



Nexusonline

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Connecting the University community



(l-r) Deputy Principal John Harper, Dean of the Faculty of Design & Technology, Professor John Watson, David Baker, NI Academic Program Manager and Sarah Brady, NI District Sales Manager

School of Engineering opens state-of-the-art Instrumentation lab

The School of Engineering officially opened an exciting industrial instrumentation engineering course on Monday 6 February that aims to bring industry and academia closer together.

The inauguration event for the LabVIEW Academy and Industrial Instrumentation laboratory was attended by RGU senior management, current students and staff, alumni and delegates from within the industry, including Subsea 7, Nautronix and Wood Group. Delegates were addressed by RGU Deputy Principal John Harper, Dean of the Faculty of Design & Technology, Professor John Watson and Project Leader Gunti Gunarathne, before a ribbon cutting ceremony took place to officially open the facility.

The facilities are the first of its kind in the UK, and have been developed by the school over a period of nearly 18 months in close collaboration with industry and National Instruments (NI), one of the world's leading providers of software and hardware for measurement and control.

In its full-time format, it includes a two-week intensive programme within the School of Engineering's LabVIEW Academy and Centre of Excellence for Industrial Instrumentation [LACEII] facility at Schoolhill, and is suitable for all science and technological disciplines, including

civil, mechanical, electrical, oil and gas and biomedical engineering. The course will give participants in-depth knowledge of LabVIEW (Laboratory Virtual Instrumental Engineering Workbench), a software platform, which allows users to develop their own programming to monitor and control processes and equipment.

The LabVIEW Academy programme was launched in September last year, initially as a full-time fee-paying course for students who completed their final year in summer 2011. However, from this year it will be brought forward so students can join immediately after their final exams. The second delivery was opened to industrial delegates for the first time in January this year.

LabVIEW based instrumentation is extensively used in all science and technological disciplines throughout the world, including space, aviation, oil and gas, renewable energy sector, automobile, robotics and ROVs, built environment, biomedical engineering and nuclear science.

Dr Gunti Gunarathne, a Reader and Technology Consultant within the School of Engineering comments: "I am delighted to announce the official opening of the LabVIEW facilities at Robert Gordon University. The first delivery of the modules ran most successfully, and feedback from the participants, including industrial delegates rated our facilities and course delivery as excellent."

WELCOME

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 Nexus online Editor. The cut-off date for articles to be included in the May/June edition is Friday 6th April. 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.

Energising Construction: Vision for North-east discussed at conference

The findings of an investigation into the energy performance of building and construction in the North-east were discussed at a conference entitled 'Energising Construction: The Future' at the Scott Sutherland School of Architecture and Built Environment (SSS) on 25 January.

The Building Performance Investigation was commissioned by Energetica, the vision for a world-leading energy technology development between Aberdeen and Peterhead, and examines the current and future energy performance of residential building.

The 70 delegates who attended the one-day conference, sponsored by Aberdeenshire Council, Scottish Enterprise and Ledingham Chalmers, included architects, designers, environmental and sustainable consultants, developers, house builders, social housing providers and surveyors. As well as discussing the findings of the investigation, they also had the opportunity to share their experiences and obtain clarification in terms of Scottish Government policy.

Gerard Buda, Conference Co-ordinator and Senior Lecturer at the SSS, explains: "The Conference offered the built environment community an opportunity to learn more about the Energetica vision and how it will seek to influence best practice in low-energy construction and the Scottish government's low carbon green agenda, in terms of residential construction and energy supply and demand."

The programme featured presentations by representatives from Energetica, the Scottish Government, academics and leaders in the field of low-energy residential development from across Scotland. Workshops also took place, focusing on low and zero carbon technologies, modern methods of construction and innovation.



(L to R) Top row: Gary Wilson, Gokay Deveci, Gary Clark and David McClean. Bottom row: Bruce Taylor, Rhona Donnelly, Mairi Ross, Sara

RGU Professor celebrates his inauguration as President of CILIPS



(L to R) Professor Peter Reid, Dr Audrey Sutton (Vice President), Elaine Fulton (Director of CILIPS) and Alan Reid (Immediate Past President)

Professor Peter Reid, Head of the Department of Information Management at Aberdeen Business School has been installed as the new President of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals in Scotland (CILIPS) for 2012.

