



October/November 2018

*Celebrating
Success*



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Vice-Chancellor's view



Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir David Eastwood

When establishing the University of Birmingham, our founders sought inspiration from the very best. A study tour was arranged and a team visited many of the leading US universities. This tour was facilitated by Andrew Carnegie, who then went on generously to be one of the founding donors to the University.

That study tour influenced the founding of the University of Birmingham in numerous ways. Our campus reflected the architectural ambition of the great 19th-century US campuses. Our curriculum brought together research and education in the manner of the great German universities, much emulated in America.

The University from the outset had the confidence to teach the full range of subjects, and to innovate in ways which were genuinely pioneering. While other universities were places of genteel scholarship and often equally genteel teaching, the University of Birmingham linked its research to teaching, enriched our economy and culture, and went boldly where none had gone before by, for example, establishing a faculty of commerce, the first Business School in the UK.

Thus, from the outset, our university aspired to be different, distinctive, and distinguished. That ambition is our inheritance.

As I write this, we have today moved up again in *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* league table. By the time you read this, we will have been one of the most dramatic movers in the *THE World Rankings*. League tables are imperfect. Their ubiquity blunts their impact. Now the sheer proliferation of league tables renders some of them frankly risible. That said, in a world of intense competition, it would be naive and irresponsible simply to disregard league tables. Others do not. Our progress is therefore as welcome as it is necessary.

There are, however, much more important indicators of where our university

stands. In August, we closed the book on the 2017–18 Research Awards. At just over £204 million of new awards, this was, by some considerable margin, the best performance in the history of the University. Moreover, grant applications had reached £740 million in the same year. All this speaks to the continuing transformation in the research performance of the University. We have developed the 'fizz' that Tim Softley, as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research has been seeking to promote. New hires have complemented our existing great faculty, and new resources have underpinned our research ambition.

Next year, as this year, we will continue to build on this success and cement our rightful place in the elite of UK research universities.

In August, the number of people employed by the University exceeded 8,000 for the first time. The monthly census figure was, in fact, 8,001. Perhaps still more striking has been the expansion of the University's establishment since 2015. Measured either in terms of our total staff numbers, or our full-time equivalent numbers, the number of staff has grown over those three years by around 15%. This is the single greatest investment in people that the University has made for many years.

If you look around, you can see other universities making staff redundant and making cuts. At Birmingham, we are able to invest in growth, in outstanding new colleagues, and in managed expansion. As a result of this investment in people and in our fine campus, University expenditure in the coming year will be £53.5 million above that of last year. This has enabled

YOUR BUZZ

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Views expressed in the magazine are not necessarily those of the University or a statement of University policy. All submissions may be subject to editing. The Editor's decision is final.

UOB EUROPE HUB

Welcome to your new Europe Hub (former Brussels Office). The Europe Hub has been rebranded to reflect the aims of the University's new Europe Strategy, providing a central focal point to engage with Europe.

The Office, located right in the heart of the European quarter in Brussels, provides an ideal place to raise both your personal profile and that of the University across not only Europe but through Brussels-based international stakeholders too.

The Europe Hub boasts excellent facilities including a large meeting room (up to 120 seats), reception facilities, a collaborative working space and Executive Suite. Facilities are staffed and bookable free of charge. The Hub is easily accessible from the main airport and train stations.

Learn more

Visit our website and find out more
www.bham.ac.uk/europehub

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us to achieve our target of moving into the top quartile of Russell Group universities for the best staff/student ratios. Having established that position we intend to remain in the top quartile for staff/student ratios. This will ensure that we have an appropriate balance between colleagues' teaching and research commitments, and it will also enable us to continue to enhance the quality of the teaching and educational support that we are able to provide to our students.

There are, of course, clouds on the horizon and challenges that we must face. We have to operate, and succeed, in an increasingly regulated environment. Much of this regulation is actually unsympathetic to the kinds of autonomy and innovation that great universities require. We will, of necessity, conform to the prescribed regulatory environment. We will not, however, be constrained by it.

We had been expecting the outcome of the government's fees review this autumn.

All of the indications now suggest that it will be delayed, probably into the New Year. One of the reasons for the delay is the inquiry by the Office of National Statistics into the classification of student debt and the student loan book. The likely outcome is that the loan book will be put onto the government's balance sheet rather than off the balance sheet, thus increasing the national debt.

The implications of this remain to be seen. It is likely, though, that this will further constrain the government's ability, and indeed willingness, to invest in higher education. It will make it more difficult for the government to achieve its ambition of enhancing the funding environment for further education, and we may well find downstream that the tuition income that we receive for home students is reduced in cash terms. It will certainly be reduced in real terms.

If you reflect on the way in which we have been planning, none of this comes as

a surprise, however unwelcome it might be. We have created the financial headroom which will enable us to adjust our trajectory without the kinds of convulsions that some other universities are experiencing. We will also seek to find efficiencies in the way in which we operate which will enable us to mitigate the impacts of any fee reduction and ensure that we are able to continue to invest in the core activities of the University, notably our research and our teaching.

So there is every reason to go into the new academic year with confidence that, despite the strong headwinds that we may face, we will continue to flourish, continue to grow, and continue the renaissance of our university. It is an achievement in which we all share, and from which I hope we all derive great satisfaction.

*Professor Sir David Eastwood
Vice-Chancellor*

INTRODUCTION FROM HR DIRECTOR MATTHEW KNIGHT



I am really pleased to have the opportunity to work with the University's HR team as the Interim Director of HR whilst a permanent successor to Nigel Waugh is being recruited. I worked previously at the University of Leeds and more recently at the University of Western Australia in Perth.

HR is currently reviewing all of its processes, resources and services to simplify and improve the way we contribute to the University, particularly as we move towards implementation of the

New Core system. As part of the continuous improvement, I am delighted that HR's new recruitment standards have been either met or exceeded for the last three months and additional service standards will be introduced in the coming months.

