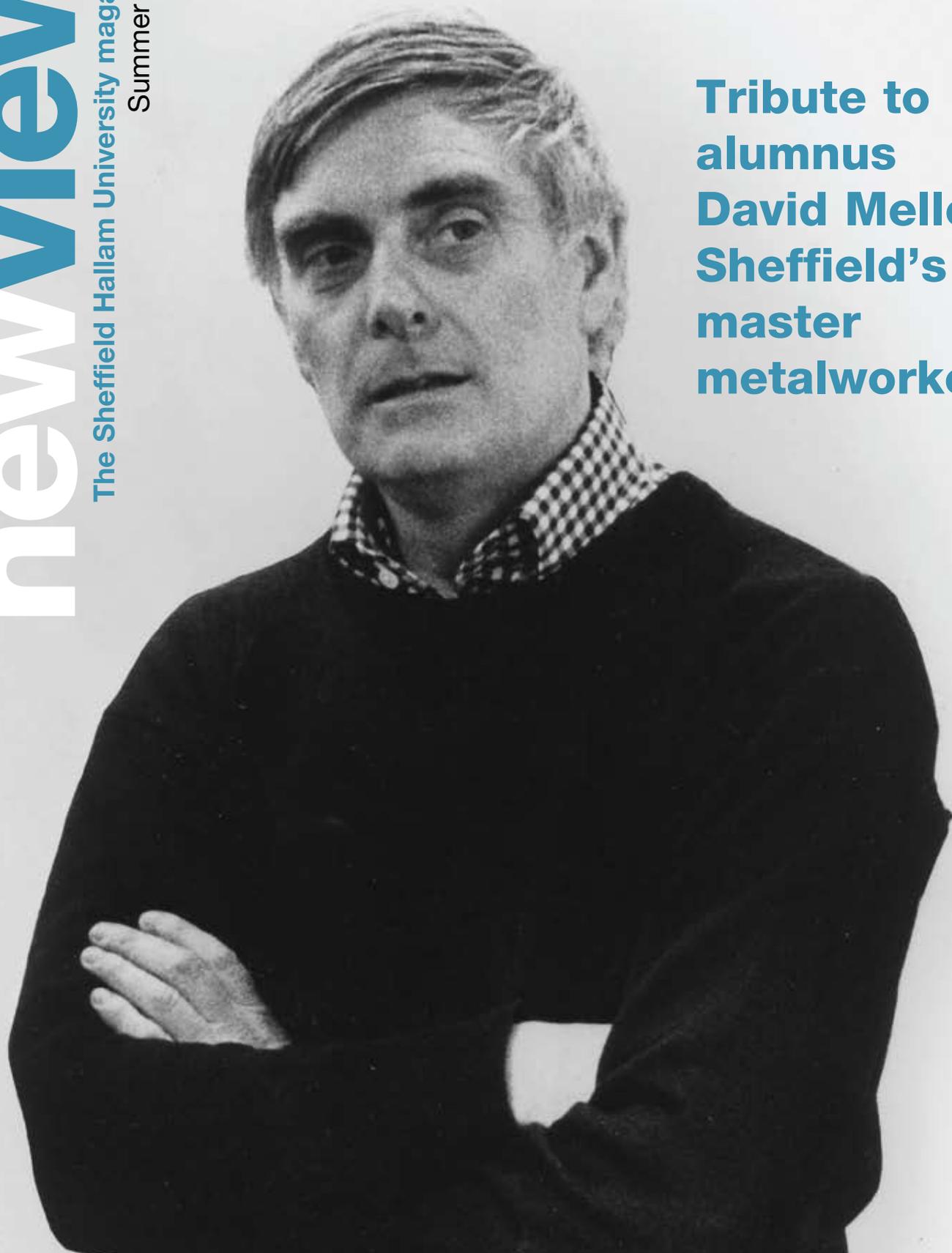


newview

The Sheffield Hallam University magazine
Summer 2009



**Tribute to
alumnus
David Mellor,
Sheffield's
master
metalworker**



Sheffield
Hallam University

SHARPENS YOUR THINKING

Welcome to the summer 2009 edition of *newview*.

In recent times Sheffield Hallam has lost two very good friends - David Mellor and Sir Martin Doughty. They were both very successful in their chosen careers but their affection for the University never diminished. We carry obituaries for both of them in this edition.

In this issue we not only look at the news we have been making as a University but also explain some of the new roles people are now in. This will be a regular feature of *newview* - if you would like to tell people what you do or would like to know more about what someone else does, then please let us know.

First up is Sue Mawson (page 3) and Clive Macdonald (page 5) with Max Moullin (page 7) telling us about his busy year so far (page 4).

Our VC Professor Philip Jones held a series of open meetings, during which he set out the issues and challenges facing the University. He told those who attended that he would hold more meetings after the summer to update everyone on what the situation will be.

As usual *newview* celebrates the achievements and successes of so many staff and students who all do a great job promoting the work of the University.

We hope you enjoy this edition of *newview* and we would love to receive your contributions for the next issue. Contact a member of the editorial board, listed below, by the deadline of Friday 7 August.

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In this issue...

Here are some of the highlights in your summer *newview*

Sue Mawson, Professor of Rehabilitation, explains what CLAHRCs are - **page 3**

The VC's roadshows highlight future challenges for Sheffield Hallam - **page 4**

Clive Macdonald, Director of Student and Learning Services, talks about the new Directorate - **page 5**

Film director Ken Loach launches film season - **page 9**

Student Najib Rasooli wins an award for his remarkable personal journey to reach Sheffield Hallam - **page 11**

Sir Norman Adsetts returns to the University - **page 12**

Niki Baker is our new 'quality dining' champion - **page 15**

Students use their creative touch to improve a shopping area - **page 19**

African King greets students - **page 20**

David Mellor obituary - **page 22**

Sir Martin Doughty obituary - **page 23**

Coming in the autumn edition of *newview*...

One academic explains why more Sheffield Hallam academics should do more media work to promote themselves and the University

A review of Creative Spark and a look at our involvement in Re:Defining the City

Interviews with a number of University staff who explain their work and ambitions

A look at the launch of Sheffield Business School

Examining the University's environmental sustainability

Innovative partnership to transform patient care

Sheffield Hallam is part of an innovative collaboration aiming to transform provision and delivery of care and services in the NHS.

The South Yorkshire Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care (CLAHRC) is one of nine in England bringing organisations together to improve the quality of care provision.

Sue Mawson (pictured), Professor of Rehabilitation at Sheffield Hallam, with a joint appointment with Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, and a visiting Chair in the School of Health and Related Research (SchHARR) at the University of Sheffield, brought together the successful bid to run the CLAHRC.

Sue is now Director of the CLAHRC South Yorkshire's £20m five year programme, which is focused on the care and management of long-term conditions. Health technologies have been targeted as a key theme to support this focus.

She said: "Our vision is for South Yorkshire to become internationally recognised in the field of self-management of long term conditions through applied research, health technology innovations and the transition of knowledge into quality patient care.

"We will, over the next five years, produce high quality, strategic, applied research and related education in order to enable a 'step change' in the way research is delivered and services are designed in South Yorkshire.

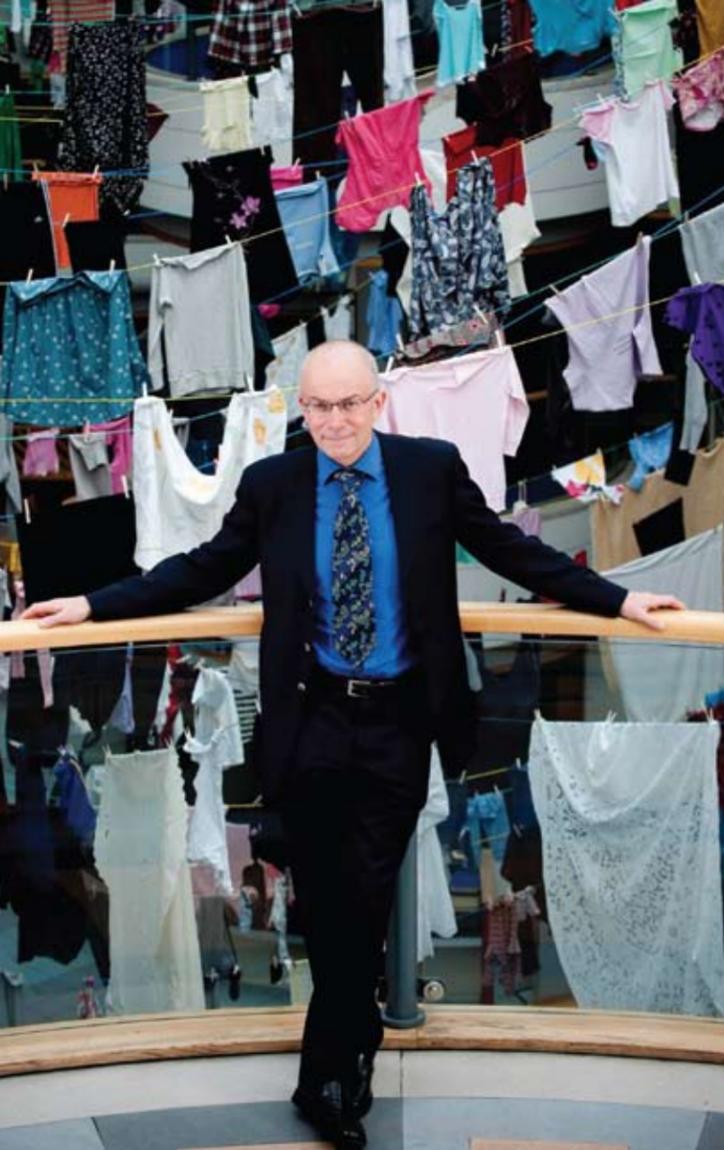
"We will also foster knowledge transfer that will improve the quality and effectiveness of high quality care provision across the country."

