**, Edinburgh

**1990 BDS**  
Miss Julie Forde  
**3 June 2006**, Prestonfield

**1996 BVM&S**  
Kirsty Dewar  
**21 October 2006**, Crieff Hydro

**1996 BSc Biochemistry/Ecology/Botany**  
Meena Thiagaraj  
**29 July 2006**, 8pm, Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh

**2000 MB ChB**  
Dr Kevin J Fernando  
**7 October 2006**, Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh  
See [www.fyc2000.com](http://www.fyc2000.com)

**2001 BVM&S**  
Sarah Taylor  
**15 July 2006**, Balmoral Hotel, Edinburgh

**For further information, please contact:**  
  
Development & Alumni, The University of Edinburgh  
Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1HT  
  
**Tel** +44 (0)131 650 2240 **Fax** +44 (0)131 650 2239  
**Email** [edinburghcampaign@ed.ac.uk](mailto:edinburghcampaign@ed.ac.uk) [www.edinburghcampaign.ed.ac.uk](http://www.edinburghcampaign.ed.ac.uk)

Reunions in 2007

- 1947 MB ChB**  
John Loudon  
**Date & venue tbc**

**1957 Divinity**  
Andrew Ross & Stewart McGregor  
**Date & venue tbc**

**1957 MB ChB**  
Graham Meikle  
**September 2007**, Peebles – tbc

**1962 MB ChB**  
Dr Hamish Polson  
**6 - 8 June 2007**, Peebles
- 1962 French**  
Jim Inglis  
**6 July 2007**, 12 noon,  
Braidwoods Restaurant, Dalry, Ayrshire

**1987 MB ChB**  
Dr Peter McCalister  
**27/28 April 2007**, Caledonian Hotel,  
Edinburgh  
See [www.fyc87.net](http://www.fyc87.net)

**1972 BSc Agriculture**  
Mr John Marshall  
**October/November 2007**

**1982 BSc Chemistry/Environmental Chemistry/Chemical Physics**  
Dorothy Welch  
**Summer 2007**
- 1992 MB ChB**  
Dr Drummond Begg  
**23-25 March 2007**, Peebles

For details of clubs, or reunions, or to make contact with a reunion organiser, please contact: Beth Munro, Development & Alumni, tel 0131 650 2240, email: [beth.munro@ed.ac.uk](mailto:beth.munro@ed.ac.uk) or visit [www.edinburghcampaign.ed.ac.uk](http://www.edinburghcampaign.ed.ac.uk)


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reunion (ri:’ju:njən) *n.*  
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At the Peebles Hydro we’ve a wealth of experience in working with universities, arranging and holding a variety of reunions. This enables us to provide you with plenty of ideas, take a lot of the burden of organisation off your shoulders, and ensure everything is ‘alright on the night’. In fact, we can take care of all the details from programmes and place cards to menus and themed events.

On top of that, the Hydro is the perfect venue – a stunning Borders location and a range of leisure facilities that has something for everyone. If you’re planning a reunion why not give us a ring? We’ll be delighted to use all our experience to ensure your event is something just that little bit special, and also less work for you.

**Please contact:**  
Gerard Bony, Peebles Hotel Hydro,  
Peebles EH45 8LX.  
Tel: 01721 720602. Fax: 01721 722999.  
E-mail: [info@peebleshydro.com](mailto:info@peebleshydro.com)  
Website: [www.peeblehydro.com](http://www.peeblehydro.com)



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# Alumni Profiles

Catriona Macmillan  
BSc 1989, MBA 2002

Catriona Macmillan BSc 1989, MBA 2002 is currently rising to the challenge of setting up her own management consultancy focused on supporting SMEs. But this is nothing to the challenge she undertook last year – as a ‘legger’ on the world’s toughest yacht race, the Global Challenge.

The Global Challenge is a race in which 12 identical 72-foot yachts, each crewed by a professional skipper and 17 non-professional sailors, sail the ‘wrong’ way around the world, into the prevailing wind and tides. It sounds completely crazy and indeed when Sir Chay Blyth, the first man to sail solo non-stop round the world this way in 1971, initially suggested that it could be opened to amateurs, he was told it was impossible. Five successful races have since proved his critics wrong, but Catriona can testify that it is far from plain sailing.

“I was lucky enough to be selected to be a ‘legger’ onboard *Me to You* on what is widely acknowledged as being the toughest leg, the 6,200 miles from Sydney to Cape Town, across the infamous and inhospitable Southern Ocean. The sailing itself was very demanding, pushing not only to the limit physically, emotionally and mentally, but frequently pushing well beyond those limits and helping others to do the same.

The race, however, is about much more than that. It involves teamwork, communication, planning, strategy, tactics, negotiation, budgeting, control, performance measurement and performance optimisation – fortunately all key elements of the Edinburgh MBA!”

Ian H Frazer  
MD FRCP BSc (M) 1974  
MB ChB 1977

Professor Ian H Frazer MD FRCP BSc (M) 1974 MB ChB 1977 has been awarded the Australian of the Year Award 2006. Professor Frazer founded and leads the University of Queensland’s Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research. For 20 years he has been researching the link between papilloma viruses and cancer, seeking ways to treat these viruses in order to reduce the incidence of cancer. Ian has now developed vaccines to prevent and to treat cervical cancer, which affects 500,000 women each year. A vaccine based on his research has shown the potential to virtually eradicate cervical cancer within a generation. Expected to be on the market within a year, this vaccine will revolutionise women’s health across the globe.

Ian embodies Australian know-how, determination and innovation. He describes the fortnight of celebratory activities after receiving his award as ‘exciting and challenging’: “My personal favourite was to carry the Queen’s Baton for the Commonwealth Games relay round Darling Harbour on the prow of the *Kathleen Gillett*. This experience was almost as exciting as the birth of my children.”

Ian is now looking forward to the challenge of his new responsibilities, and pursuing the goals he has set himself as Australian of the Year. “I will promote the benefits of biomedical research, encourage the funding of facilities for research, and talk about the prevention of cervical cancer worldwide. I intend to engage the Australian community about what it means to be Australian, which I hold to be measured by the extent to which we each take part in our community by doing good for others.”

