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Connecting the University community

The Sunday Times Names RGU as Top UK Modern University

RGU has been named the top modern university in the UK by The Sunday Times University Guide 2012. The supplement, published in September, commends the university's focus on graduate employability with only 3.8% of graduates unemployed six months after leaving – the lowest rate of any state funded university in the UK.

Top quality teaching and research are also highlighted, plus the university's impressive facilities and professional placement opportunities, with 90% of courses involving some form of work experience.

The Sunday Times said, "Now the top modern university in Britain and shortlisted for University of the Year, a degree from Robert Gordon is as near to a guarantee of a job as you can get."

Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski said, "This is a strong foundation on which the university is now developing its future strategy. RGU intends to lead the way as a university with a special role in Scotland's changing social, cultural, economic and political landscape. We will focus strongly on access for the disadvantaged, on supporting businesses and industry, and on helping to resolve the issues and problems faced by society."

EU Award for IDEAS and School of Computing



Dr Horacio González-Vélez

Researchers at RGU's Institute for Innovation, Design and Sustainability Research (IDEAS) and the School of Computing have been awarded €638,000 as part of a European Commission-funded project to undertake world-leading research to improve the performance of modern computing technology.

The 3.5 million ParaPhrase Project, supported by the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) for Research and Technological Development - the EU's main instrument for funding research - will bring together expertise from academic institutions and industry specialists across five countries, including St Andrews University, who will co-ordinate the project. The project at RGU will involve academics, researchers and PhD students of parallel computing and computational science at the School of Computing and IDEAS Research Institute.

The ParaPhrase Project will look to exploit high performance computers effectively to support modern demands for computing power in business, and industry, maximising the speed of processors working together 'in parallel' to give peak performance.

Dr Horacio González-Vélez, a lecturer at the School of Computing and Principal Investigator of the project at RGU, explains. "All contemporary devices and computers furnish one or more multi-core processors. While it's great that you have a fast, multi-core processor in your iPad or smartphone, unless the applications on these technologies are able to take full advantage of the processor's capabilities, users will not see any real improvement. Multiply this by the millions of devices in the world, and you will appreciate the overwhelming size of the challenge at hand. In order to efficiently programme computer systems to maximise their potential functions, we must produce software now that is easy to write and still allows current and future hardware to be used effectively."

For the full story click here.

Welcome to Nexus online, which is issued electronically every second month. Please get in touch if you have any suggestions for stories or features for the magazine. Email your ideas to j.shackleton@rgu.ac.uk. The cut-off date for articles to be included in the January/February edition is Friday 9 December. Can managers please ensure that staff without regular university email access are informed that Nexus online can be viewed from home, or in libraries and IT labs at any university site at Nexus online.

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) donate van to StreetSport

Run in collaboration between GFRS, RGU: SPORT, Grampian Police, Taqa Bratani and a number of local partner agencies, Street Sport is a youth diversionary project carried out within Aberdeen city's many communities.

The StreetSport concept is based on the deployment of temporary portable sports pitches around various locations within the city, taking activities to young people in their own communities with the aim of reducing anti-social behaviour whilst promoting an active and healthy lifestyle and encouraging inclusivity.

Gordon Riddell, Station Manager at North Anderson Drive Fire Station said, "StreetSport has been a fantastic youth diversionary initiative that has led to reduction in wilful fire raising in high risk areas. It provides and helps other areas of anti-social behaviour and not forgetting the physical fitness of our youth of today".

He continued, "The additional vehicle will allow StreetSport to get their volunteers out to more than one area on the same night. Our statistics clearly show that during these events, we see very few problems with wilful fires in the areas where StreetSport are engaging with the kids, and this is ultimately our aim".

SPECIAL FEATURES

4-5

Focus on Health and Social Care

6 Masters D

Masters Degree Show

7 New course is a World first

You're Hired!! – Aberdeen is the destination for Ghana's Apprentice Style Reality Show



The Challenge, an Apprentice style reality TV show in Ghana, will have a decidedly Aberdonian slant in the current series as participants compete against each other

to win an all expenses scholarship to study for a postgraduate degree at RGU.

