

University
of
St Andrews

University of St Andrews The St Andard

Issue 1, Staff Magazine, March, 2004



Men In Black

The role of the janitor

A degree on your doorstep
Dealing with Spam
Excellence - who pays?

Scotland's first university

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Produced by:

The StAndard Editorial Board

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Sandy Wilkie works as Staff Development Manager within Human Resources, co-ordinating the work of a team of three staff who support personal and management development activities for all University staff.

Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of The StAndard, a new magazine intended to keep all of our staff at the University informed of key developments, university news and staff activities and opinions.

The StAndard is funded by the University and edited by the Press Office under the direction of an independent Editorial Board comprising staff from every corner of the institution. It is produced as a direct response to concerns and desires expressed in the Staff Survey.

At its most simplistic, The StAndard is designed to act as a noticeboard for all staff regardless of status or seniority, improve our internal communications and increase the accountability of University management and governance.

In essence, if you work or study at St Andrews, whether you're a cleaner or a chemist, this is your magazine.

We make no apology for the eclectic mix of news, feature and opinion which populates Issue One.

Inside you will find articles and features on our own janitorial men in black, members of staff juggling full-time work with part-time study, more information on spam than Monty Python could helpfully shake a parrot at, updates on staff discounts in local shops, debate on top-up fees, news of cloned enzymes, the therapeutic powers of the strawberry and a quick guide to recycling your fridge.

As we went to press, the preliminary results of the 2003 Staff Survey became available. We've included top level details of the new findings which will be published by the University in much greater detail in April. The survey shows progress in many important key areas - but confirms that issues like stress, communication and car-parking remain the source of much angst for many of us.

If you've got something you want to get off your chest, do it here. John Haldane wants to dig up the lawn in St Salvator's Quad and erect a big fountain, Brian Lang wants Jack McConnell to get his wallet out while the Red Lion demands investment in a Staff Club in celebration of the richness of university life. What do you want?

Issue Two is now in planning and will be published in early Summer. The Editorial Team welcomes all suggestions, letters, articles, news and photography from staff, students and members of the wider St Andrews community.

Please contact us at magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk or via the Press Office, 82 North Street, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9AL, telephone 01334 462529.



The StAndard thanks all contributors including Alan Richardson, Pix-AR

A Degree on Your Doorstep

Over 30 University of St Andrews staff – ranging from a chef and electrician to residence managers - are making the most of their academic workplace by juggling full-time jobs with part-time study.

Thirty-three staff, from a range of locations and services, are studying for degrees through the part-time evening degree programme which involves one or two classes a week and up to 20 hours a week of private study.

The first batch of successful students will graduate in June.

The initiative, which was launched in 2000, is aimed at adults over the age of 21 who would like to study for a degree. Depending on preferred pace of study and on any appropriate recent qualifications, for which transferred credit can be given, a General MA degree can be obtained within 3 to 9 years.

Students returning to study after a gap are eased back into the way of things with a specially designed study skills programme at the start of the course. Various financial arrangements are also in place to help those on low incomes take advantage of this flexible academic programme.

Nicky Haxell, Part-time Degree Co-ordinator said, "Staff will probably know of at least one person studying in this way for their Master of Arts degree. Age is no excuse since we have students up to the age of 80! We have also admitted people with fairly rusty school qualifications as well as those with more recent professional awards, or who have completed a college course. Evening degree students often want to increase their job or promotion prospects, or simply broaden their horizons through studying an interesting range of subjects with like-minded fellow students."

Members of staff also benefit from a generous concession, which means they only pay an annual fee (currently £87) for however many modules they take in the



Roy Dittrich

year. Those in receipt of Working Families Tax credit, etc., pay no fees at all.

In 2004/05, there will be 11 subjects on offer: English, Information Technology, Mediaeval History, Modern History, Human Biology, Art History, Psychology, Philosophy, Divinity, Physics/Astronomy and Environmental Biology. In subsequent years, there will also be Environmental Geography and Economics/Management.

If you would like further information – or just a chat – about the degree course, please contact Nicky Haxell, Part-time Degree Co-ordinator, Admissions: Continuing Education, 66 North Street, St Andrews, KY16 9AH – telephone 01334 462203 – email nah@st-andrews.ac.uk.

Studious Staff

Name – Roy Dittrich

Age – 43

Job – Head Chef, Hamilton Hall

Currently studying – Mediaeval Scotland (semester 1) Modern History (semester 2)

Previous qualifications – 3 O'Levels

"I left school when I was 16 with 3 O' Levels and a great sigh of relief! Now I'm studying for the General degree and attend once a week for a two hour session. I'll finish when I finish – I find it easier not to plan too far ahead. My work mates – and friends and family - have



Elizabeth Watson

Name – Elizabeth Watson
Age – 59
Job – Cleaner, St Salvator's Hall
Currently studying - English Literature
Previous qualifications – Higher English

"I'm studying English Literature this year, having previously studied Mediaeval History. I have to study at least seven hours a week for one class. I left Waid Academy with no qualifications but studied at evening class for my Higher English. When I left school, further education was not an option. Evening class is more flexible and gives as much time as is needed for each module. Studying at home is a matter of organisation and probably nagging the family for space! I would like to do this to prove that I can and, although the next five years will seem a long time, I hope to finish. If I'm trying to do this, anyone can, and the University supplies all the support necessary. I've also received excellent back-up from Student Support Services who arranged for equipment for my hearing disability and provided a note-taker for my lectures and tutorials."

provided great support. My colleagues changed shifts when I needed to attend the classes, for which I truly thank them. The best thing about the course has been getting me out the house – I'd just separated after 24 years of marriage – also meeting people with similar interests and learning a subject that I have a great interest in. The worst was writing a REAL essay – not like the ones I wrote at school – and as for all those Scottish Kings who had sons with the same names! For anyone with an interest in any of the courses, go for it! You'll be surprised by the range and diversity of the subjects and the fun you have learning with those in the same boat as yourself."



Alison Reed

Name - Alison Reed
Age - 42
Job - Reprographic Technician
Currently studying – Computer Science: Information Technology and Perspectives on Information Technology
Previous qualifications – O.N.C. SCOTVEC (for 5 printing modules) and SQA Certificate in Information Technology: Office Applications Intermediate 1 and 2

"I try to study at least five to six hours per week, depending on the subject matter. I'm sticking to just one module this semester – it's all I can cope with until my daughter goes to secondary school next year. Then maybe, I'll be able to increase the modules to two per semester, meaning I can complete the degree a little earlier. Juggling a job with a degree is hard. My Mum looks after my daughter after school and, because I finish so late in the evening, both myself and my daughter sleep over every Tuesday night. Weird, seeing as I have a husband -to-be sitting at home! But once you get your routine in order, it gets a bit easier. The best thing is the variety of people you meet and getting your brain working harder – I'm doing it to improve myself and to further my career prospects. For people thinking about it, I'd say go for it! What have you to lose?"

The Men In Black

A look behind the Uniform

Who would you call if you needed help reorganising your office furniture? Or if you had lost a letter? Or spotted a suspicious character entering a University building?

Well, if you didn't already know, the answer to all of the above is the University Janitors.

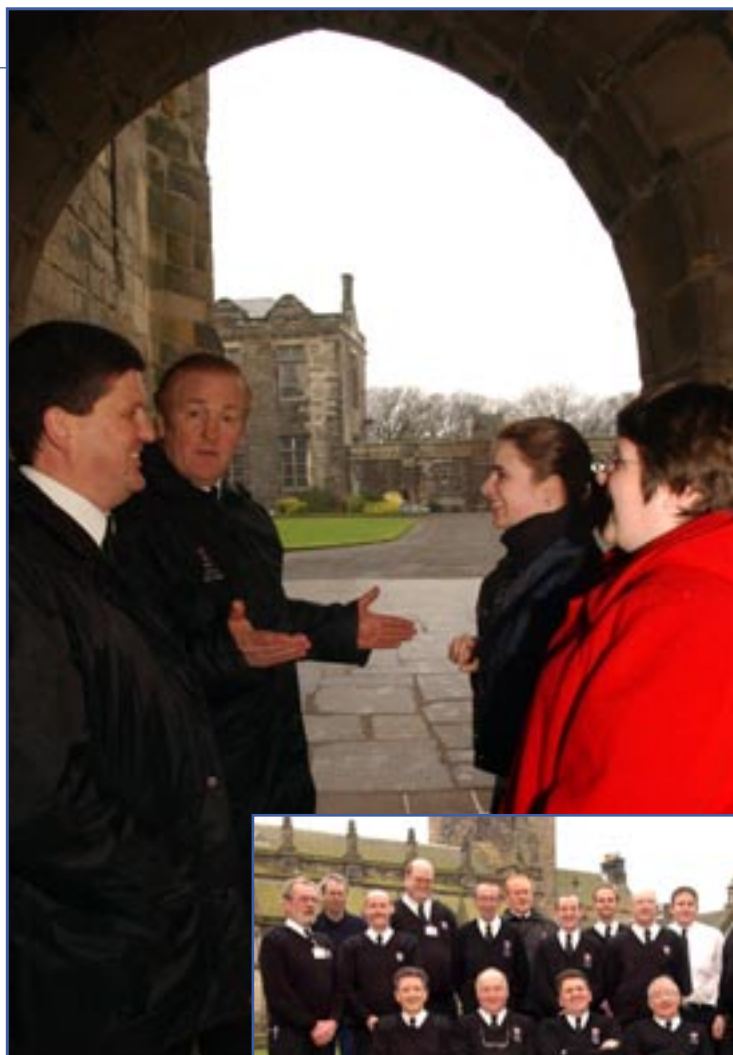
There are currently 24 janitors employed at St Andrews, whose large and varied duties range from looking after security and providing an out-of-office telephone service to replacing lightbulbs and moving furniture.

In a recent audit undertaken by the University, the team proved itself to be worth its weight in gold, emerging well in terms of value for money.

Spread across several University sites, the janitorial service has seen reduced staffing levels over the last five years but, more recently, new appointments have been made after the University felt the need to set up an out of hours team.

To ensure essential access to University buildings is consistently maintained and a central point of contact for staff, students and visitors is provided outwith office hours, a team of out of hours staff was set up in October 2003 with considerable success. Up until this point, essential access to University buildings after 7pm would mean a call to a member of school/unit staff at home, not only inconvenient for the staff but also very impractical.

Helen Mackie, Assistant Director of Facilities Management, is delighted with the overall achievements of the janitorial service. "The smooth running of day to day life at the University relies heavily on the work of the janitors, whether it be answering general enquires from visitors and students, resetting of rooms, assisting at official ceremonies or security checks on buildings.



"Janitors have to be trustworthy and dependable and I am confident that our team of staff provide an excellent standard of service across the whole University."

Size Matters

Assistant Support Services Manager Jim Douglas takes a light-hearted look at the ceremonial uniform.

"Because of financial restraints, only those janitors who can fit in to the current ceremonial uniforms are eligible. These uniforms were provided by the University a couple of years ago and at considerable cost. They were made to measure for the mace carriers at that particular time. One uniform, however, has already

undergone major surgery. One of the mace-bearers was a mountain of a man standing 6' 4". He decided to hand in his notice with only about six weeks to go until graduation. The hunt was on. Look for a 6' 4" substitute. Panic! No-one fits the bill. Disaster looms. The question is raised, "Can the uniform be altered in time to fit a 5' 11" midget?" The search is on for a seamstress. One is eventually tracked down. She has the expertise. She has already had to perform emergency repairs to the Chancellor's gown between graduations! She has the necessary skills. Does she have the time? After an agonizingly long deliberation she assents. She will make the time. Once again the University had been extricated from the mire."