Catriona McPherson  
MA 1988, PhD 1996

“When, five years ago, I gave up a permanent post as a linguistics lecturer to write fiction, I could hardly blame those people who assumed I was having a breakdown: I had no publisher, no agent, no body of work, no reason to think there was any future in it.

My first novel, into which I poured decades of pent-up creativity, was clearly destined for a drawer but it did get me an agent on its way. At my second attempt, I decided to write to please no one but myself and what came out was a 1920s-set detective story – *After the Armistice Ball*. This was published in July 2005 by Constable, who were happy to make it the first of a series. It sold out in hardback, was reprinted and sold out again and was shortlisted for the Ellis Peters Historical Dagger Award. The second in the series – *The Burry Man’s Day* – is published this July along with the paperback of book one.

In between times, I had also been writing a contemporary story, a time-travel caper which arose partly out of my semantics PhD on states of knowledge and possible worlds. Last summer I sold it to Orion as part of a two-book deal. *Growing Up Again*, as it is now called, will be published under the name Catriona MacCloud in January 2007 and the second in this strand – *Straight Up* – also a comedy, this time about truth and so still mining my PhD in a way, is due out a year after that.”

Mahdad Saniee  
MA 1982

Mahdad Saniee, MA 1982, established Saniee Architects of Greenwich, Connecticut, USA in 1995 after spending 10 years as the senior associate with the renowned architectural firm Centerbrook Architects. Mr Saniee has received numerous design awards for work carried out as an individual or in collaboration with Centerbrook Architects including its original founder, the late Charles Moore. Mr Saniee’s work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *Architectural Digest*, *Architectural Record*, and numerous design publications in the United States. His work has been exhibited in New York City and Boston. He has also served on the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation.

In 2005, Saniee Architects received the 2005 Emerging Architect Award from the American Institute of Architects in Connecticut. This biennial programme highlights a member firm that has gained recognition in the general design community through a body of built work and continuing commitment to design excellence. The firm must have been in practice no less than five years and no more than 15. The jury felt that Saniee Architects presented a cohesive body of work that exemplifies consistent design excellence.

Mr Saniee lives in Easton, Connecticut with his wife, Azar Behjati and their two children, Annis and Olya. He is currently engaged in a 5-year-old children’s education program focused on elimination of religious prejudice, with outreach activities in the United States, Canada, Australia, Europe, Southern Africa, the Middle East, India, and Russia.

Green Acre Baha’i School,  
designed by Saniee Architects





World Service

Abbreviations **NGU** - non-graduating undergraduate **JYA** - junior year abroad

1930s

**Rev Dr Ian M Fraser** MA 1939 BD 1942 'The Way Ahead' being published by Wild Goose Publications, March 2006.

1950s

**Mr Robert W Duncan** BSc 1950 Doing research on prime number pairs.

1960s

**Miss Elizabeth Nobbs** MA 1961 Semi retired. Setting up a psychotherapy practice in the Borders. Would like to network with alumni who are members of BACP and COSCA.

**Dr William McWhirter** MB ChB 1963 Currently working for Baxter Healthcare as Medical Director, BioScience, Asia-Pacific and based in Brisbane.

**Rev Dr Donald Smith** PhD 1964 A member of the recently formed Edinburgh University Club of Toronto.

**Mrs Diane B Day née Alexander** BSc 1965 Since retiring, has been busy working from home as a freelance editor, mostly on school science books for African and Caribbean countries and recently for Malaysia at levels from Primary (General) Science to A-Level Organic and Physical Chemistry. Now planning to concentrate on family, friends and garden.

**Dr Diana Leitch née Bridges** BSc 1969 PhD 1972 Now Deputy University Librarian at the University of Manchester. Elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry in 2005. Daughter and son both Glasgow graduates, where daughter works as a surgeon. Incoming President of the Edinburgh University Club of Manchester.

**Mr Ronald A Skeoch** MA 1969 Now aged 80, but still working internationally.

1970s

**Mr Roger Dye** BSc (SS) 1972 Has three daughters, youngest just starting University in 2006.

**Dr Paul Van Look** PhD 1976 Was awarded degree of Doctor honoris causa by the University of Szeged (Hungary) in November 2005.

**Professor J Cairns** LLB 1977 Lives in New Town, Edinburgh, with partner, who is a solicitor.

**Mrs Isobel Cook née Hunter** BEd 1978 Has three sons. Eldest is studying Chinese at Edinburgh and is in his 4th year.

**Ms Madeleine Mangels** NGU 1979 Would be delighted to hear from former fellow students from her year in Edinburgh.

1980s

**Miss Kirsty Macmaster** LLB 1981 Following a successful career in fund management, founded her own companies advising them on strategy and value evaluation. Lives with her husband and three children in Colorado.

**Rev Michael Whatmough** BD 1981 Teacher at Fair Oak business and enterprise college, Rugeley, Staffs.

**Mrs Amanda Lang née Hogg** LLB 1985 2005 Dip HE (Midwifery) University of Plymouth.

**Dr Lesley Ross** MB ChB 1985 Just organised a 1985 MB ChB 20-year reunion.

**Mr Joseph Dube** LLB 1987 Proud father of Sophie Maya Dube, aged 3.

**Dr Alison Golligher** OBE BSc 1987 Received OBE in New Year's Honours List 2005.

**Rev Dr David W McHardy** BD 1988 BD 1990 Currently studying for the Master of Education degree at Aberdeen University

**Miss Emma Sandison née Low** MA (SS) 1989 MSc 1990 Got married to Ewan in August 2005. Living and working in Leith as a GIS consultant for ESRI (UK).

**Mr Paul N Shelton** MA 1989 Lives in Fontainebleau, France where he alternates as a TEFL teacher and a house husband looking after two daughters (now 11 and four). In whatever time is left, he chairs the Board of Governors of the International School of Fontainebleau, and serves as a Council member of the local English-speaking church.

