The Art of Debate

Interpreting its true value
Welcome

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Get in touch and tell us what you think of INSIDE UCS. We want to hear your views on the latest issue and find out what you would like to see in the next INSIDE UCS.

An online copy can be found at ucs.ac.uk/insideucs or on the intranet site accessible by all current UCS staff and students.

We hope you enjoy reading the latest issue of INSIDE UCS and look forward to hearing your views.

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Message from the Provost

I am pleased to report that UCS continues to make progress. We have again made some very good appointments. The most recent of these is Professor Rob Massara, formerly Deputy Vice Chancellor at the University of Essex, who became Professor of Academic and Research Management at UCS from January 2012. Professor Noel Smith, currently Director of the Centre of Research in Social Policy at Loughborough University, will also be taking up a post as Head of Division of Social Work and Social Policy at Easter. Such appointments complement and inspire the work of others at all levels across UCS.

This is very important with the 2012 National Student Survey starting at the end of January at a time when institutional data is becoming ever more transparent and student recruitment is becoming very competitive – in the new world of raised tuition fees for 2012/13. Pleasingly, UCS in terms of post-graduation cost has one of the more marketable profiles amongst higher education institutions with its fees set at £7,500 for Foundation degrees and £8,000 for Honours degrees. This has been enhanced further by a new package of support offered to students recently approved by OFFA – which enables UCS to bid for additional student numbers to sustain its on-going growth.

Continuous improvements are again being made at UCS to enhance the student experience – from the purchase of more books in a Library with extended opening hours to the installation of more student PCs in the James Hehir Building and impending improvements to the layout of the Infozone at the Ipswich Hub. Pleasingly, our students are becoming more cosmopolitan, drawn from a wider range of locations both within and outside the UK with higher average grade points. This is all being achieved in a manner consistent with the mission of UCS to increase and widen participation locally, at a time when it is felt that more students will study at their local university provider.

This is very resonant too with the rising profile of UCS externally – as highlighted by the major international art installation launched at UCS in November 2011 and the very successful World Summit on Regenerative Medicine held at UCS in December 2011, publicised in this issue. It is also underlined by my own contacts in the higher education world. For example, following recent trips abroad to meet with Ministries and to deliver keynote addresses at top universities in countries ranging from Azerbaijan to Portugal and Sweden, there is no doubt that UCS – with its close links to the Universities of East Anglia and Essex as world top 250 universities – is held in high regard. This should help us positively to engage with partners at all levels as UCS moves forward.

Professor Mike Saks
Provost and Chief Executive
UCS
News Round Up

Graduation 2011

Over 1,600 students graduated from UCS in 2011 at ceremonies held at Bury St Edmunds, Great Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Ipswich. This year’s ceremonies began at UCS Bury St Edmunds in September, followed by ceremonies at UCS Lowestoft and UCS Great Yarmouth in October. During these ceremonies, Honorary Fellowships were awarded to local marine industry expert Yvonne Mason, leader of the East of England Skills for Energy programme Celia Anderson and Editor of the East Anglian Daily Times Terry Hunt.

The curtain came down on another successful year of graduation ceremonies at Ipswich Town Hall in November, with graduating students based at UCS Ipswich, UCS Otley and UCS at Suffolk New College toasting their achievements with family and friends during the final ceremonies.

Professor Mike Saks, UCS Provost and Chief Executive, said: “The Graduation ceremonies are the highlight of the UCS year as they provide a wonderful opportunity for UCS staff, families and partners to celebrate our students’ success.”

Those receiving Honorary Doctorates during ceremonies held in Ipswich included entrepreneur William Kendall, leading Royal Ballet dancer Gary Avis, TV soap opera star June Brown, and experienced sports leader Simon Clegg. Honorary Fellowships in Ipswich were awarded to local Medical Director Dr Akmal Makhdum and Evening Star Editor Nigel Pickover.

British actress June Brown, best known for her role as the busy-body gossip Dot Cotton, took to the stage during the ceremony for the School of Applied Social Sciences and gave a joyous speech after being congratulated on her Honorary Doctorate via a video message from fellow actress and friend Barbara Windsor and TV chat show host Paul O’Grady.

William Kendall described receiving his award as a great honour and surprise and used his wide experience in running global businesses such as the New Covent Garden Soup Company and Green and Black’s to offer advice to graduating students.

“This is my adopted county and it is a great honour to be given another connection with a place that I love and that I am incredibly proud of.”

Simon Clegg, well known in Suffolk as the Chief Executive of Ipswich Town Football Club and the highly successful leader of Team GB at the Olympics over the years, concluded the ceremonies.

