UNIVERSITY UPDATE : 20 August 2004

The next University Update will be published in on 3 September. (Copy deadline, 1 September)

NEWS: http://www.bath.ac.uk/news/

Been away on holiday/sabbatical? View previous University Updates online: http://www.bath.ac.uk/internal/news.bho/uni-updates

Cleaner diesel
The technology behind a revolution in cleaner, greener and smarter diesel cars that will be designed and sold throughout the world by Ford is being researched by Powertrain and Vehicle Research Unit (Mechanical Engineering). Using a new £1.6 million grant from the Government's Science Research Investment Fund and £350,000 from Ford, the Unit headed up by Professor Gary Hawley is carrying out research into ways of significantly improving the fuel consumption of diesel engines, which could reduce the pollutants coming from diesel engines by half over the next seven years, continuing a long trend of reducing vehicle waste emissions. The cleaner, more efficient engines are behind the dramatic increase in diesel sales - it is estimated that by 2008 half of all new cars sold in Europe will use diesel.
More details: http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/releases/diesel

It's proven - Size matters in the mating game
The difference in size between males and females of the same species is all down to the battle for a mate, according to a study of 100 shorebird species published by Dr Tamas Szekely (Biology & Biochemistry) in collaboration with the Universities of Oxford and East Anglia. Complex statistical analysis of body size, mating behaviour, ecology and life histories found that in larger shorebirds the battle between males for a mate is highly competitive and larger size offers an advantage over other potential suitors as they battle aggressively on the ground. The evolutionary result is that male ruffs, a large shorebird, are about twice the size of females. For smaller species, such as dunlins, battles take place in the air and agility and smallness become more important factors resulting in males being smaller than females.
Full story: http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/releases/rensch.htm

Government initiative doesn't come cheap
Interviews carried out by Dr Colin Lawson and Michael Godwin (Economics) regarding the costs of implementation of the government's new Working Tax Credit have estimated that some companies expect an increase of ten per cent in payroll costs. On average, the estimated payroll cost will be between four and five cent and for many companies the cost rises are minimal. Tax credits have been a major plank in the Government's campaign to get more people into work, but the system has met criticism from business on the costs of implementation.
**Stroke survivors scheme**

Researchers from the University of Bath, in partnership with the Stroke Association and Age Concern Wiltshire, are helping stroke survivors live as active and full a life as possible. Stroke survivors living in the Swindon area are being invited to take part in a new community-based scheme that aims to help them adjust to life after a stroke by giving them the opportunity to gain new skills and develop renewed confidence - this will help them overcome the physical and psychological problems they often face when recovering from a stroke.  
[http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/releases/communitystroke.htm](http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/releases/communitystroke.htm)

**Career progression for mental health professionals**

The School for Health launches a new course in September. The postgraduate certificate in Mental Health Practice will enable people already employed in a variety of practice settings - such as doctors’ surgeries, community support facilities or in mental health services - to work more effectively with people with mental health problems, their families and support networks. The course offers healthcare professionals working in the southwest an obvious career progression route as national policy in mental health care continues the move away from hospital-based services towards more community-based services as part of the National Service Framework. [http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/releases/mhpcourse.htm](http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/releases/mhpcourse.htm)

**Staff changes:**

- **Professor Jocelyn Bell Burnell** retires on Friday August 27 after three years as Dean of Science. There is a leaving card and collection in WH3.50a Prof Burnell has said she does not wish to receive a personal present, but has asked that money collected be donated to the National Cataloguing Unit for the Archives of Contemporary Scientists, based at the University of Bath. Professor Bell Burnell has been appointed an Honorary Professor in the Faculty of Science, and will continue to have a University of Bath address (via the Vice-Chancellor's Office). There will be regular meetings between the Vice-Chancellor and Professor Bell Burnell to share intelligence picked up through national level activities (e.g., Royal Society, PPARC, Institute of Physics). Further details: [http://www.bath.ac.uk/vc/news.bho/rovingamb.htm](http://www.bath.ac.uk/vc/news.bho/rovingamb.htm)

- **David Corless**, Deputy Director of Estates responsible for operations and maintenance, is leaving the University to take up the post of Director of Campus Services at Southampton Institute. Meanwhile, **Martyn Whalley** has joined us from construction consultancy Northcroft. As Deputy Director Capital Procurement, Martyn will oversee the University's construction programme and in particular the 4 West project.

