



University of
Reading

Bulletin

Fortnightly news for staff | 14 February 2008 | 477



Clouds in California win photography competition



Front cover: Cumulus Congestus clouds taken in Santa Barbara, California. One of the winning entries in the Meteorology photographic competition

The *Bulletin* can be found online at www.reading.ac.uk/bulletin where you can read a pdf of this issue and access archived issues of past *Bulletins*.

The *Bulletin* is published in-house fortnightly during term time. Items are welcomed from every member of the University and should be sent, marked 'Bulletin', to Carol Derham Communications, DEAO Whiteknights The University of Reading Reading RG6 6AH email bulletin@reading.ac.uk Please note that we reserve the right to edit items and not all material may be used. Free small ads from University members will be included if space permits.

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CAMPUS AUTHOR

Ventilation Systems: Design and Performance

Editor: Hazim Awbi, Construction Management and Engineering

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Eight internationally recognised authorities in ventilation and indoor environment research from six countries have contributed to this title. The book provides up-to-date knowledge based on the experience of the contributing experts to deal with current and future ventilation requirements in buildings. Presenting the most recent developments in ventilation research and its applications, this book offers a comprehensive reference to the subject, covering the fundamentals as well as most advanced topics.

IN THE NEWS: As a world-renowned research and teaching institution, the University of Reading is rarely out of the local, national and international media. This is a selection of media appearances by members of the University and press cutting summaries which highlight the important work being done by the staff and students of the University. View all 'In the news' items at www.reading.ac.uk/about/about-readinginthenews2008.asp

17 January, Reading Chronicle
A local resident writes in to thank various Reading institutions, including the University, for supporting the Salvation Army's Christmas Appeal.

17 January, Reading Chronicle
A report on the HECToR machine, the country's biggest and best academic supercomputer, which the University's Walker Institute will use to map global climate change and tropical weather systems. **Dr Steve Woolnough** (Meteorology) explains more. See page 3

17 January, Times Higher Education Supplement
University Vice-Chancellor **Professor Gordon Marshall** calls the exciting merger between Reading and Henley Management College 'a marriage of perfect complementaries'.

21 January, Reading Evening Post
The Charlie Waller Institute, a pioneering mental health training and research centre based at the University, was launched this January.

21 January, Independent Nurse
An article discussing a recent report saying GPs should be given the same training as nurse prescribers to help make savings on drugs. With expert comment from **Professor Molly Courtenay** (Health and Social Care).

22 January, Nursing Times
A look at the key precautions nurses can take to avoid medication mistakes. With expert comment from **Professor Molly Courtenay** (Health and Social Care).

23 January, Electronics Weekly
The University is to study digital power supplies with Bracknell-based Ridley Engineering, sponsored by a SPARK knowledge transfer award.

23 January, Reading Evening Post
University of Reading food sciences student **Stacey Griffin**, has won the Hutchinson Jonas national food award. The award was launched last year for students looking to work in the UK's food and drink industry.

24 January, Reading Chronicle
More than 100 new Reading students will be given bursaries towards the cost of their first year studies. The £2,000 grants are for the best and brightest new undergraduates who came top of their class at A-level or equivalent for a range of subjects.

24 January, Reading Chronicle
Reading University Students' Union has launched a campaign to encourage Reading Borough Council to bring back the Landlord Accreditation Scheme, which ensures landlords are dependable and property is safe, secure and habitable for tenants.

24 January, Times Higher Education Supplement
Emeritus Professor Christie Davies (Sociology) reviews Andy Medhurst's new book, *A National Joke: Popular Identity and English Cultural Identities*.

24 January, Times Higher Education Supplement
Professor Hilary Footitt (Languages and European Studies) suggests the decline in the popularity of languages being studied at university could be blamed on the context of a national languages strategy that has made languages optional, rather than on the failure of universities to develop language research.

25 January, Oxford Times
Professor Kevin Warwick (Cybernetics) describes the pioneering experiment to link his nervous system to the internet.

25 January, Planning
A report on why it may take a decade for local authorities to hire graduate planners with the skills to assess the proposed community infrastructure levy. With expert comment from **Professor Philip Allmendinger** (Business School).

30 January, City A.M.
Emeritus Professor Brian Scott-Quinn (Business School) believes attention to risk has been a quality lacking among financial markets executives.

Ede and Ravenscroft Award

The Ede and Ravenscroft Tercentenary Award, 2007, for the best performance at Part 1 in the Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences went to Alison James.

Alison is currently in the second year of a BA in Social Work. Alison is pictured with Professor Jim Pemberton, Dean of the Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences and Lidija Godina, in the School of Health and Social Care and personal tutor, receiving her award.



Lidija Godina, Alison James and Professor Jim Pemberton

Supercomputer

Scientists from the Walker Institute at the University of Reading will be studying the problem of climate change in more detail than ever before using the new UK academic supercomputer (HECToR) which was launched on January 14 in Edinburgh by the Chancellor, Alistair Darling.

HECToR (High End Computing Terascale Resources) is the new national high performance computing service for the UK academic community. Initially, HECToR is expected to be about six times more powerful than the previous UK academic supercomputer, and 25 times more powerful by 2009. HECToR has been set up to allow a wide range of research from physics to economics.

At Reading, scientists will be using the supercomputer to run some of the most detailed global climate models in the world. Len Shaffrey, a senior scientist developing the new high resolution models, said: "Current climate models struggle to give us details of how climate might change at regional and local levels and in particular how high impact weather, like storms, will change. We'll



Changing regional climates predicted by new supercomputer

be using the power of HECToR to run much finer resolution global climate models than has been possible before in the UK.