People Matters

Diversity Awareness

**By Jo Kearns,
Human Resources Officer**

What sort of reaction do you usually have when another request comes in asking you to attend a meeting, training session or workshop?

- (a) Check your diary immediately to see if you're free
- (b) Groan and think "I'll deal with that tomorrow"
- (c) Write back saying you are too busy to attend
- (d) Bin it

It would be interesting to know how many people heaved a big sigh when they received their invitation to a "2-hour Diversity Awareness Session". Not the most exciting invitation you've ever received and not the kind of subject that usually has people clamouring for a place. But, the sessions have proved to be a huge success with members of staff from all departments taking part and giving us this kind of feedback:

"The presenter was excellent, very knowledgeable, very friendly and able to deal with the questions posed, even those on St Andrews."

"The whole session was very user friendly with a broad mix of staff present. Well presented and interesting."

"Overall, I thought it was one of the best staff training days I have attended."

We are committed to providing these sessions to all members of staff this year and aim to give everyone an understanding of new and existing discrimination law and to provide you with a broad understanding of the issues.



What to expect:

The sessions themselves are run by Viv Brosnahan, Senior Training Consultant at PeopleMatters.

The training sessions cover all diversity issues including:-

Age
Disability
Gender
Harassment and Bullying
Race
Religion
Sexual Orientation

The sessions are an informal two hour run-through covering these areas. They incorporate a quiz based on information provided before the session, case studies and the opportunity to ask questions and debate the issues raised. For anyone who doesn't relish the prospect of a quiz, don't worry, you complete it in groups and no-one is put on the spot. Viv brings her own bubbly personality to what you might think is a very dry subject and people

have been pleasantly surprised about how quickly two hours can pass!

We were prompted to start running these sessions by the Race Relations (Amendment) Act which came into force in November 2002 and placed new duties on the University as an employer, but we also wanted to provide a broad range of information on these issues and make them accessible to everyone. The University is committed to equality of opportunity and we will continue to work to ensure that individuals, both staff and students, are able to reach their full potential.

So when your letter arrives inviting you to the next Diversity Awareness session, don't choose (b), (c) or (d) – choose option (a) and see what it's all about!

If you would like more information about the sessions or have any other queries relating to equality issues please contact us at equalops@st-andrews.ac.uk



Staff Get Roped Into Teambuilding

Can you tell what the group in this picture is up to? Or how it might improve your working life and that of your colleagues?

Well, jokes of secret societies aside, this particular group of University staff is taking part in an exercise called 'Blindfold Square'. Addressing difficulties such as communication skills and problem solving, the exercise helps to encourage groups to work as a team. The blindfold is to make the task all the harder and to increase the emphasis on getting communication right.

The activity is one of many set up by the University's Staff Development team, geared at improving the way staff work together, whether within one department or across a number of teams.

"Primarily, team events are a positive opportunity for groups to get out of their normal working environment and address some key issues. The whole

process will enable each group member to discover individual strengths, roles and responsibilities, ultimately helping them move towards better overall communication, resulting in a stronger team," said Sandy Wilkie, Staff Development Manager.

Staff Development has seen increased interest in its services over the last two years, both from the University and externally. With 14 away-day events under its belt this year, the number is set to significantly rise over 2004.

Sandy comments: "There are three main benefits that come from team development; improved team dynamics, improved self awareness and practical improvement, such as action planning on team processes."

One group, which has signed up for a team away-day for the second time, is the Joint Centre for Scottish Housing Research (JCSHR), based in St Andrews' Observatory. Headed up by Project Manager, Alison Sandeman, the 30-strong team took part in an away day based at Dundee's Apex Hotel in December 2003.

The event was co-ordinated by Catriona Wilson in Staff Development.

Included in the list of activities at the Apex event was a 'colourblind' communications exercise - a group problem solving task on the importance of communication, where the group is blindfolded and has to deduce the colour and shape of objects missing from a set. The exercise highlights the essential aspects of clarity and feedback surrounding verbal communication and how individuals perceive information differently.

Research Centre Manager, Alison Sandeman, is delighted with the results her team has gained from away-days. She comments: "We have had two away days and the benefits have exceeded my expectations. The team has nearly doubled in size over the last year and the opportunity for them to meet outside the normal work environment has strengthened the chain of communication enormously.

"The exercises help on a variety of levels, not only improving communication, but also helping staff to disseminate information and meet with team members that they would not ordinarily have contact with.

"Although taking the team out of work for a whole day is a big commitment the benefits and experiences to date have been really worthwhile."

Team activities can be arranged by Staff Development for any number of staff and are set up as a bespoke package for clients, depending on the required objectives.

Objectives can range from teams getting to know each other, preparing for change - such as moving buildings - to longer term issues such as learning about key people management skills and building a sense of the wider team.

For any queries on the above please contact –

Sandy Wilkie,
Staff Development Manager,
sandy.wilkie@standrews.ac.uk
or on Ext: 2599

New professors inducted



As part of November's Graduation ceremony, the University formally inducted its new Professors.

They are:

Professor Jagit Chadha, School of Economics
 Professor Kishan Dholakia, School of Physics and Astronomy
 Professor Malcolm MacLeod, School of Psychology
 Professor C. Simon Herrington, Bute Medical School
 Professor Peter Gow, School of Philosophical and Anthropological Studies
 Professor Andrew Riches, Bute Medical School

Professor Stephen Reicher, School of Psychology
 Professor Craig Littler, Centre for Business Education
 Professor Sandra Nutley, School of Management
 Professor Gerry Humphris, Bute Medical School
 Professor John Hudson, School of History
 Professor Sarah Broadie, Bishop Wardlaw Professor, School of Philosophical and Anthropological Studies

Professor Broadie was unable to attend.

Staff Development

The next Staff Development Day is on Monday 10th May. For our theme this year, we have chosen 'employee volunteering'.

This is a growing area of interest within a wide variety of organisations - one that involves staff giving some of their own time, energy and ideas towards external voluntary projects.

We propose to arrange a number of taster events and sessions, including at least one event to directly benefit

a local charity. If you would like to contribute suggestions to help us with the planning for the day, including any local activities or groups that may be interested in some assistance from University staff, please get in touch with us at staff.development@st-andrews.ac.uk. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sandy Wilkie
Staff Development
Manager

Dealing with spam

By Julian Crowe, Head of User Services

This article discusses the vexed issue of unwanted email. It refers to various techniques for dealing with the menace. Further discussion and more detailed instructions can be found on the Library and Information Services web pages.

See:
<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/lis/help/spam>

What is spam?

Spam is the name given to email messages sent out in bulk to people who have not asked for them and who don't know the senders. The name is said to be taken from the Monty Python sketch about spam, and at first it was a bit of a joke. In the last few years it has stopped being funny. Spam is almost always advertising goods and services, usually of a dubious nature. It often includes words and pictures which many people find offensive.

Who are the spammers?

They are people who are after your money. They can send a huge number of messages at virtually no cost in the hope that one or two recipients will fall for their tricks.

You cannot easily tell who sent the message. The sender's address given in the message header is usually either the genuine address of an innocent person or a completely random address. Never accuse anyone of sending you spam without checking the full header information to see where the message actually originated.

Your address might be used in the header of a spam message. Don't be alarmed if you get "delivery failure" reports referring to messages that you never sent.

How do the spammers get hold of your address?

If your email address appears on any web pages it is almost certain to be "harvested" for use by spammers. Many spammers simply generate random email addresses. They can afford many failures, so long as most of their messages get through.

Often a spam message encourages you to click a button to "unsubscribe" from the list. Resist this temptation because it will only confirm that your address is valid, and so increase the likelihood of further messages.

Some people are afraid that using the vacation mailer to send an automatic "out of office" response to messages might confirm to the spammer that your address is valid, but this will have only a marginal effect. The web pages referred to at the start of this article explain how you can reduce the likelihood of sending the automatic vacation message in response to spam.

The important thing to understand is that there is nothing personal about spam. It is not sent to you because anyone who knows you imagines that

you are interested in the subject matter of the spam message. No-one will blame you for receiving undesirable spam messages.

What is Library and Information Services doing about it?

LIS use a piece of software called SpamAssassin to scan all email traffic to try to identify messages that look like spam. SpamAssassin uses a whole battery of tests:

- it checks the origin of the message against a "blacklist" of known sources of spam
- it checks the contents and the message header for tell-tale signs of spam
- it calculates what proportion of words in the message are of a sort regularly associated with spam

On the basis of these tests it decides whether, on balance, the message is likely to be spam. If it decides that the message is probably spam it inserts the word {Spam?} into the Subject line of the message. This is known as the spam flag, and messages that have the flag are referred to as flagged messages. Flagged messages are then delivered to you as usual.



“It has at least given us a few moments of amusement along the way, such as the fantastic offers of untold wealth, if only we will reveal all our bank account details, and, for lovers of the surreal, the bizarre lists of words which so often accompany spam messages.”

Note the question mark in {Spam?}. The SpamAssassin tests are only based on probability. Occasionally, not often, genuine messages are flagged as spam

What can you do about it?

You can use the spam flag to identify messages which are probably spam so as to prevent them appearing in your mailbox. The recommended way of doing this is by setting up a filter in your email program (Eudora or Webmail; if you use Outlook, filters are referred to as rules). Your filter should check for the spam flag in the subject line of the message, and move flagged messages into a separate mail folder, which you might call spamfolder.

You can then check your spam folder every so often to make sure no genuine messages have been flagged in error. If you suspect that a message has gone astray you can look for it in your spam folder.

Can messages be discarded altogether?

For some people, filtering messages into a separate spam folder is not enough. If you set up a filter in Eudora, it means that the flagged messages are still being downloaded to your PC, and you still have to think about them and check your spam folder before emptying it.

Why does LIS just flag these messages and then deliver them? Why not discard them altogether?

The reason is that SpamAssassin cannot guarantee that no genuine messages will ever be flagged as spam. There are cases where innocent and important messages have been flagged. LIS is very reluctant

to take responsibility for discarding messages which may be genuine, however small the risk.

As the volume of spam grows this policy may well have to change. The email system is being placed under increasing strain by spam and viruses, and the time will soon come when we have to refuse to accept delivery of messages originating from blacklisted addresses. This will inevitably mean that a very small number of genuine messages will be rejected.

Individual users, in the meantime, might decide that they are willing to take the risk of losing the occasional genuine message. If you are away from the office and are reading your email over a slow phone line, you might well prefer to have all flagged messages removed from your mail box before they are downloaded. If you are prepared to take this risk, you can arrange to have all flagged messages discarded on the server. The LIS web pages tell you how to make this choice.

Why do some spam messages escape the spam flag?

SpamAssassin cannot catch all spam. The spammers know the tests that are used by programs like SpamAssassin and they are all the time devising ways to defeat them. When LIS introduced SpamAssassin its initial success rate was well over 90%. As time went on this rate dropped slightly, and more spam messages got through unflagged. When the software was upgraded, the success rate again rose. This kind of fluctuation is inevitable.

You may have noticed two of the devices used by spammers to confuse SpamAssassin. First there are the deliberate mis-spellings of key words such as Viarag and V1@gr@, and secondly

there are the long lists of randomly selected words which are inserted to camouflage the key spam-like words.

Can you do anything about the spam that gets through?