The Department of Health, through the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR), made £82m available to support the CLAHRCs in England.

The CLAHRCs are regional research and implementation collaborations of universities, NHS organisations, Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs), research councils, industry and charities, with significant non-financial input from service users and members of the public.

Through their university partners the CLAHRCs will also address a key recommendation of the Chief Medical Officer; the need for the NHS to harness better the capacity of higher education to support initiatives to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of clinical care.





Professor Philip Jones is pictured in front of Rob Brown's final year art work in the Atrium. Rob used 750 metres of washing lines, more than 600 items of clothing – donated by Sheffield people – which are held up with 1,200 wooden pegs.

VC outlines future challenges

Vice-Chancellor Professor Philip Jones held a recent series of open meetings for staff at which he outlined the current and future challenges facing the University.

He explained that there was much to celebrate, including significant increases in student applications for the 2009-2010 academic year; successful bids for research grant income; improvements in some league table placements; and a new sense of energy and direction with the re-launch of the Faculty of Organisation and Management as the Sheffield Business School.

However, the effects of the current global economic downturn were being felt across the Higher Education sector and Sheffield Hallam would not be immune.

He told staff that spend would start to exceed income from 2010 if prudence wasn't employed, and that the amount being spent on the University's estate needed to be balanced against the amount being spent on staff.

Rising staff costs are a key problem for the future. An increased pay bill brought about by pay modernisation, last year's pay settlement and rising pension costs were all creating problems for the future.

Professor Jones said: "Sixty-seven per cent of our income is spent on staff - that's ten per cent higher than the national average for universities. It is a problem and we are looking closely at ways of managing it."

Professor Jones said that the outlook for next year looked positive but that final decisions about the University's budget couldn't be made until we received confirmation of our funding from HEFCE in July. Managing staff costs was likely to remain as a continuing priority for the University over the next few years.

Sport scientists race to victory... again

by Joe Field

Three sport scientists from Sheffield Hallam are celebrating after getting first place in a gruelling two-day adventure race from Skye to Inverness.

It is the second year in a row the team has won the Drambuie Pursuit, which includes events like archery, powerboat racing, hill running, white water rafting and mountain biking. The race ended with a kayak race down the River Ness.

Sports engineers Dr David James, Nick Hamilton and Simon Choppin, were keen to show the world that scientists can be tough. Calling themselves Hallambue, they were up against former England rugby star Lawrence Dallaglio and former Scottish rugby star Kenny Logan.

Dr James said: "It's fantastic to have won the Drambuie Pursuit for two years in a row! With so many different stages to successfully negotiate we had to work really hard not make any mistakes and to stay in the lead.

"Going head to head with top athletes like Lawrence Dallaglio and Kenny Logan was a challenge, but our team was very strong and thankfully we managed to stay out of their reach. We're all passionate about outdoor sports and living in Sheffield gives us the perfect training ground."

The 100-mile event saw 10 teams from the UK and 13 international teams take part.

The Drambuie Pursuit will be broadcast on Thursday 23 July on ITV4. Tune in to see Sheffield Hallam take the gold.



The Hallam team race ahead on a Zapcat powerboat.

Creating the very best in student services

Clive Macdonald is the Director of Student and Learning Services. The new Directorate was officially formed on 1 March this year, merging the former Student and Academic Services with Learning and IT Services (LITS). He spoke with Steve Lumley.



It seems to be such an obvious thing to do - make the student experience a rewarding one and we will all reap the benefits.

For the new Director of Student and Learning Services, Clive Macdonald, that is something by which we all should be judged.

He said: "The best recommendation for any university is word of mouth and the experience of our students builds our success for the future. We know that if we provide what we say we will then they reflect positively on their time with us and recommend Sheffield Hallam University to others."

Clive has been at Sheffield Hallam for 18 years, firstly as Director of the Open College Network, a job he enjoyed for nine years, and then as Director of Student Services for five years and Director of Student and Academic Services up to the time of the recent process to form Student Learning Services.

In his new role, Clive is responsible for 600 staff and providing more than 50 different services.

He said: "The sheer scope of what I am responsible for leads to an interesting challenge - how can I keep in touch with all the day-to-day services and make sure we provide the best experience possible.

"In simple terms, SLS runs and influences a very significant part of the interface between students and the University. It's that student interaction, whether it's with a member of staff or their accessing

of information, which we have to ensure is done to the best of our ability. It also means that it's a large resource commitment to provide all the services but in the long term it's a sound investment.

"It's critically important that all the little things which make up the student experience work for them - it all leads to the success of the University."

Clive describes his job as "orchestrating the bringing together and joining up of a wide range of services and functions which directly, or indirectly, affect the student experience".

He adds: "It's obvious how the Learning Centres have a direct input on a student's experience of the University. It is the making what appear to be unrelated disciplines actually gel together and to make sure the student is at the forefront of everybody's mind.

"Four years ago these functions were organised very differently in four separate departments. We are now able to deliver this broad range of services from a single viewpoint. We will be looking at all the interactions from a student perspective to ensure we are doing the very best that we can and that they all link up to one another.

"And that means that Sheffield Hallam and its students will be the biggest beneficiary."



Charity nursery is having a ball

by Joe Field

A Chesterfield-based charity nursery won a fun ball pool as part of a prize draw event to raise awareness of early years courses at Sheffield Hallam.

Manager of Hasland Pre-school, Louise Lee, said: "It's amazing that we've won the ball pool, we've never won anything like this before. The kids absolutely love it, and the staff have all had a go as well!"

Sheffield Hallam donated the pool as part of a drive to get people to consider the early years profession as a career.

Senior lecturer in teaching Chris Hope said: "The first five years of a child's life are the most important time for learning and development. It's a really rewarding experience to be a part of that and know you are making a positive difference to each child's future."

"And as the demand for childcare facilities continues to grow in the region, so too will the demand for early years professionals."

Sheffield Hallam hosts top software industry event

Four of Yorkshire's top software companies attended the prestigious Game Republic Student Showcase held at Sheffield Hallam.

The Student Showcase is the brainchild of Screen Yorkshire's Game Republic and after its highly successful first event last year, the organisers, Game Republic chose Sheffield Hallam and its state-of-the-art Furnival Building as a fitting venue.

Bob Steele, Principal Lecture in Computing at Sheffield Hallam University, welcomed hosting this year's showcase.

He said: "Sheffield Hallam has forged close links with the games industry in the region and are only too proud to play host to Game Republic showcase, which will see students from universities across the region take part in a prestigious and important industry event."

"Our facilities provide a valuable venue for hi-tech and creative industries and reflects the ongoing investment the university is putting towards arts and technology."

Life-saving earthquake research brings building award

Professors Alan Griffith and Paul Stephenson from Sheffield Hallam's Construction Group have won a prestigious award from the Chartered Institute of Building.

The 'Innovation Research Paper Award' is for their work on ways to reduce the devastating effects that earthquakes have on 'non-engineered' (that is poorly designed and inadequately built), buildings in Indonesia, an area known for its high level of seismic activity.

The research, which was carried out in partnership with the Centre for Earthquake Engineering, Dynamic Effect and Disaster Studies at the Islamic University of Indonesia.

The duo's work was praised by the CIOB as being "unquestionably significant and valuable" with the potential to "improve the quality and sustainability of buildings, the ability to enhance the protection of property and the real capability to save lives".

Prof Griffith said: "It's the second time I have received this award having done so in 2004. This time around the award acknowledges the work that Paul and I have done in that it could very well save lives in those areas which suffer from earthquakes."



L-R: Alan Griffith, Setya Winarno, Paul Stephenson

Max Moullin and the Round Table

Max Moullin of Sheffield Business School has been very much in the public eye in recent months. In April he was the only academic speaker at a roundtable on Public Performance Management which was organised by Public Finance magazine.

