

# THE GRADUATE 2016

The magazine for  
graduates and friends of  
Queen's University Belfast

---

£140m Beyond Campaign -  
target reached

---

Launch of Queen's Global  
Research Institutes

---

Volunteering - meet our  
unsung heroes

---

**PLUS** New home for Computer  
Science, the Affinity Card at 25  
and catch up with class notes

---



Queen's University  
Belfast

## STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2016

Read More - Page 16



# WELCOME TO THE GRADUATE 2016

Much of this year's issue of **The Graduate** is about celebrating – celebrating the huge impact of the philanthropist Chuck Feeney on Queen's (pp8-10), celebrating the 'close out' of the highly successful 'Beyond' Campaign (pp26-28) and the many and varied achievements of our alumni (pp34-40), and celebrating the opening of new world-class facilities across the campus.



The individual accomplishments of our staff and students are also acknowledged. The formal opening of two Global Research Institutes (pp18-19) is likewise great cause for celebration. As are the many attainments of our Student of the Year, Diane Murdock, who is an inspiration to us all (pp16-17).

This issue also acknowledges and honours the generosity of our alumni and supporters who give to the Annual Fund (pp20-21), leave legacies (pp24-25), or choose to support medical research at Queen's in remembrance of a loved one (pp47-49). And we recognise the importance of volunteering – of both time and talent – to the life of this University (pp30-31).

Your University continues to make an impact globally. In this edition of **The Graduate** we feature our links with China (pp44-45), which soon will be home to the greatest number of Queen's alumni outside the UK and Ireland. Another reason to celebrate!

While we pause to reflect on the highpoints of the last 12 months, it is not, however, a time for complacency. Queen's, like most UK universities, is facing many challenges, not least of which is the outcome of the recent Brexit referendum. With confidence and sound planning, and Vision 2020 as our compass, we will secure the future for young people in Northern Ireland and beyond for generations to come.

Thank you for taking the time to read **The Graduate**. If you would like to share your views on this issue please get in touch with Gerry Power (editor@qub.ac.uk) and tell us what you think.

*Norma Sinte*

**Norma Sinte, BA Hons Modern Languages**  
Director of Development and Alumni Relations

PS - If you are reading **The Graduate** for the first time, welcome to our worldwide family of 170,000+ alumni. The Development and Alumni Relations Office is your lifelong link to Queen's.

## CONTENTS

### NEWS

- 04 **News** — Latest from around campus
- 16 **Students** — Meet Diane Murdock, Student of the Year
- 34 **Class Notes** — Your news
- 41 **Obituaries**
- 44 **Honorary graduates** — The Class of 2016

### FEATURES

- 08 **The Atlantic Philanthropies** — Generosity that lives on
- 11 **Making a difference** — The impact of giving
- 14 **Student barometer** — Attracting the best from around the world
- 18 **Research** — The role of Global Research Institutes
- 20 **Philanthropy** — Celebrating Beyond
- 24 **Supporting education** — Queen's Affinity Card at 25
- 32 **My time at Queen's** — Campus memories
- 47 **Fundraising** — The journey towards giving
- 50 **International** — Focus on China

### EVENTS

- 23 **Convocation** — Your invitation to the Annual Meeting

### REGULAR

- 26 **Student experience** — Queen's Annual Fund making a difference
- 28 **Legacies** — A moment of impact
- 30 **Volunteering** — Recognising unsung heroes

This magazine is available online for those who prefer a larger font size. Go to:  
<http://daro.qub.ac.uk/TheGraduate>

**Cover** - Student of the Year Diane Murdock (see p16), pictured outside the new Computer Science building (see p12)

**The Graduate** is an informal magazine published annually by the Development and Alumni Relations Office, for alumni and friends of Queen's University Belfast. Extracts from the magazine should not be published without the approval of the Editor. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of printed information at time of going to press, no responsibility can be accepted for any errors or omissions. Advertisements are carefully vetted, but the University can take no responsibility for their content. Any views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the University or the editorial team. Letters, photos and news for inclusion are welcomed by the Editor, but we reserve the right to edit any contributions.



Page: 08



Page: 39



Page: 47

**Editor:** Gerry Power  
Development and Alumni  
Relations Office  
Queen's University Belfast  
Belfast, BT7 1NN  
Northern Ireland

Tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3114  
Email: [editor@qub.ac.uk](mailto:editor@qub.ac.uk)

**Contributors:** Keith Baker;  
David Capper; Laura Doran;  
Tony Gallagher; Meaghan Lyons;  
Ian Moore; Gerry Power;  
Norma Sinte; Lorraine Sterritt;  
Helen Surgenor; Susan Wilson

Design: [www.thepiercepartnership.com](http://www.thepiercepartnership.com)  
Print Services: CDS  
© Development and Alumni Relations  
Office 2016

# UNIVERSITY NEWS

## Recognising research excellence

Queen's has received one of only 12 prestigious Regius Professorships announced to mark the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

The title was awarded to ECIT, the electronics and computer engineering department, which carries out pioneering work in the field of cyber security.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Patrick Johnston, welcomed the award: "Queen's is enormously honoured to receive Northern Ireland's first Regius Professorship," he said.

"This rare privilege and significant accolade, celebrates the highest levels of research, and is a reflection of the exceptionally high quality of research, innovation and research translation at ECIT." Only two Regius Professorships were granted in the 20th Century, while 12 awards were given out to mark for the

Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012.

Professor John McCanny, director of ECIT, collected the award: "As one of Queen's GRIs, ECIT brings together a critical mass of excellent researchers from a wide range of disciplines, in world-class facilities, to tackle some of the greatest global issues of our age," he said.

"The remarkable recognition provided by the Regius Professorship, underlines not only the international excellence of our staff and PhD students, but also the importance of their work in protecting global society."



ECIT Department

## Royal Spanish Academy membership

Professor Isabel Torres, Head of Spanish and Portuguese at Queen's, has been awarded one of Spain's highest accolades, in recognition of her scholarly contributions to Spanish literature.

Professor Torres, who specialises in the poetry of the Golden Age era, has been elected an International Corresponding Member of the Royal Spanish Academy.

