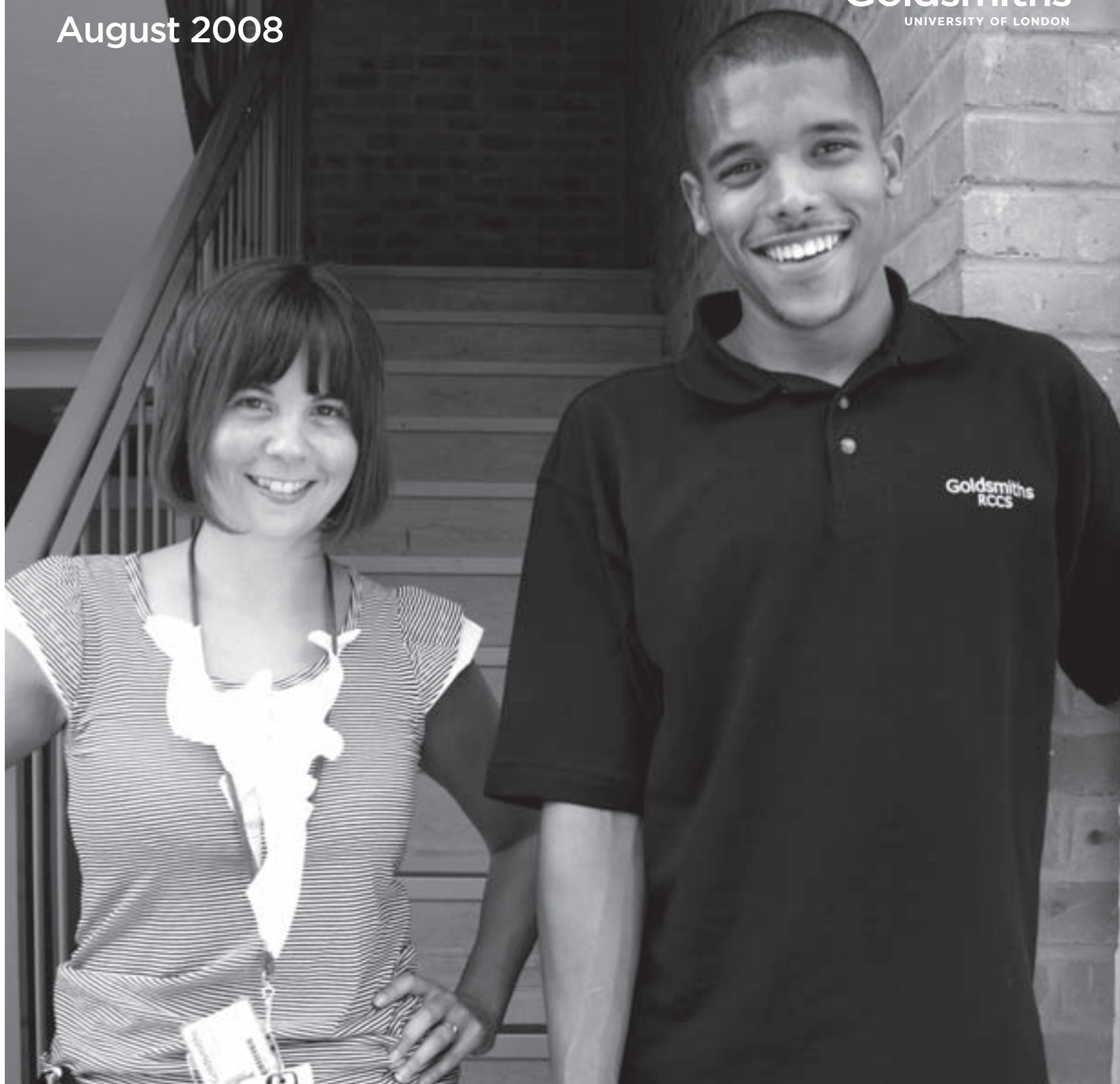


Issue 169  
August 2008

Goldsmiths  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



# Staff Hallmark

[www.gold.ac.uk/hallmark](http://www.gold.ac.uk/hallmark)

The newsletter for staff of Goldsmiths, University of London.

Staff Hallmark is published six times a year.

