

# Cardiff Met ALUMNI

Issue 8 | 2016

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ANNIVERSARY PRIZES  
FOR HIGHER AND FURTHER EDUCATION  
2015

150 | Cardiff  
Years | Met  
Mlynedd | Caerdydd



Cardiff  
Metropolitan  
University

Prifysgol  
Metropolitan  
Caerdydd

## Welcome to your Alumni Magazine edition for 2016

As ever, we are delighted to showcase some wonderful stories from across the University. We will shortly be saying farewell to our President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Antony Chapman, as he retires on 31st August 2016. Professor Chapman leaves behind a legacy of major achievements, most notably the success of obtaining research degree awarding powers and university title. Since his appointment in 1998, he has steered the University through advances in teaching, research, enterprise and internationalisation. His tenure has seen the University receive many accolades, most recently the Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher Education, which you can read about on Page 4.

This issue explores current topics such as the viability of the steel industry and Welsh education reform proposals. We are excited to tell you about a world-first from Cardiff School of Art and Design and how philanthropy is making an impact. We hope that you enjoy reading about how your alma mater is making a difference and how you can give back to support the next generation.

**Don't forget you can also find us on:**

 [www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/  
alumnilinkedin](http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/alumnilinkedin)

 [www.facebook.com/  
cardiffmetalumni](http://www.facebook.com/cardiffmetalumni)

 [www.twitter.com/  
cmetalumni](http://www.twitter.com/cmetalumni)

Credits: Written and edited by the Alumni Office with thanks to Effective Communication and those mentioned throughout.

Designed by Cardiff Met Corporate Design Services.

For a Welsh version of the magazine go to: [www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/  
communications](http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/communications)

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# RUSSELL HOWARD

## ROUND THE WORLD LIVE TOUR



### Win tickets to see Russell Howard and a night's stay at Park Plaza Hotel, Cardiff

Our friends at Motorpoint Arena have once again been very generous and offered our alumni the chance to win a pair of tickets to see comedian Russell Howard in his biggest ever live tour, Round the World on the 13th of March 2017.

We are also very grateful to Park Plaza Hotel, who are again offering a night's stay for our lucky competition winners.

### *How to Enter*

You will notice a white carrier sheet with this issue of the magazine, with a Personal Information Form on the reverse. Anyone who completes and returns their Info Form (or completes the online registration form with employment details) will be entered into our competition. [www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/  
updateyourdetails](http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/updateyourdetails). Your details are treated with the strictest confidentiality under the Data Protection Act. The closing date is 30th September 2016.





Welcome to our 2016 edition of the alumni magazine. 2015 was an exceptional year for Cardiff Metropolitan University as the University celebrated its 150th Anniversary. A wide number of events were held to celebrate this landmark, one highlight being a dinner at Cardiff City Hall attended by many of our stakeholders, friends and alumni, including over a hundred international partners. At the event, Barbara Wilding, Chair of the Board of Governors was installed as the University's first Chancellor.

The University has its roots in technical drawing and design, following the establishment of Cardiff School of Art and Science in 1865, but it was not until after 1992 that our stakeholders began to speak of us as "Cardiff's New University" (or as "Cardiff's Post-92 University"). We were into the latter stages of these 150 years before we qualified for 'University title'.

These days we are accountable to very many in society (locally, in Cardiff, Wales, the UK and more globally), but in governance terms we are an autonomous body. Very important to us, our Cardiff 'parentage' continues to be recognised and celebrated through successive Lord Mayors having served as the University's Honorary President and now, with the inauguration of the role of Chancellor, as the University's 'Pro-Chancellor'.

Cardiff is developing as a world capital, and we play a strong role in its international agenda. We do that through internationalising our curricula (and so preparing our students for a global market-place), and through strong international partnerships. Cardiff Metropolitan University now has around 12,000 full-time students from over 124 countries worldwide studying at centres across the world. We have developed a splendid Beijing Office, near Tiananmen Square, which we are pleased to share with Cardiff & Vale College, and we also have an office in Delhi. We have partnerships in Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Serbia, Singapore, South Korea and Sri Lanka.

We are now the UK's top 'Post-92 university' in research quality, and 95% of our home students are in employment or further study inside six months of graduation.

Since its formation, the University has been committed to a belief in the maxim, adopted many years ago, that "the most valuable possession is knowledge". Our vision emphasises high-quality students-centred provision and internationally-relevant curricula. This will be my last message to you as President and Vice-Chancellor. I am extremely proud to reflect over the University's many achievements. I wish my successor all the very best in this role which I have been honoured to hold since 1998 and I look forward to seeing what's to come for the University, its students, staff, global partners, friends and alumni.

Professor A J Chapman  
President and Vice-Chancellor





THE QUEEN'S  
ANNIVERSARY PRIZES  
FOR HIGHER AND FURTHER EDUCATION  
2015

**pdr** THE NATIONAL CENTRE  
FOR PRODUCT DESIGN +  
DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH

# AWARD-WINNING DESIGN

Cardiff Metropolitan University is home to PDR, the award-winning International Centre for Design and Research. Established over twenty years ago, PDR has worked with hundreds of companies to date, from blue-chips to SMEs, on the design and development of effective, cutting-edge and successful products.

