

March/April 2013

broadview[☆]

Fifty years of the University of East Anglia



**Researchers
highlight need
for deer cull**

See page 17



Fifty Years of the University of East Anglia

www.uea.ac.uk/50years
50years@uea.ac.uk

Highlights



6 £800,000 renewable energy project launched



14 Berries may cut female heart attack risk



20 Stork research underway

Cover image: A roe deer

Managing Editor: Simon Dunford
Editor: Fiona Billings
Contributors: Emily Sheldon, Lisa Horton, Sundari Faraday-Drake and Cat Bartman

Please send stories (maximum 200 words) and (free) accommodation and small ads to broadview@uea.ac.uk

Broadview can be viewed online at www.uea.ac.uk/broadview

Date of next publication: May 7
Copy deadline: April 25

The broadview team reserves the right to make editorial changes to all submissions.

Broadview is printed on 100% recycled paper (NAPM certified) which is fully chlorine free, totally recyclable and biodegradable.

Norwich Research Park Open Forum

All staff are invited to an event on March 19 to find out about a £26 million project to expand and develop the Norwich Research Park.

The NRP's chief operating officer Mathew Jones will give a presentation on the latest developments in the programme dubbed 'Project 26' following a £26 million infrastructure investment from the Department of Business Innovation and Skills through the BBSRC.

He will be joined by dean of SCI Prof Phillip Gilmartin, and dean of FMH Prof Ian Harvey for a panel discussion chaired by pro-vice-chancellor Prof David Richardson. The discussion will give staff the chance to ask questions and give feedback on the project.

Project 26 aims to create 5,000 new jobs in the longer term and make the NRP more attractive to investors, businesses and a world-class workforce. The main focus of the investment will be on roads, infrastructure, facilities and now buildings - including the NRP Enterprise Centre at UEA and the new Centrum building to be built at the John Innes Centre.

As well as attracting research and development-led businesses to establish themselves on the park, the funding will also



Matthew Jones

support spin-outs from NRP partners and facilitate equipment sharing across the site.

The Norwich Research Park Open Forum takes place on March 19 from 4-5pm in Seminar Room 2.03 on the top floor of the Zicer Building. All staff are welcome, there is no need to register. Refreshments will be provided, and there will be time for networking at the end of the session.

To find out more, or submit a question in advance, contact l.horton@uea.ac.uk.

Green light for NRP expansion

Norwich Research Park has won approval from South Norfolk Council for its ambitious long-term development.

Members of the council's planning committee voted to grant permission for the masterplan for development of what is known as NRP North.

The vision of the NRP partners and local government stakeholders is to develop a thriving research and innovation campus over the next decade and beyond by supporting spin-out and start-up companies and attracting inward investment from large corporate organisations involved in science and technology.

In 2011, the Government awarded the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) £26m to invest in the NRP to deliver innovation from the research base and generate economic growth and job creation.

The investment will help to create and support new companies and jobs based on world-leading bioscience. In total 65,000 square metres of new commercial space for research and development will be created.

Matthew Jones, NRP chief operating officer said: "The main strength of Norwich Research Park is the concentration of world-leading scientists coupled with the capability for multidisciplinary research.



Aerial shot of part of the NRP

"We are building on this by attracting new partners and innovative businesses to collaborate in our research and to fulfil our vision for commercialising the park."

Alan Giles, NRP project director said "The Masterplan is our roadmap for the next 15 years and beyond to provide the infrastructure for expansion. We are determined that by 2030 Norwich Research Park will be a pre-eminent international research and innovation park focussed on crops, food, health, genomics and environmental sciences."

A hawksbill turtle



DNA reveals mating patterns of sea turtle

New research by BIO into a critically endangered sea turtle will help conservationists understand more about its mating patterns.

Research published in *Molecular Ecology* shows that female hawksbill turtles mate at the beginning of the season and store sperm for up to 75 days to use when laying multiple nests on the beach.

It also reveals that these turtles are mainly monogamous and don't tend to re-mate during the season.

Because the turtles live underwater, and often far out at sea, little has been understood about their breeding habits until now. The breakthrough was made by studying DNA samples taken from turtles on Cousine Island in the Seychelles.

The hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) was listed as critically endangered in 1996 by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), largely due to a dramatic reduction in their numbers driven by the international trade in tortoiseshell as a decorative material – an activity which was banned in the same year.

The Seychelles are home to the largest remaining population of hawksbill turtles in the western Indian Ocean. Cousine Island is an

important nesting ground for the hawksbill and has a long running turtle monitoring program. It is hoped that the research will help focus conservation efforts in future.

Lead researcher Dr David Richardson (BIO) said: "We now know much more about the mating system of this critically endangered species. By looking at DNA samples from female turtles and their offspring, we can identify and count the number of breeding males involved. This would otherwise be impossible from observation alone because they live and mate in the water, often far out at sea.

"We now know that female turtles mate at the beginning of the season - probably before migrating to the nesting beaches. They then store sperm from that mating to use over the next couple of months when laying multiple nests.

"Our research also shows that, unlike in many other species, the females normally mate with just one male, they rarely re-mate within a season and they do not seem to be selecting specific 'better quality' males to mate with."

2013 National Student Survey

Staff are reminded that the 2013 National Student Survey is currently running.

Ipsos MORI emailed final year students in the target group in January, inviting them to complete an online questionnaire at www.thestudentsurvey.com.

It is vitally important that as many students as possible take part in this year's survey. For the data to be deemed sufficiently robust to publish,

each subject area must achieve a response rate of at least 50 per cent.

Completing the questionnaire should take no longer than five minutes.

UEA has fared particularly well in previous surveys – ranking in the top ten mainstream English universities since its inception.

For further details contact Barrie Osborne (PLN) on x2122 or nss@uea.ac.uk.

Fourth Graduate School

The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMH) launched its own Graduate School for postgraduate research (PGR) students at an event in January.

Attended by PGR students from across the faculty along with academic and support staff, associate deans, the executive dean and the pro-vice-chancellor for research, enterprise and engagement, Prof David Richardson, the launch marked the creation of UEA's fourth graduate school.

The FMH Graduate School is designed to enhance the educational experience of the more than 200 PGR students currently in the faculty.

FMH associate dean for PGR, Dr Christina Jerosch-Herold, said: "This marks an important milestone in the faculty's commitment to developing early career researchers and enhancing the sense of community among PGR students. It is also important as we endeavour to attract high-quality students from around the world – the new website will help us by giving the Graduate School a much more visible presence for prospective and current students."

Prof Richardson said: "UEA's PGR students are a hugely important part of our student and research community. It is essential that they have access to world class support and training facilities. The new FMH Graduate School will be central to helping us achieve this."

Millions for research projects

Two BIO research projects will benefit from a share of a multi-million pound boost from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC).

The national scheme is investing £8.8 million to fund 93 PhD studentships, following a record number of applications this year.

During the course of their four-year industrial PhDs, the students will spend a minimum of three months conducting research at a non-academic partner organisation or company.

One student will work under Dr Tom Clarke to research the possibilities of generating formate from a microbial powered electrical device.

A second project, led by Dr Gary Rowley with Dr Clarke and NRP-based Inspiralis Ltd, will research how Salmonella survives in different environments to help identify new drugs and vaccines.

Boost to low carbon economy

InCrops, part of the Adapt Low Carbon Group, has received £750,000 of additional funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

The funding will mean that InCrops, which promotes innovation in alternative and non-food crops, can continue until March 2015.

InCrops – or the ‘Innovation in Crops’ programme - began in 2008, when it received £4m in funding from the East of England Development Agency (EEDA) and the European Union.

It works to develop the East of England's low carbon economy by boosting uptake of biorenewable materials and technologies, creating jobs and working to reduce our dependency on fossil resources.

Since its launch in 2008, InCrops has supported more than 300 small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) and enabled the creation of more than 50 new jobs and 18 new start-up businesses.

InCrops has also added new international partners which will allow businesses in the East of England to link with universities and research centres across Europe. These world-leading organisations offer exciting opportunities for local businesses and can help with the development of new bio-renewable products and technologies.

Mentor for marine scientists

Scientists from UEA and the Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (Cefas) are forging new links with a joint appointment.

Dr Martin Johnson has taken up the position of lecturer in marine sciences in ENV and Lowestoft-based Cefas.

As well as helping scientists from both institutions work more closely, he will pursue new collaborative research into ‘healthy seas’ from a biogeochemical and ecological perspective. This research will be central in providing an evidence-base to support marine policy.

Dr Johnson said: “In my exciting new role I will engage with Cefas scientists and staff and students at UEA. I hope to develop new research areas and projects, and to contribute to mentoring the scientists of the future. I’m also looking forward to spending more time at Cefas and getting to know Lowestoft better.”

UEA recruits chief economist

Dr Amelia Fletcher, currently chief economist at the Office of Fair Trading (OFT), is to join UEA as a professor of Competition Policy.

Dr Fletcher will become a professor in NBS and a member of the Centre for Competition Policy. She joined the OFT in 2001, having previously worked as economic consultant for Frontier Economics and London Economics.

Prof Neil Ward, dean of SSF, said: “We are delighted with the appointment of Amelia to this chair. As well as her outstanding intellect, she has an unparalleled track record as a senior policy-maker and practitioner in competition policy and considerable experience in commissioning and managing research.”

Dr Fletcher, who takes up her new position in April, said: “I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as chief economist at the OFT and am immensely proud of its record of economic and policy excellence, as well as its achievements in making a difference for consumers.

“However, I feel ready for a new challenge and am honoured to be taking up this chair at UEA. The Centre for Competition Policy is a



world-leading academic centre in competition policy and I look forward to working alongside colleagues to develop valuable new academic initiatives, as well as supporting the established work of the centre and building up my own research profile.”

