ARTS AT THE CUTTING-EDGE
From costume dramas to sunlight symphonies

THE ENTERPRISE ENABLERS
Building networks across the University

UPC TURNS 20
Dr Colin Williams talks partnerships and Scottish Deerhounds
The remarkable pace of life here at the University of Plymouth can sometimes make it a challenge to keep up with the day-to-day developments. Whether it’s helping to lead socio-economic development with our partners in local authority and government, co-ordinating transformational community projects, landing key international research grants or launching new facilities on campus, the news never stops.

That is, of course, a good thing. But how does a term-based magazine like UPfront keep up? Well it doesn’t, or at least, not in a conventional way. No, UPfront is here to shine a light on those people who are helping to propel this University forward. From those in front of the camera, to those behind the scenes, the focus is on our community of folk who make this place tick.

So within this (slightly expanded) edition, you’ll find articles and pictures covering a cross-section of life, from the work being done by our Enterprise Enablers and employability team, to award-winning musicians, sports scholars, cutting-edge digital artists, robots and polar bears.

And as this is your magazine, please send us your feedback. Especially if it is good feedback!

Andrew Merrington
Editor

**Front Cover Story**

He was one of England’s greatest artists of the 18th century, and a Devonian to boot. So it was fitting that our cover stars – students from the School of Humanities – should have dressed up for the occasion of honouring Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Living Reynolds featured interns from the Art History department in a spectacular tableau vivant performance piece in which Reynolds’ society celebrities stepped down from the canvas, and into the Roland Levinsky Building.

Overseen jointly by the University’s Dr Stephanie Pratt and Plymouth City Museum, the Young Explainers projects encourage community engagement with the arts, allowing Plymouth students to gain valuable work experience with the museum.

Over 200 school children were invited to Living Reynolds, where they had a chance to meet the great portrait painter and many of his subjects.

Dr Jenny Graham, curator of the Peninsula Arts exhibition Encountering Reynolds, said: “Like the best museum departments, the students succeeded in creating an event which pleased everyone from the under-tens, eager to see the stunning costumes, to the Reynolds aficionados who laughed out loud as the students so adeptly brought the man and his milieu to life. A remarkable initiative.”

The Living Reynolds project will now be entered by the students for the British Museum’s Marsh Trust Award 2010, which recognises best practice in voluntary museum work.

*Front cover photo.*

From left: Art History students Zoe Watson, Gareth Thomas and Emalee Beddoes.

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- UPfront meets Doctor Colin Williams, Dean of UPC, and talks past, present and future; and The Plymouth Devon International College welcomes its first intake of students.

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- Olympic giant killers and sports scholars on our back page, devoted to all things Recreation.

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The University is committed to the promotion of equality and diversity. Our policies are available on the website: www.plymouth.ac.uk/equalopportunities
Gateway offers course and graduate careers advice, not just to students and staff, but the city of Plymouth as well. And by working closely with Formation Zone and Formation2.0, it will be a first port of call for any budding entrepreneurs looking for support.

Marc Lintern, Head of Employability, said: “So many people have come through the doors since we opened – and the feedback has been great. We really are in a superb location – right at the hub of things and easy for members of the public to find.”

The refit of two ground floor teaching rooms adjacent to Crosspoint has created a colourful and vibrant facility, complete with Waterstone’s-style tables loaded with glossy guides and directories, sofas, WiFi access and three interview ‘cubes’.

The careers information team staff the reception desks and can arrange services such as CV polishing, interview technique tuition and psychometric testing. There are already plans to use the venue for Open Days and receptions, and Marc said they are still exploring its possibilities.

“Our aim is to be a first class facility for all of our staff, a ‘cradle-to-grave’ guide for our students, and the physical embodiment of our enterprise agenda for the city,” he said.

“And we are hoping that our staff will come and use the space – whether it is inviting employers in, hosting careers events or as a venue for student competitions. We are the front door to the University.”
The Enterprise Enablers initiative was launched a year ago to inspire and encourage our staff to continue to develop an enterprise-led approach. There are now 60 enablers representing people from all across the University and their enthusiasm is helping to motivate others.

The strongest aspect of the network is the opportunity for enablers to work with colleagues from other schools or directorates and share ideas and good practice.

