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Staff Hallmark

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The newsletter for staff of Goldsmiths, University of London.

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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. If you wish to submit images or photographs to accompany an article, these must be digital, and should be 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/

Copy deadlines for the next editions of Staff Hallmark are:

APRIL: 3 MARCH
JUNE: 5 MAY

This issue's cover

Lucy Smith, Bursaries and Scholarships Officer, pictured with Christine Afolabi, a second year Psychology student. Full story on page 14.

Equal Ops accessible for all

Equal Opportunities Facilitators have been in place at Goldsmiths since 2003. Each department has an appointed facilitator, whose role is to ensure that colleagues and students are aware of the work and decisions of the Equal Opportunities Committee.

This could see them keeping colleagues in their department up-to-date with College policy developments and procedures, informing staff and students on how to seek advice on equalities issues, helping to identify good equal opportunities practice and sharing this within their department and College-wide.

Hillary Lowe, Equal Opportunities Adviser, thinks that the group is an important resource for the College: "They're a well established group and are represented on the Equality and Diversity Committee. As they're often the first point of contact for people, they can pass on feedback at the regular Facilitator meetings in a safe

and informal environment. I hope that anyone and everyone would feel comfortable to speak with their Facilitator about anything to do with equality."

Victoria Goddard is the Facilitator for Anthropology and adds: "Because issues of equality permeate all aspects of our work, it's important that things like recommendations to do with Equal Opportunities, national guidelines and the College's own guidelines are embedded within departments. As a College-wide group, we explore a wide range of issues at our meetings, where talk is always lively and productive. Our meetings provide an excellent opportunity for frank discussion, for sharing experiences and practices and reflecting on current and proposed policies."

A list of the Equal Opportunities Facilitators for the College is published on the web at www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/hr/equal-opps.php



Plans to make the Rutherford Building work harder

Groups of students have been canvassed for their thoughts on what can be done to make the Rutherford Building a better place to study. The idea being to try to make the space offer more to more students.

Mary Nixon, Librarian, says the focus groups provided a lot of different replies, including 'somewhere really quiet to work', 'somewhere I can have a coffee', 'more comfortable chairs', 'more space for group study', to 'an enquiry desk on each floor'.

"What comes over clearly is that people learn in a variety of ways and need a variety of spaces in which to

study," says Mary. "And whilst the one building can't offer everything to everyone, we can hopefully put in place improvements that will benefit most students in some way."

Staff from the Library, IT Services and a number of other departments will combine forces to work on the improvement project.

Mary concludes by saying that the first enhancements – better group study facilities on the ground floor – should be in place by the summer. A taster of what else is to come may appear on the first floor even sooner.

"What comes over clearly is that people learn in a variety of ways and need a variety of spaces in which to study."

Above: Main entrance to the Rutherford Building

Textiles specialist presented to HRH Duke of York



To celebrate the growing success of the British 'technical textiles' industry, the Drapers' Company, one of the leading City of London Livery Companies, together with the Industrial Trust, launched an annual programme of awards to raise the profile of the textiles industry and recruit individuals with state of the art IT and scientific skills into the sector.

Above: Rose Sinclair, Lecturer in the Department of Design who specialises in textiles, was an invited guest to the ceremony.

This year's awards were held at Drapers' Hall in the City of London and were attended by HRH Andrew Duke of York.

Rose Sinclair, Lecturer in the Department of Design who specialises in textiles, was an invited guest to the ceremony. As an author of several books for teachers and students and an ardent supporter of teaching textiles in UK schools, Rose was approached by the Drapers' Company and the Industrial

Trust to attend the awards to see the kind of work that students are currently undertaking and examine the standard of the work produced.

Rose, along with other influential professors and inventors, was presented to HRH Andrew Duke of York: "He asked about the work that we do and commented on the exhibitions and the creations that had been produced. It was all very exciting and he was extremely

knowledgeable as some of the textile technologies were used in the military."

As a result of the extensive work which Rose undertakes in the field of textiles, she's been asked by the Industrial Trust to be the Education Consultant for their forthcoming DVD about smart and technical textiles. The role will see her develop and write the teachers notes and student support material which will accompany the DVD.

New Heads of Department

We welcome three new Heads of Department from 1 September 2008 to 31 August 2011:

Drama: Mr John Ginman
ECL: Professor Alan Downie
Anthropology: Dr Frances Pine

The following people are reappointed as Heads of Department:

PACE: Professor Len Platt
(1 September 2008 to 31 August 2009)

Design: Mr Terry Rosenberg
(1 September 2008 to 31 August 2009)

Media and Communications: Dr Gareth Stanton
(1 September 2008 to 31 August 2011)

Visual Cultures: Mr Brendan Prendeville
(1 September 2008 to 31 August 2009)

Is online art the perfect medicine?

Ajaykumar, Lecturer in the Department of Drama and pictured right, has founded 'a seminal, insightful and interactive science-art work' which is set to launch online.

The interactive work has been commissioned by global online art gallery Turbulence and is funded by the National Endowment of the Arts (USA).