Dr Fletcher was also a prominent figure in British indie music in the 1980s. She was the lead singer and songwriter with cult band Talulah Gosh, and now records with her current band Tender Trap. Last month her former band-mate Elizabeth Price won the Turner Prize, prompting the Guardian to describe Talulah Gosh as “one of the most over-achieving indie bands in history”.

Writing and climate change



Communicating the challenges of climate change will be debated at UEA on May 25.

The all-day event will examine how literature in all its forms has engaged with the challenge of communicating the controversies arising from the science of climate change.

With playwrights, novelists and journalists in conversation with scientists and activists, the day will consider the role of the theatre, the novel and the media and will also reflect on the impact of

‘climategate’.

Throughout the day there will be readings, debates and talks as UEA brings together for the first time its most visible communities - researchers in Environmental Science and Creative Writing.

The event takes place on May 25, from 10am-7pm in the Thomas Paine Study Centre. To register for a place – costing £40/£20 – visit <http://bit.ly/YDAvEI>.

Decision on provision of faith facilities

Following the recent consultation on the provision of faith facilities on campus, UEA Council has accepted the recommendations of the Executive Team that provision of special facilities for Islamic prayer should continue.

This will be achieved either by seeking an extension of planning permission on the current site, or by identifying an alternative site on campus.

The facilities will be available to university staff, students and their families only.

Council, the university's decision-making body, also decided that a new Multi-Faith Consultative Committee should be established

to inform decisions on faith issues and the organisation and management of prayer facilities.

The extended temporary planning permission for the current Islamic facility expires in June 2014 and the university will decide how best to provide special facilities for Islamic prayer in the future. In the meantime, the current facility will remain open.

The consultation responses can be viewed online at www.uea.ac.uk/vco/faith-consultation, and the report and recommendations to UEA Council can be viewed at www.uea.ac.uk/vco/faith-report.



Land skills training boost

Farmers will be able to develop vital new skills in marketing and sustainable land management - thanks to a £1.5 million Defra-funded training programme led by UEA.

The funding comes as part of a £20 million government business training scheme announced by Environment Secretary Owen Paterson.

The aim of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) initiative is to bring the right skills and business knowledge to rural areas.

It is hoped that access to first-class training in land management, supply chain and benchmarking, and marketing will help rural businesses take up new opportunities and compete on a global scale.

UEA will use its share of the funding to provide around as 6,000 people working in the agriculture, horticulture and forestry sectors with access to subsidised training via its Centre for Contemporary Agriculture (CCA) LandSkills programme.

The national CCA LandSkills programme is delivered by key organisations in English agri-food training including colleges, consultants and the Royal Agricultural Society. Its aim is to deliver cutting-edge training to help rural businesses

prosper in the 21st century.

UEA plant scientist and CCA chair Prof John Turner said: “This award from Defra is a wonderful opportunity for UEA to combine its knowledge and resources with those of training partners in CCA LandSkills, to develop and improve skills in the English agricultural food production workforce.

“We will aim in particular to improve the competitiveness of the industry in an ever changing and increasingly challenging market.”

As well as focusing on the business side of rural industries, the CCA LandSkills programme will also raise awareness about environmental issues – to strike a sustainable balance between efficient production and looking after natural habitats, reducing the industry's carbon footprint, and managing land responsibly for future generations.

The CCA LandSkills training programme was launched in 2010 and the new funding will run until March 2014. For information on CCA LandSkills visit www.ccalandskills.co.uk.

Employability event

On April 20 AHP will be hosting its annual Employability Symposium, and this year's theme is ‘Evolution and Entrepreneurship’.

The one-day event will bring together students, health practitioners, academics and local employers to explore what employability means within a changing healthcare system. It will also provide a platform to discuss innovative approaches to maximising employment opportunities.

Confirmed speakers include Trevor Baylis OBE, entrepreneur, honorary graduate and inventor of the wind-up radio; Karen Middleton CBE from the Department of Health; and Norwich North MP Chloe Smith.

Delegates will be able to choose from a packed programme of activity on the day, including current work showcases, interactive workshops and roundtable discussions.

The symposium takes place in the Edith Cavell Building on Saturday April 20, 9am-4.30pm. For more information and to book visit: www.employabilitysymposium2013.eventbrite.co.uk

Admission is free and includes lunch and refreshments.

Pensions auto-enrolment

From April 1 UEA will be required by law to automatically enrol all ‘eligible jobholders’ into a workplace pension scheme if they are not already in one.

An eligible job holder is any member of staff that meets all of the following criteria:

- aged 22 or over but below the State Pension Age
- has earnings in any month that exceed £676 (in the tax year 2012/13)
- ordinarily works in the UK
- is not a contributing member of one of the pension schemes supported by the university (USS/UEASSS/NHSPS)

Previously staff may have opted-out of a pension scheme offered by UEA, but if they are an ‘eligible jobholder’(under the legislation), the university is required to automatically bring them into the Universities Superannuation Scheme Career Revalued Benefits section (USS CRB) from April 1.

All staff affected by the new legislation will receive letters explaining how they may be impacted by the changes and what options are available to them. Until then they do not need to take any action in respect of auto-enrolment.

For more information on the USS CRB section and auto enrolment go to <https://intranet.uea.ac.uk/fin/pensions>.



Green Deal concerns

The government's Green Deal must 'sell' energy efficiency as a way of improving domestic life - or take-up won't happen, according to researchers in NBS and the Tyndall Centre.

A key assumption behind the recently launched Green Deal – that once market barriers are removed, there will be a flood of demand from UK homeowners for energy efficiency measures in their homes - is overly simplistic, according to interim findings from the 'Value propositions for Energy efficient Renovation Decisions' (VERD) project.

The findings, published by the UK Energy Research Centre, cast doubt on whether this expected flood will come, because energy efficiency is rarely the main motivating factor for people's decisions to renovate their homes.

Led by Dr George Chryssochoidis (NBS) and Dr Charlie Wilson (TYN), the researchers carried out an extensive review of renovation and energy efficiency studies, including those on which the Green Deal is based. They also conducted a lengthy series of interviews with both renovating and non-renovating households, and a survey of over 1,000 UK homeowners.

They found that the biggest motivating factor in deciding to renovate is to improve domestic life, with households facing competing priorities, and those needing to extend or adapt space at home, being more likely to consider renovations. Up to a third of decisions to renovate are triggered by specific events, the most common being when something in the home needs fixing or replacing.

Homeowners cited contractor reliability and the avoidance of hassle and disruption to family life as the key factors in deciding for renovation.



£800,000 renewable energy project

UEA scientists are taking inspiration from the way plants harness energy from the sun to develop more efficient renewable energy.

The £800,000 research project will artificially replicate photosynthesis - the process by which plants transform sunlight into energy to help them grow.

The energy created will be used to produce hydrogen – a zero-emission fuel which can power vehicles or be transformed into electricity.

It is thought that this method of harnessing the sun's energy will be far more efficient than existing solar converters.

The research will be undertaken with colleagues from the University of Leeds and the University of Cambridge. It is funded by the Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC).

Lead researcher Prof Julea Butt (CHE/BIO) said: "Reserves of fossil fuels are dwindling, and fuel prices are rising, so it is vital we look to renewable energy.

"Many renewable energy supplies, such as sunlight, wind and waves, remain largely untapped resources. This is mainly due to the challenges that exist in converting these energy

forms into fuels from which energy can be released on demand – for example when we want to switch on a light, boil water or drive a car.

"We have been inspired by natural plant processes. During plant photosynthesis, fuels are made naturally from the energy in sunlight.

"Light absorption by the green chlorophyll pigments generates an energised electron that is directed along chains of metal centres to catalysts that make sugars.

"We will build a system for artificial photosynthesis by placing tiny solar-panels on microbes. These will harness sunlight and drive the production of hydrogen, from which the technologies to release energy on demand are well-advanced.

"We imagine that our photocatalysts will prove versatile and that with slight modification they will be able to harness solar energy for the manufacture of carbon-based fuels, drugs and fine chemicals."

The many faces of Julian of Norwich

LDC have organised a series of events in May to promote awareness of the medieval figure Julian of Norwich.

A fourteenth-century mystic Julian is reported to be the first woman to have written a book in the English language, and is celebrated today as part of Norwich's UNESCO City of Literature heritage.

LDC's Dr Karen Smyth leads a team of researchers who are engaged in research projects on Julian of Norwich. She said: "Julian's prose is vivid, with imagery and she tells it with great imaginative flare and an overall tone of

encouragement, love and tenderness."

Various activities are planned at the Forum including a reading and writing workshop, an exhibition, with material from the library and items lent by the Julian of Norwich Centre and a film screening about Julian, produced by Richard Fair. There will also be free half-hour public talks, followed by a walking tour to the Julian shrine.

The events take place from May 6-11. Everyone is welcome, there is no charge for the workshop but places need to be booked in advance by contacting Louise at julianweek2013@gmail.com.

Q&A with...

Prof Trevor Davies

Pro-vice-chancellor based at Fudan University in Shanghai

How did the Fudan Tyndall project begin?

A few years ago, UEA decided it was an appropriate time to develop a collaboration with one or more of the top Chinese universities. These universities are acutely aware of international reputation, so it was necessary to focus on one of UEA's biggest strengths.

Also, given the staggering investment in science and technology in China, more doors would be open in the science area. Climate change 'denialism' puzzles people in China; there, it is widely regarded as an important challenge to address. So we focused on climate, planning on developing wider collaborations as trust - which is seen as very important in China - built up.

Why is it an important project for UEA?

Higher education institutions around the world are beating a path to the door of Chinese universities, so they can afford to be very choosy. The research and development budget is burgeoning in China, and so is the quality of its academic research, especially in science and technology. The advantages of collaboration are clear.

UEA wants to make a difference in climate change. China now emits about 28 per cent of the world's carbon dioxide, and its emissions are currently increasing at around 10 per cent a year. What China does, or doesn't, do with its emissions over the next few years will have a profound effect on all nations, and it is satisfying for UEA to be able to contribute to providing the necessary information for decision-making.

