# Graduate 2

The magazine for Graduates and Friends of Queen's University Belfast

# A Global Outlook

Discover Queen's academic links across the world

# **Double First**

Meet the Graduate and Student of the Year 2014

# **Building the Future**

Learn how improved facilities will enhance the student experience

# Vision 2020

New Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick

Johnston, outlines his plans for the University





I am enormously proud that Queen's maintains such strong links with our graduates. It is not always easy to keep over 140,000 alumni in 125 countries connected. but I value our worldwide network. As alumni you form the largest part of the Queen's family and I am committed to maintaining and strengthening the ties that join us. I look forward to getting to know you and to hearing your fond memories of student days.

Your success is a living testament to the quality of education that is provided by Queen's and our graduates continue to be our finest ambassadors. Your alma mater is proud of you, your achievements, and your connection with Queen's. Please tell others where you studied and encourage future students to follow in your footsteps by sharing current success stories.

My warmest congratulations to the Class of 2014 - welcome to our worldwide alumni family. The Development and Alumni Relations Office is your lifelong link to Queen's. We want to ensure that this relationship is beneficial to you. Take

advantage of all that is available to alumni (see page 51). Let us know how Queen's can best help and engage with you and please keep us informed on how your life and career progresses. (Don't forget to keep your contact details correct so that we can continue to communicate with you!)

Wherever you live, and whatever you do in the future, I hope you will stay connected with Queen's. With your support and help, we can realise our ambitions for this great University.

Vatale Johnson

Professor Patrick G Johnston President and Vice-Chancellor

PS Through this magazine, e-newsletters, our website (www.qub.ac.uk/alumni) and our social media presence we will keep you connected with Queen's. I hope that you share our pride in this exceptional University and that you will help us to enhance its reputation.

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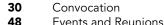




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The Graduate is available online at http://daro.qub.ac.uk/ TheGraduate for those who prefer a larger print size

# News

Further stories can be found online at http://qub.ac.uk/news and www.qub.ac.uk/qtv



Professor Stuart Elborn has been appointed Dean of the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, succeeding Professor Patrick Johnston who took up the post of Vice-Chancellor in March.

Director of the Centre for Infection and Immunity since 2010, Stuart Elborn is Professor of Respiratory Medicine at Queen's and a Consultant Physician in the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust. He is also a member of the Editorial Board of the Ulster Medical Journal.

Professor Elborn founded and led the Regional Adult Cystic Fibrosis Centre in Belfast City Hospital from 1995. He trained in Belfast, Nottingham and Cardiff where he developed Adult Cystic Fibrosis Centres and began his research in infection and lung disease. Professor Elborn received a CBE in the 2013 New Year Honours list for services to health care in Northern Ireland.

Speaking on his appointment Professor Elborn said: "I am committed to delivering excellence in education and research in the School, so that when our students become doctors, dentists and scientists, they have a transforming impact on health care in Northern Ireland and beyond."

# Is your food safe?

Organised crime threatens UK consumers and, according to a recent report, urgent changes to the way the UK food system is policed are needed.

The independent inquiry into the 2013 horsemeat scandal was chaired by Professor Chris Elliott, Director of the Global Institute for Food Security at Queen's. His report makes a number of recommendations to government about how to ensure consumers can be fully confident about the quality of their food.

Professor Chris Elliott said: "The UK has one of the safest food supply systems in the world, and all those involved should be commended for what has been achieved.

"I am pleased that the Government and the food industry have already taken some major steps forward in response to the interim report's recommendations aimed at restoring consumer confidence and protecting hardworking, honest businesses from food crime. I believe the creation of the national food crime prevention framework will ensure measures are put in place to further help protect consumers from any food fraud incidents in the future."

The final report provides the rationale and evidence for a number of overarching recommendations to improve the integrity of food supply networks, among them the creation of a Food Crime Unit, a zero tolerance approach to food fraud and encouraging the food industry to question the source of their supply chain.

# Queen's tackles world data-storage needs



Professor Bowman, Employment and Learning Minister, Dr Stephen Farry and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Johnston

The challenge of storing the increasing quantity of data generated by society is being tackled by a Queen's led collaboration with the University of Glasgow, local government and industry partners, which has received £8.1m to create a new Doctoral Training Centre.

Under the auspices of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), the Centre will go some way to addressing a skills shortage in the photonics industry, and help develop new products and systems to tackle the expanding data-storage needs of the fast-moving digital world.

The science of photonics, which is based around the use of light, is the foundation

for many innovations from vision correction and endoscopy to telecommunications and robotics. It formed the basis for the telecommunications revolution of the late 20th century and created the infrastructure needed for the internet.

4,600 NEW STUDENTS REGISTERED AT QUEEN'S FOR THE 2014/15 ACADEMIC YEAR

To be known as the EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Photonic Integration for Advanced Data Storage, it will educate 50 future scientists and engineers over the next eight years.

The Director of the new facility, Professor Robert Bowman from Queen's School of Mathematics and Physics, said: "The type of innovation required to deliver the muchneeded advances in this area needs multisite and multidisciplinary collaboration and committed industry partners. As a result of the initiative from the EPSRC and the funding from DEL and our partners, we are now in a position to give doctoral students a unique environment to drive research and make a significant impact in this area."

# Royal Society Exhibitors

Ground-breaking research by QUILL – Queen's University Ionic Liquid Laboratories – was among exciting new work showcased at the Royal Society's Summer Science Exhibition in London in July.

QUILL's cutting-edge process for removing toxic mercury from natural gas using ionic liquids and a new procedure for trapping carbon dioxide from power plants and gas fields were among the latest, award-winning findings on display at the exhibition. Both breakthroughs have potentially massive benefits to industry, and the health of the wider public and the planet.

Co-Director of QUILL, Professor Ken Seddon said: "There are two main things about ionic liquids which sets them apart and make them ideal for developing 'greener' alternatives to solvents. They have no vapour pressure, which means they can't burn or explode. The other thing is that their structure allows them to be manipulated in order to perform predesigned functions. So, where there are 300 conventional molecular solvents, there are over a trillion available ionic liquids.

"That's why we call them 'designer liquids' as we can alter their properties to suit specific purposes. That's how we came up with the method of removing toxic mercury from gas. It's also how we tailor-made ionic liquids to trap carbon dioxide."

# Cyber expert among UK's top engineers

A professor from Queen's, who invented a high-speed silicon security chip that is used in more than 100 million TV set-top boxes, received the prestigious 2014 Royal Academy of Engineering Silver Medal.

Professor Máire O'Neill was one of only five engineers to receive the medal in national recognition for their contribution to society.

The former British Female Inventor of the Year is a leading international expert on digital security, and is currently Professor of Information Security at Queen's Centre for Secure Information Technologies (CSIT). A Queen's graduate, she is regarded as one of Europe's leading cryptography experts, helping enhance global data security.

Professor O'Neill's research involves designing security solutions for COUEEN'S IS communications applications, including

RANKED 170th IN THE QS GLOBAL LEAGUE TABLE AND 38th IN THE SUNDAY TIMES UNIVERSITY

**GUIDE** 

Speaking about her Silver Medal award, she said: "It is

email, cloud

and mobile

technologies.

an honour to receive this recognition from the Royal Academy of Engineering. Cyber security presents huge challenges for the future. The development of resilient, secure information systems is crucial for everyone – from how we carry out our daily work, to the delivery of public services, to issues of national and international security."

Professor O'Neill was the youngest-ever professor to be appointed at Queen's and was also the University's first female professor in electrical and electronic engineering.

# Royal Irish Academy appoints new members



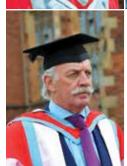
Professor Mary Daly (left), Academy President, with Dr Johnson

Dr Nuala Johnson, a Reader in Human Geography at Queen's, and Dr Stephen Kingon, Honorary Treasurer of Queen's and an adviser to the Board of The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation, were admitted as Members of the Royal Irish Academy in June.

Dr Johnson is internationally known for her research on the relationships between identity politics and representation, particularly through the performance of social memory; the history of botanical gardens as spaces of both science and aesthetics; and on the role of place, language and heritage in the articulation of national identities.

# Honorary graduates Summer 2014







Katie Melua and Ciarán Hinds (above) and Dermot Desmond (left) at this summer's Graduation Week

Singer Katie Melua, actor Ciarán Hinds and businessman Dermot Desmond were among those to receive Honorary Degrees from Queen's this summer.

- Katie Melua, who lived in Northern Ireland for six years during her early childhood and had UK chart hits with Nine Million Bicycles (No 5, 2005) and Closest Thing to Crazy (No10, 2003), was awarded a DLit (Mus) for services to music.
- Financier Dermot Desmond was honoured for services to business and commerce.
   Having started his career in Citibank, he progressed to become a key figure in Irish financial life. His business interests include a majority shareholding in Celtic FC.
- Former Queen's law student, Ciarán
  Hinds, who abandoned his degree to
  study at RADA before starring in Road to
  Perdition, December Bride and as Mance
  Rayder in Game of Thrones, received a
  DUniv for distinction in film and drama.

# Graduate Volunteer of the Year

'Alumni Volunteer of the Year' Liz Torrans, BA (Social Anthropology) 1980, has been supporting Queen's in a voluntary capacity for many years. She volunteered as a student Samaritan and as an adult literacy



Liz Torrans with Ian Moore of the Development and Alumni Relations Office. (The Volunteering Awards are presented by the Students' Union).

tutor during her time at Queen's. Now a career mentor, Liz helps students develop effective plans for their chosen career path. She has been Honorary Secretary of the Queen's Graduates' Association for five years and has spoken at various alumni and student events held at the University, such as a speed mentoring evening and a Student Plus parents' night.

To find out more about alumni volunteering, contact Meaghan Lyons (Alumni Officer) m.lyons@qub.ac.uk, tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3135 or visit the website http://daro.qub.ac.uk/volunteer



Convocation AGM 20 November 2014

Further details at http://daro.qub.ac.uk/convocation

For more information, turn to page 30

"Queen's is Northern Ireland's university, a

politically and socially, and it is a university that

university which contributes to every part

of our society: economically, culturally,



Professor Patrick Johnston is the 12th Vice-Chancellor in the 168-year history of Queen's University Belfast. One of the world's foremost experts in cancer research he has vowed to make Queen's "an international powerhouse in higher education". Six months into office he talks to The Graduate about his journey so far, the development of the University Vision and his hopes for the future.



"Queen's is one of the finest universities in the UK and Ireland and among the top one per cent of universities in the world. I am both honoured and privileged to be leading it." said Professor Johnston.

## Presidential Visit

Professor Johnston's tenure got off to an auspicious start when, on his third day in post, he welcomed former US President, Bill Clinton to the University to deliver the inaugural William J Clinton Leadership Lecture and to officially open the William J Clinton Leadership Institute at Queen's.

"The first six months have been both challenging and uplifting. I am excited to be leading the University and am very grateful for all the support I've received from colleagues and others," he said. "Looking forward, I am keen to raise the level of ambition and conviction across this University. People and culture are what drive an organisation and it's only when

these are aligned that we will fully realise our ambitious goals. It's my job to see that that happens."

Patrick Johnston is the first person to be appointed President and Vice-Chancellor from within the staff of Queen's – and the first from Northern Ireland – since Sir Peter Froggatt took up the position in 1976.

Over the past 20 years Professor Johnston's research has resulted in several prestigious landmark publications, more than 20 patents and over £95m in grants from research and philanthropic bodies including Cancer Research UK, the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the US National Institutes of Health.

The former Dean of the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences has led the development of a new international medical school at Queen's and a worldleading Institute of Health Sciences. He has also served as director of the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology,

overseeing the opening of the state-of-theart research facility in 2007.

He also founded several companies including Almac Diagnostics and the Society for Translational Oncology in Durham, North Carolina.

Professor Johnston's dedication and vision have been heralded by medical peers as the main reason for the transformation of cancer survival rates in Northern Ireland in the last decade.

Recently, he led the launch of a new European Cancer Patient's Bill of Rights, a catalyst for change to provide millions of Europeans with the right to the highest standard of care.