You could use the filtering feature in your email program to search for spam that gets through unflagged. SpamAssassin uses hundreds of carefully thought out tests. Our own individual efforts are likely to be cruder and to increase the likelihood of mistaking genuine messages for spam. This is discussed further on the LIS web pages.

You can reduce the unpleasant impact of the spam that gets through by preventing your email program from displaying images. There are good reasons for doing this in any case, quite apart from the offensiveness of some of the images.

The future

We are now at an early stage of email technology. Previous improvements in communications, such as the penny post, had some undesirable side-effects at first. The spam muddle will almost certainly be cleared up over the next few years, and we just have to grin and bear it for now. It has at least given us a few moments of amusement along the way, such as the fantastic offers of untold wealth, if only we will reveal all our bank account details, and, for lovers of the surreal, the bizarre lists of words which so often accompany spam messages.

Prize double for St Andrews Don

St Andrews lecturer and Dundonian poet Don Paterson has won two prestigious poetry awards in less than a month.

January saw Paterson - a School of English lecturer on the popular creative writing courses - collect the T S Eliot Prize and the 2003 Whitbread Prize for Poetry with his fourth collection, "Landing Light". Don is the third member of the School of English to win the Whitbread Prize for Poetry, since previous winners include both Professor Douglas Dunn (who went on to win the overall Whitbread Book of the Year award in 1985) and John Burnside, who won the Whitbread Prize for Poetry in 2000.

This year's Whitbread judges praised Paterson's "dazzling authority", confirming his status as one of the best poets writing today. Meanwhile, T S Eliot Prize judges hailed Paterson's collection as the best published in Britain and Ireland in 2003,

and his "most accomplished and spiritual collection to date."

Paterson (40), who left school at 16 to become a musician and did not begin training himself in the craft of poetry until his 20s, has won golden opinions from critics since his first volume, "Nil Nil", burst upon the literary scene in 1993. That book won the Forward Prize for best first collection and a Scottish Arts Council book award, and its successor scooped the T S Eliot Prize and the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Award. As well as teaching on the University's highly successful M Litt in Creative Writing, Paterson edits the poetry list for Picador and continues to play guitar with his successful band, Lammas. He has also written plays for stage and radio.

"Landing Light" is a rich and varied collection of poems, ranging from the lyrical 'Waking with Russell', which movingly evokes the smile of his four-day-old son to 'The Forest of Suicides', a

visceral rendering of the thirteenth canto of Dante's Inferno. One poem, 'The Box', is a homage to Paterson's guitar, whose lines on the page themselves form the shape of a guitar. Others explore the Scottish landscape and the Scots tongue. But the collection consistently looks outward - in conversation with the work of Rilke, Cavafy, and even Plutarch - as well as inward to the most intimate experiences of love, family, and memory. Professor Robert Crawford, Head of the School of English said, "As anyone who attended his recent St Andrews public lecture in The Poetry House series will know, Don is unerring in his sense of what makes a poem work. His own verse has a sophisticated fluency, a combination of finesse, profundity, and daring that is utterly remarkable. We're very fortunate to have on the permanent staff of the St Andrews School of English such an internationally distinguished team of creative writers - one that includes John Burnside, Douglas Dunn, Kathleen Jamie, A L Kennedy and Don Paterson. At a time when creative writing is the fastest growing aspect of English Studies, these colleagues, who teach the subject at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, confirm the pre-eminence of St Andrews as one of the world's leading universities in this field."



Food and Drink

**A tale of two cities...
(or what the Dickens can you get
for a tenner at lunchtime)**

by A. Vocado

Armed with nothing more than a biro and scrap of paper, this novice roving gastronome accepted the challenge of doing the very first restaurant review for 'The StAndard'. Clearly influenced by the last RAE exercise and the value placed on benchmarking by SHEFC, the thought of not one (but two) free lunches prompted me to do a comparative review of a couple of cultured, culinary centres of excellence – The Byre in St Andrews and the Dundee Contemporary Arts Centre (DCA) in neighbouring Dundee. So, was this a academic collaboration made in taste heaven?

The Menu

With 5 colleagues at The Byre for a Friday lunch, I opted for a starter of 'Spicy Chorizo Sausage with Onion, Potato and Black Olives' (£4.50) from the new "small dishes" menu. This was followed by a main dish of 'Smoked Salmon Penne Pastas with Lemon and Parsley Cream, served with bread basket' (£4.95). The starter was rather oily but very tasty. The seafood pasta had a nice bite to it with just the right amount of fragrant lemon. Pretty good food I'd say, but the whole meal took 1.5 hours and we ran out of time for coffee. At no time were the expectations of the table set with regard to possible timing of food arrival. Hmm...

On a solo working lunch at the DCA the following Monday, I chose the soup of the day, a winter-warming 'Lentil and Coconut' with bread (£2.95). Served piping hot and thick, it perhaps was a little bland and would have required a serious helping of black pepper to make it complete. To follow, I chose a 'Thai Green Vegetable Curry, Scented Basmati Rice with Minted Yoghurt' (£7.25). Earlier diners had exhausted supplies of



my first two choices, warm tempura squid salad or chicken caesar salad, but even as a third option it tasted good – the vegetables remained sufficiently crunchy in a medium thai sauce and the fragrant mint shone through the yoghurt accompaniment. I was served with a friendly promptness and a minimum of fuss.

Scores on the Doors

Quality of Food – With richer tastes, The Byre gets 4 out of 5. The spicy chorizo and lemony seafood pasta were pretty damn fine. A slight blandness, perhaps lack of seasoning, drops the DCA back to 3.5 out of 5 on an otherwise impressive menu. Just get there before 2pm if you want a full choice!

Service – Unobtrusive efficiency brings the DCA in at 4/5, the impractical delays and invisible communication to twitchy customers at The Byre result in a miserly 2/5 I'm afraid. If you do go there, don't expect to be on time for your 2.00 meeting with the Vice-Principal!

Atmosphere – A difficult call between the

two venues, perhaps down to a matter of personal taste. I love the cosmopolitan feeling, light and connected spaces within the DCA (3/5) but perhaps the more intimate "architecturally interesting" and bustling Byre wins this time (4/5). Certainly both have merits.

Value for Money – By no means a one horse race, not even a photo-finish would separate these two mares. Decent food at a reasonable price. The Byre 'small dishes' are a tad pricey, but you get good value on some of the mains. The DCA is good, but again not spectacular. Neck-in-neck I'm afraid on 3/5 each.

And the winner is?

With 13.5 out of a possible 20, the DCA in Dundee just shades it. The extra 40 minutes travelling time is worth it to expand your horizons beyond St Andrews. Besides, if The Byre (13/20) is busy, you could easily have spent longer than that waiting on your main course to arrive. Worth the 80p bridge toll for a working lunch at the DCA? Definitely.

Staff Savings

University staff can now benefit from discounts at more local shops, restaurants and hotels than ever before.

The staff discount scheme, launched in January 2003, has just been extended to include local solicitors and a number of other businesses. The list will be reviewed in December.

How to claim your discount:

- Ensure that you are making a purchase from a shop/business listed below
- Produce your current Staff ID card at point of purchase
- The retailer will discount the price as per their negotiated rate.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Human Resources on telephone 01334 463096 or email Humres@st-andrews.ac.uk.

Happy Shopping!

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The Balaka offer, at a fixed price, a Two course eat as much as you like for a party of 10 at a cost of £12.95 per person (this offer excludes drinks)

IDEAL CLEANERS

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10% discount on in house dry cleaning



Aurora magic

Eagle-eyed student Nicholas Dunstone captured the magnificent auroral activity in Scotland late last year, from the magnificent setting of St Salvator's Quad. Keen photographer Nicholas captured this previously unpublished photo on a clear night in November.

The Fourth year Astrophysics student knew the aurora was expected, thanks to advance warning from the website: www.spaceweather.com which generates

information from space observatories placed between the Earth and the Sun.

He said: "Auroras are caused by the excitation of charged particles in the Earth's atmosphere by material violently ejected from the Sun during a Coronal Mass Ejection or solar flare, several of which hit the Earth during October and November 2003."

Photography buffs might be interested to know that Nicholas took his stunning image with an Olympus OM-1 camera with 28mm lens, on Fuji ISO 400 film using an exposure of about 30 seconds.

StAnza 2004: A Celebration of Poetry in St Andrews this Spring

by Louisa Gairn
Press Officer, StAnza

StAnza: Scotland's Poetry Festival has, since 1998, been one of the highlights of the St Andrews cultural calendar, each year attracting an impressive array of literary superstars to the town. This Spring's festival (18th – 21st March) looks set to continue the trend, with the likes of Derek Walcott, Wendy Cope, Tony Harrison, Louis de Bernières, Anne Michaels, U A Fanthorpe and Piotr Sommer, not forgetting the UK's leading children's poet Kit Wright, headlining the four day 'celebration of poetry' – proof of StAnza's international outlook and breadth of appeal.

Of course, St Andrews has its own pantheon of respected writers, some of whom will be appearing at this year's festival – including award-winning poets Kathleen Jamie and Robert Crawford, critic Neil Corcoran (all of the School of English), who will be 'Talkin' Bob Dylan' with Canadian poet Stephen Scobie, and Peter Read (Dept of French) who will deliver the 2004 StAnza Lecture on concrete poetry. Indeed, the University continues to be a staunch supporter of StAnza along with other poetic ventures, having recently designated one of its buildings The Poetry House, making it the largest non-library building devoted to the reading and writing of poetry in Britain – and one of the many top-class venues for this year's festival.

With StAnza 2004 featuring Poetry and Art and Poetry and the Sea as its twin themes, a raft of poets and artists will be found amongst the big international names. Dundee poet John Glenday and artist Reinhard Behrens will mount a special exhibition, Burns: 'Out of his Box', which should prove an entertaining look at the life of Scotland's bard. The internationally acclaimed artist Will MacLean will be talking about the crossover between poetry and art in his own work, whilst Stornoway artist/poet Ian Stephen will sail into St Andrews Harbour to participate in the Poetry Boats exhibition, along with two historic vessels from the Scottish Fisheries Museum. The art highlight of the festival, though, is likely to be Elizabeth Ogilvie's specially commissioned installation 'The Meaning of Water' featuring text by Douglas Dunn of the University's School of English.

The festival's headliners, however, are sure to attract the biggest audiences, and many will be making the trip to St Andrews specially to hear Louis de Bernières, the best-selling author of 'Captain Corelli's Mandolin', talking about how poetry has informed his writing, reading a selection of favourite poems and sharing some of his own verse – an exclusive for those attending the festival. Similarly, the opportunity to hear Wendy Cope is a real delight. That rare phenomenon – a poet who sells by the lorryload and is critically acclaimed – her first collection went straight into the bestseller lists and in 1998 she was the listeners' choice in a BBC Radio 4 poll for Poet Laureate. Another StAnza headliner is Britain's leading theatre and film poet, Tony Harrison who has written for the National Theatre, New York Metropolitan



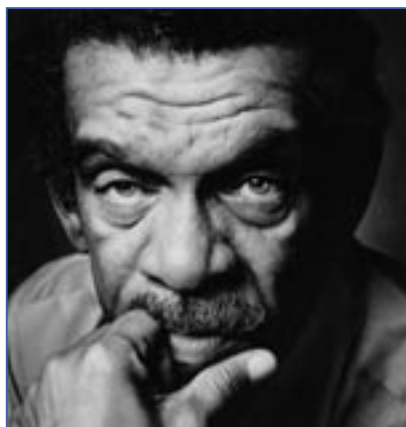
Elizabeth Ogilvie's installation 'The Meaning of Water'

Opera and for both the BBC and Channel 4. Harrison forges his own individual response to these dark times through his hard hitting and sardonic, but always uniquely powerful poetry.