Climate isn't the only area where there are benefits in collaboration with a top university like Fudan. For example, there is a rapidly growing interest in Chinese creative writing. Our creative

Fudan University



writers and literary translators are building collaborations with Fudan's creative writers, and this also involves Writers' Centre Norwich.

How much time do you spend in China and how have you found adjusting to life there?

In the last year or so, I have spent about a third of my time in Shanghai, and I have been told by a Fudan colleague that I now understand how China works! He was being far too complimentary (and that's one of the things it is necessary to adjust to), and what he actually meant is that I am not all at sea all of the time now.

I think I have adjusted to an extent, but there is still much which surprises on a daily basis. The language remains a difficult challenge to me. Chinese is a tonal language and I am tone-deaf. We all know that China has been through astonishing transitions in recent decades, and these are continuing. Everyone is adjusting to these changes, and there will be many adjustments to come.



How does higher education and research in China differ from the UK?

Higher education institutions in China are more hierarchical, within an institution, between institutions, and in the perceptions of students. However, change is also evident - when I first gave lectures to students five or six years ago, there were no questions or responses as it would have been seen as disrespectful to me. Now they will question and debate what I say.

The nature of research, especially science research, is such that there are growing similarities between the two countries. There are, however, still significant differences, such as how I am struck by the relatively small role for post-doctoral students in many Chinese universities, and the fact that research students have a number of obligations in addition to their PhD studies.



What do you miss most about UEA when you are at Fudan for long periods?

The fact that, by and large, it is possible to plan via a diary - one's own and those of others. The concept of a diary is a weak one in China! (I also miss the low carbon.)

How are UK universities - and UEA in particular - viewed in China?

Judgement by league table is paramount, and so it is a UK university's position in general league tables which sets the initial view. It is therefore no surprise that it tends to be the usual UK suspects which are most highly regarded. UK HE generally is admired; the attitude of the Border Agency less so.

Once Chinese colleagues and prospective students learn more about UEA, they have been impressed. The challenge has been to open the door. Having put in the effort to do that with Fudan, and some other excellent universities in China, has - I think - been of benefit to our reputation.

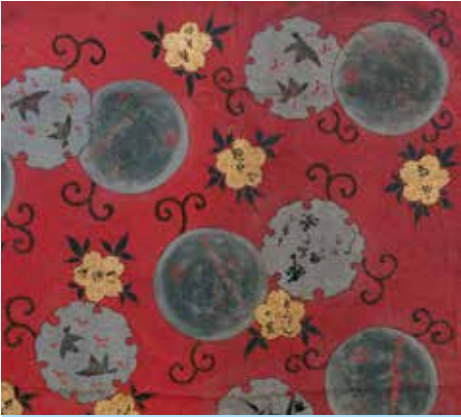
My impression is that our stock has risen considerably since I first visited China in 2004, and awareness of UEA is certainly much higher. We have very effective staff supporting our Chinese activity, and our Chinese alumni are fantastic ambassadors - we must continue to appreciate them highly.

What are the plans for Fudan Tyndall's new building?

Fudan already has several campuses. It is building another about 5km away from the original, main campus. Like so many things in China, the scale is immense. The university has approval from the Ministry of Education to construct a new building to house the School of Environmental Sciences and Engineering and the Department of Ecological Sciences, and that will also be home to the Fudan Tyndall Centre.

Apparently, the critical factor for the Ministry's approval was the Fudan Tyndall Centre and its collaborative programme with the UK.

It is intended to be a low carbon exemplar for China, and we are expecting that there will be much collaboration with UEA over its design, delivery and operation.



The art of paper

Papermaking is one of the defining arts of Japan, where it has a history of over 1000 years.

The Centre for Japanese Studies and the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures are closely involved with bringing an unprecedented exhibition of Japanese handmade paper, or washi, to Norwich from March 12 - April 20.

The exhibition ‘Washi: the art of Japanese paper’ will be held at the Gallery at Norwich University of the Arts, and will display a historic collection of 19th century washi held at the Economic Botany Collection at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, alongside the 21st century ‘Washi: the Soul of Japan’ collection.

Associated events include a conference on washi on March 16, papermaking demonstrations, and two further exhibitions at the Anteros Arts Foundation and Mandell’s Gallery.

Full details are available at www.sainsbury-institute/washi.

Learning and Teaching Day

The university’s annual Learning and Teaching Day will take place on May 23.

A talk by SSF’s associate dean for learning and teaching, Helena Gillespie will be followed by a range of presentations and discussions throughout the day.

Pro-vice-chancellor Prof Nigel Norris will round off proceedings by reflecting on the work of Lawrence Stenhouse, the celebrated educationalist who helped to develop the School of Education.

All colleagues involved in teaching or supporting learning are invited to attend.

A full programme will be released in late March. For more information, email s.payne@uea.ac.uk.

Apply to the Annual Fund

The Development Office is inviting applications from all schools and departments for funding from the Annual Fund’s ‘Student Experience’ fund (2012/13).

The Annual Fund supports a wide range of projects across campus using donations from alumni and friends of the university.

Each year a disbursement panel, made up of alumni and representatives from the university, considers projects and makes awards. The aim is to ensure that funding goes to where it is most needed or where it can make the most difference to the student experience. Last year the panel allocated funding to 21 projects across campus and further afield - totalling more than £70,000.

For more information or an application pack contact Eleanor Crawford at e.crawford@uea.ac.uk or x3776.

The deadline for submissions is 5pm on March 22. Applicants will be informed whether their application has been successful in early June.



Alternative views of behaviour needed

Wildlife programmes fail to offer alternative views of animal behaviour by reflecting human ‘norms’ of sexuality and family, according to research by an academic in FTM.

The study by Dr Brett Mills (FTM) examined how breeding, sexuality, monogamy and ideas of the family are presented within classic television wildlife documentaries produced by the BBC.

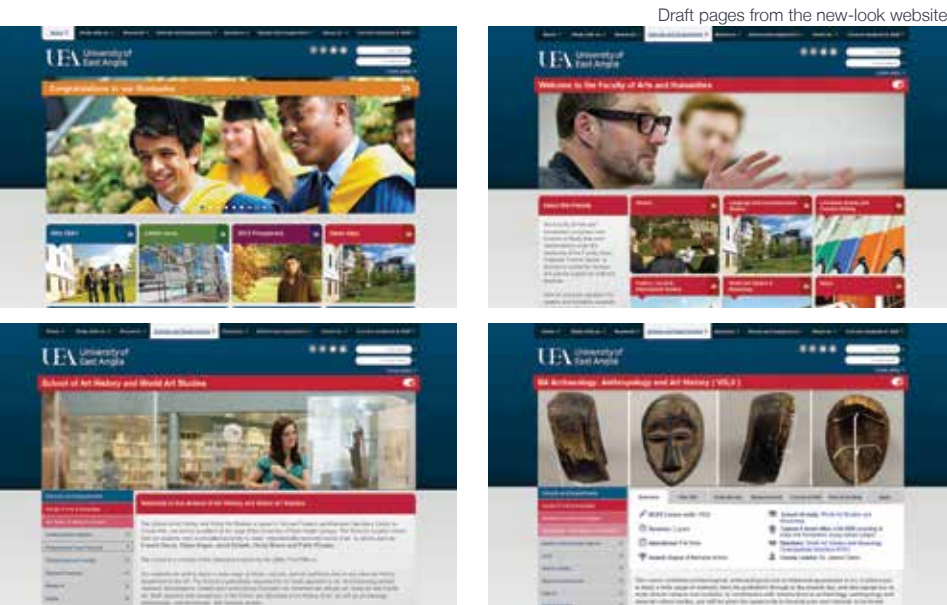
Published in the *European Journal of Cultural Studies*, Dr Mills’ analysis aims to highlight aspects of animal activity which are seemingly side-lined or ignored, such as homosexuality and same-sex parenting, despite the widespread and growing scientific evidence for a wide range of forms of animal behaviour.

Dr Mills said: “These programmes make a valuable contribution to environmental awareness and how people think about the world around them. They are highly-regarded and educational, but they should also be offering alternative interpretations of animal behaviour.

“Heterosexuality is upheld as the norm in wildlife documentaries and the idea of the family it presents is one which equates the family with heterosexuality,” he said. “The central role in documentary stories of pairing, mating and raising offspring commonly rests on assumptions of heterosexuality within the animal kingdom. This is despite a wealth of scientific evidence which demonstrates that many non-human species have complex and changeable forms of sexual activity, with heterosexuality only one of many possible options.”

He added: “Within the academic community there is clearly much debate over precisely what particular moments of animal behaviour mean, and the purposes they fulfil. Yet wildlife documentaries commonly offer a single interpretation as unarguable and uncontested. So there is this mismatch between what the science is saying and what is being presented in these programmes.”

Dr Mills suggests that forms of animal behaviour which are commonly missing in such programming demonstrate how ideas of sexuality, monogamy and family persist within human debates, adding: “The descriptions of animal behaviour, because of their association with the ‘natural’, play a telling role in the policing of human behaviour.”



Migrating the website

The Liferay project team are part-way through the enormous task of migrating the university website from Polopoly to the new content management system Liferay.

The first stage was to complete the migration of each school of study, which was achieved in January. The digital marketing team (DMT), working alongside the central web team in corporate information systems (CIS), have taken a new approach to migrating the site called ‘agile’.

The agile method allows for short sprints of work which last two weeks, with regular reviews, breaking down large parts of the project into more manageable chunks.

Digital marketing manager Chris Hill said: “The advantage of working with this method is that it allows us to deliver completed sections of the web migration more quickly.

“It does mean that some sections still need further development sometimes to achieve the desired final result, but it also gives us workable sections of the website earlier than we would otherwise be able to deliver them.”

The main purpose of the website migration has always been to give the university a more user-friendly and accessible website for all visitors. This has meant an overhaul of the website architecture, enabling clearer navigation to information that users want, and delivering it in a more engaging way.

