



Buzz Bitesize: March 2013

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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Vice-Chancellor's distinguished lecture: Rolf-Dieter Heuer

Date/Time: 22 April, 6pm

Venue: Elgar Concert Hall, Bramall Music Building

Professor Rolf–Dieter Heuer, Director-General at CERN, will give this lecture titled *'The search of a deeper understanding of our universe at the Large Hadron Collider: the World's Largest Particle Accelerator'*. CERN is the home of the Large Hadron Collider, a 27 kilometre long tunnel where physicists from all over the world are learning about the nature of matter and the beginning of the universe by colliding particles together at high energies under conditions that would have existed only a millionth of a second after the Big Bang. Visit the [University website](#) to book your place.

University Arts and Science Festival

Date/Time: 18–24 March 2013

Venue: Across campus

This festival, led by the University's Cultural Engagement team, celebrates the wealth of ideas, research and collaboration across campus. The programme is rich and diverse and with over 70 events, there's something for everyone. From Ancient Egyptian communication, to Intelligent Robotics; and from Big Band performances to Classical Recitals; urban vegetable growing and 'Dirty New Media'. Alongside University initiated events, we have also collaborated with regional partners including Flatpack Festival, Vivid Projects, Birmingham Opera Company, Kino 10, and Writing West Midlands. View the [full programme](#) for details.



Congratulations to our BUAFTA stars

Congratulations to all of this year's BUAFTA nominees and to the winning teams and individuals announced at the awards dinner on 8 February. Visit [the intranet](#) for the full list of award and raffle winners.



News

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Alta Innovations Ltd support for academics

The University's technology transfer company, Alta Innovations Ltd, provides an experienced and professional administrative, legal and financial service to academics wishing to engage in consultancy for external clients under the '30 day' rule. This includes providing professional indemnity insurance, contract negotiation, legal and taxation advice, invoicing, credit control and payment to the academic in a tax-efficient manner. Contact s.freeman@alta.bham.ac.uk, Simon Freeman, Academic Consultancy Manager or visit the [Academic Consultancy intranet](#) for more information.

University intranet—public engagement support

There is a new useful intranet guide detailing support and funding available from across the University and beyond for your public engagement activity. Site sections include available support and funding, some great examples of the wide range of engagement activity already underway across the University, and details of upcoming events and activities in which you can get involved.

Visit the [Public Engagement pages](#) and read more about engagement at Birmingham in the latest edition of [buzz magazine](#).

Out and about with our alumni

In order to continue to strengthen our engagement with international alumni, three members of the Development, Alumni and Business Engagement Division have been abroad hosting a number of alumni receptions and meetings in Singapore, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, China and India. They met with a number of senior alumni, held informal gatherings in all locations, explored ways to enhance the student experience of Birmingham students taught in Singapore, and [Blogged](#) about their experience. If you missed the team's tweets, take a look at [storify](#).

Institutional Virtual Learning Environment Refresh (iVLE2.0)

The University has announced that the new supplier for the iVLE2.0 product is Canvas. The benefits to the product are ease of use, agile approach to development and cloud-based hosting. The AS Project Team is now working with Instructure to plan the implementation of Canvas as the successor to WebCT (subject to contract). For further details regarding the implementation of Canvas please visit the [projects intranet](#). Thanks to all staff who have been part of the process so far.

Old Joe goes dark for Earth Hour

On March 23, we will be switching off the lights inside our iconic clock tower, 'Old Joe'. The switch-off is in aid of Earth Hour which encourages people from around the world to switch off their lights for an hour to help ease the effects of global warming. Further details on the event are available on the [World Wildlife Fund website](#).

Award commendation for #UoBBlackout

The University received a commendation at the CIPR Internal Communications Awards 2013 for best internal social media programme. The commendation was for work communicating with students and staff around the power outage (otherwise known as #UoBBlackout). Congratulations to everyone involved.

