



Buzz Bitesize: June 2014

Welcome to Buzz Bitesize. Circulated monthly, Buzz Bitesize provides the latest news, views, events and opportunities from across campus. Why not take a look at the Buzz Facebook and Twitter accounts for the latest campus news and opportunities throughout the month.

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Birmingham Professional Forum

Date/time: Monday 30 June, 2.30–3.30pm

Venue: Great Hall, Aston Webb Building

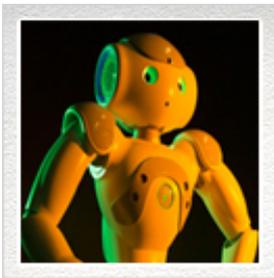
The [Birmingham Professional Forum](#) is a termly event for all Professional Services staff, introduced by the Registrar and Secretary, Lee Sanders. The Forum is an opportunity to hear from colleagues on a range of topics. The agenda for this term's Forum will include presentations on the Canvas virtual learning environment, the British Science Festival and volunteering opportunities. For further details or to submit a question in advance contact internalcomms@contacts.bham.ac.uk. If you would prefer to remain anonymous please let us know.

British Science Festival Countdown

With fewer than 100 days until the British Science Festival comes to the University of Birmingham our robots have been preparing.

[Watch a sneak preview](#). The Festival takes place 6–11 September and the majority of activities will be on campus.

[More information](#).



What's the Name of the Game?

A new interactive campaign is giving you the chance to name the gym in the University's new sports centre by voting for your favourite sporting hero who has pledged their support for the facility. Paralympian swimmer Ellie Simmonds, test cricketer Gladstone Small and World Ironman Champion Chrissie Wellington (BSc Geography, 1998) are all backing the Name of the Game campaign. Who will get your vote? Visit the University [website](#) to find out more about our Name of the Game champions, and to cast your vote. The website also offers a sneak peek at what the finished facilities will look like. You can also vote by texting 'GLADSTONE', 'ELLIE' or 'CHRISSIE' to 70099.

Texts cost £1 plus standard rate text message charge. A minimum of 97p depending on your service provider will be received by the University of Birmingham, charity exemption number X7237.

News

Birmingham Business School joins the global elite of business schools

The Business School has been awarded accreditation by the internationally renowned Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), confirming Birmingham's place among the prestigious group of elite global business schools that hold the gold standard of 'triple-crown' accreditation from the AACSB, the Association of MBAs (AMBA) and the European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS). View the news in full [online](#).

University Ring Road closures

Preparatory building work for the University's new library means it will soon be necessary to close and divert the University's Ring Road North permanently. The exact dates for this closure have not yet been finalised but will be communicated to staff as soon as they are confirmed. The diversion will take place in two stages:

Stage 1: the road will be diverted from a point near to the Munrow Sports Centre and re-join the ring road by Muirhead Tower.

Stage 2: by the end of the summer, a new road will be in place that will run from the sports centre, alongside the old site of the running track, to join Pritchatts Road. The road that runs under Muirhead Tower will then be closed. Internal traffic will be unable to circumnavigate campus via the Ring Road North without exiting on to Pritchatts Road either via the barrier opposite the new multi-storey car park or a new exit opposite Elms Road.

Anyone who is concerned about these changes, or has events planned for which the use of the ring road has been assumed, should contact [Kara Griffiths](#), Communications Manager for Estates Development.

Important travel and parking information – June and July

The University will be holding annual open days and hosting the Birmingham UCAS Higher Education Convention this summer. During this time there may be limited parking and increased traffic congestion around Edgbaston campus. [Further information.](#)

Athena SWAN Silver Award for MDS

The College of Medical and Dental Sciences has been awarded an [Athena SWAN Silver Award](#), which is a very significant achievement. The Award recognises the College's success in developing employment practices to further and support the careers of women in academia. Congratulations to all involved.

