

School of Electronic, Electrical and Systems Engineering Community

Part of
THE EPS COMMUNITY



Summer 2015

Greetings

This year's graduation ceremony was, as ever, a joyous occasion and it was my great privilege to participate in it as the announcing officer, seeing our graduands one by one as they proudly stepped up to shake hands with the Pro-vice Chancellor in celebration of their achievements. It is a wonderful time of year on campus as we recognise our students' hard work and see them make the transition to alumni.

Staff and students in EESE have been saddened to hear news of the death of Dr Mietek Brdys, who will be fondly remembered by many of our alumni. Mietek was a dedicated and committed academic with a passion for passing on the benefits of his extensive knowledge and experience in the field of control. He joined the University of Birmingham as a lecturer in January 1989. He was still working full time in the School right up until the start of the short illness from which he died. I am sure you will want to join me in passing on condolences to his family. He will be greatly missed by all of us.

As you will see from this newsletter it has been a busy time in the School and across the College: together with BAE, Professor Bob Stone has developed a [virtual reality system](#) for use in military or emergency operations, we have [strengthened our rail links with China](#) and last month we welcomed back alumni at our [reunion](#). We also held our second [EPS Societies' Awards](#), celebrating the fantastic achievements of our student body in delivering an exciting programme of events, projects and challenges over the course of the year as part of their involvement in our societies.

And so as the 2014/15 academic year draws to a close, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable summer and look forward to updating you with the latest news from the School and our new students in the Autumn Term.

With best wishes,

Professor Peter Gardner
Head of School
Electronic, Electrical and Systems Engineering

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News from the School of Electronic, Electrical and Systems Engineering

Professor Andy Schofield appointed as new Head of College



The University is delighted to announce that Professor Andy Schofield is to become Pro-Vice-Chancellor Head of the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, succeeding Professor Richard Williams, who has been appointed Vice-Chancellor at Heriot-Watt University. Professor Schofield will take up his new role in August. [Read more.](#)



Congratulations class of 2015!

Congratulations to all of our new Electronic, Electrical and Systems Engineering graduates who received their degree certifications last month. [Read more.](#)

EPS Reunion 2015 Highlights



Over 140 alumni and guests from 1944 to 2014 attended this year's annual reunion on Saturday 20 June 2015. Guests travelled from as far as Brazil and Jordan to join us and enjoyed a opportunity to reminisce with their classmates, revive old friendships and catch-up on all that have changed in their School. [Read more.](#)

EPS Societies' Awards 2015



On Tuesday 9 June the College celebrated the achievements of our 17 student societies with the sixth annual EPS Societies' Awards. From public astronomy events with AstroSoc to designing Formula 1 cars with UBRacing, the societies do astonishing work not just in academia but also to promote career opportunities, industrial visits and, of course, social events. A great night was had by all and over £10,000 was raised for research into childhood brain cancer conducted in the University's School of Cancer Sciences. [Read more.](#)

Women in Science and Engineering Society



It's been a busy year for WISE, who were recently recognised at the EPS Societies' Awards. Our committee tell us what they've been up to and their plans for next year. [Read more.](#)

WISE were also recently invited to celebrate National Women in Engineering Day (NWEI) with British Gas Business. Read more about the event [here.](#)

Track to the Future



Birmingham will take part in a new £8.5m research programme which aims to develop railway track for the future that will cost less and last longer with reduced maintenance needs and improved environmental performance, causing significantly less disruption to travellers. The programme, known as Track to the Future (T2F), will run for five years from 1 June 2015. [Read more.](#)

Virtual reality could transform command of battles or policing



An artificial reality system created by Birmingham scientists could transform the command and control of military operations or emergency responses. The breakthrough – by the University of Birmingham and BAE systems – would see commanders wearing headsets to direct operations, giving them a direct vision of the action and relevant information. Military and emergency response chiefs would be able to order the deployment of troops and drones across a virtual representation of real situations. [Read more.](#)

Birmingham strengthens rail links with China



education. [Read more.](#)

The University of Birmingham has signed a cooperation agreement on railway research and education with the Chinese rolling stock manufacturer, CSR Sifang. Reflecting the University of Birmingham's position as a global leader in railway science and education and CSR Sifang's status as one of the world's largest manufacturer of high-speed rolling stock, the two parties have agreed to cooperate to develop new technologies through cutting edge research. The two institutions also hope to promote Anglo-Chinese understanding and exchanges through

Pioneering University of Birmingham campaign raises nearly £200m for ground-breaking research and life changing opportunities



The University is celebrating after raising an unprecedented £193.4 million for a diverse range of projects including life-saving research and more than 500 student scholarships. The record breaking Circles of Influence campaign has smashed its original £160 million target and has supported more than 250 projects across campus, including the creation of a new state-of-the-art library and a sports centre featuring the city's first 50 metre swimming pool, which will be accessible to staff, students and the local community when it opens next year. [Read more.](#)

We want your thoughts!



We are currently reviewing the communications we send to our alumni and would greatly value your comments on your School 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](#).

New staff in 2014/15

There have been a number of appointments in the School this term. [Read a summary of our new staff online here.](#)

Your School needs you...

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

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

- Work experience placements are invaluable for our students, allowing them to learn about the world of work first-hand and apply their knowledge in a real-life setting. If you work in industry and think you could offer a work experience placement to our undergraduate or postgraduate students, please [email us](#)

There are many ways in which you can give a little back, from providing a career profile, to mentoring a student. Please [email us](#) if you would like to get involved and we'll be happy to talk to you.

College and School events taking place shortly...

[EPS Inaugural Lecture Series](#)

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

Wednesday 8 June 2016

[EPS Societies' Awards](#)

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

Time: 7pm-11pm

Venue: Edgbaston Campus

Saturday 18 June 2016

[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

University events...

Sunday 6 September 2015

[Community Day](#)

See our research brought to life! Come along to the University's Community Day on Sunday 6 September where you can explore our beautiful, historic campus and enjoy free fun for all the family throughout the day. We are throwing the doors open for you to see for yourselves the great things that the University is doing for people here in the Midlands and around the world. This year's event will celebrate more than £160 million of donations to the University and thank all of our amazing supporters. Follow our thank you trail around campus and discover how donations have funded everything from dinosaur bones and robots to our new sports centre. To find out more about the impact of our Circles of influence campaign, please visit www.uobpartofit.com.

Time: 11am-4pm

Venue: Edgbaston Campus

Tuesday 8 September 2015

[Hong Kong Reception with the Vice-Chancellor](#)

University of Birmingham alumni based in Hong Kong are invited to join the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir David Eastwood, at a reception on Tuesday 8 September. The evening will be a great opportunity to meet and network with fellow alumni who live and work in Hong Kong, and to find out about the latest developments taking place at the University.

Time: 7pm-9pm

Venue: The Hong Kong Jockey Club

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...

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 details for you?

According to our records your current business details are as follows: College Alumni Relations Manager at University of Birmingham. If this is not correct, 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 / 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](#)