CILIPS is the Scottish Branch of CILIP, the professional body representing librarians and information professionals in the UK. CILIPS works closely with the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC), the advisory body for Scottish ministers on library and information matters.

Peter, who served as Vice-President during 2011, accepted the chain of office from the outgoing President, Alan Reid, at a meeting held in the Scottish Parliament on the 27th of January. He has chosen 'Enriching Society' as his presidential theme for the year and this will form the focus for the programme of CILIPS annual conference to be held in Dundee this June.

Dr Audrey Sutton, Head of Culture at North Ayrshire Council and who herself undertook her PhD at Robert Gordon University was also installed as Vice-President of CILIP at the same ceremony.

RGU appoints two new members to its Board of Governors

Ms Adeline Christy and Mr David Brew will join the sixteen other board members who are responsible for the overall strategic direction and governance of the university.

Adeline Christy, who was born in Aberdeen, spent her childhood in Africa. She was educated at Albyn School and Edinburgh University, where she gained an LLB (Hons), specialising in Investment and Maritime Law.

Following graduation, Adeline spent twenty years working in the USA and travelled extensively throughout Asia, Africa and Europe.

Upon returning to Scotland in 1998 she was recruited by a financial services company, and as a director, was involved in a management buyout in 2000. She spent the last ten years involved in building up the company, which was acquired by a UK plc in 2011.

In her spare time Adeline enjoys reading, the arts and travelling with family and friends.

David Brew is a fluent European linguist and former Senior Civil Servant. He graduated in Languages from Heriot-Watt University and Politics from the University of Strathclyde.

David worked at the European Commission in Brussels between 1979 and 1991, before returning to Scotland to head the Industry Department's Technology Unit. He was Head of two Scottish Office departments between 1991 and 1998. He then joined UK Cabinet Secretariat, advising HM Government on devolution.

In 1999, David became Chief Executive of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, before becoming involved in Scottish Government again in 2004. He retired from government service in April 2011.

David has been based in Edinburgh for over 30 years, and lists his interests in Who's Who as languages, music, film and gastronomy.



(L to R) Katarina, Sophie, Neil Robertson Operations Director at SPD Ltd, Sharon, and Keith Grant, Head of Painting.

SPD Ltd award students £2500 to nurture artistic talent

Three Painting students at Gray's School of Art have been presented with a prestigious new industry award that aims to nurture local talent and introduce art to the oil and gas community.

Specialist well engineering company, SPD Ltd also offered the students the chance to exhibit their work in the company's new offices. At the awards ceremony, which took place at the launch of the exhibition in December, the winners were presented with cash prizes that were donated by SPD to help further their artistic studies.

Fourth-year student, Katarina Chomova attained first prize of £1250, Sharon Bonnar was awarded second prize of £750 for her work, with third place going to Sophie Radcliffe.

Keith Grant, Subject Leader in Painting at Gray's commented, "The awards have provided the winning students with vital extra resource to further explore their areas of expertise and has also given them the opportunity to display their work to a wider audience which offers a taste of life as a practicing artist."

The engineering company also purchased a piece of work from the same exhibition by second-year student, Jonathan Whitson, which will be hung in the company boardroom.

Managing Director, Alex Macdonald provided his thoughts on the competition, "Over the last five years the directors and personnel of SPD have worked hard at establishing the company in the city. We felt that it was time to offer our time, energy and resources to give something back to the local community by providing support for emerging artistic talent."

Charitable student cycles 1000 miles

A RGU student has cycled 1,000 miles using a spin bike to raise money for Scottish Disability Sport.