The Academy is the official royal institution responsible for overseeing the Spanish language. Corresponding Members are elected "as a mark of distinction in recognition of outstanding research, scholarship and publications in any field of study of Spanish language and or literature which it is the object of the Real Academia Española to promote".

In addition to her roles at Queen's, Professor Torres is executive editor of the international journal *Bulletin of Spanish Studies*, president of the Association of Hispanists of Great Britain and Ireland and an external examiner at the University of Cambridge.



Professor Isabel Torres

## Prestigious architecture awards for The Graduate School

Queen's has won two prestigious architecture awards for the refurbishment of the former Lynn Library, now home to the University's Graduate School.

The building received the Royal Institute of British Architects Regional Award and Regional Conservation Award 2016 for Northern Ireland, and the Royal Society of Ulster Architects (RSUA) Best Conservation of Built Heritage Award.

In their citation, the RSUA judges commented on: "Exemplary judgement, skill and craftsmanship by the design and construction teams."

The Graduate School, a key element of Queen's vision for a truly international university, represents a £4.1m capital investment to create a global first choice



The Graduate School

for the postgraduate student. The School was recently ranked number one out of 159 universities worldwide in the International Student Barometer (see p14-15).

## Return to Queen's for Academy Fellow

A leading academic in Irish and British History and Politics has been appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Internationalisation and Engagement at Queen's.

Professor Richard English, a Fellow of the British Academy, a Member of the Royal Irish Academy, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, took up post in September, having worked at the University of St Andrews as Director of the Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence.

He was previously Professor of Politics in the School of Politics, International Studies and Philosophy at Queen's from 1989 – 2011. Born in Belfast, Professor English read Modern History at the University of Oxford and studied for his PhD at Keele University.



Professor Richard English

A frequent media commentator, he is the author of seven books, including the award-winning *Armed Struggle: The History of the IRA* (2003) and *Irish Freedom: The History of Nationalism in Ireland* (2006).



## Impact of city design on physical activity in India

An international team, led by public health researchers at Queen's, has conducted the first ever study into the impact of the built environment on levels of exercise and physical activity among people in India.

The Queen's team worked with university partners from the United States to examine how the built environment played a key role in enabling or prohibiting exercise.

Speaking about the project, Dr Deepti Adlakha, from Queen's School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, said: "Our study is the first of its kind in India, a country where rapid, unplanned and unsustainable urban growth is contributing to increasing environmental and health hazards, greater dependence on vehicles for transport, and diminishing open spaces for walking and leisure.

"Non-communicable diseases like obesity, diabetes and heart disease are also increasing around the world, particularly in low and middle-income countries.



"Physical inactivity is a major risk factor in the development of these diseases, and the built environment is a key factor in encouraging or inhibiting this."

Conducted in Chennai, the capital city of the state of Tamil Nadu in southern India and home to 8.9 million people, 370 residents were questioned on their perception of the built environment in their neighbourhood and about their level of physical activity.

Researchers found that those living there felt their physical activity was limited by the city's inadequate infrastructure, poor aesthetics, and limited public transit connectivity. Respondents outlined several barriers including safety from traffic and crime, poor quality pedestrian infrastructure and an increase in traffic.

## 'Life after Prostate Cancer Diagnosis' study

Queen's researchers are leading one of the largest ethically approved 'Life after Prostate Cancer Diagnosis' studies.

Surveys have been issued to 2,000 men with prostate cancer in Northern Ireland in what is the first UK-wide study of those who have been treated for the disease. Men are being asked to give feedback on their experiences of treatment and to share what life is like for them now.

The Northern Ireland Cancer Registry at Queen's will analyse the anonymous data and will compare it with a later study on men without prostate cancer. The results, which are expected at the end of the year, will allow researchers to investigate the differences in health between prostate cancer patients and men in the general population.

The study is being carried out in partnership with Public Health England, the University of Leeds, the University of Southampton and Oxford Brookes University. It was funded by the Movember Foundation in partnership with Prostate Cancer UK.



(L-R): Simon Hamilton, Economy Minister, Professor Patrick Johnston, Vice-Chancellor, Wendy Galbraith, Director of Finance, Professor Aaron Maule, Head of the School of Biological Sciences

## £39m Biological Sciences foundation stone

Queen's has unveiled the foundation stone of its new £39m School of Biological Sciences building in Chlorine Gardens. The new premises will offer state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities for 750 students and 170 staff, who will tackle some of the world's most pressing agri-food related issues.

The School of Biological Sciences will be a key driver for the development and future growth of the life sciences and agri-food sectors in Northern Ireland, which currently employ 80,000 people and generate more than £5.5 billion in sales each year.

Construction of the new facilities will also support 550 jobs in the building sector, including staff from the main contractor O'Hare and McGovern, and a range of other firms.

Due to open in 2018, the building will provide facilities to help grow the life sciences sector, in areas such as agriculture/food science, food safety, disease/infection biology, diagnostics, waste management, ecosystems and the environment.

## New Director of Institute for Global Food Security

A world-leading expert in animal agriculture and associated supply chains, Professor Nigel Scollan took over as Director of Queen's Institute for Global Food Security on 1 September 2016.

Welcoming the appointment, Professor Chris Elliott, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences, said: "Professor Scollan has a strong track record in agricultural and food research and knowledge exchange. I look forward to working with him as we seek to build on the Institute's international reputation for excellence in food security research and teaching.

"Food security is a global challenge that permeates human health, sustainable economic development, environment and trade. Under Nigel's leadership, the Institute's cutting-edge research will continue to play a valuable role in developing solutions to the complex problem of delivering safe, nutritious, sustainable and authentic food supplies to the world's rapidly growing population."



Professor Nigel Scollan



Keep up with all the latest University news at:

<http://darro.qub.ac.uk/news>



## THE ATLANTIC PHILANTHROPIES

### CHUCK FEENEY'S LEGACY OF GENEROSITY LIVES ON

In New York City on July 18, a group of people gathered for a special lunch. It was held to honour the winners of the 2016 Distinguished Service Awards made by CASE, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

The awards recognise outstanding contributions in the educational sector, including fundraising. But for Queen's, no contribution has been more outstanding than that of one of this year's winners, The Atlantic Philanthropies (Atlantic).