This networking can take place at any time but regular ‘mentor meetings’ ensure there are frequent opportunities to get together and share ideas with others. Dr Andy Phippen, Senior Lecturer in Business Enterprise and Ethics, and Emma Hewitt, Head of Knowledge Transfer, have acted as mentors and facilitators for the network and provided advice on how to create new ideas and develop initiatives.

Andy said: “It is great that people are engaging with the network and the door is open to anyone to join. It is a fantastic opportunity to build contacts, engage colleagues and work with other teams and areas of the University.”

Emma added: “Many of the core techniques and tools that are being developed for our leadership programme are also being embedded within the enablers. So we might find some of our leaders of tomorrow here!”

Here are a couple of the projects from the last 12 months that have been developed through the network.

Office aerobics courtesy of Health and Wellbeing Week.


Front row: Dr Hassina Carder, Julie Palmer-Gianni, Louise Lowrie, Ashleigh Reed, Lesley Coulton, Janie Paice, Tracy Wilson, Helen Teague, Rosemary Smith, Roger Hall.
HEALTH AND WELLBEING WEEK

Within weeks of the network’s launch, a cross-University team gathered for an informal brainstorm. In the words of Mick Wilson (Staff Counsellor) and Janie Paice (Risk Management): “A small group of us started thinking about the relationship between enterprise and creativity, and this developed into considering the links between creativity and well-being. It was felt that staff who were well and happy were more likely to be creative and enterprising.

“We focussed on the launch week for the University’s policy on ‘Managing Work Related Stress’ and formed the Wellbeing and Creativity Project Group – with both enablers and other interested colleagues – to come up with ideas for events that could support that launch.

“We met five times and gradually a process emerged where people took ownership of specific projects for Health and Wellbeing Week, including a ‘mindfulness meditation session’, a creative writing project, a complementary therapy stand, and a number of recreation events.

“Many people commented that Health and Wellbeing Week was more than just a collection of stands and information. Thanks to the efforts of everyone involved it was transformed beyond a static exhibition; there were events, experiences, and a bit of fun!

“All of the projects came from a simple invitation to imagine, create and take a risk! It took one person to issue an invitation, explain the idea, act as a ‘node’ and bring people together. From that, they were able to harness the creative energy and let the people get on with it!”

FINANCE FIND THEIR FEET

Holly Cook and Shaun English joined the team mid-way through the year with an aim to encourage staff in the Finance Directorate to be more creative and innovative.

In their words: “Our first project was to create a satellite group within Finance that could report back to individual teams and ensure that everyone understood what the scheme was about. It was important for people to know that they might already be doing the work of an enabler without realising, and encourage them to take part in what we were doing.

“We named the group ‘FEET’ – Finance Enterprise Enabling Team – with its own logo and strapline “Taking steps forward”. We placed a suggestion box in a communal area, and this generated around ten ideas in the first month.

“These ranged from ‘quick fixes’, such as asking the Faculty of Arts if we could hang student artwork on the walls to ‘brighten things up’ – while also developing the links between our directorate and other areas of the University – to more strategic things like staff development opportunities and process changes. We put together a team, comprising members of each area in Finance, and drew upon their specialist knowledge to set out action plans for each one, which we are now following.

“Without attending the Enterprise Enablers scheme we would never have had the idea to bring together such a diverse team in the directorate.”

If you would like to find out more about the network, or would be interested in joining, contact Helen Teague, Head of Organisational Development, Human Resources. Taster sessions are being arranged for May.
The University of Plymouth Colleges (UPC) Faculty is now in its 21st year of working in partnership with institutions across the region. So when UPfront met Dr Colin Williams, the Executive Dean and Pro Vice-Chancellor, at the recent UPC café forum, it was keen to ask whether UPC had ‘come of age’.

UPfront: What was the purpose of the café forum today?

CW: We wanted to explain what UPC is and how it can provide benefit to the University. We have some great success stories to share; our processes have been held up as an exemplar of best practice, and we enjoy fantastic links with employers in the region. We also have an excellent track record with part-time courses and continuing professional development (CPD) and I believe we can share best practice with our fellow faculties. And it might have helped dispel some misconceptions…

UPfront: Such as?

CW: That we are competing with the University for one. Over 80% of our students come from within a 20-mile radius of their college. These are people who for various reasons – be they financial, or family or work-related – would not go to university. We attract many mature and part-time students and those on CPD courses, and a healthy number go on to convert their foundation degrees to full honours degrees with the University. We also wanted to emphasise that we are not separate to the University – we couldn’t operate without the expertise within the institution and it has been a real pleasure to work with colleagues.