The new Vice-Chancellor takes over the reins at Queen's at a time when universities are facing their greatest challenge ever. Revolutionary advances in technology are rapidly changing how people study and learn, and the role of so-called face-to-

face institutions is currently the subject of debate. Queen's, along with every other tertiary education provider, will need to adapt quickly to the new learning environment. Stronger and more focused leadership, integrating with the needs of society, will be integral to the success of universities in the future.

He is currently leading the development of a University Vision to take Queen's to 2020 and beyond. That Vision is based on world-class leadership in the pursuit of excellence, impacting society at home and abroad. The outline vision is of a 'worldclass international university that supports outstanding students and staff, working in world-class facilities, conducting leadingedge education and research, focused on the needs of society.'

"To date we have been engaged in seeking views on the Vision, focusing on leadership, structures and postgraduate culture and feedback so far has been very encouraging. In the next six months I want to start

**10** The Graduate – 2014 The Graduate – 2014

#### Patrick Johnston

Born into a family of seven in the Waterside in Derry/Londonderry in September 1958. His father, Seamus, attended university in Dublin on a scholarship in the 1940s, going on to become a language teacher, later a headmaster. His mother, Ethna, worked in the Civil Service.

A pupil of St Columb's College, Patrick studied at University College Dublin, graduating with distinction in medicine. There he met wife-to-be Dr Iseult Wilson, now a lecturer in Rehabilitation Sciences in the Institute of Nursing and Health Research at the University of Ulster.

Together they have four grown-up sons – Seamus (a community worker), Eoghan (who is in finance), Niall (an English language teacher) and Ruairi who has just completed his degree and is now in marketing, working for an international company.

implementing a culture which empowers all staff across the University to see themselves as performing on a world stage. A way of thinking and behaving based on a strong sense of personal commitment and conviction that takes ownership, responsibility and accountability for delivery of the highest standards of excellence."

The creation of a Graduate School, the development of a vibrant and ambitious postgraduate and postdoctoral culture, and an increase in numbers – particularly from international markets – are all part of the Vision. University structures will also be aligned to support delivery of this Vision. "Subject to Senate approval, I plan to enable Faculty-level decision-making. Thereby enhancing the student experience and empowering academic leadership."

### A global role

Speaking in March, Professor Johnston talked about 'embarking on a journey', and turning Queen's into an 'international powerhouse' in higher education. But how long is

the journey likely to take and more importantly, how will we know when the University can regard itself as an international powerhouse?

"When students and staff from across the world start knocking on our door to join us on our journey, we will know that we are well on the way to becoming an international powerhouse. Once Queen's becomes a destination of choice, an essential stepping stone on individual career paths, that is when we will know.

"The journey is underway, though we do need to be patient. We must build on our heritage and rich pedigree, driving forward the quality and impact agenda. We are all in this together, so we all need to step up – to improve things day-to-day.

"Thus far it has been about consulting, listening, and seeking consensus and about determining a new level of ambition and self-belief across the institution. We must ensure that every aspect of the University is world-class and that each part contributes to the wider fountain of knowledge."

The Vice-Chancellor is clear that this will only materialise if the entire University buys into the Vision. "Over the next decade I'd like to see Queen's as an institution that truly embraces a 'no limits' culture, that rewards and salutes excellence and really contributes to society, locally and globally.

"It's certainly not a journey that belongs solely to me – all staff need to own it – nor is it one that has a defined endpoint. It's about the entire University making a real impact on students and on communities, in Northern Ireland and beyond and about doing so indefinitely."

# Alumni participation

"Graduates are the biggest constituent part of the Queen's family. While many have already made phenomenal contributions to the University – for which I would like to thank them – it is my hope that alumni will wish to support us on this journey.

"The key message for alumni is to be very proud of Queen's. It is an excellent University producing Nobel Laureates and international leaders, captains of industry, political leaders, lawyers, teachers and doctors, all of whom contribute to their local communities. We need to continue to develop and grow our networks of influence and to spread our ethos and in that respect graduates are essential."

#### Best foot forward

"My personal highpoint has undoubtedly been graduation. Meeting graduates as they cross the stage of the Sir William Whitla Hall – seeing the excitement and energy in their eyes – was captivating. These young people are just beginning life's journey. Still, they are starting out with ambitious dreams and a top degree from a first-class institution."

"This journey will not be easy, but it is one that I am fully committed to, and by working alongside our exceptional staff and students and with the support of our stakeholders, we will achieve our challenging objectives."

Whatever trials might lie ahead, and however challenging a 165-year old institution may find it adapting to future change, Patrick Johnston is regarded as the right man, at the right time, for the job. His success in turning around the fortunes of medicine at Queen's and his global standing in cancer research certainly augur well for his vice-chancellorship.

#### Curriculum Vitae

1982	Graduated from UCD; Houseman in Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin
1987	Fellowship at National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Bethesda, Maryland, USA

1991 Senior investigator, NCI

1996 Appointed Professor of Oncology at Queen's; led development of Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB)

2002 Co-Founded Almac Diagnostics

2004 Appointed Director of CCRCB (until 2007)

2007 Honoured by President Mary
McAleese, at BioLink USA-Ireland
Conference in New York for
leadership, contribution and
commitment to global life
science community

Became Dean of the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences

Led development of a new Medical School and Institute of Health Sciences at Queen's

2008 Alumnus Illustrissimus award from St Columb's College

2012 Diamond Jubilee Queen's
 Anniversary Prize for reducing NI cancer mortality rates

 Elected Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences

Chair Translational Research Group Medical Research Council

2013 Won international Bob Pinedo
Cancer Care Prize for work in
translating discovery science for
benefit of cancer patients

2014 President and Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University Belfast

THE

# together we can go



Generous support from businesses, individuals, trusts and foundations and others in 2013/14 has raised a further £18m towards the University's £140m campaign target. This vital funding will provide first-class facilities, teaching programmes and life-changing opportunities for our students, as well as support innovative research, impacting society both locally and internationally. Read on to discover how the Campaign is helping projects across campus and how you can get involved.

### Good food circle

The Institute for Global Food Security at Queen's has developed a membership model which enables leading partners in the Agri-Food industry to benefit from the knowledge and expertise of the Institute as well as inform research to ensure it complements the needs of industry.

Acting as a key partner in national and global efforts to provide the world's growing population with a sustainable, safe and secure supply of high quality food, the Institute will further enhance the leading role Queen's is already playing in ensuring that the local agri-food industry is, and continues to be globally competitive.

For more information contact Conor O'Kane (Fundraising Manager, Corporate)on: +44 (0)28 9097 5189 or email: conor.okane@qub.ac.uk

## President Clinton returns to Queen's

The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation hosted former US President Bill Clinton in March when he officially opened the William J Clinton Leadership Institute, based at Riddel Hall.

The evening, which raised over £100,000 for the work of the Institute, was attended by a number of the Riddel Hall Founders' Club members and was sponsored by Ulster Bank. It also marked the first public duty of the University's new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Johnston, who took up office earlier in the week.

The Institute brings world-class facilities, leading academics and industry experts together to deliver a highend portfolio of executive education and leadership programmes.

For details of Queen's Leadership Institute go to www.leadershipinstitute.co.uk

## Remembering loved ones

The Adopt-A-Bench programme at Queen's gives donors a personal and tangible location on campus to mark a significant anniversary, celebrate a family occasion such as a wedding or christening, or to remember a loved one.

A number of benches are currently available in the beautiful setting of the main quadrangle at Queen's and in the Riddel Hall and The McClay Library plazas.



An inspired gift, Adopt-A-Bench donations are directed to The Queen's Scholarship Fund which supports students, allowing them to turn dreams into reality, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Benches can be adopted for £1,000 each. In recognition, the University will install a plaque engraved with a personalised inscription on the chosen bench, with the wording at the discretion of the donor.

For further information about the Adopt-A-Bench campaign contact Naomi King (Fundraising Manager, Major Gifts) on: +44 (0)28 9097 3101 or email: n.king@qub.ac.uk

# €4m bid to tackle superbugs

Central to the BEYOND fundraising campaign is the development of an Institute of Health Sciences. The Institute is bringing together on one site many of the finest minds in medical and scientific research, working in state-ofthe-art facilities, to combat and treat the major diseases of the 21st century.

One such appointment is Professor José Bengoechea (right) who joined in July 2013 from the Foundation Caubet-CIMERA/CSIC (Palma, Mallorca) where he was Scientific Director.

Professor Bengoechea is leading a €4m international research project - INBIONET - to develop new treatments for some of the world's top killer infections.

The project aims to develop new ways of tackling antibiotic resistant bacteria, viruses and intestinal parasites which account for six million deaths worldwide each year, according to the World Health Organisation.

Professor Bengoechea, who is Chair of Infectious Diseases in the Centre for Infection and Immunity, said: "Infectious diseases are on the INSTITUTE OF increase worldwide **HEALTH SCIENCES** and represent IS WORKING TO BEAT a major threat to global CANCER, CYSTIC public health. FIBROSIS, MS, ASTHMA, **DIABETES AND** 

"An increase **VISION-RELATED** CONDITIONS in world travel. climate change and the continuous transfer of viruses to humans from other organisms have all contributed to the growth and spread of infections, and the growing number of so-called 'superbugs', which are largely resistant to antibiotics."



# Bench to bedside research

Philanthropic gifts from Queen's alumni and patient families are currently supporting six PhD students within the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB) who are carrying out research in bowel cancer and breast cancer.

The Centre has recently announced that it is to lead a €6m European study to find new treatments for bowel cancer. The research, which involves 13 partners in eight European countries, will look at two major genetic factors which make bowel cancer difficult to treat.

Bowel cancer, also known as colorectal cancer, is the second major cause of cancer mortality. It is the third most common cause of cancer in Europe, with over 200,000 deaths per year. Currently over 50 per cent of colorectal cancer patients develop an aggressive form of the disease, which spreads quickly and does not respond to standard therapy. Patient survival more than five years after diagnosis of this form of colorectal cancer is less than five per cent.

Professor David Waugh, OF MEDICINE, Director of the CCRCB **DENTISTRY AND** said: "At a local level, **BIOMEDICAL** the collaborative **SCIENCES IS** nature of the research THE LARGEST IN that led up to the QUEEN'S WITH successful grant award, 520 STAFF involving the CCRCB and the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, emphasises the importance of a bench to bedside continuum linking the researcher and the clinician, with the patient at the centre of this process."

To support bowel cancer research at Queen's, contact Alice O'Rawe (Fundraising Manager, Medical) tel: +44 (0)28 9097 5233 or email: alice.orawe@qub.ac.uk

# Improving asthma care

Queen's has been named as a partner in a national research centre focused on improving the lives of people with asthma. The Asthma UK Centre for Applied Research is the UK's first integrated Centre for research into the illness, which affects 182,000 (one in ten) people in Northern Ireland – 146,000 adults and 36,000 children.

Researchers at the Centre for Infection and Immunity at the University's School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences are among experts from academic and NHS organisations across the UK who will work together to share expertise and insights to find better treatments for asthma and to make them available faster to patients.

Queen's Professors Mike Shields (below) and Liam Heaney are two of Northern Ireland's leading experts on asthma care. Professor Shields leads a programme of research into childhood asthma and wheezing disorders, while Professor Heaney conducts world-class research into 'difficult to treat' asthma.

THE SCHOOL
OF MEDICINE,
DENTISTRY AND
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"The ultimate aim of the Centre is to take research 'from the lab bench to the bedside' and implement new treatments for improved management of asthma. This should ensure that asthma attack rates and hospital admissions are reduced and patients' quality of life improved."

To support asthma research, contact Alice O'Rawe (Fundraising Manager, Medical) tel: +44 (0)28 9097 5233 or email: alice.orawe@qub.ac.uk

# Putting patients first

A new £4m clinical research hub will enable more patients than ever before to take part in clinical trials in Northern Ireland.