Over 25 years, Queen's Foundation distributed over £100m received from Atlantic, creating a unique partnership that has helped to transform the University and its work, building a legacy that will be of lasting benefit to students, staff and to society.

**"Giving while living' has been his vision - making impactful philanthropic use of his personal wealth during his own lifetime"**

All of this is due to the commitment of the man Bill Gates has described as an icon of global philanthropy – Chuck Feeney, the hugely-successful Irish-American billionaire businessman.

'Giving while living' has been his vision – making impactful philanthropic use of his personal wealth during his own lifetime. He has told his biographer, Conor O'Clery, a Queen's graduate and Honorary Graduate, that this was 'a sensible means for directing to good purpose, in a timely manner, a large and increasing wealth that exceeded my, and my family's, lifetime needs.'



The McClay Library

At Queen's, the impact can be seen in landmarks such as the McClay Library, which received £10m during the Campaign for Queen's, and in the new-look Elms Village; it is in aspirations for future generations through research initiatives such as Improving Children's Lives; it is helping us learn more about ourselves through the NICOLA study of ageing, Northern Ireland's largest-ever public health project; and it is in the long-term investment in society as represented by the Sharing Education programme.

The Centre for Shared Education, which received £1.3m from Atlantic in 2015, is led by Professor Joanne Hughes, who holds the UNESCO Globalising Shared Education Chair. She says: "The Atlantic Philanthropies approach has given us time as well as funding. It allows us the flexibility to be experimental and that leads to better results from which society will benefit."

Part of that benefit is through influencing policy and policy-makers and it has led to the Shared Education Bill in Northern Ireland. But there is also a wider influence.

Professor Hughes says: "It has allowed us to extend our work globally, to develop shared education models in similar divided jurisdictions such as Macedonia, Israel, Cyprus and South Africa and to raise the global profile of this University."

Atlantic's biggest single donation to the University - the largest Queen's has ever received - was £15m towards the creation of the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, opened in 2016.

This donation represented almost half of the £32m cost and enabled Queen's to leverage government and further philanthropic funding.

The Centre – a striking new addition to the developing Health Sciences campus – specialises in research into some of the world's most debilitating diseases, such as eye disease and diabetes, with the aim of ensuring that laboratory discoveries translate into improvements in patient diagnosis and treatment.

**"In this building we're bringing people together towards a translational strategic goal and we're attracting talented new researchers from all over the world."**

And there are conspicuous results. This year alone saw Queen's researchers teaming up with collaborators in the US on a project to develop a gene therapy approach to treating diabetes-related blindness. And Queen's and University College London led breakthrough research on the use of a drug, rather than injections, to treat diabetic macular oedema.

Professor Alan Stitt is the McCauley Chair of Experimental Ophthalmology and is Dean of Innovation and Impact at Queen's School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences. As former Director of CEM, a position now held by Professor Jose Bengoechea, he was closely involved for several years with its development.

He is grateful to Atlantic for what it has helped to deliver. He says: "It's not just the building and the exceptional facilities, but also the environment it creates for people to

work together now and in the years to come on the great medical challenges of our time.

"In this building we're bringing people together towards a translational strategic goal and we're attracting talented new researchers from all over the world."

"It's also being used to benefit the general public. The atrium is designed so that you can see what's going on. We have patient groups in. They can see our people at work. And we're a popular venue for the Northern Ireland Science Festival."

This year is the last in which The Atlantic Philanthropies will be administering grants. It had a fixed-term lifespan and its doors will close in 2020.

Norma Sinte, Director of the Development and Alumni Relations Office, says: "Chuck Feeney's generosity has been a remarkable example to other individuals with enormous wealth. As he has already advised them – try it, you'll like it.

"Through Atlantic he has allowed Queen's to turn dreams into reality. Society here and across the world has benefited. And while The Atlantic Philanthropies is coming to an end, what it has started is not. The legacy will live on through research and education here at Queen's that continues to have an impact on people's lives."



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE THE IMPACT OF GIVING

The University's £140m Beyond Campaign may have ended in the early summer but the need to fundraise remains. The ongoing support of generous individuals, businesses and philanthropic trusts and foundations is as important as ever and, writes Norma Sinte, Director of Development and Alumni, is essential if the University is to deliver on its ambitious goals.

With the University delivering on its Vision 2020 plans, staff in the Development and Alumni Relations Office continue to work with donors to provide life-changing opportunities for students in the latest world-class facilities, while supporting innovative research which will impact on society. With several key building projects and initiatives about to come on-stream, it's time to reflect on some of the ways our supporters are making a huge difference to life at Queen's.

## Five-year partnership with Herbert Smith Freehills

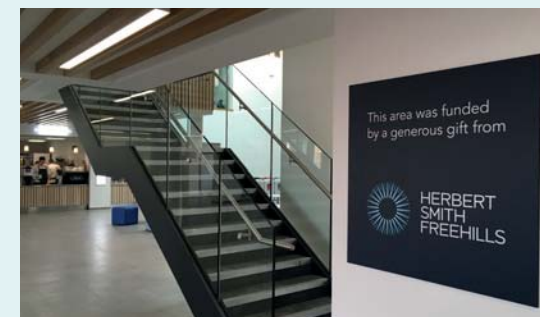
Queen's has announced a new five year partnership with leading global law firm Herbert Smith Freehills (HSF), which will see HSF sponsor the Student Hub on the ground floor of the building now occupied by the School of Law.

The new School of Law opened in September following a £15m refurbishment of the former Library Tower. The Herbert

Smith Freehills Student Hub is a 600m<sup>2</sup> space providing social and informal group study facilities, with an estimated 3,500 footfall per day through its café and study area.

As part of the sponsorship, Herbert Smith Freehills and Queen's will work collaboratively to deliver a tailored and innovative programme of activities specifically designed for Queen's students, beginning in the autumn.

The relocation of the School of Law is a key element in the University's investment of £350m in world-class facilities for research and education for staff and students planned over the next decade.





## Homework Clubs

The successful Homework Clubs initiative, now in its fifth year, is an award-winning volunteering programme managed by the Students' Union in which students volunteer their time at 11 weekly Clubs in Neighbourhood Renewal Areas of Belfast.