UPfront: What does the future hold for UPC this year?

CW: UPC has enjoyed many years of growth but with the current difficulties in the economy we have to ‘think smart’ about our operation. In order to maintain our leading national position in partnership the faculty needs to evolve so that it continues to offer Higher Education opportunities to the population of our region, achieves greater diversity in its income streams and builds its international reputation.

UPfront: And lastly, can you tell us something about yourself that your colleagues may not know?

CW: I have two Scottish Deerhounds called Logan and Nessie!

If anyone would like to know more about UPC, then email the team at upc@plymouth.ac.uk to request to join their e-newsletter distribution list or receive their latest brochure.
From India to Nigeria, Kuwait to Malaysia, international students are travelling to Plymouth to take advantage of a new and specially-tailored service to prepare them for university life.

The Plymouth Devon International College (PDIC), located in Portland Villas, is now up and running with over 100 students enrolled on their pathway programmes which feed into the University at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.

PDIC, which was set up in 2009 following the signing of a Recognition and Articulation Agreement with international education services provider Navitas Limited, welcomed its first intake of students in October. To celebrate, the team opened its doors to University colleagues for a Christmas welcome event.

Kerry Hutchinson, the General Manager of University Programmes UK, (pictured right with Professor Wendy Purcell) said: “The college is extremely lucky to have comprehensive support from across the University’s community. Plymouth offers students from around the world a range of exciting, world-class degrees and Navitas is proud to have secured the University as a partner.”

Programmes at the college are typically two or three terms in length and start the students on an education continuum that leads to a degree from the University. The college supports the academic programme through its student services and can even provide English language tuition when required.

Kerry said: “The pathway programmes enable students to adjust to life at university in smaller classes and in a more personalised college environment. It is a learning experience designed to ensure that when they transfer to the University they are already settled into life in Plymouth and have developed positive study habits.”

Moss Garde, Director of Marketing, added: “We’re working closely with the University’s International team, and we’ve taken an integrated approach to the way we market the courses. We are focussed on building the Plymouth brand and taking it around the world.”

If you would like to find out more on PDIC visit www.plymouth.ac.uk/pdic.
Right across the University, our people (and robots) have been involved in a number of exciting events and awards ceremonies. Here is just a taster of what you’ve been up to...

Meet ‘TITCH’ – the robot formerly known as iCub. Professor Angelo Cangelosi, of the School of Computing and Mathematics; and Professor Mary Watkins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, introduce TITCH to local school children Rebecca Bettinson, Adam O’Brien and Jack Baylis. The trio won a competition to create a new name and artwork for the robot.

Kayla Parker, from the School of Art and Media (left), with film production partner Stuart Moore. The pair won the East End Film Festival Prize for their short flick ‘Sea Front’ – and also saw their work screened in Melbourne and at the Tate Modern.

Martin Warren (left), Fellow of the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, is awarded the 2009 Farm Management Award for outstanding contribution to farm management, at the annual Institute of Agricultural Management’s Conference.
Celebrating a remarkable writing success – three masters students from the University secured a 1-2-3 in a prestigious national dissertation competition.

Aaron Smith, Mikko Helala and Benjamin Sanders, from the Centre for Security, Communications and Network Research, took the top three places in the student dissertation competition run by the London Chapter of ISACA (an internationally recognised provider of professional certifications in IT assurance, security and governance).

Pictured, from left: Dr Maria Papadaki, Supervisor of Aaron Smith’s MSc project; Dr Nathan Clarke, ISACA Academic Advocate, and standing in for Benjamin Sanders; Mark Henshaw, ISACA Winchester Branch; Professor Wendy Purcell, Vice-Chancellor, University of Plymouth; Mikko Helala, 2nd Prize Winner; Aaron Smith, 1st Prize Winner; Professor Steven Furnell, Head of the School of Computing and Mathematics; and Sue Milton, ISACA London Chapter.
Over the past 18 months the team has been laying down the groundwork through improved communications with the alumni community and the development of an engaging programme of opportunities, including careers networking, mentoring and reunions.

Now it’s focusing on the development side of the equation – including philanthropic income and major donations.

Clare Anderson, Head of Development and Alumni Relations, said: “Typically people donate to universities for three reasons: It might be out of nostalgia; a rational reaction in that they acknowledge the importance a degree made to their lives; or there is a social or cultural element to it in that they recognise that education is valuable.