Professor Besra presented with Royal Society of Chemistry award

Congratulations to Professor Gurdyal Besra who is the recipient of the [Jeremy Knowles Award 2014](#) that recognises and promotes the importance of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research between chemistry and the life sciences. Professor Besra was recognised for his contributions to our understanding of the basic chemistry and biochemistry of the cell wall of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

Events

Annual International Rules – Gaelic Football v Aussie Rules

Date/time: Friday 6 June, 5.00pm

Venue: Bournbrook Pitches

Choose your side by supporting either Gaelic football or Aussie rules teams, then cheer them on in the battle to be crowned champions. The evening will also boast a pitch-side bar, BBQ, half-time entertainment and prize give-aways; best of all it is free to watch!

[More information.](#)

Research Poster Conference

Date/time: Tuesday 10 June, 2.00–3.30pm

Venue: Great Hall, Aston Webb Building

This is the University's flagship event for postgraduate research and an excellent opportunity to see posters that demonstrate the research projects our postgraduate researchers are undertaking. You will have the chance to articulate and communicate with postgraduate researchers, share ideas and network with other academics, employers as well as support the poster holders from your college. The event is free to attend. You can find out further information and [register here](#).

School of Education Lecture

Date/time: Wednesday 11 June, 4.30–5.30pm

Venue: G12, University House, Birmingham Business School

Join us for Professor Ann-Marie Bathmaker's [inaugural lecture](#) 'The perfect education for a person like me: vocational education and the "ordinary", the "overlooked" and the

under-served 40%.’

Workshop: Death of the Professions?

Date/time: 8 May 2014, 5.15pm

Venue: Moot Room, Birmingham Law School

[The Centre for Health Law, Science and Policy](#) (CHLSP) and the [Centre for Professional Legal Education and Research](#) (CEPLER) are pleased to host a workshop on the impact of recent reforms, budgetary cuts and public criticism on the publicly funded sectors of the legal and medical professions. We are delighted to welcome three eminent speakers in the field – [Professor Mike Saks](#) (UCS), [Professor Mark Exworthy](#) (Health Policy and Management, Birmingham) and [Professor Andrew Francis](#) (Keele School of Law). Further information is available via the [website](#).

Challenges for Early Modern Women’s History

Date/time: Wednesday 18 June 4.30–5.30pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre, the Barber Institute of Fine Arts

We are delighted that Professor Lisa Jardine will be joining us on campus in conversation with the Institute of Advanced Studies Distinguished Visiting Fellow Dr Nadine Akkerman. The event will be hosted by Dr Hugh Adlington of the School of English, Drama and American & Canadian Studies. It is free to attend but booking is essential. [More information](#).

Creative Minds at Birmingham

Date/time: Thursday 19 June, 5.15–6.30pm

Venue: Main Lecture Theatre, Arts Building

The School of English, Drama and American & Canadian Studies’ Writers and Artists Distinguished Speaker Series continues when award-winning playwright, Simon Stephens, will read from and discuss his work. Simon Stephens is one of the most prolific contemporary writers in the UK; he won an Olivier Award for his acclaimed adaptation of Mark Haddon’s novel *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night*. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet Simon, following this talk during a complimentary drinks reception. [More information](#).

Engineering a Sustainable Future

Date/time: Monday 23 June, 7.00–9.00pm

Venue: TBC, Edgbaston campus

Celebrate [National Women in Engineering Day at Engineering and Physical Sciences \(EPS\)](#). Join us to discuss ‘Engineering a Sustainable Future’ with leading female engineers and academics. With populations rising, how do we plan, design and manage cities that can cope with increasing pressure on resources while meeting carbon and climate challenge needs?

Speakers include:

- Professor Claire Davis, Professor of Ferrous Metallurgy, University of Birmingham
- Dr Pam Waddell, Director of Birmingham Science City
- Dr Angela Seeney, Former GM Global Business Development Alternative Energy, Shell
- Kate Hall, Director, ARUP

This event is open to all. To attend, please fill in the [online registration form](#).

Institute of European Law Annual Lecture 2014: What Have the Europeans Done for Us?