“Today is a great day for all of you who are graduating. The future is bright and the future is yours. Like mother, like daughter

The 2011 UCS Graduation Ceremonies have been extra special for one mother and daughter who received their awards during the same ceremony. Natalie Chaplin completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Personnel Management while her daughter, Laura Stiff, achieved a 2:1 in the BA (Hons) Business Management course.

Speaking before the ceremony, Natalie said of her delight at graduating beside her daughter: “Graduating with my daughter has made today even more special and a day that we will both never forget. It is such a unique situation; I do not know whether I should cheer as Laura goes on stage or sit waiting for my turn!”

Laura Stiff spoke of the benefits of studying at UCS at the same time as her mum: “It has been great to enjoy the journey with my mum. We have been great study partners, sharing books and keeping each other motivated.”

Natalie currently works as Head of Automotive Construction and Engineering at Suffolk New College and plans to use her new qualification to progress further in her current role. Laura now plans to look for work close to home and hopes to go on to work in a Human Resources role in Suffolk.
UCS to launch Court

UCS is intending to form a Court on the model of the University of East Anglia and the University of Essex. The Court is designed to encourage active interest in UCS by a wider group of key figures locally, regionally, nationally and internationally – from political, local authority and enterprise representatives to our Honorands and Visiting Professors/Senior Fellows. The Court would come together once a year at a meeting to receive a report from the Provost and others on the work of UCS and provide an informal social occasion for members to meet with student representatives and senior UCS staff.

Across the Network

UCS Bury St Edmunds: The academic year 2011/12 has seen the launch of additional combined Honours degree routes at UCS Bury St Edmunds. The scheme attracted 60 students in its first year.

Students can now combine Business Management with Psychology, Psychology with Sociology, Psychology with English, History with English or History with Sociology.

Combining the study of two subjects is both challenging and rewarding, each having their own distinct subject rationale. It also offers the possibility of interdisciplinary connections. Intellectually ambitious students gain a valuable opportunity to develop more versatile skills and perspectives, as well as applying ideas from each area to enhance understanding and enjoyment of the other.

UCS at Suffolk New College: Summer 2011 saw the first student from UCS at Suffolk New College achieve a first class Honours degree in Civil Engineering. Louise Hall had been studying for five years – initially taking a three-year Foundation degree and then opting to ‘top-up’ with the two-year BSc (Hons) programme. Louise was also awarded the Institute of Civil Engineers East of England Best Student Award for 2011.

In November, the Centre announced the opening of its new Construction and Civil Engineering laboratory. The laboratory includes specialist equipment for testing concrete and metals which will enable students to enhance their understanding of these construction materials. There is also equipment for testing the engineering properties of soil, which is important in informing the design of foundations and embankments within civil engineering and construction project designs. In addition, the laboratory includes facilities for hydraulic testing so that students can investigate the flow of water through pipes and open channels.

Student surveys launched

UCS will be launching a campaign to promote the National Student Survey (NSS) for final year undergraduate students and the UCS Student Survey for all remaining students. Both of these open on 30 January 2012. The campaign, entitled ‘Help us, Help you’, is being run in conjunction with UCS Union and will provide all students with an opportunity to give feedback on their time at UCS.

The NSS and UCS Student Survey will consist of 23 questions relating to satisfaction across six aspects and the results from the NSS will be used in the development of subsequent national league tables. Feedback from both surveys will also be used to improve the student experience further.

Work Placement Scheme

The UCS Summer Internship Programme is a great way for students to earn and learn during their summer vacation. The Careers and Employability team are working alongside local businesses and organisations to provide a portfolio of opportunities that are accessible to all undergraduates. Students will benefit from support at all stages of the internship process and learn valuable employability skills to take away with them in preparation for life after graduation.

There have been a number of previous success stories for UCS students, including the offer of full-time work after graduation.

UCS would like to see the development of this service over the next few years to ensure that, in conjunction with local businesses and organisations, it is providing more students with the opportunities they need to progress in a competitive graduate market.

For more information please contact Anna Bothwell on 01473 338750 or email a.bothwell@ucs.ac.uk.

New intranet to go live

A project to introduce a new intranet system for staff and students at UCS is under way with a planned launch date of February 2012.

Once live, the intranet will be the first port of call for any staff or student enquiries, offering clear organised access to news, information, documents and applications. This review will not affect the Virtual Learning Environment, which hosts lecturer and student module and course information.

This new system will provide a newly improved user experience and forms part of an on-going review of internal communications being carried out by the External Relations and Marketing Team.

