

Aber^rNEWS

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Aberystwyth...one of the best places in the world to be a student



Llanbadarn Centre opens

After months of preparation and renovation, the Llanbadarn Centre is now home to the Institute of Management, Law and Information Science (IMLIS).

In an improvement programme which has seen the University invest £3.5m to create a new business and professional environment for the School of Management and Business, Department of Law and Criminology and Department of Information Studies, the doors opened for the start of term.

Llanbadarn Centre is set in beautiful grounds with plenty of pedestrian areas, green spaces and parking. The Institute's five buildings are accessible, bright and vibrant. Inside, each of the buildings has been reconfigured, refreshed and re-equipped with state-of-the-art teaching rooms, non-traditional teaching spaces, social areas and IT facilities, ensuring they meet modern learning and professional development needs.

Rebecca Davies, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Student and Staff Services paid tribute to the hard work and determination shown in getting the transformation complete: "This is a fantastic development for the University, a dedicated centre for IMLIS and brought to fruition by the dedication of colleagues within the University and by the contractors. I thank them all. This is just part of the major change that we are investing in at the University, to provide a research, teaching and social environment that is second to none."

The Llanbadarn Centre will also have its own dedicated library based in the Thomas Parry Building, stocked with all the textbooks, journals, and learning support material. There will be full access to the latest electronic resources.

Staff will be located in the two main buildings, the Elystan Morgan Building and Rheidol Building. There is also a brand new food outlet called Blas Padarn, which may just boast the most beautiful informal study space and restaurant in Wales.

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TFTS @ 40



ADRAN ASTUDIAETHAU
THEATR, FFILM A THELEDU
DEPARTMENT OF
THEATRE, FILM AND TELEVISION STUDIES



Alumna and Fellow of the University, The One Show presenter Alex Jones (centre) with Dr Jamie Medhurst and Professor April McMahon

What would it have been like to have been a fly on the wall in the University College of Wales (as it was) Senate and Council in 1972 and 1973? Why? Simply to witness the debates for and against establishing a Department of Drama in Wales's oldest university! For it was 40 years ago this September that the Department of Drama offered its first courses. As a safeguard, the Department was permitted to offer joint honours degrees in the first instance (presumably with more 'respectable' subjects such as English, Welsh and History). However, in 1976, the Department began offering single honours degrees in Drama. And from humble beginnings, in the Barn Centre on Alexandra Road and later a converted house in 1 Laura Place, grew one of the largest departments in the University and one of the largest of its kind in the UK.

John Edmunds was the first Head of Department and Director of Drama. John had wide experience of working in the media, with ITV companies ATV and Associated-Rediffusion and later with the BBC. Indeed, he remained a familiar news-reading face until 1981.

In 1985 the responsibility for leading the Department fell to Elan Closs Stephens, now National Trustee for Wales on the BBC Trust and Emeritus Professor in the Department. Ioan Williams followed in 1991 and was in post until his retirement in 2007. Under Ioan's leadership the Department expanded and introduced new degree schemes in Film and Television Studies, Media and Communications Studies, Performance Studies and Scenography and Theatre Design. It also underwent a title change from Drama to Theatre, Film and Television Studies in 1994. In 1996 a Centre for Film and Television Studies was established on the Buarth and in 2000 the Department moved into its new home on Penglais Campus, the Parry-Williams Building. It still maintained a town presence, however, in the form of the Castle Theatre/Theatr y Castell and developed a television studio and scenography space on Llanbadarn.

In 2007, Adrian Kear was appointed Head of Department and in addition to facing a Research Assessment Exercise and Periodic Review within weeks of his arrival, undertook to lead a review of the Department's curriculum.

In 2011, Jamie Medhurst became Acting Head whilst Adrian undertook a period of research leave and was appointed Head of Department in 2012 when Adrian was asked to undertake a strategic review of the creative and performing arts at the University.

And now? The Department is a fit, healthy forty year old with no sign of ageing! With around 900 undergraduate and postgraduate students and a staff of approximately 70, the dynamism, energy and creativity that has been a characteristic of TFTS since the outset is still there. In addition to robust taught undergraduate and postgraduate schemes, the Department boasts a healthy and vigorous research environment and a thriving list of external partnerships with the cultural and creative industries.

There are plans for a number of events during the anniversary year - so watch this space!

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Postgraduate Life at the
Postgraduate Open Day
on the **13 November 2013**

Book your place at:
www.aber.ac.uk/en/postgrad/postgraduate-open-days/

VICE CHANCELLOR'S COLUMN

I always look forward to September – I associate it much more with the new year and new beginnings than the real New Year in January, which I suppose is understandable for someone who has spent her whole life around schools and universities. As we look forward to welcoming our new intake of students, and those who are returning to a different phase of study with us, we can also celebrate some good news. Aberystwyth University has been shortlisted in the Outstanding Contribution to Innovation and Technology category of the Times Higher Education Awards 2013. We're one of six universities shortlisted for the award, and our entry focuses on the breeding and development of High Sugar Grasses (AberHSG) by scientists at IBERS. Keep your fingers crossed, and we'll know the outcome at the end of November.



Of course, not all news is good news, and I'm not going to pretend that everything has been positive in this year's National Student Satisfaction Survey. There have been some clear improvements, and we can see that issues raised by students in some departments have been addressed; but a number of subjects have seen significant drops in satisfaction which have an obvious effect on our overall performance. Where there are issues, we're working on them very actively, along with the Students' Union, which is looking a whole lot brighter and offering many more catering options these days. It's also excellent to see outstanding, innovative practice in learning and teaching highlighted through the in-house conference being held the week before the new students arrive; I'm so pleased there's such a buzz around the event and around showcasing new approaches and sharing good ideas. But the biggest issue is one that's been building up (pardon the pun) for some time, and will take just as long to put right. We are not doing so well in some of the tables because we haven't kept up the standards of our buildings and our campus, and sooner or later students and staff start to notice.

It's incredibly important that we should celebrate excellent new buildings, and the funding that allows us to develop them. So, for example, it's great to see that the new IBERS Penglais building has been awarded a highly sought-after BREEAM Excellent rating, reflecting very high standards for environmental impact and sustainability. However, a lot of what we see and experience on campus day by day isn't the high profile new-builds, but the unglamorous bits – peeling paint, lighting that doesn't show anything at its best, carpets that have seen better days, and genuinely terrible loos. In our Estates Strategy, we've committed the University to delivering a beautiful, coherent and sustainable estate, and that has to include putting right the

everyday facilities.

We've started with two projects over this summer. First, with guidance from our resident experts on learning spaces and learning technology, we've refurbished all the main teaching rooms in Hugh Owen. They're now



Refurbished teaching room, Hugh Owen Building

superbly equipped, state-of-the-art learning resources, and a far cry from the sad spaces that students said goodbye to in June. Second, we're part-way through a series of moves which will see over 1,000 students back on a livelier and completely refurbished Llanbadarn Centre this semester, with Law and Criminology in the Elystan Morgan Building, and SMB and DIS in the Rheidol Building, alongside an upgraded library and totally revamped catering facilities. Landscaping, remodelled teaching space and plenty of parking add up to a new, professional centre for today's students, staff and visitors. And it's looking great.