1990s

**Dr Susanne Caesar** MB ChB 1990 Portfolio GP with clinical, educational and leadership roles (part time).

**Dr Michelle Williams** JYA 1990 PhD 1997 Married Chuck Williams (no relation!) in July, 2004. Now living with him and his sons, Alec (AJ) aged 14, Kyle (13) and Dylan (11).

**Mr Grant J Letham** MA 1991 Living in Kinross. Married to Dorothy with two children – Craig and Cara (11 and 10). At work is an Operational Sergeant, currently based in Perth. Spare time involves coaching children's football – currently working with Cowdenbeath FC in their youth development set up.

**Ms Kerstin Reichmann** LLM 1991 Married to Tommo Schwarz. Daughter, Alke Saoirse Schwarz, born 2002.

**Mrs Nicola Neighbour** MA 1992 Currently a full-time mum.

**Mrs S Glendinning** MA (SS) 1994 Just finished building first house in the beautiful Borders.

**Miss Kristina Knopper** MSc 1994 NGU 1991 Worked for two years in Hanoi (Vietnam) and six years at Maastricht University Language Centre. Currently working as a Policy Advisor for Maastricht University's Executive Board at the Strategic Planning & International Relations Unit.

**Miss Kirsty McCormack** BSc 1994 Has been a medical research scientist at Aberdeen University for the past eight years. Due to complete PhD in Public Health next year. Happily married to Greame with a beautiful baby daughter Matilda (Tilly) born January 2005.

**Mr Martin Ritchie** MA 1994 A student once again at Edinburgh, studying for a BD.

**Dr Patrick Shiemo Nde** PhD 1994 Now on anticipated retirement from the Ministry of Scientific Research. Doing consultancy in Forestry as a Senior Research Officer.

**Mrs Andrea Watt** MA 1994 Daughter Rebecca Emily born 20/01/05. Currently on maternity leave.

**Ms Ginny Allan née Gray** MA 1995 Had a baby boy, Euan, born 25/11/05. Now working for School of Mechanical Engineering, University of Western Australia.

**Mr Nicolas J Cohen** BSc 1996 Primary school teacher in Manchester. Currently teaching year 3.

**Mr Neil Symington** MA 1996 Has recently been appointed as a Project Research Assistant for the Museum of Transport's new Riverside Museum Project, Glasgow.

**Ms Ruth Urquhart née MacDonald** MBA 1996 is currently on a career break from HBOS. Daughter Rachel is now 3, and has a 9-month-old baby brother, William.

**Mr Christopher J Young** MA 1996 Runs own theatre company, Shams Theatre, which is bringing its show, The Garden, to Edinburgh in August 2006. Also works as a performer with other companies.

**Dr Serena Ng** MB ChB 1997 Would like to announce the birth of first child, a daughter called Lauren, born 16 August 2005.

**Dr Vassiliki Galanopoulou** LLM 1997 After completing PhD at King's College London, joined a supervisory authority in Greece, and has been working there for the last three-and-a-half years.

**Mr Alan F Hall** BSc 1997 MTh 1999 Retired and acting as treasurer for various social charities.

**Mr Ronan Macsweeney** LLM 1997 Senior Associate with Minter Ellison Lawyers, Sydney, Australia specialising in large construction and infrastructure projects. Since moving to Australia has qualified as a voluntary lifeguard and is now an active member of the Tamarama Surf Life Saving Club in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs.

**Ms Clair Spackman** BSc 1997 Since completing a PhD in Nutrition in 2005, has been employed in the veterinary school's department of medicine and epidemiology for the Center for Animal Disease Modeling and Surveillance as an analyst. Working on a computer model that can simulate an outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Is getting married in July and will move from California to Phoenix Arizona.

**Rev Dr Laura Sugg** PhD 1997 Works as an associate pastor at Westminster Church and Presbyterian campus minister to the University of Virginia. Adopted a three-day old baby girl from within the United States in July 2005. Baby Naomi and mother are happily residing in Charlottesville, Virginia.

**Mr Tomasz Wozniak** MEng 1997 Got married in 2004 and moved to consulting. Big 'hello' to all fellow graduates from BEng EE 1996 and MEng EE 1997 as well as EU Alumni Group in Poland.

**Miss Claire Bennetts** MA 1998 2004 Post Grad Diploma in Occupational Therapy (Queen Margaret University Edinburgh).

**Mr Jose Fernandez-Arroyo** LLM 1998 Invites all fellow students of LLM class of 1997 and 1998 to give him a call anytime they are in London.

**Mrs Catherine Perch-Nielsen née Gordon** MA (SS) 1998 Married in June 2005 and moved to Australia.

**Mr Raphael Darius** LLM 1999 Currently managing technology marketing for German ISP T-Online. Still into music.

**Ms Catherine McGowan** MA 1999 Currently studying part-time at Edinburgh till 2008.

**Mrs Jane Watt née Markowicz** MA 1999 Now living and working in Dubai.

**Mr Lee Yeomans** MA 1999 After doing his bit for the planet by saving turtles, has now come crashing back to reality and works for an investment bank in London specialising in utilities and oil and gas.

2000s

**Miss Emily MacDonald** M Phys 2000 Gained her PhD in Physics from the University of Oxford in 2004. Now working as an Assistant Research Scientist at John Hopkins University.

**Miss Lorna Dougan** M Phys 2002 Currently working as a research associate in Biological Sciences at Columbia University, New York. Recently returned from a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship.

**Mr Christopher Jack** BSc 2002 Finished a course in Engineering Geology at Newcastle University in 2004. Currently living in Nottingham, and has recently started an engineering geology consultancy – Highland Geoservices – specialising mainly in rock engineering. Hello to everyone who knows him.

**Mr Hyun Lee** MA 2002 Foreign exchange and derivatives sales dealer for Standard Chartered Bank Korea since May 2005.

**Mrs Anne Walkington** BSc 2002 Currently travelling for a year in New Zealand.

**Mr Daniel Halford** BSc 2003 Completed MSc in Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing at Oxford University in September 2005. Now on a graduate training scheme.

