



## UNIVERSITY UPDATE : 21 January 2005

The next University Update will be published on 28 January. Copy deadline 26 January.

Been away on holiday/sabbatical? View previous University Updates online:

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/internal/news.bho/uni-updates>

**NEWS:** <http://www.bath.ac.uk/news/>

### **Helping Swindon's young people get to university:**

The University of Bath in Swindon has pledged to continue its vital work in encouraging young people to go into higher education, following a HEFCE report which says the town is still lagging behind; between 1994-2000 only around 23 per cent of 18 and 19-year-olds from Swindon went to universities and other higher education colleges in contrast to the national average of 30 per cent.

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/swindon/pr/releases/HEFCEaccess.htm>

### **New project to improve education standards in Bath:**

Education standards in secondary schools in the Bath area are set to receive a boost thanks to a new research partnership between the University of Bath and the Bath & North East Somerset Local Education Authority (LEA).

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/releases/educationKTP.htm>

### **London's STD 'hotspots' targeted through new technology:**

A new interactive cybermap that highlights sexually transmitted disease 'hotspots' in London will help healthcare workers target the areas that need the most help in preventing and treating diseases like genital warts, Chlamydia and HIV. Dr Maged Boulos (School for Health) has developed the map in collaboration with Graphical Data Capture Ltd, London.

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/releases/STDcybermap.htm>

### **Heart-racing stuff:**

Dylan Thompson (Sport & Exercise Science) and Rex Tyrrell (Pharmacy & Pharmacology) have been awarded £118,000 by the British Heart Foundation to investigate the anti-inflammatory effect of regular physical activity on the cardiovascular system.

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/health/research/ses/current/bhf.html>

### **Stefan takes a stand for security:**

Stefan Wolff (ESML) has co-founded new Standing Group on Security Issues, in which 'security' is conceived of as ranging from traditional state-centric security concerns, to new transnational security threats, to broader dimensions of human security.

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/internal/news/security-standinggp.htm>

### **National social policy conference to be held on campus:**

The 2005 Social Policy Association conference will be held on campus in late June, bringing together some of the country's foremost experts on social policy, including journalist Polly Toynbee, Nic Marks from the New Economics Foundation and Gøsta Esping-Anderson. The Conference will focus on the issue of well-being and social justice.

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/internal/news/spaconfjan05.htm>

### **Journal finds home in Bath:**

A major inter-disciplinary social sciences journal 'Work, Employment & Society' (WES) has come to Bath. Professor Michael Rose (Social & Policy Sciences) is the new WES Editor-in-Chief. WES is one of the highest citation rated journals in three specialist fields: Personnel Management & Industrial Relations, Economics, and Sociology, with a largely international following.

### **Paediatric medical research prize:**

- Dr Finbar O'Callaghan (School for Health) has been awarded the MacKeith Prize for the best junior researcher for 2005 by the British Paediatric Neurology Association. The award was based on work done while a Lecturer to Professor Osborne (Health). The work on Tuberous Sclerosis was part of a programme of work into prevention of brain damage in childhood.
- Professor Osborne is currently leading a national team which published a paper in the Lancet recently on the treatment of West Syndrome (infantile spasms) which is associated with developmental delay and epilepsy.

### **Big bucks for tsunami appeal:**

- The tsunami sale and intranet auction raised a grand total of £3,812. Auction - £1,119; Sale - £2,693. Thank you to all Donors to Auction and Sale, Buyers, Bidders and Helpers for making this such a successful event. No doubt donations to make this up to £4,000 would be gratefully received...
- BRLSI held a series of lectures on the subject of tsunamis and their consequences. £1398 was raised (at the last count!) with about 50 gift-aid forms filled in which will bring some more money in April.

### **Bath charity supports Sri Lankan survivors:**

Yvonne Arburrow and Andy Savin (BUCS) have recently developed a website for a Bath-based educational charity, Web of Hope, using content management and associated technologies (as an external client.) The Web of Hope is now sponsoring three Sri Lankan charitable organisations whose work with local communities helps them rebuild using sustainable principles such as recycling, composting, renewable energy, and house building with traditional materials.