Of course, moving whole departments around isn't easy – anyone who's ever moved house will know the stresses and strains involved, and you can multiply that by several hundred for projects like this. Not everything is always working perfectly on Day 1, and plans have to change to adapt to what we find on the ground during a series of big projects. We do appreciate everyone's patience and hard work in making this first stage of the estates jigsaw puzzle happen – there have been so many extraordinary contributions involving a substantial team of colleagues from all around the University. These changes are part of building a more confident University where the quality of the facilities fits the quality of the excellent work you all do, and should inspire us all to aim even higher. It's going to be a real pleasure to welcome this year's new students and returners into the first phase of our beautiful, coherent and sustainable estate.

Professor April McMahon, Vice-Chancellor



TaMed Da

Penglais Nursery Estyn inspection success

Estyn, the office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales, has praised the University's Penglais Nursery following its inspection in July.

Penglais Nursery, a purpose-built facility which opened on campus last year, is registered for 58 babies and children up to four years old, and provides weekday care for the children of University staff and students and children from the local community and surrounding areas.

The Nursery was rated as "good" for both its current performance and prospects for improvement, with the inspection reporting that the setting is "caring and inclusive" and that "the excellent learning environment is used to its full potential to enrich children's learning".

The inspection report stated that "children feel happy and safe in the nursery" and that they "achieve well and make good progress from their starting point". The teaching was described as being of a "consistently good standard" and the inspector found that "the wide range of interesting and active experiences ensures the children enjoy their learning and engage in it enthusiastically".



Staff and children at Penglais Nursery

The inspection found that the nursery developed the children's knowledge and understanding of Welsh culture and traditions, and that "The Welsh language is developed well through specific sessions and the children receive a natural model of the Welsh language".

The report stated that the prospects for the nursery are good, due to a "good standard of leadership", "clear strategic direction", "a commitment to continuous professional development" and a long-established team of practitioners who work very well together.

The full Estyn inspection report can be viewed at: www.estyn.gov.uk/english/provider/6679122/

Summer University

The University's six week residential Summer University was once more hailed a great success by staff and students alike, with 78 young people attending the 'graduation' ceremony led by the Vice Chancellor on 23 August.

A flagship widening access programme, the Summer University is organised by the University's Centre for Widening Participation and Social Inclusion, and gives young people an opportunity to experience University life, challenging the assumption that higher education is 'not for them'.

According to Dr Debra Croft, Manager of the Aberystwyth Summer University, its strength lies in allowing a large group of students to come together for an extended period to study subjects of their own choosing, taught by academics in the Departments, mirroring university life as realistically as possible.



L to R: Mr Neil Surman, Head of Higher Education Department for Education and Skills at the Welsh Government; Summer University students, Alice Frobisher, James Alchin and Natalie Dearden-Cook; Professor April McMahon, Vice-Chancellor and Brenda Haines, Deputy Mayor of Aberystwyth.

Law students win moot

Law students Martin Jones, Manon Chirgwin and James Mulcahy did exceptionally well in the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol's mooting competition held at the National Eisteddfod in August.



Manon Chirgwin and Martin Jones

The overall winner of the competition, which is open to all law students in Wales, was Martin Jones who graduated in July with a first class degree in law, and is about to embark on one of the new LLM programmes offered by the Department of Law and Criminology. Another recent graduate, Manon Chirgwin was awarded second prize. She commenced the Legal Practice Course here in Aberystwyth in September. James Mulcahy, the third Aberystwyth student who competed has just started the third year of his undergraduate studies.

The judge, Gwenno Price-Jones from JRL Law, a law firm based in Llanrwst, was extremely impressed with the professionalism of the court bundles the students had prepared, the thoroughness of their research and the high standard of their presentation skills. She also recognised the students' mastery of the particular skill of researching material written in English and then presenting a legal argument through the medium of Welsh.

NEWS

Bikers welcomed

The Gay and Lesbian Motorcyclists in Europe (GLME) were welcomed to the University in August for a week-long Summer Camp hosted by the UK Gay and Lesbian Bikers Motorcycle Club.

165 bikers from 12 European countries came to experience stunning coastal and mountain scenery, amazing biking roads and warm Welsh hospitality.

The University was chosen as a location because it was perfectly situated as the start point for biking tours all around Wales: each part of the country – North, South, East and West – can be taken in on a good day's round-trip.

During the GLME's week-long stay the rainbow flag – a multi-coloured flag representing gay pride, as well as a sign of diversity and inclusiveness in other cultures around the world – was raised outside the Arts Centre alongside that of the University's LGBT staff network 'Enfys Aber'. This show of solidarity and inclusivity was appreciated by the bikers group.

Ruth Fowler, Co-ordinator of Enfys Aber said: 'I am very proud to be co-coordinator of the network. We're doing some really great work here at Aberystwyth University which gives LGBT staff members, students and the local community the opportunity to join LGBT book clubs, films clubs, socials and most importantly, it gives LGBT members confidence to be themselves.'

The Enfys Aber network has organised a fundraising event on 26 October at the Arts Centre at 8pm which will include poetry

Extreme weather

Dr Sarah Davies and Dr Cerys Jones, from the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences, are co-investigators on a successful bid to the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) 'Care for the Future' emerging research theme.

The three-year project, entitled 'Spaces of experience and horizons of expectation: the implications of extreme weather events, past, present and future,' is led by Professor Georgina Endfield of the University of Nottingham, and other members of the project team are based at Universities of Liverpool, Glasgow, and Nottingham.

Using a combination of archival documentary sources and oral history approaches, the team will investigate how people have understood, been affected by and responded to weather extremes over the last three centuries across the UK.

Case study regions in north and west Wales, the East Anglian coast, northwest Scotland, central England and southwest England will be used to examine strategies for coping with extreme weather and to explore how perceptions of risk and vulnerability to such events have changed through time.



L to R: Julie Morgan, Conference Office Manager; Olymbia Petrou, Equalities Advisor; Rory Harris from Gay and Lesbian Motorcyclists in Europe, Richard Marggraf Turley, Professor of Engagement with the Public Imagination and Craige Watson, Security Supervisor, during the group's visit.

readings, live musical performances, theatrical performances and more. All proceeds raised will go towards safe shelter for Ugandan Gay Rights activists and Russian LGBT charities. Everyone is welcome to attend this event.

Ruth comments further that: "These are really important charities which desperately need help to raise awareness of LGBT issues, so we as a network are very proud to be able to help. Aberystwyth University was recently voted highly by Stonewall in its 'Gay by Degree' league table which we're delighted with and wish to continue to expand on this in the future. The Student Union also recently organised Aberystwyth's second Pride on the Prom.. I feel very proud to work for such an inclusive and gay friendly University."



Dr Sarah Davies and Dr Cerys Jones.

The project team will be working in partnership with the Met Office ACRE project (Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over the Earth), the Royal Geographical Society, English Heritage and Natural Resources Wales. Research based in Aberystwyth will contribute to the Climate Change Consortium of Wales' (C3W) grand challenges of 'Welsh Dimensions of Climate Change' and 'Hazard Evaluation and Risk', and C3W staff will support a variety of outreach activities.