**Ms Madeleine Stone** MA 2003 Post graduate qualification in architecture and interiors, Royal College of Art, London. RIBA part 2.

**Mr Damian Warburton** LLM 2003 Lecturer in Criminal Law at the University of the West of England, Bristol. Also studying a part-time MSc (Healthcare Ethics) at the University of Bristol. Intends to come north again when he has some experience to bring with him.

**Mr Patrick Woodburn** BSc 2003 In Uganda for the next two years.

**Mr Matthew McGeehan** BSc 2004 Currently in temporary employment after successfully completing an MSc in Journalism at Napier University.

**Dr Douglas Barker** PhD 2005 Self employed. Initiating research into the socio-political influence of the landowner/clerical duopoly in Orcadian society.

**Mr Halldor Halldorsson** MSc 2005 Recently started a design and animation studio with two other graduates of the Design and Digital Media course, called Dunedin Arts, which has now been awarded an EPIS grant for one year.

**Miss Briege Nugent** MSc 2005 Policy Officer for the City of Edinburgh Council. Part-time Tutor in Legal Reasoning and Criminology for the University of Edinburgh and the University of Strathclyde.

**Miss Kirsten Olverman** LLB 2005 Currently doing diploma in legal practice at Edinburgh.

UPDATE

By Alan Johnston, Convener of the Business Committee of the General Council

The General Council is the means by which graduates have 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 supreme governing body, the University Court, are also members of the General Council, which meets twice a year and has the right to comment on matters affecting the University's prosperity and well-being. For more information on the work of the General Council, visit **www.general-council.ed.ac.uk**



As I write this General Council update, the final plans are coming together very well for our much-anticipated Half-Yearly Meeting in Paris on Saturday 17 June 2006. This establishes and continues the recent plan to hold every fourth statutory meeting in a major centre other than Edinburgh, with alternate June annual meetings being held in various University locations in Edinburgh, and all February annual meetings continuing in Old College. This provides an opportunity for groups of our distant members to participate more easily from time to time. The forthcoming Meeting in Paris will be particularly notable, as it will be the first to be held outside the UK since 1858 when the General Councils were established. The historical links between Scotland and France are strong, and there are good transport links between Paris and Edinburgh, London and many other European centres. It is no surprise that many of our members live and work outside Scotland. I am fortunate in my own business life to visit many countries regularly, and I have recently met Edinburgh University Alumni groups in the USA, Australia and Japan. In every case, the continuing level of interest in and willingness to participate in and assist our University is very notable.

An excellent programme of events is planned for 16 and 17 June. Full details of all the Paris events can be found on page 34 of this issues of the *Billet* within *Edit*, and a booking form is also printed on the rear inside cover of *Edit*. Further detailed information about other aspects such as transport and hotels can be found on the General Council website at **www.general-council@ed.ac.uk**. As events are necessarily limited in capacity, I would urge you to return your booking form quickly as a 'first-come-first-served' policy will apply. I am most grateful to the Secretary of General Council and her colleague for their enormous contribution to organising this event.

The rapid pace of business in the University and General Council continues well. We had an opportunity to bid farewell to and thank most sincerely our outgoing Rector, Dr Tam Dalyell, in February. In spite of a busy Parliamentary life, and a multiplicity of commitments during most of his period as Rector, Tam placed an extremely high priority on his role as Rector, and worked very hard for the University and, in particular, for the students. We are also most grateful to him for his expert chairmanship of our Half-Yearly Meetings, and wish him a long and happy (and I expect, busy) retirement.

The introduction of online voting significantly increased voter participation in this year's Rectorial Election, and we are delighted to welcome Mr Mark Ballard MSP as the new University Rector, and we look forward to working with him over the next three years.

Much of the hard work of the General Council is undertaken by our Standing Committees. Details of the Committees' work are provided in the Annex to the Billet. Current highlights during this period are a review of voting procedures (Constitutional), assisting with the University's legacies campaign and developing

the General Council website (Public Affairs), supporting Development & Alumni (Finance and Services), and becoming informed about the University's policies on e-learning (Academic). The University's publication *Edit*, with the General Council's *Billet* within *Edit*, is undergoing a major review, and the Secretary of the General Council is very involved in this.

This year the General Council is planning to host a reception in Old College during the Edinburgh International Festival as an opportunity for members attending the Festival to revisit their University. The event will take place from 5pm to 6.30pm on Friday 18 August 2006, and will be associated with the opportunity to visit the Festival exhibition at the Talbot Rice Gallery. We very much hope that many of both our local and visiting members will be able to attend. Details can be found at page 33 of this issue of the *Billet* within *Edit*, and a booking form is printed on the rear of the inside cover of *Edit*.

We continue to participate fully in many University events, and are pleased to co-operate closely with Development & Alumni.

As I have already announced, we have changed the date of the February 2007 Half-Yearly Meeting to Saturday 3 February 2007, so that the General Council Meeting does not clash with the University's celebrations for the Tercentenary of the Chair of Public Law and the Law of Nature and Nations planned for the next weekend.

Before then, I hope to meet many of you in Paris in June when our distinguished principal guest and after-Lunch speaker on that occasion will be the Chancellor's Assessor, the Rt Hon. Lord Cameron of Lochbroom.