Additionally, you can expect to hear more about our improved customer feedback routes, helping us to continually improve the service we offer. It is a time of significant change and we will be doing everything we can to support staff and provide excellent services as we respond to the challenges that are being presented.

Looking ahead to the Autumn Term, I would like to highlight some of the important developments and events to look forward to from HR.

NEW CORE IS COMING!

newcore

New Core, the University's new system bringing enhanced Finance, HR, Payroll, and Research functionality for all staff, will be launching in February 2019. With just a few months to go until 'go-live', the New Core team gave *Buzz* an update on how colleagues can get involved:

- Attend a demo session – there are regular New Core all-staff and departmental meetings where you can find out more about the system and what it means for you
 - Get involved in training – a wide range of training materials will be available shortly for all staff, including online and printed guides, self-guided tutorials and classroom training
 - Ask your local expert – New Core has Super User, and Champion Networks with members from all departments across the University. Not sure who your local New Core expert is? Check the intranet for details!

Thank you to all colleagues who have been involved in New Core so far; to find out more about the new system, events, and how you can get involved, visit intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/newcore or email newcore@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Black History Month 2018



October is Black History Month and the University will again be celebrating the culture and histories of black and minority ethnic communities with a comprehensive programme of events. Events are open to all and we particularly welcome University staff to participate in the celebrations.

Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Equalities, Professor Una Martin says: 'As a civic University at the heart of a super diverse city, the University is proud to be part of Birmingham's Black History Month programme. Our 2018

programme has been co-ordinated by our Staff BAME Network and includes films, exhibitions, lectures and reading groups put on by students and staff. I would encourage all members of our University community to support their efforts by attending the fantastic range of events on offer.'

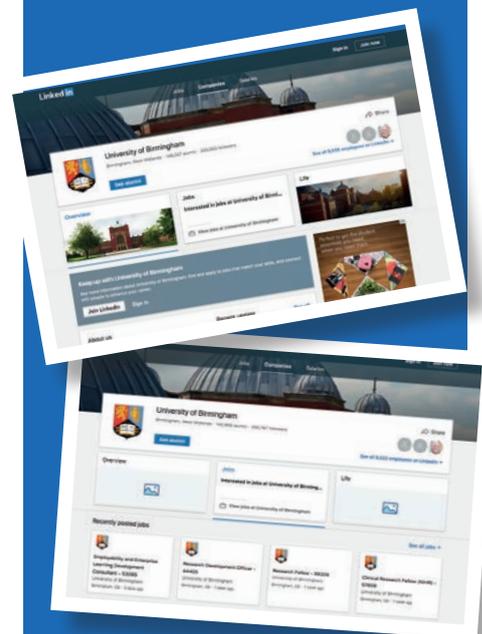
Full details of all events including booking can be found at: www.birmingham.ac.uk/blackhistorymonth2018



LinkedIn

The University of Birmingham has now launched the careers section of LinkedIn, demonstrating the breadth of career paths we have available, what it's like to work for us as an employer of choice and the benefits we offer.

The 'Life' at UOB page gives followers a live view of all our vacancies and an overview of campus life. To follow the page and share vacancies visit the site at: www.linkedin.com/school/university-of-birmingham/ or search University of Birmingham on LinkedIn.



LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

People and Organisational Development (POD) has launched three new brochures outlining staff development opportunities for 2018–19, making it easier to focus on your specific development needs for the next 12 months.

The first brochure is the **Learning and Development Portfolio**, which outlines a variety of open courses available to support staff with their personal development. POD has added some new and exciting courses this year, including mindfulness, coaching skills for line managers and facilitation skills.

The **Coaching Academy** is the second brochure and focuses primarily on working with leaders and managers in a coaching context. Coaching is a form of one-to-one personal development, helping individuals realise their full potential and maximise their performance and that of others in the workplace.

The third brochure is entitled the **Leadership Academy**, which outlines a variety of leadership and management development programme options available to staff across the University. You can download the brochures at: intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/development/index.aspx

A NEW VISION FOR HEALTHCARE INNOVATION

THE WAY WE MANAGE AND DELIVER HEALTHCARE TO PATIENTS IS CHANGING FAST.

The use of health data and rapidly developing technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and new precision diagnostics enabled through advances in 'omics (for example genomics), are set to unlock the promise of personalised or precision medicine. Through the Life Sciences Industrial Strategy, the government has laid out its challenges and opportunities in this area and the University, with its partners, is well-positioned to deliver on this ambition.

As part of Birmingham Health Partners (BHP) – a strategic alliance between the University and two co-located NHS Foundation Trusts – we are already translating healthcare research findings into new diagnostics, drugs and devices for patients. Now, we're forging ahead with ambitious plans to lead this healthcare revolution by building an innovative research park on land we have purchased at the heart of the BHP campus.

More information on our planned developments can be found at www.blsp.co.uk



BIRMINGHAM LIFE SCIENCES PARK

A four-hectare development at the heart of the vibrant BHP campus, Birmingham Life Sciences Park (BLSP) will deliver bespoke facilities, technology platforms and high-quality accommodation to life sciences start-ups and scale-ups. By enabling productive interactions between clinicians, academics, industry and patients, BLSP will allow us to accelerate the field of precision medicine, bringing new innovations through to clinical application.

At the core of the development will be an innovation hub that will provide access to BHP's leading regional data and informatics capabilities alongside new innovations emerging from our leading immunology, genomics and precision diagnostics and medical technology activities across the BHP campus.

This will provide a unique, integrated health innovation platform that will enable faster development of new therapies, devices and diagnostic tools. Our leading clinical trials, patient-reported outcome and diagnostic test evaluation teams will work closely with our NHS partners to

rapidly develop and translate these new data-enabled healthcare innovations into the clinic, delivering major benefits to patients throughout the NHS. Our innovation hub will also provide the space to support entrepreneurship programmes, bringing together multi-disciplinary teams to address clinical challenges.