The Centre uses the latest technologies including: rapid prototyping technologies, design technologies and unique user-centric design and interactive prototyping labs. These, alongside a team of highly experienced staff, drive rapid and comprehensive design and development work- from Human Factors and Usability Engineering through to detailed industrial and mechanical design, interface design, prototype and manufacturing implementation. Housed under one roof, the capabilities, knowledge and expertise at PDR are unprecedented.

As a result of its exemplary design work, PDR was recently awarded three international iF Design Awards. Two of these were for exceptional product design and one was for outstanding concept design.

For over 60 years, the iF Design Award has been recognised the world over as a label of design excellence and its logo is an internationally established symbol which is used to identify outstanding achievements in design. More than 5,000 entries from 53 countries were assessed, by an international high-profile jury, to determine who would receive this coveted seal of excellence in 2016.

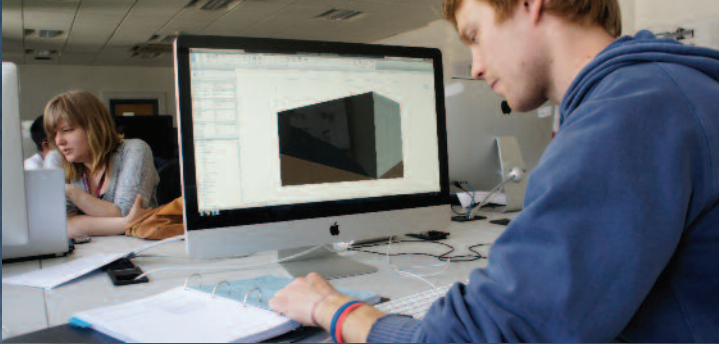
The René Antenatal Monitor, entered in the Professional Concept discipline, Timesco's Callisto laryngoscopy handle and the world's first Smartband, the Acticheck Assure, both entered in the Product discipline, received the renowned iF label this year. Speaking on these successes, PDR's Commercial Director, Jarred Evans, said, *"It's fantastic news and something we are very proud of here at PDR. We are only interested in the major awards, blind judged to the very highest global standards. Three more iF Design Awards this year adds to our tally of over 20 major international design awards in the last ten years which is testimony not just to the creativity and quality of the work we do but also to the consistently high standards we maintain."*



PDR celebrated further national success recently when Cardiff Metropolitan University was awarded the UK's most prestigious academic award - the Queen's Anniversary Prize. The prize was awarded for the pioneering work by the Surgical & Prosthetic Design team at PDR, which has enabled the rapid production of devices for use in surgical procedures.

This prize is awarded every two years by the Queen in recognition of an academic or vocational institution, and falls within the UK's national honours system. This honour was awarded to the University as a result of the great work carried out by design technologists at PDR and the Prize Medals were presented to the team at a special ceremony held at Buckingham Palace in February.





The University has established a widely-recognised lead, going back over some fifteen years, in the use of design and related 3D digital scanning technologies as applied to maxillofacial reconstructive surgery in treatment of disease or following trauma. This pioneering work has enabled the rapid production of devices for use in surgical procedures. This has produced direct benefit in the making of prosthetics for individual patients and major advances in surgical training.

This work is characterised by innovation and a particular breakthrough has been the use of haptic technology in the computer gaming industry – 'digital sculpting' – to create fine-tuned, naturally shaped skull plates by CAD (Computer Aided Design). This method reduces the time involved and the number of surgical interventions needed to produce an optimum result. Consequently, the application of these technologies has led to improved quality and dignity of life for over two thousand patients and significant savings in public funds.

The close partnership between design technologists at PDR and surgeons and other clinicians in a large number of hospitals has driven the application of this approach, which continues to provide leading edge services to the NHS in the management of complex cases and internationally through connections promoting the work in, for example, the USA, China and Japan. PDR's Head of Surgical and Prosthetic Design, Dr Dominic Eggbeer, explained, "*This prestigious award recognises the positive impact a university can have when it works effectively with the NHS and industry partners over a sustained period. I am extremely proud of my team and close collaborators within NHS Wales, the companies I work with and others who I work with extremely closely to develop the application of design in healthcare applications.*"

Cardiff Metropolitan University's President & Vice Chancellor, Professor Antony Chapman proudly stated that, "*PDR continues to garner international recognition for the level of expertise and research established here. The team's interdisciplinary research is consistently pioneering and is making a real difference to the lives of service users and fellow clinical leaders. It is a great honour to receive this award.*"

In respect of this, Health and Social Services Minister, Professor Mark Drakeford, said, "*I would like to offer my congratulations to Cardiff Metropolitan University for being awarded the highly prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize. It truly is a fantastic achievement and clear recognition of the innovative work that has been undertaken. Applying digital scanning technologies to maxillofacial reconstructive surgery has brought real benefits to patients and to surgical training programmes.*"

**Lucinda Dargavel Scott-Morgan**  
PR & Communications Manager  
PDR

Cardiff School of Education  
Alumnus Nathan Bridson  
with school children.



# CARDIFF SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

NEW PROPOSALS SHAPE  
THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION



Professor Dan Davies has joined us from Bath Spa University, so is in a good position to compare the future direction of education in Wales and England.

Whilst across the Severn the Secretary of State has pressed ahead with academies, free schools, testing young children and school-based teacher training, the Welsh Government has taken a more enlightened approach, drawing upon Scottish and international models to reform education.