"El Niño, a dramatic warming of the tropical Pacific Ocean which happens every few years, and which brings drought to Australia and Southern Africa for example, is captured with remarkable skill."

Dr Steve Woolnough, who is leading the tropical weather project, said: "With the increased computing power of HECToR we can look at the way complex tropical weather systems develop and interact. The tropics act as the powerhouse for all our weather, even affecting us over Europe. Improving our ability to model the tropics will give us better forecasts of weather and climate from days to decades ahead."

Reading colour comes to Lyon

A party from Typography & Graphic Communication visited the *Musée de l'imprimerie* in Lyon to celebrate a historic exhibition and plan future collaborations recently.

Colours, a visually stunning exhibition of the development and hey-day of the chromolithographic printing process, was curated for the *Musée* by Emeritus Professor Michael Twyman, and includes loan items from the University Library and Department of Typography & Graphic Communication.

The first such exhibition for over 150 years, it tells the story of commercial colour printing from hand-drawn images on stone. In an explosion equalled only by today's internet developments, colour printing transformed the world of commerce and communication in the nineteenth century, providing the middle classes with art reproductions, retailers with packaging and display materials, classrooms with maps and textbooks, and the world of

entertainment with stunning posters. The skill of lithographic artists who, by eye, worked out which colours to combine to give the best printed result is strikingly shown in reproduction of ceramics which look photographic but are in fact hand-drawn.

Importantly, the exhibition includes very first trials in the process by two pioneers, one French, one English, who simultaneously but independently made the process commercially practical. Michael Twyman's illustrated book, *Images en couleur: Godefroy Engelmann, Charles Hullmandel et les débuts de la chromolithographie*, which was published at the end of last year, explains the approaches of the Hullmandel in England and the Engelmann in France.

Also on the agenda was planning with the *Musée* and its partner, *L'Institut d'histoire du livre*, for a forthcoming conference, and a visit to the *Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon*, a prime archive for research into French ephemera.



Alan Marshall, Director, *Musée de l'imprimerie*, and Professor Michael Twyman review exhibits

How languages evolve



Scientists at the University of Reading have discovered that languages change and evolve in rapid bursts rather than in a steady pattern.

The research, published this week in the journal *Science*, investigates thousands of years of language evolution, and looks at the way in which languages split and evolve. It has long been accepted that

the desire for a distinct social identity may cause languages to change quickly, but it has not previously been known whether such rapid bursts of change are a regular feature of the evolution of human language.

The findings show that initially, the basic vocabulary of newly formed languages develops and changes quite quickly, and this is then followed by longer periods of slower and gradual change.

Professor Mark Pagel from the School of Biological Sciences said "Our research suggests that rapid bursts of change occur in languages, and this reflects a human ability to adjust languages at critical times of cultural evolution, such as during the emergence of new and rival groups.

The emergence of American English took place when the American English Dictionary was introduced by Noah Webster. He insisted that 'as an independent nation, our honor requires us to have a system of our own, in language as well as Government'. This illustrates that language is not only used as a means of communication, but it is also important for social functions, including promoting group identity and unity."

Only human?



Greed & corruption in business and government will be discussed at the final lecture in the current University Public lecture series on Tuesday 26 February.

Professor John Hendry, Head of the University of Reading Business School will explain how, power, as Lord Acton famously observed, tends to corrupt. So too does money. Without the driving force of financial self-interest, the business enterprise will rarely succeed, but with that self-interest there is always a risk that hunger will turn to greed and that individuals will seek profit at the expense of those entitled to it, whether shareholders, employees, pensioners or the public purse.

This lecture explores the space between the human ideal, that people should always behave morally, and the human reality, that sometimes they don't. How far should we tolerate greed and corruption as "necessary evils" of business practice and wealth creation? Who should we hold accountable when things go badly wrong? And who should we blame? The lecture starts at 8pm in the Palmer Building. No ticket is required but numbers are limited.

www.reading.ac.uk/publiclectureseries

New management scholarship

The University of Reading's Business School and communication giants O₂ have teamed up to give a prospective student a helping-hand during their studies.

The lucky recipient of the O₂ Scholarship will receive £8,000 to study for the MSc degree in Marketing and International Management, within the University's Department of Management.

Established in recognition of the organisation's contribution to education in marketing, the O₂ Scholarship aims to benefit students who would otherwise not enjoy the opportunity to study such a degree.

Any graduate or student from the UK, EU or from overseas, who has received an offer of a place on the MSc degree in Marketing and International Management can apply, so long as they obtain an International English

Language Testing System score of seven.

"We are delighted to offer this new scholarship," said Dr Simon Booth, Head of the University's Department of Management. "Our partnership with O₂ is proving extremely successful and this sponsorship will give an extremely hard-working student, who would benefit enormously from funding, the chance to study at Reading and begin their business management career."

This scholarship is the latest development in the University's established and highly fruitful relationship with O₂. Senior figures, including the company's outgoing Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, have provided expert teaching input, attended various University events, organised VIP events for students and given fascinating public lectures.

Bright sparks

As part of an ongoing commitment to provide the University with a student paper it can be proud of, the Spark* team, in conjunction with the University's Department of Typography & Graphic Communications, has spent the last few months evaluating the quality of their fortnightly student publication.

The new-look Spark* was unveiled on 25 January at an exclusive re-launch party held in Café Mondial, where the University's new Chancellor, John Madejski, met the newspaper's student volunteers.

Editor Claire Taylor said: "We are really pleased with the new look. It was time to move the newspaper into the twenty-first century, and make it more relevant to the readership. Spark* is the voice of Reading students and it needed updating to really reflect what we can offer."