The programme, which is sponsored by the British Council, has become a firm favourite in prime time viewing in Ghana attracting 4.5 million viewers during each of the 12 weeks of the show. RGU was given the opportunity to participate given its international reputation in oil and gas and business education, areas of particular interest given Ghana's buoyant oil sector.

Julie Deighton of the Directorate for Marketing, Communications and Student Recruitment said, "We were delighted when we were approached by the British Council to participate in The Challenge. The University already has links with oil companies in Ghana but this allows us to directly provide an opportunity to a young person who may well become one of Ghana's future captains of industry."

The scholarship at RGU will include all tuition fees, accommodation and living expenses while in Aberdeen and travel from Ghana to Aberdeen. The winner will be able to choose from any of the one-year postgraduate masters courses offered by the University although business and engineering are expected to be particularly popular.

Twelve individuals will battle it out for the top prize on seven key tasks including a sales challenge, charity task, and pitching a product. Each week one of the contestants is evicted by a panel of judges and by public vote.

Diana Yanney, Corporate Affairs Manager at the British Council in Ghana said, "The Challenge reality TV show represents opportunity, celebrates academic excellence and provides a window into everything the British Council stands for as a leader in international education and managing the growth of UK international education delivered both in the UK and Ghana."

The winner will be announced in January 2012.

Appointments

Nicki Matthew has been appointed to the role of Faculty Finance & Project Officer for the Faculty of Design & Technology. Nicki's main role will be to provide management support to the Dean in the strategic development of the Faculty including financial management and planning. Nicki will also take the lead in a wide variety of projects, on behalf of the Dean, with a view to delivering/fulfilling the Faculty's strategic objectives.

David Hall has joined RGU from Superior Energy Services where he was responsible for IT Management & Business Liaison. David has taken up the post of Head of Development & Projects where he will be responsible for establishing and driving forward the IT development programme across the University.

RGU Launches Business Development Services

RGU launched its new Business Development Services department in August, providing business with a single point of entry to access the university's expertise.

Business Development Services works with business to develop and deliver relevant, customised learning and development solutions, reinforced by strong industry relationships and the expertise of RGU's Faculties and Schools. While most companies know the university can help them a common problem is knowing who to contact.

Stuart Rennie, Director of Business Development Services at RGU said, "RGU recognises the importance to businesses engaging with the university for the primary purpose of improving the competencies and skills that will influence business performance and results. Businesses thrive when they can maintain a competitive edge. On the global stage the drivers for success include research and innovation, technology transfer and commercialisation, and employee development and well-being.

"Bringing access to all our business-facing expertise under a central function will enable us to be more effective in ensuring the wide ranging knowledge within the university is readily available to provide the support and tools that business needs to realise growth potential."

Services include the development of award-bearing educational programmes, the majority of which are professionally accredited, customised training courses, knowledge transfer partnerships, consultancy interventions such as training needs analyses, maintaining productive and healthy workforces and environment, innovation audits, contract research, competency assessments and capability assurance, research collaboration and commercialisation.

Colleagues who wish to explore how they can better engage with business should contact Business Development Services by calling x3320 or emailing business@rgu.ac.uk.

Inaugural Graeme Budge Award presented

The School of Engineering presented the inaugural 'The Graeme Budge Award' to Vibhu Jaitly on Friday 15 July. Graeme Budge, Technical Services Officer died in a fatal accident whilst on holiday in Nepal in 2010 and the Award trophy was donated by Graeme's family as a way to honour the support Graeme provided to the University and its students.

The Award will be presented annually to a third or fourth year student demonstrating aptitude and understanding in the field of engineering. The recipient of the award was chosen by the Technical Services staff and the trophy will be displayed in the Clarke building.

The trophy was constructed from a turbine blade supplied by the School of Engineering and the family organised the mounting and inscription on a granite block from Graeme's home town, Thurso, Caithness. Both the family and the staff felt the award was the best way to honour and remember the support that Graeme provided to the University and the students.