Undoubtedly the festival's highlight is Caribbean-born poet and playwright, Derek Walcott. The second Nobel Prize winner to headline StAnza, he is widely considered as one of the most important poets writing in English today. His most recent work, *Tiepolo's Hound*, was hailed by Andrew Marr as 'the mighty poem of a major poet in the full flight of his authority and curiosity.' His reading is likely to be both resonant and moving, and a fitting occasion to close the festival.

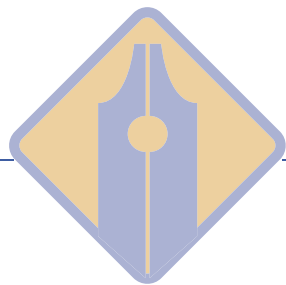
As Directors Brian Johnstone and Anna Crowe said, "We feel this is the most exciting and wide ranging StAnza yet. It covers more aspects of poetry than the festival has done before and shows poetry interacting with other art forms and different environments in new and engaging ways. On top of that it is the most international StAnza yet, with poets coming from no less than five different countries plus three of the UK nations. With such a strong and diverse programme we are confident StAnza 2004 will truly be a celebration of poetry."

StAnza 2004: Scotland's Poetry Festival takes place in St Andrews, Thursday 18th – Sunday 21st March. Tickets are now available from the Byre Theatre Box Office, telephone 01334 475 000. Free programmes are available from Fife Council Arts Development, telephone 01592 414 714, e-mail arts.development@ffe.gov.uk or at various locations around the town.



Some of the headliners at this year's Festival, Louis de Bernières (Top) Derek Walcott (Left), and Wendy Cope (below).





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Dear Editors,

I retired from the University on 29 Feb 2004, 32 years to the day since giving my first lecture to what was then the 2nd BSc class in Physiology! I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and friendship over the years. It is much appreciated.

My wife and I will be moving to Chicago where I will be taking up a Visiting Professorship in Cell Biology at Northwestern University. If you should visit the Windy City, look us up and we'll show you the sights!

Our new addresses:

Cell Molecular Biology,
Feinberg School of Medicine,
Northwestern University,
303 East Chicago Avenue,
Chicago, IL 60611
USA
001-312-503-4215

and

Apt 902A
McClurg Court Center,
333 East Ontario,
Chicago IL, 60611
USA

Best wishes
Eric Flitney

Amidst the babble of talk about the funding of the British universities it may easily be forgotten that these are, in general, privileged institutions; and among the Scottish universities St Andrews enjoys an enviable position. Anyone disposed to doubt this would do well to make a tour of sister institutions.

It was once common among the privileged to make provision for the less fortunate; and to that end schools, colleges, universities, parishes and libraries, not to mention individuals and families, have taken on projects involving the support of fellow communities in deprived conditions.

With these thoughts in mind, I propose that members of the University of St Andrews, and the University itself, adopt one or more support projects. If staff were willing to give even 0.25% of their after tax incomes to a fund established and administered for that purpose this would provide considerable benefit. Such a fund would also be liable to recover tax via charitable covenants.

This, then, is an invitation to the University and to its members to take up that proposal. I hope it will be accepted. The likelihood of this would be increased by the matter being put on the agenda of Schools, Faculty Councils, the Management Group and the Court.

Yours faithfully,
Professor John Haldane
School of Philosophical and
Anthropological Studies

Firstly let me congratulate the University on its foresightedness and caring philosophy in the development of the StAndard. I am sure that we all wish it the success it deserves. Clearly in an environment dedicated to Teaching and Research in which the academics strive to communicate their interests and enthusiasm we have to consider every avenue for discussion. Following on from the achievements of the Friday memo – which is a great time saver for me at least – we can look forward to similar developments here.

I thought it worth commenting on the equality seminars. This was a very pleasant way to spend a couple of hours and once again we can see that St Andrews is in the forefront – I don't know of any colleagues in other universities who have been lucky enough to have this opportunity. It certainly was an eye opener to me to discover that 'lady' is now a pejorative expression and that I should call all my gender changing friends/colleagues transpeople. Unfortunately we didn't have time to discuss how we deal with the toilet arrangements for transpeople in detail but I think the StAndard an ideal forum to raise the issue of the University adopting unisex toilets throughout. On another note I was disappointed that we didn't have time to explore the Scottish/English interaction – partly because the seminar was run by an English company I suspect this nuance was a little outside their customary area.

Yours sincerely
Prof J Derek Woollins
School of Chemistry

Preservation is not Enough: A Proposal for Enhancement

By John Haldane, Professor of Philosophy

It is commonly said of St Andrews that it is a place of beauty.

This is often a compliment to its natural setting, with open skies arcing over the reaches of the bay, and ancient rock and cliff yielding to the changing rhythms of the waves. At the same time visitors are generally struck by the pleasing combination of natural and built environments: the ruined grandeur of the Cathedral and Priory standing bare to the elements; crowstep-gabled cottages gathered in against the wind; the broad thoroughfares interlinked with narrow cobbled lanes; and the church towers etched against the sky. There is also the scholarly dignity of Deans Court, the quizzical posture of the Roundel, the charm of the courtyards to the south of South Street, the sad ruination of Blackfriars juxtaposed with the aspiring frontage of Madras College, and other evocative sights besides.



John Haldane's vision of a fountain in St Salvator's Quad

Here and there within the midst of all of this stands, physically, historically and socially, the University. Its contributions to the architectural distinction of the old town are obvious enough. They are, principally, the harmonious South Street complex of St Mary's College (1539-41) to the west, Parliament Hall (1612-43) to the north, and the Library extension (1889-1959) - now Psychology wing - to the east; and the North Street set of the Collegiate Church of St Salvator, Gate Tower and tenement (1450-60), and beyond it the west block (1683-90) containing the Hebdomadar's Room, and to the east and north the College buildings (1829-31 and 1845-6, respectively). There are other smaller and oft-reworked jewels associated within the University: St John's House in South Street, (15th, 17th, 18th,

19th and 20th centuries), St Leonard's Chapel (remodelled c. 1512), and the 'Admirable Crichton's House' (16th century), but the principal architectural benefactions of the University to the town are the North and South Street college complexes. I have not mentioned the Younger Graduation Hall (1923-9) and the Student Union (1972) and prefer to leave it for readers to determine what might be said of these.

It could hardly have passed unnoticed that the list of contributions dates mostly from the late middle-ages to the nineteenth century, and this fact raises two questions: first, whether in the second half of the twentieth century the University was sufficiently

attentive to its role as principal architectural patron; and second, how it might now hope to enhance the built environment of St Andrews. The main in-town developments since 1950 are the Buchanan Building (1964) and the University Library (1972-6) both of which are essentially functional solutions to practical needs rather than exercises in collegiate architecture. It is worth saying that given the conditions obtaining at the times of their creation both could have been much worse in design and building quality. As it is, the first has the merit of being more or less unnoticeable from the street, while the second has the virtue of truth-to-function, looking to be what it is, namely, several stories of book cases.

OPINION

The simple fact is that the expansion of the University was (and continues to be) achieved without any great endowment or enhancement in its funds. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that in modern times it has been unable to give thought to the aesthetic improvement of the town. But this state of affairs cannot long continue without the charge of philistinism beginning to arise. The University is audibly proud of the distinction of its teaching and research, of its place in various national and international rankings, and of its appeal to well-qualified students from around the world. But the first and last are mortal resources, and approval of what is currently approved of is no substitute for determining to do what is right on its own account.

The time is (over)due for the University to address the matter of its material contribution to the environment of the town of St Andrews. It should aim to devise one or more projects whose products will outlast the generations of those managing, teaching and studying in the University now, and among these projects should be an enhancement of the built environment. The scope for extensive building is limited by the want of plots, funds and needs. In town there are large sites to the north of the library and to the west of Castlecliffe (1869) but the cost of developing these would be very great and would only be justified by major projects for which there is currently no general call. (The exception is the need of a University art gallery and museum but, important though this is, I set it aside for now).

It would be easy to use the excuse of a lack of means and demand as grounds for postponing the day when the University will set about making a significant

architectural contribution, but that overlooks other possibilities. In particular there is the matter of enhancement of existing sites. Landscaping offers one means of pursuing this, and although the University has made some progress on this front it has been too willing to limit itself to the maintenance of existing plantings rather than creating new schemes. But in any case landscaping is at best a complement to building in stone and not a substitute for it.

It is necessary to take account of the funding difficulties affecting St Andrews along with other British universities (and anticipating the possibility that this will worsen for Scottish institutions as a result of different funding and income patterns north and south of the border), but also to remember that St Andrews already has some significant architectural settings, and that its current students and friends are probably better placed

than their counterparts in past decades to contribute to projects that are both inspiring and realistic. With these points in mind I would like to propose that a scheme be taken up and pursued by the University for completion by the time of the sixcentennial celebration of its formal establishment in 1413/4. (The 1412 charter of Bishop Wardlaw was confirmed by a series of Papal Bulls issued by Benedict XIII in 1413 and promulgated by him in February 1414).

Where then to focus such an effort? The oldest University buildings are the original St Salvator's set. It is generally agreed that the most impressive element of these is Bishop Kennedy's Tower. Rising up above the main entrance to the College it faces in four directions three of which are to the world beyond and one is inward to the place of learning. Its plainness (some might say "austerity") is offset by the bays of the chapel seen on



A birds-eye view of St Salvator's Quadrangle and surrounding area

the North Street side and by the cloister and view across to the College buildings as one enters through the gateway. Here, though, there is a problem.

In 1827 visiting Royal Commissioners judged that the Common Hall and School of Bishop Kennedy's original 15th century design were "entirely ruinous and incapable of repair". Their dilapidation meant that nothing could be done other than demolish them and build anew. In 1828 a set of plans by Robert Reid, King's Architect for Scotland, was approved by the Commissioners and the following year building began on the east wing and was completed two years later. What we see today is in fact something of an assemblage of different ideas more or less linked by a somewhat Jacobean look. Reid's north section of the east wing was extended in the twentieth century (1904-6) while the north range (1845-6) is by William Nixon who also added the arched cloister (1848) to the College side of the church. Nixon saw himself as working within a design established by his predecessor, but while the result is not a failure nor yet is it a great success. The most obvious weakness is the point in the northeast corner of the quad where the two ranges converge, for although the blocks are architecturally related they are not fully integrated and as a result the meeting of the two is visually unresolved. The passage of the two wings north and east is simply arrested rather than merged into a new upward movement; where one might have expected a low tower or other prominent vertical feature there is simply a meeting of roof lines.

The area of the quad is large, but because of the scale and form of the chapel, tower and hebdomadar block, the prospect from the north combine openness with visual interest. The first view the visitor is likely to face, however, is of the north and east as seen from the area adjacent to the former porters' lodge entered from beneath the tower. Certainly the College halls are impressive but to left and right there is an absence of prominent or skyline features. The view through to lower college lawn and University

House is eye-catching but architecturally low-key, while to the right there is the unresolved northeastern corner.

One architectural 'improvement' would be the erection of a tower at the junction of the two blocks but this is fraught with all sorts of difficulties. Another innovation, which I believe would be much preferable, would be the creation of a tall fountain in the middle of the lawn. This could be approached by diagonal pathways leading from the four corners of the quad. These could be cobble edged (as indeed should be the existing driveway). Such pathways would very aptly introduce the saltire into the ground plan and add visual interest by increasing the movement to and fro within the quad. More importantly, a fountain would provide a point of considerable architectural and symbolic importance in the heart of the university. The flow of water would also bring animation to an otherwise featureless expanse and serve as a designed counterpart to the natural movement of the sea beyond.

