

**From:** External Relations  
**Sent:** 29 May 2019 12:35  
**To:** Staff  
**Subject:** Geoff's Update - May 2019



## Geoff's Update - May 2019

Firstly, a big thank you to all those people who have come along to a [Futureproofing](#) session in the last few weeks. By the end of this week we will have completed all of the planned meetings. Thank you too to those people who have taken the time to provide group or individual feedback. Once we have worked through all of that a paper will go to Academic Board with a proposal for it to consider on June 6.

### Professorships

We have conferred the following Professors with effect from March 2019:

- Phil Gravestock, Professor of Inclusive Practice
- Yong Wang, Professor of Family Business and Entrepreneurship

The newly conferred Readers and Associate Professors are as follows:

- Denise Doyle, Reader in Digital Media
- Christopher Stone, Reader in Translation and Interpreting
- Martin Khechara, Associate Professor of Engagement in STEM
- Paschal Anosike, Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Debra Cureton, Associate Professor of Equality in Learning and Teaching

Congratulations to all.



## **Nuno Honoured by University**

The University was delighted to award Wolves manager Nuno Espirito Santo an Honorary Doctor of Sport at the club's last home match of the season.

It is thought to be the first time a football manager has received a university honorary doctorate on the pitch at a match.

The honour recognises Nuno's success over the last two seasons which have seen Wolverhampton gain recognition and attention internationally, returning a sense of pride back to the city and club.



## Research

The University is to lead on a prestigious €3 million arts sector grant, the first of its kind at Wolverhampton and a first within the Europe Innovative Training Network.

The Future of European Independent Art Spaces in a Period of Socially Engaged Art (FEINART) will pioneer a new approach to art education. The project is an extensive collaboration between degree-awarding research centres in political philosophy, art theory/practice and curatorial studies cultural management and the independent European art sector. The Faculty of Arts received funding for the project from the Horizon 2020 Marie Curie Innovative Training Networks strand. The University will train 11 Early-Stage Researchers in order to provide the relevant skills to engage with the challenges of this new artistic and cultural landscape.

[Research Week](#) takes place during June. The week will start with the University's Annual [Research Conference](#) on Monday June 17 and Tuesday June 18. The remainder of the week will focus on careers, engaging in funded research projects and the completion of doctoral studies.

A new Centre for Psychological Research has been launched. The centre will focus on both applied and theoretical areas of psychology and it will be split into four research clusters; Cognition and Individual Differences, Cyberpsychology, Social and Community Psychology and Wellbeing and Psychological Health. The launch event showcased research from the centre and also featured Professor Maria Uther's inaugural lecture on the topic of 'Sound, Speech and their interaction with technology'.



## Sustainability

Following my staff roadshow events in January, which sought to help establish the University's position on sustainable development, we are now looking for an enthusiastic and proactive individual to help devise and

drive the University's approach to sustainability and meet its ambition to be a sector leading institution.

With a focus on its campuses, curriculum and community, the main purpose of the role will be to develop a coherent and holistic sustainable development framework, strategy and plan for the University in conjunction with a senior level Steering Group and through extensive consultation.

The post will be located in the Vice Chancellor's Private Office and will be offered as a two year internal secondment. Anyone interested in the role can have an initial informal discussion with Ray Flynn, Head of Vice Chancellor's Office. You can contact Ray on extension 2322 [or by email.](#)



## **Estates Update**

You may have noticed the new artwork that has gone up recently on the exterior of the Rosalind Franklin Building at City Campus. The work, created by Jason Bruges Studio, represents the double helix structure of DNA as seen by Rosalind Franklin during her scientific work.

The artwork was installed as part of an agreement with the council at the planning stages which sees a contribution to public art.

Work is now due to start on the new cyber centre at Hereford with a ground breaking taking place at the beginning of June. The centre at Skylon Park will bring up to 190

high-value jobs to the area as a result. The 2,000 sq m building will play a crucial role in the country's fight against cyber-crime and offer more than 1,000 sq m of research and development floorspace in three cyber laboratories, business space for 16 companies and form an integral element of the University's Cyber Research Institute. The new centre is set to open in 2020.

Work has also started on the remodelling of the Sister Dora building at Walsall Campus. The work will see new state-of-the-art medical lab facilities created with new simulation labs and teaching rooms for a range of settings and disciplines.



### **Football Hero**

Well done to the University women's football team captain [REDACTED] who has been named as a higher education football hero.

[REDACTED] has been announced as one of eight Higher Education Football and Futsal heroes by British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS).

The BUCS #HEHeroes project recognises workforce volunteers who have gone above and beyond in their role and contribution to the women's game.

The [REDACTED] Sports Scholar also recently played at the Home Nations Tournament in Cardiff as part of the



### **Space Software**

The University and Caparo plc have invested £80,000 in a new company that has developed specialist software for auditing the use of rooms in public buildings.

Universities are required to collect and report data about the utilisation of rooms in their estate, and in any event need this information to help plan when new buildings are required.

A University spin-out company, Space Audit Systems Ltd, has been formed to build on a business plan proposed by [REDACTED] (a graduate in Computer Science from the



### **Nursing Win**

Congratulations to [REDACTED] who was named Student Information Officer of the Year at the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) Awards in Liverpool.

Adult Nursing Student [REDACTED] was recognised for [REDACTED] "infectious enthusiasm" for nursing and has been successful in engaging large groups of members in the West Midlands region.

[REDACTED] who studies at the University's Burton Campus, has played a key role in the College's Fund Our Future campaign and has recently been involved in the Nursing Now England campaign



English Universities Women's Football team, scoring a hat-trick in a 6-0 win against Wales.

University, and who works in the University's Registry department).

While carrying out audits [REDACTED] [REDACTED] could see the potential for software to manage the same issue at other Universities.



## Staff Update

It is with sadness that we share news of the death of Sheila Dixon, former Head of Mental Health Nursing, in the Faculty of Education, Health and Wellbeing. Sheila passed away peacefully in hospital recently following an illness. Sheila started working at the University in 1999 as a Visiting Lecturer. She moved into the role of Senior Lecturer in Mental Health in 2000 and was then seconded into the role of Subject Leader in 2008, and has been in the role of Head of Nursing (mental health) since 2009. Sheila will be much missed by all of her colleagues. Condolences to all who knew and worked with Sheila.

Dr John Pymm, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, has decided to leave the University. John joined the University in 1996 and during that time will have worked with many colleagues across the University. I am sure you would want to join me in wishing John all the best as he embarks on the next chapter of his career.

Jan Gilder has also left the role as Head of the Project Support Office. Jan joined the University in 2002 and during that time has worked with many colleagues to secure grant funding which has enabled the University to grow and individuals to achieve their research ambitions. Jan is looking forward to new opportunities and having more time to spend with family, especially her grandson, and we wish her the very best in that next chapter.

In other staff news I am pleased to inform you that Gary Butler has been appointed to the permanent post of Chief Financial Officer. As you all know, Gary has been in an Acting capacity since January 2018.

## Eventbrite

Eventbrite is now the main system for managing non-student recruitment event bookings, and was used extensively for all events at Career Development Week for both

paid and non-paid events. To request access, and for documentation on the process of setting up a paid event, please contact David Allen in External Relations on 3568.

And watch out for an **Equality and Diversity Update Special** coming very soon.

**Geoff**

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