Standing - Lorna Budge, Lynne Thomson, Anne Budge, Vibhu Jaitly (Student – recipient), Christopher Macdonald, Martin Johnstone (Technician), Allan MacPherson (Technician), Janice Smith, Bill Walker (Technician), Andy Ross (Technician)
Kneeling at Front - Alan McLean (Technical Services Coordinator), David Howie (Technician)

University's Flagship Event Brings Business Leaders Together



Business leaders from across the North-east came together for the University's prestigious 2011 Entrepreneurship Dinner, sponsored by AMEC, on Monday 10 October at The Marcliffe Hotel and Spa.

Entitled 'Opportunities In Recession' the event included keynote speeches from Martin Gilbert, Chief Executive at Aberdeen Asset Management, and Nigel Wilson, Regional Manager for North Sea and West Africa at Premier Oil. The event culminated in a panel discussion including Neil Bruce, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer for AMEC, and chaired by Deirdre Michie, of Shell in Aberdeen.

Neil Bruce, Executive Director at AMEC added, "As part of our partnership with Robert Gordon University, we are delighted to be involved with the Entrepreneurship Dinner again. It is vital in a recession to see where opportunities can present themselves in order to sustain businesses and encourage growth of both existing and new ventures. We need to build on the spirit of entrepreneurship long into the future, and I'm very keen that we keep learning from our experiences along the way."



Research Team to Develop New Treatment for Rare Disease

A team of researchers at RGU has secured a six figure sum from Sparks, a leading children's medical research charity, to develop a revolutionary treatment for a rare genetic disorder.

Working between the university's School of Pharmacy and Life Sciences and the Institute of Health and Welfare Research, the team has received £101,554 from Sparks to develop a gel for the treatment of eye-related complications in patients with cystinosis.

Cystinosis is a rare disease primarily affecting children where the amino acid cystine accumulates in all body organs. Unlike regularly functioning bodies where cystine is naturally broken down, cystinotic patients suffer from the formation of crystalised deposits which, if untreated, lead to kidney failure by ten years old, progressing to the liver and eyes, and death in the second decade of life.

Cystine in the eye makes patients severely sensitive to light and induces chronic eyelid spasms. The current oral treatment for cystinosis, cysteamine which lowers the levels of the amino acid, has no effect on the eyes. As such, patients must use eye-drops on an hourly-basis to slow the accumulation of these crystal deposits.

The team of researchers, which comprises Dr Graeme Kay, Professor Donald Cairns, Dr Rachel Knott and Dr Kerr Matthews, have worked collaboratively for over five years, studying cystinosis which currently affects around 150 children in the UK.

The Sparks research grant will allow them to develop and evaluate a new approach for the treatment of the eye-related complications associated with cystinosis.

This news has been welcomed by Roy Forsyth, the current chairperson of the Cystinosis Foundation UK. Roy's daughter, Lena, was diagnosed with the condition at seven months old. Now 10, Lena has shown incredible positivity in managing her condition and has, along with her dad and mother Vicky, helped raise both funds and awareness of it.

The family's relationship with the Robert Gordon University team is well established. Four years ago they helped raise funds for a new refrigerated centrifuge for the School of Pharmacy and Life Sciences that has enabled the team to accelerate their research into cystinosis.

For the full story click here.

NHS Grampian and RGU collaborate on Conference

Around 150 nurses, pharmacists and other health professionals attended the Non-Medical Prescribing Conference at the Faculty of Health and Social Care in August.

This second conference followed the success of the inaugural event held in April 2010. Funded by NHS Grampian, the conference aims to provide a learning and networking opportunity open to all non-medical prescribers within the NHS Grampian area.

Click here for the full story

Minister Welcomes New Centre

Scotland's new centre for improving the lives of looked after children, and enhancing their future prospects, was launched in September. The Centre for Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland (CELCIS) will support parents, carers, care professionals, health workers and teachers to strengthen the welfare of children in all care settings. These include fostering, residential care and kinship care and also cover those leaving care.