The question of what sort of design would be most apt is a large one. St Salvator's chapel is in late Scottish Gothic with some Victorian additions. The College buildings owe something to the Jacobean and to the classical. In this

context it would be necessary to work again within a recognisable historical tradition perhaps adding a further mediating style. With that in mind I offer a view of a possible design intended more to give the impression of how a fountain might improve the quad rather than as a specific recommendation. These show a three-tier crown fountain based on the French Gothic design of the Stewart Memorial Fountain (1872) in Kelvingrove Park, Glasgow.

With a new millennium having begun, and the six century celebration in prospect, the installation of a fountain would be a particularly timely project and one for which external funds might be especially forthcoming. Such an initiative might also serve as an encouragement to the civic authorities to restore to working order the George Whyte-Melville memorial fountain in Market Street – and perhaps even to recreate the old Mercat Cross which stood nearby from the middle ages until its removal in 1768. Then future generations of University staff, students, townsfolk and visitors and might have further reason to look with appreciation around St Andrews at what the past has bequeathed to them. How better to celebrate six hundred years of the University than to create something of beauty that might survive for as many centuries again?

John Haldane is Professor of Philosophy in the School of Philosophical and Anthropological Studies (of which he was formally Head). For some years he was a visiting lecturer in the School of Architecture of the University of Westminster.

Excellence – who pays?

The ‘top-up’ fees debate

By Dr Brian Lang
Vice-Principal and Chancellor

Tam Dalyell (St Andrews Hon DLitt 2001) drew attention, famously, to the ‘West Lothian Question’ during the Westminster debates on devolution. How could it be, he asked, that MP’s representing Scottish constituencies in the House of Commons should be able to vote on matters affecting England when their English colleagues had limited influence in Scotland? But it came to pass. Scottish MP’s at Westminster recently ‘saved’ foundation hospitals in England, and have now carried Mr Blair’s Higher Education Bill, too. MP’s representing Scottish constituencies at Westminster have voted into English universities, a source of funding that is denied to those institutions’ Scottish competitors. While we must await the outcome of the Committee stages of the Bill, because further wrangling over its detail is still going on, we can anticipate the introduction in England of the so-called ‘top-up fees’, those variable tuition fees whose payment is postponed until after graduation.

The stakes were high in England, high enough for this Bill to top the list of legislation in the Queen’s Speech, and for Mr Blair to say he was putting his career on the line to get its measures enacted. For Scotland, indeed for the UK, the divergence of policy for higher education arguably represents the first major going of separate ways for the two sides of the border. In England, we can observe a Prime Minister intent on putting higher education on an entirely different kind of ideological footing – the recipients of university education paying a substantial part of its cost in a market for universities and courses. This could also mean a loosening of the state’s bonds on a far better funded higher education sector, the research-intensive part of it (the part most like St Andrews) at any rate. In Scotland, we have to hope that the state will continue to provide. There will be no-one else that can provide for universities on the scale we require if we are to stay competitive with the best English universities, and not least Berkeley, Stanford, Harvard and Princeton (from each of which St Andrews has recently recruited staff).



Dr Brian Lang

Higher tuition fees paid by students do not figure in the Scottish debate because they are ruled out by all parties. A realistic graduate tax is out of Scotland’s reach because taxation is an activity reserved to the Westminster parliament. The ‘Cubie endowment’ is presently set on terms that could take a generation to benefit universities and even then with limited impact. A more lucrative engagement with commerce and industry will take years to develop, particularly bearing in mind that the mood of ministers is that Scottish universities should play a strong role in improving the economy and not vice versa. Fundraising on a US scale will take generations to develop, albeit we are getting better at it. To whom can we turn?

The Deputy First Minister, Jim Wallace, was admirably quick to note that his November 2003 speech in Edinburgh on university funding had been badly received (he said the case had not been made for more). He was also admirably quick to take advantage of the small scale of the higher education sector in Scotland by having the Scottish Principals to lunch within three weeks of the speech. The Scottish Principals sat round a table with him, he reaffirmed his belief in our universities, and undertook to do his best for us in the spending round.

Since then, Gordon Brown has underlined that times will be tough for public expenditure. Nevertheless, the way in which English universities will most likely benefit from up-front payments from the

public purse (to be repaid by students after graduation) could mean significant funds flowing to Scotland under the Barnett formula. The First Minister has pointedly not ruled out more funds being paid by Scottish graduates into the Cubie endowment scheme. Those sources, welcome though they would be, are unlikely to provide for all of the universities’ needs. . So if the universities in Scotland need to ask for more public money, then we need to be much better at explaining to the taxpayer why we deserve it. Universities Scotland, our ‘trade association’, has submitted a considered and persuasive case for higher public spending on our universities. The recently-published review of higher education confirms that more money is needed. We cannot take for granted, though, that universities will be given priority among the other necessary publicly-funded areas such as healthcare, schools and law and order.

At St Andrews, we want to be valued for our excellence in research and teaching and for the benefits these bring to Scotland. The way we care for our students means a tiny dropout rate. Those are the measures that make us the most successful university in Scotland, the only Scottish university that is regularly included among the UK top 10. We are doing a great deal, despite the geographical disadvantages we face, to increase the diversity of our student body. We are also taking some painful steps to ensure that we run ourselves on a genuinely financially sustainable basis. We need to be confident, however, that we are bringing students to St Andrews, no matter their backgrounds, to a university that is as good as any similar institution anywhere in the world, and certainly as good as anywhere south of the border. Otherwise, what is the point of Scottish universities? We want to offer access on the basis of equal opportunity, but to an excellent university and not to a second rate university. Excellence means continuing investment and if that means higher public spending on universities, then that is the route Scotland seems to have chosen. But is more taxpayers’ money really the only way forward?

How not to widen access...

By Derek MacLeod
President, Students Association

Tony Blair is well known for his enthusiasm and drive to make Higher Education more attractive to students from socially deprived areas. However, the Higher Education Bill which scraped through in the vote at Westminster earlier this year has undone much of the good work achieved in this field.

Funding for students is an incredibly important issue that is considered before deciding to embark on a path that will often lead to debts of over £15,000 on completion of an undergraduate course. The knowledge that this already large debt is going to increase by up to £6,000 for some students is certainly not going to attract students from less well off backgrounds into Higher Education (HE).

What makes this even more unacceptable for many is the fact that it was Scottish MPs who effectively voted it through. Whatever your take on the 'West Lothian question', Scottish MPs ignored the message from Holyrood, which was clearly voiced in the Scottish Solutions Enquiry, and voted through a Bill that has damaging consequences for Scotland. The Scottish Solutions report pointed out many of the damaging effects that the Bill would have on Scotland including the 'Brain Drain' (staff moving to where there would be better salaries and better facilities) and Scottish institutions losing any competitive edge that they currently have when it comes to attracting research funding. Had Scottish MPs not voted at Westminster, this Bill would have fallen, and similarly, if they were going to vote, they owe it to their constituents and the MSPs representing the same areas, to vote against the Bill. By following the party whip, they let down

their constituents – the very people that they are meant to represent. Many say that we will benefit from the Barnett Formula due to the funding increase created by the Bill but the honest answer is that we do not know how that will affect HE in Scotland. If it were to work as it traditionally has done, then Scotland may gain but it would only be in minimal compared to gains elsewhere in the UK. However, it is not clear whether the Barnett Formula will provide a solution and thus is something that Scottish HE cannot rely upon.

So what do we do now? Well, the Bill has still to go through many more tough stages in committees and so it remains to be seen exactly what the final document will look like. We, however, do not believe that the Bill will change dramatically and that St Andrews will start to fall behind its main competitors quickly unless the Scottish Executive (and Jim Wallace in particular) face up to the problem. HE in this country needs extra funding if it is to remain one of the nation's economic driving forces. If St Andrews were to drop down the much maligned league tables, and the standard of students choosing to come and study here were to dramatically decline, then we fear that many of the able applicants to St Andrews would disappear, a scene undoubtedly repeated throughout the country. This would damage the Scottish economy with many able students migrating south, not to return.

With this possible shift towards an American system of HE, pressure should be put on the University to do everything it can to instil a culture of philanthropic giving in its students and alumni. In this

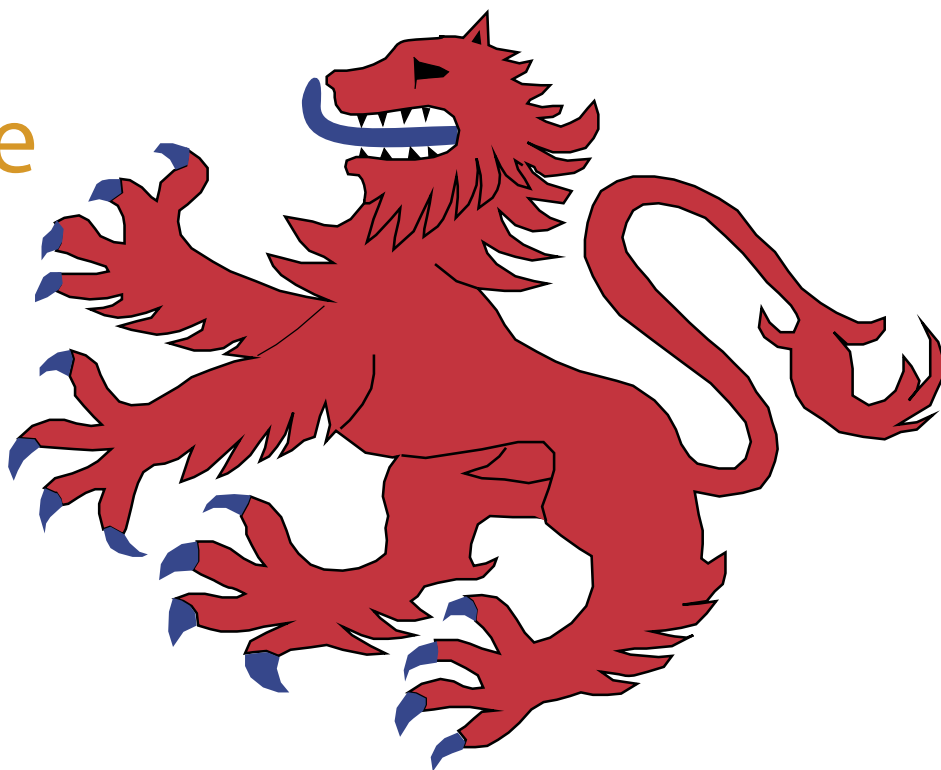


Derek MacLeod

way, students will eventually be able to study here purely due to academic ability through the increased scholarships that are able to be offered by the institution.

Many other suggestions though have been made to minimise the negative effects of the Bill, such as campaigning against variable fees and research groups across Scottish institutions teaming together to bid for contracts. These all have to work alongside each other to help Scottish HE institutions from falling dramatically behind. The fear that many have is that the only way that Scotland will be able to compete in the long-term is to bring in tuition fees as well. The current First Minister has spoken against this numerous times, but few have faith that in the long term HE will remain open for those that have the academic ability to go; instead, it will turn into a place only open for those that can pay. We need to make sure that just because a bad decision has been made down south, it is not repeated here!

Whither the Staff Club?



“The object of the Club shall be to foster social activities among its members” (Constitution of the St. Andrews University Staff Club, December 1980).