The remaining site will provide high-quality accommodation for spin-outs and start-ups that have outgrown our BioHub incubator, and for established businesses seeking to co-locate at the heart of our life sciences ecosystem.

With outline planning permission already in place, BLSP has the potential to deliver up to 54,000sqm of high-quality collaboration, innovation, office and lab space – as well as creating a thriving community through shared-use facilities. Over the next few months we will develop the business case for investment: both from government in support of the innovation hub, and with private partners in support of the Park's wider development. We expect to be under construction from 2020.

Professor David Adams, Head of the College of Medical and Dental Sciences, Dean of Medicine and Director of BHP, explained:

'The benefits of BLSP will be wide-ranging. By working in partnership with the NHS, regulators and business we can accelerate the development and delivery of novel therapies and diagnostics putting Birmingham at the forefront of the global revolution in precision medicine. In addition to the benefits to patients and the general public, BLSP will drive the growth of businesses and attract inwards investment, creating high-value jobs and developing the skills base needed to anchor sustainable business growth in our region.'

BLSP is therefore a key component in the West Midlands' future economy – driving growth as well as supporting a healthy population and, in the long term, creating savings for the NHS.'



Celebrating SUCCESS

The outstanding achievements of our staff and alumni were recognised by the honours system this year.



As I look through this celebration of the many achievements of colleagues across the University I am struck by the scale of our shared success: Academic and Professional Services staff working together to advance the accomplishments and growing reputation of this great civic university.

The Queen's Anniversary Prize for the Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education (BCRRE); our rise in the QS World University Ranking; and the successful Ofsted rating for the new University of Birmingham School offers a small snapshot of our recognition.

Let us also not forget the hard work that, in a first for a Russell Group and Global 100 university, saw us open officially our Dubai campus.

Colleagues will no doubt be aware, through the Birmingham University Awards for Tremendous Achievement (BUAFTAs), our Founders' Awards and

the Outstanding Teaching Awards, of the huge emphasis we already place at the University of Birmingham on recognising and celebrating excellence.

What you will read in this *Buzz* supplement highlights just some of the ways our Academic and Professional Services colleagues have been recognised beyond the University for their expertise. The breadth of the accomplishments covered here emphasises the quality of our people; some of the most talented and dedicated of any in our sector.

I would like to thank you for your continued commitment and offer my congratulations once again to everyone that has been recognised for their work. I look forward to celebrating another successful year ahead with you, one which I am sure will bring many more highlights.

Professor Sir David Eastwood
Vice-Chancellor and Principal

NEW YEAR HONOURS

Professor James Arthur has been awarded an OBE for services to character and values education. Professor Arthur was recognised for his contribution to the educational landscape of Birmingham; his input in national policy debate; and in his achievements as an educator and scholar.

University alumni were also recognised.

Andrew Ready, a leading surgeon, received an MBE and Sabrina Francis, a community leader, was awarded the British Empire Award Medal.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

- **Professor Alison Davenport** was awarded an OBE for services to electrochemistry and corrosion science. Professor Davenport is a world expert in the use of high intensity X-ray techniques for the study of corrosion. As Chair of the Science and Technology Facilities Council's Science Board, Alison serves the wider scientific community, whilst inspiring young scientists in her field. Alison was also part of the Advanced Materials Leadership Council, advising government on materials science strategy.
- **Professor Julian Bion** was awarded an OBE for services to Intensive Care Medicine (ICM). Professor Bion leads on several National Health Service research projects in the UK. He recently chaired the NICE guidelines committee and is a former President of the European Society of ICM. He has worked with the World Health Organization and established an international training programme in ICM, adopted across Europe. Julian also led the development of ICM as a primary speciality in the UK with the formation of the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine of which he was the foundation Dean. University alumnus and honorary graduate, **Dr John Craggs**, was awarded an MBE for services to education and to the community in Birmingham.



TEACHING TRIUMPH

Our 'exemplary vision for achieving teaching excellence across the whole institution' was recognised with a Spotlight Award at the Global Teaching Excellence Awards (GTEA) 2018. This award commends the University for its drive to give students a challenging and stimulating learning experience, whilst placing research at the heart of teaching. Run by Advance HE, GTEA is now in its second year and recognises outstanding institution-wide approaches to teaching.

Our students also recognised teaching excellence in the 2018 National Student Survey (NSS). The University placed second from top amongst English Russell Group institutions for teaching. Birmingham achieved an overall satisfaction mark of 86%, fifth out of 24 leading UK universities in the Russell Group for overall satisfaction. In addition, students on 16 of the University's programmes returned scores of 100% satisfaction. On teaching, 90% of students responding to the survey felt that their course was intellectually stimulating and said that staff were good at explaining things.

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

As England's first civic University, we were founded to serve our community, an ethos we maintain to this day. Our work continues to benefit the city of Birmingham and beyond.

A bid by the **Cadbury Research Library**, led by Archivist **Mark Eccleston**, has successfully secured funding of £187,000 from the Wellcome Trust's 'Research Resources Grant' scheme. This funding will be used to fully catalogue and greatly improve access to the Save the Children archive as part of a two-year project. This is an important archive of an NGO that was secured for the University with the help of Professor Matthew Hilton.

Development and Alumni Relations Office (DARO) scooped a CASE Circles of Excellence award for the 10,000 Lives campaign video. The Circles of Excellence Awards recognise the best professional practice in advancement and celebrate outstanding performance from across the globe. DARO were the only winners from the UK in their category.



ENHANCING EQUALITY

In May, the **University's Rainbow Network** was awarded Stonewall's West Midlands Network Group of the Year award in recognition of their work to advance LGBT equality in the University and the wider community. The Rainbow Network provides a space for staff and PhD students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning, as well as friends and allies of these communities, to meet and develop contacts across the University.