Three significant proposals have emerged from the Welsh Government over the last year, each particularly relevant to one of the three departments within Cardiff School of Education.

The first of these was the publication of Professor Graham Donaldson's recommendations for the school curriculum and assessment arrangements in Wales: Successful Futures. In this report he argues that traditional subject boundaries are a hindrance to achieving relevant educational outcomes for young people in the 21st Century and proposes instead six areas of learning and experience, one of which is humanities.





Our Department of Humanities is one people might be surprised to find in a university school of education, particularly as it includes programmes in English, creative writing, media and drama. However, its great strength is in breaking down barriers between disciplines, particularly through our undergraduate 'humanities matrix' just finishing its first year. Through innovative subject combinations, our students will be well prepared to contribute to the development of world-class education in Wales that Successful Futures envisages.

**The second big change was signalled by Professor John Furlong's proposals for teacher education in Wales:**

**Teaching Tomorrow's Teachers.**

Our Department for Initial Teacher Education currently collaborates with the University of South Wales to provide over one third of Wales' teachers, so we were delighted to see that Professor Furlong's vision is for universities to continue to lead this important work of professional preparation.

Future teacher education in Wales will need to be research-led, so we need to adapt and shape our existing expertise in pedagogical research to have maximum impact on our student teachers and partnership schools. We are also embarking on a process of research capacity-building amongst our own academic staff to enable them to lead school-based enquiry that will make a demonstrable impact on learners.

There is also a new professional qualification for Early Years Practitioners in Wales, which Cardiff School of Education is pioneering through our new BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies programme starting this year.

The final leg of the Welsh Government's tripod of educational reforms is the 'New Deal' for teachers' professional development, under which each practitioner will have their own 'professional learning passport' enabling them to access opportunities such as new Master's awards in Continuing Educational Practice and Education Leadership.

Our Department of Professional Development is well placed to be a key player in providing these opportunities in collaboration with regional consortia and New Deal Pioneer Schools. We are currently expanding our Master's portfolio, including a new MA Education: Teaching English to Speakers of other Languages (TESOL) due to run from September 2016.

Overall, this is an exciting time for Welsh education and one in which the Cardiff School of Education can play a significant role.

**Professor Dan Davies**  
Dean of the Cardiff School of Education



# SAVING BRITAIN'S STEEL INDUSTRY:

## WHAT CAN BE DONE, AND IS IT EVEN WORTH IT?

The announcement of more than 1,000 job losses at Tata Steel – the vast majority at the Port Talbot plant in South Wales – has understandably provoked heated debate. Yet this is just the latest incident in the industry's spiral of decline, which has recently seen redundancy plans being made at other companies including SSI, Caparo and Sheffield Forgemasters. The future of the industry in Wales, and other regions across the UK, is in jeopardy. And there has been no shortage of suggestions as to what could, or should, be done.

There are three big questions here. First, whether the government should intervene in some way now to support the industry. Second, what should be done to help those workers facing redundancy? And finally, what policy options might be available in the longer term to diversify the economy away from steel?

The causes of the crisis in the steel industry are well-documented. Energy costs are on the rise, and the price of steel has halved in the last year, amid accusations that low-cost steel from Chinese producers is being dumped on the European market. But for South Wales, this is merely the latest episode of a protracted and sometimes painful transition away from an economy

based on heavy industries, towards one based on services and knowledge. This raises the question: should the government intervene?

### An invaluable industry

The role that Tata plays in the Welsh economy should not be understated. Research by the Welsh Economy Research Unit suggests that it accounts for fully 3% of Welsh Gross Value Added (or GVA – a key measure of the value of goods and services produced), making it "the most economically important private sector company in Wales".

What's more, every job in Tata (3,500 in Port Talbot alone, even accounting for the announced losses) supports an additional 1.22 jobs in Wales through multiplier effects – that is, through suppliers, subcontractors and businesses outside the steel industry which benefit from the recycling of its wages.

These figures give a sense of just how difficult it will be to replicate the effects of the steel industry. But they also offer an indication of how the resources available for economic development should be deployed. Some prominent commentators in Wales argue that the Welsh government should support the

on-going existence of the steel industry, by entering into a joint venture with Tata.

Their idea is for the government to take a majority stake in Tata's Welsh holdings, while the company continues to operate the plants. This approach could cover losses and fund restructuring over the medium term – or at least while the present crisis in the wider industry is most acute. Those who advocate this position are understandably keen to differentiate such an approach from the bailouts of ailing industries, stereotypical of the 1960s and 70s. But it's not without precedent – Cardiff Airport, albeit a much smaller investment, is currently under Welsh government ownership as a strategic asset.

So far, such proposals for Tata have been met with a negative response by Wales' First Minister, who maintains that the top priorities are tackling high energy costs and low steel prices, in combination with exploring the scope for tax breaks and business rates relief for businesses in the area. Discussions about the fate of Britain's steel industry are set to continue in parliament.





## The job problem

Meanwhile, the issue of job loss looms large. The 750 redundancies announced in Port Talbot simply cannot be absorbed by local government. The Unitary Authority of Neath Port Talbot has an occupational profile that is skewed away from skilled and professional jobs. Although any alternative jobs that can be found in the short term will help to mitigate the damaging economic, physical and psychological effects of long-term unemployment, there will clearly be a need to retrain, where appropriate, for jobs outside the steel sector.