Editor: Rebecca Watts  
Sub-Editor: Adam Peers

We welcome ideas for articles and stories to **Staff Hallmark**. These are included subject to space, and at the discretion of the Editor, who also reserves the right to edit all material as appropriate. Any contributions should be sent by e-mail to Internal Communications, [int-comms@gold.ac.uk](mailto:int-comms@gold.ac.uk). If you wish to submit images or photographs to accompany an article, these should be digital, and sent in either jpeg or tiff format.

Style guidelines for **Hallmark** can be found on the K drive at <K:\intcomms\Hallmark>

Internal Communications also publishes **Student Hallmark**. Both Hallmarks are on the web at [www.gold.ac.uk/hallmark](http://www.gold.ac.uk/hallmark)

Copy approval deadlines for the next editions of **Staff Hallmark** are:

OCTOBER: 19 SEPTEMBER 2008  
DECEMBER: 14 NOVEMBER 2008

## This issue's cover

Sue Tarhan and Wayne Garrett from RCCS turn their attention to reducing landfill. Read more on page 11.

# Documentary students win TV award

Two students have picked up an award for their documentary at this year's Royal Television Society Student Television Awards. 'Just Like Mom', directed by Maria Eduarda Andrade and edited by Isabel Rodriguez won the Postgraduate Factual Category. The film was made as part of the pair's MA in Screen Documentary.

'Just Like Mom' is a film about the family of Ana, a Brazilian mother currently in jail in the UK. The film takes the audience to a remote city in the countryside of Brazil for a meeting with Ana's mother and two of Ana's daughters. Through the portrayal of three generations of single mothers

and their experiences of destitution, the documentary examines the lives of impoverished women in Brazil.

The Royal Television Society's judges described 'Just Like Mom' as: "A raw, vivid film that took you on a journey deep into the lives and troubles of three generations of one family in Brazil ... At its heart this film has a compassion for the women prepared to let us in on their darkest moments. Clearly a powerful bond of trust had been formed between the film-maker and her damaged but dignified subjects."

A clip from the film can be viewed at <http://www.vimeo.com/958709>.

## Mike elected to industry association

Mike Metelits, Director of Business Development, has been elected to the Council of the Association for University Research and Industry Links (AURIL), the professional association representing practitioners involved in knowledge creation, development and exchange who work to ensure that new ideas, technologies and innovations flow from their institutions into the market place. The role will see Mike helping to shape agendas for informational events, and Continuing Professional Development in the knowledge transfer sector. Mike says he's particularly interested in raising the profile and impact of smaller, focused institutions in AURIL.

Commenting on the election, Simon McVeigh, Pro-Warden (Academic Development), says: "This is a personal achievement on Mike's part and an



endorsement of what he has been doing at Goldsmiths. It'll be good to have someone at the heart of this very active and influential association."

Adding to the commendations, Philip Graham, Executive Director of AURIL, confirmed that this year has seen one of the closest fought competitions, which he believes is a reflection of the importance and embedding of knowledge transfer within institutions.

Mike will serve a two-year term from 1 August 2008 until 31 July 2010.

**"This is a personal achievement on Mike's part and an endorsement of what he has been doing at Goldsmiths. It'll be good to have someone at the heart of this very active and influential association"**

Pictured top: Mike Metelits, Director of Business Development



## Celebrating cultural links between UK and Hong Kong

Above: Stela Tang, photographed on her return trip to Goldsmiths

Stella Tang graduated from the Fine Art programme at Goldsmiths in 1989. She is now an award-winning artist and has participated at more than 40 exhibitions since returning to Hong Kong the year she graduated. Her contribution to the exhibition - 'Veiled clothes and ...' addressed the cultural identity of Hong Kong in the East and West through a display of translucent veiled clothes. The exhibition was a

key event of the British Council's 60th anniversary in Hong Kong, celebrating the quality of UK-Hong Kong educational partnerships in creativity.

The exhibition took place in early June and, on the eve of the opening, Stella returned to Goldsmiths for the first time since graduating. During her visit she met with the Student Recruitment and International Office and the Warden,

A Goldsmiths alumna was one of six Chinese artists who studied in the UK that were invited to showcase their work to mark 60 years of British Council in Hong Kong.

Professor Geoffrey Crossick, as well as taking a tour of the campus and comparing it to when she was a student.