Suzy Gook, head of marketing and communications, said: “In the current competitive environment of higher education, we cannot afford to deliver anything but an excellent web service to prospective applicants, businesses, researchers and collaborators of all kinds.”

DMT will keep staff updated on the project as it progresses. The project team will be in touch with individuals across the university about their pages at the appropriate time.

A collaborative approach

The web migration project team is made up of 15 members and is a cross functional group from DMT and CIS. The team work closely together on all key elements of the project.

The DMT members are concentrating on ‘front end’ developments such as design, architecture, customer usability, business requirements development and website best practice.

The CIS team focus more on the ‘back end’ developments such as building the Liferay platform elements, turning business requirements into fully functioning end products and ensuring the Liferay platform is stable and dealing with any hosting issues as required.

The project team meet on a regular basis, as the agile process dictates regular communication is vital for project success, and will continuously review the project progress, look to streamline delivery and discuss prioritisation of the project objectives.

The agile approach is a new method of project delivery for the university and during the first eight months of the Liferay project agile has been adapted to work as effectively as possible for the university.

Chris Hill said: “Agile has allowed for the ever-changing project priorities to be reassessed and realigned at relatively short notice, which has been beneficial to this project so far.

“Working with our colleagues in CIS has been really advantageous as we have a project team with the breadth of knowledge to build a web platform and consider the needs of the end user.”

Other parts of the project:

Redesigning internal pages

The migration work doesn’t just include the external facing pages. The next phase of the project will deliver a redesigned main menu and central services pages, and it will be followed by a reworking of the university’s staff and student portal. This will be informed by the feedback currently being gathered as part of the internal communications review with staff and students.

Photos and videos

Part of the work for the much improved website also involves significantly more investment in new photography and new video. The marketing team are currently working on films for each school of study and all schools should be completed by April.

New look

As well as migrating the website, the team is also working with an external design agency to deliver a fresh look for the UEA website. The design work places far greater emphasis on selling UEA through imagery.

The combination of revised copy, stronger imagery, improved navigation and a user centred approach to development will put UEA in a much stronger position to deal with the increasing number of users that come to www.uea.ac.uk to find out about the university.

New guidelines

A new governance process is also being developed to improve the management of content and web site change. Content will be assigned to individuals to manage and, working with the digital marketing team, those individuals will help to improve the overall customer experience.

The new governance will ensure that content is always correct and up to date and gives visitors a great website experience. The first stage of web governance is due to be rolled out soon and if staff are involved in website management the digital marketing team will be in touch shortly.

And the rest

As well as the above the project team are also currently working on improved people pages, a responsive mobile version of the site and new events functionality. In addition to this, the project requires significant amounts of IT build to ensure that the site functions as users would expect.

Peer-Assisted Learning comes to UEA

Peer-Assisted Learning (PAL) is a mentoring service run by students for students providing pastoral and academic support.

PAL has been implemented in universities worldwide since its inception at the University of Kansas in 1973 and it is being introduced at UEA over the next three years.

It has been shown to enhance the student experience and improve retention and academic performance in first years and employability in mentors.

Second and third year students, or ‘mentors’, run groups for first year students to discuss any issues or concerns they have. Sessions are intended to be structured, relaxed, creative and fun and provide a safe, confidential learning environment.

PAL officers in each school liaise with lecturers to ensure PAL links with current teaching and the appropriate support is put in place.

PAL leads to stronger links between faculty and students as well as providing an additional form of student feedback. Orientation and integration should occur more easily and students gain an insight into what the future might hold.

CHE, CMP, LCS, NBS and NSC are all taking part in the first pilot, with further schools joining the project in September.

For further information email PAL@uea.ac.uk; or contact Anne Guyon, PAL Champion for UEA, anne.guyon@uea.ac.uk.

Accolade for LCS professor

Professor of Sociolinguistics Peter Trudgill (LCS) has been invited to join the International Scientific Advisory Board of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig.

This is the latest international honour for Prof Trudgill, who was also elected to honorary membership of the Linguistic Society of America last year - one of only three such appointments.

The institute unites scientists with various research interests who are concerned with human evolution and is designed to lead to new insights into history, variety and abilities of the human species.

Obituaries

The university was saddened to learn of the passing of a number of distinguished colleagues recently.

Prof Keith Clayton



Photo: Eastern Daily Press

Keith Clayton CBE, founding dean of ENV, died in February.

Prof Clayton was the first appointment to the school in 1967, a year before admission of its first students, and he remained dean until 1971. The creation of a school of Environmental Sciences was an innovative step, breaking the tradition of single discipline science and launching a new interdisciplinary approach to the study of the planet and its people.

He laid the foundations of a school that soon became, and remains, internationally renowned; a template which in recent decades has been the basis for many other integrated university departments both nationally and internationally.

He became dean again in 1987, continuing until 1993. His energy and enthusiasm for his science, the school and UEA was impressive and infectious. While unapologetically outspoken, his leadership was dynamic and inspirational.

He was pro-vice-chancellor from 1971-73 and served on many national committees including NERC Council, the University Grants Committee

Prof Godfrey Hewitt

Godfrey Hewitt was an Emeritus Professor in BIO.

Head of BIO Prof Dylan Edwards said: “Godfrey has been a stalwart of BIO since 1966 and he was mentor and inspiration for many within the school and throughout the scientific world. He leaves a huge legacy in evolutionary biology and molecular ecology.

“Despite his retirement a few years ago he was still very active in the life of the school as

and the National Radiological Protection Committee.

His research field was geomorphology, where he was hugely influential. He recognised very quickly the potential for using satellite imagery, which was fast becoming available in the early 1970s, to help quantify earth surface process.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Edward Acton said: “As the first dean of the School of Environmental Sciences Keith Clayton created the foundation for a school that was quite unique at that time, and which soon became internationally renowned.

“It is a source of great regret to his many friends and colleagues at UEA that he will not be able to join in our 50th anniversary celebrations. However, his legacy lives on proudly in ‘ENV’ – the school that he did so much to build.”

Current head of ENV Prof Julian Andrews said: “As a young lecturer I was so impressed by Keith’s apparently limitless energy and enthusiasm - he led from the front, so much so that at times we struggled to keep up with him!”

Emeritus Professor, and until he was physically prevented by illness he was attending seminars, writing job references for his mentees and publishing papers – the most recent being an opinion piece in *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* published in February this year.

“Godfrey was an outstanding and hugely talented scientist and a wonderfully warm and entertaining colleague who will be greatly missed by all of us in the school.”

Prof Malcolm Adams

Prof Malcolm Adams was co-director of the doctoral programme in clinical psychology in MED.

Prof Adams qualified as a clinical psychologist in Newcastle in 1974 and worked in learning disabilities services and clinical psychology training in Durham, Glasgow and Cambridge, before joining UEA in 1994 to develop the doctoral programme in clinical psychology.

He was made an Honorary Professor in 2005 and had been director of Learning and Teaching at Norwich Medical School since 2010. He also worked for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust.

Prof Adams’ research interests included bipolar affective disorder, quality of life, and psychosocial aspects of chronic illness.

Head of MED Prof David Crossman paid the following tribute: “Malcolm was a hugely respected figure in the world of clinical psychology and as an academic at UEA. He has trained and developed many in the field of clinical psychology and his talents and wisdom lives on through this group of people now practising and helping people and patients in the NHS.

“Malcolm was of great help to the running of the medical school. His authoritative knowledge of the systems around education, in both operational terms and in assessment, has helped many of us running or establishing courses. He was a kind man who was free with his advice and will be greatly missed by very many of us in Norwich Medical School.”

Prof Brian Rowley

Brian Rowley joined UEA in October 1964 as one of four founding appointments in the School of European Studies (EUR), lecturing in German literature. Among other roles during his distinguished career, he held the role of Dean of EUR. He was a generous colleague who was always keen to foster and promote younger colleagues.

He retired in 1988, but immediately took up post as an Emeritus Professor, continuing to teach new generations of students and ,up until recently, was a



regular presence at graduation ceremonies.

He was a keen bird watcher and avid football fan – his father having been a professional in the game and a well-regarded manager. He was also a knowledgeable collector of stamps and postcards.

Dr Roger Baines, head of LCS, said: “He made such a valuable contribution to the founding of the university and what is now LCS. He clearly imparted great knowledge and expertise to generations of students and colleagues at UEA”.

Prof Robert Ashton

Robert ‘Bob’ Ashton was founding professor of English History at UEA.

After three years in the RAF he studied at University College Southampton and the London School of Economics.

He lectured in economic history at the University of Nottingham from 1953-1963, and in 1962 was awarded a Visiting Professorship at the University of California, Berkeley. There he was approached about becoming the founding professor of English History at the newly formed University of East Anglia.

Prof Ashton played a crucial part in establishing the new university and its reputation for history and for interdisciplinarity. He found himself charged with running the School of English Studies after only a year.

He was instrumental in adding American Studies to the mix, bringing in Malcolm Bradbury and Chris Bigsby, figures who were to dominate

American Studies in the UK.

Prof Ashton was a charismatic teacher, with a commanding presence on the lecture stage and in the class room. His passion for his subject was evident to all.

Elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in 1960, he served on its Council three times, on the last occasion as its vice-president. A keen supporter of the work of the Historical Association, Bob served as president of the Norfolk and Norwich branch for nearly a decade.

It was a mark of the great affection in which he and his wife Peggy were held that his retirement in 1989 was the occasion for a splendid dinner in the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts at UEA - attended by colleagues from across the university and beyond.

He is survived by two daughters and his grandchildren.

Adapt continuing the ash dieback fightback

Experts from the Adapt Low Carbon Group spoke about the Ashtag smartphone app at a conference in February.

UEA and Norfolk became the centre of the outbreak last September when the UK’s first confirmed case of the deadly Chalara fungal infection was found in trees at Ashwellthorpe. Following the discovery, Adapt launched its smartphone app to help record photographs and locations of suspected cases.