Supported by Belfast Harbour, Homework Clubs help improve the educational attainment of participants through volunteer tutoring and the introduction of new research, IT and study skills and improvement in the core skills of literary and numeracy. In short, they aim to raise the achievements and aspirations of children and young people living in some of the most educationally underachieving areas of the city.

The support of Belfast Harbour will enhance this successful scheme by increasing the number of outreach activity days and through the staging of a special Graduation ceremony at Queen's for the estimated 250 participants and their parents.



(L-R) Jenni Barkley, Belfast Harbour, Lucia Kearney (Volunteer, Development & Support Officer SU) and Vivienne Courtney (Volunteer Officer, SU)

## New home for Computer Science



A dazzling new £15m high-tech high-profile home for the study of Computer Science at Queen's has opened for business on the Malone Road.

The expansion of Computer Science is seen as an institutional priority for the University as it seeks to accommodate an increase in student numbers for this subject. The new facility will deliver innovative education and foster collaboration with industry while presenting inspirational outreach activities to engage future generations.

Integrating both teaching and research, and delivering a stimulating environment for staff and students, the new, four-storey, 3,000m<sup>2</sup> building, has a distinctive and colourful front elevation. It will offer a variety of large and small computer labs, project spaces, breakout rooms, a Student Hub spanning three floors, academic and clerical offices, and postgraduate spaces.

In keeping with the University's commitment to sustainability, the building has been designed to minimise its impact on the environment and to achieve the Excellence rating of the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM).

## Support for student talent



Sir James Martin

Thanks to one of the largest gifts received during the Beyond Campaign, the Martin-Baker Aircraft Company has set up a scholarships programme for students in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

Martin-Baker, founded by Northern Ireland man Sir James Martin, is the world's leading manufacturer of aircraft ejection seats and related equipment. The company's products have saved almost 8,000 lives since it was established in 1934.

Born into a farming family in Crossgar, County Down, in 1893, from an early age James Martin displayed great powers of inventiveness. While still in his teens he

designed, made and sold a wide variety of machines including a three-wheeled enclosed car.

In his early twenties he left home for London, arriving with just £10 in his pocket, shortly after which he started his business from a small shed in Acton, which eventually grew to become Martin-Baker. He received a knighthood in 1965 and an honorary doctorate from Queen's in 1969.

Now jointly managed by his twin sons – John and James – a number of other family members are also directors of Martin-Baker Aircraft. John and his wife Catherine visited Queen's earlier this year as part of a company delegation.

The Martin-Baker scholarships, set up by John and James and their sisters Jane Livesey and Anne Hess, are in memory of their father who died in 1981. They will support a number of BEng or MEng Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering students each year, with the first recipients expected to be announced in the autumn.



To find out more about supporting the University, visit the Queen's Foundation web page (<http://darq.qub.ac.uk/Give>) or get in touch with **Naomi King** on tel: +44 (0)28 9097 5187 or email: [n.king@qub.ac.uk](mailto:n.king@qub.ac.uk)

# A WORLD-CLASS UNIVERSITY

## WHY QUEEN'S ATTRACTS THE BRIGHTEST AND BEST FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Twelve months ago, international students studying at Queen's were invited to participate in The International Student Barometer™ – a global benchmarking exercise to compare levels of satisfaction at different institutions.

Over 142,000 international students participated from 18 different countries

and from 172 institutions – including 50 UK universities – 13 of which were members of the esteemed Russell Group. Feedback on topics including the arrival, learning and living experience, the levels of support offered and the application and decision-making process was positive and you should be very proud to see how highly your University was regarded.



**BEST GRADUATE SCHOOL**  
Rated 1st overall among all 159 participating universities worldwide.



**BEST LEARNING EXPERIENCE**  
Ranked 1st among the 13 Russell Group universities that took part for overall learning experience.



**MOST AFFORDABLE**  
Queen's was placed 1st among the participating Russell Group universities in terms of living and accommodation costs.



**GREAT FOR SPORT**  
Sporting facilities ranked 2nd among 13 Russell Group universities participating.

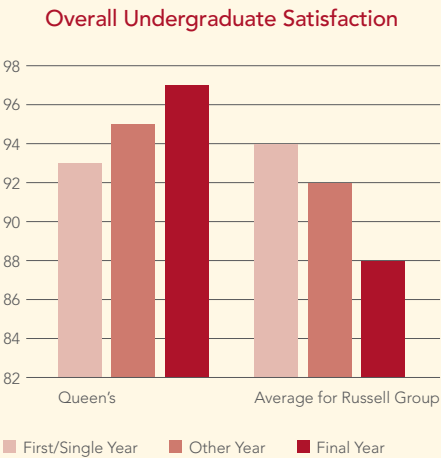
## Why Queen's?

International students were asked what factors influenced their decision to study at their respective institutions and the most frequent answers from those studying at Russell Group institutions were always the same. Decisions were most dependent on the specific course, their institution's reputation and the quality of research conducted there.

Our students also valued personal safety, future earning potential, campus location and teacher reputation – much the same as their Russell Group peers. But Queen's international students appear to be especially price sensitive. They placed greater importance than their peers at other universities on the cost of living/studying and the availability of scholarships and bursaries.

## It gets better!

Unlike other universities, the longer our students are with us the more they enjoy their time here! And final year students at Queen's rate their experiences much higher than those at other Russell Group universities and indeed, much higher than first year students at Queen's too! At other universities final year students are normally less positive than those in their first year.



## How can you help?

The University's Vision 2020 mission statement describes Queen's as a 'Global Institution' and targets have been set to double the number of international students coming to Queen's. One in five international students at Russell Group universities describe being spoken to by alumni of their chosen university as an important factor that influenced where they chose to study. At Queen's this figure was not so high.

So if you ever meet any prospective students, don't forget to tell them about our strengths and encourage them to follow in your footsteps!

**i**

Prospective international students wishing to find out more about studying at Queen's should visit the University's website: [www.qub.ac.uk/International](http://www.qub.ac.uk/International)

Contact a member of the International Office support staff – tel: +44 (0)28 9097 5088 or email: [international@qub.ac.uk](mailto:international@qub.ac.uk).