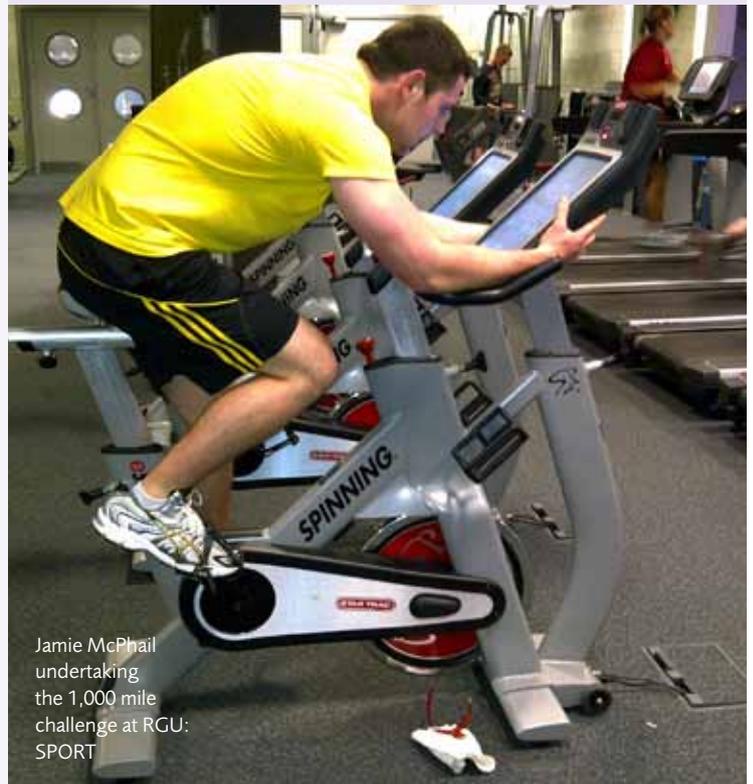
Jamie McPhail, who studies Mechanical Engineering, took part in the Scottish Student Sport 1,000 mile challenge which asks participants to complete the distance using any cardiovascular gym equipment.

Jamie, who along with another student, Paddy Maughan, raised £400 for the charity said: "I was always confident that I would complete it as there was no chance I was getting sick for being the guy that couldn't complete."

It took him just 38 hours spread over 6 weeks to reach the 1,000 mile mark on the 23rd of November. Jamie also competes for the university's rugby team, however has been unable to play recently due to injury. With more time on his hands Jamie saw the challenge as a perfect chance to stay active.

Nicola Scott, President of Sport and Physical Activity at the University said: "The 1,000 mile challenge is a great initiative run by Scottish Student Sport to encourage physical activity. The commitment and time that individuals have put in is brilliant and Jamie completing the 1000 miles first is the cherry on the top."

Launched in June last year, the challenge asks participants to complete three distances, 250 miles, 500 miles and 1,000 miles for just a £1 donation.



Jamie McPhail undertaking the 1,000 mile challenge at RGU: SPORT

Nuts about the environment



Kaimhill Primary School pupils with their creations.

Pupils from Kaimhill Primary School's Eco Club visited RGU's new development at Garthdee to choose positions for new bird boxes and squirrel feeders which they created.

The pupils met with representatives from Miller Construction to hand over the bird boxes they have painted and a squirrel feeder obstacle

course which has been designed specifically for the new site. The items will accompany safety posters already displayed on site, drawn by older pupils from the primary school.

The excursion follows on from several sessions that Miller Construction spent with the pupils, where they talked about various elements relating to RGU's new building, including the progress of the new site, its surrounding wildlife and an informative session on safety.

Richard Gallacher, Area Director – Scotland, Miller Construction, said: "We were delighted to welcome pupils from Kaimhill Primary School to the site. During their visit we gave them a tour of the site, advising them of the most suitable places to put the bird boxes. The pupils were very engaged and enjoyed the tour, which enabled them to see for themselves the best positions on site for the bird boxes and squirrel feeder obstacle which they have worked hard to create."

Brunei Minister of Energy visits RGU



(L to R) Professor John Watson, Professor John Harper and Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski meet the Brunei Minister of Energy.

RGU recently hosted a visit from the Brunei Minister of Energy, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Singamanteri Kolonel (B) Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Awang Haji Mohammad Yasmin Bin Haji Umar and Ken Marnoch, Managing Director of Brunei Shell Petroleum, further strengthening the university's relations with the global energy industry.

The minister, accompanied by several officers from the Brunei Energy Department and the Prime Minister's Office, as well as representatives from Brunei Shell Petroleum and Petroleum Brunei, visited RGU as part of a high profile trip to the UK and the Netherlands.

RGU was selected for the Minister's visit, entitled 'Education in support of the industry', because of its close relationship with key operators including Shell UK and its involvement in the energy industry in terms of education, research and knowledge transfer partnerships.