- **Professor Richard Guy** joins the Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology this month after eight years at the University of Geneva in Switzerland. He is a leading expert in the field of iontophoresis - a technique that allows substances to be moved in and out of the body without the need to make holes in the skin. Diabetics in the USA and UK are already benefiting from the new technique which eliminates the need for painful injections. Read more: [http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/releases/guy.htm](http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/releases/guy.htm)

- **The Revd Angela Berners-Wilson** will start in September as our new University Chaplain. Angela has been Rector of Colerne and North Wraxall in the Diocese of Bristol for the last nine years. A graduate of St Andrew's University (MTh) and St John's College Durham (DipTh), Angela was made Deaconess in 1979, Deacon in 1987 and ordained Priest in 1994 - in fact, she was the first woman in the Church of England to be ordained Priest. Angela comes to Bath with much experience of Higher Education Chaplaincy, having been Chaplain at Thames Polytechnic (now Greenwich University) 1984-1991 and Bristol University 1991-1995.

- In line with its wish to raise media coverage, the University recruited in June another Press Officer, **Andrew McLaughlin**, to help **Tony Trueman**, who began in February. In the past
few months coverage (non-sport) has almost doubled. “The help that many staff have given to us has allowed us to get more positive coverage, and we want to continue and expand this,” said Tony. "We are assigning ourselves specific departments as we wish to bring a personal touch to media relations. Any academic staff who are willing to be placed on our list of media experts should contact us.” View list of specific departments and contact details: [http://www.bath.ac.uk/internal/news/press-changes.htm](http://www.bath.ac.uk/internal/news/press-changes.htm)

**Achievements and Invitations**

- **Gary Lock** (Mechanical Engineering) has been awarded the Busk Prize by the Royal Aeronautical Society for co-authoring a paper entitled: 'Aerospace applications of luminescent paint. Part one: Pressure Measurement'. The paper, written with a former member of staff, Dr James Kingsley-Rowe, and two other engineers, will be published in the Society's aeronautics journal.
- **Jeffrey Jupp** (visiting Professor, Mechanical Engineering) was given a Westland Prize Award by the Royal Aeronautical Society for a paper entitled 'Breaking the chain - returning Concorde to service following the Paris accident - July 2000'. This was based on his work directing the Airbus UK team in their work with Airbus France to restore the plane to service.
- **Dr Patrick Keogh** (Mechanical Engineering) head of the systems and control sub-group, and Dr Matthew Cole, research officer in the machine systems group, have been awarded the Institution of Mechanical Engineers’ Thomas Bernard Hall Prize. They won the certificate and £500 cheque for their research paper Rotor vibration with auxiliary bearing contact in magnetic bearing systems published by the IMechE in 2003.
- **Andrew Rowlands**, who graduated with a first class MEng degree in Mechanical Engineering this summer, has won a prestigious award for a presentation on his final year research project. Andrew, who now works with Rolls Royce in Bristol, picked up the prize at the 16th Annual Medical & Sports Engineering Student Project Competition organised by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE). His presentation, on ultrasonic detection of hip prosthesis loosening, was judged to be the best in the medical engineering field from the five finalists competing in his area.
- **Veronica Paddock**, who graduated from Bath in 2001 with an MEng in Aerospace Engineering, has been awarded a Royal Aeronautical Society Herbert Le Sueur Award for a student or graduate whose career would be enhanced by attending a European Rotorcraft forum.
- **Sharon Kean** (MSc Science, Culture and Communication student) has been awarded the Runner Up prize in The Daily Telegraph BASF Science Writer Awards 2004. As well as winning a £100 cheque and a year’s subscription to both Nature and New Scientist magazines, Sharon will get to see her article published in the Daily Telegraph in the next few weeks. The 700 word article entitled 'Frog Spawns Controversy' investigated the science behind the sightings of ‘three headed frogs’ in Somerset, earlier this year. Professor Jonathan Slack (Biology and Biochemistry) provided some of the information for the story.
- **William Webb**, Ivan Ivanovic, Aikaterini Strousopoulou and Capucine Kohler (School of Management) have won the Institute of Direct Marketing's (IDM) National Student Direct Marketing Competition. The case study challenged the students to review the current marketing activity of Nestle Purina Pet Care and write a direct marketing strategy to increase sales for its household name brands: Felix, Bakers Complete and Winalot Dog Treats. [http://www.bath.ac.uk/management/news_events/news/2004/6-8.html](http://www.bath.ac.uk/management/news_events/news/2004/6-8.html)
- **Prof Michael Brown** (Pharmacy & Pharmacology) was invited to give a lecture at the recent Gordon Conference at Mount Holyoke College, near Boston, USA. The conference was on Microbial Stress Response. Prof Brown’s lecture was entitled 'Inorganic polyphosphate in the origin and survival of species'.
IN THE MEDIA: http://www.bath.ac.uk/pr/bathinpapers