Over lunch, two University lecturers chat, one a “scientist”, the other an “artist”. The scientist has attracted record numbers to her course, which focuses on early scientific observation and debate, and has come to a halt in her researches into work done during the eleventh century. “How dark were the Dark Ages?” she asks her friend, a medieval historian. They separate half an hour later, both greatly enriched by their dialogue.

Where did this conversation take place? Where did this friendship develop between two teachers whose paths normally would not cross? In the Staff Club.

In the University of St. Andrews, an organisation with nearly two thousand employees, there is at present little opportunity for staff to mix informally with one another outwith their working environment. This has not always been the case, for from the 1960’s until the turn of the Millenium there was a Staff Club. Like the University, it evolved with time. Originally set up for academics only and based in the bowels of the Younger Hall, by the 1980’s it had grown to include in its membership all employees of the University. By this time, it had moved to Southgait on South Street and premises were shared with St. Leonards College, bringing in the postgraduate community.

This was a rich time, both for University fortunes and for the Staff Club. In its town centre position, attracting staff from the North Haugh to the Gatty Laboratory and from all the town centre departments in between, the Club provided a meeting place and a haven of tranquillity in an increasingly hectic University life. Many new friendships were forged there and, at lunch time, you could hear discussions taking place between chemists and librarians, economists and technicians, physicists and French scholars. Retired staff continued to contribute to academic endeavour through their contacts in the Club, and could frequently be heard discussing research with, and encouraging, younger staff and post-graduates. Staff Club premises hosted the celebration of “big” birthdays and anniversaries, and the staff Scottish Country Dance classes had their origins here too. During the long vacation, members of the University Summer Schools used the club. It was a hive of activity, and the use of Southgait by so many different groups highlighted the richness of University life. With the sale of

Southgait, the Club lost its premises and its activities ceased. However, the Staff Club as an entity has not died. It still has a “Committee-in-Waiting” which is of the opinion that a Staff Club should not only exist, but that it could also pay its way.

After many years spent working for the University of St. Andrews, there are staff with whom I have communicated by letter, telephone and e-mail but have never met face to face. Such meetings could take place informally in a Staff Club, enriching and easing the dialogue of the work place. It is only by communication that we can expand our perspectives. Communication encourages cross-fertilisation of ideas and allows new concepts to be born. A Staff Club would provide the crucible in which collegiality could flourish.

The Red Lion is an anonymous viewpoint from a member of the University community – if you would like to contribute to a future RL, email: magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk

Focus On Cancer Research

St Andrews is emerging as a leading light in cancer research.

New methods which may help prove that eating high-fibre foods such as strawberries, lentils and soy and can help prevent or influence the treatment of breast cancer have been developed by our scientists.

Dr Margaret Ritchie, in collaboration with Professor Michael Steel (pictured right) and other colleagues in the Schools of Medicine and Chemistry, is the first scientist in the World to have developed methods of measuring the effects of chemicals called phyto-oestrogens on humans. These plant hormones – similar to the female sex hormone oestrogen – are found most commonly in soybeans and other high-fibre foods.



Dr Ritchie's work – which also involved Dundee's Ninewells Hospital and the Scottish Crop Research Institute - has been described as 'exceptionally important' and 'invaluable' by independent academics, and generated excitement at countless cancer conferences in America and Europe late last year.

Over at the Centre for Biomolecular Sciences (pictured right), Dr Malcolm White has been awarded part of a £4.6m funding package by a leading cancer research charity to go 'back to basics' in finding a cure for the disease.

Dr White has been awarded a three-year funding package to investigate the special DNA repair systems that all cells have to guard against damage to genes that can make them cancerous.



The funding, from the Association for International Cancer Research (AICR), will allow him to study how the repair system works in microscopic organisms, similar to bacteria found in volcanic pools (pictured below left), to better understand how the repair system works in human cells to prevent cancer.

To further strengthen our growth in the area, leading cancer specialists from across the UK have joined the Bute Medical School.

The three Professors, with wide-ranging expertise in the disease, were formally inducted at the St Andrew's Day Graduation and will pave the way for future important cancer studies. The three new Professors are Gerry Humphris, Andrew Riches and Simon Herrington. Their main research interests are orofacial cancer, cancer predisposition and cervical cancer respectively.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

The clever calls of nature

Biologists at St Andrews have discovered that birds are capable of recognising calls that other species use to warn each other about predators.

Not only that, but certain species are able to tell one warning call from another, learning to ignore those which did not indicate a danger to them.

The group found that wild hornbills recognised and responded to threatening noises from a potential predator as well as warning calls from other animals under threat from the same predator.



Hugo Rainey spent eighteen months in West Africa studying wild hornbills and their interaction with the Diana monkey, who shares a predator – the crowned eagle – with the hornbill. Hugo collaborated with fellow biologist Professor Peter Slater and primatologist Dr Klaus Zuberbühler.

The smell of love

Psychologists at St Andrews investigating the attractiveness of the opposite sex have found that, when it comes to long-term relationships, the scent of a partner is just as important as looks.

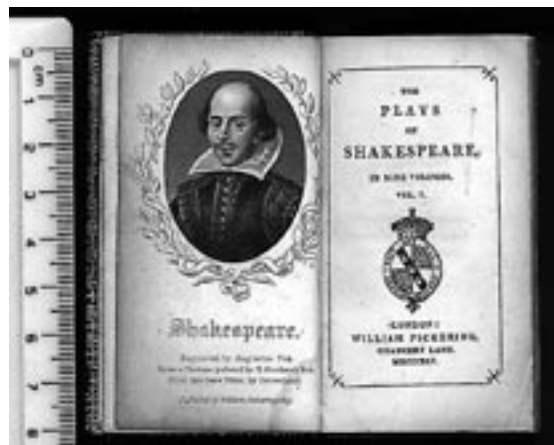
The researchers headed by R. Elisabeth Cornwell at the Perception Lab studied how much women and men were attracted to the looks and potential smell of possible partners, and found that both women and men tend to use both odour and visual signals when considering a partner for a committed relationship. It was not so consistent when they were asked to consider a brief affair or casual relationship.

The History Of Shakespeare

Four centuries after the first publication of Shakespeare's plays, a new book explores for the first time how different eras and different editors have presented his work to the reader.

Written by Dr Andrew Murphy, of the School of English, 'Shakespeare in Print' is the first ever book-length complete

history of Shakespeare publishing from the Renaissance through to the present. Utilising new archival material, it discusses the many different faces that Shakespeare has worn, from the first collected edition published in 1623 to the miniature Pickering edition of the 1820s (pic available) described by one reviewer as 'exclusively intended for sale in the kingdom of Lilliput, or for the benefit of opticians'.



The miniature Pickering

'Outstanding' recognition for historian

A University of St Andrews historian has been commended by a prestigious academic review journal for his "outstanding" book, beating off competition from thousands of other titles.

'The Swiss Reformation' by Dr Bruce Gordon, a Reader in Modern History, has been voted one of the Outstanding Academic Titles of 2003 by Choice magazine, the major review journal for American Academic libraries.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Openings

The University recently opened ...

CREEM (Centre for Research into Ecological and Environmental Modelling) is a new £1.3M research centre which will look at anything from the monitoring of wild animal populations to oceanic phenomena. It is the only research centre of its kind in the UK and spans the fields of ecological and environmental modelling. It specialises in wildlife survey techniques and modelling population dynamics.

CREEM is a collaboration between experts from three Schools: Mathematics and Statistics; Biology; and Geography and Geosciences and is headed up by Professor Steve Buckland.

ARCHE is a new £1.3 million AHRB Research Centre which will address fundamental questions in the philosophy of logic, language, mathematics and mind.

The centre is the only research centre of its kind in the World, and as well as addressing questions of philosophical importance, it will act as a training ground for young philosophers of the future.

Named Arché after the ancient Greek term for 'knowledge' or 'first principle', the Centre is funded by the AHRB (Arts and Humanities Research Board), and is the first AHRB Research Centre dedicated to the study of philosophy in the UK. It is directed by Professor Crispin Wright.

SDHI (Social Dimensions of Health Institute) is a joint initiative of the Universities of St Andrews and Dundee. Professor Paul Boyle, from the School of Geography and Geosciences, has been appointed Founding Director and is joined by Professor Huw Davies (St Andrews), Dr Martyn Jones (Dundee) and Dr Brian Williams (Dundee) as associate Directors and Karen Munro as the Research Administrator.

SDHI is an umbrella organisation which encompasses the variety of inter-disciplinary health-related research being conducted in both institutions and brings together leading social scientists, medical researchers and practitioners (nurses, midwives, allied health professionals, doctors, paramedics etc.) to tackle issues of widespread public and political concern.

The Research Centre for Environmental History is a St Andrews and Stirling joint research centre for environmental history, with special reference to the history of waste. Established in October 2002 with a grant of £900,000 from the Arts and Humanities Research Board (AHRB), the centre brings together historians, environmental scientists, ecologists, philosophers and economists from both institutions. Determined to address both cultural and biological diversity through time, the centre will focus on the theme of waste and wastelands for the next four years and is currently directed by Dr John Clark of the School of History.

Licensing Agreement For Vital Renal Research

The Universities of St Andrews and Edinburgh have announced a licensing and commercialisation agreement with an emerging pharmaceutical company to develop medicine for the treatment of acute kidney failure.

The researchers are working with NitroMed, Inc. a Massachusetts-based pharmaceutical company developing nitric oxide-enhancing medicines, used to treat renal failure.

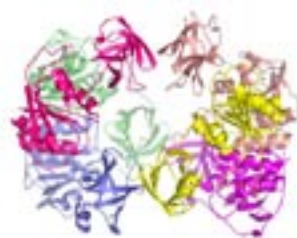
Dr Nigel Botting, of the School of Chemistry is leading the organic chemistry side of research, while the Pharmacology and Therapeutics element is being led by Dr. Ian Megson, in collaboration with Professor David Webb, of the University of Edinburgh.

Scientists clone novel enzyme

Scientists at the CBMS have cloned a unique environmentally friendly enzyme, which will open the doors to researchers around the World developing possible commercial and medical applications.

The researchers, led by Professor David O'Hagan in collaboration with colleagues and the University of Cambridge, have cloned and crystallised the World's first fluorinase enzyme, a biological catalyst which can be used to create compounds as diverse as Teflon and Prozac.

Indeed, the St Andrews researchers are currently investigating potential applications in diagnostic therapy with GlaxoSmithKline. There are real prospects of using the enzyme to make radiolabelled biochemicals for brain imaging applications, such as PET (Positron Emission Tomography) scans.



The fluorinase structure

From Butts Wynd to Vasant Vihar

The University has opened an admissions office in India in a bid to further diversify the overseas student community.

The office, in Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, aims to source the country's best students, focussing on lesser Indian states including Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka.

Addressing the intricacies of the Indian market, it will be an entirely different approach to recruitment drives in China, Korea and the US. And by establishing a base there, it should provide an efficient and more effective way of monitoring applications.

Few Indian students apply to St Andrews at present. However, in recent years, India has grown to become one of the largest markets to UK institutions.

It's hoped that the pilot venture - representing a modest, but strategically significant investment in the University's recruitment effort - will lead to an intake of 20-30 Indian students within two to three years, and ultimately encourage links with other institutions.

At present, around 20% of St Andrews students are from overseas, with over 1000 overseas undergraduates representing 90 different nationalities.

The office was established partly because of the increasing number of Indian students wishing to study in the UK - indeed, Indian banks offer preferential rates for loans to assist study in this country.