During the trip, which took place on 20 January, the delegates visited RGU's City Centre campus and were shown the university's plans for its new development at Garthdee.

Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski said: "RGU is very pleased to welcome the Minister to Aberdeen, and the university is happy to work closely with Brunei to support the country's drive to offer high quality education of relevance to the oil and gas industry. RGU was honoured to have been able to host the Minister, and hopes for a long partnership as a result of the visit."



Suzanne with her iPad2.

Careers Software benefits Students

RGU has implemented a new job search career tool which is already benefitting its students and graduates, not least Suzanne Morrison (20), a second year Fashion Management Student who won an iPad2 after registering with the software.

Suzanne, from Barrhead in Glasgow, was drawn as the winner of an IPAD2 following her registration and use of My CAREER – RGU Career Centre's complete online career planning and job search package. The system provides students with a direct link to employers which target RGU talent and allows connection to the national TARGET Jobs website, the UK's premier graduate recruitment portal.

Christine Buchanan, Dean of Students said: "We are keen to encourage all students and recent graduates at whatever stage in their career to use the Careers Centre and this online system allows them to access local, national and international job opportunities, careers and recruitment events, careers appointments and drop in sessions, post queries to the Careers Team 24/7 and sign up to targeted daily/weekly alerts."

The MY CAREER software (TARGETconnect), supplied by GTI Media Ltd was launched in September 2011 and already has well over 2000 active users. Darren Edhouse, TARGET Connect Business Development Manager, said: "We were delighted to learn of Suzanne's early engagement with the system and are working closely with RGU to enhance the range of services that they can offer to their students, recent graduates and employers through the MY CAREER tool."

Hydrasun unveils students' artwork

Two RGU students who won a competition to create artwork for one of Aberdeen's leading energy services companies recently visited its headquarters to see their paintings displayed.

Hydrasun, a leading specialist provider of integrated fluid transfer, power and control solutions, held a competition for third-year students from Gray's School of Art last year to create a piece of work which would reflect the environment surrounding the company's site at Gateway Business Park.

Two winners were chosen and they received £1000 and £750 for first and second prize respectively for their commissions. First prize was awarded to Mike Hughes (24) and second prize went to Carmelina Dauron (51).

Winning designs were chosen by Hydrasun Chief Executive Bob Drummond, Allan Watson, Head of Fine Art, and Keith Grant, Subject Leader in Painting at Gray's.

Mr Drummond said: "The paintings are a very welcome addition to the Hydrasun offices. We moved into this site a year ago and the installation of the artwork has been a nice way of marking this."

The winning painting is now on display in Hydrasun's reception area.



(L to R) Mike, Carmelina and Hydrasun Chief Executive Bob Drummond



(L to R) Nutrition and Dietetics student Katy Berston, Toby Donnelly of Abbott Nutrition, and Heather Donald.

Networking with nutritional companies

Lecturers Susan Lennie, Myra Mackenzie-Fraser and Heather Donald from The School of Pharmacy and Life Sciences played host to representatives from the nutrition industry on Wednesday 8 February.

Now in its third year, the Nutritional Companies Information Day was held within the Schoolhill administration building from 10am to 2.30pm. It was not only open to students from nutrition and nutrition & dietetics, but also to those from allied health professional disciplines across the Faculty of Health and Social Care including nursing and pharmacy.

Eighty students attended the drop-in session which featured representatives from some of the top clinical nutritional companies, including Danone, Nutricia, SHS Nutricia, Abbott, Mead Johnston, SMA and Vitaflo.

Attendees had the opportunity to network directly with the company representatives and discuss all aspects relating to their nutritional products including clinical use, product development and marketing. In addition, they were able to discuss professional placements and career prospects. Most of the companies provided free pens, post-it notes and one company, Vitaflo, ran a competition to win a portable hard drive.

Heather Donald, Clinical Lecturer in Nutrition & Dietetics, coordinated the day's activities. She commented: "This was an excellent opportunity for students to find out about the range of nutritional support products the companies have, the nutritional contents of these products and how they are used in clinical practice."