Since September, Norwich Research Park plant scientists have made some important genetic discoveries that will help them spearhead the national fightback against ash dieback disease. Initial progress was outlined at the conference at the John Innes Centre.

The event included an update on Adapt’s Ashtag app, which has been downloaded 12,000 times, with users submitting more than 1040 possible sightings.

Chris Blincoe, programme manager for Adapt Commercial, said: “We have had a fantastic response from the general public. Our app proves that crowd-sourcing information in this way can really help authorities act swiftly to reduce the impact of outbreaks.”

Colleagues from Adapt also attended a stakeholder meeting arranged by DEFRA and hosted by the Woodland Trust to discuss how apps like Ashtag can form an integrated approach to tracking and reporting instances of Chalara in the future.

Volunteering fair

Thirty-five charities and not-for-profit organisations attended this year’s Volunteering Fair in February.

Students were invited to find out more about volunteering opportunities available across a diverse range of sectors. The event enjoyed strong attendance, with more than 400 students visiting the fair.

Organisations exhibiting and gaining new volunteers from UEA included NHS Blood and Transplant, Guide Dogs, Community Service Volunteers, Railway Children and Opening Doors. A range of opportunities in areas such as charity management, fundraising, marketing, befriending, conservation and education were on offer.

For more information about forthcoming Careers & Employability events, visit www.employability.uea.ac.uk.

New project to engage young people in research

UEA will help Norfolk and Suffolk children learn about cutting edge research - thanks to a multi million pound initiative.

The university is one of 12 to benefit from a share of Research Councils UK (RCUK) funding, which totals more than £3.5 million including matched funding from universities, schools and businesses.

The three-year national School-University Partnerships Initiative (SUPi) will see UEA working with a number of local schools including City of Norwich School as a lead partner.

The aim is to motivate young people from a diversity of backgrounds to be excited about cutting edge research and raise their aspirations for further study and lives.

It will also give early career researchers at UEA the opportunity to develop their transferable skills through training and by working with young people. Meanwhile teachers will be encouraged to engage with research in ways that have maximum impact on teaching quality and learning.

Dr Kay Yeoman (BIO) is leading the project. She said: “We are delighted to have been awarded £150,000 for this exciting project. We will work with partner schools and researchers from across the Norwich Research Park in a variety of disciplines to get school students more aware of research, what it is, and why it’s important.”

The cash boost will help Dr Wendy McMahon (AMS) establish a ‘Teacher: Humanities Network’. It will mirror the already successful ‘Teacher: Scientist Network’, in which science teachers are partnered with researchers to help youngsters learn more about the very latest scientific breakthroughs.

Other UEA colleagues involved in the project include Rowena Burgess (HIS) who will set up a history conference for sixth formers and Dr Laura Bowater (MED) will lead sessions on the important questions in research.

An evaluation of the project is being directed by Prof Elena Nardi from the school of Education and Lifelong Learning. And Caroline Still will look after communicaiton between partner schools.

Earn £110 a week with Homestay

The university is offering staff the opportunity to play a part in the lives of international postgraduate students by offering a Homestay.

Being a Homestay host involves providing an international postgraduate student with their own private study bedroom, use of a bathroom, kitchen and laundry facilities. Hosts would also be expected to provide a basic breakfast (e.g. toast or cereal) each morning.

A Homestay would typically last for an academic year of up to 50 weeks and hosts will receive £110 per week which will be paid, on a monthly basis, directly into a bank account.

This is a great opportunity to get to know one of the university’s international students, and be a part of their overall UK student experience. Many INTO students already live with host families, and feel this has a very positive impact on their time here, helping them to integrate into Norwich life more easily.

Case study

Student Wei has been staying with host Ian during this academic year.

Wei said: “I chose homestay for a number of reasons. It gave me the chance to get to know a different culture, and living with university staff feels safer than living outside by myself.

“It also allowed me more opportunities to improve my English, become more independent and enhance my ability to communicate with others.

“I do hope there will be more and more staff joining this team to help other international students get these benefits.”

Ian said: “When I first put my name forward as a Homestay host I have to admit to some trepidation in terms of what the experience would be like. However, the entire experience has been very positive, from both our points of view.

“I have found there to be absolutely no problems with the scheme and have relished

Some of the other benefits of being a Homestay host include: renting unused rooms within a home; welcoming new international students to the UK; and experiencing new cultures and perhaps learning a new language.

The university fully manages the allocation process and matches students with suitable Homestay hosts based on the information the host provides. The Homestay team are on hand to provide guidance and assist with any problems.

For anyone interested in becoming a Homestay host this September, email homestay@uea.ac.uk. The deadline for registering interest is March 27.



opportunities to share English culture and learn from Chinese culture. I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience and definitely hope to have the opportunity to host another student.”

Green flat at UEA

The first ever green flat has been launched on campus, housing eight ‘green ambassadors’ who are totally committed to reducing waste, recycling and reusing.

The first-year students were chosen after expressing an interest in sustainable living when they applied for accommodation. They moved in last summer.

The project was set up by UEA volunteering administrator Elaine Sherriffs, accommodation manger Paul Bailey and Carbon Crew’s Matt Taylor.

Paul Bailey said: “We have been very pleased with how the green flat project has unfolded and how the residents have made it a success. This

academic year all students, undergraduate and postgraduate, have the opportunity to apply for a room in a green flat via our online application form and we will create as many as demand requires. We see the project very much as being student led and we look forward to working with prospective students to develop and expand it in future years.”

Elaine Sherriffs said: “The students have achieved a lot already – reducing waste, recycling, sharing shopping, cooking together, timing their showers, combining washes in the laundry, air drying laundry instead of using electric driers and buying local instead of imported produce.”

CIPP launches courses

UEA’s Centre for Interprofessional Practice (CIPP) is promoting two courses for health and social care professionals.

CIPP was formed in 2002 in response to a UK health and social care policy which emphasised the importance of interprofessional and inter-agency working and education when delivering first-class patient care.

CIPP currently offers two courses, aimed at qualified health and social care professionals. The first, ‘Preparing for Change’, is a three hour masterclass for managers and team leaders who would like to improve on their leadership skills.

This is a new course and was launched for the first time in January. It could be seen as a taster-session for the second course, ‘Lasting Change’, which is offered to teams over a period of at least three months to help them initiate, manage and sustain change that will enable them to optimise their current practice.

Sarah Winn (CIPP), a lecturer in interprofessional practice, said: “For teams to deliver effective joined-up care, professionals need to be aware of and appreciate each other’s different roles, priorities, concerns, be able to identify the strengths and weaknesses of their service and be committed to improvements. Our courses facilitate the process of mutual learning, shared

understanding and respect between different professionals and/or agencies and help them enhance their current practice and care delivery.”

Dr Susanne Lindqvist (MED), senior lecturer in interprofessional practice and the director of CIPP, said: “We are really excited about the rebrand of CIPP and the launch of our new courses. We look forward to working with professionals to support them at a time where the workforce is asked to manage and deliver effective integrated care.

“It makes great sense for us to offer opportunities for interprofessional learning, both to students at UEA and to professionals out there in the field to help individuals and teams make optimal use of the skills and resources available.”

CIPP secured funding to create a new identity after a review in 2011, with the aim of attracting more professionals to their courses. Part of this work was to launch their new website where potential clients can find out about how CIPP courses can help them enhance skills essential for successful collaboration.

The skills include effective decision-making, conflict resolution, goal setting and measuring progress.

To find out more about CIPP and their new courses visit www.cipp-training.co.uk.

Emissions trading schemes limit green consumerism

Schemes that aim to regulate greenhouse gas emissions can limit consumers’ attempts to reduce their carbon footprints, according to a UEA economist.

Dr Grischa Perino (ECO) suggests that some recommendations made by government agencies and environmental NGOs about how individuals can reduce GHG emissions are inappropriate in the European Union because of its Emissions Trading System (EU ETS), which caps emissions from certain industries, such as electricity production and aviation, and allows regulated sources to trade emission allowances.

Advice commonly given to consumers includes reducing the number of flights taken, replacing energy-hungry appliances and lightbulbs with energy efficient ones and eating less red meat.

But in a discussion paper published by the Centre for Behavioural and Experimental Social Science, Dr Perino says that once the EU ETS cap is in place, installing energy efficient lightbulbs, flying less and some other recommended actions have no impact on total emissions, as they are simply relocated to other sources via the system’s



trading mechanism.

He claims that out of the above examples only eating less meat reduces total emissions, because in contrast to electricity production and inner-European aviation, emissions from agriculture are not covered by the EU ETS.

Dr Perino said: “Buying energy efficient appliances still makes a lot of sense as they often save more on electricity bills than the extra cost incurred in buying them and it reduces other forms of environmental pollution, but it does not reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”

Working paper series for bright sparks

Faculty, researchers and PhD students in ENV have launched a new series of publications aimed at sparking debate around environmental social science.

The working paper series produced by the 3S (Science, Society & Sustainability) group has published 17 papers to date and topics include community energy; science, climate change and democracy; technologies of participation; understanding energy use in the home; alternative economic geographies; grassroots innovations and issues of politics in science policy.

Dr Gill Seyfang (co-editor of the series) said: “Working papers allow us to get our high-impact research findings into the public domain quickly and effectively, sometimes as much as a year or two ahead of publication in an academic journal.”

3S working papers bring fresh thinking and cutting-edge research to a public audience and are indexed by Google Scholar, which means they regularly appear in searches for publications.

The research group hopes its publication series will help to raise its international profile and establish 3S as a vibrant source of world-leading research. For more information visit www.3s.uea.ac.uk

Gaming conference

LCS will host an event discussing Japanese computer games and entertainment on March 16.

The day will feature Prof Masayuki Uemura, director of the Centre for Japanese Video Game Studies at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto and former sales director at Nintendo Kyoto. He will discuss ‘Why was Famicon (Nintendo Entertainment Systems) born in Kyoto, Japan? - The evolution of Japanese family computer games’.