'iPak – 10,000 songs, 10,000 images, 10,000 abuses' is a series of three

interconnecting evolving internet art works exploring themes of art as medicine, mental illness and racism. Ajaykumar explains: "The work combines conceptual originality, playfulness, and original engagement with disturbing cultural and social themes. It explores possibilities of generative art as re-generative force."

Ajaykumar says that the pieces on display – submitted by himself and other contributing artists – will reflect artistic responses to recent scientific research that indicates that black people



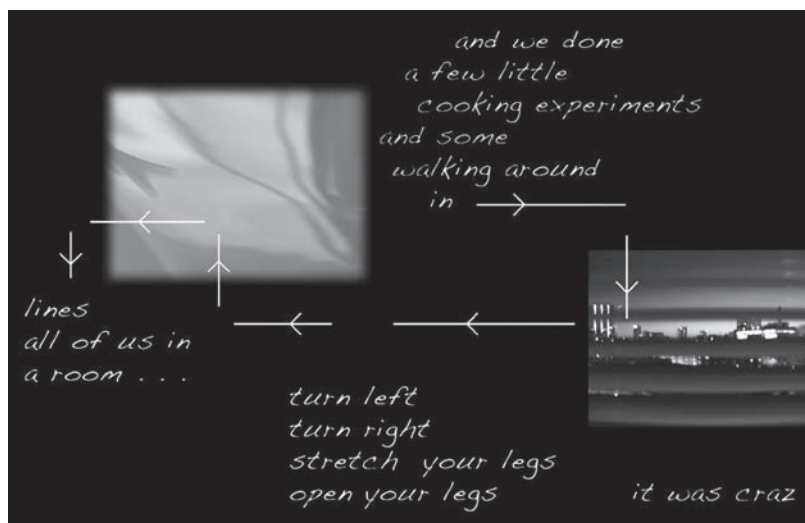
are several times more likely than white people to suffer from mental illness, and that the causes are social rather than genetic. The research indicates that racism engenders mental illness. In a BBC interview, one of the researchers, Professor Robin Murray of the Institute of Psychiatry, stated that the experience of living in the UK almost drives black people mad.

It is anticipated that the work will be available in several languages in the future, and will also explore art as therapy and healing, a way of channelling insight from madness.

The works will be displayed in three continually changing forms – 'chaos,' 'jukebox' and 'platform'. 'Chaos' will be a generative art work, a constantly shifting, random interplay of video, still images, poetry and music, creating a transforming montage drawing out new meanings, ideas and emotions. The 'jukebox' component will offer people playful interactivity, allowing the viewer to choose the sounds and music to accompany the ever-changing collage. Finally, 'platform' is composed of a gallery to which anyone can upload their art work and create blogs and forums on the themes of the project.

Everyone, whether an artist or not, is invited to submit material related to the themes of the project by uploading items onto the 'platform' component. This material will also be fed into 'chaos' and 'jukebox,' continuing its evolution into a relational art work.

www.turbulence.org launches on 27 March. The online site will remain viewable until February 2010.



Departments get intimate for groundbreaking event



Above: Intimacy contributor, Jess Dobson, performing 'Fee for Service'

'Intimacy: Across Visceral and Digital Performance'

Interaction and co-operation was flavour of the month as multiple departments joined forces to support a groundbreaking event.

'Intimacy: Across Visceral and Digital Performance' featured a digital and live art programme of five workshops, four seminars, 36 performances, 'show and tell' presentations, screenings, and a symposium. Events were held on campus, at the Laban Centre, The Albany, Home London and also online. The programme was designed to address a diverse set of responses to the notion of 'being intimate' in contemporary performance.

PhD student Maria Chatzichristodoulou [otherwise known as Maria X] co-directed the event and explains: "The event aimed to elicit connectivity,

induce interaction and provoke debate between cutting-edge artists, performers, scholars, researchers, students, creative thinkers and local communities, in order to enable the interrogation and exploration of formal, aesthetic and affective modes of performing intimacy now."

Maria was pleased that the programme managed to offer 'something truly unique'. She cites the official launch as a highlight as it featured digital, live art and sound performances from artists coming from the USA, Poland, Switzerland and the UK, attracting an audience of around 400.

Intimacy was organised by Goldsmiths Digital Studios and supported by the Graduate School, and Departments including Drama, Computing, Music, Media and Communications, Visual Cultures, and the Centre for Cultural Studies.



Textiles project gets the right numbers

Janis Jefferies, Director of the Constance Howard Resource and Research Centre in Textiles, and textile artist and alumna May Cornet have received a major funding award for their 'Number Museum' project.

The Crafts Council 'Spark Plug Award' is a new annual award scheme which supports craft curators and professionals in the UK to develop ambitious and innovative exhibitions that engage with contemporary craft. The scheme selects a number of curators

each year and awards them £5,000 to fund one year of research activity, during which time they research and develop an original exhibition project.