Other speakers included Tony Wright MP, Chair of the House of Commons Public Administration Select Committee, and directors of the National Audit Office and the Audit Commission.

Max (pictured), put forward the view that performance measures needed to be developed jointly between central government, regulators and frontline bodies.

He also recommended that if measures do not focus on outcomes or evidence-based drivers of outcomes then they should be scrapped.

Max told *newview*: "I also recommended that organisations in the public and third sectors make use of integrated service improvement and performance



measurement frameworks like the Public Sector Scorecard."

The scorecard – which can be viewed at www.shu.ac.uk/ciod/pss was originally developed in 2001. This has been used in South Africa, Saudi Arabia and New Zealand as well as in the UK.

It is an integrated service improvement and performance measurement framework for the public and third sectors.

Max was subsequently asked to write a feature article on the subject in *Public Finance*, the high profile business weekly published by the Chartered Institute of

Finance and Accountancy. Also in April, Max was at the launch of the Sheffield Healthy Towns Programme (www.sheffield.nhs.uk/healthysheffield/).

Max is leading a SHU team recently chosen to evaluate this programme which will receive £5 million of government money to reduce obesity in children and families.

The evaluation team includes Rachel Rundle and Tracey Coule from SBS and Rob Copeland from the University's Faculty of Health and Wellbeing.

An explosive week for science and engineering

by Victoria Butterworth

What links model Katie Price (Jordan), Cybermen, Viagra, King Louie, and the Nazis? What is it to be human? In a ten day celebration of science, engineering and technology, National Science and Engineering Week 2009 (NSEW) answered these questions and more; raising awareness, sparking enthusiasm and celebrating science, engineering and technology throughout the UK.

Sheffield Hallam and the University of Sheffield, in collaboration with local schools, museums, industry and commerce, had a packed programme of events for NSEW South Yorkshire, by far the largest in the country. The week (in March) offered a varied and eclectic mix of free events suitable for people of all ages and abilities - made possible by the hard work and effort of hundreds of volunteers at the two universities, industry, schools and museums.

Highlights of the week included Paul Jarrett's demonstration of The Air Show - Inspiring Gases at Sheffield Hallam's Pennine Theatre, which was (literally) the coolest thing you were ever likely to see.



As the BOC team performed an exciting series of live demonstrations with gases such as liquid nitrogen and dry ice, the show got off to a bang with freezing, crushing, mini-explosions and a fireball.

Lectures included one by Professor Jan Evans-Freeman, Head of the Centre for Electronic Devices and Materials at Sheffield Hallam, who investigated whether technology is reaching its limit in *Physics*

and *Materials in Motorbikes - Are We Reaching the Limit?*

Dr Richard Walton, Reader in Education at Sheffield Hallam and Director of STEMPOINT, said: "Once again we are enormously grateful for the efforts made by large teams of volunteers who consistently provide exciting and stimulating events for children and the public. The size of our programme was a great testimony to the support given by the people of South Yorkshire to stem activities."

National Science and Engineering Week is coordinated by the British Science Association and funded by the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) in partnership with Engineering Technology Board (ETB).

For details of National Science and Engineering Week and other upcoming science, engineering and technology events visit the University's Centre for Science Education website at www.shu.ac.uk/cse, or contact STEMPOINT on 0114 225 4888 or at science-week@shu.ac.uk.



Nutrition Fair is food for thought

How many calories are really in a burger? What are the health benefits of honey? How do you make a healthy cake?

Families, schools, businesses and students came together to discuss these questions, and have a go on the milkshake fountain, at the fifth Annual Nutrition Fair in Sheffield.

Organised by food and nutrition experts at Sheffield Hallam, the Nutrition Fair gave people the chance to find out the truth about their favourite foods, and discover some new ones.

Senior lecturer Jenny Paxman said: "The turn-out was absolutely brilliant and it was really great to see some schools here. The children seemed to be really enjoying the day and the students were all smiling, so it must have been a good thing!

"This type of awareness-raising is absolutely critical. If you look at the figures for obesity, type two diabetes and coronary heart disease, you can see that the future is in educating people to eat well. If we can educate them to have a healthy lifestyle and enjoy the food, that's got to be a positive move."

Around 440 people came to see more than 60 information stalls, run by students from Sheffield Hallam's food and nutrition courses. To find out more about the annual Nutrition Fair, visit extra.shu.ac.uk/nutritionfair.

'Young Spielbergs' get expert guidance

Leading film producers, game developers and computer animators from the region have been giving students some advice on breaking into creative industries.

Students from Sheffield Hallam University's film, media, game design and animation courses met with industry professionals to showcase their work and get advice. The event is the first of a series of workshops, called Portfolio Review Days, led by Screen Yorkshire.

Screen Yorkshire's Gavin Wilson said: "This is a new initiative that brings together respected and well established creative media professionals with emerging talents in the region.

"These workshops are really useful for students. It's very difficult to get your work seen in the industry when you're starting out. These students are getting their work seen by the professionals. They're getting some great guidance along the way and advice on what it takes to get into the industry."

The students' work was assessed by Ben Smith from Red Star Studios, who create 3D animation for film and television, and Ben James from Breed Film in Sheffield.

Conference examines student experience in college-to-university move

Issues facing students moving from college to university to study subjects related to children and young people's services were under the spotlight at a recent conference.

The Building on Learning event, put together by the Faculty of Development and Society's Widening Participation Officer, explored the various concerns facing the increasingly diverse groups of students making the transition from colleges and other further education providers into higher education.

Representatives from colleges, local authorities, children's centres and staff from the University's Applied Studies in Education course were among those who attended the conference to consider how to work together to make the transition as manageable and as positive as possible for students.

Workshops included sessions on raising student aspirations, the first year student experience in higher education and different routes into working with children and young people offered by Sheffield Hallam.

Dr Mark O'Hara said: "The response was very positive from participants and the Widening Participation Officer is exploring ways of maintaining the contacts and the momentum by building future staff development and staff forums into existing partnership activities and events."



L-R: Gavin Wilson (Screen Yorkshire), Ben James (Breed Film), Edd Williams (Editor), Seb Marczewski (writer and director), Rob Yeomans (director and producer)

Ken Loach launches film season

World famous filmmaker Ken Loach helped to launch a major film season organised by Sheffield Hallam lecturer John Cunningham.

Called 'Marching into History', the films marked the 25th anniversary of the miners' strike.

John, who worked as a miner for four years and is now a senior lecturer in Film Studies, told *newview*: "The idea was to give a context to something which played such a pivotal role in modern British history.

"The films in the season were chosen because they give an international dimension to the life of miners and the struggles they have had to overcome and are also a tribute to the international solidarity shown to the miners during the strike."

Ken was invited to show and discuss his controversial documentary 'Which side are you on?' followed by a question and answer session with the film's audience. The film itself was made for ITV's The South Bank Show in 1984 but was originally banned from being broadcast.

He said: "I was very pleased to be invited to Sheffield and talk about my film. In class terms the miners' strike was probably the most important political event since the war."



Hundreds of staff moving to new offices

The University has bought a £4.4million office block in Sheffield city centre to house most of its administrative and professional services functions.

Departments including Marketing, Finance and Human Resources are relocating over the summer to free up more space on City Campus for teaching.

The office block, which sits on the corner of Arundel Gate and Commercial Street, is known as Oneleven (numbers 1 to 11) and

is a 3,800 sq ft seven-storey refurbished building.

Director of Estates and Facilities, Alex Pettifer, said: "The acquisition of Oneleven Arundel Gate is a significant part of the University's desire to locate the majority of its operations into its city centre campus, thereby freeing up valuable teaching space.

"The building's high quality accommodation, along with its strategic location - providing space for growth and easy access for local amenities and employees - made it an obvious choice."





Student-style Question Time for Nick Clegg

by Richard Shrubb

Nick Clegg praised politics students at Sheffield Hallam for being “engaged and passionate” following a recent visit where he was invited to give a question and answer session at Collegiate Crescent.

The Liberal Democrat leader and MP for Sheffield Hallam used the opportunity to urge students to continue to see politics as the solution to many of today’s issues including the banking crisis and told them: “don’t let them off the hook.”

Setting out why we should all care about politics and regardless of the controversies that from time to time emerge from Westminster, he reminded students that political challenges remain at home and abroad, pointing to the ‘grotesque inequality in Sheffield’, loss of civil liberties, ‘immoral bankers’ to the ‘inhumane military operations in Gaza’.

Students were free to ask him an array of questions that ranged from fairer taxes, tuition fees, ID cards, Gaza and the future of the free market.

Over-staying his tight-schedule, Nick was impressed by the range of questions fielded and left upbeat that contrary to ‘the cynical press’, students and the younger generation remain committed to politics.

