

More delays for CCBB but main building stays on schedule

It's hard to believe, but it's true: the opening of the Centre for the Cellular Basis of Behaviour (CCBB) has once more been delayed. The purpose-designed Centre for Cell and Integrative Biology which houses the CCBB was finished nearly a year ago but has been plagued by mishaps which means people still can't move in and start work there.

The latest blow has been a problem with the air-conditioning system that cracked under the strain of super-high temperatures in July. Not only was the system unable to cope with the heat, it also transpired that it had not been installed properly and buckets had to be used to catch water leaking from condensation pipes.

Contractors are now mending the system and making it more powerful to cope with higher temperatures. If nothing else goes wrong, the occupants of the CCBB will be able to move in at the end of the year.

Previous delays have included shoddy paintwork which meant an area the size of a football pitch had to be repaired and repainted because the original paint was applied to walls and ceilings before the plaster had dried, and delayed connection to the water supply.

The CCBB is to be headed by Professor Jack Price. About 80 IoP scientists are to work there and half of them are new recruits. While most existing IoP staff and students can carry on working in temporary accommodation, the new recruits are on the payroll but unable to start work.

The new building, next to the Weston Education Centre and Rayne Institute, is a joint venture between the IoP and the School of Medicine. The IoP will not be picking up the bill for work necessary to mend the air-conditioning system, said Institute secretary Laurence Benson.

The jury's out on bold plans for De Crespigny Park

Bold plans for remodelling the main building entrance did not prove popular with staff and students who viewed outline sketches at the end of July. The majority of the 40 people who turned up to an open forum gave the thumbs down to the initial external design proposals from architects SMC Alsop, saying they were too modern and too colourful. Since then, however, others have been more enthusiastic.

Most people like the ideas for remodelling the space inside the front of the building which include a new Library, new seminar rooms and new reception area. The plan

- The good news is that the SRIF (Science Research Infrastructure Fund) funded refurbishment work in the main building is running to schedule and will be complete by Christmas. The upgraded Seminar Room 4 comes back into use in September. For more details about what's happening where and when (including noise levels), visit the Site Services pages on the IoP website and follow the link for *Essential Safety and Services Information for SRIF work*.

- Staff and students who aren't moving into refurbished accommodation can give their workspace a facelift with the help of furniture donated by a City-based law firm that is relocating. The gift includes almost brand new desks and chairs as well as 1,400 pictures that are to be hung on walls around the campus. There is also 10,000 square feet of warehouse storage space for four months while the furniture is sorted and allocated. Some of the furniture will go into student residencies. If you have any furniture needs, contact Dan Penny in Site Services, d.penny@iop.kcl.ac.uk.

Saturdays in the Library

There are changes to weekend opening hours at the Library while work takes place in the main building. Until 30 September, the Library will be closed on Saturdays. From October 7 to November 19, it will be open from 2pm to 5pm only, but from November 25, Saturday business will be back to normal, with the Library opening from 10am to 5pm. Students wanting to use library services on a September Saturday or before 2pm on an October or early November Saturday can visit the Weston Education Centre.

is to transform the front on De Crespigny Park by creating a three or four storey atrium to wrap around the side of the building and replace the existing entrance. The next step is to consult local residents and gain support for the concept from King's College London, said Institute secretary Laurence Benson. Detailed drawings in preparation for a planning application will take on board both staff and residents' views. The IoP will then have to bid for money to fund the scheme which could cost about £11 million.

- Email a.surdi@iop.kcl.ac.uk if you would like to see the ideas.

In brief...

Valeria Mondelli, a PhD student in Psychological Medicine, has been awarded a prestigious King's Development Trust Studentship, funded by King's College London Alumni. Each year, only two such awards are made for the whole of the College. Valeria is conducting research on the clinical and biological effects of stress in first-episode psychosis. The Studentship lasts for three years, until she has finished the PhD.