Fortunately, in recent years the Welsh government has had some success on this front. For example, 57% of redundant oil workers were successfully redeployed – many within the local area – after the sale of a refinery in Pembrokeshire. The strategies used in this case will feed into a review of the options for retraining affected staff, to be undertaken by the government's newly-formed task force, which includes union and industry representatives.

But the Welsh government would also do well to learn lessons from elsewhere in the UK. In 2005, the MG Rover plant at Longbridge in the West Midlands closed with over 6,000 job losses. While the majority of these workers have found alternative employment, research has shown that this apparent success is mitigated by long-term issues caused by the precarious and lower paid jobs which replaced those lost. This clearly suggests the need for a strategic response, which reaches beyond the affected sector and locality to ensure that high-quality jobs are available.

Ultimately, what the Welsh government can do is limited. But at least it has some scope for a regionally-focused intervention in the economy (as does Scotland) and can implement laws that affect economic development, training and planning directly. Areas of England suffering steel sector job losses aren't so lucky. The structural changes highlighted by large scale job losses are a symptom of the UK's unbalanced economy.

There has been a massive increase in regional disparities over the last 45 years: in relative terms growth in the north has plummeted, while the south has continued on an upward trajectory, buoyed by London. Fundamentally, this situation needs to be addressed if we are not to experience déjà vu on a regular basis, when it comes to places like Port Talbot.

Article originally published on **The Conversation:**  
[www.theconversation.com/uk](http://www.theconversation.com/uk)



**Professor Nick Clifton**  
Professor of Economic Geography  
and Regional Development  
Cardiff School of Management





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# CARDIFF MET LAUNCHES NEW EMPLOYABILITY UNIT

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Ever since its earliest days, and whatever its name has been, Cardiff Met has always been committed to the professional development and success of its students. By offering highly applied, vocational courses taught by academics with real experience in industry, the university has always ensured that its graduates emerge well-equipped for the challenges of employment. This is reflected in consistently excellent employment outcomes with over 90% of students securing work or study within six months of graduation over a number of years. However, as the graduate labour market becomes more competitive and the expectations of students increase, the university must ensure it doesn't get overtaken by its rivals.

A consultation exercise with over 1,000 Cardiff Met students from all academic Schools in January and February 2016 gave the newly-formed Employability Unit a very clear message – students across the board expect their university to provide them with more opportunities to secure better jobs when they complete their studies.

Careers Service will be able to develop relationships with local, regional and national employers, encouraging them to recruit Cardiff Met students for work experience, placements and full-time graduate work. There will also be more scope for highly-specialist careers support for students in arts and creative industries, sports and business and management. On top of this we'll be bringing in many more employers to enlighten students about what they need to do to secure a graduate job.

Students also told us that they wanted more opportunities to seek advice in less formal settings, including through 'bite-size' online resources, and that the Service needed to be much more visible. In response we will be updating the office in Cyncoed to make it a much more welcoming space, increasing the profile at the Llandaff campus and offering many more drop-in and event-based sessions for students to engage in. All these changes combined will mean that three times as many students can get the support they need from the Careers Service compared with current numbers.

totally dedicated to ensuring that our students succeed in their chosen pathway. The new and improved Careers Service will offer the right combination of support, motivation and real-life opportunities to ensure that students can do just that.

The days when a degree alone was sufficient to secure a job are long gone (if such halcyon days ever did exist) and these developments in the Careers Service show that Cardiff Met continues to adapt to meet the changing needs of its students, graduates and the labour market.

Gaining a degree, along with the requisite other skills and experience can be the key to real social mobility, with a recent report suggesting that the 'graduate premium' for earnings over a lifetime could be as high as £200,000. With such potential impact, it's little surprise that over 75% of students want to see universities investing more in employability.



**Kirsty Palmer**  
Director of Employability

*I'm delighted that Cardiff Met has chosen to create the Employability Unit and commit extra resources for the Careers Service at a time when finances across Higher Education are under considerable pressure. The future certainly looks very bright indeed.*

**If you would like to support our current students' success by advertising a job, work placement or work experience opportunity please contact the Careers Service on [careers@cardiffmet.ac.uk](mailto:careers@cardiffmet.ac.uk) and one of the team will be delighted to help.**



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# SPORT CARDIFF

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Two years ago, in response to the financial challenges facing local government in Wales, Cardiff City Council entered in to a formal partnership with the University through Cardiff Met Sport. The benefits to the City Council focused on the need to safeguard the development of sport across the City and further develop their relationship with the University. For Cardiff Met Sport it presented an opportunity to further advance and expand on the development work delivered through the successful Junior Sports Academies programme. This had direct control over the creation and deployment of students to work placements and, for the University, provided the prospect of increasing the visibility of the brand across the community.

This type of partnership is unique in Wales and, across the UK, only Southampton Solent has developed a relationship that equates to what is currently being delivered. The funding for the project comes from Sport Wales, Disability Sport Wales and the City Council.