Sheffield Hallam wins ‘challenging’ teaching contract

Sheffield Hallam’s excellence in teacher education has received further national recognition after it led a successful bid to run the prestigious Teach First initiative in Yorkshire and the Humber.

Teach First aims to tackle educational disadvantage by targeting ‘high flying’ graduates and helping them to become excellent teachers and leaders in schools that are struggling to overcome the obstacles of deprivation. Exceptional graduates will be placed directly into challenging schools for two years and during this time the University, with its partners, will support their training and development needs, enabling them to make the most of this exciting opportunity and to make a real difference to the schools in which they work.

Terry Hudson, Head of the University’s Post Compulsory and Secondary Education (PCASO) group, who led the bid and will manage the project, said: “We’re really excited to have the opportunity to raise aspirations and achievement at schools in Yorkshire’s challenged communities.

“The scheme’s record to date is testament to the emphasis it places on providing its graduates with a high level of support and top-quality training, which we are certain Sheffield Hallam, with its partners at the University of Huddersfield and the University of Hull, can provide.

“Sheffield Hallam is delighted to be working to ensure that the change to challenged schools seen in London, the North West and the Midlands is replicated in Yorkshire.”



Remarkable journey leads to University and award

Sheffield Hallam student Najib Rasooli fled Afghanistan at 15 to find himself in the UK with no family, no friends and no English.

Since then he has made a new life in Sheffield, mastered the language, earned a place at university and even makes time to volunteer as a Red Cross fundraiser.

Najib’s tenacity and commitment has been recognised with a national award – the Right to a Voice Award - for turning his life around through education.

Now 23, he says: “At times it was really difficult to remain motivated when my problems threatened to overwhelm me, but I knew that education was a way to survive.

“I struggled with the language and although I didn’t want to mix with other people at that time, I realised that having a life with no education was not what I wanted. I enrolled for English classes because it took my mind off my problems and, I found, gave me fun and enjoyment.”

Najib also works as a volunteer fundraiser at the Red Cross and being a fluent speaker of Uzbek, Dari and Farsi; and also speaking some Urdu, he interprets for friends in need of medical and legal translations.

Najib, who lives in Brook Hill, is now studying for a BA in Business and Financial Management at Sheffield Hallam and looking forward to a promising career.

University website scoops student choice award

Sheffield Hallam is celebrating after picking up a prestigious award for its marketing efforts to recruit new students by promoting Sheffield as an excellent place to study and live in.

The Heist Education Marketing Awards are held annually and recognise outstanding achievement and good practice in the marketing of universities and colleges.

It’s the second year running that Sheffield Hallam has won the Students’ Choice Award. The University also picked up a gong for its ‘Digital Media’ work.

David Menezes, Head of Creative Services at Sheffield Hallam, said: “The Students Choice Award was won for a project by our digital marketing team to redesign, redevelop and update the information about how great Sheffield is for people visiting the University website.

“The pages’ redesign helped to highlight the ‘student experience’ and the appeal of the University’s central location. By developing this area on the website we wanted to show that Sheffield is an exciting city to be in and that Sheffield Hallam is an integral part of it.

“And the fact that the award was voted for by students is an acknowledgement of just how well we did in promoting Sheffield as a great location to live and study in.”

This year’s event was held at The Royal Courts of Justice in London and the awards were presented by Jeremy Vine, the TV and radio presenter.

The awards’ judges said the website was dynamic.



David Menezes (with award) and his web team.

Social researchers win bid to evaluate high profile Government scheme

Sheffield Hallam’s Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research (CRESR) has secured the final stage of a major contract to evaluate the government’s New Deal for Communities programme.

CRESR, which won the initial contract for phase 1 of the evaluation in 2000 and recently completed its Phase 2 evaluation in March, was awarded the £480k ‘NDC 2+’ contract, which will run into late 2010.

A number of evaluation reports are to be published this summer with a suite of final evaluation studies being published in 2010.

The full cost of the evaluation, at about £26m, makes this one of the largest public sector evaluations ever commissioned in the UK.

Paul Lawless, who is the Director of the evaluation, said: “This is excellent news because it will allow us time and resources to undertake a full analysis of change data 1999 to 2008. There has never been a better opportunity to assess the impacts of 10 year area regeneration programmes on the 39 NDC neighbourhoods and their residents.”



Sir Norman Adsetts returns to University

by Joe Field

Sheffield business pioneer Sir Norman Adsetts returned to Sheffield Hallam for a tour of its recently extended learning centre.

The former president of Sheffield's Chamber of Commerce was shown how the University's Adsetts Centre has changed since he opened it in 1996. During the tour Sir Norman, now 78, was given a demonstration of how students share information using videos and podcasts, and was treated to a screening of 3D animations in the University's visualisation suite.

He said: "The essence of it, the open atmosphere, the informal, unique way of learning and studying, seems to be the same. But the building has definitely changed to accommodate an increase in numbers, without it feeling cramped or crowded.

"It's a unique building. I was proud of it when I opened it, and I'm even more proud of it now. To have my name attached to it is wonderful."

Sir Norman was chairman of Sheffield Hallam's Board of Governors until 1999. He was also a leading figure in key regeneration projects for the city, and is credited with saving Kelham Island Industrial Museum.

And he is positive about Sheffield's future. He said: "I think only now are we starting to see the results of the regeneration of Sheffield. There are relatively few blank spaces in the city centre and it feels vibrant and lived-in. Everywhere you look there are things happening.

"It's happening because the different elements of the city are working together, not fighting with each other or ignoring each other. And both of the city's universities have been strong agents for the regeneration of Sheffield."



Sir Norman with Clive Macdonald outside the new Adsetts Centre extension

Landspeed record holder urges development of leaders

A packed lecture theatre at Sheffield Hallam heard world land speed record holder Richard Noble OBE tell business leaders that they should re-think how they work.

Richard said he "had issues with hierarchal structures" and preferred "flat structures where people are empowered to make decisions of real importance" to boost productivity.

He was speaking at the annual Sheffield Management Lecture - a popular event staged in conjunction with the University of Sheffield.

The lecture also marked the launch of the Sheffield Business School (SBS), formerly the University's Faculty of Organisation and Management.

Richard told the audience that his experience of employing 15 people for the Thrust project led to a synergy with 231 supplier companies and a budget of £2.4million.

He said: "From experience the most extraordinary things happen by allowing people to make decisions. It creates a huge buzz. The only time that someone such as a director would step in was if there was a major problem, but after solving it they have to step out again and let people make their own decisions.

"This approach, I am convinced, would work with any organisation and creates an ethos of innovation."

He also praised the team from Sheffield Hallam, which is helping to develop the titanium wheels for the next land speed record bid to reach 1,000mph - the Bloodhound Project.

Professor Chris Booth, Dean of the SBS, said that Richard "characterises precisely what we are aiming to produce here at the business school".

She added: "We want to develop innovative and entrepreneurial leaders who can challenge and change organisations and make a real difference to the strategic capability and competitiveness of the organisation.

"It's important to challenge the traditional business school model and turn it on its head and develop a relationship-based business school, where we have a free flow of ideas and skills between businesses, employers and academics."

Get ready to enter Sheffield's own Dragons' Den - The Enterprise Challenge

by Richard Shrubbs

An intelligent rotary washing line that puts a cover up when it senses rain; waterproof bandages for pets; an under-floor heating system for an existing home aimed at saving energy - these were just some of the of entries to this year's Enterprise Challenge competition where 37 entrepreneurs will compete for up to £5,000 in cash prizes.

Sheffield Hallam University's Enterprise Challenge competition continues to reflect the city's ever changing industry ranging from a contemporary knife design studio to a new digital e-commerce website 'i-toons'.

Now in its ninth year, the Enterprise Challenge is a serious and proven business start-up initiative with close support from South Yorkshire's business community in the form of cash prizes worth £10,000 plus in-kind mentoring support.

Explaining why the competition is more popular than ever, Sara Pates, Enterprise Challenge organiser, said: "The competition goes that extra mile in offering all of our entrants a unique support system, providing tailored workshops with expert advice from professionals - unlike national business start-ups that judge purely on a business plan and then allocate prizes.

"Finalists will be encouraged to use our facilities to the full. We want them to form companies by the end of the competition and we act as a source of advice and support to make that happen."

All finalists now have the summer to develop a full business plan to submit to a panel of judges. The final six will then have to pitch their business proposal to secure a winning place.



Last year's Enterprise Challenge winner Netty Reddish with Vice-Chancellor Philip Jones



Lucky the snooker player

International student Lucky Vatnani, 23, is studying for a masters in business administration at Sheffield Hallam. A talented snooker player, Lucky is aiming to turn professional this year. He's represented India in the Asian Championships, and he recently won the gold medal in the British Universities and Colleges Sport championships. He spoke with Joe Field.