In a recent visit to India, Vice-Principal (External Relations) and Director of Admissions, Stephen Magee, addressed groups of up to 400 potential students at a time in major high schools in New Delhi and Gurgaon, and was hot on the heels of a recruitment officer for Warwick University.



Kurien Joseph



He said, "The New Delhi office can filter the deluge of multiple applications that can come from Indian students wishing to study in the UK.

"At present, our main mechanisms for attracting the best overseas students to St Andrews include direct approaches to schools and colleges and through the use of intermediaries around the world. This new office is a novel approach which, with the support of the British Council and the knowledge of the British Embassy, will officially represent the University of St Andrews in India and the Gulf States."

It will be a 'walk-in' service, run by Kurien Joseph, whose communications and management consultancy Komark Education Services is also negotiating with prestigious universities in the United States and Canada.

Kurien said, "India's massive numbers of bright, young, educated, English-speaking Indians are quite familiar with what it means to study in an institution of such eminence, because India herself has some of the best in the world, at least in the fields of technology and management. These young Indians are just waking up to the exhilarating prospect of studying in the

New Italian Initiative Launched



St Andrews language scholars have launched a unique new initiative aimed at establishing links with an ancient region in Italy.

The University will collaborate with the Region Basilicata, a small region in south Italy, to organise visits for twenty selected students

of Italian. It is a unique arrangement between the region and the Scottish university.

The initiative is open to first and second years and includes accommodation, a language course and excursions to the archaeological sites and artistic attractions of the region. The initiative was arranged by ELT and the Department of Italian.

world class University of St Andrews. Indian students see in St Andrews an attractive option – for many reasons. One, there just aren't enough seats in high-quality colleges in India for any discipline, and certainly not for the liberal arts and sciences. Two, with many of these disciplines – like History or Philosophy or Chemistry – in the Indian scene, young Indians do not see a future for themselves, even if they personally love their subject. Three, the idea of studying – and hence networking - in a multicultural “world campus” is very inspiring and exciting. Fourth, the sheer pace of life of Scotland in general, and St Andrews in particular, is just right for India's Gen-next – and their parents. No wonder, more and more students are beginning to call us or write to us asking about studying at St Andrews.

“I love our role of “exclusive admissions managers” to St Andrews in India and the Gulf States. I see our job as hand-picking the right students from India – from all disciplines – to take their part as world citizens. In addition to the University's own requirements, we look for certain special characteristics in potential students: a keen interest in something such as sport or the theatre, an openness to ideas and people from everywhere, and a clarity of vision. I visualise this new, confident generation of Indians making their own unique contribution to the St Andrews culture, to their country abroad and to the world.”

Kurien, together with his team, has already successfully recruited his first student, 21 year old Khushi Sadana from New Delhi, who is studying for an MLitt in International Business in the University's Centre for Business Education.

For more information, please visit <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/services/admissions/india.shtml> and <http://www.komark.net>.

Hot off the Press



A number of successful Scots have been revealed as this year's honorary degree recipients.

The June graduation will see the following individuals commended for their achievements and, in particular, their contribution to Scottish life -

Timothy Garton Ash - Historian, University of Oxford. One of Europe's leading commentators on the politics and society of central and eastern Europe – Doctor of Letters

Roger Crofts - Chief Executive, Scottish Natural Heritage – Doctor of Science

Robert Fisk - Journalist. Middle East Correspondent with The Independent – Doctor of Laws

Fred Goodwin - Chief Executive, Royal Bank of Scotland. Leading Scottish Businessman and influential UK banker – Doctor of Laws

Professor Roger Green - Dean, Manchester Medical School – Doctor of Science

Padre Gustavo Gutierrez - Writer and theologian. Known as the “father of liberation theology” – Doctor of Divinity

Professor Jean-Marie Lehn - Professor of Chemistry, Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg. Greatest French Chemist of the 20th Century – Doctor of Science

Sir Trevor McDonald – Newscaster – Doctor of Laws

Sir Tom McKillop - Chief Executive, Astra-Zeneca. Distinguished Scientist and businessman - Doctor of Sciences

Professor Fergus Millar - Camden Professor of Ancient History, University of Oxford. Pre-eminent Roman historian of his generation with long-standing links to the University of St Andrews - Doctor of Science

Cardinal Archbishop O'Brien - Cardinal Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh - Doctor of Divinity

Professor Linda Partridge - Weldon Professor of Biometry, University of London. Most eminent female evolutionary biologist in the UK and one of the most highly regarded worldwide – Doctor of Science

Professor Hilary Putnam - Professor of Philosophy at Harvard University. One of the leading philosophers alive today – Doctor of Letters

Professor Cheryl Tickle - Foulerton Research Professor of the Royal Society, University of Dundee. The foremost female developmental biologist in the UK and one of the most senior women in British biology – Doctor of Science

Results from the 2003 Staff Survey

As a follow-up to our first survey in 2001, a second Staff Survey was completed in October/November 2003. Hot off the press, here are our initial results. We asked 103 questions across a range of themes – and just under 50% of all university staff chose to have their say.

Highlights from the 2003 results are shown here. The full Survey results will be published in April and will contain more detailed analysis. This includes a direct comparison of the 2001/2003 results and a local Survey profile for each Unit and School.

An opportunity to discuss the results has been offered to each Unit/School – local sessions will be held during April and May. Please participate in the action-planning sessions to help the University improve our already excellent performance and reputation.

Message from the Principal

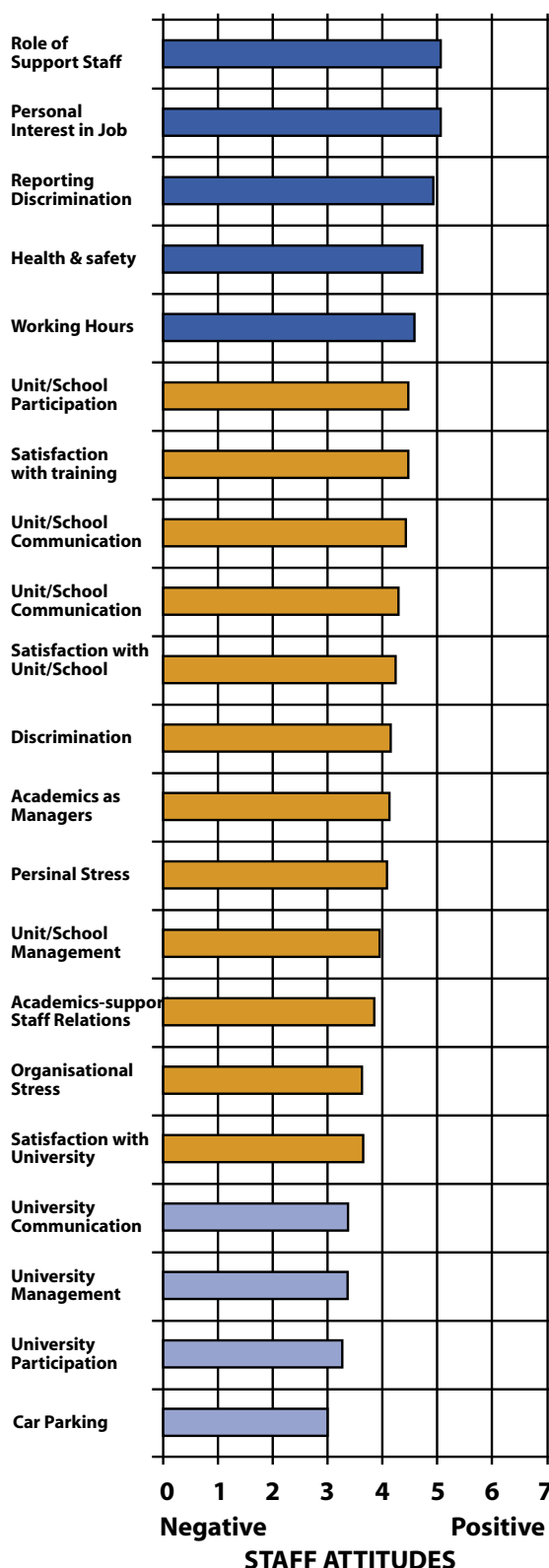
Our University is a successful institution. However, if we are to improve on the already good performance in research and teaching, everyone working for the University needs to be confident that they are valued, that their views are listened to and that they are being given accurate and reliable information about our future direction.

Our first staff survey, conducted in 2001/2, gave us valuable insights into the experiences of colleagues working together in this University. As part of our commitment to improve and develop, the attitudes of all staff were sought again last year through our second Staff Survey. I am pleased that so many of you took the time to express your views.

A summary of the key findings is presented here. These show a slight improvement, in levels of satisfaction about working in the University and the University as an employer. However, there is still considerable room for improvement. Over the coming months, I would like to involve as many staff as possible in discussing how we can make further progress in the areas you have highlighted. I am determined that we continue to take whatever action is appropriate to make the necessary changes. We also remain committed to consultation and will run further surveys in the future.

Thank you again – Brian Lang

Top level survey results - 21 Factors



Making Progress...

Preliminary results show that the responses to many individual questions asked in both our 2001 and 2003 Surveys are significantly more positive – further details will be available with the full Survey results

What's working well

Jobs are seen as interesting and satisfying

The role of support staff in enabling the core teaching and research functions is valued

Arrangements for handling discrimination are seen as effective

Health & safety and well-being at work are taken seriously

Staff welcome flexible working patterns where these are possible

What still needs improvement ?

Staff do not feel involved in the running of the University

Working stress may be an issue for some staff

Still some issues regarding lack of transparency of Principal's Office

University-wide communication could be better

Lack of car parking within the centre of town, particularly when travelling between sites

University gets the green light

In just over a year, the University's first ever environment manager has changed the way that many of us look at the day-to-day effects of environmental issues on our working lives.

Twenty-seven year old Inga Burton, originally from Orkney, has overall responsibility for the University's energy and environmental management systems.

Supported by the management group, her wide remit includes energy management, establishing a baseline for the future improvement and development of an Environment Strategy, raising awareness of environmental issues and the implementation of the University's 'travel plan'.

Committed to ensuring that the University can make continual improvements to reduce the level of impact on the environment, Inga's role has helped to develop an understanding of the potential impacts that can occur, and provide a baseline for future improvements. This covers a range of issues from energy to biodiversity, and assists in defining the policies of the University and the development of future strategies.

Inga spent most of last year devoted to the setting up of an Environmental Policy Statement as part of an Environment Strategy, which springs out of the results from the 2003 Environmental Review of Schools and Units.

Inga said, "Until recently, there has been little structure with regards to environmental related projects at the University. With the introduction of a new single policy covering issues like transport, energy and waste, efficiency can be dramatically improved."

Approved by the University Court in December 2003, the policy was drafted by an Environmental Task Group. This Task Group has now been expanded to include additional members for the implementation of the Strategy. There are representatives from



Inga Burton

the Principle's Office, Estates, Residential and Business Services, Environmental Health and Safety Services, Finance, Student Association, Student Support Services, Human Resources, Teaching and Research, Research, Enterprise Services and Development.

Inga continued, "I hope that through continual awareness and communication with both staff and students, I can encourage the entire University community to take more responsibility for their actions and create a range of new initiatives for the long-term benefit of the institution and the environment."

Over the last five years, the University has made progress in improving its efficiency in relation to energy consumption and, through undertaking an assessment of the progress made, it will be possible to identify further opportunities for improving efficiency throughout the University.