## FIRST CLASS!

(L-R) Philip O'Kennedy, Regional Director, First Trust Bank, Professor Patrick Johnston, Vice-Chancellor, Diane Murdock, Mark McKeown, Manager, First Trust Bank, Norma Sinte, Director of Development and Alumni Relations

Sitting in a quiet café in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on a balmy evening in June, Queen's student Diane Hannah Murdock was checking emails from home. One message from the University's Alumni Officer, Laura Doran, caught her eye, indicating as it did that Diane had won the coveted First Trust Bank Queen's Student of the Year Award. Back in Belfast, Laura caught up with the MEng in Computer Science graduand days before her double-celebration.

**"I am really chuffed to have picked up such a prestigious honour!"**

"When the email came through to say I had won, I showed it to my friends and they started screaming", said Diane.

Diane collected the award and a cheque for £500 which were presented by Queen's Graduates' Association on the

morning of 6 July and graduated that afternoon with a First Class MEng in Computer Science with a Year in Industry.

Her story is one of a dedicated student who immersed herself in all aspects of University life, availing of numerous opportunities to travel the world, to help her peers and to set the bar high.

After her A-levels in 2011, and with all options open, the former Down High School student explored a number of other Russell Group universities before a teacher, Lesley McCauley (also a Queen's graduate) convinced her to follow her talent.

"There was an Open Evening at the Computer Science building at Queen's. I met lecturers, had a tour of the student accommodation, and heard about the many opportunities available to me at Queen's – and I was sold!" said Diane. "Six years later and those same academics have now educated and inspired me throughout my degree.

I am so glad I pursued Computer Science: I'd never look back now," she adds.

Recognised academically and internationally, Diane won a Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship in 2015 – a first for Queen's and for Northern Ireland. She used that scholarship to address the global challenge of gender inequality in Computer Science by engaging local students with the IT sector. Diane has also helped deliver 'QUB Code School' to local secondary schools and created a YouTube channel and an initiative called #SheSTEMs, to encourage women to study STEM subjects at GCSE/A-level.

Nominated an unprecedented six times for the Student of the Year Award, it's easy to see why. A dedicated Class Rep in the School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Diane was also Chair of the Staff Student Consultative Committee. Her enthusiasm and professionalism have had a huge impact on her peer group and on staff/student relations. Not surprisingly, she recently won an Education Award for the Best Staff Student Consultative Committee of the Year and Course Rep of the Year.

Fully engaged with clubs and societies – including Queen's University Officers' Training Corps and Queen's Computing Society, of which she has been Secretary and Vice President – Diane still finds time to share her expertise. "A new A-level subject is being introduced in Northern Ireland – System Software Development – and I am training teachers to help them deliver the subject to their students," she explains.

Few are better qualified to do so. While a student, Diane undertook work experience in blue chip companies around the world including Infosys in Bangalore, SkyBridge Capital in New York, Goldman Sachs in London and, closer to home, in Citibank, Belfast. "Infosys offers few internships and usually only takes students from Oxford and Harvard," said Diane.

**"Over the years, however, they have recognised the quality of Queen's interns and requested more and more students from here."**

Diane was in Malaysia representing the University at a Global Conference when she found out she was Queen's Student of the Year. Diane's experiences at Queen's have helped her establish life-long friendships, and a very strong personal global network.

A finalist in the Undergraduate of the Year and the Students' Union Volunteering Excellency Awards, winner of four Millennium Volunteer Awards and an alumna of the Inspiring Leaders Programme, Diane richly deserves this latest accolade. Yet, when asked what she treasures most about her time at Queen's, she points out: "It's the people who help you. Before my internship in India I couldn't write a CV or a covering letter, had no interview training and wasn't even sure of the dialling code! The Student Guidance Centre prepared me for everything and that was really the starting point for me."

Diane is certainly appreciative of all that has come her way and of all those who have helped her. "I honestly believe that if I had gone to any other university, I wouldn't have had the same opportunities as I have enjoyed here at Queen's," she says.

So what does she do for fun? "This is fun – and I love it," she concludes.

Currently weighing up a number of top job offers against the prospect of taking a PhD at Queen's, this is not the last we'll hear of the very ambitious First Trust Bank Queen's Student of the Year.



**For more on the Queen's Graduates' Association First Trust Bank Queen's Student of the Year, or to submit a nomination for the 2017 awards, please contact: [alumni@qub.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@qub.ac.uk)**

## PILLARS OF QUEEN'S VISION 2020

# GLOBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES

The vision for Queen's – Vision 2020 – is of a world-class international University that supports outstanding students and staff, working in world-class facilities, conducting leading-edge education and research, focused on the needs of society.

That Vision took a major step forward during 2016 with the formal launch of our three Global Research Institutes. They are:

- **The Institute for Global Food Security (IGFS)**
- **The Senator George J Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice**
- **The Global Institute of Electronics, Communications and Information Technology (ECIT)**

These Institutes are bringing researchers together to tackle some of the greatest challenges of our time.

ECIT was established in 2004, the anchor tenant at the Northern Ireland Science Park which has since grown into a hub for 160 companies, employing 2,500 people. ECIT is now made up of

three world-leading centres – the Centre for Secure Information Technologies (CSIT), the Centre for Wireless Innovation and the Centre for Data Science and Scalable Computing.



(L-R) Prince Charles with Professor Patrick Johnston and Professor John McCanny, ECIT

In May, it was officially launched as the first of the Global Research Institutes by the Prince of Wales. His visit followed the earlier award of a Queen's Anniversary Prize to CSIT in recognition of its work in protecting billions of internet users worldwide.

And further recognition for the Institute was to come with an additional Royal seal of approval. It was granted a Regius Professorship to mark the Queen's 90th birthday. This rare and prestigious award was established in 1497. There have been only 14 since the reign of Queen Victoria and none before in Northern Ireland.

There was another VIP visitor in June – our former Chancellor, Senator George Mitchell, who came to open the Institute which bears his name, recognising his role as an international peace-builder, especially in Northern Ireland.



Institute Director Professor Hastings Donnan with Senator Mitchell and Professor Johnston

The Senator George J Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice responds to unprecedented global challenges. Through research, education and civic engagement it aims to make a difference to the lives of ordinary people struggling with the aftermath of conflict, empowering them to realise fairness, justice and tolerance.

The Institute for Global Food Security has established an international reputation, not least through the work of its former Director, Professor Chris Elliott (below), now Pro-Vice-Chancellor for the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences, in investigating the UK horsemeat scandal.