“Philanthropic income is about supporting students and adding value to their experience, rather than paying the bills and ensuring services are delivered. It might be a bursary for scientific subjects, or something in support of widening participation: it doesn’t change the nature of the University; it changes the nature of what we can give to people coming here.”

To that end, the team has made three new appointments, with Sam Davis, Prospect Research Officer; Paola Simoneschi, Development Manager (Trusts and Foundations); and Amanda Pleven, Development Manager (Major Gifts), joining Karen Teague, Development and Alumni Relations Manager; and Fern Cargill, Alumni Assistant.

Clare said: “The new name reflects a shift in strategic priorities – we are not just making friends, but raising funds as well.

“It is important that we set targets and start to deliver – the University has invested money and support and I am confident we will reward that faith.”

What’s in a name?

Well, for the recently retitled Development and Alumni Relations team it’s more than just a spot of branding. It reflects a new strategic direction, not to mention a new home, new faces and the backing of one of the University’s most celebrated alumni, a certain Professor Wendy Purcell.
i-DAT HEADS DOWN UNDER

Picture the city of Perth in Western Australia and you might conjure scenes of shimmering skyscrapers on the banks of the Swan River, or the foaming breakers off the beaches in Fremantle.

But thanks to a project involving the Institute of Digital Art and Technology (i-DAT) visitors to Perth’s Curtin University of Technology may take away an interactive art installation among their defining images.

The installation – known as the ‘i-500 project’ – follows the same ‘intelligent building’ principles as those used in our own Portland Square thanks to the Arch-OS (Architectural Operating Systems) technology that sits at its heart.

Arch-OS reacts to stimuli such as movement and environmental changes, as well as in this case the transmission of research data between staff, and from it generates dynamic images and sounds via multiple ceiling projectors, screens and speakers distributed around Curtin’s Resources and Chemistry Precinct.

i-DAT, in collaboration with Dr Paul Thomas and Chris Malcolm (Director of the John Curtin Gallery), pitched for the public art work commission via a 4am Skype call early in 2009, and succeeded in winning the contract. Professor Mike Phillips said: “We pitched the idea of an architecture that is responsive to the research going on in the building, which takes chemistry and nanotechnology and transforms it into emergent artwork.”

Mike has since made several trips to Perth to work on the £80,000 installation, working in close collaboration with Woods Bagot Architects, to develop an integrated and interactive architectural artwork that visualises real time data feeds from social, research and super computer activity.

He said: “It proves the viability of the Arch-OS system, and demonstrates how it can bridge the arts-science gap. And in doing so, it has helped put the University on an international stage.”

The i-500 (www.i-500.org) is currently on display as part of the Art in the Age of Nanotechnology exhibition at the John Curtin Gallery, Perth, WA (http://johncurtingallery.curtin.edu.au/).

i-DAT’s activities can be found at www.i-dat.org.
TIME OUT RECOGNITION FOR DR JOHN MATTHIAS AND HIS ALBUM CORTICAL SONGS

A classical music album co-produced by the University’s music maestro Dr John Matthias, has received a major seal of approval from *Time Out* magazine in Chicago.

Cortical Songs, which John recorded with long-time collaborator and 2009 University of Plymouth Honorary Doctor of Music Nick Ryan, was placed at number 5 in the publication’s review of the year’s best releases in the genre. The album features remixes by Thom Yorke, of Radiohead fame, and Simon Tong, from The Verve, and was picked up by a record label after the duo toured New York and Texas 12 months ago with the University’s support. John, a lecturer in Sonic Arts – and violinist on the album – told UPfront: “This is great recognition for us. I’ve always been interested in working across different genres, and the album really straddles boundaries between pop, dance and classical music. “This accolade shows we are being taken seriously in classical music circles.” Cortical Songs was first performed back in 2007 for the Peninsula Arts Contemporary Music Festival, and subsequently re-recorded and remixed by artists including Radiohead’s Yorke, with whom John worked on their 1995 album *The Bends*. It was released in the UK in 2008 and then introduced to the US last year. Nick said: “We have been shortlisted for an Independent Music Award in America as well, so we’re hoping the publicity opens some more doors for us.”