The interdisciplinary Number Museum Research Project will investigate the creative and dynamic relationship between mathematics, mathematical forms and textiles. This will be explored through 'Common Threads', a maths and textile archive held in the Constance Howard Centre. Janis says she will analyse how

the historical elements of the archive can be re-meditated and interpreted by a contemporary artist, producing a text which mirrors May's practice-based methodology.

The Number Museum was selected as one of six projects to receive the award, from a total of 43 applications. The judging panel felt that the proposal was original in its bringing together of science, maths and art, with issues of material crafting and the virtual.

"The award scheme will support craft curators and professionals to develop ambitious exhibitions."

Goldsmiths made a commitment to provide bursaries of up to £1,000 to eligible students at the start of the 2006 application cycle, in response to the Government's decision to allow universities in the UK to charge variable fees. Managed within Student Support Services, it is administered by Lucy Smith, Bursaries and Scholarships Officer.

Student funding has first-year review

Bursaries

So far, Goldsmiths has provided bursaries for 1,120 'home' undergraduate and PGCE students, with more than 80% of these receiving a full bursary of £1,000. The cost of the scheme for the same academic year was £656,389: over £35,000 more than was anticipated.

The College has joined the Student Loans Company (SLC) Higher Education Bursary Scholarships Scheme (HEBSS) service to enable the local level of assessment of the Bursary Scheme. However, there were concerns about the accuracy and the timely access to data in the early stages of the project. Explains Lucy: "Because of this, we instigated a contingency plan to make sure all new students were aware of the availability of the Scheme. We introduced an application form and sent it to all students holding offers, and also to those receiving offers during the clearing process. A member of Student Support Services was available throughout enrolment week to talk about the scheme and how to apply. On top of this, when we received data from the SLC via HEBSS we wrote to students letting them know about the scheme and included an application form."

"We're pleased that we can offer financial support to large numbers of students and that thanks to this, students from low income backgrounds may not be deterred from studying here."

Scholarships

Alongside the Bursary Scheme is the College's Scholarships Scheme, available to undergraduate and postgraduate students. It has been introduced to reward students who have excelled academically, and to support students with the potential for academic excellence.

Goldsmiths introduced three new scholarships last year. The Warden's Scholarship (two awards of £5,000), and the Excellence Scholarships (15 awards of £500) are awarded on the basis of academic excellence. The London Student Access to Goldsmiths Scheme (32 awards of £500) is given to try to minimise people's barriers to higher education and is aimed primarily at the Widening Participation cohort.

Applications for the Warden's Scholarships and the Excellence Scholarships reached almost 100, meaning all the available awards were distributed. The College received 30 applications for the London Student Access to Goldsmiths scholarship, of which just over half were successful.

Aiming high

The College exceeded the commitments it made to the Office for Fair Access in providing financial support to students with a low income: an achievement met by only 34% of English higher education institutions. "We're pleased that we can offer financial support to large numbers of students and that thanks to this, students from low income backgrounds may not be deterred from studying here. It's something we're committed to continuing in the future."

Looking to the future, Lucy would like to see a mechanism developed whereby students can apply online for the schemes, and she's working with colleagues in the Registry and IT Services to maximise the number of applications for bursaries and scholarships and to streamline the application process.

These developments are timely as a review of the Variable Fee cap will begin next year and Lucy says it will be important for the College to respond to the outcomes and the impact they may have on the Bursary and Scholarship Scheme at Goldsmiths.

Lucy is also keen to extend her work with academic departments to raise the profile of bursaries and scholarships and details of the Government's student finance package to applicants at open days and applicants days.



Funding in action

Christine Afolabi

Christine Afolabi, pictured left with Lucy Smith, is a second year BSc Psychology student. She came to Goldsmiths from full-time work but is no stranger to the College, having already spent two years here studying part-time for a Foundation Certificate.

She receives a bursary of £1,000 for each year of the BSc to help towards tuition fees or study material such as books. It was thanks to information sent in the post before enrolment that first alerted Christine to the possibility of a bursary, which she says makes full-time study "a reality."



Matthew Maher

Pictured left is Matthew Maher, a second year student studying Sociology and Politics. Matthew is awarded a £1,000 bursary and a scholarship of £500 for each of his three years of undergraduate study. He says the funding mostly goes towards paying his rent. He's thankful to Student Support Services as it was during a visit to their office that he was encouraged to apply for the funding. He's not ruled out continuing with his studies after graduating but says that, like most decisions, it comes down to money.

If you would like any more details on the Goldsmiths Scheme, please contact Lucy ext 7214 or e-mail l.smith@gold.ac.uk or visit www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/student-support/

Bursaries and Scholarships – how to apply

To be eligible for a bursary, students starting in 2008 must be a 'home' undergraduate or studying for a PGCE, paying the maximum tuition fee of £3,145 have a household income of below £40,000, and in receipt of a full or partial maintenance or special support grant from the Government.

Bursaries provide students with financial support for course costs such as travel, equipment, books and, where applicable, childcare.