Prof Hiroshi Yoshida from the Graduate School of Core-Ethics and Frontier Sciences at Ritsumeikan University will look at ‘The Aesthetics of Video Games: what and how do we sense in the game world?’.

Dr Brett Mills (FTM) will look at ‘The Queen, James Bond, and Mr Bean: Being British and being funny’ before Dr Marie-Noelle Guillot (LCS) discusses ‘Cross-cultural pragmatics and translation: the case of museum texts as interlingual representation’.

The event takes place on March 16, from 12.25-6pm in LT2. It is free and open to all, but places must be booked in advance by emailing LCS-symposium@rossberg.net.

Breakfast and networking

Careers & Employability at UEA London held their first business networking breakfast in January.

The event was attended by 30 businesses and 15 students who had won a place to attend via a competition. The businesses represented included a wide spectrum, from the Federation of Small Businesses to the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade.

Talks were given by Lisa-Rose Moller, careers and business development officer, and Dr Stefan Krummaker, associate director of Enterprise & Engagement for NBS at UEA London, before the event was rounded off with further networking opportunities both for the businesses and for the students.

A further business networking breakfast is planned to take place at UEA London on April 16. Contact Lisa-Rose Moller at l.moller@uea.ac.uk to attend.

Sciences careers event

Over 30 organisations and 200 students attended an ENV careers event in February.

Many of the organisations who supported the event are run by ENV alumni and there was also excellent support from businesses in the region.

The interdisciplinary nature of the school was well represented in the wide range of environmental organisations, from hydrocarbon exploration, renewable energies, environmental consultancy and management, marine and freshwater ecology to town planning, risk and policy analysis.

Environmental science undergraduates and some post-graduates packed the seminar rooms where speakers from each organisation hosted workshops giving information and ideas about careers in their sector and own organisations.

Several students found Year in Industry placements, internships and work experience opportunities with organisations on the day.

Jenni Turner - ENV employability director - said: "This event and other initiatives in ENV are helping to equip our students with the skills to secure graduate level placements in a job market that remains highly competitive."

Green Academy success

UEA has been named as one of only ten higher education institutions accepted onto the Higher Education Academy's Green Academy Change Programme.

The programme will support change at an institutional level, enabling higher education institutions (HEIs) to embed sustainable development in the overall student experience in more strategic and holistic ways.

It is subsidised by the HEA's Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) team.

The UK higher education sector is under increasing pressure to address the challenge of embedding sustainable development in the curriculum, and ensuring that graduates are

globally aware and responsible citizens in the 21st century.

Employers are demanding sustainability-literate graduates, students are demanding future-proof skills, and the UK Government's vision for a new 'green economy' presents both challenges and opportunities for HEIs.

As part of UEA's 50th anniversary celebrations, a team of staff, students and academics will look for ways to embed education for sustainability across the curriculum with guidance from the Higher Education Academy on international best practice.

To join the team delivering the programme visit www.carboncrew.uea.ac.uk.



Berries may cut female heart attack risk

Eating three or more servings of blueberries and strawberries per week may help women reduce their risk of a heart attack by one-third – according to research from MED

These berries contain high levels of powerful bioactive compounds called anthocyanins, which are a sub-group of dietary flavonoids.

Research published in *Circulation: Journal of the American Heart Association* shows that anthocyanins may help dilate arteries, counter the build-up of plaque and provide other cardiovascular benefits.

Scientists from MED and Harvard studied 93,600 women aged between 25 and 42 who were registered with the Nurses' Health Study II. The women completed questionnaires about their diet every four years for 18 years.

During the study, 405 heart attacks occurred. Women who ate the most blueberries and strawberries had a 32 per cent reduction in their risk of having a heart attack compared to women who ate the berries once a month or less – even in women who otherwise ate a diet rich in other fruits

and vegetables.

The study was led by Prof Aedin Cassidy (MED). She said: "We have shown that even at an early age, eating more of these fruits may reduce risk of a heart attack later in life. This is the first study to look at the impact of diet in younger and middle-aged women.

"Blueberries and strawberries contain high levels of compounds that have cardiovascular benefits, and our study shows that women who ate at least three servings per week had fewer heart attacks.

"The findings were independent of other risk factors, such as age, high blood pressure, family history of heart attack, body mass, exercise, smoking, caffeine or alcohol intake.

"Blueberries and strawberries were part of this analysis because they are the most-eaten berries in the United States. It is possible that other fruit and vegetables could produce the same results."

Photo: Peter Frizzell



Energy from the environment

Adapt Commercial has won a contract with the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) to look at innovative ways of generating energy from wetland reeds.

Adapt Commercial was one of only seven British entrepreneurs to have been awarded a share of the £292,000 set aside by DECC to kick start innovation in bioenergy.

The project will look at using reeds already grown in East Anglian wetlands as a fuel source for energy generating facilities. Gasification plants would then be able to convert the reeds into energy for cooling systems in summer, heating in winter and electricity.

The investment into Adapt Commercial of over £36,000 will fund the first phase of the scheme which will create commercial design ideas for a low-ground tracked machine for harvesting reed beds. At the end of this first phase in Spring 2013, an expert DECC panel will then decide which

organisations will progress to the second phase of the initiative. If successful, the new harvester will be built and trials conducted in Norfolk and Suffolk.

Chris Blincoe, Adapt Commercial manager, said: "We are delighted to have won this contract with DECC. Our project team across the whole Adapt Group has extensive expertise in bio-renewable materials and links with both businesses and academic organisations developing innovative technologies for biomass conversion.

"We will explore how wetland sites in East Anglia could be managed in a cost effective and beneficial manner – resulting in increasing the amount of power we can get from clean green sources."

Passivhaus pioneer praises NRP Enterprise Centre

Set to become one of the UK's most sustainable buildings, the Norwich Research Park (NRP) Enterprise Centre has been given a glowing endorsement by Prof Wolfgang Feist – the pioneer of Passivhaus standards.

At UEA in February to discuss plans for the new building, Prof Feist spent time with members of the Adapt Low Carbon Group and the building design team, sharing a number of practical suggestions. He then gave a talk about Passivhaus to members of UEA staff and the local business community.

John French, Adapt Low Carbon Group chief executive, said: "We were delighted to welcome Professor Feist and to share our passion for low carbon buildings.

"It is very challenging to develop and build an ambitious scheme of this kind and the more that we can work with experts like Wolfgang the better the result will be for UEA, the small business community and the wider green economy."

The flagship low carbon building will meet the highest standards for energy use and



L-R: John French, Prof Feist and Prof Acton

sustainability. It will host an enterprise centre and teaching and learning rooms, including a 300-seat lecture theatre.

Partnership creates sustainable societies

Ten clubs, societies and peer support groups have been awarded grants of up to £500 each after pitching their social enterprise business ideas.

The grants are available as a result of funding secured from Unltd, HEFCE and HEIF to invest in student business ideas. 22 of the 200 clubs, societies and peer support groups on campus applied for the opportunity.

Fifteen were invited to pitch to a panel comprising Matthew Draycott from the Student Enterprise and Employability Development team and Lynne Simpkin from the Student Union.

Projects that have been awarded funding include:

- The Mental Health Society which will set-up Headucate, an initiative to run mental health workshops in schools with Year 10 pupils. The Government has tasked schools to provide better mental health provision but there is little resource to implement this and Headucate want to roll out a franchise nationally to meet this demand.
 - The Quidditch Society successfully bid to take Quidditch into local schools as a way of helping kids who wouldn't normally take part in physical education. Members aim to create a Norwich Quidditch Cup as a result.
 - The Salsa Society aims to set-up a salsa festival to increase awareness and membership.
 - The Film Making Society is using its grant to increase members' skills by purchasing cameras and equipment to make short documentaries.
 - People and Planet are setting up a food co-op to give students better access to vegan and vegetarian food on campus.
- Anyone with an idea of fully developed business plan can access specialist business knowledge, a network of committed supporters and excellent resources, to help improve the chances of success.

The Student Enterprise and Employability Development team (SEED) can help turn ideas into reality – contact info.enterprise@uea.ac.uk or visit www.uea.ac.uk/careers/Student+Enterprise.

Small Ads

FOR SALE: Italian holiday home for sale in beautiful Abruzzo. Two double bedrooms, kitchen, living room & bathroom. Recently restored throughout. 10 miles to ski resort, 15 miles to beach. Surrounded by stunning scenery. Nearest airport Pescara. Photos available. £30k. Please contact Emily on 07900 810232 or email e.sheldon@uea.ac.uk.

FOR SALE: Five bedroom detached cottage in 1 acre, 35 minutes from UEA, ideal for commuting to Cambridge for sale ca. £400,000. Contact Eastwretham@aol.com for more details.

TO LET: Fully furnished, one bedroom, first floor flat. Situated in a quiet residential area, close to local shops, on a bus route and convenient for the city centre. £535 pcm plus council tax (band A) and utilities. Grove Walk, Norwich Available early April 2013. Please ring 01603 618904.

TO LET: Large detached Edwardian house available from September 2013. Accommodation comprises of three sitting rooms, four double bedrooms, three bathrooms (two en-suite), a spacious kitchen/dining room, utility room, separate WC, south facing garden with swimming pool, garage and additional parking. Would suit visiting academics, families or a group of postgraduate students. Generous proportions suitable for at least six adults. Rent £1400pcm. Contact Mike on 07563 227005 or email edwardianhouse.ls@gmail.com.

FOR RENT: Spanish holiday home. Two-bed town house in the village of Iznalloz, 20 min drive from Granada. The Sierra Nevada ski resort is 45 minutes away, and the Costa del Sol just an hour. The house comes with cooker, fridge, washing machine, hot water and heating. Price per week is £150 based on two-four people sharing. For further details, please contact Emma Wyatt on 07588 584825 or Emma.Wyatt@uea.ac.uk

Ground-breaking film screened

A pioneering and controversial film about the abuse of women in Arab society had its first UK screenings at the university's London and Norwich campuses in February.