Please contact us if you appear on TV or Radio: press@bath.ac.uk

• Michael Godwin (Economics) appeared on BBC TV News discussing his research into the implementation costs for companies of the Working Tax Credit. He was also interviewed by BBC Radio Bristol, 24 Business Today, Radio Essex and BBC Radio 4 Today.

• Lee Hennessy (Admissions) spoke on Bath FM and BBC Radio Bristol about A'level results and Clearing.

• Prof Malcolm Greaves has been carrying out research into unlocking oil by injecting air into oilfields to start a combustion process that burns some of the heaviest fractions of the oil, allowing the rest to flow out through nearby horizontal collection wells. The work has generated a range of international media coverage in Daily Times, Pakistan; Planet Ark, Australia; Houston Chronicle, USA; Economic Times, India.

• Mechanical Engineering’s current diesel research (see above in News section) has been covered by a range of online sources: BBC News; Science Daily; Auto Wired; Scotsman; Auto Industriya, Philippines. http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/somerset/3938023.stm

• Details of the research into male/female sizes in animals (see above) was published in New Scientist; Independent; Washington Times; Medical News Today; India Times; Bath Chronicle; United Press International.
  http://washingtontimes.com/upi-breaking/20040809-094553-8752r.htm

INFORMATION:

Change to personal homepage addresses
A new domain, people.bath.ac.uk/ has been introduced for all staff and student personal homepages. This follows the recent introduction by BUCS of a new system for the creation of all new computer usernames.

See: http://www.bath.ac.uk/bucs/today/new-username-format.shtml

people.bath.ac.uk replaces staff.bath.ac.uk, students.bath.ac.uk and www.bath.ac.uk/~username/ (where username is your username). The existing personal homepages for all current staff and students will continue to work but we strongly recommend/request that you adopt the new domain and quote people.bath.ac.uk/username/ when creating links or referring people to your web page.

More: http://www.bath.ac.uk/internal/news/url-domain.htm

Deconstruction of 4 West
The process of deconstructing 4 West gathers momentum in the next two weeks. The programme to remove the majority of the asbestos prior to deconstruction proper gets underway and will run through until November. An early activity will involve the removal of asbestos soffit boards from the Parade frontage. This will necessitate the blocking of the Parade from 4 West to Wessex House. This element of the work will be completed as quickly as possible and should be completed before the new academic year commences. Alternative routes will be signed.

Brassknocker Hill closed
Brassknocker Hill will remain closed to traffic till the end August to allow Wessex Water to repair the 70-year-old sewer system. According to the company, extensive CCTV survey work of the sewerage system in the area revealed structural problems which, without investment, would continue to deteriorate. This would lead to a sewer collapse causing disruption for the area and problems to the environment. The planned work, which has been arranged to coincide within the school holidays, involves using relining methods which reduces the need for excavations.
Buses
First Bus have agreed to provide additional services for the Oldfield Park area. These services address both the need for additional peak capacity on the existing First routes and also the withdrawal of routes previously operated by Bath Bus Company. Two additional vehicles are being provided. There will be additional services running on the existing First route 418 serving lower Oldfield Park and a new 410 service serving Upper Oldfield Park to the University twice an hour during the morning peak. The new timetables will be online shortly and will be flagged from the internal homepage.

Executive Committee decisions
The summary of the Executive Committee held on 30 June are now available online: http://internal.bath.ac.uk/executive/summary/execnotes300604.html

Borrow Books from 154 H.E. Libraries
The library has joined SCONUL Research Extra (SRX). This scheme enables research students/staff and academic staff to borrow items from 154 HE libraries across the UK and Ireland. Research students are eligible to join if they are undertaking a pure-research qualification e.g. PhD or MPhil. Further information: http://www.bath.ac.uk/library/sconul/research-extra.html
Please note, we will no longer be issuing or renewing AULIC library cards as University of Bristol, UWE & Bath Spa University College all now belong to SRX.