Scholarships are there to reward high achieving students or to recognise those students who have the potential for academic excellence.

Undergraduate students planning to undertake a degree in 2008 must submit a scholarship application form direct to the Student Funding and Information Office by 30 June 2008.

Postgraduate students need to make an application for a scholarship by 1 April 2008. They can apply to the Student Funding and Information Office, or to the Registry alongside an application for their course.

After a prolonged period of closure, the Whitehead Building opened its doors to staff and students again at the beginning of January.

Whitehead Building reopens for business

There was not much time to settle people back into the building ready for the start of the Spring Term so for this reason, the re-cant of academic departments was prioritised to give them a head start before teaching began. HR and Finance remain in Lockwood Annexe buildings.

Whilst work still continues on the building the majority of space inside has been given over to regular use. There are some areas that remain out of bounds and these are clearly marked. The entry to the Ian Gulland Lecture Theatre and other areas of the building are still via the signposted entrances at the back of the building, adjacent to the Laurie Grove Gate.

Now that the scaffolding has started to be removed from the outside, the new finish is being revealed. From the College Green side, the glass frontage opens up the bottom half of the building.

Attention is also being given to landscaping the area around the outside of the building. The grass verge immediately adjoining the building has been given over to heavy machinery and contractors for the past six months. It's now started to be cleared and the plants and bushes that were moved to allow for the equipment are due to be replanted or replaced.

The scope of the project was always to improve the exterior of the Whitehead Building, giving it an extended lease of life. The inside has not been completely redecorated, as this was outside of the remit of the recladding project. Where walls or flooring were affected by the building works, they have been made good and any marks painted over. In a letter to occupants of the building, Hugh Jones, Registrar and Secretary said that thought was being given to the right approach to take on any further redecorating within the building, but at the moment, the focus and resources have to be on completing the project.

Right: The new Whitehead Building exterior is being revealed.



Survey responses help shape Finance's future

Finance have been running a customer feedback survey to gauge how the rest of the College view the team and the service they provide.

So far, positive comments have been received on the level of assistance provided by members of the Finance team, and the Finance web site has been praised. Julie Shephard, PA to the Director of Finance, is coordinating responses and says any negative comments have provided a sound indication of where

efforts can be concentrated in the future: "We've got a good idea that we should aim to clarify one or two of our procedures, thanks to the feedback from the survey. I think overall the department has been pleased with the responses and we're looking forward to more people sharing their opinion with us."

The survey has recently been relaunched and is once again open to all members of staff. If you have already completed the survey but wish to add new thoughts,

please use the questionnaire to do so. One respondent will win a box chocolates, so remember to add your name and a contact number or e-mail at the bottom of the survey if you'd like to be in with a chance of winning.

The survey is linked from the Finance web site www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/finance/ and can be completed at any time before Monday 31 March.



A word from the wise

A Chinese blogger has been rewarded for her efforts with the written word.

Above: Xiaohui Qu now heads up the alumni group in China.

“I feel my time at Goldsmiths enriched me and provided me with a lot of experience.”

Xiaohui Qu, a former MA Media and Communications student, won a return trip to the UK - top prize in an essay competition set by the British Council in China.

To enter the competition, applicants had to write a 2,000 word submission about their memories of studying in the UK. The competition was open to any UK alumni registered with the British Council.

Xiaohui is well known both in the UK and in China for a blog in which she regularly talks about her time at Goldsmiths and her experience of studying in the UK. Her blog, which has led many students to consider studying in the UK, was referenced in her written submission. So good is she at spreading the word about studying in the UK and in particular at Goldsmiths, she's been recruited by the College to head up

the alumni group in China, helping to develop links and opportunities within the body of Goldsmiths graduates now based there.

One student who followed Xiaohui's example is Ying Guo, a MA Transnational Communications and Global Media student. She recalls being curious about studying in the UK and decided to use an online search engine to find out more. Xiaohui's blog came up in the list of results and, motivated from reading the entries, Ying made a successful application to Goldsmiths.

Xiaohui says she was delighted to win first prize and clinch the trip to the UK. She spent one day of her week-long visit back on campus, where she met up with Ying, Christina Murphy, International Officer, and also Qian Cong, BA Media and Sociology student and President of the College's Chinese Society.

“I feel my time at Goldsmiths enriched me and provided me with a lot of experience,” says Xiaohui. “From it, I have made friends from all around the world, and I am only too happy to share my experience on my blog and hopefully encourage other people to make the most of the study opportunities open to them.”

Xiaohui's winning entry can be found online along with her blog, http://blog.sina.com.cn/s/blog_53f84482010005k1.html



From left to right, the Warden, Claire Baigent, Paula Balint and the Mayor of Lewisham

Out of the 50 students picking up awards on the night, **Staff Hallmark** spoke to three from the Department of Educational Studies. Claire Baigent, Paula Balint, and Keeley Harris are all studying for the BA (Hons) Education, Culture and Society, a relatively new degree which Dr Lez Smart, head of programme, says has proved "very successful" since its launch three years ago.