The new look does not only include a fresh masthead and bright colour scheme but also the re-launch of the Interview section, which in turn,



Spark* Editorial team: From left to right: Caroline Burge, Alev Dervish, Steven Hansell, Claire Taylor (Editor), John Madejski, Kelly Gerrish, Matt Robinson, Rob Dunford

provides more opportunities for students to get involved in Spark*. Claire continued: "I'd like to thank everyone involved in the redesign of Spark* for their hard work over the last few months. Spark* is really valuable to the people that write for it. It not only gives students with an interest in journalism

and publishing a chance to hone their skills but also allows them to build a substantial portfolio. We aim to make sure that everyone that wants to be involved in Spark* can be."

For more information about Spark* please contact Claire Taylor at editor.spark@reading.ac.uk

Chevening Fellowship final year

The University's Centre for Euro-Asian Studies is hosting a scheme by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Chevening Fellowship Programme – Economics of Energy.

After two successful years the interest in the course has increased and in spite of tough competition 14 candidates were selected for the 2008 programme. The candidates represent countries as diverse as Angola, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Estonia, Russia, Trinidad & Tobago and Venezuela. They are officials and economists from Ministries of Environment, Energy, Planning and Finance, specialists who are working in the private sector, oil and gas companies, and politicians. "We hope that in this final year the programme will provide an opportunity for the fellows to understand the economic dynamics of energy markets, as well as to create a valuable network of the experts in the area." explained Dr Yelena Kalyuzhnova of the Centre for Euro-Asian Studies, Director of Chevening programme.

The fellows were welcomed by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Gordon

Marshall at an afternoon reception. "We are very honoured and proud in Reading that Economics of Energy was such a success during the last two years. We are confident that this year will not be an exception in this respect."

Special guests were Clare Burne from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Adema Zhanassova from Shell International, Malcolm Harrison and Sam Sefati from Foster Wheeler Energy Ltd.



2008 Chevening Fellows during their visit of the Azeri Embassy in London with the Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan H.E. F. Gurbanov and UK representative of State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Israil Mammadov.

Breaking down language barriers

Six Polish speaking University of Reading students are generously spending some of their free time helping children settle in their schools.

Alexandra, Ania, Tomasz, Monika, Emma and Natalia are all Polish and are spending several hours each week helping pupils in six primary schools and one secondary. All of the children have Polish as their first language.

Emma, a Psychology student in her third year, is supporting a seven-year old at Emmbrook Infants in Wokingham who has limited English. Emma, whose mother is Polish and whose father is English said: "I was born in England but brought up in Poland until I was five years old when we returned to England. I understand the difficulties that a young child

experiences not knowing any English."

Monika is studying Building Surveying and is in her first year at Reading. "I have had difficulty myself understanding different English accents," she said. I empathise with the two young teenagers I helped last week who have only just arrived."

Emily Waddilove, Wokingham Borough Council's Curriculum Development Advisor said: "The scheme benefits everyone involved, pupils, teachers and students. For teachers it helps alleviate their concerns about how to communicate with pupils whose first language is not English. The children get support from someone who speaks their own language and the students gain experience of the English education system, and the personal satisfaction



from knowing their help is very much appreciated."

Julia Hodgson, the University's Student Tutoring Scheme Co-ordinator, said: "It's fantastic to hear our student tutors mention how pleased the pupils are to see them each week. As well as providing much needed support to children and teaching staff, the volunteers are great ambassadors for Higher Education and enhance the University's reputation with local teachers and parents."

Healthy start for Stacey

A final-year food science student was the first to receive the new Hutchinson Jonas award recently.

The award, which recognises the achievements of a student during their placement in industry, is donated by the Hutchinson Jonas Group, recruitment specialists for the food & drink sector.

It aims to illustrate to students that they are joining an industry that is ready to

invest in them, as well as acting as an incentive to do well during their placement year. The £500 award will help support Stacey until she finds the right job.

Stacey, who is in her fourth year of a Food Science degree spent a year working at Katsouris Fresh Foods. For her first six months she worked as a quality assurance technologist, for the second six months she looked at the

processes involved in new product development.

Stacey said: "The opportunity to gain so much practical experience has given me a real advantage over other graduates. As well as having the chance to apply what I have learnt at University, my placement enabled me to develop a real understanding of the industry. I've really grown in confidence too."

Knowledge Transfer Awards

The University's Knowledge Transfer Centre, directed by Kate Darby, was recently awarded £100,000 to promote knowledge transfer activities across the University.

This award was made by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) in response to a proposal from the University, supported by a case study of a recent Knowledge Transfer Partnership in which a team from the University's Departments of Chemistry and Physics (Professor Howard Colquhoun, Dr Wayne Hayes, and Professor Geoffrey Mitchell) successfully developed a new and highly flexible - in all senses - drying agent, in collaboration with their partner company, Brownell Ltd. of North London.

The awards ceremony was held at the Russell Hotel in London, and the

photograph shows the group from Reading and from Brownell.



Left to right: Professor David Porter (Dean of Science), Professor Carl Stychin (PVC for Enterprise), Mr Martin Partridge (Managing Director of Brownell Ltd), Ms Kate Darby (Director of the University's Knowledge Transfer Centre) and Professor Howard Colquhoun (Department of Chemistry). The award was presented to Kate by Mr Ian Pearson, Minister for Science and Innovation.

In Memoriam

Bruce William Sellwood (1946–2007)

It is with great regret that we report the death of Bruce Sellwood who, as a Professor of Applied Sedimentology in the Department of Geology and subsequently the Postgraduate Research Institute for Sedimentology, Emeritus Professor and Research Fellow, was one of the UK's most respected, and well-known sedimentologists.