The University has also extended its leadership position in LGBT equality in the higher education sector this year, with **Dr Sammy Li** appointed Convener of the LGBT+ Network of Networks in higher education. Its membership comprises nearly 70 universities and research institutions in the UK, with the Rainbow Network one of the first to become involved.

For more information on the Rainbow Network contact: lgbtq@contacts.bham.ac.uk.



GUILD GLORY

Congratulations to the **Guild of Students** who were crowned Students' Union of the Year at the National Union of Students (NUS) Awards 2018. The award was made 'in recognition of an exemplar union who also achieved 'Excellent' in Quality Students' Unions last year, and for willingly sharing their good practice with the movement.' The NUS Awards bring national recognition to the efforts made by students' unions in shaping education and empowering individuals.

SUPER STRUCTURES

Our **Sport & Fitness Club** received three prestigious awards from the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in 2018 for its design and architecture:

- RIBA National Award 2018
- RIBA West Midlands Award 2018
- RIBA Client of the Year Award 2018 – sponsored by Tobermore



GETTING GREENER

Director of the Birmingham Centre for Energy Storage, **Professor Yulong Ding**, received the Distinguished Individual Award 2018 at the 7th Energy Storage International Conference and Expo (ESIE) Beijing for his contribution to energy storage development. This is a prestigious international prize, highlighting a significant contribution to innovative technology that will solve global environmental problems.

As we continue our efforts towards a more sustainable and environmentally-friendly future, **Transport Services** have been recognised at the Energy Saving Trust's 12th annual Fleet Hero Awards for leading the way in reducing emissions from road transport. The University won the 'Department Of Transport's Fleet Hero Award for Best Public Sector Fleet 2017', awarded for being one of the most sustainable fleets in the country. We were also highly commended in the Clean Air Award and Green Fleet Award categories.



CORPORATE CONNECTIONS

Sam Hickman, Business Engagement Partner, has been awarded Procter & Gamble's (P&G) Connect+Develop award, reflecting his instrumental role in growing the collaborative relationship between P&G and the University; a successful partnership in a number of grant-funded research programmes including those from Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), BBSRC, AMSCI and Horizon 2020.

Cathy Gilbert, **Director of External Relations**, has been appointed to the HESA board as a non-exec director.

LITTLE LEARNERS

National Day Nurseries Association Manager of the Year 2018, Rebecca Slater, Manager of The Oaks Day Nursery, was named National Day Nursery Manager of the Year by the National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) in June 2018. Rebecca has worked at The Oaks for more than ten years; this award is recognition of her outstanding work and highlights her talent and dedication. The NDNA is an award-winning national charity that provides support, information and guidance to the childcare, early years and nursery sector.



STRATEGIC INFLUENCE

The quality of staff at the University can often lead to requests for their expertise to be shared and utilised by other high-profile organisations such as businesses, government departments and charities. Here are some recent examples.



Dr Melanie Britton has been appointed as Chair of the Division of Spatially Resolved Magnetic Resonance of the Ampere Society. It is the first time in the society's history that a woman has held this position.



Professor Laura Piddock has been appointed as Head of Scientific Affairs for the Global Antibiotic Research & Development Partnership (GARDP). Professor Piddock is also the recipient of The Garrod Medal this year, the highest honour awarded by the British Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy.



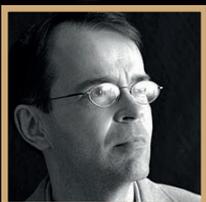
Professor Nic Cheeseman (International Development Department, Government and Society) has been appointed a trustee of Oxfam GB.



Professor Paul Burstow, mental health advocate and former minister of state for social care, has been appointed as Chair of the national improvement agency and independent charity, the Social Care Institute for Excellence.



Dr Sudha Sundar was elected President of the British Gynaecological Cancer Society (BGCS). Sudha is the first female gynaecological oncologist to be elected for this post and the third from the University.



Professor Kristján Kristjánsson was appointed editor of the *Journal of Moral Education* for a five year term. The flagship journal has a long and distinguished history and will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2021.



Professor Jon Glasby has been appointed Non-Executive Director of University Hospitals Birmingham, which provides four hospitals and a number of community health services across Birmingham and Solihull and the new Birmingham Children's Trust (set up by Birmingham City Council and the Department for Education to improve children's social care services in Birmingham).



Dr Helen McGettrick has been elected as the representative for England to sit on the British Society of Immunology Forum, the largest in Europe and one of the oldest, largest, and most active immunology societies in the world.



The British Science Association (BSA) named **Professor Jeremy Pritchard** as its Biological Sciences Section President for 2018, for his significant contribution to their scientific field.



Professor Simon Collinson was appointed to the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) 'Funding for Growth Commission' Chaired by Mayor Andy Street. Professor Collinson is also Academic Advisor to the WMCA Productivity and Skills Commission and was appointed to the Economic and Social Research Council Strategic Advisory Network.

FINE FELLOWS

Academics from the University have been conferred fellowships and to a number of distinguished and prestigious scholarly societies.

- **Professor David Thomas** – Fellowship of the British Academy for the Humanities and Social Sciences
- **Professor Nick Loma, Dr Andrew D Beggs and Dr Emmanouil Tranos** – Alan Turing Fellowship
- **Professor Julie Allan, Professor Kalwant Bhopal, Professor Jo Duberley, and Professor Vivien Lowndes** – Fellows of the Academy of Social Sciences
- **Professor Simon Collinson** – Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences and Fellow of the British Academy of Management
- **Dr Raquel Da Silva** – British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship
- **Professor Ganna Pogrebna** – The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and The Alan Turing Institute Joint Fellowship
- **Professor James Arthur OBE** – Senior Fellowship at West Point Military Academy
- **Dr Tom Harrison** – National Teaching Fellowship
- **Dr Myriam Chimen** – Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin Research Fellowship
- **Dr Gabriela Da Silva Xavier** – Senior Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy
- **Professor David Hodson** – Fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons
- **Monica Lloyd** – British Psychological Society Fellow

ONES TO WATCH

These awards recognise emerging talent at the University, and the significant contribution already made by academics to their chosen field of study.