Keeley received an award from NatWest Bank, while Claire and Paula collected the Mayor's New Cross Award, set up by Sir Steve Bullock, Mayor of Lewisham

High-achieving students reap the rewards

Students were recognised for their academic and personal achievements at the College's annual Student Awards Ceremony. The Warden, Professor Geoffrey Crossick presented students with awards and scholarships funded by the College, local businesses and individuals.

as a lasting legacy to the young people who died in the 1981 New Cross fire. Now in its second year, the scholarship offers the chance for two individuals from the local community to study at Goldsmiths and realise their potential.

Learning she had received the scholarship, Claire says she was "ecstatic." "Receiving this award has meant that the financial pressure has been taken off me this year, allowing me to focus purely on my course. I have lived and studied in the area my whole life and so I feel particularly

privileged to have won an award that commemorates the New Cross fire. I would recommend that students apply for as many awards as they are eligible for. The support is there, and you have nothing to lose."

Lez adds: "We're very proud to have three students from Educational Studies honoured in this way. The fact that they are all studying on the Department's newest degree is particularly satisfying. It'll be fascinating to see where Keeley - who graduates this year - and Claire and Paula use their talents in the future."



Award winners Mike Phillips, Shyamantha Asokan, and Claire Daly

It's a hat-trick for Journalism students

Alumni hailing from the MA Journalism course made headlines as they were victorious in three of the Periodical Training Council's (PTC) prestigious Annual Awards.

Claire Daly picked up the award for 'Most Promising Student Journalist of the Year', and was praised by the judges: "Claire tackled some really different issues and came up with original feature ideas. She focused on serious subjects and made them compelling and fun to read by injecting real passion and energy into her writing." Winning awards is becoming something of a habit to Claire, who was also vice-editor on 'The Miserabilist', which won the award for 'New Student Magazine of the Year' at the PTC Magazine Awards in September last year.

Also collecting awards at this year's ceremony was Claire's fellow student Shyamantha Asokan, who was awarded 'Highly Commended Student Journalist'. The hat-trick was completed by Mike Phillips who picked up 'New Business News Journalist of the Year'.

Angela Phillips, Course Convenor, said that she was delighted at her students' successes and described the recognition as "incredibly useful" to furthering a career in journalism.

Claire is now working on the editorial team of The Oldie, Shyamantha is working at the Financial Times and Mike is writing for Property Week.



Just some of the people who participated during the joint Students' Union and College Wellbeing Week

Wellbeing Week returns for seconds

“The Fayre was the icing on the cake. People staffing the stalls did a brilliant job.”

There was free fruit, free smoothies and an interesting array of outfits at this year's Wellbeing Fayre. The second-ever Wellbeing Week culminated with the Wellbeing Fayre, showcasing Goldsmiths' sports clubs, societies and organisations.

The Great Hall was the venue for the Fayre, where displays were put on from cheerleading squad 'the Goldsmiths Felions', the ju-jitsu club and the capoeira club. Around the outside of the Hall, stalls and stands offered information about spiritual wellbeing, drug and alcohol awareness, counselling, and cycling, while the police, fire brigade and Samaritans were also on hand to provide advice.

Wellbeing Week is a joint initiative from the College and Students' Union, with

the aim being to encourage people to discover new ways of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and state of mind.

Debbie Irwin, Sports and Recreation Manager, helped organise the week and says she's pleasantly surprised at how popular it was. "I was nervous at the beginning as we weren't sure of what the take up would be, given that for most people, it was the first week back following the Christmas break. But come mid-week, things were picking up, the 'try your hand' classes at Club Pulse were getting busier and our sports clubs were reporting interest from people.

"The Fayre was the icing the on cake. People staffing the stalls did a brilliant job at decorating their stands and we had a great turn out from staff and students. The free healthy food

samples available at the Sainsbury's stall must have been one of the most popular places for people to visit. But it seems passers by weren't just after the freebies, as one of the stall holders commented on how many questions on nutrition they were asked by students and staff. So hopefully people came away with more than just a free piece of fruit."

To help reinforce the positive lifestyle messages of Wellbeing Week, the Students' Union have launched a Healthy Living Advice Service that will offer support and information to students throughout the year.

The wellbeing theme continues for staff as well as the Staff Development team takes up the batten and offer a series of free lunchtime walks. See page 15 for more.

NSS is back for fourth year

All final year students in England and Wales are asked to give their opinion on the quality of their learning opportunities in the fourth annual National Student Survey (NSS). The survey is made up of 22 questions about things such as teaching, assessment, learning resources and academic support.

The survey is run by Ipsos MORI on behalf of HEFCE and last year 177,000 students took the survey. Of these 717 were Goldsmiths students, giving the institution an above average response rate of 63% (nationally 60% of eligible students responded to the survey). NSS data is used by league table

compilers, such as the Guardian, Times and Sunday Times, by the Government to judge the performance of higher education, by prospective students via a link from the UCAS web site and also by the College itself. Last year, after NSS data showed that students were dissatisfied with the feedback they received, the College launched a major review of the assessment and feedback process.