Local community embrace UCS Christmas Fayre

Hundreds of local residents attended the third annual UCS Christmas Fayre this winter, with over 50 stalls of gift ideas and stocking fillers on offer at the UCS Waterfront Building in Ipswich. The Ipswich Choral Society and Ipswich Waterfront Band provided festive entertainment throughout the day. The annual Christmas Fayre is organised as part UCS’s on-going commitment to community engagement.
The launch of the UCS “Question?” took place on 24 November. At precisely five minutes past 1800 hours the LED panel on the Chimney to the north was illuminated in conversation with the marble sculpture to the south, on the UCS Waterfront plaza.

**Q U E S T I O N ? Q U E S T I O N ?**

What a thrilling moment! The idea was a reality and the project complete – or almost.

What might appear to have been the simplest solution to an arts brief – to connect the two parts of the Ipswich Campus and to create a visual and experiential journey between both points – was in fact the culmination of two years work by both the artists and the commissioners. It is also hoped that the “Question?” will continue to impact on those who live in, around and beyond Ipswich, in the future.

Why the “Question?”? UCS questioned the artists’ responses to the brief in terms of their relevance for UCS, Ipswich and the region. Langlands and Bell’s proposal was unanimously accepted by the Steering Group, which included representation from Ipswich Borough Council, Suffolk County Council, the Arts Council England, the architects and engineers of the UCS Waterfront Building, students, staff and local artists.

Ben Langlands and Nikki Bell explained the reasoning behind their artwork: “The role of any University is to foster enquiry and enable people to question the world around us, engaging critically with it in different ways and on numerous different levels. “Question?” in two related parts each sited in prominent positions on the campus voices this reality by simultaneously symbolising and enacting a question.”

This is why the work resonates on so many levels and, to create the “Question?” is to ask questions, about the “Question?” too. There have been debates about the work and whether it is liked or not, whether it is worth the money or not, and whether UCS should have commissioned something else or not. But, if the work has provoked debate, disapproval and delight, it is a success. The arts matter to our lives and to UCS as an institution. UCS aspires to create work that extends, inspires and challenges – and to go beyond the usual, the normal and the mundane.

Many of the debates were around the economic implications of the project rather than the work itself, and about spending money during hard financial times. But, as was said on the radio: “This is the time that we need the arts most.” We value creativity. We also know that the UK’s flourishing creative industries are economic forces that matter, especially now. UCS will invest time in developing creativity through commitment, energy and passion, and believes that art graduates will play a key role in planning, shaping and questioning the future.

The “Question?” delights, provokes and annoys, as it should. What a chance UCS has to benefit from a section 106 requirement that prescribed the commissioning of a piece of public art as part of the Waterfront development, at a cost of around 1% of the total £20m that was spent.

There have been and will be numerous benefits from the “Question?” for the students, the local passers-by, and international visitors. Students have also had the opportunity to document the making and installation process through drawings, paintings, photography, sound and digital animation and have interviewed the artists in their London Studio. In addition, there was the benefit of an open public lecture and discussion led by the artists about their work. The School of Arts and Humanities plans to work with primary and secondary schools, and with further education and sixth form colleges when the work could be a focus for inspiration, research or an educational theme or topic. The School will also develop a central archive for the total project and is already connecting with other international public art groups and organisations who have heard about the “Question?”

The magical moment of 24 November ‘highlighted’ a sophisticated and beautiful process that culminated in a two-part art work that ‘works’ in every way. It will endure for years to come and attract visitors from far afield who will question the “Question?” or wonder why there was such a fuss.
The year of 2011 was highly progressive for the School of Science, Technology and Health with the opening of the state-of-the-art laboratory and clinical skills facilities in the new James Hehir Building at UCS Ipswich, the appointment of several high profile Visiting Professors and Senior Fellows and a number of other significant key milestones. We spoke with Professor Brendon Noble, Head of School of Science, Technology and Health, to find out about plans to forge ahead with an exciting selection of courses, an increasing research profile, international connections and new staff appointments.

The School prides itself on its international connections and these have been strengthened recently through collaborative grant proposals with some 15 countries worldwide as well as the hosting of a major international conference.

Professor Brendon Noble said: “An EU-funded project between Suffolk County Council, UCS, Spain and Denmark will involve developing an exercise activity regimen for the middle aged group and will be part of the School’s Health and Wellbeing programme.”

“Back in the UK, we have been awarded a grant from Ipswich Borough Council for research and development in Health and Wellbeing. Senior Lecturer Lois Seddon and other members of staff have also contributed to the production of a Health and Wellbeing strategy for Ipswich.”