Now about to enter its third year of operation the partnership has matured along with the 18 members of staff employed to deliver the City's 'Whole Sport Plan'. In particular it has already delivered:

- The Cardiff School Games - one of the largest centrally coordinated schools' competitions in Britain
- Wales' first programme to encourage women and girls to increase their engagement in physical activity under the brand of Girls Together
- Over one hundred work experience opportunities for Cardiff Met students
- Three national awards, two in collaboration with the Council's School Meal Division and Public Health Wales and the third working with the City's Library Service.
- Record levels of activity growth across the City Council's six Neighbourhood Areas engaging over 40,000 young people with over 220,000 attendances 2015-16.

Sport Cardiff is now looking to the future with a focus on developing community provision and expanding the Cardiff Games to include more sports, more venues and more participants. They are also looking to develop the Coaching and Workforce offer, through the launch of the Coach Academy for Cardiff Met students who demonstrate potential as a sports coach. Finally, they will be working with academic colleagues to undertake research to establish the impact of these activities.

**Chris Jennings,**  
*Director of Sport, Emma Hill,*  
*Senior Sport Neighborhood*  
*Coordinator & Laura Williams,*  
*Senior Sport Development Coordinator.*





**Below:** Cost Sector Catering Awards. Judith Gregory, Emma Hill and Emma Holmes receiving the PS100 Health and Nutrition award from Andy Jones, Chair of the PS100 group.

**Below right:** Ely Hub Table Tennis Club - community sports club based in the library.

**Bottom left:** Cardiff Games Inclusive Zone Basketball Competition allowing disabled and non-disabled pupils to compete together in an inclusive environment.

**Bottom right:** Cardiff Games Dance Competition 2016.



# CARDIFF MET TOP IN UK FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT FOR THE 6TH TIME



Cardiff Metropolitan University has been ranked top in the UK for overall international student support for the 6th time. The University has been participating in the International Student Barometer (ISB) survey since 2007 - these are the latest results from the 2015 survey.

Cardiff Met is home to approximately 12,000 students, of whom over 1,200 are international learners from more than 143 countries.

The International Student Barometer (ISB) survey is conducted by i-graduate, which is an independent research service specialising in the international education market and provides the

global benchmark for the student experience. The survey focuses on four main areas of the international student experience of higher education: learning, living, support and arrival. The measure of international student support refers to the responses students provided to show how satisfied they were with university services, such as the International Unit, Careers Service, IT Support, Accommodation, Student Union and Finance.

In addition, Cardiff Met is also ranked 1st out of the 159 participating universities for its careers service and worship facilities.

Professor Mohamed Loutfi, Pro Vice-Chancellor (International), commented on the results:

"It is a university-wide effort to ensure that we provide a positive experience to all of our international students, so this result is a credit to all university support staff."

Our international students are valued and respected for the unique experiences and perspectives that they contribute to university life, enriching the study experience for all students. President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Antony Chapman, stated:

"The student experience is always top of our agenda; we will continue to strive to make further improvements to accommodate the needs of international students at Cardiff Met. We are delighted to be starting the new term on a successful note."







# CARDIFF MET INTRODUCES SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY SERVICES FOR ADULTS FOLLOWING STROKE

Cardiff Met's highly-regarded Centre for Speech and Language Therapy has recently redeveloped its facilities to cater for adults in Cardiff and the Vale with acquired communication difficulties.

The clinic, which was founded in 1983 and initially focused on therapy for children, now also provides a service for adults who have communication difficulties following a stroke – a condition called aphasia.

Aphasia directly affects a person's ability to speak, read, write and actually understand language.

These difficulties in communicating can have a long-term negative affect on people with aphasia – they can experience loneliness, loss of autonomy, stigmatization and depression.

As part of the redevelopment, the Centre has recruited an additional part-time lecturer in adult therapy and has made its clinical facilities accessible to wheelchair users and adults with communication disability.

Commenting on this new clinical provision, Lecturer in Speech and Language Therapy, Kate Tucker, said:

*"About 7,500 people a year in Wales have a stroke, and with approximately a third of these affected by aphasia, this is a hugely important area of speech and language therapy.*

*"Our increased provision will provide a number of benefits, chiefly by offering a bespoke service to people with aphasia in the local community. Our aim is to help those with aphasia to communicate to the best of their ability, help restore as much speech and language as possible and find alternative ways of communicating. We also support them in living positively with their aphasia.*

*"This clinic will also help students learn about this area of clinical practice as well as helping us to forge even stronger links with Cardiff and Vale UHB with whom we work closely to complement their clinical services. Referrals to the adult clinic are made via the Cardiff and Vale UHB Speech and Language Therapy service.*

*"At the moment, this is a small scale venture in order to test the waters. Looking to the future, we hope that this new service will continue to expand to allow us to run related research projects in the Centre, and clinics for people with other conditions such as dementia and Parkinson's disease."*

The Centre for Speech and Language Therapy at Cardiff Metropolitan University has been training and educating speech and language therapists for over 40 years. It has gained a reputation for the high quality of its teaching, with the BSc (Hons) Speech and Language Therapy course rated 'excellent', the highest possible rating, in the most recent assessment by the Higher Education Funding Council Wales (HEFCW). Many of the speech and language therapists providing services across Wales and the rest of the UK are graduates of the course.