The total value of the project is over £1 million, of which around £325,000 will be administered in Aberystwyth.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Healthy milk

IBERS researchers have discovered that the chemicals that give cut grass its distinctive 'green odour' kill off bacteria that convert healthy omega-3 fats into saturated fats in a cow's gut. The discovery, reported in the *Journal of Applied Microbiology*, could lead to dairy products containing a higher proportion of healthy omega-3 fats all year round.

Full story: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2013/08/title-139517-en.html



Dr Sharon Huws, Coleg Cymraeg lecturer in Animal Science at IBERS

Bio-economy innovation recognised



BEACON scientist Dr Sreenivas Rao Ravella

The BEACON Bio-refining Centre of Excellence, led by IBERS, has been shortlisted for the European Commission's RegioStarts Awards 2014, which recognise Europe's most inspirational and innovative regional projects. BEACON is dedicated to helping Welsh businesses develop new ways of converting crops such as rye grass into products including pharmaceuticals, chemicals, fuels and cosmetics.

Full story: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2013/08/title-139684-en.html

Pathways to information leadership

The University has teamed up with Emerald Group Publishing Limited and The Association for Information Management, to launch an online and e-learning professional development programme in information leadership.

'Pathways to Information' offers over 25 courses and enables learning that is targeted at the specific requirements of the learner or their organisation combining flexibility and convenience.

Full story: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2013/09/title-140488-en.html



L to R: Tony Roche, Publishing Director at Emerald Group Publishing Limited; Professor John Grattan Pro Vice-Chancellor; Welsh Government Minister for Education and Skills, Huw Lewis AM and Professor April McMahon at the launch of the programme.

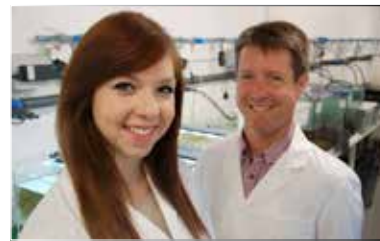
Times Higher Education Awards shortlist

Aberystwyth is one of six Universities that have been shortlisted in the Outstanding Contribution to Innovation and Technology category of the Times Higher Education Awards 2013.

Aberystwyth University's entry focuses on the breeding and development of High Sugar Grasses (AberHSG) by scientists at IBERS. The University is unique within the UK Higher Education sector in possessing commercially successful plant breeding programmes that generate new varieties that are marketed within the UK and overseas.

Full story: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2013/09/title-139945-en.html

European student of the year finalist



Eleanor Paish with IBERS lecturer, Rupert Marshall

Aberystwyth Zoology graduate Eleanor Paish was one of only three students to reach the final round of the Biology Student of the Year 2013 European Science Engineering & Technology (SET) Awards. More than 500 students from across Europe were nominated

for the award, which was presented at a ceremony on 26 September at Kensington Town Hall. Eleanor who graduated top of her IBERS class in zoology this summer, investigated how groups of animals make decisions: the "wisdom of crowds".

Full story: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2013/09/title-140189-en.html

True scale of ocean warming revealed

Warming oceans are causing marine species to change breeding times and shift homes with expected substantial consequences for the broader marine landscape, according to a new global study featured in *Nature Climate Change* in August. The three-year research project, undertaken by scientists at 17 institutions across the world, including Aberystwyth University, has shown widespread systemic shifts in measures such as distribution of species and phenology (the timing of nature's calendar) on a scale comparable to or greater than those observed on land.

Full story: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2013/08/title-139151-en.html



IBERS researcher Dr Pippa Moore is one the leading authors on the study

NEWS

Successful summer for the International English Centre

The International English Centre (IEC) has had a busy and successful summer, with over 197 students on its courses, and a 95% progression rate from the Pre-session Course on to Aberystwyth degrees. Learners from Italy and Iraq, Korea and Kazakhstan, China and the Czech Republic were among the eighteen nationalities making up this summer's cohort.

The General English students have already returned home, bearing memories of a sun-baked Aberystwyth. With 94% stating that they would return themselves or recommend the course to a friend, we hope to see many of them again.

Meanwhile, the Pre-session students (82 in total) are staying to join the University's growing community of international undergraduates and postgraduates. The IEC is delighted by the 95% pass rate on the demanding Pre-session Course, and wishes its students every success on their academic journey. Three Brazilian Pre-session students came through the Science Without Borders scheme, and have enjoyed their time in Aberystwyth so far. In the words of one, Raul Peres Goes, "Everything is so nice! I don't want to go back to Brazil!".

Thanapat Pekan (Interpol UG student) from Thailand won the IEC's Award for Academic Excellence this summer, but all students who completed the course should be commended. The Pre-session offers intensive English language and academic skills training, and is designed to give international students a head start. However, as newly appointed IEC Director Rachael Davey observes: "Doing a degree through a foreign language and in an



Pre-session Graduation photo, September 2013

unfamiliar academic culture is a huge undertaking. It's important that we continue to support students during their studies".

Ongoing language and study support is available to international students throughout the academic year through the Study Practices and Academic Skills courses. The IEC offers a range of courses and services across the University for enhancing the students' study experience. IEC courses further the development of good academic practices through the use of critical techniques in academic writing, communicating in seminars, working with lectures, revision and exams and information management.

In addition, the IEC's new management team of Rachael Davey (Director) and Sarah McKenna (Coordinator) aim to meet with academic departments in the coming months to explore further ways of supporting international students.

CONFERENCE NEWS

Food and water security in Africa

The University hosted a major international conference on the politics of food and water security in Africa from 18-20 September. The conference brought together experts in international relations, food and water research, law, the natural sciences, geography, development studies and diplomacy, and addressed the multiple levels of food and water insecurity in Africa – global, international, national, and local – in relation to the uncertainties created by climate change and the demands of politics. The landmark conference was the result of collaboration between the David Davies Memorial Institute, IBERS, International Politics, and the Climate Change Consortium of Wales.

Full story: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2013/09/title-140202-en.html



Drought conditions in Ethiopia Credit: USAID Africa Bureau

Enhancing teaching and learning

A major conference for academics and practitioners to share and discuss best practice in enhancing student engagement and learning was held at the University from 18-20 September. 'Why Should I Change the Way I Teach? Enhancing Student Engagement and Learning' brought together academics and specialist support colleagues from across the University to consider the latest research and methodologies related to the central theme of how to continuously improve methods and technologies used in modern teaching.

Full story: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2013/09/title-140354-en.html

Late night 'hack'

Over 200 software developers from around the world, including Argentina and Malaysia, attended iOSDevUK which took place at Aberystwyth University from 3-5 September. The conference, which was aimed at developers of apps for the iPhone and the iPad included a seven-hour "hack" from 5pm until midnight which provided an opportunity for app developers to create intelligent devices based on the latest technologies which have the potential to deliver practical solutions to real-life problems.

Full story: www.aber.ac.uk/en/news/archive/2013/09/title-139862-en.html

RESEARCH, BUSINESS & INNOVATION

Welcome to the first 'Research, Business & Innovation' column, which provides an overview of our services and an update on the changes which have been implemented since 1 August.