- The Institute of Physics (IOP) recognised early-career researcher **Dr Hannah Price** with the IOP Maxwell Medal. Hannah's research focuses on the creation and study of topological phases of matter in photonics and ultracold gases.
- **Dr Victoria Goodyear** won the Inaugural Qualitative Research in Sport and Exercise Early Career Researcher Award, sponsored by Routledge/Taylor and Francis, and the Journal of Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise and Health. This award recognises Victoria's significant scholarly contributions to qualitative research within sport and exercise sciences.
- **Dr Dipak Kotecha** received the 2018 Michael Davies Early Career Award for his contribution to Clinical and Cardiovascular Science. This award honours clinical and non-clinical researchers who have recently established themselves as an independent investigator.
- Of 37 new British Academy Rising Star Engagement Awards (BARSEAs) five have been awarded to academics from the Schools of Social Policy and Government and Society. Congratulations to **Dr Kayleigh Garthwaite, Dr Lisa Morriss, Dr Anna Kotova, Dr Niheer Dasandi and Dr Gerasimos Tsourapas**.

OUR SUCCESS CONTINUES...

Buzz is pleased to highlight accolades received by staff across the University that have been recognised for their skill, hard work and dedication. We recognise that we may not have captured everyone, but we hope this list demonstrates the breadth and scale of our achievements.

- **Dr Agnieszka Chidlow** received an outstanding recognition from the Academy of International Business (AIB) for her contribution at the Research Methods Clinics Co-Ordinator.
- **Professor Kalwant Bhopal** was appointed as a judge for *The Guardian* University Awards.
- Five CoSS academics have been named on REF panels. **Professor Karen Rowlingson and Professor Jenny Phillimore, Professor Paul Jackson, Professor Catherine Cassell and Professor Vivien Lowndes**.
- **Professor Mark Saunders** was awarded a Medal for Leadership at the British Academy of Management's Annual Conference at Warwick University, for sustained and outstanding leadership of and contribution to the management academic community.
- **Dr Kayleigh Garthwaite** was awarded the Peter Townsend Prize from the British Academy for a record-breaking second time for her book, 'Hunger Pains: Life Inside Foodbank Britain'.
- **Dr Kurt Liu** received the Best Supervisor Award at the National Contest on Reverse Logistics Design in China. Dr Liu's team also won the competition with their project, beating 39 other top teams in Shanghai.

- **Dr Kristien Boelaert** has been appointed as the Clinical Lead for the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Guidelines on the Assessment and Management of Thyroid Disease which are due for publication in November 2019.
- **Dr Lisa Morriss**, was awarded the BASW Kay McDougall *British Journal of Social Work* Prize for an article looking at the newly created role of the Approved Mental Health Professional.
- **Professor Roy Harrison** was reappointed as a member of the Department of Health Committee on Toxicity, and continues as a member of the DEFRA Air Quality Expert Group and Department Health Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants.
- **COMPARE Researchers** were awarded Video of the Year at the Scientists' Choice Awards 2018, which recognises cutting-edge products and technologies advancing life sciences research.
- **Dr Graham Wallace** received the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology silver medal for his outstanding work within the field of vision and ophthalmology.
- **Professor Chris Buckley** and **Professor Paul Moss** have been appointed National Institute of Health Research Senior Investigators.
- **Professor Peter Hawkey** is a recipient of The Garrod Medal, the highest honour awarded by the British Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy.
- **Professor Malcolm Taylor** was awarded the Genome Stability Network Medal for his work in the field.
- **Dr Mathew O'Shea** received The Gilbert Blane Medal for his contribution to the advancement of any branch of Medical Science in its application to the Naval Service.
- **Professor Iain Chapple** was awarded the IADR Distinguished Scientist Award in Research in Periodontal Disease, which recognises his outstanding research in periodontal disease.
- **Professor Gregory Lip** awarded the Polish Cardiac Society medal and honorary membership of the society.
- **Dr Sharon Buckley** has been elected to the Board of the Centre for the Advancement of Interprofessional Education.
- **Professor Una Martin** was elected Vice President of the British and Irish Hypertension Society and will become President of the Society in 2019. She is the first woman to hold this prestigious position.
- **Dr Jessica Heron**, CEO of the charity Action on Postpartum Psychosis, was invited to a Christmas reception at 10 Downing Street for small charities with large impact.
- **Dr Alex Conner** is Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, has a Media Fellowship with the British Science Association, sat on the Biochemical Society Committee for Education, Training and Public Engagements, and Chairs the IUPHAR sub-committee for aquaporin.
- **Dr Alistair Hewison** was awarded the NIHR Charities Consortium Award for the hospice or group which has made a significant move forward in active research. Dr Hewison was also awarded the Gold Medal for the Royal College of Anaesthetists in 2017 and the Lifetime Achievement Award, Intensive Care Society in 2017.
- A collaborative research team led by **Mr Thomas Pinkney** was awarded the General Surgery Research Team of the Year award for Best Patient and Public Involvement at the Birmingham Health Partners annual Research Showcase.
- **The Bladder Group** – The cfDNA Bladder cancer manuscript has been awarded a prize from the *European Journal of Human Genetics* and Nature Publishing Group for its high number of citations in the first year.
- **Edward Smith** and **Angelo Agathangelou** from **Tanja Stankovic's** group were awarded the Hamblin prize for the best CLL publication of 2017.
- **Dr Aneel Bhangu** was appointed as Editor Assistant at the *British Journal of Surgery*.
- **Professor Ruth Roberts** has been awarded the 2018 Society of Toxicology Founders Award, demonstrating outstanding leadership in fostering the role of toxicology sciences.
- **Professor Lee Chapman** was awarded the Harry Otten Prize for Innovation in Meteorology. Professor Chapman also won the 2017 UK Intelligent Infrastructure Challenge, a national award presented at Highways UK.
- **Dr Melrose Stewart** received a Distinguished Service Award from the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.
- **Dr Carolyn Roskell** was selected as the winner of the Guild of Students' Outstanding Teaching Award.
- **Mr Mark Connop** has been appointed to the advisory board for Stone PCs. This group also feeds into the Intel customer advisory board.
- **The Coaching Academy: People and Organisational Development, Human Resources** were named Runners Up in the Organisational Development and Culture Change category at the UHR awards for Excellence in HR.
- **The Birmingham Environment for Academic Research Team** in Research Support won two *HPCwire* Readers' and Editors' Choice Awards for a High Performance Computing project funded by the Medical Research Council.
- **Professor Andrew Dove** is the Royal Society of Chemistry Norman Heatley Award winner for 2018.
- **Professor Shlomo Tarba** received The Outstanding Paper Award of *Group & Organization Management* journal at the Academy of Management 2018 Annual Conference in Chicago, USA.
- **Professor Pervez Ghauri** was awarded an Honorary Doctorate degree in Business Administration by the University of Vaasa, Finland for the valuable contributions he has made in the field of International Business and Marketing.
- Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy has been achieved by 41 members of staff in the most recent cohort of the Birmingham Beacon Scheme.