All staff in Biostatistics and Computing can nominate the future head of department. Their recommendation will be forwarded to the Principal of King's College London by IoP dean George Szumukler. Dr Sabine Landau is currently acting head of the department.

A survey is being carried out to find out what staff and students think about security and whether they feel safe on the Denmark Hill campus. Security consultancy MDA has been hired by King's College London to report on security and personal safety here at the IoP as well as at the Strand, Waterloo and Guy's campuses. The consultants started work in Denmark Hill in August and are due to report, with recommendations for the future, at the end of September. Their work will include one-to-one interviews with staff and students.

Departments are being asked to prune their spending expectations to help find £350,000 to fund recent salary awards and in anticipation of the Pay and Modernisation programme, soon to be implemented by King's College London. As well as reducing 'non-pay' budgets, some vacant posts in administration are not being filled and cleaning contracts are being trimmed.

The first issue of *LonDoc*, a new magazine written by and for PhD students in and around London is now available at www.grad.ac.uk/londoc. The magazine will be published once a term online in association with UK GRAD. The next issue is already in preparation and contributors are paid £50 if their article is used.

John Witton in Psychological Medicine has won a bottle of champagne after completing the online survey about *Viewpoint*. Read the November issue to find out what staff and students think of the internal publication.

No tolerance for smoking policy now in force

September 1 marked the introduction of the new King's College London *No Smoking Policy*. Smoking is now banned not only inside buildings, but also in the surrounding outside areas and if smokers choose to take a walk for a 'fag break', they must stay late or take a shorter lunch break to make up the time lost from work.

At the IoP, no-one is now allowed to smoke immediately outside entrances and exits, near to windows or air intake units, or on the public footpaths around and between buildings.

The designated smoking area in the enclosed cabin next to the main building will close at Christmas.

School pupils visit to learn about higher education

Some 70 secondary school students were due to visit the IoP on 25 and 26 September to learn more about mental health science and what goes on at a university.

Three final year GCSE students from each of the 24 secondary schools in Southwark and Lambeth were to hear a plethora of speakers from the IoP and elsewhere within King's College London. 'The aim of the event is primarily to encourage students to think about going to university and help inform their choice of A levels,' said Helen Davies who has organised the event with Professor Iain Campbell, both in Psychological Medicine.

'We also want to give them a better understanding of what goes on in their local mental health NHS Trust and to dispel myths surrounding mental illness.'

The theme of the two-day event is *Know no limits* and it is financially supported by the Aim Higher team at King's College London.

In addition to expert speakers, the programme includes a session with service users talking about their experiences of mental illness and presentations about what it's like to be a student, and what it's like to study at King's College London. IoP speakers include Robert Plomin (*Nature and Nurture – what did I inherit from my parents?*); Raj Persaud (*Getting the most from your life*); and Glenn Wilson (*The science of love*).

The annual event is now in its fourth year and Helen said schools are very keen to take part.

Normal IoP/College disciplinary procedures will apply to staff and students who break the policy – and visitors and contract workers who smoke where they shouldn't, may have their access curtailed or their contract ended.

The *No Smoking Policy* applies to every King's College London building, including student residencies and temporary structures, and at College events.

Staff and students working on premises not under the College's wing should comply with the policies of the organisation that owns or manages the building.

For IoP smokers who decide it's now time to quit, help is at hand at the Smoking Cessation Clinic on 0207-848 0054. Or call the NHS Smoking Helpline on 0800 1690 169.

World Mental Health Day

October 10 is World Mental Health Day and the IoP will be contributing to the annual awareness-raising event by hosting an afternoon lecture session to highlight some of the research carried out here.

World Mental Health Day has been organised by the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) since 1992. This year's campaign theme is *Building Awareness-Reducing Risk: Mental Illness and Suicide*. The World Health Organisation estimates there are one million deaths by suicide each year, and that half of all people who die have at least one, often undiagnosed, mental health problem. The IoP's contribution to World Mental Health Day is being organised by Professor Martin Prince. The plan is to invite local people, local schools and colleges as well as IoP staff and students to hear presentations from a variety of speakers.