Known as The Wellcome Trust-Wolfson Foundation Northern Ireland Clinical Research Facility (NICRF), it will concentrate on four main research themes – cancer, nutrition and metabolism, vision science and respiratory research. The facility will also benefit those with rare conditions, who, until now, have had to travel to England to participate in trials.

It is a joint venture between Queen's, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, the University of Ulster and Health and Social Care Research and Development (HSC R&D), a division of the Public Health Agency.

Professor Danny McAuley, Acting Director of the NICRF, said: "Researchers throughout Northern Ireland are making some of the most important scientific discoveries in the world today. Until the NICRF there was no dedicated area with such an array of specialist equipment to support clinical research in Northern Ireland."

Aidan Kearney, one of the first patients to be treated in the new facility, said: "Already the NICRF is having a positive impact on my life. I now don't have to go outside of Northern Ireland for my treatment and that means it takes much less time. I'm not tired from the travelling and I also now have the reassurance that the location and staff

treating me will be the same every time.

It has made a real difference to me."

For more on Queen's medical campaign, please contact Helen Barnes (Head of Medical Fundraising) tel: +44 (0)28 9097 1568 or email: h.barnes@qub.ac.uk

# Saying 'Thanks'

More than one hundred of the University's most generous donors and living legators came together over the summer for the annual Donor 'Thank You' Day.



Legacy Marketing Officer, Susan Wilson (centre, with guests at the 'Thank You' Day

In the relaxed environs of the quad, and to the accompaniment of a student string quartet, friends and benefactors mingled with staff. The occasion celebrates the University's most loyal donors, giving them an opportunity to hear first-hand where their gifts have been used.

In recognising the immense contribution of all donors to the University, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Tony Gallagher highlighted the importance of ongoing support in enabling the University to reach its goals. He outlined the progress of the Queen's 'Beyond' Campaign, which is already over half-way towards its overall fundraising target of £140m and shared some of the University's recent success stories.

Queen's donors receive exclusive invitations to University events and are recognised in an online donor roll of honour at http://daro.gub.ac.uk/thanks

# Blazing a Trail

Recognising the 2014 Graduate and Student of the Year winners



For the first time since the launch of the First Trust Bank Graduate and Student of the Year Awards 14 years ago, both 2014 winners are women and both are physics alumnae. Anita Sands (Graduate winner) and Clare Scullion (Student) talk exclusively to The Graduate about their experiences at Queen's, mentoring and shared passions.

### Graduate of the Year

Name: Anita Sands

From: Drogheda, Co Louth (lives in New York)

Education: Our Lady's College Greenhills, Drogheda; Diploma in Piano, London School of Music (1992); Queen's University Belfast -BSc Physics and Applied Maths, (1997); PhD, in Public Policy and Management, Carnegie Mellon University

Achievements: Fulbright and O'Reilly Foundation scholarships, Most Influential Women, Irish Central (2011 and 2012); Concern Worldwide Women of Year Award (2012); Former Chief Operating Officer, UBS Wealth Management Americas; Director Symantec; Managing Director/head of Transformational Management, Citigroup



Graduate of the Year Anita Sands is a top international businesswoman. Listed in the 'Wall Street 50' for three consecutive years (2011–13), she joined the board of software company Symantec Corp in October 2013. She previously served as Group Managing Director, Head of Change Leadership and a member of the Wealth Management Americas Executive Committee of UBS Financial Services. In 2007, when Anita was at the Royal Bank of Canada she was appointed as the youngest ever Senior Vice President in the history of the company.

"I spent six great years at Queen's; they were among the happiest of my life," said Anita on the day she received the coveted Graduate Award. "It was hard work and there were lots of sacrifices. Often I'd be in the lab until quite late... but it was all very worthwhile," she added.

Living in New York, Anita holds a Bachelors degree in Physics and Applied Mathematics and a Doctorate in Atomic and Molecular Physics from Queen's. She is a former Fulbright Scholar, has a music qualification from London School of Music and was All-Ireland Public Speaking Champion in 1994.

Clare Scullion is the First Trust Bank Student of the Year. From Killeeshil in Co Tyrone, the 2012 Physics graduate and a current PhD student is expecting to graduate for a second time from Queen's in 2016.

An exemplary scholar, Clare won the prized Student Award for her leadership within Queen's Ladies Gaelic Football Club, for setting up "TanzaniAID" – a unique volunteering project using science to help some of the poorest young people in the world - and for her involvement in a Women In Physics Event at Queen's, which addressed the lack of females in physics. Since the Award ceremony in the summer, Clare has also picked up the UK Student Fundraiser of the Year at the FIG National Student Fundraising Awards.

"When I left school I wasn't sure what to do, but I knew I wanted to study at Queen's. I picked Physics because it's such an interesting subject and opens so many career opportunities," said Clare. "I love the subject, especially the experiments, and the School is like a 'home' on campus. It feels like being part of a big family."

Clare's PhD in Physics is funded by DEL, the Department for Employment and Learning. Specialising in laser-driven

**PREVIOUS** 

'GRADUATE OF

THE YEAR' WINNERS

**INCLUDE DAVID** 

HUMPHREYS,

THE PRIESTS

AND RAMONA

**NICHOLAS** 

ion acceleration, she hopes her research will lead to a new proton therapy to treat cancer.

> "Knowing what might be achieved and how many people could benefit is really inspiring for me," Clare told The Graduate.

"As a student caller raising money for the Queen's Annual Fund, I really enjoyed my telephone conversations with alumni. I spoke to Physics graduates who are now bankers, weapons specialists, entrepreneurs and IT experts. It's amazing how many career paths there are for graduates in this discipline."

Queen's staff played a pivotal role in the student lives of both women. For Clare it was Professor Marco Borghesi. "Prof Marco is amazing! He always makes time to talk with me and is a genius! I try to follow his lead with the first year students and GCSE pupils I tutor.

**18** The Graduate – 2014

"I think sharing a passion for the subject is straightforward, but explaining technical details to others so that they can easily grasp the concept is a challenge. It is a lot simpler to understand an idea than it is to convey it to someone else so that they understand it too!"

For Anita, Professor Colin Latimer (her PhD supervisor) was highly influential. "Colin really did equip me for life; he was an inspirational lecturer. There were just seven girls in a class of 70 on my course and Colin was hugely supportive."

It was while serving on a Faculty council that Anita first encountered mentoring, though the word 'mentor' wasn't in common usage at the time.

"Back then I was not really aware of the word 'mentor'," said Anita, who has been a WOMEN in America mentor since 2010. "I was, however, very conscious of people going above and beyond to watch out for me," she added.

Having had a number of mentors over the years – including her last boss at UBS, Bob

PREVIOUS
'STUDENT OF THE
YEAR' WINNERS
INCLUDE MARCELLA
WALSH, THERESE

McCann – Anita is all too aware that there is an art to being a good mentee.

WHITE AND AIDAN

BANNON

"A mentor opens your eyes. They guide and push you, but you have to be willing to hear. You have to be open to feedback and criticism and be able to ask for help in the first place. There's no personal growth without growing pains.

"I have always needed people and wouldn't be where I am now without help. It's a real sign of strength to ask for help."

Clare is already passing on her knowledge of physics to current students as a first year tutor. And she is about to engage in mentoring herself – with Anita as her mentor!

"This is my first involvement in mentoring!" said Clare. "It is a great idea as someone who has experience, and has been through it all, is steering me in the right direction. I am grateful that Anita will be there to offer advice and to answer any questions."

Sport also connects both women.

"When I was at Queen's I got up every morning at 5.45am to run before class," said Anita. "I trained regularly with friends – running, weightlifting, and squash – and enjoyed a great social life."

Clare's sporting love is Gaelic Football.

"GAA has always been part of my life – I still play, referee and coach. I got involved at Queen's, was team captain in my first year, and later became chair and ran the club.

"This year was very special. For the first time, all the GAA cups were played for in one location – Queen's! I worked with hundreds of volunteers, spoke at the City Hall Opening Ceremony and was kept busy as Team Liaison Officer. And I am delighted to say the team came runners-up!"

Travel is another mutual passion. Clare has attended conferences and experiments in the Czech Republic, Japan, Greece, France, the USA, Germany, Ireland and the UK. Anita, too, is an avid traveller. Her most recent adventure was an Antarctic Expedition with Robert Swan and 2041, in addition to which she has toured extensively throughout Africa, Asia, North and South America and Europe.

While clearly at different stages in their careers, Anita and Clare also share a determination to succeed, whatever the odds. In a sector dominated by men, Anita has been an organisational change leader, often having to articulate a vision for change in the face of great resistance.

Clare, too, has had to take on the role of change manager. "At a recent European Physics Society gathering I was disappointed to see that only 12 per cent of attendees were women. I joined the organising committee for the Belfast conference for Women in Physics to be an ambassador for Queen's and a role model to inspire other women to study science."

In Anita and Clare, the annual Graduate and Student of the Year Awards have once again succeeded in identifying and recognising excellence, achievement and service of the highest order. Inspirational through and through they are a spur not just for women but for all those keen to make a difference. To make their mark. To blaze a trail.

### Student of the Year

Name: Clare Scullion

**From:** Killeeshil, Co Tyrone (lives in Belfast)

Education: St Mary's Primary School, Cabragh; St Patrick's Academy, Dungannon; Queen's University Belfast – MSci Physics (2012); PhD Physics (expected 2016)

Achievements: Set up TanzaniAID to help African students, ambassador for GAA, promoter of women in science, fundraiser, student caller for Queen's Annual Fund (see page 21), volunteer, Olympic torch bearer (2012), green champion and tutor



The Graduate and Student of the Year Awards are organised by the Queen's Graduates' Association and the Development and Alumni Relations Office, with support from First Trust Bank. To submit a nomination for the 2015 Awards, or to find out more about mentoring, please contact Meaghan Lyons (Alumni Officer) m.lyons@qub.ac.uk or tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3135.

# The Power of Giving

Queen's Annual Fund - Connecting Graduates To Students

For Queen's Annual Fund, the past 12 months have been truly exceptional. As Natasha Sharma, Annual Fund Manager points out, over £120,000 was pledged or donated by generous alumni to dozens of individual projects and to a number of areas of greatest need.

### Chinese New Year



Trefor Campbell of the Dispersal Committee with Zhile Yang and Miss Qing Wang of CSSA

A Chinese New Year Gala was hosted in February in the Mandela Hall in the Students' Union by CSSA, the Chinese Students and Scholars Association to celebrate the year of the horse.

Traditional arts and classical performances were featured including tai chi, a Chinese plucked zither called the guzheng, and a comedy act named Xiangsheng.

As the biggest event in Queen's Chinese calendar, the gala provides an opportunity for students and the local community to discover more about Chinese culture, as well as helping students to feel more at home.

Queen's Annual Fund provided important funding for equipment, decorations and teaching accessories for the occasion.

# Smooth sailing

This year, graduate support enabled students to attend a key sailing event in

Cork. The team reached the semi-finals of the silver fleet, the best result it has had in an intervarsity championship!

Without a grant from the Annual Fund, Queen's would not have been able to compete at the highest competitive level in university sailing. In addition to helping defray travel costs, the purchase of branded sailing jackets will help promote the club around campus and to promote sailing to new members.

The outcome was so encouraging that the students who attended stepped forward to form this year's committee!

### Queen's Students' Union

The Fund gave £22,000 to the Students' Union to support the Leadership Academy programme, internal refurbishment and the 'Mind Your Mood' campaign.



Norma Sinte (Queen's Director of Development), Niall McShane (SU President 2013–14) and Sarah-Louise Baird (SU Community, Equality and Diversity Committee). Also included are student callers Jill Macaulay (left) and Mo Ramadan.

# Queen's Players and the Equestrian Club

The Fund supported the Irish Student Drama Association's festival held at Queen's, and enabled 34 students to travel and compete in the National Equestrian Club Intervarsity Competition in Cork.

Michéal Ó Fearraigh (Annual Fund Officer), Meadhbh Schaible (Equestrian Club), Rory Knox (Players Drama Society) and Professor Sean Gorman (Chair, Dispersal Committee)



# How you help students

Clare Scullion, Student of the Year 2014, explains how graduate support has enriched her University experience.