Bruce undertook his undergraduate degree at Reading, graduating in 1967 before going on to Oxford for his DPhil in early Jurassic stratigraphy and ecology under Professor Tony Hallam. After his DPhil, Bruce undertook postdoctoral research at the University of Oxford before taking up a lecturing post at the then Oxford Polytechnic until 1974. He was quick to return to Reading to take up a position as lecturer in the Geology Department in 1974 under the then Head of Department, Professor Perce Allen. Bruce remained in Reading for the rest of his academic career, being promoted to a Personal Chair in 1993, and brought a great deal of respect to both the Department of Geology and the Postgraduate Research Institute for Sedimentology.

Bruce was one of Britain's foremost sedimentologists and was an acknowledged world expert. At his death Bruce, with others, had supervised a total of 45 PhD students. Bruce also taught extensively on the MSC in Sedimentology at Reading which produced a large number of people who are now in the upper echelons of geological industries. He was often described as an inspirational teacher by past and present students, and served as head of Postgraduate Research Institute for Sedimentology from 2001–2003.

Bruce enjoyed geology, life, his family, wine, travel, opera, good company and laughter. He was very well liked and will be very greatly missed by us all. He leaves his wife Jan and two sons: Matthew 29 and Daniel 27, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

For a full transcript of this obituary by Stuart Black please contact the Editor on 0118 378 8004.

MP and scientist unite

One of Reading's young Research Fellows has recently taken part in the Royal Society's MP-Scientist Pairing Scheme.

The scheme seeks to build bridges between parliamentarians and some of the best scientists in the UK. Dr Paul Williams, a Natural Environment Research Council Fellow in climate modelling in the Department of Meteorology was paired with Rob Wilson, Conservative MP for Reading East.

Dr Williams spent a week at Westminster in November, and on 18 January, Rob paid a reciprocal visit to



(l-r) Stephen Belcher (Head of School), Dr Paul Williams and Rob Wilson MP, discussing a computer climate simulation during Rob's visit to Meteorology.

Dr Williams in the University. "I firmly believe that climate scientists must engage directly with politicians if the climate problem is to be solved. I am delighted that this scheme has helped me to achieve that," said Dr Williams.

Science by example

Eight third-year Chemistry and Natural Sciences students are embarking on the final session of the Undergraduate Ambassadors' Scheme (UAS) which allows students to be linked with a local secondary school or college and spend one day a week for two terms in their partner school.

Once students have become familiar with the school, its pupils and practices, they begin to play a more active role within the classes and carry out a special project, planned with their link teacher and University supervisor.

Examples of special projects this year include a study into encouraging girls into science and technology, developing materials for gifted and talented children, development of forensic science activities to teach basic chemical analysis and the preparation of a Freshers' information pack to help new students prepare for university

life. In addition one of the UAS students, Claire Nimmo, is organising a visit for Year 12 students to the Department of Chemistry to see some chemical demonstrations and instrumentation in action as well as finding out about careers in chemistry.

The UAS was launched in 2002 by Simon Singh as a way of encouraging more pupils to take up STEM subjects (i.e. Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) in schools and more graduates into teaching in these subjects. Modest financial support is available to departments introducing the UAS and subject areas are not restricted to science and technology but include geography, European studies, agriculture and modern foreign languages. More information can be found on the UAS web site www.uas.ac.uk or from Elizabeth Page in the Department of Chemistry, e.m.page@reading.ac.uk.



Back row left to right: Claire Nimmo, Catherine Coleman, Charlotte Holt, Laura Viles, Sam Phelps. Front row seated left to right: Clare Doggett (Natural Sciences), Christine Groves, Justine Stearman.

A near-century in Typography

Ninety-five years of service to the Department of Typography & Graphic Communication was celebrated when Mick Stocks, Vera Miles, and Linda Reynolds retired recently.

A triple celebration was called for as three members of the Department, representing all sides of its staff, retired. Former members of staff, former and current students, and many friends and clients of the Department gathered to bid farewell to Mick Stocks, Design & Print Unit Manager (42 years), Vera

Miles, secretarial assistant (29 years), and lecturer Linda Reynolds (24 years).

Specially printed keepsakes celebrated each person's contribution to the teaching and running of the Department, and Mick's extraordinary career (he joined the University the day after his apprenticeship was completed) inspired a collection of graphic tributes, which were bound and presented to him.

All three were treated to a dinner with Department staff in the SCR, and the public ceremony, with tributes from



Left Vera Miles, Centre Mick Stocks, Right Linda Reynolds

DVC Tony Downes, Paul Stiff, and Martin Andrews, ended with the traditional form of farewell for printers: Mick Stocks was 'banged out' – walking through the assembled crowd while they made as much noise as possible banging together metal equipment from the printing workshop!

Early Years Professionals



l to r Pat Williams, Jackie Flaxman and Desreen Nightingale

The Early Years Professionals (EYPS) celebrated the completion of their Programme recently.

Pat Williams, Jackie Flaxman and Desreen Nightingale and represented the

13 University of Reading candidates who successfully achieved EYP status at an event to celebrate the first professional development pathway to achieve the status nationally.

EYPS is part of an important national initiative to raise standards of care for young children.

Kriss Turner, Director of Teaching and Learning at the Institute of Education, said: "The University of Reading is extremely proud of the achievement of all the students in this first cohort. This award ceremony provides deserved national recognition of both the students' achievements and the status itself".

Reading runs three pathways to EYPS and are currently recruiting Validation and Short Pathway candidates to start in April, and Long Pathway candidates to start in September.

