

Spring 2015

Greetings

Student recruitment is buoyant – during this academic year we have experienced unprecedented interest in undergraduate and postgraduate (taught) programmes in our STEM disciplines. This reflects league table positions and the fantastic effort by all those involved in recruitment activities.

A few major news stories for us in recent weeks have been the launch of the University's plans for a new £40 million state-of-the-art [Collaborative Teaching Laboratory](#) (CTL) to facilitate the teaching of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) subjects. It will enable collaborative and interdisciplinary working amongst undergraduate and postgraduate taught students, providing a transformational teaching experience to enable them to develop the skills and experience required by employers. We have also seen notification of the award of £60 million of Government funding for a new [energy research project in the Midlands](#) and our Formula Student team have been awarded a grant from the Institute of Mechanical Engineers towards building a single seat race car.

Current students value contact with alumni and our work to support this includes alumni mentoring, scholarships for research internships (within the University or internationally) and offers of placements in organisations and enterprises owned by EPS alumni. Your input, ideas and suggestions are most welcome around these or other areas. The impact of this on changing the lives of students can be both profound and rewarding.

Finally I extend a warm invitation to you to attend our [summer 2015 Reunion](#) on Saturday 20 June. If you have not secured your place already, bookings are open for just a few more weeks, so to avoid disappointment I would urge you to book your ticket. With lots of activities planned, it really is set to be a great day and I look forward to welcoming you back to campus.

With best wishes



Professor Richard A Williams

Head of College, Engineering and Physical Sciences

In this issue...

[Top stories from the College](#)

[Your College needs you!](#)

[EPS events](#)

[University events](#)

More information on your Community

[The EPS Community](#)

[Chemical Engineering Community](#)

[Chemistry Community](#)

[Civil Engineering Community](#)

[Computer Science Family](#)

[Electronic, Electrical and Systems Engineering Community](#)

[Mathematics Community](#)

[Mechanical Engineering Community](#)

[Metallurgy and Materials Community](#)

[Physics and Astronomy
Community](#)



Alumni Relations Office
College of Engineering and
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Top stories from the College

Don't miss out! Book your place on the EPS Reunion 2015!



Do you have fond memories of your time at the University of Birmingham? Do you still keep in touch with those classmates who you pulled all-night study sessions with to get that last assignment finished? As a graduate of the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, we would love for you to join us on campus on Saturday 20 June 2015 for a reunion. [Read more.](#)

Clark Lecture 2015: Exercising Professional Judgement in 21st Century Engineering



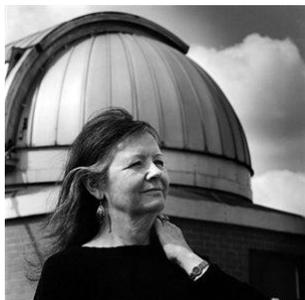
This year's Clark Lecture in the School of Civil Engineering will be held on Monday 8 June and delivered by Dr Jean Venables on the topic: "Exercising Professional Judgement in 21st Century Engineering". Dr Venables, a Past President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, is a consultant in Flood Risk Management and Water Level Management. For further information and to book your place, [please visit our website.](#)

Miss the latest Distinguished Lecture? Catch up now



Launched in 2014, the EPS Distinguished Lecture Series features leading researchers and professionals from across industry and academia sharing their knowledge and experience. The latest lecture in the Series was delivered on 10 March by Professor Dr PE Seeram Ramakrishna FREng, Director of the Centre for Nanofibers and Nanotechnology at the National University of Singapore on 'How to Live Beyond 100 Years? Science and engineering-enabled ageless living'. Catch up on Professor Ramakrishna's lecture and others in the Series [here.](#)

Professor Yvonne Elsworth elected Royal Society Fellow



Congratulations to [Professor Yvonne Elsworth](#) on her election as a Fellow of the Royal Society, a fellowship of many of the world's most distinguished scientists drawn from all areas of science, engineering and medicine. Professor Elsworth was selected through a peer review process on the basis of her excellence in science.