CELCIS succeeds the Scottish Institute for Residential Child Care, a partnership between the University of Strathclyde, Robert Gordon University, Langside College and Who Cares? Scotland, set up by the Scottish Government in 2000 to improve outcomes for children and young people in residential care.

RGU's role in the partnership is primarily to deliver a professional social work qualification in residential childcare that is offered on a distance learning basis to students in employment within relevant settings in Scotland. This degree programme also leads to the award of a BA in Social Pedagogy upon completing the third stage of the four year BA honours course.

Terry McLean, Associate Head of School at the University's School of Applied Social Studies said: "This is a very important development for both the provision of expert care for disadvantaged children in Scotland and also for the social work profession. We are delighted to continue to contribute to the programme in its new form."

For the full story click here.

RGU launches Health and Social Care Doctorate

The Institute for Health and Welfare Research (IHWR) has launched a new doctorate programme that is suited to a range of professions across the health and social care sectors.

The Doctorate of Professional Practice is a five year part-time course that will lead to a qualification that is directly equivalent to a PhD. It has been designed to be fully integrated within a number of professions including social work, pharmacy, forensic and biomedical sciences, nursing and midwifery, radiography, physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

The programme, which will fit around full-time work commitments, will equip students with first class research skills that will allow them to significantly contribute to their chosen career.

Dr Rachel Knott, course leader of the new programme said, "The doctorate is equivalent to a PhD with the difference being that the work is contextualised within the respective professions. The course module assessments have been designed to maximise engagement of the taught topics with the professional practice experiences that students bring with them.

"The practical nature of the course will not only help to integrate the students' learning experience, but will also ensure that employers assessing doctoral graduates will be able to take account of the students' work-based activities."

For full story click here.

Academic Leads National Event Exploring Social Inequality

A Robert Gordon University academic recently took a lead role in a national event which explored the inequalities within contemporary British society. Chris Yuill, who is a lecturer in the School of Applied Social Studies at the university's Garthdee campus, chaired and organised the British Sociological Association's (BSA) national Equality Lecture.

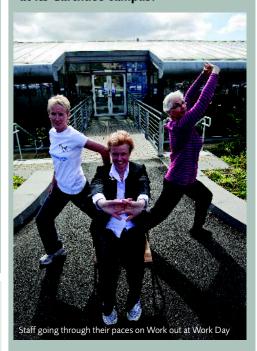
Held earlier this summer in the British Library in London, the public lecture was delivered by Richard Wilkinson, leading researcher in the study of social inequalities and co-author of the highly influential book 'The Spirit Level'. In his seminar, Professor Wilkinson argued that if the gaps between the rich and the poor in the UK were not as dramatic as they currently are, the UK could begin to reduce the significant inequalities in life expectancy between the top and the bottom of the class spectrum.

Click here for full story



Staff Learn How to Work out at Work

The university tackled workplace lethargy as part of Workout at Work Day in September with a host of free lunchtime exercise sessions for staff at its Garthdee campus.



Workout at Work Day (WAWD) – an initiative led by the School of Health Sciences in concert with the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) – saw staff taking part in a variety of activities from yoga classes, to guided walks, wall climbing and swimming.

Participants also learned from qualified physiotherapists how to build simple exercises into the working day by attending sessions on chair and desk-based workouts.

Health improvement and promotion is a key focus within the Faculty of Health and Social Care and across the university. All health-related undergraduate programmes are now underpinned by core modules which help students develop the skills to meet existing and emerging challenges in the health professions such as increasing obesity levels.

Nick Summersgill of the School of Health Sciences led the university's Workout at Work Day programme. He said "It is all too common for today's professional to sit at his or her desk all day without even taking a short walk. Numerous studies show that sedentary behaviour like this contributes to a range of health-related issues like weight-gain and stress. What we wanted to show with this fun event is that even relatively short bursts of moderate exercise can significantly improve your health."