As highlighted in the previous edition of AberNEWS, Research, Business & Innovation (RB&I) combines the services previously offered by Commercialisation and Consultancy Services and the Research Office.

RB&I provides specialist development and support services for research and enterprise activities at Aberystwyth, including facilitating collaborative and commercial ventures.

For researchers and other colleagues we continue to provide a wide range of services, from supporting funding applications and costing projects, to engaging with external partners and commercialising innovations.

In addition, for external organisations our central enquiry service and Business Development team provide a gateway to access the wealth of Knowledge Exchange opportunities here at Aberystwyth.

The department provides services in the following areas:

- Proactive Interdisciplinary Research Development
- Business Development & Engagement
- Research and Knowledge Exchange (KE) Finance
- RB&I Contracts & Policies
- Research & KE Project Management and Quality Assurance
- REF, Impact, & Research Monitoring

Getting in touch:

Please continue to use existing contacts you have within our team to discuss queries and access support. Alternatively, in the first instance or for departmental messages, please use our central enquiry service:

- **RB&I central enquiry service** - drbi@aber.ac.uk - Ext: 2385
- **RB&I Finance** (first point of contact for finance matters) - rfostaff@aber.ac.uk - Ext: 8485

You are also welcome to make contact with the relevant Research Development Officer (RDO), who acts as the first contact point for RB&I within Institutes/Academic Departments.

Institute point of contact	Name	Email	Discipline
Institute of Literature, Languages and Creative Arts	Dafydd Roberts	dir@aber.ac.uk	Arts and Humanities
Institute of Education, Professional and Graduate Development	Jennifer Deaville	jfd@aber.ac.uk	Social Sciences
Institute of Geography, History and Politics	Joanne Walker	jnw@aber.ac.uk	Sciences
Institute of Management, Law and Information Science	Helen Lloyd	hll@aber.ac.uk	IBERS Research Officer – first point of contact for IBERS Research Development team
Institute of Human Sciences			
Institute of Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science			
Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS)*			

*IBERS has its own Research Development team who work closely with the Research Office.

Academics and Researchers are of course welcome to contact an RDO with their discipline expertise for support with a grant application. We look forward to keeping you updated with news over the coming months as we develop our new portfolio of services.

Gary Reed, Director of Research, Business & Innovation

www.aber.ac.uk/rbi



Autumn Event Schedule

Details of upcoming events hosted by Research, Business & Innovation, including the Research Café and 'Enterprise Wednesdays', can be found online at: <http://jump.aber.ac.uk/?mnml>



Elder abuse research

Sarah Wydall from the Department of Law and Criminology has been awarded a grant of £29,000 from the Office of the Older People's Commissioner for Wales. The project entitled 'Adult protection, domestic abuse and hate crime' is a Wales-wide study.

The research is informed by two recent studies on elder abuse undertaken by Professor Alan Clarke, Professor John Williams, Sarah and PhD student Rebecca Boaler, from the Department of Law and Criminology. One of these studies involved undertaking participatory action research with policy makers and victim representatives, the other examined access to justice options for victims of elder abuse.

This new study seeks to explore how different referral mechanisms in adult protection may influence access to justice opportunities for people aged sixty years and over. The findings of the study will be presented to an all-Wales meeting attended by the Police Crime Commissioners and representatives from the Welsh Government later this year. Rebecca Boaler and Jeremy Newman will be assisting Sarah with the fieldwork.



Sarah Wydall

RESEARCH, BUSINESS & INNOVATION

Welcome to Aberystwyth's new HPC Wales Team



Craig Kirkwood

To drive forward Aberystwyth's engagement with the innovative High Performance Computing (HPC) Wales collaboration, we are pleased to welcome two colleagues to the Department of Research, Business & Innovation. The new team based in the Visualisation Centre on Penglais Campus, are tasked with supporting businesses and researchers to help them get the most out of high performance computing.

Craig Kirkwood, the HPC Wales Training and Outreach Mentor, will primarily focus on engaging with businesses - identifying how the computational services, consultancy and support and skills and training offered by HPC could benefit their organisation. Identifying potential collaborations with Aberystwyth and other partner institutions will form an important part of this role.

With a strong commercial background, Craig has previously worked as a systems engineer, creative director, manager and company director in Canberra, Sydney, London and Amsterdam and has held senior positions with IBM, National Semiconductor, Roland and CASE (UK). Having moved with his family from Australia in 2012, Craig has recently undertaken an MSc in Marketing in the School of Management and Business.

Sylwia Grzegorek joins the team as the HPC Wales Graduate Assistant. Sylwia will be working closely with academic colleagues to raise awareness of the opportunities presented by HPC and support individuals to engage with Wales' national supercomputing service provider. Originally from Poland, Sylwia completed her undergraduate and postgraduate degrees at Aberystwyth and has most recently been working in the Careers Service as a Destinations Officer, coordinating the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Project.

For further information on how HPC Wales can help secure funding for research projects, maximise the success of your research, and facilitate collaborations with industry and other partners to increase the commercial potential of your work, please contact: Sylwia Grzegorek – syg2@aber.ac.uk / Ext: 8758.

HPC Wales is a partnership between the universities in Wales, part funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government, aimed at powering the success of businesses and research, building skills to enhance Wales' knowledge economy, and speeding up the delivery of new products and services enabling better competitive advantage. www.hpcwales.co.uk



Sylwia Grzegorek

From pattern to garment in two days

Making an item of clothing from scratch in two days was the challenge set by a new workshop offered by the Department of Theatre, Film and Television Studies in August.

Developed in conjunction with the CADARN Skills Centre, the 'Pattern to Garment' workshop was led by experienced tutor Andrea Wiltshire, who provided advice and guidance on creative processes and techniques, in turn, building the confidence and skills of the attendees.

With no prior experience required to join the workshop, attendee Sara explained "I really enjoyed the course, it was professional, fun and Andrea was a great teacher - patient and gave lots of guidance. There were mixed abilities on the course and we were all picking tips up from each other. I made an A-line skirt from a pattern prepared on the course using my measurements, and it fits! Having not touched a sewing machine since school, it was a great feeling to be able to say 'I made that!'"

If you are interested in taking up the 'Pattern to Garment' challenge, please contact Non Lavarro for details of the Autumn course schedule - skillscentre@aber.ac.uk
www.aber.ac.uk/training

Intellectual Property Matters

With the start of the new academic year, it is timely to inform colleagues that information regarding the updated Intellectual Property Policy can be found on the Human Resources webpages <http://jump.aber.ac.uk/?zvdI>.

This common policy is a part of a growing collaboration between Aberystwyth and Bangor Universities in our approach to Intellectual Property and builds on activities aimed at developing and enhancing capacity in the two universities, individually and collectively in this area.

The process of joint policy development, undertaken through the Strategic Alliance, builds on our extensive research collaborations and Knowledge Exchange projects to enhance the impact and commercialisation of research at both institutions. Furthermore, the updated policy better reflects agendas relating to knowledge exchange and exploitation of research.