When did you come to Sheffield?

I came here in June 2008 to train at the World Snooker Academy and take part in a few amateur tournaments in the UK. Then in September I started studying at Sheffield Hallam at the same time as practising at the Academy.

Why did you choose Sheffield?

Sheffield is the home of snooker. The world championships are here, and it's also the base of the World Snooker Academy. Sheffield is really one of a kind. It's the best place in the world for an amateur to practice.

How do you balance studies and snooker?

I actually try to combine the two. My dissertation is about snooker in India. I'm looking at whether an academy, like the one here in the UK, would work over there. So I'm going to India to interview the president of the Billiards and Snooker Federation of India, I'm also interviewing a lot of amateur players here and the director of the World Snooker Academy.

You've had a lot of success recently. How does that feel?

Through Sport Hallam at the University I got involved in the championships. It was a great opportunity for me to showcase my

potential and represent the University. I'm really proud to have won the gold medal for Sheffield Hallam. It's my first win in the UK, so it really feels special. There was some good opposition there, players from all over the UK so it was quite tough. My highest break was 70-something, but I kept on getting 60 breaks to seal the frame, and that's what it's about: consistency.

Snooker's a solitary sport, how do you cope with the psychological pressure?

There's a lot of pressure, it can be really difficult. The most important thing in snooker is to maintain concentration, sometimes for very long periods of time. The good thing about the academy is we have sessions with a psychologist every week. They help us keep control of our minds while we're practising, to stop our minds wandering during a match. It can be harder when things are going badly, if you're not playing well and things are getting you down, all you can do is sit there and wait for your turn.

What are your plans?

I'm definitely looking to turn pro. I'm practising as much as possible and I've got a professional coach at the academy. So I'm doing everything I can to turn professional, it's my dream and I really believe I can make it as a pro.

How do you feel about the championships staying at the Crucible for the next five years?

I love this place. I don't think any other city could do what Sheffield's done for snooker. During the world championships the whole city comes alive, it's decorated with posters, big screens. Everyone looks forward to it - it's part of the culture here. Sheffield is definitely the home of snooker and I hope it always stays that way.

Cross-Atlantic collaboration to help parents connect with children's education

Academics from the United States are working with Sheffield Hallam to help develop initiatives and policies to involve more disadvantaged parents in their children's education.

Following the recent annual Youth at Risk conference in America, a steering group has been formed comprising academics and youth workers from the state of Georgia and widening participation experts here in Sheffield.

Sheffield Hallam and the city's Children and Young People's Directorate jointly presented a paper to the conference, outlining a multi-agency approach to promoting and increasing levels of parental involvement in children's schooling by targeting 'harder to reach' parents.

The paper, entitled *Parental Involvement: Stratified (Multi-Agency and Diverse Settings) Approach*, argues that opportunities are being missed by policy makers, schools and other practitioners to 'trigger' parents' hopes and expectations for their children and convert them into meaningful involvement.

Report co-author and Widening Participation Officer Maxine Greaves, said: "Through reviewing and discussing three 'positive action' programmes currently running in Sheffield, we were able to demonstrate how this stratified approach helps to increase the levels of involvement of ethnic minority parents, young parents and parents in economically deprived communities in their children's education."

Maxine said that the stratified approach links the various services offered by education, health, youth and social services, local authorities and the voluntary and community sectors in offering support to parents and families.

She added: "The approach recognises that not all parents are ready or able to engage with the educational needs of their children at the same time as statutory windows allow."

Members of the new steering group include academics and practitioners from Savannah, Georgia and the Georgia Southern State University, which hosted the Youth at Risk conference in March.

Construction students impress Hong Kong property experts

The Hong Kong International Project is the final integrating project of the University's MSc Property Appraisal and Management (PAM) course.

The project brings together all the learning that the students have undertaken so far in a very hands-on and challenging international environment, giving them the opportunity to work up development proposals for a derelict site, in real time, with property professionals.

The PAM course has run an international project for many years in Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal and for the past four years in Shanghai. The Hong Kong project follows this well-established and successful pattern: after five days of practical work, the groups presented their proposals to tutors and local property professionals, followed by a feedback session and a prize-giving ceremony.

Nick Nunnington, principal lecturer in Real Estate and Construction, said: "As always, the local practitioners were amazed at what could be achieved in just one week and our students impressed them with their ability to operate quickly within a very different built environment context than the UK.

"This praise is echoed by employers of our graduates, who note that the skills developed by our students over the course of this project really increases their adaptability to and professionalism in new environments."

Nick added: "If you can cope with a large and complex project in a foreign city, working in an unfamiliar town in the UK should be straightforward!"

Projects such as this are a key part of the Faculty of Development and Society's strategy, to give students an internationalised university experience, enabling home students to study and work abroad, encouraging overseas students to study at Sheffield Hallam and incorporate an international focus into the faculty's curriculum.



Albert So (Chairman RICS HK), Robert Flint (PAM student), Adam Farrer (PAM student), Siobhan Guifoyle (PAM student), Luke Armstrong (PAM student), Andrew Wilson (Team Member but also Senior Lecturer in Architecture), Wenjing Zhang (TA student) (front), Chris Yee from TFP Farrells (back), Gemma Dyball (PAM student), Hollie Kendrew (PAM student).

PAM – MSc Property Appraisal & Management
TA – MSc Technical Architecture



Meet Sheffield's new 'quality dining' champion

by Joe Field

Niki Baker was recently appointed as the Eat Sheffield manager, a role which is funded by Sheffield Hallam's Centre for International Hospitality Management. Eat Sheffield's aim is to promote dining out in the city, and raise the standards generally throughout the restaurant and eating out sector.

Niki is a qualified pastry chef, has worked in restaurants with Michelin-starred chefs and in product development at Mars. She also helped to set up Tesco's food training programme, a consultancy role which eventually led her to Sheffield Hallam.

How are you finding the role so far?

I'm really enjoying it. I'm meeting so many new people - both here at the University and the restaurateurs in the city. It's a really diverse and interesting role. I like Sheffield a lot and hospitality is my passion, so raising the profile of dining out here is really rewarding.

How do you think dining out in Sheffield compares to other cities?

When I first moved here 11 years ago there wasn't too much to shout about but in the last five years or so I think there's been an explosion of multicultural eateries. There's a lot of diversity in the styles of restaurants out there, a lot of them I hadn't even heard of until I came into this role and I'm eager to try them!

I think there are plenty of really good mid-market restaurants in Sheffield now, which is where restaurateurs can really make a difference because that's where most

people go when they're dining out. And we do need to shout about them more. London Road, Leopold Square, Ecclesall Road and Kelham Island are all full of fantastic places to eat not too mention a host of great eateries in the suburbs and surrounding areas.

What exactly is Eat Sheffield and how is Sheffield Hallam involved?

Eat Sheffield's main role is to raise the profile and the standard of dining out in Sheffield. Eat Sheffield initially started as the Sheffield Area Restaurant Forum (SARF) and the original targets and objectives have evolved to where they are today. The stakeholders involved are currently in the process of updating the Eat Sheffield strategy and some of the objectives are being reframed.

Sheffield Hallam is obviously very involved in the hospitality sector through the courses it provides. We've got some fantastic students working or planning careers in hospitality so helping to promote and improve the local industry has a number of benefits, especially in terms of placements. But there's also a lot of research going on here, so it's a mutually beneficial relationship.

What kind of food do you like?

I absolutely love all food, and I really can't choose one over the other. There are so many restaurants to go to and they all suit different occasions. I must admit I love the lightness of Thai cuisine and there are some lovely Thai restaurants in Sheffield. I love a Thai green curry, but having said that I love roast beef and Yorkshire pudding! And chocolate...



Sheffield Hallam leads the way in food industry training

Sheffield Hallam's Centre for Food Innovation has been chosen champion a new nationwide network of training providers specialising in food innovation.

The National Skills Academy for Food and Drink Manufacturing (NSA) has announced that the University joins a prestigious network of training providers to help provide the food and drink industry with the training it needs to increase productivity.

John Sorsby, Head of Food Innovation at Sheffield Hallam, said: "Here at the Centre for Food Innovation, we are delighted to become the NSA's Food Innovation Champion as it provides a clear message to the food and drink industry of our long term commitment to driving the provision of relevant, applied innovation, learning and skills for the sector."

NSA director Justine Fosh said: "Sheffield Hallam's promotion to lead the food innovation network is great news. The University has pioneered a multi-disciplinary consultancy service which uses academic expertise to help companies find innovative solutions to business demands. It will be exciting to see how that service develops to include bespoke training programmes."

To gain the status of champion, Sheffield Hallam has had to undergo rigorous quality checks and demonstrated a continuous commitment to offering the food and drink industry the expertise and specialist knowledge it needs.