AN INTRODUCTION TO SECURITY SERVICES



Security Services is a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week service that works hard to maintain a safe and secure environment for all those who use our campus. We cover all of the campus, including on-site student accommodation and the Selly Oak campus. Our responsibilities include monitoring of CCTV, responding to incidents, high-visibility patrols, securing the University estate, liaison with the police and other emergency services, security at campus events, emergency planning and many more.

We have 48 operational Security Officers who are SIA (Security Industry Authority) licensed and trained to a very high standard. Security is here to support the University community. If you need to get in touch:

- The Security Office is located at the rear of Aston Webb in B Block courtyard, just off the Ring Road South (between R5 and R6 on the campus map) and is staffed 24/7.
- Security Control (non-emergencies):
0121 414 3000 (43000 if dialling internally)
- Security Control (emergencies):
0121 414 4444 (44444 if dialling internally)
- Email: securityservices@contacts.bham.ac.uk

POLICE AND PARTNERSHIP HUB

We have had a University of Birmingham Dedicated Police Officer on campus for over 20 years. The role has developed in many ways over the years in engaging with the University community and working to reduce crime and raise security awareness across campus and beyond.

A new Officer has recently been appointed: Charlie Richards. I'm sure you will join us in welcoming her to the University when you see her around campus. The Officer is located in the Police and Partnership Hub in University Centre (next to Spar) at the centre of campus.

To further enhance our partnership working in crime prevention and supporting students and staff, in May the Universities Crime Prevention Coordinator, Jenny Dalzell relocated from the Security Building to the Police and Partnership Hub. This is just one way our collaborative approach continues to strengthen and improve the provision of support to those affected by crime, and engaging with the University community on personal safety and security. The hub is a safe space for people to come and receive guidance, advice and support. We have specific drop-in times, which can be found on the Security intranet pages.

Callmy relaunch

As many of you will be aware the University uses an app-based notification system available to all staff and students known as CallMy to deliver emergency and other important notifications to mobile devices. The University has now upgraded from 'CallMy' to 'CallMy Alert'. Amongst some of the enhancements are: improved messaging functionalities, such as the ability to send voice, pictorial and text messages, and the ability to geo-fence messages to an exact location. Unfortunately, these enhancements were not possible with the design of the original app, therefore, the new app must be installed.

If you previously downloaded the old version of CallMy you will have received notifications of this migration during September and may have already made the switch. If you haven't yet downloaded CallMy Alert, you can do so by visiting: <http://q-r.to/balhTn> on your phone and searching within your app store for 'CallMy Alert'. When you open the app for the first time, you will be asked to verify your phone using your mobile phone number. Once this is complete, click the red plus sign in the top right of the screen and add the ID: UBSafe. Please note you will not receive messages from the University without following this ID.

Find out more and watch our promotional video here: <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/has/security/Callmy-Alert-App.aspx>



Public Engagement with Research

At the heart of research is a desire to make a difference to society, yet the relationship between academia and the public can sometimes be complicated. At its simplest, the purpose of research is to make things better; learning from what has gone before and developing new solutions to problems or making improvements to current systems. However, research is also complex and time-consuming, often taking many years for change to become apparent. Plus, many studies are carried out in response to specific challenges faced by one group or field of study and so can feel detached from the everyday lives of many in society.

Public Engagement with Research (or PER) exists to try and bridge this gap; to create meaningful dialogues between researchers and the general public. When done well, PER can raise the profile of the research, help to build trust in the work being done, ensure the results of research are relevant and responsive to changing public needs and ultimately improve transparency and accountability of the research process. As well as these high-level benefits, PER also has direct value for individual researchers; 85% of Birmingham researchers surveyed in 2016 felt that carrying out PER was beneficial to their work or career.

Despite the clear benefits, carrying out public engagement isn't always straightforward for researchers. The National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE) defines PER as: 'The myriad of ways in which the activity and benefits of higher education and research can be shared with the public.' But just how do you go about deciding on an approach from this myriad? Where can you get the skills and confidence? How do you know if you're doing it well? What different audiences are there and who should you engage? How to navigate the practicalities and logistics? And what's the bigger picture?