In December 2011 Visiting Professor of Medicine, Dieter Felsenberg, delivered an exciting lecture to healthcare practitioners and this has been one of many contributions from the School’s visiting academics.

Both Professor Felsenberg and Dr Val Mann will be organising an international conference on musculoskeletal health at UCS in May next year following the success of the International Summit on Regenerative Medicine held on the 12 December at UCS. Hosted by the Science Office of the Italian Embassy in London and the School of Science, Technology and Health at UCS, this major global conference welcomed world-leading scientists and major legal and political figures from across Europe.

“As a key area of both research and training provision for UCS, it presented an exciting opportunity for us to contribute to the development of collaborations and innovation at an international level especially as the new Masters courses we are developing will help to provide the essential workforce training required to take this new industry forward over the coming years.”

The new Masters degree in Regenerative Medicine has been running since January 2012 and will provide a valuable postgraduate route for UCS students and others.

“Our collaboration with the Ipswich Hospital is an exciting step forward towards the generation of joint research projects and teaching programmes.”

Professor Brendon Noble
The Year of Radiotherapy

2011 officially marked the year of radiotherapy. The Society and College of Radiographers joined organisations across the country to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Marie Curie’s second Nobel Prize for her work with Radium, a radioactive element which was used to treat patients with cancer.

The Radiotherapy Team at UCS have themselves been promoting the profession in a variety of recruitment and publicity events to help foster knowledge and understanding of radiotherapy and the BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology courses at UCS.

Part of the radiotherapy recruitment drive has been to take VERT, the virtual environment for radiotherapy training, on the road to recruitment events and open days all over East Anglia. VERT is a virtual reality, 3D projection of radiotherapy treatment machines and virtual human patients. Combined with real treatment machine controls it enables the radiotherapy team to explain the profession and the course in a visual and interactive way, engaging potential students of all ages.

Radiotherapy at UCS was given a major boost when its students gave their course the highest national student satisfaction score in the country in last year’s National Student Survey (NSS), recording an impressive 95% satisfaction score.

In support of the course, a project funded by Suffolk County Workforce, part of NHS Suffolk, has recently been awarded over £150,000, providing equipment, software and a project lead.

As well as incorporating VERT, the TIR3 project has also been funded to implement and use Eclipse, a 10 workstation radiotherapy planning suite. Eclipse gives students the opportunity to use the same treatment planning software that is used in hospitals. Students practice planning patients’ treatments in a non-pressurised academic environment where workstation availability is not problematic and where the students’ learning needs can be prioritised.

Although the TIR3 project reaches a conclusion in 2012, the team already has plans for the final part of the Clinical Skills on Campus suite, a room in which students can practice immobilising and positioning a realistic mannequin just as they would patients for radiotherapy treatment.

Graduate named Radiographer of the Year

UCS graduate Jodie Peck has won the Radiographer of the Year award for the eastern region for her work helping student radiographers make the most of their placement at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital.

Jodie, who graduated from UCS in 2008, was nominated by colleagues at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (NNUFT) for her work on the National Cancer Action Team (NCAT) project which is supervised by UCS Lecturer in Radiography, Louise Coleman.

Jodie will now go forward to the national Radiographer of the Year awards held at the Houses of Parliament.
Graduate School

The new Graduate School is developing at a pace, receiving initial enquiries and applications for PhD programmes, supporting the development of research skills for staff and postgraduate students and working to develop a vibrant postgraduate community at UCS.

UCS is advertising studentships for admission in 2012. Applications will be assessed on the basis of their potential for research excellence, the quality of the research proposal and consistency with current areas of research expertise and the research strategy. Further details and guidance on how to apply are available at ucs.ac.uk/graduateschool.

The Graduate School will host its first postgraduate conference on 16 February 2012 to provide an opportunity for postgraduate students to meet, network and share their research ideas.

Research Funding

Elsa Urmston, Course Leader of the Dance in the Community BA (Hons) programme, has been commissioned by the Film and Video Umbrella in a Welcome Trust-funded project to work as one of four artist-scientist collaborations. Inspired by the London 2012 Olympic Games, Elsa is working with visual artist Dryden Goodwin (Slade School of Fine Art, London) to examine the intensity of focus and the enhanced experience and channelling of Csikszentmihalyi’s flow theory that people most associate with being ‘in the zone’.

Urmston and Goodwin have been working with young divers at Crystal Palace Diving Club to explore the antecedents of the flow experience, recording the divers’ interaction with their coaches, peers and families as well as the solitary preparations they make on their own.