Views

Alumni of the Year Awards 2013

This is a great opportunity to recognise Birmingham alumni who have made a valuable contribution to the University, community or their professional field, and to demonstrate the extraordinary range of achievements amongst Birmingham's former students. Staff and alumni are able to nominate alumni in the following categories:

- Young alumnus (under 35) of the year
- Alumnus making an outstanding contribution to business/industry
- Alumnus making an outstanding contribution to society/community life
- Alumnus making an outstanding contribution to culture/media/sport
- International alumnus of the year

Please send nominations by 4 April to Claire O'Sullivan, Head of Alumni Relations, at c.f.osullivan@bham.ac.uk. Please include your name; job title; School or department and contact details; plus the nominee's name, year and subject of study; and a brief statement on why you feel they should receive an award. Alternatively, please complete the [online form](#).

Impact awards

The Impact Awards recognise those teams, and individuals that have produced outstanding impact through successful knowledge transfer. The Impact Awards are organised by PraxisUnico to recognise and celebrate the success of collaborative working and the process of innovation. There are four categories: business impact achieved; business impact aspiring; collaborative impact; and KT professional of the year. Further information is on the [impact awards website](#) or by contacting Kate Jerney at k.jerney@bham.ac.uk.

Events

The House of Bernarda Alba by Federico Garcia Lorca

Date/Time: 14 March 7.30pm, 16 March 2pm

Venue: George Cadbury Hall, Selly Oak Campus

The Drama and Theatre Arts Department present Lorca's play about five daughters who live together in a single household with a tyrannical mother, directed by Mollie Guilfoyle and performed by 3rd year undergraduates. Tickets are £5 for staff and students, book online at the [University website](#).

Images of Research exhibition

Date/Time: 18 March, 12.30-3pm

Venue: Business School atrium

This exhibition will display images of research currently being undertaken by postgraduate researchers at the University of Birmingham. The researchers will be present at the event and able to discuss the image in context of their research. Images will be from all Colleges, and is open for people to walk around at their leisure. Free refreshments will be provided. Further details are on the [intranet](#).

Tony Hayward—Distinguished Leader lecture

Date/Time: 19 March, 5.30pm

Venue: Business School Main Lecture Theatre (G12)

Tony Hayward was Group Chief Executive of BP from 2007–2010. In 2011 Tony founded Vallares plc, a \$2.2bn acquisition company listed on the London Stock Exchange. He became Chief Executive of Genel Energy plc in November 2011 following the merger of Vallares plc and Genel Energy International. He is Senior Independent Director of Glencore International AG, a Partner of AEA Investors and a Member of the Advisory Board of Numis. For further details and to register for the lecture visit the [University website](#).

Edward Cadbury Lectures 2013: Religion out of the box

Date 19 March 2013, 6pm

Venue: Room G51, ERI building

The final lecture in this year's innovative series of talks and debates will be presented by Professor David Ford (University of Cambridge). Professor Ford will look at 'Questions between religions: deep reasonings, no map' where he will draw on examples from Europe, North America, the Middle East and China to offer a vision of best practice in relation to the religions for universities in plural societies of the twenty-first century. The events are free and open to all, but registration is desirable. To register please email cadburylectures@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Accessibility for disabled students

Date: 20 March, 2-5pm

Venue: Guild Council Chamber

Amy Connelly, Disabled Students' Officer, is hosting this event for University staff and students to provide information on how lectures can be made more accessible for students with a disability. Speakers include a trainer on disability issues and a member of the NUS, and attendees will also have the chance to ask questions and hear from the students themselves. Further details are on the [intranet](#).

Enterprising Birmingham Innovation Competition - Final Showcase

Dates: 26 March, 12-5pm (Lunch included)

Venue: Birmingham Business School

The Enterprising Birmingham Showcase promises to be an exciting demonstration of some of the University's brightest commercial projects and entrepreneurial spirit as the finalists battle for a share of the £24,000 prize money in front of a panel of expert 'Dragons'. Visit the [Enterprising Birmingham site](#) to register.

Sharing knowledge from projects

Date: 27 March 2013

Venue: Room 112, Muirhead Tower

Are you currently involved in, or about to start a new project? Are you interested in finding out how capturing lessons learned during a project can benefit you and your colleagues across the University? If you would like to find out more about sharing knowledge and how the Project Community could help you in the future, please join the Project Office for their next forum. For further details visit the [intranet](#).