This year the Quality and Governance Office is offering a top prize of a 160GB iPod classic to one student taking the online survey. There are also ten Amazon vouchers to be won by

students completing the survey online. While the survey runs until 30 April 2008, the online prize draw closes earlier on 19 March 2008.

The survey is anonymous and institutions are not allowed to know which students have responded. Staff are asked to encourage final year students to complete the survey at www.thestudentsurvey.com



“NSS data is used by league table compilers, the Government, prospective students, and by the College itself.”

Bridging the gap between vocational and academic qualifications

In a sector seemingly dominated by acronyms, you can easily become lost in an alphabetical maze. One of the more impressive acronyms currently making waves at Goldsmiths is 'SELLLN', or to decode it - the South East London Lifelong Learning Network.

Goldsmiths is the lead institution for SELLLN's work in the creative, communications and media skills sector. King's is leading on health and wellbeing (and is where the central SELLLN team are based), University of Greenwich on business, leadership and enterprise and London South Bank University on construction, design and technology.

This Lifelong Learning Network is a partnership of the four universities and six further education colleges, Bexley, Greenwich, Lewisham, South Thames, Southwark and Lambeth. The network has been set up by HEFCE to promote learning opportunities that assist vocational learners to navigate the path of progression into higher education.

By creating dialogue between the FE and HE institutions it is hoped that more vocationally-focused students can make the transition to furthering their studies at universities.

A working group representing the South East London partnership has been established to oversee the work of the network in the creative, communications and media skills sector. The group is chaired by Chris Wild from the Creative and Cultural Skills Council and Kay Stables, Professor of Design and Technology Education. The working group also includes employers and agencies who are interested in working more closely with colleges and universities in the local area.

SELLLN is funding pilot projects to aid the progression of vocational learners. One example of this is a short bridging course to the BSc Computing degree, which will run at Goldsmiths from April this year.

Lucy Jenks, Lifelong Learning Co-ordinator, thinks that the network could open new doors for many people and hopefully aid their progression to studying at university. She welcomes enquires about funding applications, undergraduate and postgraduate curriculum developments, and progression for vocational learners. Lucy is based in the Registry, e-mail l.jenks@gold.ac.uk.

“By creating dialogue between FE and HE institutions, it's hoped that vocationally-focused students can further their studies at university.”

“The network could open new doors for many people and aid their progression to studying at university.”



Goldsmiths in the news

“Goldsmiths graduates have made enormous contributions to the cultural and civic life of this country. It’s an honour to join that community”

Michael Craig-Martin opens new exhibition

Emeritus Professor of Fine Art, Michael Craig-Martin, has been in the spotlight with his own new exhibition, ‘A is for Umbrella,’ which recently opened at the Gagosian Gallery in London. The exhibition has generated reviews and features examining his influence on the art world through his teaching at Goldsmiths in the Observer (30 December), Financial Times (1 December), Independent (30 November & 11 December) and Wallpaper magazine (December). Professor Craig-Martin was also listed as the 29th most influential American in the UK by the Daily Telegraph (21 November).

Turner Prize winner bears all

Meanwhile, one of the Department of Art’s alumni, bear-suit wearing Mark Wallinger, took this year’s Turner Prize and when answering questions from readers of the Independent (10 December) said of his time at Goldsmiths: “I was introduced to ways of thinking and making that changed my practice forever.”

Goldsmiths hosts debate on the future of news

The ‘Future of News Symposium’ held by the Department of Media & Communications facilitated a debate which spilled over into a number of political and media-related blogs, including that of the Guardian’s Senior Political Commentator, Michael White, on the Guardian Unlimited website (26 November). It also prompted former BBC journalist, Nicholas Jones, to write an article in political magazine, Tribune (7 December), on his fears about the erosion of impartiality in news due to developments on the internet.

Lost Prokofiev score emerges as new ballet

The Times (9 December) and the New York Times (11 December) both celebrated the discovery of an unfinished film score by Russian composer, Sergei Prokofiev, in the archives of the Department of Music at Goldsmiths. A photocopy of the work was found by Danish choreographer, Kim Brandstrup, and has been completed by the British composer, Michael Berkeley. It will be performed as a ballet at Covent Garden.

Psychology Professor speaks on touching art

Professor of Psychology, Linda Pring, was interviewed on the ‘All in the Mind’ programme on BBC Radio 4 (4 December) about her research into visual impairment and her involvement in the ‘In Touch With Art’ conference held at the V&A in November which considered ways of engaging blind and partially blind people with the visual arts.

More Goldsmiths on Radio 4

Two other Goldsmiths academics also recently contributed to BBC Radio 4 programmes. Professor of French Literature and Head of English & Comparative Literature, Peter Dunwoodie, was on ‘In Our Time’ with Melvyn Bragg (3 January) discussing the life and works of Nobel Prize for Literature winner, Albert Camus, and Senior Lecturer in British Politics and Head of Politics, Dr Richard Grayson, commented on the Liberal Democrat leadership race on ‘The Westminster Hour’ (9 December).