Dr Emma Bond, Course Leader of MA Childhood and Youth Studies, has recently been awarded funding by The Nominet Trust to undertake an exploratory study entitled ‘Virtually anorexic – What’s the harm?’ in partnership with B-eat and Childnet International. The study will consider perceptions of risk from a variety of perspectives and notions of self-identity in relation to pro-anorexia (Pro-Ana) online environments.

Dr Gavin Devineux, Lecturer in the School of Science Technology and Health, is conducting research into the effects of exercise on blood pressure. Cardiovascular diseases are the leading causes of death and disability in the world and hypertension (high blood pressure) is the most prevalent cardiovascular disease, with over one billion sufferers worldwide.

There are a variety of ‘Research and Scholarly activity’ courses and workshops open to members of staff as part of the ‘UCS Corporate Development Programme’. The Research and Enterprise and Finance teams have recently started running a workshop entitled ‘Applying for research grants: Current process and a guide to support at UCS’. This is designed for any member of staff who is involved in writing applications for research funding. As well as providing an introduction to the process of writing a high-quality bid document, the workshop introduces delegates to the support systems in place at UCS. The workshop will also help delegates understand the sign-off processes in place and provide guidance regarding costing.

Further details and course dates can be found on the Corporate Development pages on the UCS intranet.

Conferences/Seminars

UCS and the Science Office of the Italian Embassy in London recently hosted a major global conference on the topic of regenerative medicine on 12 December 2011.

The summit welcomed world-leading scientists and major legal and political figures from across Europe. Charles Sabiné, NBC war correspondent spoke inspirationally and from the point of view of the patient. His story set the scene for those describing how we might bring new therapies into the clinic. Leading scientists such as Professors Chris Mason, Ellena Cattaneo and John Martin, spoke of the technical and political challenges associated with the development of these new medicines. George Freeman MP described the requirement for efficient fund raising and the ways in which the government wish to support the industry.

The Summit was attended by Italian dignitaries such as Minister Stefano Pontecorvo and Salvator Roberto Amendiola from the Italian Embassy in London and Ignazio Marino, President of the Italian Senate Committee on the NHS. Both the European Medicines Agency and the EU Commission contributed to the meeting.

Packed with presentations, discussions and lively debates, the summit focused on the identification of leading-edge solutions to important unmet clinical needs, along with addressing the emergence of a new global industry based on the regeneration of human tissues.
Academic Development

UCS Academy Lecture Series

The UCS Academy provides a high quality public lecture programme which includes inaugural lectures and guest lectures from world-renowned speakers, showcasing academic excellence both inside and outside UCS.

The first lecture of the series took place in November with Professor David Weir, Head of School of Business, Leadership and Enterprise and Professor of Business and Enterprise at UCS, presenting ‘The Poetry of Management’ - a discussion on ‘poetry’ and ‘management’ and the notion that they derive from one culture rather than being exclusive to art and science respectively.

Most recently, Michael Calnan, Professor at the University of Kent and Visiting Professor of Sociology at UCS, presented ‘Right Place – Wrong Patient, a discussion on the experiences of older people in acute NHS Trusts highlighting the vulnerability created by increased incapacity, frailty and cognitive decline in combination with a lack of social and economic resources.

Professor Calnan presented findings from a recent study exploring the experiences of older people in acute NHS Trusts in relation to dignified care, and the organisational, occupational and cultural factors that affect this.

Academy Lectures are open to the public and free to attend. For more information on the programme and to book a place, please go to www.ucs.ac.uk/ucsacademy or email theucsacademy@ucs.ac.uk.

Enterprise

The unlocking of innovation is central to the development of Suffolk's economy. However, starting and growing innovation-based businesses can be a minefield with many failing unnecessarily at the very early stages. The Suffolk Start-up Masterclass programme at UCS has been created to help such companies succeed.

The programme, run in partnership with Suffolk Digital, CamTechNet and Cambridge University’s IdeaSpace Enterprise Accelerator, is a part of the UCS strategy to encourage and foster local enterprise. The launch was held in the UCS Ipswich West Building in October and attended by students, entrepreneurs, investors and journalists, providing an excellent opportunity to showcase the Business Incubator to potential entrepreneurs and start-up businesses.

A panel of successful entrepreneurs from the technology, digital, biotechnology and environmental sectors, Harry Berry (New Venture Partners), Simon Grice (Belocal.com, Ideasorg), Kevin Gooding (Oxems) and Jamie Riddell (Digital Tomorrow Today) shared the highs and lows of their business careers and provided invaluable advice in a session entitled ‘Survival stories from the start-up jungle’.

