

## Research news

### **[£7m funding boost for clinical research in Birmingham \(/news/latest/2014/10/7m-funding-boost-for-clinical-research-in-Birmingham-23-10-14.aspx\)](/news/latest/2014/10/7m-funding-boost-for-clinical-research-in-Birmingham-23-10-14.aspx)**

A state-of-the-art facility for research into immune-mediated inflammatory diseases and blood cancers at the University of Birmingham has been announced by Rt Hon George Osborne MP. The Chancellor of the Exchequer pledged an investment of over £230m to enhance the UK's clinical research infrastructure, which includes £7m to set up the West Midlands Stratified Medicine Innovation & Translation Facility.

23/10/2014

### **[NHS 5 year forward view \(/schools/social-policy/departments/health-services-management-centre/news/viewpoint/2014/nhs-five-year-forward-view.aspx\)](/schools/social-policy/departments/health-services-management-centre/news/viewpoint/2014/nhs-five-year-forward-view.aspx)**



Today's publication of the "5yfv" (5 year forward view) marks a seminal moment for the NHS. Since Simon Stevens' return to the NHS earlier this year, there has been anticipation as to the new Chief Executive's intentions. Although he has presented some earlier ideas<sup>1,2</sup>, the "5yfv" is significant for its content, style and what it does not say.

23/10/2014

### **[Provocative discussion lays bare the sinister side of technology \(/schools/psychology/news-events/2014/22Octprovocative-discussion-lays-bare-the-sinister-side-of-technology.aspx\)](/schools/psychology/news-events/2014/22Octprovocative-discussion-lays-bare-the-sinister-side-of-technology.aspx)**



Professor Anthony Beech examined the internet's darker side during a filmed discussion with playwright Jennifer Haley at London's Royal Court Theatre.

23/10/2014

### **[Drones are here to stay, but the government must do more to ensure greater public acceptance \(/news/thebirminghambrief/items/2014/10/drones-are-here-to-stay-23-10-14.aspx\)](/news/thebirminghambrief/items/2014/10/drones-are-here-to-stay-23-10-14.aspx)**

On 16 October, the Defence Secretary, Michael Fallon, announced that part of the UK Reaper drone fleet would be deployed in Iraq to support coalition efforts against the terror group ISIL. This week, he confirmed they would also be flying surveillance missions over Syria. These events mark the first operational use of UK Reapers outside Afghanistan and represent a significant and timely development in the UK government's stated policy towards 'drone warfare'. The overwhelming vote in the House of Commons in support of military action endorsed the firm legal basis for the UK's use of force in collective defence of a friendly government.

23/10/2014

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23/10/2014

### **[Cooking up carbon: sawdust and iron in the melting pot \(/news/latest/2014/10/22-Oct-14-Cooking-up-carbon-sawdust-and-iron-in-the-melting-pot.aspx\)](/news/latest/2014/10/22-Oct-14-Cooking-up-carbon-sawdust-and-iron-in-the-melting-pot.aspx)**

Chemists at the University of Birmingham have found a new way to make nanostructured carbon using the waste product sawdust, according to research published in the Royal Society of Chemistry journal Green Chemistry today (23 October 2014).

23/10/2014

### **[Old Joe turns pink in support of Breast Cancer Campaign \(/news/latest/2014/10/old-joe-pink-for-bcc-23-10-14.aspx\)](/news/latest/2014/10/old-joe-pink-for-bcc-23-10-14.aspx)**

The University of Birmingham's iconic clock tower 'Old Joe' turned pink in the lead up to Breast Cancer Campaign's annual fundraiser 'wear it pink' day.

23/10/2014

### **[Japan's Shinzo Abe will struggle to recover from ministerial scandal \(http://theconversation.com/japans-shinzo-abe-will-struggle-to-recover-from-ministerial-scandal-33272\)](http://theconversation.com/japans-shinzo-abe-will-struggle-to-recover-from-ministerial-scandal-33272)**



Written by Dr Julie Gilson. In a country that has had nine leaders since 2000, Japan's prime minister Shinzo Abe appeared to have found the recipe for longevity. But the resignation of two ministers from his government has left him in serious trouble.

22/10/2014

## **[Acer members speak at ITASD Conference \(/schools/education/news/2014/10/Acer-members-speak-at-ITASD-Conference.aspx\)](/schools/education/news/2014/10/Acer-members-speak-at-ITASD-Conference.aspx)**

Four members of the Autism Centre for Education and Research (ACER) spoke about their research at the ITASD Conference at the Institute Pasteur in Paris.

22/10/2014

## **[High Temperature Research Centre reaches the top \(/news/latest/2014/10/High-Temperature-Research-Centre-reaches-the-top.aspx\)](/news/latest/2014/10/High-Temperature-Research-Centre-reaches-the-top.aspx)**

Construction of the University of Birmingham's High Temperature Research Centre reached a significant milestone this week as the University and contractor Wates Construction celebrated the development's 'topping out'.