Professor Elsworth is a world leader in solar and stellar physics. She pioneered seismic studies of the Sun, the field of helioseismology. Her ground-breaking contributions have transformed our fundamental understanding of the Sun, in ways that are of key importance for stellar structure and evolution, and for unlocking the secrets of the solar-cycle variations in the Sun's emissions. [Read more.](#)

Energy research moves into a new ERA



The Government has recently confirmed £60 million for a new energy research project in the Midlands. The Energy Research Accelerator (ERA) will build on the expertise of six leading Midlands universities, the British Geological Survey and the surrounding industrial base to deliver a step change in energy research and development, securing the UK's leadership position in the sector. [Read more.](#)

Don't miss your chance to be #UoBpartofit



The University's Circles of Influence fundraising campaign has entered its final 100 days and is on track to exceed its £160 million target, making it the most successful Higher Education campaign outside Oxbridge and London. We are celebrating all that our supporters have achieved with an [interactive new website](#). On the site you can learn more about the campaign, explore our campus developments, meet a graduate of the A2B scholarship scheme and find out about the £5.5 million of medical research Circles of Influence has funded.

Thank you to all alumni who have helped the campaign so far; you are amongst 10,000 donors and 5,000 volunteers who have supported 250 extraordinary projects. From life-saving Burkitt's Lymphoma drug trials in Africa to the construction of the Bramall Music Building, your gifts have benefitted our University community, making a difference locally and across the globe.

Mini chance to make a massive difference



Make a difference to your University in the time it takes to make a cup of tea.

We have a whole range of microvolunteering opportunities to support Birmingham – all possible in just ten minutes or less.

These bite-sized tasks can have a big impact – from answering questions on your shopping habits for students' dissertations, to sharing your opinion on our website design or celebrating with the University's newest alumni by sending in your graduation memories.

[Visit the website](#) to learn more.

£25,000 bursaries available for trainee Physics teachers



Interested in becoming a Physics teacher? Bursaries of up to £25,000 are now available for graduates to study a Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDipEd). The University's School of Education is rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted and offers PGDipEd qualifications in Science: Physics, and Physics with Mathematics to graduates in engineering or physics. For graduates in other science disciplines with an A-Level in Physics, we also offer a Physics Subject Knowledge Enhancement (SKE) course. For more information, please contact [Dr John Kirkman](#) or [visit the website](#).

We want your thoughts!



We are currently reviewing the communications we send to our alumni and would greatly value your comments on your YourEPS newsletter. As an added incentive, participants will be entered into a draw to win a University of Birmingham alumni mug. Fill out the survey [here](#).

Missed out on our last edition of your School's newsletter?

Do you have a feeling that your last School's Newsletter missed your inbox or got lost in a heap of emails?

If you would like to catch up on past news from your School, simply visit our PDF archive [here](#)

Your College needs you!

Would you be able to share some of your time, expertise or connections to help our students to succeed?

We're currently looking for help and support from alumni with the following:

- **EPS Open Days, 26-27 June.** Could you donate a couple of hours of your time to pop back to your old School and speak to our prospective students about your time at Birmingham? For more information and to get involved [email us](#)
- All women in science and engineering. As part of **National Women in Engineering Day, 23 June**, the EPS Community is hosting a number of activities, conversations and events designed to celebrate women in engineering and scientific careers. If you work in science or engineering and would like to sit on our panel, get involved in the conversation on Twitter, or come along to our evening event, please get in touch by [emailing us](#)

There are many ways in which you can give a little back to the university. Details can be found [online](#), and you can [email us](#)

Why did you choose to study at Birmingham? What was the best thing about your time here?

Our current and prospective students would love to hear how it was you came to study at Birmingham and how life has been since.

Would you be able to donate 30 minutes of your time to provide a [career profile](#)?

By sharing your experiences, you can provide students in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences with invaluable tips, advice and perspectives on the vastly differing career paths they can take after they have graduated, and help open up new ideas! All profiles will be displayed on the website.

EPS events taking place shortly...

[EPS Inaugural Lecture Series](#)

For information on upcoming lectures in the EPS Inaugural Lecture Series please [visit our website](#)

Tuesday 19 May 2015

[Birmingham Heroes Lecture](#)

[The Future of our Railways: embracing digital railway technology](#)

In the fourth Birmingham Heroes lecture, Professor Clive Roberts, Director of the BCRRE, will present the research being carried out at the University in the area of improved railway control, timetabling, predictive maintenance technologies and energy efficiency. Please join us for this lecture and drinks reception at London Transport Museum.

Time: 6.15pm-8.30pm

Venue: London Transport Museum

Monday 8 June 2015

[Clark Lecture 2015: Exercising Professional Judgement in 21st Century Engineering](#)

This year's Clark Lecture in the School of Civil Engineering will be delivered by Dr Jean Venables on the topic: "Exercising Professional Judgement in 21st Century Engineering". Dr Venables, a Past President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, is a consultant in Flood Risk Management and Water Level Management.