A second event in the programme, held at the beginning of December, and presented by Scott Russell of Paddy and Scotts Coffee and Steve Flyor of Suffolk Offset and Hudson Signs, focused on turning ideas into real businesses with a session entitled ‘Validating the business and finding customers’. Both events were designed to be highly interactive and attracted a significant attendance of between 30 to 40 budding entrepreneurs.

Further events are planned for 2012 along with a mentoring programme to provide on-going business support.

Leadership

The UCS Leadership Academy team has been organising and facilitating a number of events for the top NHS leaders in Suffolk and Norfolk over the last few months. One involved the executive team of West Suffolk Hospital looking at their working processes and plans for the future. Another involves the Ipswich Hospital executive in a similar event. The team has also organised a meeting for the HR Directors and workforce leads in the NHS in Norfolk and Suffolk, to discuss the focus for leadership interventions in 2012/13. This innovative event included the use of a ‘graphic facilitator’, who brought to life the discussions and decisions in the form of readily understood and easily communicated drawings.

Design and development work on next year’s Norfolk and Suffolk Leadership Academies is also taking place, in close association with NHS colleagues.
Hellos

David Gill - Head of Division of Humanities and Professor of Archaeological Heritage

Professor David Gill joined the UCS School of Arts and Humanities in October 2011.

Professor Gill, who has researched an array of ancient treasures for the last 20 years, is regarded as the ‘Indiana Jones in reverse’ for his work in returning antiquities to their origins worldwide. He is a former Rome Scholar at the British School at Rome, and was previously a member of the Department of Antiquities at the Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge, and Reader in Mediterranean Archaeology at Swansea University.

Professor Gill has also been honoured with two highly prestigious awards for his contribution to raising public awareness of archaeology. He has received the Outstanding Public Service Award from the Archeological Institution of America for his exceptional contributions that promote public understanding of, interest in, and support for archaeology and the preservation of the archaeological record. Saving Antiques for Everyone (SAFE) have also honoured Professor Gill with the 2012 SAFE Beacon Award.

Bill Tancred - Director of Sport

Bill Tancred has been appointed as Director of Sport in the School of Science, Technology and Health at UCS, building on his previous experience as Director of Sport at Sheffield University.

He was given an honorary award by UCS in 2008 and appointed as Visiting Professor of Sports and Exercise Science in 2011. He is a former double Olympic, world class discus thrower and an international athletics coach and has a keen interest in education and training.

During his career, he was instrumental in developing courses in sports and recreation management and sports coaching. He has published numerous articles on sport, health, fitness and sports management, along with a number of books. He has presented many papers at conferences and received significant grant funding for his research.

UCS would also like to welcome the following new UCS staff members: Clive Mees as Lecturer in Business, Leadership and Enterprise, Dominic Fitzgerald as Lecturer in Film, Ian Charlesworth as Lecturer in Fine Art, Lise Uytterhoeven, Vivienne Aldous and Laura Ishiguro as Lecturers in History, Mark Edwars as Lecturer in Photography, Pamela Shultz as Lecturer in Community Nursing, Philipp Newman as Lecturer in Financial Management, Simon Bishop as Lecturer in Public Health, and Stefanie Thorne as Research Administrator.

Goodbyes

UCS would like to pass on best wishes to the following people after recently leaving their roles at UCS: Claudio Marelli, Daniel Holding, Daniel Meggs, Dominik Jackson-Cole, Geffen Scott, Glenn Carberry, Helen Angove, Margaret Parr, Pauline Newson, Roy Johnson, Scott Thomson, and Ulikre Kubatta.

Staff Suggestions - Professional Development Day

Ideas generated by UCS staff at last year’s Staff Professional Development Day have been taken forward and reviewed by the UCS Executive. Suggestions included the selling of advertising space on Wolsey as part of the upcoming Intranet changes, sponsorship of lecture theatres, exploration of further opportunities of sponsorship of material which has a commercial target, and auctioning of promises by honorands.

Staff who were unable to submit a cost saving or income generating idea at the event can do so via the Staff Suggestion Scheme on the UCS intranet or by contacting Teresa Steward, HR Manager, at t.steward@ucs.ac.uk

Atrium Studios

Atrium Studios is a project funded by UCS, Ipswich Borough Council, Suffolk County Council and the Arts Council which will enable new opportunities in the arts to thrive. The Studios are the first of their kind in Ipswich and present an ideal opportunity for graduates, alumni, and the community to rent affordable studio and office space.