The exhibition will return to the British Council Hong Kong in London for showing in August 2008. Viewing is by appointment, please e-mail [visualarts@britishcouncil.org](mailto:visualarts@britishcouncil.org) to make a booking. You can view Stella's work online at [www.tangyingchi.com](http://www.tangyingchi.com).

# Making sense of e-mail

Changes have been made to College-wide distribution lists for Heads of Department and Departmental Administrators, following feedback received from colleagues.

Although mostly positive, the distribution lists have not been without a few teething problems. One of the most common grievances is that Administrators have been receiving lots of general messages better suited to a generic departmental mailbox, rather than the individual Departmental Administrators.

To reduce misdirected traffic, two new lists have been created to cater for general notices. These lists allow you to send to each of the generic departmental mailboxes simply by selecting from two e-mail addresses. The two new lists are: **academicdept-l@gold.ac.uk** and **supportdept-l@gold.ac.uk**. Messages that are not specifically for Departmental Administrators, Heads of Department or College-wide consumption should be directed through these lists.

General principles for using the lists are outlined here. If you would like to see the protocols in full, go to [K:/intcomms/Our guidelines/Email distribution lists](#).

To target	Use this list
The entire College	<a href="mailto:gcinfo@gold.ac.uk">gcinfo@gold.ac.uk</a>
All academic departments and centres All support departments	<a href="mailto:academicdept-l@gold.ac.uk">academicdept-l@gold.ac.uk</a> <a href="mailto:supportdept-l@gold.ac.uk">supportdept-l@gold.ac.uk</a>
Academic Departmental Administrators Support Departmental Administrators	<a href="mailto:academicdeptadmin-l@gold.ac.uk">academicdeptadmin-l@gold.ac.uk</a> <a href="mailto:supportdeptadmin-l@gold.ac.uk">supportdeptadmin-l@gold.ac.uk</a>
Academic Heads of Department Support Heads of Department	<a href="mailto:hodacademic-l@gold.ac.uk">hodacademic-l@gold.ac.uk</a> <a href="mailto:hodsupport-l@gold.ac.uk">hodsupport-l@gold.ac.uk</a>

- Do not 'reply all'. Make sure that you check the recipient list before hitting 'send'
- Acknowledge the difference between academic and support departments. Be careful when sending to both lists. For example it is unlikely that all support departments need to be informed about academic research opportunities
- Target your message. Only address your message to Heads of Department or Administrators if it is specifically relevant to them
- The list that had been used to target all Heads of Department (**hod-l@gold.ac.uk**) was becoming heavily spammed by outside e-mail. The list is now no longer in use, instead please use the two lists (one for academic HoDs and one for support HoDs) detailed in the box above
- Do not use the lists to publicise events or request participants for studies. Instead, you should continue to use the online events calendar to post events, and the online noticeboard to recruit participants. If you would like additional publicity, please contact [int-comms@gold.ac.uk](mailto:int-comms@gold.ac.uk).





Above: Laura King, Disability Advisor

A big science fiction fan, Laura's long been researching ideas for a book themed on science fiction and anti-colonialism. Upon learning that the publication ('Stimulus Respond') was to carry an issue themed on utopia, Laura decided to submit an article as a way of getting her publishing practice started. Says Laura: "The article is about utopia, and how we can see this notion in the TV series *Battlestar Galactica*. The overall premise defines how science fiction can be a key tool to understand how utopia is defined and 'achieved'."

Laura has collaborated with John Hutnyk, Academic Director for the

Centre of Cultural Studies, throughout her work as they both share an interest in profiling mainstream 'cult culture' as a means of underlining the finer details of western society. "All too often the academic field refers to artistic or high-end culture for commentary. For me, deconstructing the more mundane and everyday pop and cult texts gives greater insight, and is a lot more fun!"

So has this fired Laura's passion for writing? It seems so, for although she says seeing the finished copy felt "very weird and a bit daunting," she's had support from friends and family and is keen to continue: "It's definitely

## The writing's clear ...

A cutting-edge art, fashion and literature journal has carried an article penned by Disability Adviser, Laura King.

encouraged me to keep writing and I would very much like to work with John again. My colleagues have been very intrigued — it's a bit different from my usual role at Goldsmiths! I think that there is another article in the making, but due to work being hectic we will have to wait and see."