"As malnutrition is increasingly a problem both in hospitals and in the community, we feel it's important to encourage students from all healthcare related courses to attend the annual event. This raises awareness of the variety of products and their uses as nutritional support is central to the treatment and wellbeing of many individuals."

RGU has New Ideas

RGU has announced the winners from its regional stage of the Scottish Institute for Enterprise's (SIE) New Ideas Competition.

The first stage of the New Ideas Competition is held at each university to find the best ideas from their students for a new product, business or social enterprise. The winners then progress to SIE's national competition and compete against other entrants from universities across Scotland.

RGU's leg of the competition, this year sponsored by BP, is part of the Charles P Skene Entrepreneurship Programme. As a result of BP's funding, nine RGU finalists have won a total prize fund of £2500 towards setting up their ideas.

Tim Smith, Vice-President of Communications and External Affairs at BP said, "I am delighted that BP has been able to support this programme which provides invaluable opportunities for students to learn practical business and enterprise skills. I have no doubt that opportunities like this help to enhance capability and encourage entrepreneurs who will be so vital for the future economic prosperity of Scotland."

Dr John Park, Charles P Skene Entrepreneurship Programme Leader at Robert Gordon University said: "The standard of ideas across all faculties was extremely high this year and even for the entries that didn't win I see a lot of potential. RGU's entrepreneurship programme is better placed than ever to provide students with the business support they need as we have recently acquired dedicated office space for these start up businesses in the centre of Aberdeen."

The three prize winners, one from each faculty, were chosen by a panel of experts including, Paul Lawson, Late Life Strategy Manager within BP's Finance Department for North Sea operations and Dr John Park, who prior to his post at RGU was former Research and Development Director for Pepsi Europe. The ideas were judged on their 100 word proposal, feasibility, IP potential and revenue projections.

For more on the story, [click here](#)

PALS team revise influential text book

A team of academics from the School of Pharmacy and Life Sciences (PALS) have launched the new edition of a well-established undergraduate textbook which focuses on the diagnosis and management of the illnesses and diseases frequently encountered in community pharmacy practice.

Pharmacy specialists Brian Addison, Alyson Brown, Ruth Edwards and Gwen Gray, along with lecturer in nutrition and dietetics, Susan Lennie, have taken over the fifth edition of 'Minor Illness or Major Disease?', published by the Pharmaceutical Press. A cross-discipline collaborative effort between the academic team, this new edition has been completely revised and restructured and features a foreword by all four UK chief pharmaceutical officers.

"Our revisions to the book are based on our teaching approach which is formed around problem-based learning," explains Brian Addison, lecturer in Pharmacy Practice. "One of the most significant changes we have made is to add a completely new chapter on nutrition. This recognition of the links between nutrition, diet and health reflects the changes that are currently happening in practice and, as such, this is one of the first books in the pharmacy profession to emphasise this shift."

Further information on 'Minor Illness or Major Disease' can be found online.

Law students get career advice

RGU Law Department's LLM and MSc students attended a research workshop designed to prepare them for the graduate job market on 2 February. The event, in collaboration with AMEC, was entitled 'The Post Graduate and Market Competition'.

Representatives from AMEC, the Engineering Consultancy and Project Management Service firm, a FTSE 100 company with a global presence in the fields of oil and gas, minerals and metals, renewable energy and the environment and infrastructure sectors, included John Hutchins, Supply Chain Manager Dunlin Operations and Kimberley Duncan, an RGU Management Graduate who is currently on AMEC's Graduate Trainee Programme.

During the workshop, the representatives spoke to students about their experience of the post graduate and market competition as well as sessions on what resources and support are available, what a career in law can involve and what potential employers expect.

Dr Elimma Ezeani, from the Department of Law at RGU's Aberdeen Business School said: "The event was a huge success and our students went away well informed about the current market and what they need to do to thrive in it. It was also great for the students to have the opportunity to ask an RGU graduate, who is currently on the AMEC Graduate Trainee Programme, about her experiences and advice".

Winter Graduation

Top Businessman Honoured by RGU



Neil Bruce

Neil Bruce, Group Chief Executive Officer of AMEC plc, was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Business Administration at the winter graduation ceremony.

Neil is responsible for all operational delivery of AMEC's high-value consultancy, engineering and project management services to the world's oil and gas, minerals and metals, clean energy, water and environmental sectors.