Yorkshire tourism will 'survive the recession'

A major conference staged in Sheffield heard how Yorkshire's tourism industry was well-placed to weather the recession.

It was organised by Sheffield Hallam's Centre of International Hospitality Management Research, and the head of centre, Prof Stephen Ball, said: "We had major figures from the national hospitality industry come along and talk at what is our first conference. Delegates would have left appreciating that Yorkshire's tourism and hospitality industry is well-placed to beat the recession.

"The event also provided us with an opportunity to promote Sheffield to these national London-based figures and to inform local practitioners about future trends."

The conference, called 'Emerging opportunities, building partnerships: Moving the hospitality industry forward to 2012 and beyond', was designed to draw positive messages for the delegates. Three themes were built into the day: building partnerships, developing people and achieving sustainable operations.

SBS has its first validation

Sheffield Business School has had its first successful validation on the first working day after its launch!

This was for the distance learning MSc in Leadership and Management which was approved with minor conditions.

The planning team representatives - Mike Henderson, Godfrey Craig and Lucian Tipi - were congratulated by the validation panel who saw the course as providing a good framework for distance learning courses, with very good flexibility for students, and catering for diverse student needs.

The panel also noted the good infrastructure to support the flexibility, while the external panel member commented that the modules themselves were 'well-chosen covering key aspects of leadership and management'.

TV studios' closure marks new beginning

Yorkshire's television industry can use the legacy of ITV Yorkshire to develop its flourishing independent sector, according to a panel of broadcasting experts.

And it's this talent pool which will take up the challenge of creating innovative and memorable television for audiences to enjoy not only in the UK but around the world.

The panel, which included former Calendar News presenters Austin Mitchell, now the MP for Grimsby and chair of the All Party Media Group, and Geoff Druett, were addressing an audience of television producers, media students and the general public, at a special event at Sheffield Hallam.

Speaking about the closure of ITV Yorkshire's Leeds studios, Screen Yorkshire's chief executive Sally Joynson said: "It is the end of an era, and the end of a proud history for Yorkshire. But there are still plenty of opportunities in local and regional news production, we have a thriving games industry in the region and some highly successful new media centres.

"The challenge is for producers to now capture the legacy of ITV Yorkshire, retain what is good, but make it fit for this century."

A question of sporting law

Do lawyers play too much of a role in sport? Are medals awarded in the courtroom and not in the sports arena? Does the law take sporting disputes into extra time? These were some of the questions under the spotlight in a panel debate at Sheffield Hallam University.

Called 'A Sporting Challenge?', the event featured a panel of sports law experts and athletes, including Michele Verroken, Director of Sporting Integrity, Sara Friend, Director of Legal Services at the British Olympic Association and Alex Davidson, a player from Solihull and Birmingham RFC.

The panel debate took place in the Pennine Theatre, in front of an audience of over 400 students and members of the public.

£3.2m project to advise and support regional businesses

Experts at Sheffield Hallam will be helping to boost businesses across Yorkshire and the Humber region as part of a unique project.

The firms will have access to expert consultancy, research and development support, to help generate the innovation and creative potential which the companies may have.

Called Innovation Futures, it has £3.2m of funding, and will use Sheffield Hallam's expertise across a range of business areas, including new technologies, organisational development, design solutions and sector specific support.

It is being led by the University and supported by Yorkshire Forward and the European Regional Development Fund, in conjunction with Business Link.

Professor Mike Smith, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Transfer and leader of the project, said: "Innovation Futures is an exciting project that will allow regional businesses to access all of our expertise in one place.

"We have already run similar projects on a smaller scale, these include working with the food industry, and hosting two of the region's Centres of Industrial Collaboration in materials and design. These have been a resounding success and we are delighted that regional businesses across a wider range of sectors will now be able to benefit from this innovative approach.

"During the difficult economic climate it is crucial that businesses continue to develop and innovate in order to ensure their survival, and Sheffield Hallam University is making every effort to provide the expert support that can help organisations to flourish.

"We have a strong track record in working with businesses and in meeting their objectives on time and on budget, and look forward to supporting a range of new organisations in planning their future."

Creative Spark 2009 - Stepping Out

by Richard Shrubbs

With Sheffield Hallam's highly successful final year degree show, Creative Spark, unveiled in June, a promising arts student has enlisted members of a local dance group as extras in her final arts degree performance.

In a new twist for Creative Spark 2009, the show will, for the first time, include a selection of the University's 'best of the best' performing arts students. One of these, Nikki Jarvis, has enlisted the support of a local amateur dance group, Desperate Dance, as extras in her final year show, *Between The Lines*.

The artistic collusion happened naturally for Nikki who already provides mentoring to the group.

Nikki said: "Sheffield is fantastic for those involved in contemporary dance. It's already home to Danceworks and thanks to Sheffield Hallam's close links to the arts community and central location, I'm able to work closely with groups like Desperate Dance.

"This kind of collaboration is invaluable, as I benefit from their experience and feedback which complements what I learn through my course. It is also rewarding to give something back through the mentoring and support I can offer the group. It's wonderful and fitting that they are to be part of my final year degree show."

Members from Desperate Dance have provided an important component by pre-shooting a 20 minute video sequence choreographed by Nikki and filmed at Sheffield's St Mary's Church. The piece forms part of Nikki's main performance and will be used as a backdrop on a large screen behind her.

Nikki has spent five weeks teaching and rehearsing scenes from her performance with the dancers which explore the concept of claustrophobia and which use her own observations and interpretations of our behaviour when commuting on buses and the tram.



Nikki and her dance team in rehearsals



A greener Sheffield could improve business profitability

by Victoria Butterworth

Sheffield's landscape is constantly changing and there are continuous developments to make the city greener with sustainable buildings that have a limited carbon 'footprint'.

A workshop held at Sheffield Hallam saw developers, architects, consultants, local authority officers and University experts learn how 'green roofs' can help Sheffield retain its title as the greenest city in the UK.

Research indicates that therapeutic 'green roof' gardens - vegetated roof covers - are not only excellent for our mental health, because natural views reduce aggression and increase calm, but also improve business profitability. Enhancing the emotional or physical comfort of employees can increase productivity and lower absenteeism. Green roofs also help to prevent asthma as they help ventilate areas between tall buildings.

Dr Ian Rotherham, Director of Tourism and Environmental Change Research Unit at Sheffield Hallam, said: "Green roofs offer huge opportunities to help resolve key environmental issues. They create new and sustainable wildlife habitat, they soften adverse development impacts, and more importantly, they help resolve water and flood issues in urban areas. With climate change they offer an easy, cost-effective and positive approach to problem resolution."

The workshop made a site visit to Norfolk Community Primary School, Sharrow School and The Cube apartments/offices, sites in Sheffield where green roofs have been installed.

Greater ethnic mix in schools to curb racial tension

Prof John Coldron made quite a splash in the Daily Telegraph when talking about a top level conference he spoke at recently. Here's part of what he said.

Racial tension among young people is being made worse because of schools' admission policies which segregate pupils on social and religious grounds, says a leading academic expert.

Professor John Coldron, Assistant Dean at Sheffield Hallam's Centre for Education and Inclusion Research, called on schools to have a greater mix of backgrounds amongst their pupils because it would lead to better educational standards - as well as improving race relations.

In his recent keynote presentation at a local government conference, Professor Coldron said the current school system could be adding to racial tensions and that councils should change schools' admission policies to allow for a greater social and ethnic mix.

He said: "By having a greater range of pupils with different backgrounds - social as well as religious - there is evidence to suggest that educational standards overall would improve. That's because the greater difficulties currently managed by schools with concentrations of children who present greater educational challenges would be lessened and would not have a proportionate negative effect on the performance of the balanced intakes.

"In this way, if intakes can be made less socially segregated, admissions can make a positive contribution to redressing unequal educational opportunity."

Professor Coldron added: "We need to reduce incentives for schools to segregate and to do this we need a national policy to stop amplifying competition between schools and to change from an instrumental narrative to one of inclusion and civility.

"We also need, at a local and national level, to redistribute resources to lower attaining pupils which in turn will lead to higher educational standards for pupils, regardless of their ethnic or social background."

Lecturer named as 'Outstanding Reviewer' in excellence awards

Richard White, Senior Lecturer in Economic Geography at Sheffield Hallam, was named as an Outstanding Reviewer at the Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2009.

Richard, who was chosen for his work on the International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy, was praised by Emerald for his "very impressive and significant contribution" to the journal throughout 2008.

Richard said: "From a personal perspective, being a journal reviewer is undertaken largely as a labour of love. A good reviewer needs to invest a lot of time and energy to do the role justice, and I think it's true to say that this commitment goes largely unrecognised in wider academic circles.

"For that reason alone, it was extremely pleasing to be nominated by the journal's editors, and ultimately to receive such a prestigious award."

