



Telephone 020 8725 4698  
Facsimile 020 8266 6817  
Email [secretariat@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:secretariat@sgul.ac.uk)

Planning & Secretariat Office  
Room 058, Ground Floor Hunter Wing  
Cranmer Terrace, London SW17 0RE

## Welcome to the July issue of *Office News*, the quick read of monthly headlines for all SGUL Staff.

Suggestions for future issues much appreciated. The Planning & Secretariat team is based on the ground floor of Hunter Wing, in the Administration office opposite the Shop. Drop by or email us at [secretariat@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:secretariat@sgul.ac.uk).

### SGUL RAE 2008

Briony Fane has been pretty busy since joining us in April as RAE and Research Policy Officer. Briony reports that four external assessors have now confirmed their participation in the exercise, and all eligible academic staff are in the process of completing returns.

#### Deadlines

Submission of staff research outputs 7<sup>th</sup> July 2006.  
Submission of textual commentaries 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006.

Development of the RAE Website is underway, with introductory and FAQ pages now posted, and much more to follow in the coming weeks. Intranet links to the site are currently being put in place but for the moment the pages can be accessed from [here](#) or via the external SGUL site through the Research pages. Email Briony Fane with any queries [bfane@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:bfane@sgul.ac.uk).

### Reminder - Principal's Forum Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at 12.30

In the Michael Heron Lecture Theatre. Everybody welcome.

### Pay and Grading Framework - Next Steps

Following implementation of the new pay and grading structure in May, any backpay due to be paid to you from August 2005 will have been included in your June salary.

Personnel are currently working through the queries resulting from implementation of the new pay and grading structure and Frank Ball, Head of Personnel, reports that the appeals process is being treated as a priority by Personnel staff, who thank all members of staff for their patience. Please look out for updates via the email MESSAGES circulars and direct any outstanding queries to [personnel@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:personnel@sgul.ac.uk).

## Stop Press ..... £4 Million for Alliance

The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) has awarded £4 million to the unique alliance between St George's, University of London (SGUL), Kingston University (KU) and Royal Holloway, University of London (RHUL), from its Strategic Development Fund. The alliance builds upon the outstanding strengths of each organisation as providers of Health, Biomedical Sciences and Business Education. It extends the existing ten-year partnership between SGUL and KU through their joint Faculty of Health and Social Care Sciences and the recent WestFocus partnership that includes the three organisations, which is funded by the Higher Education innovation Fund (HEIF). For full press release go to the [News Headlines webpages](#) or contact Emma Griffiths [e.griffit@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:e.griffit@sgul.ac.uk).



### Estates News

Refurbishment of two of the Hunter Wing central lifts is underway with expected completion in August 2006, and works are being carried out on one lift at a time to reduce service disruption.

Estates and Facilities make regular reports to ExCom, and further details of current projects can be found on the [Executive committee webpages](#).

### Student Elections

Richard Bamford steps down as President of the Students' Union this month, and returns to his studies to complete the five year MBBS course. Our thanks and best wishes to Richard, especially for his fantastic contribution to the refurbishment of level 2 during his term of office.



The student elections saw the biggest turnout on record this year with 740 ballots being issued. Congratulations and welcome to the new President, Karl McPherson. Karl is a 4<sup>th</sup> year medical student on the five year MBBS course, he has also worked as summer school mentor and, our spies tell us Karl is a bit of a wizz on the DJ decks! For more information on the elections and the Students' Union, email the Student Union office on [stuuni@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:stuuni@sgul.ac.uk).

## FLAMING HECK !!!

You will have read with interest in Issue 2 of *Office News* that replacement of the fire alarms had commenced following a spate of false activations. You may have then noticed an alarming spate of false alarms over a period of six days in June. You may have even have noticed our Estates & Facilities Manager standing by the control panel near the Cranmer Terrace entrance tearing his hair out in disbelief.



We can laugh about it now but at the time it was terrible. Vaughan Williams, Estates and Facilities Manager reassures *Office News* readers that the panel has now been completely replaced. Still, not an easy time for an Estates and Facilities Manager?