“This accolade shows we are being taken seriously in classical music circles.”
DAWN CHORUS FOR THE PENINSULA ARTS CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL

You had to be early to catch the opening bars of the 2010 Peninsula Arts Contemporary Music Festival – daybreak in fact.

For as dawn began to lighten the skies over Plymouth, University composer Alexis Kirke realised an ambitious project that had been two years in the making – to transform the Roland Levinsky Building into an instrument!

By placing light sensors, designed by collaborator Tim Hodgson, in the windows of the iconic structure and hooking them up to a computer, Alexis created The Sunlight Symphony: Sunrise – and the early bird music fans who turned up to listen were not disappointed.

Alexis, a lecturer and researcher in the Interdisciplinary Centre for Computer Music Research, Faculty of Arts, said: “I was inspired to do something one morning when I saw the beautiful light glinting off the windows of the RLB. I was fascinated by the possibility of doing something on a huge scale, and it evolved over time into the symphony.”

Alexis, who is on his second PhD at the University, used electronic sounds and piano samples to create the piece, which was then dynamically produced by a computer reacting to the increasing light levels as the sun rose in the sky.

Using the expert advice of University meteorological expert Andrew Ecclestone, Lecturer in Nautical Studies, and Tim, who designed and implemented the light sensor processing network, the team was able to conduct some valuable rehearsals in the days leading up to the ‘show’.

Alexis said: “We ran some simulations but I really had no idea how it was going to go until the morning. It was nerve-wracking, but I am delighted with the way it went.

“To see so many people attend and evidently enjoy themselves was wonderful.”

The Contemporary Music Festival – this year combined with the Plymouth Polish Festival and branded as ‘Continuum’ – attracted not only world-class acts such as percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie, and poet Alice Oswald, but also national media attention.

Simon Ible, Director of Peninsula Arts, said: “We’ve taken the festival to a new level this year and raised its profile on the national stage. We have had some fantastic coverage and previews, and I believe we are really putting the South West on the map when it comes to contemporary art and culture.”
In fact, it heralded a stunning showcase of panoramic imagery and video technology, thanks to a partnership between the University’s Innovation for the Creative and Cultural Industries (ICCI) team and Igloo Vision.

Called ‘Arena 360’, the week-long project acted as an experiment and a rehearsal for a large-scale festival which is set for Plymouth city centre in September. Inside the igloo tent, a 12.5 metre diameter screen played host to cutting-edge work from an international line up of film-makers.

Among those contributors were staff and students in the Faculty of Arts, including award-winning artist Kayla Parker, with her Verge 360 animation, and a film by David Hilton of John Matthias and Nick Ryan’s Cortical Songs (see page 12).

ICCI hosted a number of guests, including a team of artists from Norway, and showcased some spectacular works of time-lapse photography, animation, and films shot with special 360 degree panoramic cameras.

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ICCI Director Martin Woolner said: “Arena 360 has developed from research conducted by ICCI over the last 2-3 years and makes an important connection between the community, business and the University. “We are looking to revive the tradition of the touring panorama as a powerful means of creating social engagement, entertainment and celebration.”

Plymouth Awarded National Gender Equality Accolades

Lecturers Dr Liz Hodgkinson and Dr Clive Williams had the honour of receiving two national gender equality awards in recognition of the sterling work being done by both the University and the Faculty of Science and Technology.

They received a bronze and silver award from Athena Swan, which recognises and celebrates good employment practice for women working in science, engineering and technology posts across higher education and research.

Liz, who led the faculty submission, said: “This is the culmination of three years’ work and has been achieved with strong support from senior management and good teamwork in collating data and helping to develop our action plan. “Our aim is to be the ‘University of choice’ for those considering working and studying in these disciplines.”

The faculty was applauded for its proactive approach in marketing vacant posts and highlighting career progression and promotion opportunities, and for its outreach activities to attract more girls to study technology.

On a university-wide basis, the judges cited its good gender balance on both the senior management team and influential decision making bodies and its ‘enterprise enabling’ performance management system which it said helped staff to make the most of their individual contributions and capabilities.

“We are looking to revive the tradition of the touring panorama as a powerful means of creating social engagement, entertainment and celebration.”

Martin Woolner
PIECES FALL INTO PLACE FOR CITY JIGSAW GARDEN

From bulldozers to butterflies: the University is helping to lead a major city centre project that will transform a vacant piece of land into a sustainable – and moveable – garden.