For more information about the University's Early Years Professional Status Programme, please contact Mandy Booty, EYPS coordinator, tel. 0118 378 5810 or email a.booty@reading.ac.uk

Prize Winner in the School of Law



James Lee, a Teaching Fellow in the School of Law, has been named the winner of the Inaugural Society of Legal Scholars Annual Conference Best Paper Prize, for a paper on jurisprudence which he presented at the Society's Conference at Durham University in September 2007.

The paper, *Fidelity in Interpretation: Lord Hoffmann and the Adventure of the Empty House*, was commended by the judges for its vitality and originality. The prize carries a monetary award, and the paper will be published in the leading journal *Legal Studies* in the first issue of 2008. James said: "I am privileged to receive this Prize from the Society for what was my first Conference paper, and I am very grateful to the School of Law and the University of Reading Research Travel Fund for supporting my attendance at the Conference".

Letter

Dear Colleagues

Thank you so very much for the magnificent send-off you gave me before Christmas. I can vouch for retirement being most enjoyable, except it is hard to adjust to not being told how wonderful one is – something (with the odd caveat) which seemed to happen throughout December.

Especial thanks for your very generous gift. I am having a Pondlife bench made by Philip Koomen, who is based in Checkendon and uses local wood – some suitably academic from Oxford's

Harcourt Arboretum. You can try out a similar bench for yourselves in the MERL. Not so much a piece of garden furniture as a vibrant sculpture, it will bring culture and form to the otherwise rather urban view from my study window.

I hope to remain in touch through The Friends, the SCR and as a Library and IT user. Your services are just fantastic folks. Thanks again for all the years of friendship, debate and, of course, committees.

Annette [Haworth]

Get on board – book now

A lunchtime workshop on 7 March is your chance to find out more about Reading's active voluntary sector, and the many varied and rewarding opportunities to get involved.

All staff are welcome to attend the workshop, which will cover briefly the work of local community groups and charities and the help they need from volunteers, focusing on groups that seek only a small, occasional or weekend time commitment. The biggest single need is for potential Directors to join local charity Boards of Trustees, and the role will be explained. There are numerous other kinds of work as well, including occasional one-off projects, and these will also be covered. Book for the workshops through CSTD or contact Clare Bonney (see below).

Working as a volunteer can require a relatively small amount of time but give a very positive return, and you are welcome to attend just to find out more, even if you have no free time to offer at present. The session is provided by Reading Voluntary Action as part of the University's employee volunteering project.

Lunch is provided.

You can also use the workshop (and the Volunteer Centre in Reading) to publicise the volunteer vacancies at any local charity you are involved with.

To book for the workshop, or to publicise volunteering vacancies, please contact Clare Bonney: email: clare@volaction.demon.co.uk

Clare runs the University's Employee Volunteering Project (TQEF funded) and can meet up on campus with any member of staff interested in volunteering, for an advisory session.

New general volunteering vacancies in the Reading area are posted each week on the Reading Voluntary Action website: www.r-v-a.org.

Half term fun

The Museum of English Rural Life, is holding fun events for families at half term.

Local artists will be running workshops inspired by the MERL garden, exhibitions and collections.

Miniature Gardens, will be held on Tuesday 19 February, from 2pm to 4pm. Ruth Hatch will be showing children (aged seven and above) and adults how to create a miniature garden using recycled and natural materials. Participants are advised to dress for mess! As places are limited, it is also necessary to book on to this workshop.

The second event, *Wonderful Wagons* is a repeat of a hugely popular workshop run last year by model maker, Morryce Maddams. It will take place on Wednesday 20 February. Inspired by the Small World exhibition at the Museum until 2 March, Morryce will help families make and decorate a 3D model wagon. Families with children aged 7+ can book onto one of the 2 sessions which run from 2pm to 3pm and from 3.15pm to 4.15pm.

On Thursday 21 February, families can join local textile artist Ellen Brown to



learn how to create tiny rag dolls from recycled fabrics, using a 3D weaving technique. This workshop is suitable for families with children aged 6 and over.

Bekky Moran, Learning Manager at MERL, said: "We hope that these events encourage families to enjoy fun and interesting activities together.

Even if you don't want to take part in a workshop, there are plenty of activities to do in the Museum at any time, including a rat trail, brass rubbing, puzzles and colouring. You can also borrow a *Ways of Seeing* activity bag and use objects such as a magnifying glass to look at the Museum in different ways."

For more information or to book, call the Museum of English Rural Life on 0118 378 8660, email merlevents@reading.ac.uk or visit the Museum's website at www.merl.org.uk/news

Leadership, Management & Entrepreneurship

Development Programme for Research Staff 12–14 May 2008



Are you looking to move on in your career as a researcher? Are you hoping to become a research leader in Higher Education or beyond? Do you work in the Faculty of Science or Life Sciences?

The Deans of the Science Faculties have a limited number of spaces on a high level residential programme for you delivered by Roffey Park Institute (one of the country's leading providers of personal and organisational development).

The programme will:

- be highly interactive;
- improve your skills in leadership, management and entrepreneurship;
- challenge and inform your career development.

Places on the course will be allotted through a competition judged by the Deans of the Science Faculties. You need to be on a research contract or fellowship at the University and be at a stage in your career when you would benefit from such a programme. You will need to send a copy of your CV and a 250 word statement which outlines the role leadership, entrepreneurship and team playing have in your life currently and how you see them changing. Applications should arrive by 5pm on 29 February 2008 via post or email to: Dr Justin Hutchence, Centre for Staff Training and Development, Whiteknights House, Reading RG6 6AH email: j.j.hutchence@reading.ac.uk

Let's get it sorted

The Clean & Green team recently analysed the contents of two trade waste containers on campus that were due to be emptied in landfill to ascertain how much of the contents could have been recycled.