Click here for the full story

Sight and Sound - Masters Degree Show 2011

Postgraduate students at Gray's School of Art were hard at work over the summer months preparing for September's Masters Degree Show exhibition.



Sean Ambrose exhibiting his work

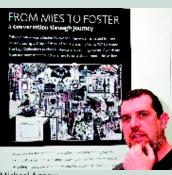
The students have wholeheartedly engaged with real-world issues and real-world needs, ensuring that they have laid the best possible foundations for ensuring the ongoing relevance of their work as they move forward into uncertain times. One example, Sean Ambrose, has created a series of large-scale, colourful paintings that explore the beauty in industrial architecture, highlighting 'man-made fingerprints' left on the modern landscape.

He explains: "Industry has developed all around us to sustain our lifestyles yet these accomplishments of engineering are not typically viewed as attractive, more as eyesores or blots on the landscape. Inspired by the industrial revolution and recent events including the Fukoshima nuclear disaster in Japan, I have created my own visual response and interpretation, highlighting how the constructed and natural environments can both co-exist and be aesthetically-pleasing."

lain Irving, Course Leader for the Masters Course, said: "The Masters Degree Show is the culmination of an intense full year of development and study by the students. Our 2011 Masters students have demonstrated a wide range of contemporary practice, whether their work is rooted in design, fine art or in innovative, cross-disciplinary contexts, ensuring the ongoing relevance of their work as they move forward as professional practitioners."

Click here to view the students' work.

Arts and Heritage - A Journey Through Time



Michael Agnew RSA, artist and principal lecturer in printmaking at Gray's School of Art has, in collaboration with the Library's Arts & Heritage team, selected a collection of objects which retrace his steps during his 25 years in Aberdeen. The artist embarks on an autobiographical journey, triggering memories of pivotal moments and working with fellow artists whilst simultaneously deciphering his own visual code as an artist and teacher.

The exhibition, currently on show in the Georgina Scott Sutherland Library, is entitled 'From Mies to Foster: A Conversation Through Journey' and brings together diverse objects from both the university art collection and from private collections.

The exhibition features diverse objects such as a stove used in the process of creating prints and a pair of very large antique books. A reproduction of Audubon's 'The Birds of America', establishes links and inspiration from the past alongside contemporary works such as 'Avignon Painting' by Lennox Dunbar RSA who recently retired from a 30 year position within Gray's School of Art, latterly as Head of Printmaking.

Michael explains, "The exhibition celebrates examples of rich work and inspiring individuals who have contributed greatly to the cultural life of Aberdeen and beyond. For RGU's Art and Heritage Collection the exhibition is an opportunity to display works by alumni, held both by the university and in private collections.

The exhibition, which is open to the public, will run until 30 October in the Georgina Scott Sutherland Library at Robert Gordon University's Garthdee campus.

Research Identifies 'Health & Safety Information Gap' in the Oil Sector

RGU research commissioned by AVEVA has identified a 'Health & Safety Information Gap' in the oil and gas industry. The AVEVA report is based on RGU's research which gathered information from health and safety managers, senior managers and engineers in the global oil and gas industry, through an online questionnaire. Respondents' business types included operating companies, contractors, service companies and suppliers. Confidential, in-depth critical incident case studies were carried out in four representative businesses, interviewing key individuals able to comment authoritatively on the information aspects of dealing with the incidents.

Concentrating on information systems within the health & safety environment, the far reaching report documents a number of insightful

findings. For example, 40% of respondents don't know where to search for safety information and are working on a mixture of corporate, local and external information systems.

Professor Rita Marcella said, "There are particular concerns that current information systems are not accessible to frontline operational staff and that these systems and health & safety messages are not designed with their needs in mind. Existing systems are often complex and employees frequently turn to informal sources, such as peer networks and 'experts', when faced with too much information that is not immediately relevant".

The report, authored by Professor Rita Marcella and Tracy Pirie of Aberdeen Business School is available for download, along with AVEVA's Point of View document at www.aveva.com/hs-research.