If you have any queries regarding how the policy applies to your work, or would like further information on best practice when working with third parties, colleagues from RB&I would be happy to answer your queries and provide further advice and guidance (drbi@aber.ac.uk / Ext: 2385).



Organs, pensions and the Welsh nudge

On 1 September Mark Whitehead of the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences commenced an ESRC funded project exploring the role of the psychological and neurological sciences in shaping public policy. The project, which is being funded as part of the ESRC's Transforming Social Science programme, is entitled 'Negotiating Neuroliberalism: Changing Behaviours, Values and Beliefs.' As part of this project Mark will be working alongside Rachel Howell and Rhys Jones (also of DGES), Rachel Lilley (Ymlaen Ceredigion), and Jessica Pykett (Birmingham University). In what follows, this research team consider recent policy developments in Wales and across the UK that relate to their project. To find out more about this project go to:

<http://changingbehaviours.wordpress.com/>



Professor Mark Whitehead

In early July the passage of the Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill through the National Assembly made Wales the first nation in the UK to adopt a presumed (or deemed) consent system for organ donation. On 1 September First Minister Carwyn Jones performed the official sealing of the Bill, which will now come into effect on 1 December 2015.

Presumed consent means that rather than having to formally register on the UK's Organ Donor Register, it will be assumed, unless otherwise indicated, that people over the age of 18 (who have been resident in Wales for more than 12 months) wish to donate their organs following their death.

The Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill should undoubtedly be celebrated: it will lead to far more people being on the Organ

Donor Register in Wales (as presumed consent systems have in other countries where they have been introduced), and it will save lives. The historic significance of the bill, however, lies not only in the lifesaving difference it will make, but in fact that it is the most discussed aspect of a broader shift in systems of government in Wales and the UK.

This shift is characterised by the increasing use of psychological insights about the nature of human behaviour within the design of public policy. Commonly referred to as "nudge" policies, these new ways of governing are based on the principles of soft paternalism, or the idea that governments should use policies to make it easier for people to act in ways that support their own, and the broader public's, best interests.

In order to appreciate the implications of these new policy developments it is important to understand the nature of a nudge. Nudge policies are actually derived from a particular branch of economics known as behavioural economics. Behavioural economists argue, in contrast to conventional economic theory, that human behaviour is not only based on rational contemplation, but also on a rather strong dose of irrational intuition. To put things another way, behavioural economists focus less on the idealised notion of Homo Economicus, and instead adopt a Homo Simpson model of human behaviour. If we return to the example of organ donation we can see how nudge policies apply these insights to human behaviour.

STUDENT NEWS

A fresh start for AberSU

What a pleasure it is to be writing this article as President of the Students' Union. Since coming here back in 2009, I never envisaged going from playing on Vicarage Field to heading up the student movement here in Aberystwyth. In the last year, the Students' Union has been able to introduce new revenue streams through the introduction of Starbucks and Stone Willy's, which students and staff alike have all appreciated. As we move into the new semester, we have some fresh commercial outlets being established, so keep an eye on the building.

With these new revenue streams we can now start putting money back into our charity side and start creating better opportunities for our students, including increased support for our Activities Union and a new Advisor for our Advice and Representation Centre. We're looking forward to creating some exciting new volunteering projects for our students, and the recent appointment of a Campaigns and Democracy Officer will ensure students have a voice on what matters most to them. The future is bright for the Students' Union and I look forward to working with my fellow Student Officers and the Union staff to deliver it for our students.

I'm happy to introduce my fellow Student Officers for 2013/14:

Laura Dickens returns for her second term as Welfare Officer. Laura, originally from Northampton, studied International Politics. Laura will be developing the welfare provision for students, covering areas such as mental health provision, student housing issues, and making support more accessible.

Grace Burton has been elected as Education Officer.

Grace, originally from Hampshire, studied International Politics. Grace will be representing students on all things education and working with Institute Reps.

Liv Prewett is our Activities Officer.

Liv, originally from Cardiff, studied History and Education. Liv will be working to create opportunities for students to get involved in sports, societies and volunteering.

Mared Ifan is our Welsh Affairs and UMCA President. Mared, originally from Carmarthen, studied Welsh Language and Literature.

Her remit includes representing Welsh students and organising events for the Welsh community.

Ioan Rhys Evans: President, Aberystwyth University Students' Union

Despite surveys revealing that a majority of people express a preference to donate their organs after death, few actually register on formal organ donation registers. The reasons for this are complex, but they clearly are related to the fact that people rationally understand the importance of organ donation, but at an emotional level don't really like to think of death, let alone specify which organs and tissues can be removed from their bodies. When adopting a presumed consent system, governments remove the psychological and practical barriers that exist to organ donor registration: they assume that you want to donate unless you opt out.

Beyond organ donation, we can now find nudge-type policies in a range of policy areas. The default setting has been changed on company pension schemes in the UK so now it is assumed that employees want to enrol. There are also new plans to change the default setting for domestic access to internet pornography, with households having to opt in to getting access to such sites. But nudge policies are more than about simply resetting default options.

Despite appearing to promise much, caution is also required when advocating nudge policies. Many nudge policies are based on insights into the subconscious nature of human behaviour. Questions must thus always be raised about the extent to which people are made aware of the nudging activities they are subjected to and the extent to which they are given adequate opportunity to opt out of being nudged.

Questions have also been raised about the long-term effectiveness of nudge policies. While nudges appear to be effective at shifting short-term behaviours, in the longer term it appears that addressing people's values is vital to securing behaviour change. There are also real dangers that nudge policies can be disempowering to the people who are subject to them. After all, it is often difficult to know who sets behavioural defaults and how these people are to be held to account.



Pensions auto-enrolment

As you may remember from communications in May, there has recently been a change to legislation whereby, to help people save more for their retirement, the government now requires employers to enrol their workers into a workplace pension scheme. This is known as auto-enrolment.

Auto enrolment applies to those employees who are not already in a workplace pension scheme and who earn over £9,440 a year (£787 a month); are aged 22 or over; and who are under State Pension age.

For Aberystwyth University auto-enrolment came into force on 1 August 2013. This was our postponed automatic enrolment date, also known as the 'deferral date'.

Further information relating to auto-enrolment is also available on the HR website at the following link:
www.aber.ac.uk/en/hr/auto-enrolment.

Staff Development and Performance Review (SDPR)

Please note that all staff, in conjunction with their line managers, should now be undertaking their annual Staff Development and Performance Review (SDPR).

Full details relating to the SDPR process and online system are available on the University's website via the following link: www.aber.ac.uk/en/sdpr.

National Stress Awareness Day

Diary Note: Our second National Stress Awareness Day trail will take place on **Wednesday, 6 November 2013** across the campus. This day is an opportunity for us to take positive action to reduce and prevent stress and promote well-being. Last year many departments participated including Psychology, HR, Student Support, Sport Centre and many more. Look out for announcements via the Weekly Bulletin and notice boards. If your department is interested in participating, please contact Jo Strong on jgs@aber.ac.uk.

AberPeople

As some of you may be aware the University is in the process of implementing the 'People' modules of ABW (Agresso Business World). This will bring together the HR, Payroll and Finance systems to significantly enhance the availability of quality management information across the University.