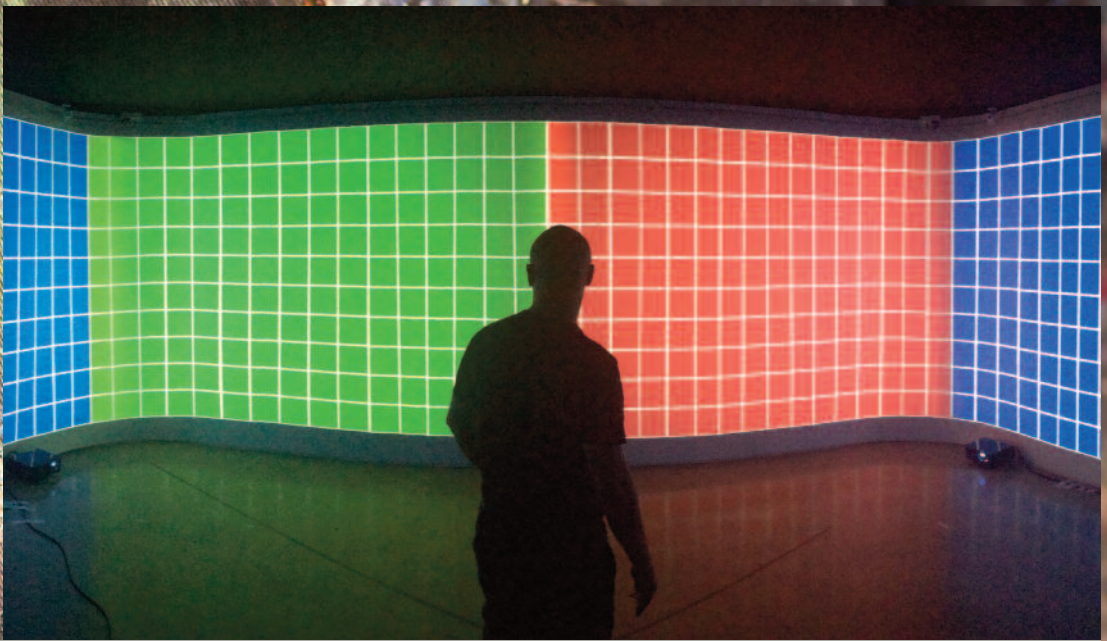
**Kate Tucker,**  
Lecturer in Speech & Language  
Therapy.





CARDIFF SCHOOL OF  
ART AND DESIGN  
**DEVELOPS THE  
WORLD'S FIRST  
SYNTHETIC REALITY  
LABORATORY**





Researchers at Cardiff Metropolitan University's School of Art and Design have developed a brand new laboratory that replicates how humans perceive the world around them.

The Perceptual Experience Lab (PEL) is a synthetic reality facility that emulates human perceptual experience through immersion, directional sound, smell, air movement, temperature and vision.

This unique lab generates realistic simulations of environmental and social settings, providing academics and businesses with the opportunity to examine how people interact with the world around them. The lab is designed to allow the use of head- and eye-tracking to dynamically interact with the digital environment, and the resulting data, together with video, audio and heart rate variability. Information can be recorded for analysis via state of the art observation software.



The lab is already being used in a range of ways. These include: simulating tourism destinations in order to measure the effects of tourism on stress; simulating food shopping scenarios to give Welsh firms targeted research data on branding, packaging and shelving position and simulating a fire inside a building as part of research into inter-dwelling fire spread.

Based in the School of Art and Design's brand new £14 million building, the lab builds upon the ground-breaking 'Fovolab' work that Professor Robert Pepperell and his team have undertaken which has re-written the age-old rules of how scientists and artists represent what humans see. The Fovolab team investigates the perceptual structure of visual experience. They have identified the limitations of linear perspective, which is used today in equipment such as cameras, and was developed 500 years ago during the Italian Renaissance. They have developed a process called Fovography™ that captures the full field of view and presents it on a flat surface in a way that appears natural to human perceptions.

The PEL brings Fovography™ together with user-centred design and testing techniques developed by CSAD staff Professor Steve Gill and Dr Gareth Loudon and a concept for a mixed-reality lab developed by Bethan Gordon.

**Speaking about the Perceptual Experience Laboratory, Cardiff School of Art & Design's Associate Dean for Research, Professor Steve Gill said:**

*"The Perceptual Experience Laboratory is a fantastic addition to Cardiff School of Art & Design's research environment. This unique facility has already become the hub of a series of interdisciplinary collaborations with subjects as varied as Food Science, Tourism, Architectural Design and Medical Product design."*

The lab has received funding from the Welsh Government and European Structural Funding's 'Academics Expertise for Business' programme, Cardiff Met's Research & Enterprise Investment and Research Innovation Award funds.

**Bethan Gordon, Deputy Dean & Director, Learning & Teaching,**





# DID YOU KNOW?

We love sharing Cardiff Met's stories with the alumni network but we're sure there are so many things that our alumni don't know. Here are some fast facts about your alma mater.

## CARDIFF SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN

*Dean: Professor Olwen Moseley*

- ★ Cardiff School of Art & Design opened in 1865 as the Cardiff School of Art and is the oldest constituent part of the University.
- ★ The award-winning £14million building which accommodates Cardiff School of Art & Design's staff and students on Llandaff campus was officially opened to students in 2014.
- ★ FabLab Cardiff is an experimental workshop for Wales and beyond housed within CSAD. FabLab was set up to stimulate both business and everyday people in Wales to make just about anything.