21/10/2014

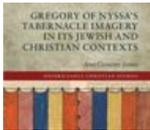
## **[Professor awarded prestigious ACSM Citation Award \(/schools/sport-exercise/news/2014/21Oct-SportExR-Professor-awarded-prestigious-ACSM-Citation-Award.aspx\)](/schools/sport-exercise/news/2014/21Oct-SportExR-Professor-awarded-prestigious-ACSM-Citation-Award.aspx)**



Professor Janice L. Thompson, Professor of Public Health Nutrition and Exercise at the School of Sport, Exercise and rehabilitation Sciences, has recently been awarded the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) Citation Award. This is one of the two most prestigious awards given by ACSM and is granted to an individual or group who has made significant and important contributions to sports medicine and/or the exercise sciences.

21/10/2014

## **[Publication of Ann Conway-Jones, Gregory of Nyssa's Tabernacle Imagery \(/research/activity/itsee/news/2014/conway-jones-book-2014.aspx\)](/research/activity/itsee/news/2014/conway-jones-book-2014.aspx)**



Publication of Ann Conway Jones's book on Gregory of Nyssa's Tabernacle Imagery.

20/10/2014

## **[Read the latest briefing papers from CHASM \(/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/news-and-events/2014/10/latest-briefing-papers-from-chasm.aspx\)](/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/news-and-events/2014/10/latest-briefing-papers-from-chasm.aspx)**

Read the latest Briefing Papers from the Centre on Household Assets and Savings Management (CHASM).

20/10/2014

## **[ITSEE welcomes new postgraduates \(/research/activity/itsee/news/2014/new-students-2014.aspx\)](/research/activity/itsee/news/2014/new-students-2014.aspx)**



Start of the new academic year at ITSEE.

20/10/2014

## **[Ukraine steels itself for winter as Novorossiya forges ahead \(http://theconversation.com/ukraine-steels-itself-for-winter-as-novorossiya-forges-ahead-33151\)](http://theconversation.com/ukraine-steels-itself-for-winter-as-novorossiya-forges-ahead-33151)**



Written by Professor Stefan Wolff and Professor Tatyana Malyarenko (Professor of Public Administration at Donetsk State Management University). The EU-Asia Summit in Milan, Italy, delivered little, if any, tangible progress to resolve the crisis in Ukraine. Relations between Russia and Ukraine's major European allies remain just a few degrees above a new Cold War-style ice age. And with only a preliminary gas deal achieved between Kiev and Moscow this may be quite literally true for Ukrainians as winter approaches.

20/10/2014

## **[The Conversation: Climate change: it's only human to exaggerate, but science itself does not \(http://theconversation.com/climate-change-its-only-human-to-exaggerate-but-science-itself-does-not-33150\)](http://theconversation.com/climate-change-its-only-human-to-exaggerate-but-science-itself-does-not-33150)**



To exaggerate is human, and scientists are human. Exaggeration and the complementary art of simplification are the basic rhetorical tools of human intercourse. So yes, scientists do exaggerate. So do politicians, perhaps even when, as the UK's former environment secretary Owen Paterson did, they claim that climate change forecasts are "widely exaggerated". A more pertinent question is: does the way in which scientists and politicians speak publicly lead to wild exaggeration?

17/10/2014

## **[Interfaces Principal Investigator Gives Keynote Presentations \(/generic/interfaces/news/2014/Interfaces-Principal-](/generic/interfaces/news/2014/Interfaces-Principal-)**

17/10/2014

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**[Call for Papers - Postgraduate Conference on Sport Politics, Policy and Society \(/schools/sport-exercise/news/2014/17Oct-Postgraduate-Conference-on-Sport-Politics,-Policy-and-Society.aspx\)](#)**



To celebrate the launch of a new Sport Policy Centre, within the School of Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences, a graduate conference on the theme of 'Sport Politics, Policy and Society' will take place on 4 December 2014 followed by an invited guest speaker.

17/10/2014

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**[Divide and Conquer: novel trick helps rare pathogen infect healthy people \(/news/latest/2014/10/divide-and-conquer-17-10-14.aspx\)](#)**

New research into a rare pathogen has shown how a unique evolutionary trait allows it to infect even the healthiest of hosts through a smart solution to the body's immune response against it.

17/10/2014

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**[Poor quality data is informing the future of our patient care, warns study \(/university/colleges/mds/news/2014/10/Poor-quality-data-informing-the-future-of-our-patient-care-16-10-14.aspx\)](#)**

An investigation into how patient outcomes are assessed in clinical trials has revealed a worrying lack of consistency, raising concerns about funding being wasted on the acquisition of poor quality data.

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