Ross Raisin, one to watch out for in 2008

Former MA Creative and Life Writing student, Ross Raisin, has been tipped for great things in 2008. His debut novel, ‘God’s Own Country,’ out this year, is expected to hit the bestsellers lists, and he’s been identified as a name to watch out for in the Observer (30 December) and The London Paper (4 January).

Courageous work recognised at awards ceremony

The Open Book Project and its Co-ordinator, Joe Baden, were selected to receive an award at this year’s Longford Prize ceremony reported the NewsShopper (28 November). Joe, who heads up the Open Book Project was presented with a runners-up award, commending the Project’s work in the criminal justice system for its display of outstanding qualities of humanity, courage, persistence and originality. The Award was presented at the Longford Lecture by Irish President, Mary McAleese.

Open Book encourages and supports adults who are from socially excluded or hard-to-reach groups, including prisoners and ex-offenders, to pursue further and higher education. There are currently over 100 students registered with the Project.

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

Starters and leavers

Thanks to HR for supplying the information.

Welcome to Goldsmiths...

Dr Altan Asu Aksoy Robins, Researcher, Media and Communications, 01/01/2008

Mrs Sara Angelini, Student Counsellor, Student Support Services, 14/01/2008

Ms Ruth Bailey, Lecturer, Educational Studies, 07/01/2008

Miss Carla Berrens Torruella, Library Shelving Assistant, Library, 26/11/2008

Miss Sally Cartwright, Research Assistant, Psychology, 12/11/2007

Mr Adrian Evans, Research Assistant, Computing, 19/11/2007

Mr Steven Farmer, Departmental Publicity Officer (Maternity Cover), Communications and Publicity, 14/01/2008

Ms Saeideh Ghahghaei, Research Assistant, Psychology, 01/01/2008

Miss Sarah Hawton, Library Assistant, Library, 05/11/2007

Mrs Debbie Hunt, Finance Assistant, Finance, 14/01/2008

Mr Daniel Jones, Web Programmer, IT Services, 03/12/2007

Ms Rhiannon Jones, Research Associate, Psychology, 01/12/2007

Mr David Arthur Lawrance, Finance Officer, Educational Studies, 03/12/2007

Dr Veronica Lawrence, Learning and Teaching Support, Library, 14/01/2008

Mr Job Lindsen, Research Associate, Psychology, 15/01/2008

Mr Erik Manning, Assistant Registrar, Registry, 02/01/2008

Ms Kay McEachran, Specialist Dyslexia Tutor, Student Support Services, 14/01/2008

Dr Monika Metykova, Research Assistant, Media and Communications, 01/01/2008

Ms Imogen Mitchell, Performance Administrator, Music, 02/01/2008

Dr Barley Norton, Senior Lecturer, Music, 28/01/2008

Ms Melanie Rimmer, Project Officer, Resources and Planning, 08/01/2008

Mr Kevin Robins, Researcher, Media and Communications, 01/01/2008

Mr Makhan Singh, Handyman, RCCS, 21/01/2008

Miss Helen Stokes, Assistant Registrar, Registry, 02/01/2008

Miss Susan Westbrook, Clerical Officer, Registry, 10/12/2007

Mr Mark Williams, Research Assistant, Psychology, 06/11/2007

Wishing you well for the future...

Mr Paul Amies, Senior Library Assistant, Library, 11/01/2008

Miss Eileen Lapid Apostol, Secretarial Assistant, Warden's Office, 09/11/2007

Ms Lisa Applebee, Clerical Officer, Music, 30/11/2007

Ms Caroline Armstrong, Counsellor, Student Support Services, 16/12/2007

Dr Manuela Bojadzjev, Lecturer, Sociology, 31/12/2007

Ms Mary Bown, Disability Officer, Student Support Services, 01/01/2008

Ms Kate Brady, Student Counsellor, Student Support Services, 10/01/2008

Ms Claire Broom, Residence Assistant, RCCS, 26/12/2007

Miss Emmelianna Bujak, Research Assistant, Psychology, 08/12/2007

Mrs Celia Burgess-Macy, Lecturer, Educational Studies, 21/11/2007

Mr Ben Cain, Lecturer, Art, 31/12/2007

Mr John Edgar, Head of Financial Services, Finance, 31/12/2007

Mr Oghale Efue, Technician, CELT

Mr William Finch, Alumni Officer, Development and Alumni Office, 29/01/2008

Ms Mellanie Hodge, Lecturer, Language Studies Centre, 31/12/2007

Dr Moira Inghilleri, Lecturer, English and Comparative Literature, 31/12/2007

Ms Melanie Jordan, Lecturer, Art, 14/12/2007

Mr Henry Loo, Head of Capital Projects, Estates and Facilities, 15/01/2008

Dr Christopher Smaje, Research Associate, Anthropology, 31/01/2008

Dr Dan Tidhar, Researcher, Computing, 20/12/2007

Mr Brian Whybrow, Senior Porter, Estates and Facilities, 20/01/2008

Pictured on top of Telegraph Hill are three colleagues who joined the first lunchtime walk. From left to right: Fiona Bressange (PACE), Chloe Nast (Design) and Mira Vogel (CELT)



Keep on walking

'On the road to health and wellbeing', a new series of lunchtime walks organised by Staff Development launched in January. Steve Collins, Head of Staff Development, hopes that the walks will encourage people to make more of their lunchbreak, get some fresh air, gentle exercise and provide an informal, relaxed opportunity to network with colleagues.