*"24 alarms going off over 6 days, ALL OVER THE BUILDING... It was like Star Wars – you know when the all the computers take over? It was like Star Wars – you know when all the computers take over! It was like Stars Wars – you know when...."*

Vaughan Williams is currently planning a long holiday.

## Graduation Ceremony

This year's Graduation Ceremony on 19<sup>th</sup> June at the Barbican Centre was a much larger celebration than previous years, with a combined ceremony for graduands with both MBBS courses, BSc Biomedical Science, Intercalated BSc, taught and research postgraduate students all being presented. Quite an event to organize... special thanks to Kerren Churcher!

This year the Guest of Honour was Sir Liam Donaldson, Chief Medical Officer. Baroness Julia Cumberlege received an honorary degree in recognition of her distinguished career and contribution to SGUL during her six years as Chair of Council.

## The Futures Project

Issue 1 of *Office News* reported the commencement of this project, which analyses likely futures in relation to healthcare education and research in the UK.



You may have been interviewed for the project, or noticed interim reports in Council committee papers. Both staff and students have been involved in The Futures Project via interviews and questionnaires, and many thanks to all those that have contributed.

The project has developed five possible scenarios highlighting possible future issues for SGUL, to inform strategic thinking and longer term debate. The project will report to Council on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2006 and the full report will be available via the [Council committee pages](#) shortly thereafter. Email [secretariat@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:secretariat@sgul.ac.uk) for further details.

**[!!! Link to Planning & Secretariat webpages](#)**

## QUALITY CORNER Quality Assurance Agency

The QAA have been carrying out a special review of research degree programmes in 2006. Unusually for the QAA, this review didn't involve visits, meetings with terrified staff and a library of documents. We sent a brief evaluation document and a CD (not the new Eagles of Death Metal album) to Our Friends in Gloucester and – hey presto – almost by return they sent as a draft report. Inevitably, the outcome of the review has been favourable for St George's - the report confirmed that the quality and standards of our research degree programmes are fine. Result! Email for more information.

Derek Baldwinson [d.baldwin@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:d.baldwin@sgul.ac.uk)  
Deputy Head of Planning & Secretariat

## MBBS – The Future Update from Professor Pat Hughes, Dean of Undergraduate Medicine

Since 2000, SGUL has had two undergraduate MBBS courses: the 4 year course for graduates, and more traditional 5 year MBBS course which has both school leavers, mature and graduate students. All sit the same finals and are awarded the same degree. In 2004, SGUL's educational strategy included a proposed review of the courses, to explore where organization could be shared, and to identify the strengths of each that should be offered to all. Four options for the future of MBBS were presented to Senate in July 2005, and throughout 2005-6 a steering group has worked on the chosen option. Details of the work done to date have been published on the website on [moodle](#). After the summer, we will set up a roadshow to demonstrate plans to date to SGUL staff, Trust teachers and other interested parties, and to get feedback and ideas for future developments.

If you have problems with accessing papers on moodle, or if you'd like any further information, contact the very helpful Sandra Bailey [s.bailey@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:s.bailey@sgul.ac.uk).

## NAG NAG NAG

Please ensure your details are kept up-to-date in the SGUL [phonebook](#) if you move to interim workspace during refurbishment works.

### The Planning & Secretariat Team

Susan Trubshaw [strubsha@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:strubsha@sgul.ac.uk)  
Head of Planning and Secretariat Office  
Derek Baldwinson [dbaldwin@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:dbaldwin@sgul.ac.uk)  
Deputy Head of Planning and Secretariat Office  
Sheila Durkin [sdurkin@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:sdurkin@sgul.ac.uk)  
Committees, Coordination and Communication Officer  
Andrew Judycki [ajudycki@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:ajudycki@sgul.ac.uk)  
Projects and Policies Manager  
Kirsty Watson [k.watson@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:k.watson@sgul.ac.uk)  
Information Manager

Office News is issued on the first of each month  
Deadline for next issue Monday 24th July 2006  
[secretariat@sgul.ac.uk](mailto:secretariat@sgul.ac.uk)

\*\*ENDS\*\*