Here at the University of Birmingham, we see public engagement as an essential part of carrying out 'Research That Matters' and we're committed to supporting researchers to do PER. The University's first Professor of Public Engagement in Science, Alice Roberts, was appointed back in 2012 and heads the Public Engagement with Research Committee (PERC) with co-chair, Professor Ian Grosvenor. PERC give guidance to the operational PER Team to provide help and support with training, funding, opportunities, events, activity design, impact, evaluation, partnerships and more.



So if you've never tried public engagement or want to develop your skills further, why not engage with the PER Team and get involved? We offer 'Breakfast Brainstorm' drop-in sessions, can put you in touch with experienced mentors and are setting up College forums for researchers to network and inspire one another. You could apply for a PER grant of up to £2,000 or we can help with external funding schemes. We also offer training, including a postgraduate skills module, which culminates in a public PGR engagement showcase. Or you can attend our annual PER Day, which brings together people from across the institution to share best practice and develop skills and where our PGR PER award is presented.

If you're looking for opportunities to do PER, why not submit an idea for the next Lapworth Lates on 7 November? We've supported everything from research biscuits to carnivorous plant soundscapes, so if you've got an idea, we can help!



FIND OUT MORE

PER Blog: ThinkPE.wordpress.com
 Email: engage@contacts.bham.ac.uk
 Twitter: [@uobengage](https://twitter.com/uobengage)
 Newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/b06lcb>

THE FOUNDERS' AWARDS

The Founders' Awards are named after some of our most influential founders and benefactors, and demonstrate that their principles and vision of a 'great school of universal instruction' where our groundbreaking research has true benefits locally, nationally and internationally, are as alive today as they were in 1900. Presented at the Chancellor's Dinner in July and hosted by Professor Alice Roberts, the awards provide an opportunity to recognise our stellar academic colleagues and celebrate their achievements with our most distinguished friends from business, politics, government and academia.



THE JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN AWARD FOR ACADEMIC ADVANCEMENT

PROFESSOR OLE JENSEN

Chair of Translational Neuroscience, and Co-Director, Centre for Human Brain Health

Ole is revolutionising how we think about the workings of the brain. His contributions in translating these findings help us better understand mental health conditions. Ole's research has focused on investigating the functional role of brain oscillations in relation to human cognition.

His research has helped to unlock the mechanism by which the brain communicates from one region to another during complex everyday tasks requiring memory and attention. His core tool is magnetoencephalography (MEG), which makes it possible to localise brain oscillations to a specific brain region to study network interactions.

THE JOSIAH MASON AWARD FOR BUSINESS ADVANCEMENT

PROFESSOR CLIVE ROBERTS

Director of the Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education and

PROFESSOR ANSON JACK

Director, International Railway Benchmarking

Clive and Anson brokered industry to support the University's bid to HEFCE into the Research Partner's Infrastructure Fund (RPIF).

The astonishing achievement they made was to leverage more than two-thirds of the £92 million awarded from an industry which often looks to Network Rail for its contracting rather than working directly with universities.



This was followed by the establishment of UKRRIN – the UK Rail Research and Innovation Network – officially launched earlier this year. Its success is signalled by its prominent position in the UK government's Strategic Vision for Rail.



THE ASTON WEBB AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING EARLY-CAREER ACADEMIC

DR HANNAH PRICE

Birmingham Fellow/Royal Society Fellow,
School of Physics and Astronomy

Hannah works in an area called topology, which Birmingham has previously been recognised in with the Nobel Prize awarded to Kosterlitz and Thouless in 2016. Topology has previously been thought about in terms of 3D objects.

Hannah's research has been transformational as it explores what happens in higher dimensions. Her contributions include proposing how to realise 4D topological effects using synthetic dimensions, creating new dimensions by exploiting excitations of atomic systems, as well as three spatial dimensions.

This insight is a breakthrough in the field and provides a gateway for experimentalists to overcome the challenge of exploring higher dimensional systems, which to that point had only been possible in theory.

THE CHARLES BEALE AWARD FOR POLICY ADVANCEMENT

PROFESSOR TIM DAFFORN

Professor of Biotechnology,
School of Biosciences

In 2017 Tim was appointed as Chief Entrepreneurial Adviser at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) with a role to write a review of entrepreneurship in England.

He was made a permanent member of the BEIS executive committee ensuring that entrepreneurship and SME policy was at the heart of government.

His review considered government economic analysis of the growth and development of SMEs. The review reported its findings in July 2017 and its recommendations were included in the Industrial Strategy.



feeling social...

If you are new to social media, disseminating your key research messages online can be overwhelming. In order to help with this, the Digital Channel Management team within External Relations has been working on an online toolkit to give practical advice for academics who want to start engaging with the world through social media. On these new webpages, you will find all the information on the main platforms, how to set up an account, how to develop your network and useful tools to improve your social presence. For more information please visit intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/academicsocial



Chancellor's column

In all the degree ceremonies that I had the privilege to preside over this summer, I thanked the international students who graduated for their contribution to our university and to our country. On each occasion there was spontaneous applause for them from everyone present in the Great Hall.

In September, the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) reported on the impact of international students in the UK. Such an inquiry has been long overdue, and I was very happy when the then Home Secretary Amber Rudd announced it one year ago.

The MAC received approaching 2,000 pages' worth of evidence from around 100 institutions, including the University of Birmingham. Yet the result was an incredible disappointment – a missed opportunity.

While it highlighted the benefits international students bring to the UK economy, to the regions and to the

experience of domestic students, it failed to put forward the recommendations our sector has been crying out for.

I spearheaded the creation of a two-year post-study work visa for international graduates in Parliament 11 years ago. This was implemented in 2008, but later scrapped in 2012 by the coalition government. While our competitor countries, the USA, Canada and Australia have attractive post-study opportunities for their international students, we are falling behind. The report provides evidence that the number one reason international students are not choosing the UK is the lack of post-study work opportunities, yet it still does not recommend the reintroduction of the two-year post-graduate visa.

