Welcome to your 2019 Metallurgy & Materials Alumni Newsletter

Hello!
I am delighted to introduce this latest edition of the School's alumni newsletter. This year as last, we have expanded and made some exciting new appointments to the academic staff, made strides in research and have celebrated great successes with our students and societies. We also thank you, our alumni, for your continued support, especially those who have been directly involved with us throughout the year.

Read more from Alison Davenport

EPS Societies' Awards
986 nominations were received to this year's student society awards. We're proud to announce that our very own Will Leney was named Sports Personality of the Year, and oSTEM, the LGBTQ society founded in the School, were named Society of the Year 2018/19. An incredible achievement, especially as the society is only 2 years old! Congratulations everyone!

Discover our Award winners

A great year for our students
We are now home to four societies who are building a strong student community. The Materials Society have introduced a new sporting arm which is a very welcome addition, NucSoc are offering more careers activities to support skills development, oSTEM have dedicated the year to empower their members, plus the brand new AeroSoc for our aerospace students.

Read more about our societies
**Superalloys' expert amongst new cohort of Fellowships**

Dr Alexander (Sandy) Knowles, who specialises in high performance 'superalloys' is one of 18 academics awarded a prestigious Royal Academy of Engineering Research Fellowship.

**Rare earth metal recycling pilot project launched**

The School has been awarded €4m to set up a pilot facility reclaiming rare earth metals as part of a Sustainable Recovery, Reprocessing and Reuse of Rare-Earth Magnets in a Circular Economy project.

**From the wider College: The problem with the plastics problem**

Solving the plastics problem will not be easy. It does not have one single and simple solution. The problem is complex and often underestimated. Single use plastics, exemplified by plastic packaging will, and should, never be eliminated completely - to do so would risk other undesirable environmental consequences.

**How can the aviation industry adopt cleaner fuel?**

The University is leading a new research consortium that will tackle climate change by investigating the barriers and benefits to the UK aviation industry adopting low carbon synthetic fuel.

**Robots need a new philosophy to get a grip**

Robots need to know the reason why they are doing a job if they are to work effectively and safely alongside people in the near future. In simple terms, this means machines need to understand motive.
Launch of a brand new website
We're excited to launch to you, our alumni, the brand new EPS Community website; you're the first people to see this! Metallurgy and Materials and the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, in which we are part, has a community of over 85,000 graduates, students, staff and friends. This new site celebrates everything that brings our unique community together and explores opportunities for you to join in. Come along to one of our events, see what our 38 student groups are up to, learn about your fellow alumni, and discover how you could get involved. Let us know your feedback by emailing eps-community@contacts.bham.ac.uk, we'd love to hear from you.

WE ARE BIRMINGHAM ALUMNI
Share your story and inspire our students
From recent graduates to industry leaders, you are making important things happen. You can inspire students and offer an insight into the opportunities awaiting them. Whatever you're doing, they want to hear from you. Plus, anyone who submits a profile before 1 November will receive an Old Joe magnet.

IOM3 '15 people under 30 to watch'
As part of their 150th anniversary, IOM3 magazine Materials World has featured the profiles of 15 people to watch under the age of 30, in celebration and recognition of young talent in the field. We are delighted that graduate and soon-to-be PhD Amanda Field, and lecturer Ilija Rosovic have both been listed. Congratulations!

Could you mentor a student?
We're looking for enthusiastic alumni and professionals to provide expertise, advice and inspiration to help our students start their careers. Mentoring makes a real difference; we all know the benefits of having someone to bounce ideas off. If you'd like to be that person, please get in touch.

Email Grace to become a mentor
News roundup

Global success continues for University of Birmingham in World University Rankings, climbing four places in the 2020 THE Rankings to 112th globally.

The University is delighted to announce its collaboration with GKN Aerospace.

School of Metallurgy and Materials welcomes new Henry Royce National Outreach Officer, Dr Chris Hamlett.

Is there a future for nuclear energy in the UK?

The Faraday Institution announces a further £55 million for energy storage research.

Boosting local innovation with quantum technologies.

Events

Sustainable civil nuclear power workshop
17 September 2019, 9:30am-5pm
Old Gym, University of Birmingham

My Life in Maths and Shaping the Brain - London Mathematical Society Popular Lectures
19 September 2019, 6:30-8pm
Bramall Music Building, University of Birmingham

Wetting of hydrophobic and superhydrophobic surfaces workshop
20 September 2019, 10:30-11:30am
G34 Engineering Building, University of Birmingham

Book to the Future
18-19 October 2019 The University’s annual festival of the written and spoken word, featuring free workshops, panel discussions, performances and author talks, including:

- The return of race science, Angela Saini
  18 October, 5:30-7pm

- From Brum to bakes, Candice Brown
  19 October, 6-7pm

Join In Hong Kong
24 October 2019, 6:30-8:30pm
Asia Society Hong Kong Center, Admiralty, Hong Kong

Careers and Coffee
29 October, 6-8pm
Cherry Reds, Birmingham City Centre

Join In New York
13 November 2019, 6:30-8:30pm
Four Seasons Hotel, Barclay Street, New York

Join In San Francisco
14 November, 6:30-8:30pm
Waterbar, 399 The Embarcadero, San Francisco

LGBTSTEMinar
10 January 2020
University of Birmingham

House of Lords Reception
24 April 2020, 6:30-8:30pm
House of Lords, London

EPS Societies’ Awards
10 June 2020, 7:30-11:30pm
Great Hall, University of Birmingham
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