## CARDIFF SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

*Dean: Professor Dan Davies*

- ★ The School of Education has over 1,500 students supported by over 100 academic and administrative staff.
- ★ The School was established in 1951 to provide Initial Teacher Education Training (ITET) provision in Cardiff.
- ★ It remains the largest in Wales and one of the largest centres for ITET in the United Kingdom.

## CARDIFF SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

*Dean: Professor Adrian Peters*

- ★ With approximately 2,000 students, 93% of graduates secure employment or entry further study within six months of graduation.
- ★ The Zero2Five Food Industry Centre is a partner in Food Network Wales, provides consultancy to the Welsh Food Industry and undertakes consultancy services and training programmes for clients in the UK and overseas.
- ★ The Wales Centre for Podiatric Studies was established in 1970 for training health care professionals, integrating of theory and evidence-based practice.





## CARDIFF SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Dean: Professor David Brooksbank

- ★ The Institute works with industry, commerce and local communities to help to achieve sustainable growth in localities that are vulnerable as a result of factors such as social exclusion, the decline of old industries and the pressures of the international market.
- ★ CSM is organised into both research centres and research groups. Centres of research activity include: The Welsh Centre for Tourism Research, The Wales Institute for Research into Cooperatives, and EUSPRIG – the spreadsheet risk research centre.
- ★ Researchers also have links with industry and engage in applied tourism industry research, especially in the areas of tourism advertising and branding, coastal tourism environments, small tourism business innovation and ITC applications in tourism.



## CARDIFF SCHOOL OF SPORT

Dean: Professor Richard Tong

- ★ Cardiff School of Sport, with its 60 year history, is a recognised centre of excellence in the UK and has established a national and international reputation for the quality of its academic, sporting and research work.
- ★ The undergraduate and postgraduate sport degrees in Cardiff School of Sport are structured to provide distinctive pathways which cater for individual student interests and meet the vocational requirements of an expanding marketplace.
- ★ The origins of the UWIC Archer are based on the Welsh Bowman which represents the skill, courage and hwyl of the Cardiff Met students who wear it.

## ENVIRONMENTAL

- ★ Cardiff Met is one of the most environmentally friendly Higher Education institutions in the UK according to the People and Planet University League Table. We received a first class award and ranked second in Wales.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- ★ Cardiff Metropolitan University's Centre for Student Entrepreneurship won an Entrepreneurship Award at the Guardian Awards 2015 for its work in assisting students, graduates and staff to engage in entrepreneurial action.

## QUEEN'S ANNIVERSARY PRIZE

- ★ The Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education: Cardiff Met has been recognised in The Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education for the use of design and related 3D digital scanning technologies as applied to maxillofacial reconstructive surgery from PDR, International Centre for Design & Research. (More information on pages 4 & 5)

# FUNDRAISING NEWS

Thank you! This academic year has been our biggest year yet in terms of fundraising. We have received over £400,000 thanks to the generosity of alumni, staff, charitable organisations, local businesses and other supporters - so thank you! These donations have supported a wide range of projects and activity across the University, transforming lives and providing opportunity.



## Life-changing research: Transforming the lives of those with Cystic Fibrosis

Donations from the Waterloo Foundation and the Jane Hodge Foundation have enabled a three-year research study into a completely novel approach to managing chronic infections in Cystic Fibrosis patients using Manuka honey. There are over 9,000 patients in the UK and the median survival is currently 34.4 years. However, with improvements in treatment being discovered at Universities such as Cardiff Met, it is expected a child born with CF in the year 2000 would be expected to live into their 50s.

## Improving facilities: Cyncoed developments

Cardiff Met is seeking to safeguard its sport programmes for the 18,000+ children and young people that use its facilities every year, through a major redevelopment of its sports facilities on the Cyncoed Campus. With donations from the Garfield Weston Foundation, alumni and other charitable trusts, the project will transform the 1970s-era facilities over three years. The proposed works include a new Sports Hall complex, a replacement swimming pool, new outdoor running track and 3G pitch and improvements to NIAC.

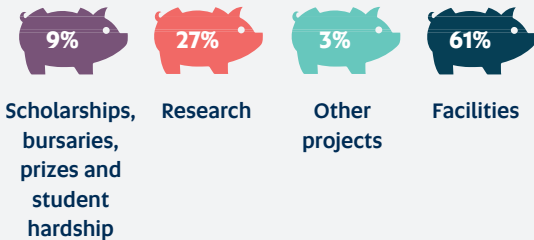
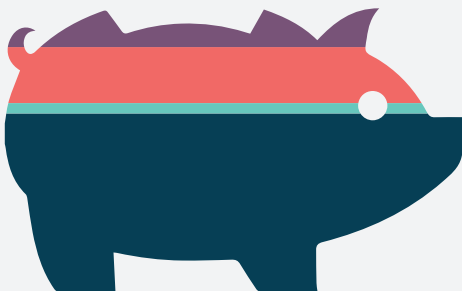




### Student Hardship Fund

With the cost of living rising, many students will face a severe financial crisis at some point during their studies. Cardiff Met's Student Hardship Fund is now more important than ever. We were overwhelmed by the incredible response to our recent appeal. Over 180 Cardiff Met staff now donate to the Student Hardship Fund through the Pennies from Heaven Scheme, along with many alumni donors. This Fund provides a lifeline for those who receive its support.