Top Designer Visits RGU

One of the UK's most inspirational and talented designers, Wayne Hemingway MBE gave an inspirational evening seminar entitled 'Designing the Future' on 6 October. The lecture was the last in a series of three master classes, funded by the Design Council and run by the university's Centre for Design and Innovation (c4di), all following the theme of Designing for the Future.

In his lecture Wayne addressed his perspective on how design can help businesses prepare for the future based on his experience of developing new brands and companies in the world of design from fashion and textiles to interiors, products and events.

Wayne Hemingway is foremost renowned for founding leading fashion label Red or Dead, which gained global acclamation and won the British Fashion Council's Street Style Designer of the Year award three years running before he sold the label, turning his attention to the design of social housing.

Professor Julian Malins, c4di project director said "The purpose of the Designing for the Future master classes is to explore some of the ways in which design can assist businesses with their vision and growth for the future. We have managed to secure very influential guest speakers who have vast knowledge in both design and growing a business to impart not only their passion and wisdom but also their first hand experience.

Aberdeen Business School plays host to European entrepreneurship conference

The Centre for Entrepreneurship at Robert Gordon University's Aberdeen Business School hosted the 6th European Conference on Innovation and Entrepreneurship in September. The academic conference provided a setting for new research themes and collaborations to emerge and prosper, welcoming a wide range of academics from all over the world to discuss topics including entrepreneurship education, innovation techniques, social entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship across the world.

Heather Fulford, from The Centre for Entrepreneurship and Programme Chair said, "It is a privilege for the Centre for Entrepreneurship to host this strategic conference which presents us with an exciting opportunity to meet and learn from leading researchers in entrepreneurship and innovation from across the globe, and to explore possibilities for further international research collaborations."

For the full story click here.

New Course is a World First for Robert Gordon University

The University has launched a new course, the only one of its type in the World, targeted at professionals in the energy sector involved in corporate social responsibility (CSR).

Oil and gas companies are increasingly aware of concerns about global warming, social development, environmental disasters, human rights and business ethics. Corporate Social Responsibility has become a very important part of the strategy of many energy companies yet there is little in the way of formal training or qualifications for professionals wishing to work in this field.

The MSc Corporate Social Responsibility with Energy is targeted at preparing professionals for middle / senior management roles across a range of areas within oil, gas and renewable companies.

Professor Stephen Vertigans, Acting Head of the School of Applied Social Studies said, "The course has been developed following increasing demand from businesses, particularly in the oil and gas sector. The focus is very much on looking at real problems faced by energy companies and resolving these using critical analysis, decision-making, problem solving and research methods."

The course aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the influences upon, and impacts of, the energy sector through exposure to a number of different areas associated with CSR. These include architecture, business studies, cultural studies, economics, engineering, gender studies, political science, research methodology, sociology and urban studies.

The MSc in Corporate Social Responsibility with Energy will welcome its first cohort of students in September 2012.

University Responds to Skills Demand in the Energy Sector

The University has launched two new courses targeted at professionals in the energy sector following demand from businesses.

The MSc Commercial Practice for the Energy Sectors will accept its first cohort of students in January 2012 and will be delivered part-time by open distance learning, allowing students to fit their studies around their work and home life.

Mohammed Kishk, course leader said, "In recent years we've seen a growing demand from oil and gas companies for surveying and project management graduates to work in commercial management type roles. This course is designed to help professionals who wish to develop their skills in commercial management with particular focus on oil, gas, renewables and decommissioning industries."

The University will also offer an MSc Offshore Renewables from January 2013, again delivered by distance learning.

Dr Jesse Andrawus, course leader said, "The Scottish Government has forecast that by 2020 an additional 26,000 jobs could be created in the renewable energy sector with a further 28,000 specifically in offshore wind. There is therefore a very real need for graduates with the skills required to drive this developing sector forward."