A short summary detailing the work of the Centre for Cultural Studies is included in the article. You can download a copy of the magazine at [www.stimulusrespond.com](http://www.stimulusrespond.com).

## Nursery provision

Dr Philip Broadhead, Pro-Warden (Students and Learning Development), has outlined plans that could make more nursery places available for staff and students. In an e-mail to all staff, Philip explained that the primary reason for undertaking the nursery review project is so that the College can offer more childcare places in a purpose built and sustainable environment. Despite the hard work of the staff, this is something that the current nursery can not provide. As part of the investigation, the College

has put out a tender inviting bids from local nursery providers to manage the institution's childcare provision.

The notice inviting tenders was advertised in the South London Press and sent to a number of nurseries in the local area. The tender period closed as **Hallmark** went to press on Wednesday 13 August.

Objections and questions have been voiced about the plans by some staff and students. A frequently asked questions

page has been published on the web to try to address questions with a common theme. Also on the web are the full tender document and background information on nursery provision at Goldsmiths, go to [www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/student-support/nursery.php](http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/student-support/nursery.php). If you have a question or comment about the plans, you can contact Melanie Rimmer from the Planning Office, [m.rimmer@gold.ac.uk](mailto:m.rimmer@gold.ac.uk), or Alison Ahern, Head of Student Support Services, [a.ahern@gold.ac.uk](mailto:a.ahern@gold.ac.uk).

Far from being a mere facelift, the reality of the transformation of the Staff and Student Gold pages is significantly greater. **Staff Hallmark** has got the low down on the new Gold pages and what they mean for staff and students from Tanith McCrindle, Head of Web Services.

# Aiming for Gold standards

There's no denying that the new Gold pages look fantastic, but the changes run far deeper than aesthetics. As Tanith explains, the aim of the pages was to "bring information to people in a useful way." Although in essence it sounds quite simple, Tanith says that this 'detangling' involved working almost from scratch, redesigning and recoding every page, whilst getting to grips with new software for building the site. Running parallel to this, the Web Team were also maintaining the existing site so it comes as no surprise that she says she works with a dedicated and committed team, describing them as "the unsung heroes behind the scenes."

Although with any project of this scale there have been glitches along the way, Tanith is happy with the way that the site panned out: "I think the design is clean, and its simplicity will stop it from dating too quickly. We wanted the work of Goldsmiths to be the star, not the website." Popular applications such as the online noticeboard and events calendar have been given a new lease of life, which Tanith hopes will encourage more people to use the tools to "foster a community attitude" online.

But it doesn't end there, the new Gold pages are just the start of a project that will eventually take in all pages on the external website.

#### Taking control

Next up is redeveloping the external pages ([www.goldsmiths.ac.uk](http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk)) so that they too are housed within a Content Management System (CMS). Once in the CMS, all Goldsmiths websites will be recreated so that they reflect the rebranding new design. Tanith says she's hopeful that all sites will be in the new design by the end of the year: "We're trying to avoid confusion where some of the site is in the new design and other bits aren't but also get the new design live as quickly as we can. That's why the external site will be done in sizeable chunks, with the prospective student information going live next."

CMS is the software that will empower staff, giving them access to edit their own pages and Tanith is confident that the software, entitled 'SiteManager', will be easy to use. The College chose the software wisely, as it's designed with the higher education sector in mind, with universities including Portsmouth and Southampton already using it.

#### Portals are the future

When the external pages are in line and CMS rolled out across the College, the Web Team will begin work on staff and student portals. Portals allow staff and students to have single sign-on access, (meaning you'll log in just once to gain access to all your facilities and tools) and enables people to customise their homepages. The portal system can then be developed for prospective students and so on, so that the College can offer targeted, customised information.

What else does Tanith envisage the portals providing? "I'd like to inject more fun to the pages and make them more interactive, and have them give a better sense of what Goldsmiths is about." She goes on to explain that this would work on the premise that if people enjoy using the site, they're more likely to engage with Goldsmiths, visit the site again or recommend logging on and checking it out to their friends, possible Goldsmiths students of the future.

The new Staff and Student Gold pages can be found at [www.gold.ac.uk](http://www.gold.ac.uk).