We spoke to Carol Gant and Joanna Mayhew to find out more about the Studios and what the future holds for the project.

What is Atrium Studios?

CG: Atrium Studios is an innovative new creative arts hub that aims to aid the development of locally based creativity by supporting new networks and business links and creating pathways from education to employment in a vibrant and inclusive artist-led space that enables new opportunities in the arts to thrive.

How did the Studios originate?

CG: The Studios are a collaborative enterprise project that reflects the on-going work of the School of Arts and Humanities to develop a bridge between education and employment for its graduates and alumni. The School felt there needed to be a natural progression for the entrepreneurial artist, designer or new graduate who may want to run their own business, develop a freelance career or establish their own practice.

Who is based in the Studios?

CG: The Studios launched in October and we have attracted a diverse range of established artists, graduates, alumni and community groups. We now have over 25 members; our first were Asdescribed a video production and creative agency, Christian Figg an established painter, Delia Godfrey a photographer and Three&Me, a budding graphic design company made up of three of our Graphic Design graduates.

Can anyone sign-up?

JM: Our aim is to support the creative industries; therefore we welcome anyone from this sector. We are happy to show the Studios to anyone who is interested in finding out more about the project. We also have a social membership scheme for those who want to be part of this new arts community yet do not need a designated workspace.

How do you see the project developing in the future?

JM: This project will become part of the natural progression for our graduates to support them once they complete their studies. We would also like it to become a recognised centre of excellence for art and design. We want people to come to us and tap into the Studios’ creative resources when they are looking for artists and designers. This is a fantastic opportunity for both the community and our graduates, and we are developing a programme of talks to reflect the needs of the members. Our aim is to develop the membership to full occupancy in 2012.

For more information visit www.atriumstudios.co.uk
Representation, we LOVE IT!

Representation is our favourite word in the whole dictionary; it’s what we do. UCS Union is dedicated in representing the students of UCS and we want to do it in as many ways as we can.

Union Council

Union Council is made up of the students elected by students to be Course Reps. Council has now had its first two meetings of the year and has already met with the Director of Learning Resources, the Head of the Library, the Head of Estates and the IT Network Manager to talk to them directly about the issues affecting students.

Deck the halls

UCS Union also elected its first ever Halls Reps, meaning UCS Union can support any issues students are facing whilst living in the UCS Accredited halls of residence. The Halls Reps met for the very first time at the start of January.

Getting our priorities right

This year, UCS Union ran its first Priority Campaigns Ballot, giving students the chance to decide what our campaigns should be. You can find out what they are by visiting www.UCSunion.com.

Getting involved

UCS Union have introduced new clubs and societies this year, with Rock Climbing and the Newspaper Society getting started (look out for the first publication coming out soon). The Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Society has really kicked off with the hosting of the excellent International Night, while the Snow Sports club have held their first trip too.

Your Union, supporting you

The all new UCS Union Advice Centre is open for business! This year sees the official opening of the UCS Union Advice Centre, with UCS Union offering expert advice to any UCS student who needs it. Whether it is an academic appeal, dealing with a tutor or guidance on student finance, our Advice Centre is here to help.

Board yet?

UCS Union has recently elected students to sit alongside the President and Vice President, Jon and Sam. The new School Officers are Zoe - School of Arts and Humanities, Ben - School of Business, Leadership and Enterprise, Sophie - School of Applied Social Sciences and Christina - School of Science, Technology and Health. The role of School Officer for the School of Nursing and Midwifery is currently vacant and elections for the next academic year will take place in March.

Venues

All profits made by UCS Union outlets are put back into sports, societies, advice and other Union activities that support all students.
UCS EVENTS

BUSINESS, LEADERSHIP AND ENTERPRISE LECTURE SERIES

The School of Business, Leadership and Enterprise is proud to present its 2011/12 Lecture Series - a sequence of lectures, talks and debates led by their Visiting Professors, Visiting Senior Fellows and Visiting Fellows. The lectures normally take place on the second Wednesday of every month at 4pm throughout the 2011/12 academic year. For further information on or to reserve a place at one of the lectures below, please email theucsacademy@ucs.ac.uk.