Duma (Dolls in Arabic) is regarded as the first ever film to shed light on the sexual assault of women in Arab and Palestinian society. The documentary was screened as part of UEA's ThoughtOut Project.

It was introduced by Dr Eylem Atakav (FTM), followed by a Q&A session with the film's award-winning director Abeer Zeibak Haddad.

After creating a puppet theatre show dealing with sexual abuse during childhood, Haddad decided to take her camera and document Arab women who have experienced sexual violence. During her journey across Palestine, she meets five women who dare to reveal the sexual abuse they endured within their close circle of family and friends.

Haddad said: "They all look for a way to express and to break through the systems of silence which were imposed on them by family and society. Their goal is to be heard, whether in privacy or out in the open. Their ambition is to turn the tables and lead abused women away from the circle of silence, shame and asphyxia towards self-acceptance and realization that they are allowed to continue to live."

During her visit to the UK Haddad also took part in a workshop at UEA on violence against



women, gender politics, religion, cinema and the Middle East.

Dr Atakav, who teaches a course that explores the relationship between women, Islam and the media, said: "Around the world women are murdered in the name of 'honour' and the practice of female genital mutilation in the name of tradition takes lives. Attempts to ban abortion continue and women's bodies are sold and women are abused.

"This is a brutally realistic and revealingly provocative documentary. Haddad's main aim is to let women's voices be heard by people from around the world regardless of their nationality, religion or gender. It creates a space for Arab women to break the barrier of silence and fear, and to speak openly about their experiences of rape and sexual abuse."

Labour MP to give memorial lecture

Historian and Labour MP Tristram Hunt will give a free public lecture at UEA on March 22.

Dr Hunt will explore Labour leader Ed Miliband's intention to build a 'One Nation Britain' and ask to what extent this concept has galvanised the party and stimulated thinking.

The talk is the fourth in an annual series of lectures established in memory of former Norwich South MP John Garrett, who died in 2007.

Emeritus Professor John Greenaway (PSI) said: "Pithy political catch phrases are always important in politics. 'One Nation' is a concept historically associated with the Conservative Party and it is fascinating to see how the Labour Party is now seeking to appropriate it in the post-Blair period."

After working for Tony Blair on the 1997 general election campaign, Mr Hunt became a special adviser to Science Minister Lord Sainsbury. He was elected to serve as MP for Stoke-on-Trent Central in 2010.

Dr Hunt is a renowned academic historian whose research has focussed on Victorian civic pride and urban identity. He is also a broadcaster, presenting over fifteen radio and television programmes for the BBC and Channel 4.

Supported by PSI and Norwich Labour Party, the lecture will take place at 6.30pm on March 22 in the Thomas Paine Study Centre Lecture Theatre.

For more details visit www.uea.ac.uk/politics-international-media/events.



Increased deer culls needed

Current approaches to deer management are failing to control a serious and growing problem, according to new research from ENV.

Researchers drove more than 1140 miles at night and used thermal imaging and night vision equipment to quantify the population of roe and muntjac deer in a unique study spanning the border of Norfolk and Suffolk.

The results, published today in the Journal of Wildlife Management, show for the first time that present management efforts are not enough to stop populations spreading out of control.

There are more deer in the UK than at any time since the ice age. In the absence of natural predators, populations are continuing to expand - causing a serious threat to biodiversity, as well as road traffic accidents and crop damage.

The research team investigated the numbers, sex ratio and fertility of roe and muntjac deer across 234 km2 of forested land and heathland in Breckland, East Anglia, to measure the effectiveness of deer management. It is the first time that such a landscape-scale study has been carried out in Europe and the first time that control efforts have been compared to known numbers.

They found that while deer management appeared to control numbers at a stable level, this was only because thousands of deer are 'pushed out to the surrounding countryside each year, helping drive the further spread of deer.

In the Breckland study area, researchers identified a necessary cull of 1864 muntjac from an estimated population of 3516 (53 per cent) and 1327 roe deer out 2211 (60 per cent) just to



offset productivity, with greater numbers needing to be culled if populations are to be reduced.

Dr Kristin Wäber (ENV), who conducted the study while a PhD student at UEA said: "Native deer are an important part of our wildlife that add beauty and excitement to the countryside, but left unchecked they threaten our woodland biodiversity. Trying to control deer without a robust understanding of their true numbers can be like sleepwalking into disaster. To effectively reduce and stabilise the population establishing numbers is vital.

"In Thetford Forest, despite an active programme of professional management culling thousand of deer, the numbers culled did not offset productivity. It is likely that this is happening in other landscapes across much of England. This is a particular problem for non-native invasive species like muntjac."

Entrepreneurial Master at UEA

NBS senior lecturer Dr Yu Xiong has been selected as one of seven Entrepreneurial Masters of the China University Creation Park.

The China University Creation Park is a central university platform created by the Chinese Education Ministry and China Education Television.

Thirty universities and 50 well-known enterprises attended the event and signed a contract to become a member of the park. The seven Entrepreneurial Masters were asked to make a cast of their hand as a permanent mark for the honour.

Chair of Education Television, Mr Ning Kang, launched the event which was also addressed by the deputy minister of the Chinese Education Ministry, Ms Huiqing Lin.

Dr Xiong was nominated for his work as the

founder of the China Innovation and Development Association and UK Chair of the International Forum on Innovation Oriented Economics. He is the only person from academia to receive the honour.

Dr Xiong said: "I feel deeply honoured to receive this title as it is a prestigious recognition in China. I will be required to give support to the Chinese entrepreneurship education from this year, and this post will last for four years."

After the ceremony, Dr Xiong delivered a keynote speech to the Annual Universal University Creation Expo on the topic 'Exploring the Entrepreneurship'.

Last year Dr Xiong was one of only two Chinese academics in the world to be selected as a London 2012 Olympic Torchbearer.

Schools learn about water and carbon reduction

Prof Declan Conway (DEV) gave a guest lecture at Norfolk County Council's 'Water & Enterprise' programme at Holt Hall in February.

Student representatives from seven Norfolk high schools and one Norwegian high school were taking part in a residential programme on water and carbon reduction in schools. Pro Conway spoke on the 'Water-Food-Energy Nexus' through a case study on current agricultural concerns in China.

Marshall Scholar Rebecca Farnum, currently pursuing an MSc in Water Security and International Development, gave an opening lecture on the international hydrological cycle, communicating issues of water quality and quantity, biodiversity, and virtual water trade.

DEV undergraduate Phil Spencer, along with six other UEA undergraduates from PSI and ENV, joined Rebecca mentors on the three-day residential programme. Each UEA student was paired with a school and worked with their team throughout the programme to create and present an action plan on reducing water and/or carbon in their schools by 10 per cent.

Participants engaged in team building, mentorship and leadership training, communication and marketing skill building, and environmental sustainability learning.

For more information about the Water & Enterprise Programme, email susan.falch-lovesey@norfolk.gov.uk.

VC Open Forum

The Vice-Chancellor Prof Edward Acton answered questions from staff on a range of topical issues at two Open Forums in January.

Prof Acton gave an overview of the university's current position with regards to admissions and the 1994 group, as well as providing an update on plans for the 50th anniversary celebrations and the recent faith consultation.

He was joined by pro-vice-chancellor Prof Nigel Norris to answer questions submitted in advance and from attendees on the day.

Topics covered included dates for the next academic year, a map of the NRP and car parking charges.

A recording of the forum is available for anyone who was unable to go at <http://intranet.uea.ac.uk/vco/intranet/p%26p/jan2013>.

MED hosts inaugural meeting

Earlier this year MED hosted the first national meeting of the Clinical Research Group in Forensic Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (CRG-FIDD).

The meeting was convened by Dr Regi T. Alexander, honorary clinical senior lecturer at the Department of Psychological Sciences, based in MED. The meeting opened with presentations from two service user representatives from Norfolk.

Clinicians and academics from more than ten universities and over 30 NHS or independent sector hospitals are part of this group, which is funded by the National Institute of Health Research Mental Health Research Network. Partnerships in Care, an independent sector organisation that provides secure hospital services, is the commercial partner.

The CRG-FIDD will function for the next two years and develop proposals for funded research projects on monitoring of treatment outcomes, patient rated outcome measures, typologies within autistic spectrum disorder, use of psychotropic medication and effectiveness of offence specific psychological interventions.

For further details contact r.alexander@uea.ac.uk or p.langdon@uea.ac.uk.

Strangers in Norwich

LCS Professor of Sociolinguistics, Peter Trudgill, is speaking at a one-day event about 'The Dutch Strangers in Norfolk' on March 15.

Organised by the Norfolk Record Office the conference looks at the influence of the Dutch and Flemish immigrants on Norfolk and elsewhere in East Anglia in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Prof Trudgill will speak about his research into the formation of the Norwich/Norfolk dialect which, he argues, derived its unique form as a result of the mixed cultural and linguistic make-up of Norwich in the 16th and 17th centuries.

Other subjects under discussion include Dutch poets in Norfolk, Rembrandt in Norfolk and a look at sources from the Record Office which relate to the history of Norfolk and the Low Countries.

The conference will be held at the Norfolk Record Office, County Hall, Norwich on March 15 from 9am-4pm. Tickets cost £10. For further information email Chris.Joby@leedsmet.ac.uk.

Artist Ruth Proctor



Falling Backwards

Its brutalist architecture divides opinion, but the university's iconic buildings have provided the inspiration for a major new exhibition of contemporary art.

'Falling Backwards' comprises of specially commissioned and site-specific installation and filmed performance works by London based artist Ruth Proctor.

The work responds to the award-winning architecture of the campus - in particular the Grade II listed Ziggurats, designed by Denys Lasdun, and the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, one of Norman Foster's earliest landmark buildings.

Artworks include an installation consisting of three large chalk circles drawn on the grass

outside the Ziggurats, and a film documenting student activity inside.