Since joining Queen's in 2008, I have worked as a student caller. I was always grateful when graduates allowed me to explain what the Queen's Annual Fund achieves. It doesn't pay for books, lectures or the 'basics' of education as many assumed. It enriches students' experience by funding projects like laptops for loan in the library, enabling sports clubs to enter national competitions and promoting wellbeing.

I have benefitted from the gifts given and know the difference they make. That's why every time an alumnus who had been unimpressed at the start of our conversation made a donation as a result of what I had said – it felt truly amazing. Thank you to all who have given to the Queen's Annual Fund, especially those I spoke to personally! Your support has made my experience as a student an amazing one in so many ways.

Many current sports clubs, from archery to water-skiing, have benefitted from donations made by former students. Funding has purchased boats, parachutes, heart monitors and defibrillators to name only a few of the successful applications.

My main sport is GAA and I really don't know what would have been possible had it not been for those who so generously supported volunteers at the GAA Festival, the scoreboard at the Malone playing fields and sports kits.



The Fund also supported the Leadership Academy (above), a Students' Union initiative helping 75–150 volunteer leaders develop skills to run clubs and societies. The five-year scheme is supported by Careers, Employability and Skills and the William J Clinton Leadership Institute at Queen's.

The skills learned are transferable and students who complete the course will be giving back by improving their own societies, and be more employable when the time comes to look for a job.

The scheme has been so successful that the University has agreed to fund it on an ongoing basis. But without the support of alumni, it would not have happened.

So, on behalf of all the students at Queen's who have benefitted I would like to say 'thank you' to all the alumni donors. What you do matters. You have made things possible and your action inspires me.

When I graduate, I want to give back to make sure the next generation gets the same opportunities that I got.



SANTANDER

HAS SUPPORTED

70 SCHOLARSHIPS

SINCE 2010 AND

24 INTERNSHIPS

# Talking Business – Changing Lives!



For six years, Queen's special relationship with Santander Universities has allowed students and academics to travel the world in pursuit of education, work experience and intellectual collaboration. A year after Ana Botín, now Chairman of Santander Group, visited the University, Conor O'Kane examines the role business plays in higher education.

In 1996 Emilio Botín, then Chairman of Santander, decided the Bank should be useful to the communities in which it operated. Viewing universities as a vital cornerstone of progress, Santander Universities was born. As the division grew, so did its global outreach, expanding beyond Spain into more than 20 countries, including Brazil, Portugal and the UK.

Queen's joined the UK Santander Universities network in 2008, a year after its launch. Funding in excess of £500,000 over the last six years has enabled the University to offer scholarships supporting international study and research, employability programmes and school engagement.

Ana Botín with Professor James McElnay

# Supporting Scholars

When Lauren Bohill first heard about the Iberian Scholarship Programme at Santander, she immediately knew the programme was for her. Curious to find out how banks made a profit, she applied, realising what an amazing opportunity it would be to complete a five-week work placement with the Bank.

"I arrived at the Students' Union branch on my first day feeling anxious, but ready to face the challenges ahead," said Lauren.

"At the Bank I learned about the work that goes on which most people have no clue about. I could not believe how much effort the staff put into customer service, especially when dealing with international students.

"One of the things I enjoyed most about my experience was that I got to meet and interact with at least 10 other interns, most of whom were international students from countries such as China and Brazil. This really gave me a good insight into how valued a Queen's degree really is," she added.

Ahmed Altuhaini, a first year Translation Studies PhD student in the School of Modern Languages, spent two weeks in Spain interviewing scholars, teachers and students.

"I made the research trip to a number of translation and interpreting departments and faculties thanks to a Santander Mobility Award. This three-leg trip covered Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), Universidad de Alicante (UA), and Universitat Rovira i Virgili (URV) in Tarragona.

"The results of my research will be very useful in assisting me to forecast translation skill supply and demand and to bridge the gap between translator training programmes and the needs of the market. Without the support of Queen's and Santander Universities this would not have been possible," said Ahmed.

# Internships

**Kaja Choma** spent a three-month Santandersupported internship at Queen's Sport in April 2013, assisting in the organisation of the annual University Boat Race.

"The internship at Queen's Sport was a valuable tool that helped me explore potential career opportunities. It was a smooth transition from being a student to entering the workforce and a fantastic way to kick-start my professional career in the area of sport development and event management.

"Current employers are often more concerned with relevant work experience than a candidate's academic qualifications. The Santander Universities internship certainly enabled me to expand my networking circles and thus significantly improved my employability."

#### **Placements**

The two-week Santander Work Placement Scheme is aimed at students who have an interest in banking or a desire to develop their employability.

Successful placement students gain an understanding of what it is like working in a professional environment. During the first week, they learn about the 'basic of everything' inside and outside the Bank. In the second, tasks and challenges are set based on the specific fields the students are interested in, such as:

- product knowledge
- risk control
- policy reviews
- customer communication

# Sharing global experiences

Professor Pedro Rebelo from the Sonic Arts Research Centre, has been to the forefront of connections between Queen's and institutions in Brazil and is in no doubt of the value of the University's relationship with Santander.

"Without the Santander Universities support, our strategic plan for Brazil would not have been possible. Santander scholarships have allowed us to establish a continuous and long-term presence, which is appreciated by our Brazilian colleagues who see it as Queen's commitment to student mobility."

Santander Mobility Scholarships have

been crucial in helping Queen's to strengthen long-term research-led links with seven top Brazilian institutions. And as the world's sixth-largest economy, Brazil currently has one of the most ambitious internationalisation programmes for higher education.

"The feedback we get from Santander Scholars is invariably positive," said Professor Rebelo. "Brazil is a diverse country with an extremely rich culture and a drive for innovation. There is

# City Scholarship Programme



The City Scholarship Programme is entering its fourth successful year. Last year, 30 students experienced work in top legal and finance companies in London, New York, Dublin, Liverpool and Edinburgh.

In London, a House of Commons tour provided an opportunity to see and experience the heart of government. Later, an event organised by the City Leadership Group gave students a chance to chat with company hosts, alumni and donors about living and working in the City.

Dr Declan Tiernan, Chair of the City Leadership Group said of the initiative:

"We are incredibly proud of the Programme, and the difference that it has made to these students' prospects, and look forward to its continuing growth and success in the future." In New York, a visit to the NYSE trading floor provided a rare chance to speak to traders transacting million-dollar deals every day. Queen's New York alumni association also hosted an event for the Scholars. Anita Sands, the University's 2014 Graduate of the Year and a Director of the 'Fortune 500' company Symantec in New York, met the delegation for breakfast to share her experiences.

Conall McNally (above) described his New York experience as: "Fantastic! The contacts I have made through the networking events are second to none."

To become involved in the City Scholarship Programme contact Rachael Sands (International Development Officer) tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3233, or email: r.sands@gub.ac.uk

an increasing number of international staff and students at Queen's, so this programme is vitally important. It contributes to the sharing of global experiences and helps to embed these in the international culture of the University.

"In this sense, one of the most successful aspects of our engagement with Brazil lies in the emergence of connections across the sciences, engineering, arts, humanities and social sciences; something we will explore in a week dedicated to Brazil taking place at Queen's in 2015."

Over six years Queen's has enjoyed a fruitful connection with one of the UK's leading banks. This incoming academic year will see the University adopting its third agreement with Santander, so future generations of academics and students can continue to reap the benefits. More than just a financial relationship however, the strategic ties with Santander are broadening international relations and changing lives - right across the University.

### Internships

Santander Universities launched an Internship Programme in July 2012 at The Royal Opera House. The SME (small-medium sized enterprises) Programme allows students and recent graduates to gain valuable industry experience and the relevant skills needed to assist them in the development of their academic and professional lives. In addition, SMEs gain valuable access to some of the most innovative, skilful and creative minds of the future.

A matched funding initiative, Santander invests up to £1,500 towards a threemonth student internship, provided a local SME or the University matches the amount. Since the initiative was launched. Queen's has delivered 25 internships and will have access to at least 15 further places in the coming academic year.

# Business – it's a people thing!

Founders' Club - the select group of local companies who collectively donated more than £1m to the University's Postgraduate and Executive Education Centre at Riddel Hall – meets twice a year. They hear from high-profile keynote speakers, share experiences and reflect on important economic issues.

This year, members heard from Alan Brown, former Chief Executive of Rentokil and from Queen's MBA graduate Mike Brown (no relation), Managing Director of London Underground and London Rail.

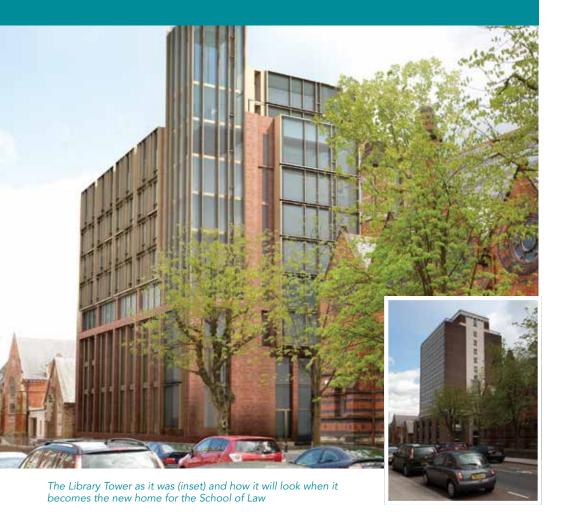


At February's meeting, Alan Brown (above) discussed the development of future leaders. In today's rapidly changing business environment 'The People Thing' is considered crucial in determining how successful a CEO can be in realising a company's strategic objectives. Once seen mainly in terms of cost, people are now being viewed as rich sources of talent, skill and diversity, and are therefore critical for business success.

In May, Mike Brown, focused on 'Change Management'. Mike was appointed managing director for London's public transport system in November 2010. He discussed the key elements of a successful change strategy with special reference to his company's performance during the 2012 London Olympic Games.

To find out more about Employability Initiatives contact Conor O'Kane, (Corporate Fundraising Manager) tel: +44 (0)28 9097 5189 or email: conor.okane@qub.ac.uk

Important developments, due to complete by 2017, will help deliver a campus fit to pursue excellence in research and teaching, and to achieve Queen's ambitious plans.



If you have not been back to the University in some time you will be amazed by the improvements that have been made.

From the nationally recognised McClay Library to the award-winning new sports facilities at Upper Malone, the Queen's campus is ever changing.

The redevelopment of the former Library Tower is a key element in developing worldclass facilities for students and staff, creating a prestigious new home for the School of Law with a series of atrium spaces which will provide light and natural ventilation. Law staff and student facilities will be on the first floor and above, while the ground floor will



pre (inset) and post (above) completion

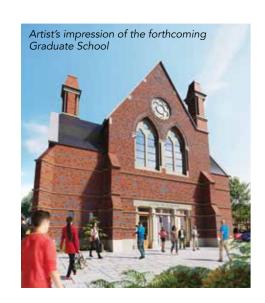
provide social and informal group study spaces and a café, it is part of a masterplan which will enhance the University's historic main site. When completed in 2016, it will deliver a dramatic new hub of learning and teaching on campus.

The three upper floors have been removed, but the Tower's structural frame will be retained and extended to connect the new Law Building to the Peter Froggatt Centre, effectively creating a single entity.

The remodelling will close the north façade of the Quad and make the Naylor Arch the single point of entry reflecting the Irish Arch on the south side. This returns the Quad to its original Victorian concept, creating a greater sense of enclosure and collegiality.

In accordance with the University's commitment to sustainability, all the new initiatives are being designed to achieve a Building Research Establishment **Environmental Assessment Method** (BREEAM) 'Excellent' rating.

The refurbishment of the previously connected Grade B listed Lynn Building will create a Graduate School building. Located in the heart of the campus in a key historical location, it too will facilitate an enhanced sense of community.





The development of a vibrant postgraduate and postdoctoral culture across Queen's is an integral part of the University Vision, to support the significant increases in the number of students at postgraduate taught, research and postdoctoral level.