**"The design is clean, and its simplicity will stop it from dating too quickly. We wanted the work of Goldsmiths to be the star, not the website"**



**And on a personal note ...**

**What's your favourite website?**

Public service innovators like the BBC and Amazon, and I'm occasionally addicted to eBay. My background is in design so I like sites that are beautiful yet easy to use.

**My idea of perfect happiness is**

Friends and family, sunshine, food, and several drinks.

Preferably in cool design surroundings with a breathtaking view.

If I had more time to myself I'd learn to play the piano and learn some languages (properly). I also have daft notions of writing short stories.

**My biggest influence is**

Art, media and design, in regards to work. In life I'm influenced by sensible people.

I value common sense above everything else.

Memories of my first job are mostly unprintable! I was 15 or 16, working summers in a local hospital for disabled ex-servicemen as an auxiliary nurse. Let's just say it was character building.

What inspires you? People who do remarkable things against the odds

Above: Tanith McCrindle, Head of Web Services

# ICT launched in Computing

A new research unit has been set up to develop technology that will enhance learning, understanding and communication of people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Unit sees the Department of Computing partner with Deafax, a leading ICT organisation which exists to empower deaf people by offering them access to new and innovative technologies and developing deaf-friendly resources.

The new Unit, managed at Goldsmiths by Dr James Ohene-Djan, will study trends of current and emerging technologies and evaluate their potential for improving the social and educational quality of life of deaf people, as well as creating a network of contacts with other universities,

research bodies, government agencies and professional organisations worldwide.

Says James: "This Unit aims to devise software technologies and techniques to give deaf and hearing-impaired people greater and more effective access to digital information and media. It wishes to bridge the 'digital divide' developing between the hearing and non-hearing worlds in online environments."

The ICT project team based in Computing includes Saduf Naqvi, PhD candidate from Goldsmiths, Dr Kirsty Crombie-Smith, Ken Carter and Sadaqat Ali from Deafax.

## The Unit's current projects include:

- DES - Digital Emotional Subtitling - investigating the development and use of enhanced, emotional subtitling as an assistive technology. Thanks to recent advances in digital television, opportunities now exist to supplement subtitles with contextual features of speech and to personalise subtitles to improve viewing experiences on an individual basis.
- London race-on-line/race to ICT - aims to address the issues concerning black, Asian and ethnic minorities deaf people and their use of ICT modules to assist with developing essential English, identity and cultural diversity and interactive communication skills for employment.
- "What do you Want?" - exploring ways to increase the success rate and opportunities for young deaf learners by using ICT. Webcams are being used to link up six schools for the deaf, hearing support units, and resource bases so that they share curriculum activities.

Below: Ken Carter (pictured left), Director of Research and founder of Deafax, with colleagues from the charity





# Better bottles

This is a sneak preview of the new bottled water that will be supplied by RCCS for College catering and meetings. Although unbranded as yet, the finished product will feature the Goldsmiths logo on the main body of the bottle.

The drive away from buying in bottled water is a bid by the team to cut unnecessary glass wastage, and curb fuel mileage. Instead of having regular deliveries to meet the 40 bottles a day demand, a new system has been installed that allows the RCCS team to sterilise bottles, filter, bottle and carbonate water on campus. You can read more about the initiative in the May edition of **Staff Hallmark**. Expect to see the new bottles appearing at a meeting table near you soon!

Left: The new bottled water from the RCCS team

## Could you be a Carbon Champion?

Are you interested in green initiatives? Would you like to work as part of a team that champions environmental best practice? If so, Goldsmiths needs you!

A Carbon Champions network will be established to support the College's ongoing work with the Carbon Trust. The network will act as a channel of communication and suggestions for energy-saving ideas on campus, and each Champion will act as a model of environmental best practice for their area. It's hoped to have one Carbon Champion for each department.

The Champions will be brought together for a one-day training session in the third week of September to initiate the network, after which it's anticipated that the network will come together once a term to exchange thoughts and ideas. The network will report into the Carbon Trust project team and has the support of SMT.

More information about the type of activities Carbon Champions would be asked to turn their attention to is available from [www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/carbon](http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/carbon). If you are interested in nominating yourself for the role, please notify your Head of Department, asking them to support your nomination by e-mailing [int-comms@gold.ac.uk](mailto:int-comms@gold.ac.uk) with your name and department before Friday 22 August.