Individual staff will also have greater access to their own records through enhanced self-service access giving access for example to electronic forms and the ability to book leave online. The system will go live in early 2014.

The project team will be running 'open house' sessions in the next couple of months, so people can see the system in action, before they start training users and rolling it out across the University.

If you have any questions about the system or would like to know more please email aberpeople@aber.ac.uk.

Aberystwyth University Women's Club

www.aber.ac.uk/womens-club

The Women's Club was formed many years ago as an opportunity for wives of University staff to get to know each other and be involved in University life. Now times have changed and the membership of the club is made up of women who work at the University themselves, or have done in the past, as well as wives and partners. We are a friendly, welcoming group and would be happy to have new members join us. We meet at least once a month for a talk from an invited speaker, with an opportunity for refreshments and chat after the talk. Our programme of talks is varied and interesting, covering many topics. We also have an annual dinner, outing and AGM.

For more information about who can become a member visit:

www.aber.ac.uk/en/womens-club/membership

Membership costs £5 for the whole academic year payable to '**Aberystwyth University Women's Club**' and sent to the treasurer:
Hazel Binding, Wileirog Uchaf Farmhouse, Borth SY24 5NY.

Events for the coming session include:

Friday 11th October 2013	Professor Michael Hambrey; 'Antarctica and climate change'
Friday 8th November 2013	Mr David Jenkins; 'Aberystwyth harbour and the lifeboat'.
Friday 6th December 2013	AberOpera; 'Songs duets and choruses'.
Friday 10th January 2014	Mr Illtyd Griffiths; 'Teeth through the ages'.
Friday 14th February 2014	Mr Elgan Davies; 'The Old College – original and still the best'.
Friday 14th March 2014	Mr Peter Lord; 'Art and social crisis: Welsh painting between the two world wars'.
<i>All the above meetings are in the Seddon Room, Old College at 7.30pm.</i>	
Friday 9th May 2014	AGM and buffet supper

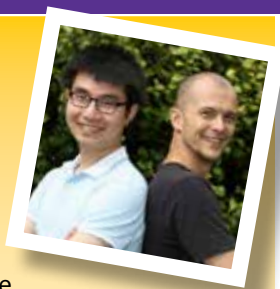
ABER PEOPLE

Appointments

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Robert Hoehndorf (right) and **Ren Diao** (left) have been appointed as Research Fellows in Advanced Reasoning. Robert Hoehndorf studied computer science and logics and philosophy of science at the University of Leipzig. He completed a PhD in 2009 at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology and the University of Leipzig, working on interoperability between ontologies in biology. He joins Aberystwyth after working as research associate at the University of Cambridge.

Ren Diao, who graduated from the University of Cambridge and the University of Birmingham, has been a PhD student and a part-time research associate with the department. Ren's research areas include approximate reasoning, feature selection, and global optimisation algorithms.



Obituaries

David Causton 1939 - 2013

Dr David Causton joined Aberystwyth University in 1970 as a lecturer in Botany. A graduate of Leeds University where he studied Agriculture, he went on to study at Imperial College (University of London) before completing his PhD here at Aberystwyth in 1967.

Before returning to Aberystwyth in 1970 he worked as Scientific Officer in the Plant Physiology Section at East Malling Research Station and then as Senior Scientific Officer in the Statistics section of the Forestry Commission's Research Branch based in Roslin, Scotland.

Dr Causton retired in 1997 but continued to work as a part-time lecturer at IBERS until May of this year.



Welsh Government advisory panel appointment

Professor John Williams from the Department of Law and Criminology has been appointed to the Welsh Government's advisory panel on safeguarding and protection of vulnerable adults with special responsibility for the adult protection legal framework and Adult Support and Protection Orders. John was legislative advisor to the National Assembly in its scrutiny of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Bill.

Retirements

Bon Voyage!

It is with a heavy heart that we announce **Belinda Marking's** retirement on 30 August 2013. Since joining the School of Art in 1998, Belinda has been unstinting in her commitment, hard work and dedication. She has always taken a keen interest in our subject, in our individual endeavours, and in the wellbeing and success of the School. She has shouldered a heavy workload – way above and beyond the call of duty – in order to support our small team. From fresher to Head of School, we could always rely on Belinda to tell us where we needed to be, what we needed to be doing, why, when, how and with whom! I for one will miss her enormously. There can be no doubt that the School's success over the past decade or so is hugely indebted to her contribution. My colleagues and I offer our very best wishes to Belinda and Richard for a long, happy and healthy retirement in France.

Professor Robert Meyrick, Head of School

Tegid Edwards, Head of Financial Systems and Operations, retired at the end of July almost exactly 32 years after joining the University in 1981. Tegid will be missed by colleagues in the Office and across the University, who wish him a long and happy retirement.



Despite a few minor mishaps Belinda and Richard were very much looking forward to their new life in France and keen to fit in with the locals.

"Don't worry Richard, I'll soon get the hang of these baguettes", said Belinda, "And besides you can still see to drive."

Meanwhile Richard concentrated on balancing his remaining onion.



Tony Landeg (1943-2013)

Tony Landeg worked in the University's Finance Office from 1986 until his retirement in 2008. Initially the Head of the Income Office, he was later responsible for the Research Grants and Contracts Section, as well as being the Finance Office's liaison with other areas such as the Arts Centre and Halls of Residences. A highly valued member of staff, he could be relied upon in all situations. After the fire in the seafront halls in 1998, he was at the forefront of not only sorting out the immediate problems faced by students, but also during the negotiations with insurers on the rebuilding of the halls. He will be sorely missed.

Person Profile

Person Profile is a new feature where we focus on a staff member and the role that they do. This edition, we spoke to Esther Eckley in the University's Communications and Public Affairs team.

Tell us a bit about yourself: My job title is Press and Media Campaigns Officer and I work on a part-time basis from Monday to Wednesday. I graduated in public relations from Bournemouth University in 1999, and have worked in the communications industry ever since. I moved to Ceredigion from Cardiff with my husband about six years ago.

Tell us a bit about your role: My role involves gaining external press and media coverage for the University, devising communication campaigns for specific projects and writing press releases and copy for the website. I am currently involved with writing newsworthy copy for the website on some of the University's Research Excellent Framework (REF) case studies, so that potential students, teachers and those with an interest in our research, understand the work we're doing. Another element of my work is CADWYN – a system which we use to publicise the work of our experts and their expertise to the media.

Could you explain what CADWYN is and how it works? Every week, I contact the Heads of Department, the Institute Managers and other individuals, listing up-and-coming news issues, historical dates or international days, and inviting those experts who would like to comment to get in touch with me. Predicting the themes that will be covered by the press and media is a great way of securing interviews early.



Esther Eckley

Is CADWYN proving successful to date?

CADWYN is proving a big hit with the media because they find it an extremely useful tool when looking for experts to comment on big issues. The most recent interviews have been with regard to the Syrian crisis with Dr Jenny Mathers being interviewed on BBC Radio Wales and 5 Live. Other interviews to have stemmed from CADWYN include Dr Steven Thompson being interviewed about maternity benefits, Professor Richard Marggraf Turley talking about the 200th anniversary of *Pride & Prejudice* and Dr Russell Davies being interviewed about Clearing.