WHAT'S ON...

Focus on Mental Health is a new exhibition that will be launched in the main building on the eve of World Mental Health Day. As part of the opening event, a seminar will take place on Monday 9 October in Seminar Rooms 1 and 2 at 6pm. Professor Graham Thornicroft will be speaking about stigma and Dr Andrew Hodgkiss from South London and Maudsley NHS Trust (SLaM) will be talking about self-harm. The exhibition shows photographs depicting depression by Mark Drinkwater and photographs depicting self-harm by Lauren Shear. It runs until Friday 27 October and is supported by SLaM and Jeff Banks.

Psychpop to be renamed

In a survey of 30 shoppers on the street conducted by Satellite Marketing and Communications, most respondents didn't realise *Psychpop* was the name of an online database of healthy volunteers willing to take part in research: they thought it was a fizzy drink or a new music genre!

Now, as part of a marketing programme funded by the King's College London Alumni Fund, the database is to be renamed and promoted across London in a bid to find more volunteers to be controls in mental health research. An October campaign with professionally produced posters, PR and a leaflet drop to 40,000 households in south London will aim to recruit and raise the profile of the resource. Watch this space to find out more about the new identity...

• To find out more about using the database, visit www.psychpop.net.

Academic promotions

The following academic promotions take effect in September: Veena Kumari (Psychology) becomes a professor in experimental psychology; Richard Brown (MRC Centre for Neurodegeneration Research) becomes a professor in neuropsychology and clinical neuroscience; Ulrike Schmidt (Psychological Medicine) becomes a professor in eating disorders; Paul McCrone (Health Services Research) becomes a reader in health economics; Jennifer Beecham (Health Services Research) becomes a reader in mental health economics; Anthony Cleare (Psychological Medicine) becomes a reader in affective disorders; and Morven Leese (Health Services Research) becomes a reader in medical statistics.

New College appointments

The Council of King's College London has appointed the Marquess of Douro as future chairman of the Council. He will take over in October 2007 after the three-year term of current chairman Baroness Rawlings ends.

Lord Douro has led a successful career in business, was an MEP from 1979-89 and played a significant role in the entry of Spain and Portugal to the European Union. He is the eldest son of the 8th Duke of Wellington: the first Duke was one of the founders of the College and fought a duel (while Prime Minister) over its foundation.

The Council of King's College London has also appointed a new head of administration and College secretary. He is Ian Creagh who starts on 3 October this year. He comes from City University where he has been University secretary since 2001.

Summer party raises £350

A good time was had by all at the IoP summer party in July – and £350 was raised for the Psychiatry Research Trust. The event was organised by the Student Forum.

King's College London's Young Researcher of the Year

James Rubin, a lecturer in Psychological Medicine, has been named *Young Researcher of the Year* by King's College London. The three winners of the College's Annual Award Scheme, now in its second year, each receive a cheque for £500 and are automatically entered for the prestigious *Times Higher Education Supplement Awards* competition that will be held in November.

James has worked at the IoP since 1999 and was awarded his PhD in 2003. Since then, he has undertaken ground-breaking research into people's sensitivity to mobile phone signals and the results received widespread media coverage. In addition to electrosensitivity, his research

interests include multiple chemical sensitivity, the scientific evaluation of complementary and alternative therapies and the psychological impact of terrorism. He has secured a grant worth almost £1 million from the Home Office to examine public reactions to chemical, biological and radiological terrorism.

The two other awards in the College scheme were given for *Research Project of the Year* and *Young Author of the Year*. The *Times Higher Education Supplement Awards* were also established last year to 'raise awareness of and reward the huge contribution British universities make to the economic and cultural health of the country'.

New recycling arrangements to be tested at SGDP Centre

A new recycling scheme is to be piloted in the SGDP Centre. The idea is to increase the amount of waste recycled and shave 15 per cent off the cost of the cleaning contract.