Time: 5.15pm-7pm

Venue: School of Civil Engineering, Edgbaston Campus

Tuesday 9 June 2015

[EPS Societies' Awards](#)

Come and celebrate with our student societies as we recognise their fabulous achievements in 2015/16.

Time: 7pm-11pm

Venue: The Great Hall, Edgbaston Campus

Saturday 20 June 2015

[EPS Alumni Reunion](#)

As a graduate of one of the nine schools in the College of Engineering & Physical Sciences (EPS), you are invited back to campus for a Summer Reunion to get together with your fellow alumni to celebrate your experiences, accomplishments and friendships at the University of Birmingham.

Time: 9.30am-6pm

Venue: Edgbaston Campus

Please visit the [website](#) for more information and to secure your place at the Reunion

Tuesday 23 June 2015

[National Women in Engineering Day Celebrations](#)

Following the success of last year's first ever National Women in Engineering Day (NWED), this year's event is being held on Tuesday 23 June to celebrate the achievements of women in engineering and science. The EPS Community will be celebrating the day with a variety of exciting activities and events on campus.

Time: Programme to be confirmed

Venue: Edgbaston Campus

For more information please [email us](#)

University events...

Saturday 13 June 2015

[Alumni Sports Day](#)

Save the date for the 14th annual University of Birmingham Sport Alumni Sports Day. This year promises to be bigger and better than ever before with 16 events across 14 different sports. The events will take place on campus, at the Bournbrook and Metchley pitches and the Edgbaston Priory Club, creating a multi-sport festival.

Time: 9am-5pm

Venue: Various

Monday 22 June 2015

[Baggs Memorial Happiness Lecture 2015](#)

The Baggs Memorial Lecture began in 1976 and the lecture series has seen many distinguished speakers tackle the topic of happiness from their personal viewpoint including Yehudi Menuhin, David Attenborough, Peter Ustinov, Maureen Lipman, David Lodge, Adam Hart Davies, Robert Winston and Sue Lawley. This year the University is pleased to welcome Matthew Parris who worked for the Foreign Office and the Conservative Research Department before serving as MP for West Derbyshire.

Time: 6.30pm-8.30pm

Venue: Great Hall, Edgbaston Campus

Saturday 12 September 2015

[GGAA 2015 Forum & AGM](#)

The Guild of Graduates and Alumni Association (GGAA) has again timed its Forum & AGM to coincide with the University 'Open

Day' when Schools and Departments and other buildings on the campus will be open. The Association continues to provide the means by which the voices of Graduates and Alumni can be heard in the University. New committee members will be very welcome. We hope that you will take the opportunity to come and join us.

Time: 10.45am-2.30pm

Venue: To be confirmed

Saturday 12 September 2015

[Golden and 50th Anniversary Reunion Lunch](#)

If you graduated in 1965 or before you are invited back to campus on Saturday 12 September to a Golden and 50th Anniversary Reunion Lunch with your fellow alumni to celebrate your experiences, accomplishments and friendships at the University of Birmingham.

Time: 10.45am-4pm

Venue: Edgbaston Campus

Alumni group events...

Monday 29 June 2015

[Access Alumni in London](#)

Recently graduated and live or work in London? Get practical advice on making the next step in your career from those who have been there, done that! Join us at Doggett's Coat and Badge on South Bank for an opportunity to network with fellow Birmingham graduates and have an informal chat with our alumni volunteers who are a few steps ahead in their career paths.

Time: 6.30pm-8.30pm

Venue: Doggett's Coat and Badge, South Bank

Thursday 2 July 2015

[Access Alumni in Birmingham](#)

Recently graduated and live or work in Birmingham? Get practical advice on making the next step in your career from those who have been there, done that! Join us at The Old Joint Stock on Temple Row for an opportunity to network with fellow Birmingham graduates and have an informal chat with our alumni volunteers who are a few steps ahead in their career paths.

Time: 6.30pm-8.30pm

Venue: The Old Joint Stock

The University of Birmingham has alumni groups all over the world that organise local events. To join a group and see details of upcoming events please visit the [webpage](#) and select your location.

Do we have the right business details for you?

Please visit [your.bham](#) or email alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk

You have received this email from the University of Birmingham because we believe that it is relevant and of interest to you. If you would like to opt-out of receiving information from your College, School or Department by email, please opt-out by visiting [your.bham](#), emailing alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk, or telephoning [+44 \(0\)121 414 2773](tel:+44101214142773) / 2744 / 4724. In order to further tailor the communication we send, all emails are tracked and processed; further information regarding our use of data, is available by looking at our [data protection statement](#)