Prior to AMEC Neil was at Atlantic Richfield for eight years, latterly leading the development of new oil and gas field developments. He previously held various positions within Brown & Root for 10 years.

He is a Chartered Marine Architect and has a Master's Degree, from Newcastle University. He is a fellow of both the Energy Institute and the Institute of Directors, from which he was awarded the Director Award for Developing Young People in 2008. He is also an Honorary Professor at Aberdeen Business School at Robert Gordon University.

A patron of CLAN (Cancer Link Aberdeen & North-east) charity, Neil has played a significant role in the development of the charity's new purpose built facility in Aberdeen, working as a key member of its project team. Neil is also a Trustee of 'Engineers Against Poverty'.

Recently, Neil has been instrumental in developing AMEC's relationship with local schools, namely Hazlehead Academy and Newtonhill Primary aiming to inspire and encourage pupils to consider a future career in oil and gas.

MBA secures RGU graduate the perfect job

Terry Allan graduated with distinction from an MBA in Oil and Gas Management, having continuously achieved the highest grades of anyone to have completed an MBA at RGU since its validation in 1985.

Terry opted to take a year out to complete his MBA in order to further his career prospects. His investment and hard work paid off after recently landing the role of Business Development Director at Team Recruitment Ltd.

Terry said: "I asked various senior individuals in the oil and gas industry about the MBA offered by RGU, following consistent positive feedback from a number of highly respected professionals in the industry, I chose RGU.

"My new position as Business Development Director at Team Recruitment Ltd utilises many of the skills I have learnt from the MBA and has provided me with that competitive advantage".

Allan Scott, Director of MBA programmes at RGU's Aberdeen Business School added, "Terry's dedication to his studies and determination to further his career has truly paid off and he has realised his objective of successfully moving up the career ladder."

Terry Allan



Student overcomes deafness to fulfill her dreams of a Masters in fine art



Susan Hepburn

An Aberdeen artist graduated with a Master of Fine Art (MFA) from Gray's on Friday 9 December despite suffering from severe deafness.

Susan Hepburn was left partially deaf at the age of 28 after battling tonsillitis and meningitis. The condition has deteriorated over the past thirty years, meaning Susan is now severely deaf and uses a hearing aid.

She explains: "Seeing other students' art work and exhibitions fired my enthusiasm to embark on a postgraduate degree. I knew it would be a challenge but wanted to take my knowledge and skills as an artist to the next level."

The talented artist exhibited her work to the public earlier this year at the Masters Degree Show, where she created an installation featuring photographs, film and 'concrete poetry' exploring her experiences in dealing with deafness by posing the question: 'What does deaf look like?' In the future, Susan would ideally like to study for a PhD and explore the social implications and public awareness of hearing and the senses.

Graduate mum strives to have it all



Sophia Hunter.

Sophia Hunter's hard work paid off on Thursday 8 December when she graduated a BA (Hons) in Business Management.

The busy mum of two young children accomplished her degree via part-time study whilst also working full-time as an assistant manager at a local jewellery store.

With her new qualification and extensive management experience, Sophia hopes to apply for a graduate role within the energy sector.

Sophia said, "It was a challenge juggling a full-time day job and evening classes as it meant missing precious time at home with my little boy and husband. As a mother you are constantly prioritising and you may not be able to have it all but it's certainly worth trying."

PhD student continues work in the treatment of childhood disease

Barbara Buchan graduated on 9 December with a PhD in drug formulation, however this will not be her last endeavor with RGU. She was overjoyed when she was invited back to RGU in order to continue her work at the university, developing an innovative treatment for a rare childhood disease.

Barbara originally joined the university in 2002 when she commenced studies on the Masters of Pharmacy programme at the School of Pharmacy and Life Sciences (SPLS). Halfway through her pre-registration year in 2006, her mind became set on pursuing a career in research rather than continuing on a path into pharmacy.



Barbara Buchan

The following year, Barbara's ambitions were realised when she was offered a PhD at RGU. Over the next four years Barbara studied three alternative formulations for the treatment of Nephropathic Cystinosis.

Barbara's research has been carried out alongside a team of researchers in the university's Institute of Health and Welfare Research and SPLS. The team is currently developing a new approach for the treatment of the eye-related complications associated with cystinosis.