Two of the large green swing top Eurocarts were selected at random by Select Environmental Services, the University's Waste contractors, who weighed the containers prior to the start of the exercise. The Clean & Green team then emptied the containers and segregated the waste into the three main waste streams that are collected on a regular basis from the Campus. E.g. Recyclables – plastic bottles, cans, paper and cardboard and general waste for landfill.

The total weight originally going to landfill was 86.5 kilograms having sorted the waste this was reduced to 54.2 kilograms and 32.3 kilograms was able to be recycled, a reduction of just over 37%.

Between September and December last year 97 tonnes of general waste were collected from the Whiteknights Campus. This equates to approximately 291 tonnes per annum, if a similar reduction of 37% could be made, over 100 tonnes of waste would be diverted from landfill.

It is essential that we all make the effort to segregate waste at source. Please make sure that all waste paper, magazines, directories, plastic bottles and drink cans are placed in the appropriate recycling containers and only non-recyclable items are placed in the general waste bins.

If you require any further information or help with your recycling please contact Ian Cruickshank at i.j.t.cruickshank@reading.ac.uk

clean&green⁺
University of Reading

Waste Disposal Guide

Everyday Waste.





Paper ✓	Plastic drink bottles ✓	All the rest is general
Cardboard ✓	Drink cans (empty) ✓	waste for landfill.
Magazines ✓	Glass ✗	If in doubt place it in this container.
Directories ✓	Food ✗	
Plastic ✗	Yoghurt pots ✗	
Metal ✗	Sandwich wrappers ✗	
Comb bindings ✗	Comb bindings ✗	
Lever arch/ring binders ✗		




Report of the University Student/Staff Forum

Readers of the Bulletin are reminded that the University Student/Staff Forum reports to Senate and Council and can make recommendations to these or any other University body.

Any member of the University can suggest an item for the agenda and any such items, together with an explanatory paper, should reach the Director of Student Services two weeks before the date of a meeting. The Summer meeting will take place on Friday 30 May at 2pm.

As usual, a wide range of issues were discussed at the Forum, including:

Student intake

At the end of the student intake period, the University had met its target on student numbers. Whilst it was difficult to achieve the optimal intake in all Schools/ Departments, it was felt that the University had been able to achieve a satisfactory balance.

The University Estate

Following the opening of the Carrington Building and the refurbishment of the ground floor of the Library, the University was in a period of consultation on future works. Work on the Business School and Biological

Sciences Building was underway and planning permission had been granted for the hotel.

The HumSS Building

The issue of poorly maintained toilets in the HumSS Building remained a concern. It was difficult to say when the toilets would be refurbished as it was not known when the building would be redeveloped. The Chair agreed to investigate the issue further and would report back.

The Annual Fund

It was hoped that pledges to the Annual Fund would reach a million pounds in 2007/08, which would compare favourably with donations received by other UK universities.

Report from the Students' Union

Members noted that the Students' Union had developed a fast-paced campaign plan for the academic year and welcomed the development of the President's Working Group to receive feedback on JCR committees.

The Student Academic Representation Strategy (StAR) September 2007–July 2012 had been launched and sought to engage all students in student representation. It had been received positively, with many students signing up.

SMALL ADS

Car Club in Reading

Reading residents and Carplus (a charity promoting responsible car use) are looking at re-establishing a car club in Reading. The benefits include a financial saving and a reduced carbon footprint. Further information: www.carplus.org.uk.

Charity secondhand book cupboard

in AMS foyer. Cupboards open all day. Paperbacks 25p, hardbacks £1. Coffee shop open 10 to 11.30am & 3 to 4.30pm Help us support charities such as MacMillan, wear it pink, Berkshire Air Ambulance.

To let

Two rooms in house in Lower Earley, shared with owner. 30 mins walk to University. Either 2 bedrooms, or dble bed & home office. Must contribute to cleaning. No-smoking, no pets. Rent £700 incl. bills. Available Feb to June. Contact klausmeyer@ntlworld.com

Riverside property in walking distance of Reading rail & bus station and town centre. Dble bdrm with use of own living rm and bthrm. Shared kit facilities and patio overlooking Thames. Professional person non smoker. Contact m.whitmarsh@reading.ac.uk.

Holiday let

French holiday Languedoc village house with roof terrace in pedestrianised street. Sleeps 5 in 3 bdrms. Village has bakery, PO & cafe. Good walking; swimming, windsurfing 15 mins away; Med beaches and Montpellier 40 mins. Prices £185–£285 per week. Contact Christine Locke for more information: christine@locke.gotads1.co.uk

The F word – Forgiveness project

A photo-journalistic exhibition will be held in the Palmer Foyer until Sunday 24 February. Hosted by the University's Chaplaincy, it is open 8.30am–10pm weekdays (8.30am–6pm weekends).

It's a powerful exhibition including people of all faiths and none, famous and not, who reflect on whether they could/should forgive the person who hurt them. You can preview it here: www.theforgivenessproject.com

The fortnight includes several speakers.

On Tuesday 12 February, former IRA bomber (Pat Magee) and the daughter of one of his victims (Jo Berry) talked together.

On Thursday 21 February an injured survivor of 7/7 (Gill Hicks) and an Egyptian Muslim and former radical extremist (Khaled al-Berry) are speaking. (This latter event is limited to an audience of 100 – contact the Chaplaincy to book your free ticket.)

For other events see www.rdg.ac.uk/chaplaincy or see posters in the Palmer Building.

Photography competition 2007

Last autumn the annual meteorology photography competition returned for its 6th year.

There were over 80 entries, creating a stunning display in the foyer of the Meteorology department.

The competition allowed digitally captured photos as well as traditional film developed photos. Entries were divided into two categories – 'Weather and optical phenomena' and 'Sunsets and dawns'. Entries came from all over the University. The winning photos were voted for by the members of the Meteorology Department.