Cancer Research Showcase

Date: 10 April, 3.30–7.30pm

Venue: Medical School

Find out how we're fighting cancer in Birmingham at the Birmingham Cancer Showcase. This event will give visitors the chance to chat to cancer research scientists and doctors, and understand more about how discoveries are being taken from the lab into treatments designed to benefit cancer patients. Go 'behind the scenes' in laboratories and the tissue bank, and much more. Further details are on the [University website](#).

Annual Teaching and Learning Conference—date for the diary

This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the University's annual Teaching and Learning Conference. This year the conference will be a two day event, held 24–25 June. The conference will be primarily hosted within the recently refurbished Learning Centre, providing a variety of high quality spaces to accommodate a range of interactive and thought provoking presentations. High level themes include Technology Enhanced Learning and the 10th year anniversary with retrospective and prospective consideration of teaching, learning and educational enhancement across the University and sector.

Further information including keynote speakers, is on the [intranet](#).

UBSport events

[Gaelic Football Vs Aussie Rule—choose your side](#): Head to the Bournbrook pitch on 22

March (kick off 7pm) and watch UBSport's Gaelic Football and Aussie Rules teams battle it out in an exciting and fast paced spectacle.

Zumbathon: Join the zumbathon fun on 9 March at the Munrow Sports Centre and raise valuable funds for the Children's Trust. Registration from 12pm with the event at 1pm, cost £5 adults, £4 students, £3 children.

Body Vive Classes: To launch new Body Vive classes there are two FREE taster classes on 6 and 13 March, 12.15–1.15pm in the dance studio. Body Vive is a low impact, whole body fitness and core strength class.

Opportunities

Ideas Lab opportunities

- Take part in a new TV health show: A new BBC TWO series called 'Trust Me I'm A Doctor' is filming an item on exercise, weight and health in Sport and Exercise Sciences and is looking for staff to volunteer to take part. You will need to be available for the whole day on 27 March, and happy to have your weight and height divulged on TV. They are looking for people representing a range of fitness levels, ethnicities, ages, shapes and sizes.
- Got an App-etite: Ideas Lab is hosting an 'apps lunch' from 12.30–1.30pm, 20 March. If you have produced or are currently producing a smartphone app as part of a research project that enables your research to reach a wide audience, or is targeted at a specific professional group, we'd love you to join us.
- Screen Test invitation: Academics who would like a go at presenting their subject in front of the camera are invited to come along for a try-out with Ideas Lab; whether you've never been on camera before, or have some experience and are interested in taking the next step.

Please email Sam Walter on s.h.walter@bham.ac.uk for details on any of these opportunities.

Short Term Lettings

The University's LIVING Accommodation Services have a number of ensuite rooms and modern self contained studio apartments within walking distance of the University Campus and Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Available immediately for short term lettings from 3 nights to 7 months dependant on availability. Please contact LIVING on 0121 414 8000; at ugradaccom@bham.ac.uk or call at the LIVING Office, Ground Floor University Centre for further details.

University fundraising

Did you know you can raise money for the University's life-changing research just by doing something fun? Last month you helped raise more than £700 for our world-leading cancer research by baking, buying and eating lots of delicious cakes. Thank you to all who helped achieve this. Staff are invited to get involved and support the Circles of influence campaign in a number of ways; you might choose to hold a dress-down day, arrange a karaoke night, or run the Birmingham half marathon! Monday 2 April is World Autism Awareness Day, download the [fundraising pack](#) for ideas and information about how to get involved.

Volunteers needed for research project

This project is to study how healthy people respond to vaccination. Participants are needed who are in good health, aged 18–70, have not received any vaccinations in the last three months, have never received vaccination against Hepatitis B, and are willing to receive vaccination against Hepatitis B. The study will involve 10 study visits; travel expenses and £100 to compensate you for your time will be paid. Contact Peter Taylor (0121 371 3170) or Dr Benjamin Fisher (0121 371 3201, b.fisher@bham.ac.uk) with questions or to volunteer.

Contact Buzz Bitesize

Next edition: 11 April

Copy deadline: 4 April

Email: university-buzz@bham.ac.uk

Web: ntranet.birmingham.ac.uk/buzz

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