Barbara commented on her new position at RGU, "I'm delighted to be continuing my work as a full-time member of staff," "We are very much looking forward to bringing this innovative treatment to reality."



Professor Barclay

Murder He Wrote

An RGU lecturer has signed a multiple book deal that will see the university become the setting of a brand new fictional crime series.

Professor Dave Barclay, a senior lecturer at the School of Pharmacy and Life Sciences and world renowned forensics expert, is currently putting the final touches to the first in a two-book series which he is co-authoring alongside British crime writer, Margaret Murphy.

Constable & Robinson will publish the first book, *Dead Reckoning*, in Spring 2013 under the pen name A D Garrett.

Professor Barclay was approached by literary agency, Curtis Brown, in 2010 after delivering a lecture at a national crime writer's conference. The agency teamed him up with Margaret and subsequently facilitated a contract deal with Constable & Robinson.

His primary role in the writing partnership with Margaret Murphy is to develop the plot and characters, and infuse the writing with his significant experience of forensic science and its application to crime scene investigation. Although he has previously worked with authors such as Stuart McBride, simply to give technical advice, this is the start of a new and more creative involvement.

Professor Barclay comments: "It's wonderful working in concert with an accomplished writer that can truly bring out a dramatic flare to a story. Margaret and I share a strong vision of what works in this genre and I am delighted to be bringing this new series to the light of day with her."

RGU mooters win the case

RGU students have won the first round of the prestigious Alexander Stone Mooting Competition, against Edinburgh University.

Fourth-year RGU Law students Craig Donald (21) from Bucksburn, Aberdeen and Kirsty MacCallum (22) from the Black Isle, both previous winners of the 2011 Granite City Moot, mooted against law students from the University of Edinburgh triumphantly beating their opposition in the first round of the Alexander Stone Mooting Competition.

The moot, hosted in RGU's moot court on Friday 16 December, was presided over by the recently retired Sheriff Douglas Cusine who provided positive feedback to both teams and commended RGU on their command of the authorities and the law. The case was on a fictional disputed Scottish election in January 2011, with a judicial review of a decision of the Electoral Court for the Scottish Parliament.

Craig commented, "It was great to be involved in such a prestigious Scottish mooting competition and to win - this is the first time that RGU has got through to the semi-final."

The winning pair of students will meet Glasgow University in the semi-final, which will be held at RGU early in 2012.

Aberdeen confirmed to host Cameroonian Olympic Team

A joint bid made in August 2011 by Aberdeen's top sporting facilities to host the Cameroonian Olympic team prior to the London 2012 Games has been successful.

Following the visit by the Chef de Mission of the National Olympic Committee of Cameroon, Mr David Ojong on Tuesday 8 November, it has been announced that 60 Cameroonian athletes and staff across 11 sports will come to the city for their Pre-Games Training Camp between 2 and 16 July 2012.

The Cameroonian team will be based at RGU: SPORT and Aberdeen Sports Village (which is a collaboration between the University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen City Council and sportscotland). It was carried out in partnership with Aberdeen City Council, sportscotland and the Aberdeen Convention Bureau who supported it in various ways.

Aberdeen City Council's Chief Executive Valerie Watts commented, "By working in partnership we have successfully secured funding for this bid and as the country prepares for the Olympic and Paralympic Games our schools and community programme will encourage the whole community to access sporting opportunities which will hopefully encourage a life-long interest in sport and the benefits it brings."

(L to R) Filippo Antoniazzi, Mr David Ojong and David Beattie within the Indoor Athletics Area at Aberdeen Sports Village.



EVENTS DIARY 2012

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

MARCH

8	Elphinstone Defence Lecture, Phillip Mitchell, FoHSC
10	University Boat Race
15	Absoft Entrepreneurship Lecture – Edel Harris, ABS

APRIL

18	ENET Business Week event, FoHSC
28 - 5	ENNE Student Conference
30	Professorial Lecture: Ferdinand von Prondzynski, FoHSC

MAY

19	AHRA Research Student Symposium, Scott Sutherland School
23	Leadership Lecture, Maggie Morrison, CEO Hewlett Packard, FoHSC