The City Jigsaw Garden is being built on the plot of space outside Drake Circus, opposite the Roland Levinsky Building, and will involve input from architecture students and enterprise enablers, and even insect expert Pete Smithers.

The first clods of earth are being turned in March by the land’s owners, Kandahar, and it is hoped that the garden will have its grand opening on May 22 – part of a huge programme of events that includes the University’s Community Open House and the Lord Mayor’s Day.

Sarah O’Leary, the University’s Active in Communities Co-ordinator, said: “The idea is to create a temporary garden that embraces issues of sustainability, regeneration and social and cultural inclusion. We will be using locally-sourced plants and trees, calling upon volunteers in the construction process, and including art installations and an amphitheatre for community performance.”

The 1,750 square metre plot has been vacant since the construction of Drake Circus, and has been leased to the partnership – which includes Marks and Spencer, the Plymouth City Centre Company, Groundwork and the University – for a term of between 18 months and five years. Further supportive partners include the city’s Museum and Library, and the police.

Groundwork will be undertaking the construction work, assisted by our staff and student volunteers, but the blueprints for the garden have been drawn up by the University’s Designers Society architecture and 3D design students.

Sarah said: “We have been reviewing the designs and I have been overwhelmed by the standard. They are fantastically innovative, truly embracing the challenges of the site, and it is clear the students are extremely enthused by the project.”

Students have been assisting with public consultation during March, helping with a questionnaire to ensure that public suggestions are included. And academics John Bull, Stuart Lane and Pete Smithers have been advising on the choice of plants that will best attract the insects and enhance the area, so that the garden can be part of a planned educational nature trail for the city, which is also being part-designed by University students.

Eventually the land will have to be returned to the owners, but as the name would suggest, the garden can be taken apart like a jigsaw puzzle and reconstructed elsewhere, providing ongoing regeneration elements for the city.

If anyone would like to get involved in the City Jigsaw Garden, please contact: sarah.oleary@plymouth.ac.uk.
University’s sports scholars achieving Olympian feats

The University honoured its outstanding sports stars at the annual Sports Scholarship Awards – and this year’s crop contained the swimmer who sunk Olympic Champion Michael Phelps.

Antony James defeated the 14-time gold medallist at the FINA World Cup in Sweden, and followed that by winning gold at the BUCS Long Course Championships in Sheffield. Antony, and fellow scholar Emma Wilkins, who won the women’s 50m freestyle at the event, have now both qualified for the British squad.

In total 27 talented students were honoured, including multiple British record holder in powerlifting Tiffany Croker; champion mountain biker Carla Haines, and Dan Goodway, a member of Great Britain’s surf life saving team.

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Pictured above are:

**Back, from left:** Ben Howey – Surfing; James Hopson – Sailing; Sebastien Greber – Sailing; Leszek Rutkowski – Windsurfing; Darryl McMahon – Golf; Richard Hamilton – Windsurfing; Alexander Glover – Golf; Marc Fox – Trampolining; Daniel Goodway – Surf Lifesaving; Bethan Ayling – Rugby.

**Middle, from left:** Jack Loveday – Duathlon; Robert Spencer – Sailing; Piers Strong – Sailing; James Spencer – Sailing; Jamie MacDonald – Judo; Antony James – Swimming; Robyn Pearcey; Carla Haines – Mountain Biking XC; Tiffany Croker – Powerlifting.

**Front:** Louise Francis – Recreation; Noel Olsen – University Governor; Professor Richard Stephenson – Dean of the Faculty of Heath; Emma Wilkins – Swimming; Lesley Coulton – Head of Sport and Recreation.

RECREATION MAKES A SPLASH WITH WATER SPORTS SESSIONS

If all this talk of sailing and swimming puts you in the mood for something different this summer, the University’s Recreation team has launched its Water Sports programme.

From sailing and kayaking, to power boating and windsurfing, the team has put together a varied programme, which includes training courses and volunteering opportunities, at the Mount Batten Water Sports and Activity Centre. The highlight is expected to be the University of Plymouth Water Sports Festival on Sunday 9 May, which is open to all students, staff and their families.

To find out more, sign up for their monthly newsletter by contacting them on recreationfeedback@plymouth.ac.uk or call 01752 588510.

**Deadline for the next edition is May 28 2010**

Please send any contributions to Andrew Merrington at:
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(Please mark any post or email contributions as ‘UPfront’)

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