GENERAL COUNCIL HALF-YEARLY MEETING  
ON SATURDAY 17 JUNE 2006

<b>10.00 to 10.30</b>	Coffee and Croissants: Gulbenkian Room, Maison internationale, Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris
<b>10.30</b>	General Council Meeting: Gulbenkian Room
<b>12.30</b>	Apéritifs: Salon Honnorat, Maison internationale, Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris
<b>13.00</b>	Lunch: Salon Honnorat

AGENDA FOR THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

<b>1</b>	Minutes of the Meeting of the General Council held on 11 February 2006 ( <b>PAPER A</b> )
<b>2</b>	Matters arising
<b>3</b>	Report of the Business Committee
<b>4</b>	Motion ( <b>PAPER B</b> )
<b>5</b>	Dates of future meetings of the General Council
<b>6</b>	Notice of forthcoming Elections
<b>7</b>	Presentation by the Principal
<b>8</b>	Any other competent business
<b>9</b>	Adjournment

PAPER A  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2006

Present:

**Dr Tam Dalyell**  
Rector, in the Chair

**Mr Melvyn Cornish**  
University Secretary and Registrar of the General Council

**Professor Timothy O'Shea**  
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

**Dr Ann Matheson**  
Secretary of the General Council

**Mr Alan Johnston**  
Convener of the Business Committee

55 other members

**The Rev. Peter Clark**  
opened the meeting with prayer.

1. Result of the Election of Members  
of the Business Committee

The Rector announced that the five new members of the Business Committee, elected to serve for a period of four years from 1 August 2006 to 31 July 2010, were: Mr Francis Roger MacTaggart Brewis; Miss Helen Mary Campbell; Mr Thomas Finlay Marshall; Dr Michael James Mitchell; and Mr James Murray. Since the number of nominations equalled the number of vacancies on this occasion, a postal election had not been required.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of the General  
Council held on 18 June 2005

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 June 2005 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

The Secretary reported that alternative meeting venues in Old College had been explored with University Estates since the last meeting, but although two other rooms had been viewed, neither was more suited than the normal meeting room. The Principal commented that the matter of Alexander Graham Bell memorabilia, which had been mentioned at the last meeting, was being taken forward within the University.

4. Report of the Business Committee

Mr Johnston, Convener of the Business Committee, gave his report, and commented that he was happy to advise that once again it was very largely positive. The Business Committee had met four times since the last Half-Yearly Meeting in June 2005, and the detailed reports of the Standing Committees

were published in the Annex to the Billet, which was available on the General Council website and in hard copy by request, as well as being available for the meeting.

The Business Committee had provided a comprehensive report on behalf of the General Council in response to the University Restructuring Review, and the University had acknowledged the contribution and welcomed its recommendations. The report and the General Council response were available on the University's website at **www.general-council.ed.ac.uk/responses.htm**. Another success was the welcome permanent introduction of pre-graduation receptions at all University summer graduations, and the General Council would be well represented at the 2006 events. Minor changes had been made to the layout of the *Billet*, and the entire publication was to be reviewed in detail, with the Secretary representing the General Council's interests on this review group.

Planning of the June 2006 General Council Half-Yearly Meeting in Paris on Saturday 17 June was progressing well. The Meeting and Lunch would be held in the Maison internationale of the Cité Internationale Universitaire in the boulevard Jourdan in the 14th arrondissement, and there would be associated events organised by Development & Alumni and the Association Alumni de l'Université d'Edimbourg en France. The after-Lunch speaker in Paris would be the Rt Hon. Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, who was well known not only as Chancellor's Assessor in the University but in many other prominent roles in public life. Detailed information about the historic Paris occasion was available on the General Council website.

The February 2006 after-Lunch address would be given by Alumnus of the Year 2004, Dr Walter Nimmo, and afterwards there would be a visit to the Talbot Rice Art Gallery, and a talk from Ms Pat Fisher, Principal Curator. The Convener said that the General Council was working closely with Young Dawkins, Robert Fleming and their team in Development & Alumni on arrangements for Paris. Through the Public Affairs Standing Committee, and with the support of the Business Committee, advice and practical help was being provided to the Legacy Manager in the Development Office.

Although this was a subject that required to be handled thoughtfully, it was clear that helping to provide balanced information to graduates and other potential donors might greatly benefit the University in the future.

The Convener reported that future items on the agenda were the upgrading of the General Council website, and arrangements for a reception on Friday 18 August 2006 for members and guests in Old College during the Edinburgh International Festival, with further details in the summer issue of the *Billet* within *Edit*, and on the website. The date of the February 2007 General Council Half-Yearly Meeting would be changed to Saturday 3 February 2007 to avoid a clash with the already planned celebrations for the Tercentenary of the Chair of Public Law and the Law of Nature and Nations on 9 to 11 February 2007.

The Convener recorded thanks to outgoing Standing Committee Conveners Miss Sheila Kirk and Mr Ian Miller, and Business Committee members Mr David Burton, Miss Helen Campbell and Mr Finlay Marshall. He was pleased to advise that appointments as Standing Committee Conveners had been accepted by Mr Fred Lawson (Finance and Services) and Mr Ralph Parkinson (Constitutional), with Dr Frances Dow continuing as Convener of the Academic Standing Committee and Mr Roger Windsor as Convener of the Public Affairs Standing Committee. He also welcomed Mrs Marjorie Appleton, Dr Alan Brown, Mr Ewan Jeffrey, Mrs Ann Sutherland and Dr Charles Swainson as members of the Business Committee. He said that he was also greatly indebted to the Officers, the Vice-Convener, Mr Neil Hynd, the Secretary of the General Council, Dr Ann Matheson, and Mrs Jean Gibson, Assistant to the Secretary, for all their hard work and support, particularly during his frequent absences.

The report of the Business Committee was approved.

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

5. Dates of future meetings  
of the General Council

The next Half-Yearly Meeting would take place in Paris on Saturday 17 June 2006: any motions for discussion at that meeting should be received in the General Council Office by 31 March 2006. The following Half-Yearly Meeting would be held on Saturday 3 February 2007. Any motions for discussion at the meeting on 3 February 2007 should be received in the General Council office by 15 November 2006. There would be elections for two General Council Assessors to the Court, and five members of the Business Committee in February 2007: nominations on forms available from the General Council Office should be received in the Office by 15 November 2006.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

6. Presentation by the Principal of the  
Annual Report of the University

The Principal said that it was a great pleasure to address the General Council, and to report that the University was doing outstandingly well.

He was proud of the University's students who worked astonishingly hard at a very demanding curriculum, and at the same time made a tremendous contribution to good causes. The officers in the Students Association were exemplary and contributed extremely positively to debates in Court and in the major Committees of the University. Applications to the University were rising really quite dramatically, and acceptances were rising. Although the University already had very high completion rates, they were rising still higher; as a consequence the overall numbers in the student body were steadily rising with a current student community of 24,000 students, of whom roughly three-quarters were undergraduates and one-eighth were studying masters degrees and another eighth were studying PhDs. The University's students were very successful when they left, and this was one of the important reasons why the University was rising in the different league tables.