Earlier this year the residents of Norfolk and Suffolk Terraces helped create this artwork. By switching on and off their lights, they turned the Ziggurats into 'performative' objects.

The exhibition, which runs from March 1 to June 9 at UEA, is curated by postgraduate students in ART, as part of their MA Museum Studies course.

For further details and upcoming events visit www.ueafallingbackwards.wordpress.com.



Sleeping rough for charity

Staff from Admissions Recruitment and Marketing (ARM) braved sub-zero temperatures in January to raise money for YMCA Norfolk.

Sleep Easy is a YMCA initiative to raise money to help change the lives of vulnerable young people. By spending a night sleeping rough, those involved highlighted the issue of youth homelessness and raised vital funds.

Louise Bohn, assistant head of outreach, set up team 'University Challenge' with Sarah Brodie, Lauren Hedges, Laura Thompson, Natalie Bailey and Roshan Walkerley.

Louise said: "The experience was a huge eye opener. We slept outside in freezing temperatures with cardboard for a shelter. But we had hot drinks, food, dry clothes and good company. I came home to my warm bed, had a sleep, some food and a hot shower. I find it impossible to imagine what life must be like for people who don't have that option."

The team has raised £1,600 and would like to thank colleagues for their generous support.

Books

Professional translation

Dr Jo Drugan (LCS) provides an insight into how quality is assessed and guaranteed in the translation profession today.

Quality in Professional Translation is published by Continuum as part of the Bloomsbury Advances in Translation series which publishes cutting-edge research in the fields of translation studies.

This field has grown in importance in the modern, globalised world, with international translation between languages a daily occurrence. Research into the practices, processes and theory of translation is essential and this series aims to showcase the best in international academic and professional output.

Dr Drugan's book asks how translation companies, multilingual international organisations and individual translators measure and improve the quality of their translations.

This book reports on the range of approaches across the translation industry, from Norway to China, from the individual freelance working in a home office to the largest translation supplier in the world.

Best practice is outlined for a range of translation scenarios, enabling readers to learn from others' experience - and mistakes. Dr Drugan draws on more than a decade's experience to outline the potential to improve quality by exploiting modern technological support tools such as translation memory software.



Honours for environmental chemist

An academic in ENV has received a number of prestigious appointments in recent months.

Prof Peter Liss has been elected a member of Academia Europaea – The Academy of Europe. This is a non-governmental association, whose members aim to promote learning, education and research.

Founded in 1988, it boasts members including leading experts in the fields of physical sciences and technology, mathematics, medicine and law.

Prof Liss has also become a member of the first group of Eminent Scholars of the Texas A&M University Institute for Advanced Study. This will involve a number of three-month spells researching at the university in the 2013/14 academic year.

He is one of only six academics chosen for this role, and the only one from outside the United States. The scholars represent disciplines ranging from Prof Liss' specialism of environmental chemistry, through to engineering and economics.

He said: "I am very pleased to have this opportunity to pursue a new and exciting line of research on how atmospheric ozone deposits on the ocean surface and reacts with components in seawater important for marine life."

In addition to these achievements, he has also been made a member of the Research Excellence Framework panel to assess the quality of NERC institute scientists, and has been appointed to the Life, Environment and Geo Sciences committee of Science Europe.

Prof Liss is already a Fellow of the Royal Society, and was made a CBE in 2008.

Dismantling Public Policy



Researchers in ENV have produced the first comparative analysis of policy dismantling in different fields.

Policy dismantling is a distinctive form of policy change,

which involves the cutting, reduction, diminution or complete removal of existing policies.

The perceived need to dismantle existing policies normally acquires particular poignancy during periods of acute economic austerity. It is especially productive of political conflict, pitting those who benefit from the status quo against

those who, for whatever reason, seek change.

However, scholars of public policy have been rather slow to offer a comprehensive account of the precise conditions under which particular aspects of policy are dismantled, grounded in systematic empirical analysis.

Dismantling Public Policy: Preferences, Strategies and Effects, edited by Prof Andy Jordan (ENV), looks in greater detail at the dynamics of cutting in two different policy fields: one (social policy) which has been subjected to detailed study before and the other (environmental policy) which has not. It develops a new analytical framework for measuring and explaining dismantling.

Translation studies in Japan

Translation and Translation Studies in the Japanese Context edited by Dr Nana Sato-Rossberg (LCS) with Judy Wakabayashi of Kent State University examines the current state of translation studies as an academic discipline in Japan.

Oral and written translation has played a vital role in Japan over the centuries and led to a body of thinking and research rooted in a context about which little information has been available outside Japan in the past.

Dr Sato-Rossberg's volume explores the role of translation in Japan's modernisation, as well as contemporary phenomena such as the re-translation of Japanese expressions embedded in English texts and the practice of pre-translation or writing for an international audience from the

outset.

This book is published by Continuum in the Bloomsbury Advances in Translation series which publishes cutting-edge research in the fields of translation studies. This field has grown in importance in the modern, globalised world.

Research into the practices, processes and theory of translation is essential and this series aims to showcase the best in international academic and professional output.



Changing migration of white storks charted

A new project to find out why storks are changing their migratory patterns has been launched by UEA.

Since the mid 1980s increasing numbers of storks have stopped their annual migration from Northern Europe to Africa for the winter.

Instead, many are living in Spain and Portugal the whole year round – feeding on 'junk food' from rubbish dumps.

The project will track 15 adult white storks for a year using GPS loggers to investigate why they have changed their migratory behaviour. Researchers will investigate the link between climate change and feeding habits to predict future distribution of the species.

The birds have been caught in Portugal and tagged with loggers which will transmit five positions every day. This data will allow researchers to track the storks' movement between roosting and feeding areas and detect long and short distance flights.

Each tracker will also collect information about how much time the birds spend with their heads down, foraging for food.

Dr Aldina Franco (ENV) is leading the project. She said: "These birds have changed their behaviour very radically. The number of storks spending their winter in Portugal has increased hugely from around 1,180 birds in 1995 to more than 10,000 in 2008 and numbers continue to grow.

"We know that instead of migrating to Africa for the winter, the storks feed on rubbish dumps which provide an abundant and reliable food supply. They're a very opportunistic and adaptable species so the availability of this 'junk food', is a likely cause. By tracing their movements, we will look at how important these rubbish dumps are for white storks in the wintering and breeding season.

"Some birds seem to move much more than others and some use rubbish dumps more frequently than others. We will watch to see if they all decide to breed in Portugal or if some will leave Portugal to breed elsewhere in Europe."

Because the data will be transmitted through GSM or mobile phone technology, the scientists will be able to track the storks' movements while sitting comfortably in their offices at UEA.

The locations of the birds are being updated daily on the BTO website at www.bto.org/storks.



L-R: Jon Brittain, Tom Morton-Smith and Tom Bidwell

Alumni return for anniversary weekend

Plays by internationally successful drama graduates will be performed at a 'fringe festival' during UEA's 50th anniversary celebrations this year.

Productions created by UEA alumni Tom Bidwell, Jon Brittain and Tom Morton-Smith will be brought to life by current drama students during the anniversary festival weekend on September 28-29.

After graduating from UEA in 2005 with a degree in English Literature and Drama, Tom Bidwell attended the BBC writer's academy from 2008-9, writing for national programmes including *Casualty*, *Doctors* and *EastEnders*.

His big break came when his short film *Wish 143* was nominated for an Oscar in 2011. Telling the story of a terminally ill 15-year-old boy who is granted a wish by a charity before he dies, the film was partly autobiographical – Tom was diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma as a teenager. His most recent work has been airing weekly on E4 – the adaptation of Rae Earl's *My Mad Fat Diary*.

The UEA drama students will be performing one of Tom's early works – the short play *Risky and Fluke*, which won the Sunday Times Award at the National Student Drama Festival in 2006 and toured Europe.

Tom Bidwell said: "I am delighted to be taking part in the university's anniversary celebrations. UEA provided a very nurturing and inspiring environment for me and to be a part of such an auspicious occasion is an honour and a privilege.

"The drama department has produced some of the most successful actors, writers, directors and producers working in film, television and theatre today. Occasions like this are an opportunity

to remind current drama students that they are studying in one of the best drama departments in the world, and by that measure are already well-placed to be successful."

Jon Brittain graduated from UEA's Drama programme in 2008, and went straight on to win the judge's award for comedy at the National Student Drama Festival in 2009.

His subsequent plays, including *Phillipa and Will are Now in a Relationship* and *The Sexual Awakening of Peter Mayo*, had sell-out runs at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and were both transferred to theatres in London.

Tom Morton-Smith studied Drama at UEA from 1998-2001, before training with the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA). He has gone on to write many successful plays, including his debut *Salt Meets Wound* in 2007, and *Everyday Maps for Everyday Use* in 2012.

Currently under commission to the Royal Shakespeare Company, the play students will take on from Tom's back catalogue is *Uncertainty* – last seen at the Latitude Festival and Arts Theatre in 2008.

The plays will be performed at a drama 'fringe festival' in the Drama Studio as part of a weekend of celebrations commemorating the 50th anniversary of UEA. Anniversary events will be taking place throughout 2013 – see www.uea.ac.uk/50years for more information and for full details about the fringe festival when they are released.

Catch award-winning play on campus

Tickets are still available for the multi award-winning drama *Black Watch* in April.

In association with the Norfolk & Norwich Festival, the National Theatre of Scotland's production will be staged at the Sportspark for five performances only.

Viewed through the eyes of those on the ground, the production reveals what it means to be part of the legendary Scottish regiment, what

it means to be part of the war on terror and what it means to make the journey home again.

Performances take place from April 17-20 at 7.30pm, with a Saturday matinee performance at 2.30pm on April 20.

Tickets, priced at £29.50 or £15 for the matinee, are available from the Theatre Royal box office at 01603 766400.

Find out more at www.nnfestival.org.uk.