Left and below:  
alumnae work on  
display as part of  
Effuse



## Alumnae return for collaborative exhibition

Five Goldsmiths BA Textiles alumnae held a joint exhibition at the Constance Howard Resource and Research Centre in Textiles which ran throughout July. The exhibition, entitled 'Effuse', saw the group explore the way in which a similar starting point, location and medium can unravel

into a myriad of paths and approaches. The five artists: Lizzie Cannon, Natalie Maclellan, Claudia Moseley, Elizabeth Murton and Poppy Pitt, each produced unique works covering a range of ideas encompassing constructed nature, imaginary worlds, lines of flow and

mapping of space. This was the first time that the artists had exhibited together since their degree shows in 2006.

Lizzie co-ordinated the exhibition and also works as a Library Assistant at Goldsmiths. You can find out more about her work at [www.lizziecannon.com](http://www.lizziecannon.com)



The RCCS team clean up: From left to right, back row: Denis O'Toole, Mary Bright, Steve Tiller, Wayne Garrett

Front row: Jean Ettritch, Gabrielle Decamous, Jacqui Sion, Sue Tarhan

# Landfill loss is charities gain

Less waste will head for landfill thanks to some industrial rubber gloves and the efforts of the RCCS team. After the last students left halls at the end of the summer term, the team volunteered their time to separate waste, collect electrical items in good working order, bedding, clothing, books, dry and tinned foods and cleaning equipment from all halls of residence. After an exhausting day, Mary Bright, Head of RCCS, estimates that they collected more than a skip's worth of reusable items and food from being thrown away.

"It never fails to amaze me what people leave unclaimed when they move out of halls," says Mary. "It was the first time we've all come together on such a large scale to do a concentrated clean up, but it was well worth it to rescue so much stuff. I'm proud of my team for giving up a Saturday to help in this way. They went well beyond the call of duty!"

Electrical items, clothing and bedding were collected by Reverend Paul Collier, College Chaplain, who made arrangements to deliver the items to

the Lewisham Refuge Network and Ceila Hammond Animal Trust. Books were taken to the Library, and food stuffs donated to local homeless charities.

Paul's charity efforts over the summer didn't stop here. Earlier this month he took part in the Mazda London Triathlon to raise money for the College's Annual Fund. It's not too late to add your support to his fundraising target of £5,000, visit [www.justgiving.com/revpaulcollier](http://www.justgiving.com/revpaulcollier).

**"It never fails to amaze me what people leave unclaimed when they move out of halls"**



Right: Lady Mary Soames presents Mar'ene Edwin with her Fellowship

## Caribbean study leads to Churchill fellowship

Mar'ene Edwin, Administrator in the Language Studies Centre, was awarded a Winston Churchill Travel Fellowship back in 2006. The grant that came from the fellowship enabled Mar'ene to spend four weeks researching the oral literature of three Eastern Caribbean Islands as part of her PhD.

In June this year, Mar'ene was invited to a medallion ceremony at the City of London Guildhall to celebrate her studies. During the ceremony, Lady Mary Soames, daughter of Sir Winston Churchill, presented her with a unique engraved silver medallion.

## Publishing plaudits for PhD students

Three PhD students from the Department of English and Comparative Literature have found success in their respective fields. Linda Buckley-Archer, a current PhD student was highly commended in the

Brandford Boase Awards for 'The Tar Man', the second part of her 'Time Quake' trilogy. Her fellow PhD students, Anthony Joseph and Emma Darwin, will both be releasing work, with Anthony's 'Selected Poems'

being printed by UK publisher Salt, while Emma prepares to see her second novel 'A Secret Alchemy' soon go to press.



# Goldsmiths in the news

## Thinking up beautiful music

Research Fellow, Mick Grierson, demonstrated his brain-reading music-making device in a video on the BBC News website (10 June). The Brain Computer Interface for Music requires electrodes to be attached to the head which pick up electrical impulses from the brain. These impulses are passed through an electroencephalography machine and analysed, telling the computer which musical notes to play. Mike told a reporter on News Hour on the BBC World Service (12 June) that he hopes the technology will enable people who have difficulty using their hands to make music.