The course will be targeted at engineers or those in a related discipline wishing to develop broad and wide-ranging experience which will equip them to apply the fundamental principles of engineering and project management to assess and manage life-cycle phases of offshore renewable projects.

Arts and Heritage Team host 'Artachat'

The 'Artachat' session, held in September, was attended by 35 artists and guests, providing a forum for the discussion and debate on collaborating in the arts; exploring, critiquing and highlighting the artistic landscape of Aberdeenshire. Guest speakers included Angus Farquhar from environmental art champions NVA, Peter McCaughey lecturer in public art at Glasgow School of Art and Debbie Beeson and Blane Johnson, graduates of Gray's.

Jane Kidd, Collections Curator, Art & Heritage Collection said, "Hosting this event has allowed RGU to work directly with the arts community in the North East. It's provided a great opportunity to bring talent and passion together to discuss thoughts and opinions from different perspectives."

Further information on Artachat can be found at www.artachat.com

Legal Students enjoy summer School Success

First-year students from the Department of Law at Aberdeen Business School, Sarah Gorski (20) and Keiran Meiklejohn (19), got a taste of what a career in the legal profession has to offer after completing the City Solicitors' Educational Trust (CSET) Summer School in London.

The worthy law students were awarded two of only 100 places against tough competition from over 1000 applicants from universities throughout the UK.

The CSET Summer School identifies the most talented students through a rigorous selection process and provides them with a unique learning opportunity whilst imparting confidence so that they can achieve their full academic potential.

Visiting Professor Invited to Speak at International Convention



Professor Alan Dunlop

A visiting professor at the Scott Sutherland School of Architecture and Built Environment has accepted an invitation from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and British Council for School Environments (BCSE) to give a presentation of his work at their annual international convention in London.

Professor Alan Dunlop, who has led student projects at the university for four years as part

of his career on the international lecture circuit, will deliver a keynote presentation at the convention which takes place in Hammersmith Academy from 9 to 11 November.

The title of this year's convention is Building Better Schools - Investing in Education. Professor Dunlop's presentation will address this theme directly by exploring the possibilities for innovative 21st Century learning environments. He will draw on examples of his own work to illustrate his presentation, such as his design of the Hazelwood School in Glasgow.

Students Attend EuroPreneurship COEUR student conference

This year's EuroPreneurship conference, held in Germany was the 9th annual event attended by six students from RGU, who together with over 30 students from all over Europe, covered an array of topics centred on the themes of innovation and creativity in an intercultural context.

The five-day conference, entitled the 'Idea Generation Workshop', stimulated a new generation of entrepreneurial ideas with a European dimension, providing students with an open atmosphere for discussion.

Katherine Fair (27), a first class honours graduate in Management with Marketing from RGU who is now Marketing Assistant at Union Square in Aberdeen, attended the workshop in 2008 and holds the conference in high regard explaining, "The conference taught me that my way of working isn't the only way and I relished the challenge of breaking down cultural barriers and learning from other students. It was so rewarding when our hard work paid off and our final team presentation won first prize. I learnt being creative and business minded are not mutually exclusive, you can use both elements of your character to make almost any career situation a success."

La Coru a exhibit at Scott Sutherland



The Scott Sutherland School of Architecture and Built Environment (SSS) has a long history of international collaboration which has continued this year with a number of exciting developments.

Leading the way is Dr Amar Bennadji who is responsible for the School's EU and

international engagement. Among other collaborative projects taking place across the year, Amar recently organised an exhibition exchange with the University of La Coru a, Spain, following his time as a visiting lecture in 2010. The exhibit, which has been displayed in SSS throughout the summer, is of Robie House, a renowned Chicago-based building designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in the early 20th century. The house is considered the finest example of the Prarie style - the first style to be widely accepted as uniquely American.

EVENTS DIARY 2011

For further information on all events, visit: www.rgu.ac.uk/news/eventsdiary

NOVEMBER

8 Guest Lecture - Karen Darke

DECEMBER

8-9 Winter Graduation Ceremonies

14 Christmas Carol Service