<http://www.thewebofhope.com/announcements/sri-lanka.html>

### **IN THE MEDIA**

- **Helen Haste** (Psychology) appeared on BBC 24 (a globally transmitted TV news station) talking about young people and mobile phone usage.
- **Stefan Wolff** (ESML) was interviewed by the BBC World Service on the subject of autonomy, self-governance and conflict resolution, against the background of Hungarian demands for autonomy in the Serbian province of Vojvodina.
- **Jocelyn Bell Burnell** (VC's Office) spoke on BBC Radio Wales about women and science.
- **Felicity Wikeley** (Education) discussed the project on improving standards in Bath schools on Bath FM radio station.
- **Hanna Diamond** (ESML) took part in a Woman's Hour programme about the role of women in France broadcast on Radio BBC4.
- Highlights of **TeamBath FC's** FA Trophy match against Histon were featured on TV on Sky Sports News.

- **Steven McGuire** (Management) had a letter published in the Financial Times addressing the recent disputes over the launch of the new Airbus A380 plane.
- **Adam Burgess** (Social & Policy Sciences) was quoted in an article in the Telegraph about his latest research into whether there are health risks associated with mobile phones. Dr Burgess believes the health issues are a myth.
- **Richard Velleman** (Mental Health R&D Unit) discussed how budgets for tackling mental health have shrunk at a meeting of mental health professionals in Helsinki. The conference was reported on the web: <http://www.ipsnews.net/africa/interna.asp?idnews=27073>
- University-based bob skeleton slider, **Adam Pengilly**, came under the spotlight in the 'My Sport' feature in the Daily Telegraph. He likened his sport to 'lying on a skateboard being dragged along the motorway at 80mph.'

## INFORMATION

### University holidays:

Public & discretionary holidays 2005 can be found online:

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/personnel/holidays/>

### New look for VC's site:

The website for the Vice-Chancellor's Office has been redesigned in order to make information easier to find. Take a look: <http://www.bath.ac.uk/vc>

### Deadline for Enterprise Education funding bids:

Are you developing course materials that relate to enterprise, entrepreneurship or business start-up? There is still time to submit a bid for the next round of funding to develop Enterprise and Entrepreneurship education teaching and materials. The fund comprises £180,000. Deadline: 2 February. For more information:

[http://www.bath.ac.uk/researchandinnovation/services/ee\\_support\\_funding.html](http://www.bath.ac.uk/researchandinnovation/services/ee_support_funding.html)

### Funding opportunities:

- Leverhulme Trust Visit - Thurs 27 Jan - 1.15pm - CHANGE OF VENUE 8W 3.22 - for researchers.  
Professor Sir Richard Brook, Director of The Leverhulme Trust, will present the priorities and opportunities offered by the Trust and answer questions. Book by Mon 24 Jan: [adsglr@bath.ac.uk](mailto:adsglr@bath.ac.uk)
- British Academy Visit - Fri 4 Feb - 1.15pm - Venue TBC - for researchers.  
Elizabeth Ollard, Assistant Secretary of Research Grants, will be available to discuss general issues about the British Academy priorities, future plans, and pose any detailed questions about schemes and potential applications. Book by Wed 2 Feb: [adsglr@bath.ac.uk](mailto:adsglr@bath.ac.uk)