Date/time: Wednesday 25 June, 6.00–9.00pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre 1, Birmingham Law School

In this lecture, Professor Patrick Birkinshaw (University of Hull) examines the impact that European law (both EU and ECHR) has had on English and UK law and the UK constitution. The lecture comes at a time when a projected in/out referendum will take place on EU membership if the Conservative Party are returned to office in 2015 and when calls to leave the Council of Europe and to repatriate our human rights law are made by politicians and judges respectively. [More information.](#)

‘University Partnerships’ – John Hogan, Registrar, Newcastle University

Date/time: Thursday 26 June, 11.30am–12.30pm

Venue: TBC

Arranged by the Vice-Chancellor’s Office, this event is a good opportunity to hear from a Registrar at a fellow Russell Group university. The event is suitable for staff on Grade 6 and above. Please register your interest with [Helen Webb](#) by Tuesday 17 June. Partnerships are an important part of the higher education landscape. This session will look at Newcastle’s approach to partnerships, engagement and the Civic University. It will focus on their relations with the city, the region and four international developments, looking in particular at the management issues that arise.

Presentation Skills Training

Date/time: Thursday 3 July, 9.00am–12noon or 1.00–4.00pm

Venue: TBC

This half-day course for Birmingham Professional staff will look at the core skills needed to deliver your message to an audience in a confident and persuasive way. The session will be interactive and include lots of opportunities to practise. You can sign up via our [website](#). More details about Birmingham Professional events can be found on our [intranet page](#).

Why Britain went to War in 1914

Date/time: Thursday 26 June, 7.30pm

Venue: Winterbourne House & Garden

We will be joined by Dr John Bourne, founder of the Centre for First World War Studies here at the University of Birmingham, and prolific writer of works focusing on the Great War. Admission is £5 for members of [Winterbourne](#) and £6 for non-members.

Teaching and Learning Conference

Date: Friday 4 July

Venue: Muirhead Tower

This event provides a great opportunity for staff and students to celebrate, showcase and disseminate the wealth of good practices in teaching and learning across the University. The theme for this year’s conference is Educational Innovation and our keynote speakers bring a wealth of knowledge and experience on this topic. Attend open presentations and poster sessions and share with colleagues your own educational innovations in your field. To register visit the [Teaching and Learning Conference website](#).

BEAR VIEW launch and showcase

Date/time: Tuesday 8 July, 10.00am–3.30pm

Venue: 2nd Floor, European Research Institute

BEAR VIEW is a free-to-use facility, available to the University research community. During the day, the Research Computing Team and active users of the facility will showcase different aspects and applications of the service. Free tickets for this event are available to researchers. Visit the [BEAR webpage](#) for more information.

Opportunities

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Book to the Future is back!

Don't miss your chance to submit an event for the second [Book to the Future](#) festival this autumn. Running 14–18 October, this celebration of the written and spoken word will feature our academic and student talent as well as famous alumni authors, poets, playwrights, journalists and scriptwriters. We're planning a packed programme of exclusive exhibitions, workshops, performances, panel debates and lectures. Take part in the festival and showcase your research and writings – submit an event for inclusion in the festival brochure by emailing [Charlotte Heap](#). The final deadline for submissions is Friday 18 July.

Are you a member of Professional Services staff? Would you be interested in getting involved in student mentoring?

The College of Arts and Law is looking for Professional Services staff from across the University to help with a pilot project mentoring first-year undergraduate Arts and Law students during the first term of the 2014–15 academic year. This would either be on a one-to-one basis or in small groups. Training will be provided over the summer. If you would like to register a provisional interest, please email [Helen Murray](#), Student Experience Manager.

Library Services are piloting a new product for researchers

[Piirus](#) allows researchers to find collaborators inside and outside their own institution. This free service is in addition to Research Gate or Academia.edu. The developers would like to invite researchers to try it out and will send invitations to 200 individuals at the University. Names will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. To receive an invite send your name and email address to [Judith Hegenbarth](#).

Contact Buzz Bitesize

Next edition: 3 July 2014

Copy deadline: 25 June 2014

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Web: intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/buzz

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