## The secrets to happiness

Professor of Psychotherapeutic Studies, Windy Dryden, has been called upon several times recently for his expertise on anger management. He was interviewed on the English language

version of Al Jazeera TV (19 June) about [www.postsecrets.com](http://www.postsecrets.com), a website on which people post their secrets written on self-designed postcards. Windy also advised readers of She Magazine (23 May) on ways to cultivate a happier outlook on life.

## Screen School given seal of approval by Film 4 Talent Executive

The MA in Scriptwriting programme at Goldsmiths was recommended by Jo McClellan, New Talent Executive at Film 4, in an article on screenwriting initiatives in Screen International (27 June).

## Anthropologist calls reality check on trafficking and prostitution

Professor of Anthropology, Sophie Day, spoke to the South London Press (2 May) about trafficking, prostitution and the perceptions of sex workers ahead of her Inaugural Lecture entitled 'On

The Game', in which she expounded on her work with women involved in the sex trade.

## Fourth Plinth to stage work of Goldsmiths alumni

The Mercury (2 July) announced that two Goldsmiths alumni, Antony Gormley and Yinka Shonibare, have been chosen to exhibit on the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square. The Independent (25 June) carried an interview with Yinka about his selected work, 'Nelson's Ship in a Bottle', which explores the influence of British colonialism.

If you'd like media publicity for your work please contact Sarah Empey, Press and PR Manager, ext 7909, e-mail [s.empey@gold.ac.uk](mailto:s.empey@gold.ac.uk)

# Starters and leavers

Thanks to HR for supplying this information.

## Welcome to Goldsmiths ...

- Ms Carole Bird**, Secretary, PACE, 16/06/08
- Mr Timothy Chapman**, Lecturer, Language Studies, 07/07/08
- Mr Michael Dick**, Director of Estates, Estates and Facilities, 14/07/08
- Ms Fiona Doyle**, Accommodation Assistant, RCCS, 07/07/08
- Mr Stephen English**, Enrolment Assistant, Registry, 14/07/08
- Mr Graham Gaskell**, Chief Executive, Students' Union, 14/07/08
- Mr Greg Hewins**, Accommodation Assistant, RCCS, 14/07/08
- Ms Sandra Marcantuono**, Administrative Assistant, PACE, 23/06/08
- Miss Marsha Nelson**, Clerical Officer Registry, 16/06/08
- Miss Ayse Ozyukselen**, Clerical Assistant, Human Resources, 16/06/08
- Dr Sally Robinson**, Research Assistant, Psychology, 02/06/08
- Mr Gareth Scarlett**, Corporate Systems Business Analyst, IT Services, 07/07/08
- Miss Katie Weston**, Clerical Officer, Registry, 23/06/08
- Ms Diana Williams**, Clerical Assistant, Estates and Facilities, 02/06/08

## Wishing you well for the future ...

- Mr Manuel Barreto**, Language Resource Centre Assistant, Library, 14/06/08
- Mrs Susan Beckett-Doyle**, Library Assistant, Library, 30/06/08
- Mrs Laura Bianchini**, Library Assistant, Library, 30/06/08
- Mr Juan Cruz**, Lecturer, Art, 13/06/08
- Dr Felix De Beaumont**, Lecturer, PACE, 09/07/08
- Mr Asher Eisen**, Lecturer, PACE, 21/07/08
- Ms Marie Fallon**, Senior Accountancy Assistant, Finance, 29/06/08
- Mrs Jacqueline Forbes**, Departmental Secretary, Library, 30/06/08
- Mrs Liz Green**, Lecturer, PACE, 31/07/08
- Mr William Horder**, Lecturer, PACE, 31/07/08
- Mr James Hutchinson**, Chief Executive, Students' Union, 06/06/08
- Miss Indre Jakumaite**, Staff Development Assistant, Human Resources, 30/06/08
- Miss Carly Matthews**, Human Resources Advisor, Human Resources, 27/06/08
- Ms Suzy Mullally**, Lecturer, PACE, 11/07/08
- Ms Jennifer Nansera**, Departmental Administrator, Psychology, 30/06/08
- Mr Manuel Ramos**, Language Resources Centre Assistant, Library, 14/06/08
- Professor Nirmala Rao**, Pro-Warden (Academic), 31/07/08
- Ms Lucy Smith**, Bursaries and Scholarships Officer, Student Support Services, 30/06/08
- Mrs Eva Snell**, Library Assistant, Library, 30/06/08
- Mr Daniel Sturgis**, Lecturer, Art, 14/06/08
- Miss Madoka Takashiro**, Research Assistant, Centre for Cultural Studies, 30/06/08