### Courses:

- The MARS Project: A new finance system for the University - Thur 27 Jan - 10.15am An introduction to the process of replacing Lawson with a new finance system. Find out about the requirements specification being produced for the new system and how you can be a part of the process. <http://internal.bath.ac.uk/mis/mars.bho/>
- Media Training: Mon 31 Jan - for academic staff working in science and engineering departments. The course is free and covers a range of topics, and includes practical elements designed to help delegates enhance their understanding of the media and develop effective interview skills. Book a place: x6883 or [a.mclaughlin@bath.ac.uk](mailto:a.mclaughlin@bath.ac.uk)
- Communicating Across Cultures: Fri 28 Jan - for all staff who teach and support international students. Book a place: x6369 or [staffdev@bath.ac.uk](mailto:staffdev@bath.ac.uk)
- Fire Risk Assessment: a toolkit: Wed 26 Jan - for Safety Coordinators, Union Safety Reps, Laboratory Superintendents and staff with a safety responsibility. Book a place: x6369 or [staffdev@bath.ac.uk](mailto:staffdev@bath.ac.uk)

- Learning how to use Structural Equation Modelling: Two-Day Intensive Workshop - 3–4 February 2005 - 9.30am – 4.30pm Led by Dr John Raz from the USA, a leading expert on SEM. All welcome but participant numbers are restricted to a maximum of 25 so priority will be given to members of the School of Management. Book place: [s.c.m.henneberg@bath.ac.uk](mailto:s.c.m.henneberg@bath.ac.uk)

### **Drivers needed for research:**

The Psychology Department is looking for people to take part in an experiment on how drivers see other road users. If you're a driver, can you spare 50 minutes to take part in this important road safety research? As an added incentive, £5 is being offered for your time. Native English speakers only, please. Contact: [I.Walker@bath.ac.uk](mailto:I.Walker@bath.ac.uk)

### **SPECIAL EVENTS NEXT WEEK:**

- Tues 25 Jan - CNM DAFT Day - 1:15 PM - 1W 3.6 The DAFT (Delamination and Folding Team) Day seminar will include talks by Rorie Edmunds, Dept of Mechanical Engineering, on "Kink banding in individual PPTA fibres" and by Jonathan Boon, Dept of Mechanical Engineering, on "Modelling the buckling of layered rocks with the Level Set method".  
<http://www.bath.ac.uk/math-sci/research/DAFT.htm#>
- Tues 25 Jan - London Olympics: Good for SW business - 6:15 PM - Lecture Room, STV Mick Aitken's message for South West England is that the Olympics is not just the greatest sporting event on earth, but also one of the greatest opportunities for businesses. Book a place: Sandy Bell, Bath Chamber of Commerce: 01225 460655.

### **BRLSI LECTURES:**

A number of interesting lectures/seminars are being held at the BRLSI this week. See <http://www.brslsi.org/diary.htm> Including Vulnerability of Coastal Communities to Environmental Disaster - Sarah Coulthard, PhD Student University of Bath, Tues 25 Jan.

### **SPORTS STORIES:**

#### **Matt to tackle exams and Aussies:**

Fourth year MChem Chemistry student Matt Corker has been selected for the England Universities rugby squad to play Australian Universities on Sunday - then on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday he sits some of his final exams.

#### **Teambath FC host Middle East team:**

TeamBath FC host a side from Abu Dhabi Men's College next week. The players will watch TeamBath FC's Southern League Premier Division match against Halesowen on Monday (Twerton Park, kick-off 7.45pm) and then play TeamBath the following day at the Sports Training Village, kick-off 3pm.

#### **Bragg top scores for England:**

Coach Education & Sports Performance student Rachel Bragg top-scored for England in the first qualifying rounds of the World Volleyball Championships. Simone Lewis, Sport, Science Support Manager at the Sports Training Village, was also in action for England.

#### **Results round-up:**

TeamBath Romans beat Colchester United 89-86 in England Basketball League Division 2. Romans took the match in over time after the two teams were tied at 71 points each after full-time. TeamBath FC were knocked out of the FA Trophy 2-1 by Histon on Sunday.

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:**

"Our life is what our thoughts make it." - Marcus Aurelius, Roman emperor/philosopher, 121-161 AD.

Please send your suggestions for Thought for the Week to [comms@bath.ac.uk](mailto:comms@bath.ac.uk)