### What did our donations support this academic year?



### Alumni Donors by School



### Cardiff Met will be calling!

Following the wonderful success of last year's telephone campaign, this October you'll have another chance to speak to one of our students about your time at Cardiff Metropolitan University. Our telephone campaign is the perfect way for you to help shape the future of Cardiff Met and to give valuable life advice to our student callers, imparting the wisdom you gained during your time here. If your details have changed recently, you can update your details on the enclosed form to ensure that you receive your call this autumn!





# THE CARDIFF MET ALUMNI MENTORING NETWORK

## **INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION BY JOINING AS A MENTOR - EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS BY BECOMING A MENTEE**

Cardiff Met has recently invested in a new online platform for alumni to support current students and recent graduates through mentoring, career and CV advice. The platform also enables professional networking among alumni so you can connect with fellow graduates anywhere in the world.

The transition from student life into a career can be challenging for many and it's often the first few years after graduation where you begin to shape your career path. This makes it a valuable time to gain insight, support and advice from an experienced professional.

## **WHAT WILL I DO AS A MENTOR?**

As a Cardiff Met mentor, you will need to be willing to share skills, knowledge, and your expertise. You will need to provide guidance and constructive feedback to mentees. By becoming a Cardiff Met alumni mentor you will provide support, job search advice and career guidance for current Cardiff Met students and graduates.

## **WHAT WILL I GAIN FROM BEING A MENTEE?**

As a Cardiff Met mentee, you will be able to build on your network and expand your horizons. You will gain insights and connections that can help you to develop professionally and in many cases, personally. You will need to come prepared with questions and engage with the mentor's suggestions and advice.

## **HOW DOES THE EMENTORING PLATFORM WORK?**

The eMentoring platform is designed so that alumni can donate as much or as little of their time as they can spare. This could be anything from a few emails or checking a CV or application, to meeting face to face or even offering a work experience placement. It's a very simple process to create your profile. The directory allows you to enter your current contact details, details of your time at Cardiff Met, and information about your current job. You can then decide how much of this information you are happy to share with others registered on the platform. Potential mentees can then search for you by location, profession or subject of study.



Register now at:

[www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/alumnivolunteering](http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/alumnivolunteering)

#### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING A MENTOR?

- Opportunity to reflect on own practice
- Enhances job satisfaction
- Satisfaction that you have given a student or recent graduate increased knowledge, skills and experience in attaining their career goals
- Reinforces your own study skills and knowledge of your subject(s)
- Develops professional relationships
- Enhances peer recognition
- Gain recognition for your skills and experience
- It provides personal satisfaction through supporting the development of others

#### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF JOINING AS A MENTEE?

- Provides impartial advice and encouragement
- Develops a supportive relationship with an experienced professional
- Identifies goals and establishes a sense of direction
- Increases your social and academic confidence
- Offers professional development
- Develops strategies for dealing with both personal and academic issues
- Develops your communication, study and personal skills

# ALUMNI EVENTS

With reunion dinners, sports days, public lectures and seminars - there are many events that will allow you to can come back to campus to reminisce about your time as a student and meet up with old friends.

For more information on our ever growing events calendar go to:  
[www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/alumnierevents](http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/alumnierevents)

2016

This summer and in the coming months, we will be hosting several Cyncoed campus alumni reunions including the graduating classes of 1969, 1971, 1976 and 1989. Dental Technology will also be holding a 50th Anniversary celebration on the Llandaff campus and all alumni and former staff are invited.

Help make your event a success:  
[www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/alumniereunion](http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/alumniereunion)

## Fancy organising a reunion?

Reunions are a fantastic way to gather all your class mates together, catch up and renew old friendships. The success of an event depends on plenty of effort and organisation in the early stages. If you would like to organise a reunion, we advise you take a look at our full checklist on how we can help make your event a success: [www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/alumniereunion](http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/alumniereunion)



## Class Gifts

Many reunion groups are choosing to make a class gift to the University's Development Fund. This is a very special way of marking the anniversary of your graduation. From supporting scholarships and student hardship to life-changing research, there are many areas where your gift can make an impact. To find out more, go to: [www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/developmentfund](http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/developmentfund)





*Give*  
*An education*  
*A future*  
*A gift in your will*

The gift of education can be life changing. With your help we can change lives together.

After providing for your family and friends, please think about leaving a gift in your will to support Cardiff Metropolitan University. Your support will provide an opportunity for a better future.

Did you know that by leaving 10% of your taxable estate to charity you could actually increase the amount that your other beneficiaries will receive? If you would like to discuss any aspect of leaving a gift in your will to support us, please contact the Development Manager on **029 2020 1590** or **developmentoffice@cardiffmet.ac.uk**

**[www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/supportus](http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/supportus)**  
Cardiff Metropolitan University is a registered charity, number 1140762

**Development and Alumni Office**

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THE QUEEN'S  
ANNIVERSARY PRIZES  
FOR HIGHER AND FURTHER EDUCATION  
2015

150 | Cardiff  
Years Met  
Mlynedd Caerdydd



Cardiff  
Metropolitan  
University

Prifysgol  
Metropolitan  
Caerdydd