The scheme involves placing three recycling bins in central areas such as corridors and communal offices – one for food, one for dry material like paper, magazines, plastics and cans and one for confidential items.

Under-the-desk bins will be replaced with recycling trays which staff and students can take to the recycling bins every time they leave their desks to go to a meeting, get a coffee or visit the toilets. Food waste, however, should be deposited in the bins

immediately. The cleaners will then empty the centrally located bins on a daily basis.

For more information, visit www.iop.kcl.ac.uk/iopweb/departments/home/?locator=657

• Bring your own correct-size mug to the Café Diner and get reduced price coffee for months to come. If you refill rather than buy a new disposable cup each time, you will be eligible for a 10p discount. And you can buy a correct-size mug in the Café Diner and support the Psychiatry Research Trust at the same time – correct-size insulated travel mugs cost £4 and all the profit will go to the IoP-based charity. The discount scheme has been introduced at the request of the Student Forum.

Changes to administration processes for students

Changes are afoot which will improve support for students and teaching staff and streamline education systems within the IoP. 'There are a number of changes for the 2006/07 academic year in the way we admit students,' said Karen Langridge from the Education Support Team. 'All prospective students will now need to complete a King's College London application form as there is a need to collect more detailed information on applicants, and applicants who wish to study for a research degree will also need to fill out a Project Approval Form rather than the Higher Degree Registration Form.' The responsibility for sending offer letters to research and taught postgraduate students will transfer from departments to the Education Support Team

during this academic year and all students will now be required to re-enrol each year.

'We also aim to streamline student enrolment, taking advantage of College technologies to issue ID cards and arrange access to libraries, for example,' said Karen. 'Forms with individual student details – called a *Permit to Enrol* – will be sent to each student for checking prior to enrolment.'

A session to welcome international students to the IoP will be run by the Education Support Team this year for the first time.

• There is a new section on the IoP website which provides more information for PhD students about doing research, regulations and administration. The new section is on the *Current Students* page.

Denis Hill Prize winner

James Stone is the winner of the Denis Hill Prize 2006, awarded each year by the IoP for research undertaken while holding a clinical position. A clinical lecturer, James joined the Maudsley Hospital in 2000 to continue his training in psychiatry and started working with Professor Lyn Pilowsky's Neurochemical Imaging and Psychiatry group in Psychological Medicine. His prize-winning paper is a result of one of the first pieces of research he completed with the group. He receives £500.

Hear debates on the web

Recordings of debates and lectures held at the IoP – including Maudsley debates dating back to 2000 – are now available on the website as podcasts at www.iop.kcl.ac.uk/podcast. The aim, said web editor Ian Gowrie, is to eventually have audio feeds of all public events on the site. If you'd like your lecture or event to be available, contact Paul Murray in the Media Support Unit, p.murray@iop.kcl.ac.uk or Ian Gowrie in the web office, i.gowrie@iop.kcl.ac.uk.

WHAT'S ON...

Students take note: the next meeting of the IoP Student Forum takes place on Thursday 19 October at 1pm in Seminar Room 2. All students are invited to come along to raise issues, voice concerns, suggest improvements, find out about social events and meet their peers. A free lunch is on offer from 12.20pm onwards. For more information visit www.iop.kcl.ac.uk/studentforum.

Professor Christopher Patrick, Starke R Hathaway Distinguished Professor from the University of Minnesota, is giving a series of lectures at the IoP in October. The lectures have been organised by the Forensic Mental Health Teaching Unit in the Department of Forensic Mental Health Science and Professor Patrick's visit is supported by a grant from Brain. The programme is: Monday 16 October, 5.30pm to 6.30pm, Wolfson Lecture Theatre – *Antisocial and addictive behaviours: An integrative neurobiological model*; Wednesday 18 October, 2pm to 4pm, Seminar Room 1 – *Processes underlying aggression and related impulse control problems: Psycho-physiological studies*; Thursday 19 October, 2pm to 4pm, Seminar Room 1 – *Psychopathy in criminals and non-criminals: Measurements and mechanisms*; Friday 20 October, 11.30am to 12.30pm, Seminar Room 1 – *Implications for treatment of recent findings on the neurobiology of psychopathy and externalising disorders*. For more information, contact Dinah Konadu on ext 0123 or at dinah.konadu@iop.kcl.ac.uk.