The ground level will focus on administrative support with a reception and meeting rooms.

The first floor will provide teaching and a variety of study

Artist's

and social areas within the open-plan, double-height, vaulted space.

The expansion of Computer Science is an institutional priority for the University and is closely aligned with the priorities set out in the Northern Ireland Programme for Government 2011–2015, the Department for Employment and Learning's Higher Education and Skills Strategies 'Success through Skills –Transforming Futures' and 'Success Through STEM'.

The capacity of current facilities in the Bernard Crossland Building is no longer adequate to support a high-quality student



experience. Neither does it address the expected growth in student numbers, their expectations, or new modes of teaching Computer Science.

The objective is to create a high-quality building, integrating both teaching and research and delivering a stimulating environment for staff and students. The new working area will include formal and informal student spaces capable of supporting increasing levels of group and project work.

Subject to obtaining Planning Approval and availability of full funding, construction work is scheduled to start in December 2014 and will be completed in time for the start of the 2016/17 academic year.

The final major regeneration project aims to co-locate and consolidate the School of Biological Sciences and its major research centre – the Institute of Global Food Security (IGFS).

The new building, subject to the necessary approvals, will be located on the site of the former Science Library in Chlorine Gardens.

The University's investment in state-ofthe-art buildings will open the door to growth and investment, making a huge contribution to the Northern Ireland economy as well as providing staff and students with the right learning environment in which to grow and thrive.

The IGFS is a world leader in national and global efforts to provide the world's growing population with a sustainable safe and secure supply of high-quality food. Supporting its effective operation and growth is of major importance to the University and is also a key asset to the wider Northern Ireland economy.

To explore the University's ambitious development plans for the campus, visit www.qub.ac.uk/sites/investinginthefuture



**30** The Graduate – 2014 The Graduate – 2014



# CONVOCATION LECTURE

Thursday 20 November 2014 at 7pm in the Canada Room/Council Chamber

Speaker: Dr Tom Frawley CBE, Northern Ireland Ombudsman

Dr Tom Frawley CBE became the Assembly Ombudsman and Northern Ireland Commissioner for Complaints in September 2000. As Ombudsman, Tom has also served as the interim Commissioner for Standards at the Assembly, as Director of the European Region of the International Ombudsman Institute, and a member of World Board that oversees the work worldwide of the Institute. Tom has also been appointed to the Alumni Advisory Council of the Eisenhower Fellowships of Philadelphia to represent the island of Ireland, and he was elected as the Vice President of the World Board of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI). In 2008 Tom was awarded a CBE in the New Year Honours List.

#### **Notice of Annual Meeting of Convocation**

The Convocation Lecture will follow the Annual Meeting of Convocation.

The Agenda for the Annual Meeting and the forms to submit a motion to the Annual Meeting are available online at http://daro.qub.ac.uk/convocation and from the Clerk of Convocation.

All graduates of Queen's University Belfast are welcome to attend.

Please contact the Clerk of Convocation to indicate your intention to attend.

Meaghan Lyons, Clerk of Convocation, c/o Development and Alumni Relations Office, Queen's University Belfast, University Road, BT7 1NN

Email: convocation@qub.ac.uk

# Points of View...



In December 2013, graduates attended discussion groups. Communications Officer and editor of *The Graduate*, Gerry Power, outlines how findings are already shaping the way the Office communicates with more than 140,000 Queen's graduates worldwide.

Alumni said	We responded
The alumni website – which has seen an increase in visitor traffic of 39% since last year – needs more interactive elements.	Twitter feeds, YouTube access and video clips will be added to enable alumni around the world to keep up with life at the University once they leave. More will be done to promote social media – LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter – to alert users to online conversations about Queen's and graduate life.
The Graduate – which is issued annually to all alumni on the University's mailing list – is 'contemporary.' However, the size and density of the text, are a concern.	Font size has been increased by over 10% and there are 33% fewer words per page on average in this issue of the magazine!
You value the opportunity to feedback and enjoyed catching up with University staff, meeting each other and giving feedback.	There are a number of discussion groups in the pipeline for this autumn and winter, so we encourage you to speak out! We really look forward to hearing from you.

"Listening to alumni – and canvassing their views on a regular basis – is vital," explains Gerry Power. "From the minute you cross the stage in the Sir William Whitla Hall at graduation, the University offers a lifelong engagement programme which brings distinct benefits to both sides. How best to keep in touch with you is therefore key to that process."

If you would like to take part in an alumni discussion group, please contact Gerry Power (Communications Officer) on +44 (0)28 9097 5321 or email: g.power@qub.ac.uk



Queen's University Belfast Alumni



@QUBAlumni

# A Global Outlook

'Internationalisation' is firmly embedded in the University's strategic vision led by the new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Johnston. Connections with universities and colleges overseas are proliferating and Queen's has a global outlook with students, alumni and staff from more than 120 countries, adding new dimensions to the learning experience at this University.

From Accounting to Zoology and from tiny bacteria to the solar system, Queen's researchers tackle major issues affecting the world by working in partnership with the finest minds on the planet (outside of Belfast). The Graduate explores the University's international credentials.

Dr Garry Laverty and a team from the School of Pharmacy at Queen's have developed the first innovative antibacterial gel that acts to kill so called hospital superbugs. The new approach was developed as part of an international collaboration between Queen's and the School of Chemistry at Brandeis University, Waltham, USA.

Professor José Bengoechea from Queen's School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences is leading a €4m international research project with 10 partner organisations across Europe to develop new treatments to tackle some of the world's top antibioticresistant bacteria, viruses and intestinal parasites which account for six million deaths every year. Academic partners include Trinity College Dublin, the Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology in Germany and the University of Vienna in Austria. Industrial partners include Sanofi-Aventis (France), Preclin Biosystem (Switzerland), and ParcBit (Spain).

The University's new Dean of Medicine Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences - Professor Stuart Elborn – leads pivotal studies with colleagues from the USA and Australia to find new treatments for people with Cystic Fibrosis. The combination therapy, developed with Vertex (a Boston, USA company), improves lung function and reduces hospitalisations for patients with the most common type of cystic fibrosis.

A major collaboration between Dr Ryan Milligan of the University's Astrophysics Research Centre and NASA is set to explore the potential that 'solar flares' have to cause disruption on Earth.

Dr Geetha Srinivasan, a Queen's senior research fellow from India, became the first L'Oreal-UNESCO Outstanding Women in Science recipient from Northern Ireland in 2012 and was shortlisted in the 2014 Asian Women of Achievement Awards.

Queen's launched the *City Scholars* initiative in 2013, providing students with two-week placements each summer in top New York legal and financial firms and similar opportunities in Europe. And the *Washington Ireland Program* (WIP) is currently celebrating its 20th year. WIP places undergrads into the heart of the American political process, showing them how Washington DC really works.

Professor Frank Kee in the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences directs the UKCRC Centre of Excellence for Public Health Research in Northern Ireland and has been invited onto the International Advisory Board of the new Cancer Prevention Science Initiative. His appointment comes as scientists from Queen's help to spearhead a new £6m initiative to find better ways to prevent cancer in an initiative led by Cancer Research UK.

Queen's partners with prominent colleges in the USA including Stanford University in California, Fordham University in New York, Boston College, Georgetown University in Washington, DC and the University of Massachusetts in Lowell (UMass Lowell) where the Irish-American Heritage Archaeological Program has been established with Queen's to understand the lives of Irish emigrants.

QUILL, the University's internationally recognised and respected Ionic Liquid Laboratories, enjoys an awardwinning collaboration with Malaysian oil giant Petronas through which new technology capable of removing toxic mercury from natural gas has emerged that is up to six times more efficient than previous methods.

Dr John Hallsworth from the School of Biological Sciences is participating in NASA's Special Regions-Science Analysis Group exploring those regions of Mars which may have sufficient moisture and a suitable temperature to sustain microbial life. As one of just 22 scientists from around the world – and the only one from Britain or Ireland – his aim is to ensure that spacecraft launched from Earth do not contaminate the planet with terrestrial life forms.

Queen's International Students' Society, founded in 2009, promotes the interests of international students at the University, helping them to make friends and settle in through regular social events and outings.

Links with China have expanded rapidly in the last 10 years:

- This autumn Queen's has opened the China Queen's College in partnership with the China Medical University (CMU) in Shenyang.
- The School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science has connections with Hangzhou Dianzi University, China (Zhejiang Province), the Harbin Institute of Technology and Shanghai University.
- The School of Politics, International Studies and Philosophy at Queen's is developing a series of links with top philosophy departments at leading Chinese universities such as Beijing Renmin University, which is currently ranked the second in China.
- The School of Pharmacy has a longstanding relationship with CMU and since 2005 over 100 students have come to Queen's, most of whom graduated with MPhils/PhDs.

Queen's has more than 30 separate strategic partnerships and collaborations with institutions in India:

- The School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science is working with the Bengal Engineering and Science University (BESU), Kolkata, to provide internships for students in environmental engineering.
- The School of Planning, Architecture and Civil Engineering and BESU have collaborated on an award-winning initiative to remove arsenic from water.
- The School of Geography, Archaeology and Paleoecology ran a student exchange and a Himalayan field trip with Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Globally, Queen's graduates act as focal points and ambassadors for Queen's in over 100 countries. Many sign up as global mentors, others run Alumni Associations in Malaysia, USA and Canada to help keep alumni in touch and some help with student recruitment initiatives.

To learn about international volunteering opportunities, go to http://daro.qub.ac.uk/volunteer or to discover more about Queen's ongoing research achievements, visit www.qub.ac.uk/research



#### Dr RA Duncan BDS 1953

I first came to Queen's in April 1942. In the middle of WW2 the Government needed to speed up maturity in 6th formers joining the forces by giving them a six-month course in Maths and Science at selected universities. My good luck was to be sent to Queen's.

We lived in the PWM Hostel in Howard Street and daily took the tram to lectures. On Saturdays there was often a Hop in the Drill Hall. When my army service was over in 1947 the Government offered a grant of £249 a year to study Dentistry and Queen's accepted me. I could never thank the University enough for giving me this opening.

In my year were four ex-servicemen aged about 24 and four school leavers. At first it was hard to change from having a gin and tonic in the officer's mess to sharing half a woodbine cigarette in the Students' Union café.

The next five years were amongst the happiest of my life. Many good times were spent rowing on the Lagan and hilarious trips to Dublin for the Wylie Cup. Lifelong friends have been made. My only regret is that I did not marry and settle down in Ulster.

#### Wilfred (Wilfie) Finch BA 1955

In 1951 I moved across University Road to Queen's (from Methody) and again enjoyed the bounty of the State, which not only paid my fees, but gave me a monetary grant three times per year.

Compared to school I was amazed at the number of students who crowded into lecture theatres. I embarked upon the less-obvious curriculum which Queen's offered. I served on the Students' Representative Council (SRC) which injected a measure of democracy and initiative into student affairs, eg the opening of a Student Bookshop in an upstairs room in the SRC building, where used textbooks were recycled from graduates to undergraduates at a modest cost.

The Students' Union, run by Colonel Billington with good-humoured courtesy, was the social forum, where male students could read newspapers, learn to smoke pipes, take a degree in billiards or snooker, sleep off a hangover, eat, chat and flirt over coffee in the McMordie Hall where even females of the species were allowed to eat and drink.

(Extracted from 'Reflections on Rab Butler', available online at http://daro.qub.ac.uk/classnotes)

To submt your own memories or read further graduate recollections, please visit http://daro.qub.ac.uk/mytime

### lan Jagoe Psychology, 1960s

My memories of Queen's are of the best time of my life, where I spent five enjoying rugby for the Thirds (and occasionally the Seconds), athletics in the summer, and setting up *The Gown* on a firm financial base of a Trust Fund which sees it surviving to this day.

I was the sole Southern Protestant member of the Founding Committee of the New Ireland Society, created to bring the two Politico-Religious sections in Northern Ireland together to debate Irish issues in an atmosphere of peaceful confrontation rather than aggressive violence.