The MAC outlined in detail how many countries have targets to increase the number of international students, and yet did not recommend that the UK should introduce specific targets – another missed opportunity!

The All Party Parliamentary Group for International Students, which I co-chair, is in the midst of conducting its own inquiry,

'A sustainable future for international students in the UK?' We look forward to reporting later this autumn and I am confident that our review will come forward with the recommendations and policy changes that the sector so desperately needs. Watch this space.

Lord Bilimoria is the founder and chairman of Cobra Beer, Chancellor of the University of Birmingham and the founding Chairman of the UK-India Business Council.



CAMPUS CURIOSITIES



What is it?

Masquerade Portrait, 1972,
Nicklin-Salmons Collection,
Research and Cultural Collections

Masks have long been celebrated as one of Africa's great artistic achievements. However, they are not stand-alone works of art. They are part of a masquerade performance, a dynamic assemblage of mask, costume, dance, drumming, song, drama and chanted oral poetry. Masquerade is a central social, religious and artistic institution in many parts of Africa – nowhere more so than in Nigeria. It mediates between the human and spirit worlds, providing an environment for spiritual beings to enter the human community. The identity of the dancer carrying the mask is displaced by a spiritual being, and in electrifying, highly charged sequences of drumming, dancing and chanting human devotees make direct contact with spiritual power.

Masquerade also provides a rich medium for members of the community to affirm collective values, comment humorously on social change and satirise wrong-doing. Masquerades usually come out during well-defined festivals. These may involve months or even years of preparation, and may mobilise the talents of a whole village – carving, painting and embellishing new headpieces, refurbishing the costume, composing new topical songs, reinvigorating drum and dance skills, and appeasing the gods and ancestors. While affirming tradition, masquerades are sites of stunning creative innovation.

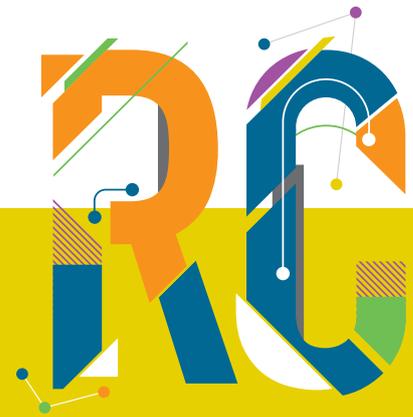
Written by Professor Karin Barber, Emeritus Professor of African Cultural Anthropology.

Find out more

Research and Cultural Collections are delighted to announce the forthcoming exhibition, *Masquerade in the Cross River Region: the Nicklin-Salmons Collection*, 11 September 2018 – 18 January 2019 in the Rotunda Gallery, Aston Webb Building. The exhibition will feature photographs by anthropologist Keith Nicklin and art historian Jill Salmons taken during fieldwork in Nigeria in the 1970s and vividly brings to life masquerade, mask art forms and the production of masks.

Outstanding Impact Awards

Whether in the arts, humanities, social and life sciences, medicine or engineering, our staff are conducting research that changes people's lives through new technologies, new ways of viewing the world and real policy change. The Outstanding Impact Awards acknowledge the excellent work of colleagues from across the University in making research impact possible.



NEW 2018 HORIZONS RESEARCH CONFERENCE



Emerging Impact

Winner: **Dr Holly Birkett and Dr Sarah Forbes**

Holly and Sarah's work on promoting gender equality in the workplace has led to invitations to present their work to multiple government departments, third sector organisations and businesses.



Impact in Public Policy

Winner: **Professor Fiona de Londras and Mairead Enright**

Fiona and Mairead were instrumental in repealing the 8th Amendment in Ireland and wrote the book 'Repealing the 8th Amendment'. Fiona is helping to draft the revised Irish constitution in the wake of the referendum.



Impact in Culture

Winner: **Professor Henry Chapman**

Henry's work on uncovering Stonehenge and protecting and conserving wetlands has already led to strong impact on conservation practice, heritage management and curatorial practice and public understanding.



Impact in Society

Winner: **Professor Dominique Moran**

Dominique's work with the Ministry of Justice has had significant impact on the design and operation of the next generation of prisons across the UK.



Impact in Health

Winner: **Professor Andy Ewer**

Andy's research has wide-reaching impact on not only health and practitioner services but also public policy, developing new ways to detect heart defects in new-born babies.



International Impact

Winner: **Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education**

The Centre for Railway Research and Education group has developed a range of international impact in metro operational energy reduction and power system improvements through projects in Guangzhou, Beijing and Singapore.



Impact in Industry and Enterprise

Winner: **Professor Mark Drayson**

Mark's work has had great impact on improving the speed and accuracy of multiple myeloma diagnosis with new diagnostic tools sold in 50 countries worldwide.



Support for Impact

Winner: **Andy Newnham**

Andy has been instrumental in supporting the development of impact both at the pipeline stage and supporting the development of REF case studies.



IMAGE: The Edgbaston Park Hotel staff team celebrates the opening of the hotel and conference centre

UNIVERSITY HOTEL OPENS ITS DOORS

The University of Birmingham Edgbaston Park Hotel opened its doors to paying customers on Saturday 1 September. Feedback on the new facility, which has 178 rooms and a variety of conference areas, has been excellent so far.

Capable of hosting groups from 12 to 250, there are a variety of ways in which this hotel will add value to academic events. Natural light, Wi-Fi, AV technology-rich meeting rooms and a dedicated and professional team give all the options needed for a high-quality conference.

The 1900 Steakhouse Bar and Grill is also open, and available to all every day, whether for a meal or simply a chat over coffee.

To find out more visit www.edgbastonparkhotel.com

For information on hosting academic conferences on campus, contact Academic Conferences and Events Manager **Louise Walczak** on l.walczak@bham.ac.uk or **0121 414 2912**.