King's College London Enterprises (KCLE) organises a range of events and enterprise training for both staff and students. *Masterclasses* scheduled to take place this Autumn at the IoP are: *Approaching companies* on 19 October from 4pm to 5.30pm in Seminar Room 2; *Knowledge Transfer Partnerships* on 1 November from 4pm to 5.30pm in Seminar Room 2; *Intellectual property and your research* on 8 November from 2pm to 5.30pm in Seminar Room 6 (with speakers from Withers & Rogers and Javelin Ventures); *Working with pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries* on 14 November from 4pm to 5.30pm in Seminar Room 2 (with speakers from GlaxoSmithKline and ReGen Therapeutics); *Contract and collaborative research* on 16 November from 4pm to 5.30pm in Seminar Room 2. Visit www.kcl.ac.uk/kcle/events to find out more.

In the last 18 months of her life, Ruth Sale started attending weekly art classes at the day centre in St Christopher's Hospice and began to paint every day at home. As a brain tumour made her more severely disabled, both mentally and physically, she became enormously creative, producing great swirls and stripes of colour with paint. These designs and images are on show now at the SGDP Centre: *In Living Colours* runs until 1 December.

Anti-social behaviour in women and girls: a developmental perspective is the title of the John Gunn Lecture on Tuesday 21 November to be given by Barbara Maughan, a reader in developmental psychopathology at the SGDP Centre. The lecture starts at 5.30pm in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre and tea will be served from 5pm in Seminar Room 2.

In brief...

Changes to employment legislation over the past few years have had an effect on how King's College London manages fixed term staff. The IoP's Human Resources team has been running a series of lunchtime briefing sessions to help line managers get to grips with these changes: around 80 people attended eight sessions held during August and early September. If you would like to know more but weren't able to attend these sessions, email Alex Biggs, a.biggs@iop.kcl.ac.uk: more sessions will be arranged if there is sufficient interest.

Nicki Groves in the Education Support Team has been awarded a Teaching Innovation Grant from King's College London Teaching Committee to help develop e-learning at the IoP. The project will pilot an interactive tool for clinical case assessment – which means students would be able to practise at a time and place suitable to them – and develop online support for programmes with a non-clinical perspective.

Are you up to date with the Pay and Modernisation Programme? If you missed the August email sent to all staff from the Pay and Modernisation team at King's College London, visit www.kcl.ac.uk/about/structure/admin/pertra/paymod/updates.html to find out about progress and what's still to be done. The national pay award is being applied to existing pay scales – new pay and grading arrangements, when implemented, will be backdated to 1 August. If you've got any questions, email pay-modernisation@kcl.ac.uk.

The launch of the IoP's status as the World Health Organisation's lead research centre for mental health in its European Region was marked by a European seminar, held at the end of August at the start of the third annual International Mental Health (IMH) conference.

South London and Maudsley NHS Trust (SLaM) is currently being assessed by Monitor, the independent regulator of NHS Foundation Trusts. The assessment will determine whether SLaM is eligible to become an NHS Foundation Trust on 1 November this year. • The elections for SLaM's first Members' Council will take place between 27 September and 18 October. All those registered as SLaM members by 8 September are eligible to vote in the postal elections.

Seventy-five young psychiatrists from 26 European countries attended the Maudsley Forum at the IoP at the beginning of September. The Forum – and an Advanced Forum that ran simultaneously – offered information on the most recent advances in psychiatry and research training. Both Forums are organised by Psychological Medicine and supported by an educational grant from AstraZeneca.