The University pocket diary 2004/05
Copies of the diary which runs from August 04 to December 05 can be ordered by completing a central stores requisition form:
Stock Item No 1061653, account code 4023, Cost £2.75 each.

SU Sabb Officers
Details of the Student Unions' new sabbatical officers for the coming year can be viewed at: https://www.bathstudent.com/DisplayPage.asp?pageid=843
Click on photos of officers for more details.

Eye-camera experiment
A study being undertaken in the Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology is offering £10 to anyone who can spend an hour of their time helping to find out how our eyes behave when we watch TV. All you will be required to do is watch TV whilst wearing a lightweight camera on your head. To book an appointment either e-mail eye.study@value-creation.co.uk or call ext. 6884.

Excellence in engaging the public with science
Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague for the Royal Society Kohn Award for Excellence in Engaging the Public with Science, a new annual award to reward practising scientists or science communicators in their engagement with society in matters of science and its societal dimension. The award consists of a silver gilt medal, a gift of £2,500 and a grant of £7,500 for science communication activities. The majority of the nominee's engagement with society work should have been in the UK, and at least one activity should have taken place in the twenty four months preceding the closing date for nominations of 15 October 2004. Further details: http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/awards/awards/kohnaward.htm

Lunchtime videos
Staff Development are running a series of training videos at lunch times throughout August and September. Bring your own lunch, drinks provided.
View list: http://www.bath.ac.uk/staff-development/courseinfo/videos/videolist.htm
Female manual staff invited to chill out
All female members of manual staff who work in the University (full time or part time, permanent or temporary) are invited to an informal session where there will be free refreshments and the opportunity to discover practical ways to deal with stress both at work and home within a relaxed and supportive environment: 14 September 2004, 11-12, "Chill Out - Strategies to deal with stress at work and home". This session, led by Hazel Jump, is in response to requests for an alternative to the very successful Women's Lunch events and is the result of joint working involving both management and trade unions. To reserve a place and book your free refreshments: ext 3568, E-mail: equalsdiv@bath.ac.uk

JOBS
Vacant posts: http://www.bath.ac.uk/jobs/

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: Check out http://www.bath.ac.uk/whats-on for more details

9 Sept: Symposium: Bath Functional Molecules 1; Supramolecular Chemistry This half-day Symposium has been structured around a visit by Professor Seiji Shinkai to the Department of Chemistry. Over a ten year period Professor Seiji Shinkai was the 9th most cited chemist in the World. His research interests focus on host-guest chemistry, molecular recognition, sugar sensing, allosteric functions, organogels, sol-gel transcription and polysaccharide-polynucleotide interactions. Full programme/book place: http://staff.bath.ac.uk/chstdj/bfm.html

Exhibitions at the Holburne Museum
• Till 19 Sept - Living with Art: Bath’s Private Collections
• Till 26 Sept - The Holburne Contemporary Portrait Prize 2004

• Kate flies the flag: TeamBath judo player Kate Howey was chosen by her fellow Team GB athletes to carry the Union flag at the head of the British delegation at the opening ceremony to the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. On the judo mat Howey, competing at her fourth and last Olympics, missed out on adding to her bronze from Barcelona 1992 and silver from Sydney 2000.
• Record for Ross: TeamBath swimmer Ross Davenport finished just outside the medals as a member of Britain's 4x200m freestyle relay team. The GB quartet finished fourth in the final - but broke a four-year-old British record.
• Mew misses medals: TeamBath swimmer Darren Mew reached the final of the 100m breaststroke, finishing seventh, while Robin Francis reached the semis of the 200m individual medley.
• Denne in action: TeamBath Buccaneers hockey player Wayne Denne helped South Africa record a surprise 2-1 win over Argentina at the start of their Olympic campaign.
• Athletes, triathletes and pentathletes to come: TeamBath’s athletes, triathletes and modern pentathletes are yet to see action at Athens 2004. Bath Bullet Jason Gardener competes in the 100m sprint, with Lorraine Shaw in the women’s hammer, Julie Dibens and Jodie Swallow take part in the triathlon, with Kate Allenby and Georgina Harland in the modern pentathlon.
• TeamBath FC take-on Chippenham: The new football season is underway with TeamBath FC playing in the newly formed Southern Football League Premier Division. They host Chippenham Town in their next home game on Monday 23rd August, at the Sports Training Village, kick-off 7.30pm.