"We were very encouraged with the turn out for our first walk."

The first walk took people via the Ben Pimlott Building on a circular 2.5 mile route to Telegraph Hill and then back through the outskirts of Brockley on the return trip to the campus.

Steve says: "We were very encouraged with the turn out for our first walk. At least a couple of walkers introduced themselves to each other for the first time, proving that the idea of walking and networking does work. We're looking forward to more people joining us for our second walk."

The next walk takes place on Tuesday 19 February and will collect people

from outside the Richard Hoggart Building (RHB) Carpark then on to Deptford, taking in the final resting place of 16th Century poet and playwright, Christopher Marlowe, before returning to Goldsmiths.

"Whilst the majority of walks are timed to fit with a one-hour lunchbreak, this particular walk may run over. Colleagues who need to return in the 60 minutes can jump on the bus back to work. But don't worry, we won't leave anyone stranded at any point!"

All those interested in joining the walk should meet outside RHB at 12.30pm on 19 February.

What you need to know, when you need to know it

Coming soon! Rather than sending one-off e-mail updates about each Staff Development workshop and course, a new fortnightly all-staff e-mail bulletin is going to be trialled. The bulletin will carry all the usual information and opportunities being offered to staff, plus snippets of what you can expect in the near future. The latest workshops and news will continue to be published on the Staff Development web site, www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/staff-development

Alumnus makes 'Celebration 60' elite

Stella Tang, who studied BA Fine Art in 1989, will represent Goldsmiths at the British Council Hong Kong's 'Celebration 60: people of our time' feature, part of the Council's 60th anniversary programme.

UK universities were asked to nominate candidates for a special alumni feature, with 60 people being selected, 10 graduates from each of the past six decades.

A web site celebrating the 60 people was launched in January. The site is designed to highlight all candidates, emphasising their success as well as stories from their time in the UK. The Council hope they will be an inspiration to those considering an overseas education to make the UK their destination of choice. The Celebration 60 website can be found at www.celebration60.

britishcouncil.org.hk/ Later this year, the Council will host an exhibition featuring of some of Stella's artwork. You can view her work online now at <http://tangyingchi.com/>

Dave Walsh - obituary

David Walsh (1942-2008), who died suddenly of a heart attack in January 2008, was appointed to the then recently formed Sociology Department in 1967. He had graduated in Sociology from Leicester University in 1964 and went immediately to postgraduate work at the LSE and was one of the first cohort of graduates from the new taught MSc in Sociology in 1965.

After two years as Lecturer at Northwestern Polytechnic (now part of London Metropolitan University) he came to Goldsmiths to teach sociological theory. He joined a group of colleagues, who began to develop through their teaching a critique of normative Anglo-American sociology from a phenomenological perspective, which resulted in the publication of the influential 'New Directions in Sociological Theory' in 1972.

Dave had a considerable appetite for the many aspects of life which engaged him. His love and encyclopaedic knowledge of opera in particular,

which extended too many other areas of musical theatre, made a visit in his company to any performance a memorable and rewarding experience. This interest also informed much of his later work, and resulted in his collaboration with Len Platt, PACE, which produced the first book-length sociology of musical theatre 'Musical Theatre and American Culture' (2003). PACE will be hosting an international conference on the history and sociology of early music theatre in April this year. Dave would have been central to this conference. In his absence, tribute will be paid to his ground-breaking work in the field.

Dave's contribution to Sociology at Goldsmiths was not only as an academic: he was admissions tutor for many years and, as Head of Department, he steered the Department through a difficult period in its history. He took early retirement on grounds of ill health in 2002, but had recovered sufficiently to undertake some tutorial work for PACE. He will be



Dave Walsh, former Head of Sociology

greatly missed by his many friends and former colleagues, and remembered well by the several generations of students that he taught over his 35 years at Goldsmiths.

Paul Filmer
Senior Lecturer, Sociology

There are many more personal memories of Dave written by his colleagues published on the Sociology web pages, www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/sociology/dave-walsh.php

"Dave had a considerable appetite for the many aspects of life which engaged him."



Term dates and College closure days

Spring Term runs until **19 March**. The College will be closed for Easter from **20 March** until **26 March**.

Summer Term starts on **21 April** and runs until **13 June**.

These are the standard term dates. Some courses operate to slightly different dates. The full list of all term dates is published online at www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/registry/term-dates.php