Also I met, fell in love with, and later, despite the violent objections of both sets of parents, married my late wife Joan, who gave me two wonderful sons whom, as babies, brought both our families closer together by winning the hearts of their grannies. I failed an intermediate subject at least twice in succession, though passed my main (Psychology). I left Queen's eventually without the benefit of a degree.

Joan, my wife, graduated with a 2.1 in English. We married in Wandsworth, south London, and, after an awful year with an Oil Company 'managing' filling stations, and with Joan pregnant, I resigned and joined the Office Products Division of IBM UK Ltd.

### Mike Douse BSc (Econ) 1960, DipEd 1961

Looking back across the decades, I am amazed that I was allowed to get away with it. During my second, third (and indeed fourth and fifth) years of Economics I had scarcely any interaction with lectures or tutorials. Eventually I graduated – perhaps my professors discerned some well-hidden potential. More likely, they were keen to get rid of me.

Some of that which I experienced at Queen's has helped me directly and significantly. For example, I was involved in establishing the World School Students Debating Championships and have produced poems that publishers have looked kindly upon. But I thoroughly wasted my undergraduate academic opportunities: I learned virtually no economics and – although Professor Knox's history of educational thought was wonderfully stimulating – I picked up very little that was at all useful to my subsequent half-century (and still batting) in education worldwide.

None of this I say with any sense of pride, still less as a model for those currently studying. I'm simply telling it as it was. But I savoured the University experience for those six seminal Queen's years. With careful editing, reminiscence therapy works wonders.

#### The Graduate - 2014 **37**

# Class Notes

Thanks to all those who took the time to contribute to our Class Notes section. Unfortunately we are limited by the space available, so apologies if your entry has not been included here. All class notes are posted on our website - http://daro.qub.ac.uk/classnotes - from where you can also submit your own news.

#### 2010s

Peter Leary, PhD 2014, has been appointed to the Canon Murray Fellowship in Irish History, a three-year postdoc at St Hugh's College, Oxford.

#### 2000s

Ashleigh Johnston, BA English and Sociology 2003, was recently featured in Business First's 'Top 40 Business Leaders under 40'. The Bangor entrepreneur set up and runs Copper Square Communications, offering companies affordable and creative marketing and communications strategies to help grow their business. Ashleigh began her career in Public Relations working with a leading mental health charity. Three years later, and still in her early twenties, she was appointed Marketing Manager of Campbell



College and went on to work internationally for The University of Adelaide.

Valur Gunnarsson, MA Creative Writing 2003, first became known in Iceland as the editor and co-founder of Reykjavik Grapevine Magazine, Iceland's first English-language paper, which is still going strong. In the summer of 2004, it caused a huge debate about multiculturalism in Iceland after a black woman was shown on the cover wearing the Icelandic national costume. Some were offended, Nordic Nazi groups made threats and the issue was debated in parliament. but the response was overwhelmingly positive and the image has since become part of the curriculum in courses in both university and art school as well as being discussed on National Public Radio in the US.

Valur published his first novel, King of the North, in 2007. It is a fantasy about an alcoholic ship cleaner which draws on both Nordic and Finnish mythology. During the economic crisis in 2008-9, he was one of Iceland's leading correspondents, writing both for The Guardian and Associated Press, which led to articles in many of the world's

most prestigious publications, such as The Washington Post and The New York Times.

This formed the background for his second novel, The Last Lover, which came out in Iceland last autumn to great acclaim.

Colin Keane, BSc 2002, pictured with the Consul General of Ireland, Mr Noel Kilkenny, being honoured as one of The Irish Echo's 'Top Irish 40 under 40' in America. Colin – who comes from Newcastle, Co Down and is currently Sales Manager for McCourt and Sons Equipment Inc. in Austin, Texas - also received The Irish Echo's 'Young Ambassador Award 2014'.



The presentation took place at Rosie O'Grady's Manhattan Club in New York on Friday, February 28th, 2014.

## **♦** Santander

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

In 2003 Colin received the 'Explorer of the Year' award from Invest NI; he graduated from the University of Texas at Austin as part of its 'Emerge Program' of 2012. He is married to Nicki who runs a photography and events planning business.

#### 1990s

Philip McLorinan, BDS 1999 and his wife Debbie (née McCabe), BSc (Econ) 1994, celebrated 10 years of **Dunmurry Dental Practice** delivering award-winning service to 12,000 patients, in May. Growing from strength to strength they now employ 24 staff across the six surgery practices.



A reception to mark the occasion was attended by The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Lisburn City Council, Councillor Margaret Tolerton,

helped raise funds for the practice's chosen charity, Stepping Stones NI, an organisation that provides training and employment support to people with learning disabilities or learning difficulties.

Raymond O'Regan, BA Irish History 1997, qualified in 1998 with a Teacher Tutor Certificate in Adult and Continuing Education, all achieved through the excellent Life Long Learning (today, Open Learning). Since 1999 he has worked in Open Learning offering a range of courses on Irish History including in-house lectures on the Great Irish Famine and field trips on aspects of Belfast's history.

Previously he was involved in Queen's much-praised Summer School, which gave A-level students a taste of life at their local university and "hopefully influenced their future decision to attend Queen's, which many did."

Raymond has produced four in-house books, including (in 2008) Happy Birthday Queen's, celebrating 100 years of the leading university. In addition, he has written two best-selling books: Hidden Belfast: Benevolence, Blackquards and Balloon Heads and The Little Book of Belfast.

The above can, says Raymond, be traced back to his time taking the BA course at Queen's and the encouragement of the professors and lecturers involved. One in particular, Emeritus Professor Ken

Brown, he singles out for a separate mention.

Kathy Maher (née Harte), BSc Pharmacy 1996, was elected president of the Irish Pharmacy Union (IPU) at the organisation's AGM in May.

Kathy has been involved with the IPU since 2002 and became Vice-President in 2012 having served as honorary treasurer for two years. A pharmacist in Duleek in Co Meath, she has postgraduate diplomas in community pharmacy and in diabetes management in primary care. After preregistration she worked in Dublin before moving to Duleek Pharmacy in 2000, which she bought in 2005.

Kathy is also involved with the organisation of the **IPU National Pharmacy** Conference and was a tutor with the Irish Centre for Continuing Pharmaceutical Education for many years.

#### 1980s

Jonathan Bramley, BSc Computer Science 1987, won the Queen's University Association, London (QUAL) Annual Golf Day Outing at



IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

DE Lorraine Sterritt, MA French 1986, BA French and English 1983, became President of Salem Academy and College – the oldest women's college in the USA - in July.

Dr Sterritt is the third female president of the 242-year-old institution, which is based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Lorraine's most recent job was as Dean for Administration at Harvard College and a member of the faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University. From 2010 to 2013 she led the planning and execution of programmes for undergraduate education, student life, administration and finance and also led the strategic planning process for Harvard College.

Prior to that, she was Associate Dean for Graduate and Undergraduate Studies in the School of Humanities at Stanford University, and Dean of Freshmen at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr Sinclair Mayne, BAgr 1980, was presented with the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers' Princess Royal Award by Her Royal Highness at Buckingham Palace in May. The honour was made for his outstanding services to the UK dairy industry.

Dr Sinclair Mayne is currently Director of the Sustainable Agri-Food Sciences Division within the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI), based in Belfast.

In addition to authoring/coauthoring over 110 research papers, Sinclair is well known across the UK dairy sector through his engagement with dairy discussion groups and participation in other industry events and organisations, including terms as president of the British Society of Animal Science and the British Grassland Society.

#### 1970s

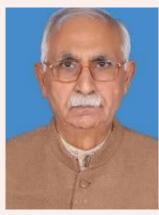


Garth Manning, MB BCh BAO 1979 and Monica Burns, BA 1979, are returning to Belfast after being away for 32 and 28 years respectively and living and working in some beautiful, dangerous and entirely unsavoury places.

Currently building a new home, they hope to move in in time to celebrate Garth's 60th birthday next April! The couple are

pictured in May this year, when Monica was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the Royal College of General Practitioners for her work in development of primary care worldwide.

#### CM Ashraf Chaudhry, PhD Organic Chemistry



1971, has been associated with the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) and before that the Royal Institute of Chemistry (RIC) since 1971. Professor Chaudhry is currently the Pakistan representative on the RSC, a position he has held since 1993 and in which capacity he attends the RSC General Assembly.

A regular presenter at meetings in Burlington House, London, several of his articles have been published in the RSC news bulletins. He was presented with an RSC Long Service Award for advancing chemical sciences in 2006.

His career in teaching and research in national and international universities includes 19 years in the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

# **♦** Santander

(PCSIR) Laboratories in Lahore. He retired from the PCSIR as Chief Scientific Officer and Head of the Applied Chemistry Research Centre 14 years ago before moving to Saint Anthony College, Lahore as Professor of Chemistry and then to Forman Christian College, from where he retired a second time in 2010.

Professor Chaudhry has earned international recognition by Marquis Who's Who in the World (USA), which has published his biography since 2000, and by the International Biographic Centre at Cambridge (UK), which honoured him with a 21st Century Award (in 2006) for his achievements in Chemistry.

#### 1960s

Robin Mussen, BSc Geography 1968, his wife Jennifer (nee Calvert), BA Geography 1969 and Alan Davison, BA Geography 1969, recently got together in Martigny in the Swiss Alps.

The trio has enjoyed a lasting friendship, and have shared



many holidays in Brussels, Nice, Ireland and most recently Geneva. Reminiscing about happy times in the old Geography Department in the Quad, and memories of their Honours field trip to Denmark in 1968 led by Dr Robin Glasscock and Mr Jimmy Cruickshank, all three recall the carefree 'sixties' when graduates had the pick of careers and the world was a fascinating and non-threatening place.

Travel continues to play a large role in their lives and the study of geography still helps to explain the world. Last summer all three met with Noel Mitchel, an influential tutor and long-time friend and were delighted to find him in excellent form.

#### 1950s

Wilfred (Wilfie) Finch, BA 1955, has drafted a reflective piece on The Education Act 1944 which changed the education system for secondary schools in UK.

Called the "Butler Act" after Conservative politician Richard Austen Butler (known as Rab), it introduced the tripartite education system consisting of three different types of secondary school grammar schools, secondary technical schools and secondary modern schools.

And it made all schooling, especially secondary education, free for all pupils.

The full article, in which Wilfie reflects on his time at Methodist College and Queen's in the 1950s, can be found http://daro. qub.ac.uk/classnotes

Fiona McCandless (nee McGilloway), BSc Environmental Planning 1990 was appointed Chief Planner in April 2014. with responsibility for the overall leadership, management and delivery of the Department of the Environment's planning remit. Ms McCandless, who joined the Department of the Environment in 1998, leads the Planning Group which comprises the Local Planning, Strategic Planning and Planning Policy divisions and which is responsible for the transfer of planning functions from Central to Local Government in April 2015.

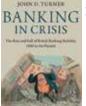
She also provides advice and support to the Minister, Mark H Durkan and to the Northern Ireland Assembly on planning matters.



If you would like your news to appear in Class Notes, please contact Gerry Power, (Editor, The Graduate): g.power@qub.ac.uk

# New Books

For, by and about Queen's graduates and staff



John D Turner, Professor of Finance and Financial History at Queen's University

Management School, has recently published *Banking* in Crisis.

The first book to tell the story of the rise and fall of British banking stability in the past two centuries, and published by Cambridge University Press, it answers the question as to why the British banking system imploded in 2008, explores the long-run evolution of bank regulation, the role of the Bank of England and the need to hold shareholders to account.



Michael McKeown – BA English Language and Literature 1976, PG Certificate in

Education 1981, MA English (Creative Writing) 2006 – now has a three-book deal with David James Publishing, which issued *The Blue Room* in June 2014 A noir fiction, *The Blue Room* is set in south Belfast and features Queen's prominently where some of the main characters are students and chapters include scenes in the Students' Union, the Ulster Museum, the Crown Bar and Botanic Gardens.

Elisabetta Viggiani, MA Irish Studies 2006, PhD Irish Studies 2011, has, for a number of years, been working on a book based on her PhD research into collective memory and war memorialisation, specifically in relation to contemporary Northern Ireland.