The Institute was formed in order to play a leading role in providing solutions to the complex problem of delivering safe, nutritious, sustainable and authentic food. This will form the core mission of the new Global Research Institute, along with research into changing agricultural practices and into disease and nutrition – the links between diet and health.

The work the Institute for Global Food Security will be enhanced by a new, £39m School of Biological Sciences building at Chlorine Gardens, which will open in 2018 – another milestone in the journey towards Vision 2020.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Johnston, says: "From food safety to disease and infection control, the work housed in our new School will not only be of global significance and importance, it will also impact positively on everyone's lives here in Northern Ireland."

Through the work of all four Global Research Institutes, he says: "Queen's will continue to be distinguished by our academic strengths and recognised globally for the social, economic and cultural benefit we deliver through our research."



# BEYOND CAMPAIGN CELEBRATION

In the world of third level education in the UK and Ireland, it is highly unusual for a university to conduct two fundraising campaigns back-to-back.

On 11 June 2016, Queen's formally closed out the Beyond Campaign – its second successful fundraising initiative in 15 years – and in doing so celebrated not only raising £140m since 2009 and over £290m since 2001, but also the huge impact this will make possible.

Launched by former Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Peter Gregson in October 2012, the Beyond Campaign represented a very effective and successful partnership between the Queen's Foundation and the University. The fact that this latest campaign followed so closely on the heels of the £150m Campaign for Queen's and hit its £140m target one year ahead of schedule, was cause for double celebration.

The campaign focused on a number of key themes including priority capital projects, the student experience, medicine and astrophysics. Queen's Foundation raised over £70m, with £70m in matched funding coming from the University.

## Campaign milestones

Addressing guests in the Great Hall at the 'close out' lunch in June, Vice-Chancellor Professor Patrick Johnston, who came into office in the latter stages of the Campaign, reflected on the milestones of the last seven years.

"The Campaign got off to a flying start with the redevelopment of Riddel Hall, led by the Founders' Club – 20 leading companies from across Northern Ireland – who provided over £1.5m to create a home for Queen's Management School and the William J Clinton Leadership Institute. It's a facility where students can learn the skills, experience and knowledge they need to compete and excel in the global finance jobs market."

A main strand of the Campaign was the student experience. Over £9m was raised, which included funding for several hundred scholarships from companies such as Santander and Caterpillar, from supporters of the City Scholarship Programme in London and New York, and from individuals who set up fellowships and travel bursaries across the campus. Each gift represented a significant investment in young people at the University, changing their lives forever and ultimately helping them to change the world.



THE QUEEN'S  
FOUNDATION  
RAISED

OVER £70m

— Made up of —

37,355 GIFTS

— From —

5,000 DONORS

— Living in —

37 COUNTRIES

Transformative experiences such as that enjoyed by PhD student Portia Ellis-Woods, who is currently undertaking research in media and communications.

"I was hugely fortunate to receive a William and Betty MacQuitty Travel Scholarship which enabled me to spend two wonderful weeks at Vanderbilt University in Nashville and Arizona State University.

"The opportunity to attend the workshop and conference in the US has impacted my growth, not only as a graduate student, but also in my lived experience. Travel is something which I am extremely passionate about; understanding the world from a variety of perspectives and living in environments different to our own opens up endless possibilities.

"Learning about priority research areas, meeting university staff and students and gaining adaptable skills was extremely rewarding. I owe this life-changing trip to the MacQuitty family."

Milestones included the University's largest ever legacy gift – £2m for cancer research from the Thomas Simms estate



– and a ground-breaking £15m gift from The Atlantic Philanthropies, the biggest single philanthropic donation Queen's has ever received. That gift leveraged additional funding from government, trusts and foundations and individuals, making possible the construction of the £32m Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, which opened in the autumn of 2015. The Institute is now home to around 300 scientists who are working on new treatments for eye disease, MS, lung disease, diabetes and complex respiratory and microvascular diseases.

Gifts received during the Campaign funded Queen's Homework Clubs, enabled engineering students to break a world record for a Meccano bridge, helped set up the Trading Room (a real life stock exchange), funded pioneering clinical trials, and will ultimately make an impact on the eyesight of millions of children in China.

A brochure 'Celebrating Beyond', highlighting the impact of the Campaign, was circulated to all 5,000 donors around the world. A copy is available on the Development Office website along with a companion video produced for online viewing.

Professor Johnston also paid tribute to the work of Queen's Foundation, and to its retiring Chairman Tom Lynch.

"I want to acknowledge the members of the Queen's Foundation Board – past and present – who have guided this Campaign since 2009. In particular, I'd like to single out Foundation Chairman, Tom Lynch, who has shown exemplary leadership over 11 years, and has been a Foundation Board member for 16 years – leading this and much of the first Campaign for Queen's."

With £290m raised in 15 years it might be thought that fundraising could now take a back seat, but not so. With third level education funding in Northern Ireland still

uncertain, and with the University focused on Vision 2020, one thing is clear – future generations expect that Queen's will remain a first-class university and deliver on its current goals. As Norma Sinte, Director of Development and Alumni Relations at Queen's reflects, now is not a time for resting on laurels.

"The Beyond Campaign may be over, but we are still campaigning! Our donors and supporters have been hugely generous over the years. We need them to continue to be advocates for Queen's and to further garner support for the University to enable us to achieve the goals set out in Vision 2020.

"Under the leadership of the new Chairman, Queen's Foundation – and the University – can look to the future with great optimism."



**James Rutherford**

Tom Lynch's successor as Chairman of the Board of the Queen's Foundation is Jim Rutherford. With over 25 years of experience in investment banking and management, the 1980 BSc Economics and Computer Science graduate is a donor to Riddel Hall at Queen's and a member of the City Leadership Group.

Mr Rutherford, who spent 16 years with Capital Group, is currently Chairman of Dalradian Resources Inc (DLR) and Executive Director at Anglo American.