As usual the standard of entries was very high, pictures had been taken all over the world; one winning photo was taken in California (see cover) and the other taken in Germany. The winner of the 'Weather and optical phenomena' category was Kimberley Bartholomew, a



Allan Spessa's winning sunset photograph

research student in meteorology, with a photo of cumulus congestus taken in Santa Barbara, California. The winner of the 'Sunsets and dawns' category was Allan Spessa, Project Manager for the Quest Earth System Model within the Department of Meteorology. Allan's sunset photo (above) was taken from the top of the Jena Fuchsturm, just outside the city of Jena in Germany.

READING FILM THEATRE

**Palmer Theatre
Whitknights**

February starting at 7.30pm unless stated

19 Tues *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford* (15) 7pm

21 Thur *Brick Lane* (15)

25 Mon *The Darjeeling Limited* (15)

28 Thur *The Witnesses* (15)

March starting at 7.30pm

4 Tues *KM31* (15)

6 Thur *The Kingdom* (15)

Seats: £3.50 for members and £5 for non-members.
Further details: please phone 0118 378 7151, (or ext. 7151).

Centre for Staff Training & Development

Programme 19–29 February	To book please email cstd@reading.ac.uk
19 February 9.30am–4pm 12noon–1pm	<i>Minute Taking Skills for Beginners</i> <i>Making a Blackboard Course Accessible</i>
20 February 9.30am–12.30pm 10am–12noon 12.45–1.45pm 1–5pm 2–5pm 2–4pm	<i>Master Class in Writing Research Proposals (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences)</i> <i>ASD/Aspergers Syndrome – Learning from Experience</i> <i>Guides for Managers: Employment Law 2008</i> <i>Presentation Practice using CCTV Feedback</i> <i>Introduction to Learning Technologies</i> <i>Endnote for Academics</i>
21 February 9.30am–12.30pm 12.45–1.45pm 2–5pm	<i>Time Management</i> <i>International Network</i> <i>CV and Interview Skills for Internal Candidates</i>
22 February 9.30–10.30am 11am–12.30pm 11am–12noon 12.30–2pm	<i>How to Use RISIS: for Absolute Beginners</i> <i>How to use RISIS: General Use</i> <i>Purchase Card Applicant Briefing</i> <i>School Directors of Research lunch and Meeting</i>
25 February 9.30am–12.30pm	<i>Using the New university Content Management System Part 1</i>
26 February 9.30am–5pm 10am–12noon	<i>Management Skills for Research Staff</i> <i>Module Enrolment in RISIS</i>
27 February 9.30am–12noon 12.15–1.45pm 2–5pm	<i>Managing Stress in Others: A briefing for Managers</i> <i>14–19 Curriculum: How is it Shaping Up?</i> <i>Supporting Effective Learning</i>
28 February 9.30am–4.30pm 10am–12noon 2–5pm	<i>Working Effectively with your Boss and Colleagues</i> <i>Blackboard Tutorial</i> <i>Using the New university Content Management System Part 2</i>
29 February 9.30am–1pm 1–2pm 1.30–2.45pm	<i>Pronunciation Skills for Academic Staff</i> <i>School Managers Meeting</i> <i>Changes to Module Description Forms and programme Specifications 2008/09</i>

For details of all these courses please see www.reading.ac.uk/cstd or ring ext. 7097

The diary is compiled from events posted on the Events page of the University website. For fuller details and to post your own events please see <http://www.reading.ac.uk/events>

Wednesday 20 February

Classics research seminar, *How to say 'please' in Latin*, **Dr Eleanor Dickey**, Exeter Palmer G01 4pm

ICMA Centre research seminar *Realistic Portfolio Analysis and Construction*, **Robert Rice** (OCCAM), G03/04 ICMA Centre, 4.30pm

For other events today please see Bulletin 476 or website

Thursday 21 February

Systems Engineering seminar, *On Gait and Ear Biometrics and New Architectures for Multibiometric Fusion*, **Professor Mark Nixon** (Southampton) Gordon Lecture Theatre, 3pm

Psychology & Clinical Language Sciences seminar, *Prior conviction disclosure: The delicate balance between victim protection and dignified offender release*, **Michelle Cowley**, (Oxford), G505, Psychology, 4pm

Construction Management Professional Networking event, *Sustainability with the construction industry*, **Professor Stuart Green**, email alumni@reading.ac.uk or ring ext 0118 378 8058 for more details

Word lecture, *Exploding love: can too much love be dangerous?* **Gill Hicks** and **Khaled al-Berry**, see page 11, AMS Lecture Theatre, 7.30pm

Friday 22 February

Applied Mathematics & Numerical Analysis seminar, *Specification, Implementation and Numerical Analysis of a k-Distributed Uniform Pseudo-random Number Generator (ACORN)*, **Roy Wikramaratna** (RPS Energy Ltd, Winfrith), 113 Mathematics, 3pm

Saturday 23 February

University of Reading Head of the River Race, The race is rowed in two divisions, at 11am & 2.45pm. View the race from Thameside Promenade (upstream from Caversham Bridge). For all enquiries contact David Betts Tel: 0118 926 8551 Email: bwanaibetts@btinternet.com No need to book – just turn up on the day, 11am and 2.45pm

Monday 25 February

Meteorology Departmental seminar, *Stratospheric Water Vapour and Climate*, **Stephan Fueglistaler** (Cambridge), GU01 Meteorology, 12 noon

Soil Science seminar, *E. coli o157: Human pathogens loose in the field*, **Davey Jones** (Bangor) Lecture Room 1 Soil Science, 1pm