Talking Stones, published by Berghahn Books in August 2014, examines how collective memory and material culture are used to support present political and ideological needs in contemporary society. For more, go to http:// northemirelandmemorials.com



Gardiner M Weir, BAgr 1957, has had two further books published by America Star Books - The High Adventure of a Cheese Sandwich and Thomas, The Cat of Nine Tales. One is the story of a princess who is so plump and unpretty that her father, the King, cannot find any prince or knight to marry her, while the other is about a very small cat, Thomas, who needs to prove he is a courageous fighter.

Gardiner, who lives in Wilmington, Delaware, has also published books of short stories and poems inspired by his time in Co Antrim.

Rebecca Reid, BA English 2008, has secured a publishing deal from Liberties Press for her debut print novel, *Thickets Wood.* She has also won the favour of renowned artist Neil Shawcross, who penned the original cover art.

The story revolves around the mental deterioration of the central character, Tommy Tinkit, a 12-year-old boy who finds himself torn between reality and the dark uncertainty of another dimension.

Rebecca lives in Northern Ireland with her husband and their three daughters. Her debut novel *The Coop* was self-published in 2012.

# **Obituaries**

It is with sadness that we bring you obituaries and appreciations of some of those graduates who are no longer with us.

#### Sam Kalega Njuba, LLM 1970, (13.12.13)

Former Chairman, Forum for Democratic Change

The former Kyadondo East MP, Constituent Assembly delegate and one-time Minister for Constitutional affairs in the NRM Government, died of intestinal complications at Nsambya Hospital in Kampala. He was 72 years old.

Sam Njuba was born on 22 February 1941. He attended Queen's after earning a Law degree at the University of East Africa and began his career as a Lecturer at Makerere University, before being appointed Chief Magistrate Buganda Road Court in 1973.



Professor Norman C Nevin, MB BCh BAO 1960, (10.01.14) Geneticist

Norman Nevin was born in Belfast in 1935 and

was raised in the Crumlin Road area of the city. He was educated at the Belfast Boys Model School and Grosvenor High School, and then studied medicine at Queen's where he won the class prize in each of the subjects he studied.

After graduating, he took a series of appointments in the Royal Victoria Hospital and Queen's. In 1965 he was appointed to a Medical Research Council Clinical Fellowship at the Clinical Genetics Research Unit at the Institute of Child Health in London and Great Ormond St Hospital. Here he was to develop a lifelong interest and expertise in the field of genetics, which

was at that time a fledgling discipline. He was able to pursue that interest further at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford.

One of Northern Ireland's best-known scientists, his ground-breaking work dramatically reduced the number of babies born with Spina Bifida.

Professor Nevin was internationally renowned as a leading light in genetic research – and a driving force in the establishment of the hugely successful regional service at Belfast City Hospital.

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Professor David Hadden, MB BCh BAO 1959, (26.02.14) Physician and historian

Born in Portadown on May 24, 1936, David Hadden attended Miss Montgomery's Kindergarten School above Hoy's Butchers in Edenderry and from there moved to Cabin Hill, and then to Campbell College. After his degree at Queen's, he went on to research endocrinology (the branch of medicine concerning hormones and glands) as a Fulbright Fellow at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. He did further work at the Infantile Malnutrition Research Unit in Kampala, Uganda, then later at the University of Cambridge.

Professor David Robert Hadden was appointed Consultant Physician at Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital in 1967. He was among the first researchers in his field to anticipate the impact of the modern western lifestyle on diabetes rates. He was later accorded the title of Honorary Professor of Endocrinology at Queen's.

The Graduate - 2014 **43 42** The Graduate – 2014

He had just finished a draft book of the History of the Metabolic Unit at the RVH prior to his death, and he had earlier published a history of the Hadden Family.

He is survived by his wife Dr Diana Hadden, his sister Rosalind, who resides in Portadown, and by his brother Professor Tom Hadden, a well-known academic lawyer. He is also survived by his son Robert, a neurologist in Kent, and two daughters, Katharine Martin, a marine engineer, and Emily Smyth, a landscape architect, and by his seven grandchildren.

# Gordon Burnison OBE. LLB 1969, (11.03.14)

MD and military historian

Appointed Managing Director of the Construction Employers Federation in 1970. Gordon Burnison steered the organisation for 25 years, until his retirement in 1995. During this time, he was influential in raising the standards and the profile of the 'Construction Industry' which he was proud to serve.

He was instrumental in launching the industry-wide Pension Scheme and the Building Guarantee Scheme, and will be remembered for his strong work ethic and support of the industry.



Dr Lavinia Loughridge, MB BCh BAO 1958, (22.03.14)Physician and teacher

Born on May 20, 1930 in Templepatrick, Lavinia's mother was a pianist and her father, a GP, died in a road accident when she was 4. Despite

this and being out of school with tuberculosis for a year at the age of 9, she was first in her class and head girl.

One of only 15 women in a class of over 100 men, she qualified with first class honours from Queen's medical school in 1954. She worked at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast before studying further and taking a job at the Hammersmith Hospital in London in 1955.

In 1963, Lavinia Loughridge co-wrote a pivotal paper, published in the British Medical Journal, which described the use of immune suppressant treatment to improve renal transplant survival. Many of the 1,500 people a year with chronic kidney disease who receive a renal transplant have reason to be grateful to her.

In a career spanning 41 years, she educated generations of medical students, becoming only the second female Vice-President of the Royal College of Physicians since its foundation in the 16th century.

After her retirement from the NHS in 1995, she continued to see patients at the Cromwell Hospital and enjoyed being able to practise the piano and share her love of music, art and travel with her second husband, Professor John Bunker, who died in 2012.

### Colonel Roddy McKitrick DFC. BA French and German 1952, (24.04.14)

RAF navigator and Royal Army **Educational Corps** 

Roderick Alexander McKitrick (widely known as 'Mac') was born at Whitehead, Co Antrim on March 14 1922. A bright child, of a forceful and independent nature (which he would retain into adulthood), he was largely tutored at home. Upon matriculation, he briefly followed his father into banking, but, with the war already started, he soon volunteered for service, initially in an air defence unit of the Honourable Artillery Company deployed in the London area.

Following a long illness, Roddy McKitrick died peacefully at home in Salisbury aged 92 years.

### Dr Stanley Platman, MB BCh BAO 1959, (07.05.14)

Psychiatrist and health administrator

A retired psychiatrist, health administrator and champion of community-based mental health services, Stanley Platman died after heart surgery at MedStar Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland aged 79 years.

Born in London, he was the son of Jack Platman and Josephine Levy Platman, who owned a grocery store and pub. He did studies in thyroid conditions in Haifa, Israel, and in South Africa.

Before moving to Baltimore in 1976, Dr Platman worked as the Director of the Metabolic Research Unit at the New York State Psychiatric Unit

### Caolán Winterson. **BSc Business Information** Technology 2013, (05.07.14) Footballer and marketer

From Derrylin, Caolán died in the USA while on an internship with Invest NI in Boston. He was an only child and his parents, Mary and Val, are devastated by the death of a son whom his friends have described as "a true gentleman".

After leaving Queen's he joined a graduate programme with Co Antrim firm Randox Laboratories in September 2013 before taking up a role in office marketing/ admin support with Invest NI. A keen GAA player Caolán was working for the Irish International Immigration Centre.



Dr Alistair M Hanna. BSc Physics 1968, PhD Nuclear Physics 1972, (12.07.14) Businessman, consultant,

Alistair Hanna (Ali) was educated at Sullivan Upper School in Holywood. After graduating from Queen's he gained an MBA at the Harvard Business School in 1974, before working for over 25 years with the international management consultancy firm McKinsey and Co. He became a director in 1986 and served as the managing partner of the Stamford office, specialising in microelectronics and software, and also telecommunications and aerospace.

Based in New York, Dr Hanna retained close ties to his homeland. A passionate golfer and a member of Royal Portrush Golf Club, he was a prime mover in developing the controversial new Bushmills Dunes course.

Along with his wife Nancy he owned the Ardtara Country House Hotel near Upperlands in Co Londonderry.

He had a wide range of interests and served on the boards of Fountain House in New York as well as the famous Trinity Church in Wall Street. He remained close to his alma mater, was president of the US Friends of Queen's and served on the University's Foundation Board.

Dr Hanna is also survived by his wife Nancy, daughter Anne and his brother David.

#### Among other graduates and former staff who have passed away are:

- Professor Rodney Frederick William Coates, PhD Engineering 1968, (29.12.13)
- Andrew Victor (Vic) Mitchell, MB BCh BAO 1958, (10.01.14)
- Paul Magee, BA Management and Business Studies 2001, (28.01.14)
- Mandy (Marion) Elizabeth Von Sivers (née Boyd), LLB 1966, (08.03.14)
- Norman Eccles MBE, BSc Physics 1951, (11.04.14)
- Professor Murray MacBeath, BA Mathematics 1942, (14.05.14)
- Norman Richard Daly, BSc Physics 1949, PhD 1952, (01.08.14)
- Reverend Dr Stewart Jones, BD Theology 1980, (04.08.14)

# Sports Report

Celebrating the best of Queen's sport

### Flite athletes

Up to eight talented Queen's students stand to join Katie Kirk, 800m semi-finalist in the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, and Ladies GAA All-Star Caroline O'Hanlon, as the latest round of the Elite Athlete Programme (EAP) opens for applications.

With packages worth up to £8,000, the EAP provides outstanding sportsmen and women with a significant contribution towards fees, accommodation and international competitions throughout their time at Queen's. Places are awarded on the basis of high standards and potential.

Elite Athletes also receive tailored academic support and lifestyle management, a food and nutritional budget, expert coaching, academic flexibility and medical support.

The winners will be announced next May.



## University Boat Race



The 2014 University Boat Race that took place in June was attended by 1,000 rowing enthusiasts, alumni and local business representatives. Among distinguished quests were the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Cllr Nichola Mallon (above right), the Head of Queen's Sport Liz McLaughlin (left) and Queen's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Johnston (centre).

Twenty-five crews competed in 17 races, including student and alumni crews from both Queen's and Trinity College Dublin, and Junior Men's and Women's crews from Portora Boat Club, Bann Rowing Club, Methodist College Belfast, Royal Belfast Academical Institution and Coleraine Academical Institution.

### McAnallen Medal

A decade after his untimely passing, Cormac McAnallen's memory has been marked with the third presentation of an annual medal in his honour. The University's GAA Club and Past Members' Union initiated the award in 2012.

The 2014 recipient of the McAnallen Medal is Armagh player Fionnuala McKenna (pictured with Cormac's brother Dónal). Fionnuala attended St Catherine's College,



Armagh, where Cormac taught. She has been a key member of the Queen's team that won the national title in 2013 and which reached the final at Queen's GAA Festival in Belfast this year.

Cormac McAnallen graduated from Queen's with a BA in 2001 and was later honoured by his alma mater as Graduate of the Year in 2004, the first time that the award was made posthumously. He played at Queen's for four years, winning a Sigerson Cup medal in 2000 and a Ryan Cup in 1999.

# Commonwealth Squad

Nine Queen's athletes were selected for Team NI for this year's Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, representing five different sports.

Included below are Eoin Fleming (judo), Maire Toner (netball), Kirsty Kee (judo), Caroline O'Hanlon (netball), Katie Kirk (athletics), Niamh Cooper (netball), Christine McMahon (athletics) and Curtis Coulter (swimming).

### Blues Awards

The Annual Blues Awards, recognising sporting talent, coaches and volunteers, was attended by 250 people in June. Guests included Manchester United players Ronny Johnsen and Teddy Sheringham.

Award winners on the night were Men's Soccer 1st XI (Sports Achievement, Team), Badminton player Caroline Black (Sports Achievement, Individual), James Daly (Coach of the Year, Ladies Gaelic Football), and Robbie Moore (Special Contribution to Sport winner for his work with Rugby).

# Teeing up

Sunny skies and new surroundings were the order of the day in August as Shandon Park Golf Club played host to the Queen's GAA Past Members' Union Golf Classic.