The University had made a strong response to world events such as the Tsunami disaster. Regius Professor Bolton had had a key role in



the UK government's Natural Hazards working group, and the University had been an active contributor to the Tsunami task force set up by the City of Edinburgh. The University had very strong links to Africa, and the Principal commented on his pride in the work of the Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine on sleeping sickness, rabies and malaria transmission. Other important contributions in relation to Africa were the Molecular Plant Science Centre and its work on sustainable crop development, and the Centre for African Studies with its work on non-government organisations, and a whole range of cultural and educational activities.

Turning to ceremonies and public events, the Principal said that he was very pleased with the way that the University was improving its public events, and he was particularly appreciative of the General Council's direct role in ceremonials in the University and in the City. One of the highlights in recent public events had been the debate between the young pop musician, Alex Kapranos, and the composer James MacMillan in the Reid Hall. In relation to ceremonial, the University was now a 'three mace University', the Rector's mace being the third mace. It had been made and donated by Mr Donald Wintersgill, who had also written a book about the history of the Rectorship at the University of Edinburgh.

Last year for the first time the University's turnover had exceeded £400M. In context, only twenty firms in Scotland had a turnover greater than £400M. After depreciation, there was a £9M surplus, the bulk of which had been reinvested in key research appointments in advance of the Research Assessment Exercise. The University was investing very heavily in the estate both to improve the quality of learning and the research environment. In terms of the estate, the Queen's Medical Research Institute at Little France had now been completed, and would house 600 key researchers. The Informatics Forum, a very important £42M development, had been started in Crichton Street, with support from Scottish Enterprise and Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian. There were plans in quite an advanced state for the move of the Veterinary School; all the teaching side would go out to Easter Bush alongside the small and large animal hospitals. There were also very good master plans being developed for The King's Buildings, for George Square and for Holyrood.

In terms of commercialisation, one of the reasons why the University was so well regarded by the Scottish Executive and by the leaders of Scottish political life was because it was so obviously making such important contributions to the Scottish economy, not just by being one of the major employers in Edinburgh and one of the major businesses in Scotland, but in other ways. Over the last five years, the University had been responsible for fifty companies being created, some of them student start-ups, some of them staff spin-outs. The key contribution the University had made to the Scottish economy was Wolfson Microelectronics, whose share price was shooting up towards £500. More recently, MicroEmissive Displays Ltd, which produce little TV screens about a quarter of the size of a thumb nail, had successfully gone into production.

The University had developed a very positive relationship with the City. The starting point had been a half-day when the Director of Estates, the President of the Students Association, and the Principal had addressed the whole City Council, which was followed by local meetings with Councillors. It was very pleasing to see the pride the City took in the University, and the keenness with which the City wished to project the University as part of its image when it was trying to get more business and more tourism into the City. The biggest success recently was the achievement of the status of UNESCO World City of Literature, in which there was a very heavy participation from the University. The successful achievement of the status meant that students of literature and academics in literature would be in a much richer environment. The growing reputation of the City really helped the University with its growing international links. The University now had a very successful office in Beijing, and had hosted a visit from the Chinese Minister of Education, who was responsible for 328M learners. It had been a very productive visit, and the Chinese had announced that they would fund a Confucius Institute located in the University, which would house visiting Chinese scholars.

The Principal drew attention in the *Annual Review* to the appointment of 65 new professors. They were divided about equally between those holding honorary professorships, those who had been awarded personal chairs and those who were appointed to established

chairs. He commented on six of the appointments: Professor Ian Wilmut, the person responsible for Dolly the Sheep, had joined the University from Roslin to a Chair of Reproductive Science; Professor Andrew Clark from the University of Indiana, who was known for his work on the philosophical implications of artificial intelligence, had been appointed to the Chair of Logic and Metaphysics; Professor Paul Madden from Oxford, one of the most impressive chemists in the world, had been appointed to the Chair of Physical Chemistry; Professor Allan Cumming, who had a distinguished reputation for his work in completely revising the medical curriculum, had been awarded a personal chair in Medical Education; and Professor Simon van Heyningen, who had made a major contribution to ways of improving the quality of the student learning experience, had been awarded a personal chair in Student Learning.

In research, there were very many achievements, and the Principal highlighted three that were mentioned in the *Annual Review*: Professor Dorothy Crawford's work on T-cell immunotherapy for rare brain cancers was very important work, since it had demonstrated cures for a small number of desperately ill young people, and could have wider relevance; Professor Michael Banner had joined the University to run the Genomics Forum, and as an already established leader in advising the government and writing about these topics; and Professor David Leigh in Chemistry was a leader in nanotechnology and had developed the smallest molecular motors that were available. The University's researchers had also received a tremendous boost by the research pooling resource from the Scottish Funding Council.

The University was well treated in the press, and its intellectual achievements and the achievements of its students received understanding treatment. Overall in UK rankings the University was now rated by *The Times* as fifth, University of the Year in the *Sunday Times* and consistently in the top 50 in the world rankings. The Principal commented that world rankings were computed in different ways: they could be based on publication impact, overall research capability, successes of students; and usually there was an element of peer review, asking academics from around the world. What was pleasing was that whichever way they were done, the University ended up in the top 50, and

it was particularly pleasing that a large part of these rankings depended on the view of academics worldwide on the relative strength of different research areas in the universities.

The Principal commented on development, and expressed his thanks to all those who had donated to the University and to everyone who supported the University. Development was very important; scholarships helped really talented students who otherwise wouldn't be able to come to the University because of the financial circumstances of their families. There were key new facilities for which the University could not get support from Government, so it was very helpful when people assisted the University in that way. Dr Rodger Mirrey, for example, had recently given the University an outstanding collection of seventeen historic keyboards, which was a wonderful gift to the University, and reflected very well on the way in which the University had been seen to curate its existing magnificent collection of keyboards.