Mock tribunal engages law students

More than 150 HR specialists, consultants, staff and students benefited from attending a mock employment tribunal held recently at the University.

Members of the South Yorkshire and District branch of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) watched a tribunal chair and two barristers play out a scenario involving witnesses to highlight issues being raised in such legal situations. The event was jointly organised by Jenny Bristow, branch Chair, Godfrey Craik from Sheffield Hallam and Jim Wright and Simon Coates of Irwin Mitchell solicitors.

Godfrey, principal lecturer at Hallam University and Fellow of the CIPD, said: "The reaction from everyone was very favourable and we all got something out of it. There was a lot to learn from the scenario and the students in particular got to learn at first hand how employment tribunals work."



New designs on the Moor

by Victoria Butterworth

Students have been using their creative touch to add some colour to one of the city's most popular shopping streets.

Students from graphics, fine art and photography courses have been making the most of vacant units on The Moor, using window space for displays and exhibitions to create a lively and creative street scene.

Sandra Barley, of Moor Sheffield, says: "The Moor is keen to continue its relationship with Sheffield Hallam University, and we realised that the vacant units gave an opportunity to further strengthen existing relations. We would like to see students from all creative disciplines utilise the vacant unit window space with academic work, and develop creative ideas to be displayed in unit shop fronts.

"Shops that look like they are being managed avoid the negative effect empty shops have on the public's perception of business security and safety."

Sheffield Hallam's BA Graphic Design students were the first ones to take over a unit and their work went down really well with shoppers.

Claire Lockwood, Course Leader for Graphic Design, said: "As well as being a great initiative for the city, this provided our students with a brilliant opportunity to show off their work and cheer up the public.

"Sheffield has a unique combination of assets from its location and environment, to its heritage and innovation, and its culture and enterprise that make it an ideal choice in which to invest.

"These events and activities form part of an overarching theme celebrating Sheffield's physical, cultural and social growth and redevelopment, highlighting the achievements and innovators which make Sheffield a dynamic and exceptional business location."

Postgraduates on projects for Forgemasters

Postgraduates from the Indian sub-continent and China are carrying out international consultancy projects on behalf of Sheffield Forgemasters as part of their studies at Sheffield Hallam.

The students, studying for Masters degrees in International Business and Management and Globalisation, are working on three projects – one related to dealing with nuclear waste, another looking at business opportunities in Vietnam and the third related to equipment for testing components to be used under the sea.

Each of the project groups presented their findings to Forgemasters in June and then received feedback from the engineering experts.

Attending the nuclear presentation was Olaf Oldiges, head of construction, development and special projects at German nuclear services company Gesellschaft für Nuklear-Service mbH.

Forgemasters business development and marketing manager, Kunal Popat, said: "The information the groups have gathered will be immensely valuable to the work we are doing right across the company."

"A core part of our business strategy is export sales and key to that is our ability to maintain solid international relationships."



Forging links: Kunal Popat and Prof Andrew Johnston with the post graduate students at Forgemasters

Students honoured to meet African King

by Joe Field

Ten young students from Sheffield met the King of Lesotho in southern Africa, while working as volunteers in the region.

The students from Sheffield Hallam and Chaucer Enterprise and Business College won the volunteering trip as part of the Kanyekanye project, a business start-up competition run by the University's Enterprise Challenge.

The King of Lesotho, Letsie III, thanked the students for their hard work in the region. He was pleased that they were getting as much out of the trip as the local community had.

While in Lesotho the students helped build a community garden, planted trees and built dry stone walls. They also helped refurbish classrooms in a local school.

Sheffield Hallam student volunteer Andrew Mitchell said: "Meeting the King of Lesotho in his palace was a really exciting experience! And working in Africa has put our lives in to perspective. It has been a massive eye-opener and a life changing experience for us all."

"It's made us all realise how lucky we are and appreciate the things we have in our lives. It has given us a much greater sense of what we need rather than what we want. We have also realised the value of community work in places like Africa, helping the local community to become more self sufficient."



Professor appointed expert adviser to LDA

Professor Paul Lawless has been appointed as an expert adviser to the London Development Agency's 2012 Olympic Games Legacy Impact Evaluation Study.

This appointment will involve advising the LDA about the best ways to capture and understand the longer term regeneration effects of the Olympics, including new physical developments, housing projects and the creation of additional jobs.

Paul said: "I am especially looking forward to this work. Together with a small number of other advisers I will be looking to provide an external assessment of the 2012 Olympics Legacy evaluation study undertaken by a consortium led by the accountancy firm PriceWaterhouseCoopers."

"This evaluation work will explore the economic, physical and environmental impacts of the Games. As such it will feed into previous research done by CRESR (Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research) identifying the longer run impacts of urban regeneration schemes and of major infrastructural projects such as the Sheffield Supertram."

Sheffield's universities awarded £1.6m to ease recession

Sheffield's two universities have been awarded £1.6 million to help the region's businesses and individuals struggling with the economic downturn.

In conjunction with Higher Futures - the City Region's Life-Long Learning Network - which includes all ten further education colleges, they will provide professional support and guidance, access to training and new skills, and expert consultancy and academic advice.

The HEFCE Economic Challenge Investment Fund, a national programme, is providing funding over the next 18 months to Sheffield Hallam, the University of Sheffield and Higher Futures with Yorkshire Forward contributing matching funding which will result in substantial support for the Sheffield City Region.

Professor Mike Smith, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Transfer, said: "Gaining this funding is a great achievement by the city's two universities and is recognition of our strong track record in working together with business and the wider community to help improve the fortunes of the city region."

He added: "This money will enable the two universities to increase their support to companies to protect themselves from the economic downturn by providing consultants and experts to help with organisational and business improvements."

"The money will also help people wanting to learn new skills, develop new careers or learn about starting up a new business."

The scheme will work alongside other business support programmes to provide a comprehensive advisory service to businesses and people at risk of redundancy, as well as helping people into higher education to boost their qualifications and open up new opportunities.

The money will also help support entrepreneurs and aid communities wanting to start-up a social enterprise by developing the skills necessary to begin a business.



Student athletes' medal haul

by Joe Field

5,000 athletes from around the country battled it out in 24 sports in the 2009 British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) Championships at venues around the city.

Sporting stars from Sheffield Hallam came away with a hoard of gold medals in boxing, athletics, snooker and silver in volleyball.

Dave Hembrough, sport science officer at Sheffield Hallam, said: "This year's BUCS championship event was an extremely well organised, polished competition. The region's sporting venues were filled with some great sport from the UK's top sporting universities, and the public were out in force to see them compete."

"And to top it all, Sheffield Hallam athletes brought home a string of medals! Well done to them all."

Samantha Gill, Sports Executive at Hallam Union, said: "It's been great to have the BUCS Championships in Sheffield and we're absolutely delighted with the success of our athletes this year."

"It's a fantastic achievement for each of the athletes who have won medals and in the process they have beaten tough opposition from the UK's best sporting universities."

"The support for our athletes has been great and with the BUCS Championships being held in Sheffield again next year we hope to improve on our performances with the home advantage."

Sheffield was selected to hold the first-ever British University Championships in the city. This was the first time that 24 different sporting finals have taken place in one city, making it the biggest annual multi-sport event in the UK.

Pictured left to right: (Back Row) John Kelley-400m Gold, Lewis Messam-Silver in Volleyball, (front Row) Amy Hill-Shot Putt Gold, Zara Hohn 60m Hurdles Gold, Alex Robinson Volleyball Silver.

Remembering the cutlery master David Mellor, 1930-2009

David Rogerson Mellor was born in Sheffield on October 5 1930, the son of a toolmaker for the Sheffield Twist Drill Company. His affinity for metalwork developed early; with his father he built an entire caravan: its lights were made from empty jars of Pond's cold cream. From the age of 11 he attended the junior art department of Sheffield College of Art, training in metalwork, pottery, woodwork, painting and decorating.

He went on to the Royal College of Art in 1950, as preparations for the 1951 Festival of Britain were under way, and in 1952 won a travelling scholarship to Sweden and Denmark. The following year the rector of the RCA sent him to study at the British School in Rome.

In 1954 David set up a silversmithing workshop in Sheffield, designing and making silver for the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, the Cutlers' Company, Southwell Minster, Essex University, and Darwin College, Cambridge amongst others. Other early commissions included a range of silver tableware for use in British Embassies, and a fountain in bronze for the Botanic Gardens, Cambridge.

His "Pride" range of cutlery in silver plate with white handles, designed in 1953 whilst he was still a student at the RCA, was included in the first of the Design Centre Awards in 1957. It became established as a classic and David went on to win a further seven Design Centre Awards, four of them for cutlery.

He commissioned his first studio-workshop in Sheffield in 1960, and his first appointment as a design consultant was with the Sheffield firm of Walker and Hall.