## CONVOCATION LECTURE

Thursday, 17 November 2016 at 7pm in the Canada Room / Council Chamber, The Lanyon Building

**Speaker: Baroness Nuala O'Loan DBE MRIA**

### Notice of Annual Meeting of Convocation

#### The business of the Annual Meeting of Convocation will follow the Convocation Lecture.

The Agenda for the Annual Meeting and the forms to submit a motion to the Annual Meeting are available online at <http://daro.qub.ac.uk/Convocation> and from the Clerk of Convocation.

All graduates of Queen's University Belfast are welcome to attend.

Please contact the Clerk of Convocation to indicate your intention to attend.

#### **Meaghan Lyons**

Clerk of Convocation  
c/o Development and Alumni Relations Office  
Queen's University Belfast  
University Road  
BT7 1NN

Email: [convocation@qub.ac.uk](mailto:convocation@qub.ac.uk)

# The Queen's Affinity Card

## Supporting postgraduate education for 25 years

Queen's Affinity Card, carrying an image of the University's distinctive and iconic Lanyon Building, was launched in November 1992 with Bank of Ireland UK. As we prepare to mark its milestone 25th birthday with a 12-month 'countdown', Communications Officer Gerry Power looks back on this successful and enduring partnership.

The Queen's Affinity Card, offered to the University's graduates and staff, is no ordinary credit card. As it travels the world in thousands of wallets nurturing the connection with the bearer's alma mater, it creates an increasingly important income stream for postgraduate education.

The card finances student scholarships through the Alumni Postgraduate Award from the monies received from Bank of Ireland UK for each new card issued and from its subsequent use. To date, over 165 Awards have been supported, representing a combined total of £0.25m.

One recipient of the Affinity Card-backed scholarship in 2002, Dr Anne Holloway – now a researcher in the University's School of Arts, English and Languages – recalls the impact the Award had on her studies.

**"The support offered by the Alumni Postgraduate Award for my MA came at a crucial point; it was the beginning of a postgraduate journey which led to a PhD in Spanish at Queen's."**

"I've since lectured in Spanish in Glasgow and at Cambridge and am delighted to be back in a sector-leading department, working with wonderful colleagues and new generations of Queen's linguists."

The graduate connects with Queen's every time they use their card. Simply removing it from a wallet or purse gives the owner a visual reminder of the University.

On occasion, it may also serve as a talking point with its striking image of the famous redbrick building or simply as a reminder of bygone student days.

But more importantly the cardholder has the satisfaction of knowing that they are helping their alma mater, at no discernible cost to them.

Sean Sheehan, Regional Director, NI Consumer and Small Business, Bank of Ireland UK, said: "Bank of Ireland UK is delighted to be celebrating this unique and long-lived partnership with Queen's on the 25th birthday of the Queen's Affinity MasterCard.

"It is especially satisfying to know that so much has been achieved to fund and support postgraduates at the University."

As a special birthday present, Bank of Ireland UK will increase their contribution to Queen's for every new card purchased and will continue to provide the University with income based on regular usage of the card, funding an additional 25 Alumni Postgraduate Awards in 2017.

Queen's alumni are being invited to support this special birthday celebration, and University staff, spouses and family are being encouraged to purchase and use the card to ensure that the additional anniversary awards are allocated to worthy postgraduate students.



- 0% on purchases for 3 months
- 0% on balance transfers for 9 months
- No annual fee
- Queen's receives one-off sum for every card issued and on card usage
- All of the above at no expense to card-holder!

## Apply Now!

Sign up for your personal Queen's Affinity MasterCard today and support your alma mater at the same time!

Find out more today at:  
<http://daro.qub.ac.uk/apply>



# QUEEN'S ANNUAL FUND CHANGING LIVES

## Thank You!

to everyone who made  
a gift in 2015/16.

Your support changes  
students' lives!



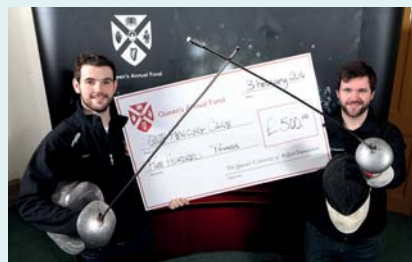
### QUB Snow sports

Funded to develop students' ski and snowboard skills, with the long-term goal of having QUB Snow students representing Queen's in the annual British University and Colleges Sports (BUCS) competitions throughout each academic year.



### Queen's University Symphony Orchestra

Funded to enable the 70+ member Orchestra to perform at their highest profile concert to date as part of the National Festival of Youth Orchestras in the National Concert Hall, Dublin.



### QUB Fencing

Funded to help repair broken and damaged kit, allowing all members to participate using equipment that is safe and functional.



### QUB St John Ambulance Links

Funded to purchase a second Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for enhanced first aid care at public events.

### Other projects funded:

Thanks to our generous donors, 40 projects received support this year including:

- QUBPlayers (£2,500) – to purchase a transportable performance space
- Men's Hockey (£2,000) – to enable participation in the 2016 European Indoor Championships
- Chinese Students' Society (£1,000) – to organise a Chinese Food Festival
- Nightline (£600) – to support a confidential student listening service at Queen's



If you would like further information on the Queen's Annual Fund, please get in touch with: **Meaghan Lyons**  
on tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3928 or  
email: [m.lyons@qub.ac.uk](mailto:m.lyons@qub.ac.uk)

**Find out more** about the projects supported at  
<http://daro.qub.ac.uk/AnnualFund>



### THE QUEEN'S ANNUAL FUND DISPERSED

## £65,000

to 40 student projects, clubs  
and societies in 2015/16,  
thanks to generous alumni  
donations.

— A Record —

## 84

applications for support  
were submitted by  
students and staff making  
the allocation of funding  
additionally challenging.





## MOMENTS OF IMPACT

**"The moment of impact proves potential for change. Has ripples effects far beyond what we can predict. Sending some particles crashing together...while sending others spinning off into great ventures."**

*The Vow, 2012*

All legacies start life as a simple thought, a moment of impact which can have ripple effects far beyond the imagination. The University's Legacy Marketing Manager, Susan Wilson, reflects on one such 'moment of impact' from a supporter of Queen's, whose personal decision will have a lifetime of influence.

Legacy gifts, irrespective of size, have the potential for great change. Queen's is the grateful beneficiary of many legacies each year, transformational gifts from generous friends and alumni, with wide-ranging impact on our research and education. And with increasing reductions in University funding, gifts in wills provide a welcome financial life-line.