The Principal completed his report by commending the work of the General Council. A key part of its role was electing the Chancellor of the University, and the General Council obviously had an important role in University governance, and a very important role in relation to development and 'friend-raising'. The Principal encouraged members who saw opportunities for the University either in fund-raising, or in links, to contact the University, and he appreciated the very useful support received. He referred to the General Council's key role in ceremony; and he hoped that the General Council over time would do more in helping to project the University on the international scale, connecting it to alumni worldwide. The Principal commented that the forthcoming event in Paris was a great sign of confidence, and was also a very good way of reaching out to alumni who were not based in Scotland. He appreciated the role of General Council and key members, and he finished his report by expressing his thanks to members of the General Council.

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

### 7. Any other competent business

No matters were raised.

### 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.

The Rev. Peter Clark closed the meeting with a benediction.

*The Annex to the Billet contains supporting papers for the Agenda, including communications from the University Court, full Standing Committee reports, a transcript of the presentation, and the Business Committee's report to the meeting on 11 February 2006. General Council members may either collect the Annex from half-an-hour before the Council Meeting, or request it by post from:*

*Mrs Jean Gibson,  
General Council Office,  
Charles Stewart House,  
9-16 Chambers Street,  
Edinburgh EH1 1HT  
Tel: 0131 650 2152  
Email: General.Council@ed.ac.uk*

## PAPER B MOTION

In line with the Ordinance, the Constitutional Arrangements make provision for a Regulation covering the conduct of General Council Elections. The Business Committee, on the advice of the Constitutional Standing Committee, has agreed to recommend to the General Council a proposed Regulation governing the conduct of General Council Elections for Assessors to the University Court and members of the Business Committee.

Copies of the full text of the proposed Regulation may be found on the General Council website at [www.general-council.ed.ac.uk](http://www.general-council.ed.ac.uk). Printed copies are available on request from the General Council Office, Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1HT, and will also be available at the Half-Yearly Meeting on Saturday 17 June 2006.

## GENERAL COUNCIL FESTIVAL RECEPTION AND EXHIBITION VIEWING: FRIDAY 18 AUGUST 2006

The General Council is arranging a Reception on Friday 18 August 2006 in the Raeburn Room, Old College, for General Council members visiting Edinburgh for the Edinburgh International Festival and members living in the city. It will be an opportunity to revisit the University and meet friends, and all are assured of a very warm welcome. There will also be an opportunity to visit the Festival exhibition in the Talbot Rice Gallery, which this year is organised in co-operation with the Kunsthallen Brandts, Denmark. The exhibition, 'Girl-power and Boyhood', shows the work of a group of young Nordic painters, and runs from 5 August to 29 September 2006. A ticket request form is available on the rear inside cover of this issue of *Edit*.



**PARIS WEEKEND  
PROGRAMME OF EVENTS****FRIDAY 16 JUNE 2006**

**12.30** Business Seminar:  
'Let's Talk Business'  
The British Embassy,  
35 rue du Faubourg St Honoré

**18.00 - 19.30** Drinks Reception  
The British Embassy, 35 rue du Faubourg  
St Honoré

**SATURDAY 17 JUNE 2006**

**10.00** Coffee and croissants  
Gulbenkian Room, Maison internationale,  
Cité Internationale Universitaire

**10.30** General Council Half-Yearly Meeting  
Gulbenkian Room

**12.30** Apéritifs  
Salon Honnorat

**13.00** General Council Lunch  
Salon Honnorat  
Guest Speaker: The Rt Hon. Lord Cameron  
of Lochbroom MA LLB QC FRSE FRIAS

**15.15 - 17.15** Guided tour of the Cité  
Internationale Universitaire.  
(organized by the Association Alumni de  
l'Université d'Edimbourg en France)

**19.30** Development & Alumni Champagne  
Reception and Gala Dinner  
Salons Pourpre et Napoléon, Le Sénat,  
Palais du Luxembourg  
(by the kind assistance of Monsieur  
Georges Tron, Député de l'Essone)

All General Council members are most  
warmly encouraged to come to Paris for  
the General Council's first Meeting outside  
the United Kingdom, and to bring their  
guests to the Lunch afterwards, and also  
to the associated weekend events. It will  
be a very special occasion.

**GENERAL COUNCIL HALF-YEARLY MEETING, LUNCH AND  
ASSOCIATED EVENTS: PARIS: 16 AND 17 JUNE 2006**

The Half-Yearly Meeting of the General Council  
on Saturday 17 June 2006 in Paris will be an  
historic occasion since it will be the first time  
that the General Council will hold one of its  
meetings outside the United Kingdom, and it  
follows on from the successful first meeting of  
the General Council in London in June 2004.  
The programme for the meeting and the  
weekend events arranged in association with the

University's Development & Alumni and the  
Association Alumni de L'Université d'Edimbourg  
en France are shown here. Tickets for all the  
events may be ordered on the request form  
provided on the rear inside cover of this issue  
of *Edit*. Further information is available on the  
General Council website at [www.general-council.ed.ac.uk](http://www.general-council.ed.ac.uk), and on the Development &  
Alumni website at [www.edinburghcampaign.org](http://www.edinburghcampaign.org).



The Rt Hon. Lord Cameron of Lochbroom

**GENERAL COUNCIL PARIS  
LUNCH GUEST SPEAKER**

The General Council is delighted to  
welcome the Rt Hon. Lord Cameron of  
Lochbroom as the Guest Speaker at Lunch  
in Paris. Lord Cameron is Chancellor's  
Assessor on the Court of the University of  
Edinburgh, and is a distinguished member  
of the Scottish Judiciary. He is active in a  
wide range of fields in Scottish public life,  
including the Carnegie Trust for the  
Universities of Scotland, the Cockburn  
Association and the Scottish Civic Trust.

**Before the General Council Meeting**

**Right to left:** Mr Jim Crichton, Mace-Bearer, holding the Rector's Mace, recently gifted to the University; Mr Alan Johnston, Convener of the Business Committee; The Rev. Peter Clark, Honorary Methodist Chaplain; Dr Tam Dalyell, Rector; Professor Timothy O'Shea, Principal and Vice-Chancellor; Mr Melvyn Cornish, University Secretary and Registrar of the General Council; and Dr Ann Matheson, Secretary of the General Council.