When not in work, what do you spend your time doing? I'm a mum of two, so that keeps me busy! I also paint and have been for about seven years now. I'm busy working towards an art exhibition I have planned in London in December, so every spare hour is spent in the attic painting at present. I also run a small business with a friend, making bags out of recycled sailcloth as well as posters and cards.

If you would like to receive CADWYN e-mails, have any ideas, or want to discuss anything further with Esther, contact her on ese6@aber.ac.uk / 01970 621571.

Presidential election

Professor David Trotter, Head of the Department of European Languages, has been elected President of the Société de Linguistique Romane for 2013-16.

Founded in 1924, the Société de Linguistique Romane (SLiR) is the most important and most prestigious international learned society concerned with the linguistics and philology of the Romance languages and has a global membership.



Professor David Trotter

Professor Trotter, as the 25th president, is only the second British academic to be so honoured.

Fusion of Art and Science

The climate change debate was addressed in an exciting and innovative way at a collaborative symposium organised by the School of Art, Geography and Earth Sciences, and Aberystwyth Arts Centre in June. Around fifty academics and practitioners from the UK and abroad attended the 'Future Climate Dialogues' symposium, to discuss research and community projects that cross traditional disciplinary divides in response to this important debate. Oral and poster presentations and panel discussions looked at the benefits of art and science collaborations in education and also examined the way climate change is represented in a range of historical accounts, films and literature. The day culminated in an exhibition of climate change art and poetry reading that rounded off a stimulating and thought-provoking day.

Abstracts and other documentation (including videos of the oral presentations and panel discussions) can be seen at:

<http://cargocollective.com/artscienceclimatechange/Future-Climate-Dialogues-Video>

A review of the symposium can be seen at:

www.theatre-wales.co.uk/reviews/reviews_details.asp?reviewID=3018

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www.aber.ac.uk/sportscentre

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WHAT'S ON

SCHOOL OF ART EXHIBITIONS

14 October -
15 November 2013

Erich Retzlaff: Volksfotograf

Photographs by Retzlaff (1899-1993) from the School of Art Collection and on loan from the Münchner Stadtmuseum, Germany.



Ilse Retzlaff (1913-1970), mid 1930s

Dick Whall

Drawings 2007-2013
A retired Head of Fine Art at Coventry University, Dick has exhibited widely in the UK and internationally for five decades, with works in many private and public collections.



Presently Absent in an English Country Garden. Pencil drawing on cartridge paper with collaged and calibrated border, 5.05.2012-23.08.2013

25 November 2013 - 7 February 2014

Sense of Soane



Grand Tour: In Search of Soane (after Gandy) 2012. Transparency on LED Lightbox, 106.6cm (h) x 182.4cm (w)

A contemporary response to the architectural legacy of Sir John Soane, by Emily Allchurch, Anne Desmet, Catrin Huber.

Claudia Williams: An Intimate Acquaintance

Works to celebrate the publication of a monograph on the artist by Harry Heuser and Professor Robert Meyrick.



Claudia Williams Le Petit Déjeuner. Oil on canvas, 92 x 122 cm (Private Collection)

WHAT'S ON

Busy Autumn Season for Arts Centre

As the nights draw in there is plenty going on at Aberystwyth Arts Centre to keep you warm and entertained.

There's a strong Shakespearian strand this season with productions of *Twelfth Night* and *Merchant of Venice* in the theatre combined with live links in the cinema to National Theatre productions of *Othello* and *Hamlet*, plus to the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of *Richard II* starring David Tennant. The Shakespearean strand continues into our dance programme with a new fusion of dance and theatre in *'Mac//beth'* which features a new Welsh translation by Mererid Hopwood, interspersed with Polish and Hebrew; whilst Ballet Cymru perform *'Romeo a Juliet'*. Other dance performances include return visits for the stunning Jasmin Vardimon company and award winning Earthfall dance.

Bellowhead make a very welcome return as part of our live music programme with their great live show, whilst there's an opportunity to see artists from Womex

2013 alongside Welsh musicians in the Horizons Tour which features Les Tambours de Brazza from Central Africa. At the other end of the musical sphere, Mid Wales Opera mark the centenary of Benjamin Britten with his comic opera *'Albert Herring'*. There's a great comedy line-up including Jimmy Carr, Reginald D Hunter, Ardal O'Hanlon, Milton Jones, Alan Davies and Paul Merton's *Improv Chums*. And plenty for all the family to enjoy with *'Hairy Maclary'* and *'The Hare and the Tortoise'*.

Exhibitions in Gallery 1 include *Reflections on the Palestinian Landscape* by James Morris and new work from one of Wales most respected painters, Shani Rhys James. There's also a welcome return for the British Wildlife Photography Award Exhibition in Gallery 2, which will also be home to an exhibition of international movie posters celebrating the Golden



Bellowhead

Age of British Horror as part of Abertoir, Wales International Horror Festival.

The Arts Centre's Community Arts programme is the biggest and busiest of any venue in Wales, and this autumn sees opportunities to learn new skills in everything from photography to belly dancing – there's something for all ages and abilities.

Full details of all our activities, cinema screenings and performances can be found at www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre

Music Centre

The new academic year sees the start of the University Music Centre's thriving programme of ensembles and concerts for students, staff and anyone who wants to join in. The new term begins with rehearsals taking place in the Joseph Parry Hall at 10 Laura Place and Old College Library – with a move to Old Hall as soon as the paint is dry!

Choral Union (Friday evenings), the large mixed-voice choir, starts work on an exciting range of music – including Karl Jenkins' *Gloria* – for concerts at Christmas and in the spring. Director of Music Dr David Russell Hulme conducts and will also be working with the symphony orchestra, Philomusica (Wednesday evenings), for a December concert featuring Aberystwyth-born trumpet player Jason Lewis as the concerto soloist and great music by Benjamin Britten (*Four Sea Interludes* from Peter Grimes) and Tchaikovsky (*Francesca da Rimini*) – and plenty more besides.

Monday evening is Wind Band night, when conductor Aidan Hassan will be taking this lively group through a wide range of popular and classic repertoire.



There is also Simple Strings, an informal string ensemble for players of all standards on Tuesdays, and Saxophony, for sax players, on Thursdays.

All groups welcome new members. Come and be part of the University's great live music scene. See the Music Centre website for more details -

www.aber.ac.uk/en/music.

Enfys Aber fundraising event

The Aber Staff Pride society, Enfys Aber, is hosting a special fundraising event on **Saturday 26 October at Aberystwyth Arts Centre**. The event will raise money for LGBT charities including safe shelter for Ugandan Gay Rights activists. There will be live musical performances from great local bands like Gypsy Wine Cartel, and theatrical performances from Run Amok Theatre company, and many, many more. All are welcome, from every walk of life.

For more information visit:

www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk/music/enfys-aber-fundraising-event



INTRODUCTION TO THE INSTITUTES

The beginning of August signalled the beginning of our new Institute structure and new ways of working across the University. The Institutes provide a framework for greater collaboration between Departments, which will enhance our interdisciplinary activities; allow more decision making to be devolved to the Institute Executives; and provide consistency and enhancement of services and support across the University.

INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND RURAL SCIENCES



Institute Director
Professor Wayne Powell
wap@aber.ac.uk
01970 623001

The Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS) is an internationally recognised research and teaching centre providing a unique base for research in response to global challenges such as food security, bioenergy and sustainability, and the impacts of climate change. IBERS scientists conduct basic, strategic and applied research from genes and molecules to organisms and the environment.



Institute Manager
Emyr Phillips
emp24@aber.ac.uk
01970 622961

With 360 members of staff, IBERS is the largest Institute within the University, teaching 1,350 undergraduate students and more than 150 postgraduate students, and is home to the National Plant Phenomics Centre, and the BEACON Centre of Excellence for Biorefining - a £20 million partnership between Aberystwyth, Bangor and Swansea Universities.

Further information: www.aber.ac.uk/en/university/institutes/ibers/

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION, GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Institute Director
Professor Tim Woods
tww@aber.ac.uk
01970 622532

The Institute of Education, Graduate and Professional Development contains the School of Education and Lifelong Learning (SELL – combining Education, Childhood Studies, PGCE, Welsh for Adults, Lifelong Learning and the educational resource publisher CAA), the Careers Service, the International English Centre (IEC), Learning Support, the Centre for the Development of Staff and Academic Practice (CDSAP), and the Graduate School.



Institute Manager
Annette Davies
amd@aber.ac.uk
01970 628512

At once both inward facing to the Institute and outward facing across the university, the aim of the IEGPD is to provide an integrated focus on delivering education, pedagogy and learning and teaching practice across the university at all levels, combining this where appropriate with development and training in academic and leadership skills.

Further information: www.aber.ac.uk/en/university/institutes/iepgd/

INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY & POLITICS



Institute Director
Professor Neil Glasser
nfg@aber.ac.uk
01970 622785

The Institute of Geography, History and Politics (IGHP) contains the Departments of Geography & Earth Sciences, History & Welsh History and International Politics.

With over 100 full-time academic staff, 20 support and technical staff and a thriving postgraduate community, IGHP is one of the largest institutes of its kind in the world. IGHP will grow into a world-class interdisciplinary institute with a global reputation for the quality of its research, teaching and graduates.



Institute Manager
Jackie Sayce
jqs@aber.ac.uk
01970 622212

Further information: www.aber.ac.uk/en/university/institutes/ighp/

INSTITUTE OF HUMAN SCIENCES



Institute Director
Professor Kate Bullen
kab@aber.ac.uk
01970 622688

The Institute of Human Sciences is home to the departments of Psychology and Sport and Exercise Science, the two newest departments at the University.

The Institute delivers outstanding learning and teaching experiences to nearly 600 undergraduate students and a growing number of postgraduate students. Over 20 academic staff work with administrative and technical staff to deliver degrees with a strong emphasis on science applied to real world groups and the development of graduate skills. Research across the institute has a highly applied focus in the areas of health, human physical activity and performance; community engagement is a distinctive unifying theme.



Institute Manager
Jo Strong
jgs@aber.ac.uk
01970 621949

Further information: www.aber.ac.uk/en/university/institutes/iohs/

INTRODUCTION TO THE INSTITUTES

INSTITUTE OF LITERATURE, LANGUAGES & CREATIVE ARTS (ILLCA)



Institute Director
Professor Sarah Prescott
scp@aber.ac.uk
01970 622534



Institute Manager
Kath Williams
ktw@aber.ac.uk
01970 621535

The Institute of Literature, Languages and Creative Arts, comprising five academic departments: Theatre, Film and Television Studies, English and Creative Writing, European Languages, the School of Art and the Department of Welsh and Celtic Studies, brings together a vibrant academic community engaged in excellent research and teaching.

Currently attracting over 2,000 students at undergraduate and postgraduate level both nationally and internationally, we are also proud to include Aberystwyth Arts Centre - one of the most successful arts centres in the UK - and Aberystwyth University Music Centre as partners in the Institute and at the heart of our public and community engagement agenda. This collaboration of academic partners and arts providers forms a unique centre of excellence in Wales, with international importance and impact and representing a broad range of disciplines and creative endeavours vital to society and culture in the twenty-first century.

Further information: www.aber.ac.uk/en/university/institutes/illca/

INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT, LAW & INFORMATION SCIENCE



Institute Director
Professor Andrew Henley
a.g.henley@aber.ac.uk
01970 622511



Institute Manager
Adrian Harvey
avh@aber.ac.uk
01970 622368

The Institute of Management, Law and Information Science (IMLIS) exists to promote and support research of world-leading and international quality, to provide an outstanding undergraduate and postgraduate student experience, to raise the profile of its constituent subject areas within the wider national and international academic community, and to act as a driver of knowledge creation and exchange within the region.

The Institute facilitates the achievement of the mission and strategic objectives of the University. It will provide a framework within which the research, teaching and knowledge exchange synergies of law, criminology, business management subjects, economics and information studies can be explored and exploited.

Further information: www.aber.ac.uk/en/university/institutes/imlis/

INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS, PHYSICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE



Institute Director
Professor Qiang Shen
qqs@aber.ac.uk
01970 621825



Institute Manager
Dave Smith
dhs@aber.ac.uk
01970 622446

The Institute of Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science (IMPACS) brings together excellent and progressive teaching and research of three complementary specialisms: Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science.

The synergy of these disciplines enables IMPACS to facilitate an interdisciplinary approach to scientific innovation and learning. Our collegiality delivers new and challenging opportunities to strengthen students' learning experience and academic development, to enhance career paths for our graduates and staff, and to push the boundaries of scientific knowledge.

Further information: www.aber.ac.uk/en/university/institutes/impacs/

HEADS OF ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS 2013-14

School of Art		
Professor Robert Meyrick	2460	rtm
Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences		
Professor Wayne Powell	3001	wap
Department of Computer Science		
Professor Qiang Shen	1825	qqs
School of Education and Lifelong Learning		
Dr Malcolm Thomas	2102	mlt
Department of English and Creative Writing		
Dr Elisabeth Salter	2193	els
Department of European Languages		
Professor David Trotter	2551	dtm
Department of Geography and Earth Sciences		
Professor Rhys Jones	2594	raj
Department of History and Welsh History		
Dr Martyn Powell	2870	mpp

Department of Information Studies		
Dr Allen Foster	2189	aef
Department of International Politics		
Dr Jenny Mathers	2705	zzk
Department of Law and Criminology		
Professor Noel Cox	1910	noc1
School of Management and Business		
Professor Steve McGuire	2200	sbm
Department of Mathematics and Physics		
Professor Andrew Evans	2800	dne
Department of Psychology		
Professor Kate Bullen	2688	kab
Department of Sport and Exercise Science		
(Interim Head of Department) Professor Kate Bullen	2688	kab
Department of Theatre, Film and Television Studies		
Dr Jamie Medhurst	2152	jsm
Department of Welsh		
Dr Cathryn Charnell-White	2851	ctc