Christianne Wulffmies presents ‘Every employee an entrepreneur!’
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building, Board Room
When: 8 February 2012, 4.00pm

David Collins presents ‘Women Roar: The women’s thing’ in the storywork of Tom Peters’
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building, W309
When: 15 February 2012, 4.00pm

Professor JC Spender presents ‘Confronting managerialism: How the business elite and their schools threw our lives out of balance’
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building, W417
When: 23 February 2012, 4.00pm

Professor Jonathan Winterton presents ‘Union-led learning in Europe’
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building, Room tbc
When: 29 February 2012, 4.00pm

UCS ACADEMY LECTURE SERIES

The UCS Academy provides a high quality public lecture programme which includes inaugural lectures and guest lectures from world-renowned speakers, showcasing academic excellence both inside and outside of UCS. For further information or to reserve a place at one of the lectures below, please email theucsacademy@ucs.ac.uk.

Tony McNulty presents ‘All watched over by media of loving grace; Politics, press and public policy processes’
Where: Suffolk New College
When: 21 February 2012, 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Professor Blake Morrison presents ‘The future of reading’
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building, The Auditorium
When: 28 March 2012, 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Dr Mary Archer presents ‘The science of good health’
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building, The Auditorium
When: 25 April 2012, 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Professor Keith Grint presents ‘Leadership: Enemy of the people?’
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building, The Auditorium
When: 17 May 2012, 5.30pm - 7.30pm

ARTS AND HUMANITIES EXHIBITIONS

The School of Arts and Humanities host a range of events at UCS Ipswich in the Waterfront Gallery, Foyer and West Building Atrium. For further information on any of the events below or to find out about other upcoming exhibitions, please email hwelling@ucs.ac.uk.

Gandhi, King, Ikeda: Peace Builders
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Foyer
When: 1 February – 11 February
This exhibition celebrates the lives of three heroes of non-violence – the leader of India’s independence movement, Mahatma Gandhi, the American civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr., and the President of Soka Gakkai International (SGI) Daisaku Ikeda – and has been viewed by over a million people worldwide. It was created by Morehouse College where Martin Luther King was educated.

Dame Claire Bertschinger, the nurse who inspired Live Aid, will be talking about her experiences during the opening of this exhibition on 1 February, 4pm – 5pm.

Solo 2012: Dawn Chorus
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Gallery
When: 1 February – 3 March
Solo is a new initiative which offers a solo exhibition to an established or emerging artist. Andy Webster was selected from an open application of over 90 artists drawn from across the UK.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

What does mobile learning offer me?
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building
When: 12 March 2012, 10.00am – 12.00pm
This workshop aims to give a head up to how mobile learning has been used in UK HE and at UCS to enhance the student learning experience. The focus is not on extending the computer, for instance, doing what we did on computer on a small screen but looking at mobile devices to extend the learning opportunities through location-aware learning.

How can I enhance my classroom teaching?
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building
When: 14 March 2012, 10.00am – 12.00pm
This workshop focuses on why and how the lecturer might want to use a range of classroom technologies to enhance the student learning experience. In particular the use of clickers (audience response systems), visualiser, lecturer capture and the symposium software. Importantly, the focus will not just be on how to use the technology, but why and how to integrate with online learning opportunities.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

UCS staff development opportunities are free to all staff and further information is available on the UCS Intranet. To book a place on any course please contact Rik Bond, Training Co-ordinator, on 01473 338325 or email r.bond@ucs.ac.uk.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

Cultural disability, gender, sexual orientation, age and religious awareness session
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building, W414
When: 2 February 2012, 10.00am-12.00pm

A two-hour session designed to provide awareness of the above areas, how to avoid discrimination and case study examples of good practice.

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

EU funding opportunities: A brief introduction
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building, W210
When: 9 February 2012, 2.00pm – 3.30pm

This workshop will provide an introduction to a range of EU funding sources. These include those aimed at academic research, those which facilitate staff and student exchanges and visits and those which provide support for applied research and knowledge exchange activities. Attendees will be introduced to websites and other sources of information which can be used to track funding opportunities as well as to find additional information and guidance for making applications.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Internationalising your teaching
Where: UCS Ipswich, West Building, O107
When: 23 February 2012, 9.30am – 12.30pm

The session gives higher education lecturers a chance to explore ways in which their teaching practices might need to be adjusted and adapted as they now teach a growing number of international students. It also considers how teachers, in turn, can support and encourage students to learn the new rules for the educational culture of a UK HEI.

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Getting yourself published: Maximising your hit rate with editors, referees and publishers
Where: UCS Ipswich, Waterfront Building, W413
When: 7 March 2012, 1.30pm – 4.30pm

This workshop aims to help you get into print more effectively, efficiently and enjoyably. The workshop is designed both for those who wish to get published for the first time and for those who wish to increase their existing hit rate with journal editors and referees.