**Before the General Council Lunch on 11 February 2006**

**Right to left:** Dr Tam Dalyell, Rector; Professor Timothy O'Shea, Principal and Vice-Chancellor; Dr Walter Nimmo, Alumnus of the Year 2004, who gave the after-lunch address; Mr Alan Johnston, Convener of the Business Committee; Mr Melvyn Cornish, University Secretary; and Dr Ann Matheson, Secretary of the General Council.

**RECTOR'S MACE**

At a reception in the Talbot Rice Gallery  
to mark the publication of his book on  
*The Rectors of the University of  
Edinburgh 1859-2000*, Mr Donald  
Wintersgill kindly presented the University  
with the splendid Rector's Mace, which  
is shown in the photograph above.

The General Council is proud that the  
Mace was first used publicly at its Half-  
Yearly Meeting in February 2006, which  
was also the final Meeting chaired by  
Dr Tam Dalyell as Rector of the University.



ANNUAL REVIEW  
2004-2005

The University's *Annual Review* for 2004-2005 has been published. In addition to the Principal's Foreword, and the Review of the Year, the review also contains articles on a wide range of topics, including 'Debating "Dolly": the Genomics Forum', 'Nanotechnology: Life-Enhancing Discoveries', and 'The University's Rapid Response to Asian Tsunami'. The text of the *Annual Review* is available on the University's website at **www.ed.ac.uk/annualreview**. Copies of the printed *Annual Review* may also be requested from Communications and Public Affairs, University of Edinburgh Centre, 7-11 Nicholson Street, Edinburgh EH8 9BE. Members may like to note that some copies of the 2004-2005 *Annual Review* will also be available at the Half-Yearly Meeting in Paris on Saturday 17 June 2006.

ANNEX TO THE BILLET

The text of the Annex to the Billet is now mounted on the General Council website in February and June each year, and can be consulted at **www.general-council.ed.ac.uk/annextothebillet.htm**.

Members who wish to continue receiving printed copies can do on request by contacting the General Council Office, Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1ET. (Telephone: +44 (0) 131 650 2152; Email: **General.Council@ed.ac.uk**)

Copies of the Annex to the Billet for the June 2006 Half-Yearly Meeting will also be available for members to collect at the Half-Yearly Meeting in Paris on Saturday 17 June 2006.

Officers

Chairman: His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, KG, KT

Secretary: Ann Matheson, OBE, MA, Dip.Scottish Studies, MLitt, PhD, Hon DLitt

Registrar: Melvyn D Cornish, BSc, PGCE, University Secretary

2009  
ex officio

General Council Assessors on the University Court:

A Margaret Tait, BSc

Robin O Blair, LLB, MA

Gavin W T Scott, BCom, CA, MBA

2009  
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Business Committee:

Convener: Alan M Johnston, MBA, CSci, CChem, FRSC, CBiol, FIBiol

Vice-Convener: Neil R Hynd, LVO, BArch

2008  
2008

A Convener of Academic Standing Committee:  
Frances D Dow, MA, DPhil

F Convener of Finance and Services Standing Committee:  
Charles F Y Lawson, BSc, CA, FSI

P Convener of Public Affairs Standing Committee:  
Roger S Windsor, MBE, MA, BSc, BVM&S

C Convener of Constitutional Standing Committee:  
Ralph V Parkinson, MA Geography (Hons)

2008  
2008  
2006  
2006

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:  
The Rt. Hon. Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, MA, LLB, QC, FRSE, FRIAS

ex officio

A R E Asher, FRSE, DLitt, BA, PhD

P Michael C Conway, MA

C Graham N Rule, BA, FRAS, FRSSA, FSA Scot

C George L Allen, BSc, MSc, MA, LLM, BL, DipLP, FLS, FRSM, FRMS, FRIPH, FRSA, NP

F William R B Bowie, BSc, CEng, MICE, FIHT

A Gavin Douglas, RD, QC, MA, LLB

F Anne Paterson, BSc (Social Science), Diploma in Social Study

C Patricia J Spark, MA

P Diana C F Webster, MA, Dip Lib, MCLIP

F Ian Wotherspoon, MA, MBA, PhD, FSA Scot, MCMI

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P Alan D G Brown, MB ChB, FRCOG, FRCS Ed

F J Ewan Jeffrey, BSc, CA

C Ann M Sutherland, MA, FBCartS

A Charles P Swainson, MB ChB, FRCPE, FFPHM

Assistant to the Secretary: Jean Gibson

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General Council Half-Yearly Meeting, Lunch and Associated Events:  
Paris: Friday 16 June and Saturday 17 June 2006

Name

Address

Postcode

Tel. No.

Email

(a) I/We wish to attend the Half-Yearly Meeting

☐

(b) I/We would like the following ticket/s.

No. of tickets

Total Cost

'Let's Talk Business' Seminar (€80/£55 per person, including reception)

Reception only (€25/£17.50 per person)

General Council Lunch (€38/£25 per person)

Guided tour of Cité Internationale Universitaire (€10/£7 per person)

Gala Dinner (€70/£50 per person)

(c) I enclose cheque for € / £ (in total) payable to The University of Edinburgh

(d) Guests Names

Event(s) Attending

Any Dietary Requirements

Please complete and return this form to: Development & Alumni, The University of Edinburgh, Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh, Scotland EH1 1HT.

Closing date for applications: **Wednesday 24 May 2006.**

The General Council of the University of Edinburgh  
Festival Reception and Exhibition Viewing: 18 August 2006

Please send me tickets (£10.00 per person) for the Festival Reception and Exhibition Viewing.

A cheque for £ is enclosed, payable to The University of Edinburgh.

Name

Address

Postcode

Please return to: Mrs Jean Gibson, Assistant to the Secretary of the General Council, General Council Office, The University of Edinburgh, Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1HT by **Monday 14 August 2006.**





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