

From: External Relations
Sent: 26 March 2018 15:13
To: Staff
Subject: Geoff's Update - March 2018



Geoff's Update - March 2018

We look forward now to Spring Graduation this week where 850 students will be celebrating with their families. It is always a great occasion. The ceremonies on Wednesday and Thursday will see Postgraduate students along with those from the Institute of Health graduate at the Grand Theatre.

Staff Excellence Awards

The nominations for the seventh annual Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Staff Excellence are now open.

The awards, which will be held at the Chancellor's Hall, City Campus on 26 July 2018, will

celebrate and recognise the successes of staff throughout the year.

You can nominate a colleague or team member in one of [eight award categories](#). These can be completed through [SurveyMonkey](#).

A hard copy of the nomination form can also be requested from staffawardx@xxx.xx.xx.

The deadline for nominations to be submitted is 18 May 2018.

League Table re-entry

As you will know there has been ongoing discussion about the University re-entering league tables. Since January 2010 the University has not allowed its data to be published in any league tables. The decision was taken at that time as it was believed that these tables disadvantaged universities like Wolverhampton.

In 2015, the Board of Governors passed a resolution committing the University to re-enter league tables at an appropriate time as decided by the Vice-Chancellor. Given the introduction of the Teaching Excellence Framework, the ever increasing concentration of regulators on key metrics and the ongoing performance of the University the decision has now been made to re-enter.

This means the University will appear in the next round of league table publications from April onwards.

VC Roadshows

Over the next couple of months I will be going out across the University to meet and talk to as many staff groups as possible as part of the next round of VC Roadshows.

I'm aiming to visit every school or institute and corporate service departments during April and May to take questions from staff and listen to what they have to say about working at the University. Sessions will be advertised as soon as we have identified suitable dates and locations.

ERAS scheme

The University is now seeking applications to the [Early Researcher Award Scheme \(ERAS\)](#). The scheme will be of interest to any member of staff in the University who has achieved a Doctoral qualification (or equivalent) within the last five years and who wishes to pursue an identified research project over the upcoming 12 months (or 24 months for part time staff).

The deadline is Friday 11th May 2018, and the application form and accompanying academic CV should be returned to the Doctoral College via email: doctoralcollege@wlv.ac.uk.

Staffing

Following Andy Holding's retirement from the University, Gary Butler has stepped in as Acting Chief Financial Officer.

Welcome to Richard Middleton who has joined us as interim Academic Registrar replacing Chris Twine. Congratulations to Dr Richard Medcalf who has been appointed to the new role as the Director of the Institute of Sport and Human Sciences.

And it's farewell to Dean of Students Jon Elsmore, who will be leaving us at the end of May to take up a new role in Birmingham.

Research

We've launched a new campaign to showcase our research and expertise. [The Open your Mind campaign](#) features seven academic members of staff from across the University representing the breadth of areas we cover.

It features Professor Nazira Karodia, Professor Andy Lane, Professor Phil Dearden, Professor Mike Thelwall, Dr Sarah Jones, Professor George Kassimeris and Professor Tracy Warr.



The new Centre for Sikh and Panjabi Studies was launched recently in the Chancellor's Hall. The Centre will offer PhDs and Master's level courses in Sikh Studies, as well as continuing professional development (CPD) courses for teachers and managers of diverse workforces such as national and local government, the NHS and the emergency services.

[Read more](#)

A new report to help tackle some of the biggest issues facing communities across the Black Country and Birmingham was officially launched at the University.

Communities Uncovered was commissioned by the independent regional charity Heart of England Community Foundation, with the research carried out by the University's new [Institute for Community Research and Development](#).

Apprenticeships

We recently took part in National Apprenticeship Week to showcase our Degree Apprenticeships. The University is now embedding its Degree Apprenticeship programme into Faculties and is offering Higher and Degree Apprenticeships in Chartered Management (CMDA), Chartered Surveying, Chartered Legal Executive, Nursing Associate, Product Design & Engineer, Manufacturing Engineering and Healthcare Science Practitioner Degree Apprenticeships.

Future Higher/Degree Apprenticeships will include Digital Technologies, Civil Engineering, Architecture, Policing, Social Work, Nursing and Paramedic Degree Apprenticeships.

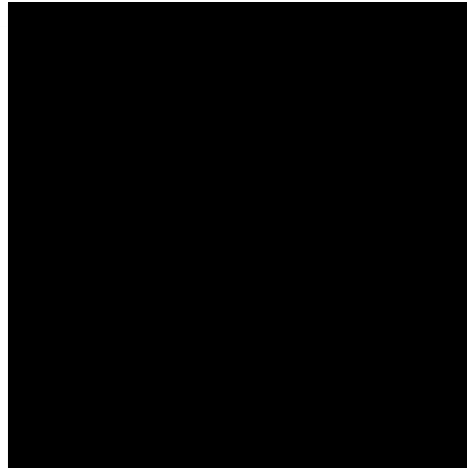
Over 150 Apprentices are now studying on our programmes with recruitment ongoing.

Successes



Good luck to graduate Mimi Cesar who has been selected to represent Team England in rhythmic gymnastics at the Commonwealth Games on Australia's Gold Coast.

Mimi, who recently graduated from her BA (Hons) Sports Studies degree, was one of the University's Sports Scholars and is a genuine medal hope. The Games are taking place between 4 and 15 April 2018.

[Read more](#)

Well done to English lecturer Dr Daisy Black who has been selected as one of 2018's New Generation Thinkers; an annual scheme run by BBC Radio 3, BBC Arts, and the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).

Daisy, a specialist in gender in medieval and renaissance drama, will be making a programme for BBC Radio 3 on her research project 'Eating God: Food in Medieval Religious Drama'.

[Read more](#)

Congratulations to Professor Sir Alan Tuckett, who received his knighthood from Prince William at Buckingham Palace last week.

[Read more](#)



A number of our student nurses are celebrating after being shortlisted for national awards in recognition of their commitment. The University has been shortlisted in four categories of the Student Nursing Times Awards, which celebrate the best in nurse education.

[Read more](#)



Well done also to Dr Meena Dhanda, Reader in Philosophy and Cultural Politics, who was included on Amnesty's 'Suffragette Spirit Map of Britain' to mark International Women's Day.

[Read more](#)

Estates Update

New plans have been submitted to City of Wolverhampton Council for the School of Architecture and the Built Environment at Springfield. The new designs centre on the original clock tower building and combines it with a striking large new build element. We expect a decision in April.

The Science Centre at University of Wolverhampton Science Park is fully open and has welcomed its first tenants. [The building has also been nominated](#) for two RICS (Royal Institute for Chartered Surveyors) Awards 2018, West Midlands.

Finally, I hope you have a good break over the Easter period.

Geoff

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