In what developed into a closely fought competition, the team of former Ulster and Ireland star Stephen Ferris was squeezed into second place, narrowly losing out to three of last year's winning fourball. The recipients of the Paddy O'Hara Cup were Anthony McDermott, Damian McDermott, Paddy Maguire and Rodger Sally.

Find out more about Queen's Sport at www.qub.ac.uk/sport. For information on donating to a Queen's Sporting Academy, contact Natasha Sharma (Annual Fund Manager) on: +44 (0)28 9097 3928 or SPORT OFFERS email: natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk



QUEEN'S

# A Legacy Gift - it's personal

JUST 3% OF PEOPLE IN NORTHERN IRELAND HAVE CONSIDERED LEAVING A LEGACY AND ONLY 2% HAVE MADE A LEGACY PLEDGE

In their lifetime, many individuals share what's important to them to allow friends and family to learn from their experiences. Others keep stories and insights to themselves, leaving everyone guessing for decades to come. As the University's Legacy Marketing Officer Susan Wilson reveals, it is important to find out what motivates donors to leave a gift in their will to Queen's.

A few months ago, my children were learning about the Second World War. Teachers asked them to gather information and artefacts from family detailing their experiences. So, roving reporters Ben (11), and Caitlin (9) - pictured below as a WW2 refugee dispatched themselves to nana and papa's to learn about family life 70 years ago.

Reflecting on this, I wonder what have been the major influences in your personal and professional life? How do you want to be remembered? Do you pass stories on to your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews? How will your legacy live on?



Hours later they returned, armed with a plethora of photographs and stories, including the one about my mum standing on a busy train platform in East Belfast amidst a sea of small children. With a gas mask box strapped across her best woollen coat, she was destined for a stay on a farm in Ballymena for a 'holiday'.

This prompted Ben and Caitlin to ask for more family stories. Understandably they want to know where they come from.



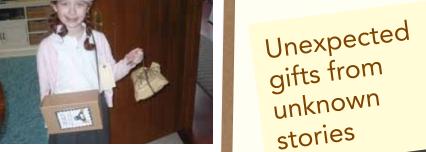
# The Queen's family legacy stories

As Legacy Officer, it is important for me to speak to legacy pledgers to ensure future gifts reflect individual wishes. It is always a pleasure to hear such stories and to learn about links to Queen's and motivations for leaving very personal gifts. And, of course, I get the chance to personally say "thank you".



A graduate of the University, the late Anthony Patrick (Tony) Neill (1931-2007) won a scholarship to Queen's, graduating in 1953 with a Bachelor of Education. He went on to be a senior lecturer in Postgraduate Educational Psychology, Liverpool University, until his retirement in 1988. He continued his lifelong interest in learning, embarking on an Open

University Degree in Mathematics. In his will he bequeathed £50,000 to Queen's University Belfast to establish a scholarship to be awarded annually for students in need of financial assistance to undertake, pursue or continue to pursue their studies at the University.



As often as we welcome new legacy pledgers into the Queen's family, we also receive unexpected legacy gifts to the Foundation. Occasionally the donor isn't a Queen's graduate and often they have no next-of-kin to thank. So we recognise their gesture in a small way through sharing their life story and their philanthropic act with others.

In November last year, we received notice of a legacy gift from a donor -Faudell H Gould from Skipton, Yorkshire. Conversations with his solicitor revealed that he was not a graduate and had no known next of kin. Yet, in his will Faudell listed the University as a charitable beneficiary of over £10,000, to be used to "fund research into new sources of energy and power".

The School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science set in motion a competition in the style of Dragons' Den. Dr Wenping Cao was the successful applicant, arguing in his pitch that Queen's should further its research into power electronics, which is of critical importance in establishing a low-carbon economy in the UK. Dr Cao will use the legacy gift to develop converters and power devices to target electric vehicles, photovoltaics and DC microgrids.



Whatever our motivations or personal stories, sharing thoughts on the past - and the future, long after we are all gone - can be a great way to ensure personal legacies live on.

If you would like to share your own story or hear from Queen's legacy family, sign up to receive our legacy newsletter by contacting Susan Wilson (Legacy Marketing Officer) on: +44 (0)28 9097 3162 or email: susan.wilson@gub.ac.uk

# Events and Reunions

Highlights of activities which took place in the last 12 months

Alumni events and reunions are a great way for graduates to renew acquaintances with the ever-changing Queen's campus and to reconnect with old friends. Whether you are a recent graduate wishing to attend a careers event, an information evening or a public lecture, or are returning from further afield for a significant class reunion, your University always looks forward to welcoming you back!

# Parliamentary privilege

The Queen's Graduates' Association (QGA) visited Parliament Buildings at Stormont for a special guided tour in March.

The evening began in the former Senate Room, where quests heard how the building was disguised with black paint and cow dung to avoid the Blitz during the Second World War.

The group visited the Assembly Chamber where MLAs conduct business on Mondays and Tuesdays, before proceeding up the grand staircase to the magnificent Long Gallery, with its views down the mile-long Processional Drive.

Guests then heard an intriguing talk entitled 'From Belfast to Bosnia' by Professor Jack Crane, Professor of Pathology at Queen's and recently retired State Pathologist.

For further information on QGA events. contact the Development and Alumni Relations Office on alumni@qub.ac.uk

# Cancer research showcase



CCRCB researchers Gaurang Patel, Dr Joy Kavanagh and Dr Zenobia D'Costa

The Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB) at Queen's was the venue for a Cancer Research Information Evening in April highlighting some of the ongoing research successes at CCRCB and to acknowledge the impact of philanthropic gifts.

Northern Ireland's cancer survival rates are currently among the best in the UK. Improving outcomes for patients lies at the heart of the work of the Centre and staff there are aiming to speed up the

process of taking new lab discoveries through to the clinical setting.

The evening included talks by doctors and researchers working in breast, ovarian and prostate cancers, radiotherapy and clinical trials.

# Observing the Universe

Graduates, prospective students and members of the public came to Queen's in May to 'See the Universe'.

Staged in the Great Hall, this major exhibition was part of a national astronomy roadshow and featured scale models of some of the world's largest and most advanced telescopes, as well as interactive exhibits and the chance to see a piece of a meteorite!

Developed by the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) in partnership with the Royal Astronomical Society, the exhibition included a public lecture from Queen's Honorary Graduate Dame Professor Jocelyn Bell-Burnell entitled 'Astronomy and Big Telescopes'.

### Queen's in pink for Giro d'Italia!



Queen's turned pink to welcome one of the most iconic cycling events in the world, when over 200 top professional cyclists converged on Belfast.

To mark the route passing directly in front of the main University building, the Lanyon was dressed in pink with staff and students also donning Giro colours for the day.

The carnival of events included a six-hour. Giro-themed spinathon, a garden party with Italian food and drink, and competitions and music - all on the front lawn. A fundraising element to the celebrations raised money for the student RAG charities.

# Celebrating women in engineering

The woman who advises Jenson Button on how to get the best performance from his McLaren Formula One car was among those featured in an exhibition celebrating Women in Engineering Day in June.

Bernadette Collins, from Enniskillen, graduated from Queen's in 2009 and is now a Performance Engineer with McLaren Formula One racing team. She featured in a poster exhibition highlighting Queen's female staff and graduates who are making their mark on engineering in Northern Ireland and around the world.

Also included was lecturer Dr Danielle Soban, whose lifelong love of planes led her to a career in aircraft design and a passion for mentoring young women in aerospace. Among others featured were Marie Butterfield, whose Queen's degree opened the door to a career spanning four global industries and the opportunity to travel the world, and Wendy Patton, who advises on the safe disposal of nuclear waste.



Wendy Boyd, School Manager; Lecturer Dr Beatrice Smyth; School SWAN Champion Denise Price, who promotes the advancement of women within the School: Professor Mark Price, Head of the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering; Professor Fraser Buchanan; and PhD student Claudia Mullan.

**50** The Graduate – 2014

# Remembering Maren

The Swedish Society of Northern Ireland wound up its affairs at an event at Queen's in memory of its founder, Maren Dunsby, who passed away in 2013.

Maren lectured in Queen's German Department, eventually becoming Deputy Head. She also taught Modern Swedish on the Honours German degree and an evening class in Swedish through the Extra-mural Department, now the School of Education. The Swedish Society. which she founded, attracted a varied and interesting range of members; the Society flourished until her retirement.

At a reception attended by past students of German and Swedish, members of the Swedish Society, friends, colleagues and members of Maren's family, a specially commissioned painting – of the Bohus Coast on the West of Sweden, by Petra Berntsson – was donated to the Language Centre in the University's McClay Library.

## Golden years

The Medical Class of 1964 held their Golden Reunion in September, when almost 50 alumni were welcomed by the Vice-Chancellor for a morning of presentations in the Senate Room. On a busy day, a tour of the Royal Victoria Hospital and a formal dinner in the Great Hall followed, which was attended by 70 graduates and guests.



OVER 2,400

GRADUATES

ATTENDED

EVENTSIN

2013/14

# Forthcoming Events

All future events: http://daro.gub.ac.uk/events Two key events coming up before the end of the year are:

#### AN ALUMNI FAMILY FILM AND **ANIMATION WORKSHOP**

The workshop will take place in Queen's Film Theatre on 6 December 2014. Once again, we have teamed up with Cinemagic to offer families of alumni a fascinating workshop with Film Animator Joel Simon, followed by a special screening of The Iron Giant.

#### THE 2014 CHARTER DAY DINNER

This year's dinner will take place on Friday 28 November in the splendid surroundings of the Great Hall at Queen's. Charter Day marks the establishment of Queen's College Belfast in 1845 and the creation of Queen's as university in 1908.

If you are thinking about attending a future event or organising a reunion, we can help! To find out more, please contact Events and Reunions Officer John Comerton j.comerton@qub.ac.uk or tel: +44 (0)28 9097 5289

# Did you know?

- There are over 140,000 Queen's alumni. We can help you access the power of that network.
- We can also help you reconnect with old friends.
- Join a graduate association locally or internationally, benefit from a network of connections and a range of social activities.

- Free careers support for two years after graduation
- Discounted access to the McClay Library
- Further study discount
- Exclusive right to marry in the Lanyon Building
- Education Centre'

### **University Events**

- Reunion support for those planning their own
- The Ulster Bank Belfast Festival at Queen's offers special discounts for alumni
- Family activities to interest your children

- and offers crucial solutions to world problems through its pioneering research.
- Financial gifts can be made to the Queen's Annual Fund, (page 20) to a major campaign project (page 12) or by leaving a legacy to Queen's (page 46).
- organising events, supporting student recruitment or committee leadership are just some of the ways

# **News Updates**

- Annual alumni magazine
- Bi-monthly *eGraduate* newsletter for those with a valid email address
- Monthly *eDate* newsletter, highlighting campus-based activities to local graduates
- Dedicated alumni website helping you manage your personal information online
- Your personal updates can be published in the magazine or online in the Class Notes, My time at Queen's, obituaries and
- You can access Queen's videos online by visiting www.qub.ac.uk/qtv

### Social Media

- Queen's LinkedIn groups offer professional support to 30,000 pre-registered graduate users
- Facebook provides social interaction via the Queen's University Belfast Alumni page
- Twitter gives bite-sized updates and announcements. Queen's has a dedicated alumni twitter feed #QUBAlumni and an additional institutional feed #QueensUBelfast









When Des Clarke lost his wife to cancer, and after making provision for his family, he decided to leave a gift to support the School of Engineering and the work of world-renowned researchers in the University's Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB).

"I hope there is an opportunity for the CCRCB and my old faculty to combine their research and innovation skills to develop a simple and effective pain management system to alleviate the discomfort associated with cancer. That's my gift for the future."

If you would like further information on legacy gifts to Queen's, please contact **Susan Wilson**, Legacy Officer, Development and Alumni Relations Office, Queen's University, Belfast BT7 1NN **T:** +44 (0) 28 9097 3162 **E:** susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk

www.queensfoundation.com

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