In 1962 he was a finalist in the Prince Philip design award for his range of hollow-handled stainless steel knives. They were hailed as the first attempt in Britain to produce high-quality cutlery using precision engineering techniques rather than handwork. "Modern cutlery sometimes has a clinical look, that this design avoids," the judges noted. A month later, on the strength of his designs for an altar cross and candlesticks for Durham Cathedral, David, then 31, was appointed a Royal Designer for Industry by the Royal Society of Arts.

As the 1960s progressed, David began to make inroads into the Scandinavian domination of the cutlery market, the chances of which he had initially been gloomy about. By the autumn of 1964



however, Danish silversmiths Georg Jensen were importing David's designs.

In the 1970s David Mellor embarked on the restoration of a historic building, Broom Hall, in central Sheffield. The successful integration of the cutlery workshops received an Architectural Heritage Year Award.

In 1990 he opened The Round Building, his purpose built cutlery factory on the site of the former Hathersage gasworks in the Peak District National Park. Its circular form, adapted by the architect Sir Michael Hopkins, proved particularly suitable for cutlery production, and has been acclaimed as "a minor masterpiece of modern architecture". They collaborated again on the David Mellor Design Museum, which opened in 2006 in Hathersage and contains a permanent retrospective exhibition of David's work in silver, cutlery and industrial design.

David's approach to design was that of a craftsman, in his close involvement in materials and techniques and his insistence on the highest standards of environment and working conditions.

David was chairman of the Crafts Council 1982-4 and a trustee of the Victoria and Albert Museum from 1983 to 1988. He was awarded the Chartered Society of Designers medal in 1988, and held honorary doctorates from the universities of Sheffield, De Montfort, and the Royal



College of Art. He was appointed OBE in 1981, and advanced to CBE in 2001.

David, who retired in 2005, died on May 7. He was married, in 1966, to the journalist and biographer Fiona MacCarthy, who survives him with their two children.

One of those children, Corin, is also a designer and is now Creative Director of David Mellor Design. A former student at Sheffield Hallam, Corin also has an honorary doctorate from the University.

Environment champion Sir Martin Doughty, 1949-2009

We lost one of our foremost champions for the natural environment in March. Sir Martin Doughty died after a courageous fight with cancer, peacefully at his home in New Mills.

Martin was one of our own - a lecturer in Environmental Management since 1973, first with Sheffield City Polytechnic and then Sheffield Hallam University, until he retired from teaching in 1995.

Even during his time at our institution, he continued with his real passions - politics and the environment. He devoted much of his life to protecting and promoting our wildlife and landscapes, and working to extend people's access to and enjoyment of the land which he cared so deeply about himself.

He was elected to Derbyshire County Council in 1981 and led the County Council from 1992-2001, and was also chair of the Peak District National Park Authority (1992-2003). He was knighted for services to local government in 2004.

His years leading English Nature (2001-2006), and after that the new environment agency, Natural England, were notable for his commitment to not only protecting



wildlife and landscapes, but also his determination that more people should enjoy the natural environment more often.

He championed the causes of access and the 'right to roam' across open country, and also ensured that Natural England focused as much on the issues of urban green space, as on its more traditional rural agenda.

He was personally committed to a social justice that demands that everyone should be able to enjoy the benefits of an attractive and accessible environment - regardless of their social or economic circumstances. In this, he clearly saw the importance of the natural environment within sustainable communities (as we have come to call them) in contributing to people's health, wealth and well-being.

He received an Honorary Doctorate from Sheffield Hallam University in 2002, and he never lost his admiration for the city. When Natural England was looking for a new headquarters in 2006, Martin was delighted when Sheffield was selected as a home for the new agency - both because it confirmed Natural England's focus on urban issues, but also because he knew the strong relationship Sheffield has with both its local green spaces and further afield with Martin's beloved Peak District.

He will be sadly missed by all who knew him and worked with him - but he leaves an extraordinary legacy of public service and environmental protection.

Lynn Crowe

Lord Patel launches new postgraduate centre

Lord Patel, one of the country's leading obstetricians, helped to launch a new Centre for Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education at Sheffield Hallam.

Located in the Faculty of Health and Wellbeing, the centre will provide opportunities for doctors and dentists to develop their leadership and management capabilities, clinical skills and collaborations with the faculty research professors in the areas of biomedical science, biomechanics and exercise physiology.

A range of flexible delivery methods for taught provision will allow doctors and dentists to accommodate professional development activity alongside their professional duties.

Professor Rhiannon Billingsley, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Health and Wellbeing, said: "This new centre will work closely with medical practitioners to ensure that courses add real value to the professional development of the participants. Sheffield Hallam has a strong track record in leading the field in terms of innovative learning methods. We also have a strong focus on supporting professional development and in offering courses that make a real difference to participants' working lives."

Lord Patel said: "This centre is an invaluable resource for health practitioners who recognise that on-going training is vital for their professional development. The flexibility offered by being able to access these courses whilst continuing to work opens

up the prospect of further postgraduate study to a wider range of practitioners to the benefit of themselves and their patients"

The centre will provide:

- multi-disciplinary training in areas such as leadership and management
- continuing professional development to allow GPs and dentists to develop new skills and maintain good practice
- generic medical training for junior doctors
- distance learning programmes, allowing maximum study flexibility
- formal structured training programmes leading to postgraduate certificate, diploma, and masters qualifications

The centre established in collaboration with the Yorkshire and the Humber Strategic Health Authority, and the Yorkshire and the Humber Postgraduate Deanery.



Round off the summer with a day out at Chatsworth

Chatsworth Country Fair is one of England's most spectacular annual outdoor events attracting tens of thousands of visitors from all over the country.

Massed pipe and military bands, demonstrations and parades, hot air balloons, parachuting and more than 300 varied trade stands and rural crafts make this a memorable event with something for everyone.

This year's fair takes place over the weekend of 4-6 September. Tickets are £15 each and children under 14 go free.

Newview has three pairs of tickets to give away - one pair for Saturday September 5 and two pairs for Sunday September 6.

Just answer the following two-part question below and send it along with all your contact details to v.butterworth@shu.ac.uk or by post to newview, Corporate Communications, Unit 11, Science Park, Howard Street, Sheffield S1 1WB by the closing date of Friday August 21.

Question: Who was the 8th Duke of Devonshire and who asked him repeatedly to become Prime Minister?

The winner will be picked at random from all correct entries.

Please indicate on your entry which day you would prefer to visit the country fair should you be a lucky winner!

For more details about Chatsworth Country Fair, go to www.chatsworth.org

Notes from the President

Hallam Union Executive elections took place in February with over 2000 votes cast for candidates. The new Executive Committee has been elected for 2009/10 with five full time and six part time officers. The Committee will take office on 1 July 2009.

The full time positions consist of Dani Beckett, as President, Tom Waltho as Finance and Services Executive, Sam Brown as Academic Affairs Executive, Dan Pine as Equal Opportunities Executive and Sam Gill re elected as Sports Executive.

Part time officers are Kate Healey as Hallam Volunteering Executive, Ben Heaton as Societies Executive, Tom Wilson as Media Executive, Martin Percival as Education Executive, Matt Bond as Welfare Executive and Farhan Ahmed as Black and International Executive.

The education funding debate has created a lot of interest and discussion throughout this year. Union Representative Council decided upon the Union's stance looking to keep the cap and support the NUS campaigning for a fairer education funding system. Hallam Union delegates supported the NUS National Lobby of Government at Westminster on the 18th March. Unions from across the country created a campaign presence meeting with cross party Members of Parliament to discuss issues raised in Higher Education Funding and rising awareness of the NUS Broke and Broken Campaign.

Hallam Union referendum posed the question, 'Do you support the changes for Hallam Union's future?' looking to the Governance review arrangements. The student population voted overwhelmingly in favour with a 96% majority voting yes. The proposal will now go to the University Board of Governors for ratification.

Hallam Sport teams and individuals performed exceptionally well at the British Universities and College Sport (BUCS) British Championships in Sheffield. Hallam achieved six Golds in Boxing, Athletics and Snooker, one Silver in Volleyball and two Bronze in Korfball and Athletics.

For the second year running the annual varsity competition between Sheffield Hallam and Sheffield University resulted in a draw. After a month's intense competition the final results at Abbeydale made all the difference leaving the scores at 22-22. Hallam retains the trophy by virtue of being the last winners of the competition in 2007. The result was an exceptional achievement by all teams and individuals who participated.

Hallam Volunteer Kerry Newcomb won the High Sherriff Award for South Yorkshire for her involvement in and leadership of the Interact Project. This incredible achievement was recognised for the impact which it created in the local community.

Hallam Union has had a fantastic year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to our success.

Russell Swannack,
President, Sheffield Hallam Students' Union



This information can be made available in other formats. Please contact us for details.