Pictured right: Michael Dick joins Goldsmiths as Director of Estates and Facilities. Some of the latest developments around campus are reported on page 16



Pictured right: Sybil Phoenix, pictured at the Presentation Ceremonies in 2007

## Honorary Fellow adds OBE to her name

Sybil Phoenix, an Honorary Fellow of Goldsmiths, added to her MBE by being awarded an OBE in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours, which were announced in June. She was recognised for her service to the community in Lewisham.

Goldsmiths' Presentation Ceremonies where new Honorary Fellows are recognised, will this year take place from Tuesday 2 to Friday 5 September. If you would like to help out at the Ceremonies, e-mail Vivien Taibe, Deputy Academic Registrar, [v.taibe@gold.ac.uk](mailto:v.taibe@gold.ac.uk).

# Marrying maths with culture

The mathematical discipline of topology is being used to help understand the effects of migration, markets, learning and new technologies on social and cultural change. Professor Celia Lury from the Department of Sociology, along with other researchers at the College have launched the project, 'A Topological Approach to Cultural Dynamics' (ATACD). It brings together some 20 partners from various disciplines, including sociology, psychology, politics, neuroscience, web-based information systems, econophysics and mathematics, all of whom are applying topology to their

work. The project team hopes that this multidisciplinary will generate new techniques and patterns of thought for studying cultural and societal changes.

Celia explains that every aspect of culture is subject to forces of change. Topology can be useful for studying these changes because it can map the links, relationships and transformations that occur between cultural elements instead of viewing them in isolation. "Some geometric problems depend not on the exact shape of the objects involved, but rather on the way they are put together," she says. "An illustration

of this would be the map of the London Underground, which does not give accurate distances between stops, but rather how the stops are all connected throughout the network. Topology therefore permits researchers to examine multiple variables simultaneously, as opposed to in isolation, and to see how they interact dynamically."

The project will finish in 2010. The team will host a conference in Barcelona in December 2009 to highlight the outcomes. Find out more at the ATACD website, [www.atacd.net](http://www.atacd.net).

# Campus improvements

Some of the College's most familiar buildings are being spruced up this summer, in a bid to improve teaching and learning spaces.

## Education Building

Three of the biggest rooms in the Education Building (rooms 109, 110 and 111) will be remodelled so that they can be used either as one large space, or as three separate rooms. The partition walls are being reduced in size, new flooring and suspended ceilings delivered and acoustic folding doors installed. The rooms will be painted and decorated too.

## Warmington Tower

New entrance doors and windows are being fitted in the foyer of the College's tallest building. Attention is

being focussed on the foyer so that the entrance area feels brighter and smarter. As well as new windows and doors, the suspended ceiling and flooring will be overhauled and the foyer and lift lobby painted and decorated.

## Richard Hoggart Building

A number of teaching rooms on the ground floor of the Richard Hoggart Building are to be painted and decorated. Prior to this, steps have been taken to address the damp in these rooms.

Staying with the Richard Hoggart Building, the uneven paving outside the rear of the Building has been lifted and relaid so that it's flat and smooth once again.

## And in other news ...

A new disabled ramp has been installed in Laurie Grove Baths after people reported they found the old ramp hard to negotiate.

A purpose built design store has been erected to the rear of the Lockwood Building, replacing the disused climbing wall. The store will house equipment used by the Department of Design.

For more news from Estates and Facilities, check out Staff Gold web pages and the next issue of **Staff Hallmark**, due out in October.



## Dates for term time and Presentation Ceremonies

Presentation Ceremonies take place from 2-5 September 2008.

Autumn Term starts on 22 September 2008 and runs until 12 December 2008.

Spring Term starts on 12 January 2009 and runs until 27 March 2009.

These are the standard term dates. Some courses operate to slightly different timings. The full list of term dates is published at [www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/registry/term-dates.php](http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/registry/term-dates.php)