Tuesday 26 February

Meteorology Department Luncheon seminar, *Efficient moist physics schemes for the Met Office 4D-Var system*, **Olaf Stiller**, GU01 Meteorology, 1pm

Music@Reading Lunchtime concert, **University of Reading Music Scholars**, G10 Palmer Building, 1.10pm

SAPD Tuesday seminar, *Is alluvial gold a 'lootable resource'?* **Gavin Hilson**, (Reading) 1Lo6, Agriculture Building, 4pm

Chemistry seminar, *tba*, **Dr N. Bampos** (Cambridge) Lecture Theatre G, Chemistry, 4.30pm

Philosophy Speakers Programme, *The Moral Status of Moral Status* **Gerald Lang**, (Leeds), 127 HumSS, 5pm

University of Reading Public Lecture, *Only human? Greed & corruption in business and government*, **Professor John Hendry** (Reading), Palmer Building, 8pm Free to attend, all welcome, no ticket required, see page 4

Wednesday 27 February

Guest Lecture, Translating Cultures, *Translating Antiquity: or Goethe's Iphigenia and the Destruction of Sacred Truths*, **Michael Mack** (Nottingham), 103 Palmer Building, 2pm

QBAS seminar, *Bayesian inference for biochemical network models*, **Professor Darren Wilkinson** (Newcastle) G03, Applied Statistics, Harry Pitt Building, 2pm

Nanoscience & Materials Theme seminar, *Interfaces in Flux: From Crystals to Membranes*, **Professor Patrick Unwin**, (Warwick) Chemistry LTG, 2.30pm

CIRCL reserach seminar, *Student-centred: the Idea of Audience in Educational Theory*, **Dr Neil Cocks**, 106 HumSS, 3pm

History of Art & Architecture research seminar, *Loosing myself*, **Professor Adrian Rifkin** (Goldsmiths), 141 HumSS, 4pm

ICMA Centre Research seminar, *Valuing Medieval Annuities: Were Corrodiés Underpriced?* **Adrian Bell** and **Charles Sutcliffe**, G03/04 ICMA Centre, 4.30pm

Conference, *Herbal Medicine: the Science of the Art*, **Dr Ann Walker**, (Senior Lecturer, Food Biosciences, Reading, and Practitioner in Herbal Medicine), to book a place, please contact Harry Nursten, T: 0118 378 6725; F: 0118 931 0080, Email: h.e.nursten@reading.ac.uk, Mail: Department of Food Biosciences, University of Reading, Whiteknights, PO Box 226, Reading RG6 6AP, start time: 6.30pm

Reading Classical Association, *Shakespeare and the Classics*, **Mr John Davie** (St Paul's School, London), 44 HumSS, 7.30pm

Thursday 28 February

Systems Engineering seminar, *Modelling and Simulation in Surgery - Bringing simulation to life to learn the skills of surgery*, **Dr Fernando Bello** (Imperial College, London), Gordon Lecture Theatre, 3pm

Classics research seminar, *Conversational Latin for Greeks: the colloquia scholica*, **Dr Rolando Ferri** (Pisa), G01 Palmer, 4pm

Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences seminar, *FMRI of bilingual stroke patients*, **Cathy Price** (UCL) G505 Psychology, 4pm

Philosophy Speakers Programme, *tba*, **Martin Stone** (Kings College London and Leuven), 273 HumSS, 5pm

Friday 29 February

Applied Mathematics & Numerical Analysis seminar, *High-Frequency Integral Equation Solvers for Acoustic and Electromagnetic Scattering Problems*, **Christophe Geuzane** (Liege), 113 Mathematics, 3pm

Saturday 1 March

Donors of the University's Annual Fund exclusive event, *Celebrating What your Contributions have achieved*. If you are a donor and want to hear about the details when they are released email alumni@reading.ac.uk or contact Ruhi Singh on 0118 378 8058, The Great Hall, London Road, 12 noon

Monday 3 March

Meteorology departmental seminar, *Climate Change - A Legal Perspective*, **Chris Hilson** (Reading) GU01 Meteorology, 12 noon

Soil Science seminar, *Survival of enteric microorganisms in sewage sludge-amended agricultural soil*, **Stephen Smith** (Imperial College London), Lecture Room 1, Soil Science, 1pm

Reading Café Scientifique, *Global oil crisis- reality or hype?* **Dr Roger Bentley**, Queen's Head Pub, Christchurch Road, 7.30pm

Tuesday 4 March

Meteorology Department luncheon seminar, *Persistent contrails, their radiative impact and its dependence on cruise altitude*, **Gaby Radel**, GU01 Meteorology, 1pm

Music@Reading lunchtime concert, **Bobby Chen**, Piano, G10 Palmer Building, 1.10pm

Chemistry seminar, *Developing Efficient Stereoselective Methods for the Synthesis of Cyclic Amines*, **Dr I. Coldham** (Sheffield) Lecture Theatre G, Chemistry, 4.30pm

Philosophy Speakers programme, *It all depends what you want: Practical Inference and Theoretical Inference*, **Roger Teichmann** (Oxford), 25 HumSS, 5pm

Wednesday 5 March

SCR event, *Visit to Innovation Works*, Meet in the Cotton Club (next door to MERL) at 2.15pm. Refreshments and parking available. Free. Members and guests welcome. Book via SCR office.

Classics research seminar, *Punicites*, **Dr Josephine Quinn**, (Oxford), G01 Palmer, 4pm

ICMA Centre Research seminar, *Overview of Monte-Carlo Techniques for Derivatives Pricing*, **Stephen Smith** (Royal Bank of Scotland), G03/04 ICMA Centre, 4.30pm