As part of the University's involvement with the Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability (HEPS) run by Forum for the Future and funded by the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council (SHEFC), the University has launched a new interdisciplinary first year module

on Sustainable Development. In bringing together contributions from Geography and Geosciences, Economics, Biology, Chemistry, International Relations, Divinity, Modern History and Estates, the module reflects the great breadth and relevance of sustainability concepts at local, national and global levels.

With a continued commitment to improving environmental education, Inga has embarked on a programme of communication, which will encompass various awareness raising schemes, with the aim of promoting environmentally sound practice. Promotions include car sharing, 'car free' days and cycle weeks – ways of encouraging staff and students to arrive at work or study in a more environmentally friendly manner.

David Loudon, Director of Estates said, "Owing to the nature of our business operations, the University is a significant consumer of scarce natural resources and therefore we aim to embrace best practice where possible in environmental management. "With the implementation of a single Environmental Strategy by the University, Inga has made a significant step towards meeting our immediate and longer term objectives."

Graduating with an Honours degree in Environmental Biology from Napier University in 1998, Inga obtained her MSc Environmental Management from Stirling University in 1999.

Prior to her appointment with the University, Inga spent nine months developing an Environmental Management System for Andrew Ltd based in Lochgelly, Fife, for which they gained accreditation to the international standard for Environmental Management Systems. She went on to work for Wren and Bell, a Structural and Civil Environmental Consultancy based in Edinburgh gaining experience in a range of areas including environmental, quality and health and safety management systems, environmental auditing and assessments, sustainable construction and training.

Environment Update



Early last year, all Heads of Schools and Units were asked to participate with Estates, reviewing environmental issues relating to the University, resulting in the development of an Environment Strategy.

The list of possible Environmental aspects focused on six main areas: Emissions to Air; Releases to Water; Contamination of Land; Waste Management; Use of Raw Materials and Natural Resources and Local Environmental and Community Issues.

A Register of Legislation has been devised and is stored on a web based database system, managed by Estates, along with the information collated from the review. The Register of Legislation has been devised providing information on all the environmental legislation and regulations applicable to the University, linking them to individual Schools and Units.

Stored on a web based database system, managed by Estates, a Register of Legislation has been devised providing information on all the environmental legislation and regulations applicable to the University.

The web-based database was used to obtain a level of environmental significance for the University. The results indicated that Emissions to Air, Releases to Water and Waste are the three most significant areas based on occurrence and legal requirements for St Andrews.

Get Recycling!

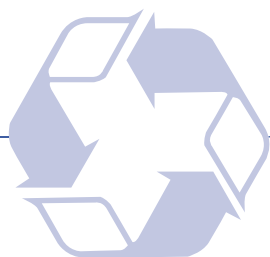
With a lack of data on the quantities of waste produced by the University, the amounts of waste disposed of can only be estimated.

To reduce our level of environmental impact, improve the facilities available for recycling, encourage individuals to recycle and contribute to the national targets for recycling in Scotland, the University is embarking on a recycling trial across 14 sites, which will subsequently be rolled out across the rest of the University.

In the first instance it is being proposed that paper and cardboard recycling be implemented within the trial sites and where possible facilities for glass, plastic, aluminium, and textiles be provided at various locations.

The following trial sites have been chosen in order to achieve a relatively even spread of sites from various geographical positions within St Andrews. Maths and Physics; Biomolecular Sciences; Harold Mitchell Building; Medieval History; Castlecliffe; McIntosh Hall; David Russell Hall and Fife Park; Estates; Student Association; Sports Centre; Library; College Gate; 79 North Street and the Bindery.

Initial meetings with cleaners and janitors have been undertaken, inspections of the trial sites are currently being undertaken to identify locations for bins both internally and externally and to ensure that the locations are in accordance with various Regulations. Further information will be issued once procedures and facilities have been agreed. Additional information will be issued to staff and students in due course to raise awareness and ensure maximum levels of participation. It is expected that the trial will begin early this year.



Eco-update

Abandoned Bicycles – the University is working with Fife Council and St Andrews Police Station to deal with abandoned bicycles and has devised a procedure. Anyone can identify an abandoned bicycle.



1 IDENTIFY

Any service can identify an abandoned cycle, whether it is on Council or University property.

Cycles should be reported to St Andrews Police Station –

**Community Team
Tel: 01334 418973.**

If there is no answer leave a message with your name, service, telephone number with the location and description of cycle.

2 LABEL

Police Community Team will locate cycle, attach Abandoned Cycle Label and mark with:

**DATE
REFERENCE NUMBER
F = Found Property
or
S = Scrap.**

All abandoned cycles will be recorded at St Andrews Police Station. The list will be faxed on a fortnightly basis to:

**Environmental Services
Fax: 01334 412721**

3 UPLIFT

Environmental Services will uplift all cycles as soon as possible after list is received.

FOUND PROPERTY – These are considered to be in good condition, and should be delivered to St Andrews Police Station to be stored for a period of two months, to allow the owner contact the police. Those that are not claimed within that period may be auctioned for charity or donated to community groups.

SCRAP – Cycles that are in a dilapidated condition will be disposed of by Environmental Services.

Fridge Recycling

The University has organised a collection scheme with Fife Council for the uplift of old fridges and freezers for recycling. This is a legal requirement and Schools and Units must ensure that Fife Council is used to uplift these.

To arrange a collection call -

01334 412273

Improvements to Cycling Facilities

Staff and students are invited to send their views on what kind of improvements to, and type of, cycle facilities they would like to see available around the University.

Car Share Trials

The University is due to set up a car share database providing an opportunity for staff and students to share transport to and from work and study. We are looking for individuals that would be interested in participating in a trial of the car share database.

**For any queries relating to the above please contact -
Inga Burton, Environment
Manager at
inga.burton@st-andrews.ac.uk
or at Estates on ext. 3995.**

Leap Of Faith For Student Entrepreneurs

The University has launched an innovative £10,000 competition for student entrepreneurs, which will provide them with an 'entrepreneurial toolkit' invaluable for graduate

employment and starting up new businesses.

The competition is open to all business-minded and enterprising students, allowing them to develop entrepreneurial skills essential for success, whether in new

business start-up or for working with the best graduate recruiters in the country. Quantum Leap 2004 – 'Accelerating Enterprise', organised by Student Enterprise Officer Christopher Venditozzi, aims to encourage students to create – and develop – a sustainable business idea.

Sports Centre Update

By Martin Farrally, Director of Physical Education

In comparison with many other similarly sized universities and in comparison to many local alternative health and fitness centres, it is apparent that this University's indoor facilities are much in need of repair, development and expansion.

This is important not only to stay in competition with other universities at a recruiting level but also to make the facilities commensurate with the demand and to satisfy the needs of both the staff and student bodies.

In the past 33 years there has been the addition of two squash courts, the conversion of the then Weights Room into the Body Workshop and the conversion of a squash court into the CV Suite. At a time when the University student numbers have quadrupled it is almost a confession of negligence to have done so little in this area.

The sourcing of funding has been explored and it is no secret, as has been mentioned in a few column spaces, that one of the proposals is to review membership charges for staff and students of the University. Already a number of meetings have taken place with relevant

stakeholders and it is inevitable that we will have to follow the pattern in other Universities and charge a membership fee for students. Staff membership fees are also under review as are user charges. No decisions have yet been made and it is our intention to be fully transparent and discursive prior to forwarding the recommendations to Court.

Potentially, of course, there is much to be excited about as we hope to see a number of developments over the next few years that will produce greater opportunities at all levels of sport and exercise for staff and students.

Facility Developments

I. JUMPS & THROWS

Work on installing the jump and throwing facilities within and around the track area was expected to start on February 24th with a 7-week timescale envisaged. With the aid of money left over from the original lottery funding and the financial support of Fife Council, this development will complete the original plans submitted for lottery funding in the mid 90's. These new facilities will not only be used by the local community and local schools but will also be available to the University Community



and to Scottish Athletics who squad -train here 3 or 4 times a year.

II. FITNESS SUITE EXTENSION

Initial design and costing works has begun on the provision of another fitness suite to add to the staff and student opportunities. In view of the demand and shortfall in provision for all types of indoor fitness machines and equipment, particularly in the area of free- weights, it is a top priority that more indoor facility space is created to satisfy the burgeoning demand . The facility is planned to be available at the latest by September 2005.

HEALTH & FITNESS

By Debbie Sargent,
Physical Education Assistant

Taught Sport & Exercise Classes

The Semester 2 Sport and Exercise Programme for Staff Members of the University Sports Centre commenced on Saturday 7th February. A brochure detailing all fitness classes that are FREE is available from the Sports Centre Reception. Information is also available on the website. Class descriptors and grading of classes will help you to decide which classes will be appropriate for your fitness level and particular activity interest.

Exercise To Work

'Working all hours, lunch on-the-run, home life wrapped up with the family and finishing the extension/doing some repairs... I haven't got time to do any exercise and I know I should'. Why not use your time more efficiently, fit in some exercise and walk/cycle to work, take a shower and bounce into work energized for the rest of the day?

The outside changing rooms at the Sports Centre and those at Butts Wynd are open from 08.15 and 08.00 respectively during weekdays for all staff members.

NEW POST:

Health and Fitness Advisor

The Physical Education Department have recently appointed a new member of staff to act as Health and Fitness Advisor. The new post will involve the re-introduction of the fitness consultancy service and the development of a personal training service. In response to customer demand, there are developments planned to expand the Bodyworkshop. Fitness training facilities in the form of fixed resistance machines, free weights and cardiovascular machines are in short supply at present and there are times when there is a waiting list for the gym. The expansion of the Bodyworkshop and the new appointment will both improve access to training facilities and provide a better advisory service for all those members who wish it.

SPORT

SQUASH LEAGUES

The University Sports Centre Squash Leagues have been established for over 20 years now. They offer a competitive way of playing this challenging sport whether you are an experienced competitor, or a complete beginner. They are open to University Staff who are members of the Sports Centre. For more details contact Steven on Ext. 2190 or email sfb.

SUPER 8's CRICKET

'And you're asking me to join a school/unit cricket day and give up another day, you must be joking! Well, actually, this form of packaged recreational cricket below first team level is all done and dusted in less than 3 hours during the first four weeks of the summer term. Teams consist of 8 players a side, everyone bats and bowls and it is great fun to play half a dozen matches in the twilight hours of April. Further details from John Scott at the Sports Centre.



CHILDREN'S COURSES

EASTER VACATION

SPORTS COURSES FOR CHILDREN (4-10 YEARS)

The Department of Physical Education runs sports courses for children during the Easter and Summer vacations. This year, Easter courses will run from 5-9th April. The brochure giving full details of sports courses for children this Easter will be available from the Sports Centre reception desk from 1st March. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact Joyce Clark on jrc4 or by calling Ext. 2190. The courses on offer this year are:

4-5s	Gym Joeys	Mon.-Fri.	9.30-11.30	£25
4-5s	Ball Games;	Mon.-Fri.	2.00-4.00	£25
6-10s	Sports Day 1	Mon.	9.30-4.00	£20 Athletics & Basketball
6-10s	Sports Day 2	Tue.	9.30-4.00	£20 Football & Hockey
6-10s	Sports Day 3	Wed.	9.30-4.00	£20 Racket Sports (Tennis & Squash)
6-10s	Sports Day 4	Thu.	9.30-4.00	£20 Cricket & Rounders
6-10s	Sports Day 5	Fri.	9.30-4.00	£20 Multi Sport

All courses are taught by qualified and experienced staff. For further information contact Tara Graham on tg4 or Ext. 2190.



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