When Thomas (Tom) Simms was diagnosed with cancer in December 2009 he received world-class care at the Cancer Centre at Belfast City Hospital.

During treatment he asked his doctor, Professor Richard Wilson: 'If someone was to give me more money, what would it be used for?'

Shortly before he died in May 2010, Tom altered his will to donate £2m to Queen's. It was a hugely generous gift which has already made an enormous impact and is offering fresh hope to countless individuals.

Professor Richard Wilson, Director of the Northern Ireland Cancer Trials Unit at Queen's, clearly recalls that momentous conversation: "We talked about supporting clinical research and how better individual treatments would lead to a higher survival rate," he said. "Patients would live longer and with a better quality of life as a result."

That single moment in 2009 led to the creation of the Tom Simms Research Team, a group of clinical investigators led by

Professor Wilson, dedicated to fulfilling Tom's wish. Working tirelessly on research, treatments in areas such as personalised therapies, genetic links, inhibitors and biomarkers, the Tom Simms Research group is also supporting the trial of the first ever anti-cancer drug developed entirely in Northern Ireland.

Tom once said: "An investment in people is an investment in the future". His charitable gift has enabled a huge investment in



people – from research nurses to clinical researchers, covering a range of cancers and exploring treatments that will enable patients to live longer with better outcomes.



**STAFF FUNDED DIRECTLY**

**12**



**GRANTS LEVERAGED**

**6**



**TYPES OF CANCER INVESTIGATED**

**9**

One of the Simms Research Team is David Gonzalez de Castro (pictured), who was appointed as Professor of Genomic Medicine in May 2016. For 12 years he was Head of the Molecular Diagnostics department at the Royal Marsden and the Institute of Cancer Research in London, where he led the implementation of genomic medicine-driven clinical trials in multiple cancer types, including leukaemias, soft-tissue sarcomas and other tumours. He aims to further develop genomic stratification protocols to improve patients' outcomes.

Tom's pivotal moment will impact on countless people with lung, prostate, colorectal, oesophageal and gastric cancers – many of whom can now look forward to a brighter future. His legacy has also been used to lever additional funding from charitable trusts to support research at Queen's.

Legacy gifts to support research, education, staff or students, or to secure specialist equipment like microscopes, musical instruments, or books, can all make a lasting impression.

Tom's gift will benefit hundreds, if not thousands of researchers, teachers, students and patients for generations. When it comes to moments of impact, as Mahatma Ghandi once said, we all need to: 'Be the change that you wish to see in the world'.



To receive further information on legacy giving, contact **Susan Wilson** at: [susan.wilson@qub@qub.ac.uk](mailto:susan.wilson@qub@qub.ac.uk) or tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3162

For more on the CCRCB Open Day at Queen's on 22 October 2016, and to meet some of the University's cancer researchers in person, go to: <http://darro.qub.ac.uk/OpenDay2016>

# VOLUNTEERING

## RECOGNISING OUR UNSUNG HEROES

In the past 12 months, over 500 instances of volunteering have been logged by Queen's Development and Alumni Relations Office. From explaining the likely impact of a Brexit vote, to career-mentoring young architecture students, the commitment and enthusiasm shown by graduate volunteers makes a real impact.

Our volunteers are vital and often tell us how rewarding it is to engage with their University, to catch up with old friends and to network with fellow graduates – both professionally and socially.

Eoin McMullan (BSc Accounting, 2013), is currently Treasurer of the Queen's Graduates' Association (QGA). His role is to make sure the QGA remains in a position to offer a vibrant connection to the University for its 1,100 members.



**"I gained a lot from my involvement with the Queen's community during my time as a student. Volunteering is my opportunity to give something back and to use my skills to help enhance the experience of others."**

Eoin McMullan



Then there's former BBC NI agricultural correspondent Richard Wright (BSc Econ, 1970), who acted as MC at the Institute for Global Food Security Annual Lecture in April. Richard's background and expertise ensured that proceedings in the packed Isdell Courtyard in Riddel Hall ran very smoothly.

Not all volunteers need to return to campus to offer their services. Ruth Gallagher (LLM, Human Rights Law, 2009), joined dozens of students at a speed mentoring evening earlier this year, by Skype. Currently Head of Policy and Review at the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, the former Amnesty International employee outlined, live from Dublin, how she had negotiated the path to her current position.

Eoin, Richard and Ruth are among the many unsung heroes of the University's graduate network around the world. And we salute every one of them. It's impossible to put a price tag on the time and experiences that they pass on to others, but there's no doubt they make a crucial and valued impact.

### ALUMNI VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

In June, the Students' Union hosted the annual Volunteering Excellency Awards, recognising the countless hours volunteered by Queen's students and alumni. The black tie ceremony, one of the highpoints in the University calendar, thanks current volunteers and encourages others to participate.

This year the Alumni Volunteer of the Year Award went to the committee of the Queen's University Alumni Association, Malaysia (QUAAM). The QUAAM committee led by President Mansor Bin Salleh, has been successful in building a strong, active and engaging network in Malaysia through a diverse range of events, communications and social media.

QUAAM's Lee Hui Seng (BEng Civil Engineering, 1988) volunteers countless hours arranging events, engaging members through social media talking to prospective students and welcoming visiting Queen's students when they are in town. Such was the case in June when 25 Queen's students attended a Global Leadership Programme on Smart Cities in Malaysia. The QUAAM committee organised tours and events for the students while they were in Kuala Lumpur, to showcase Malaysia and promote inbound tourism.

QUAAM also took the opportunity to flag up the value of volunteering: "It's all about how these young students can contribute to their respective Queen's alumni clubs worldwide after they graduate", explains Hui Seng. "I know the cycle will continue. The students we greeted with our hospitality will, in turn, give back when they graduate."

QUAAM clearly demonstrates the power of the Queen's alumni network – that ability to connect, no matter how far from Belfast – which is so important to the University realising its vision of being a truly international institution.

### Here are some of the ways YOU can get involved:

#### SPEAK AT AN EVENT

Speakers are required for events on campus and internationally. Guest speakers are asked to share their experience of work, life and university with fellow alumni or students.

#### TESTIMONIALS

Would you be happy to write a testimonial about Queen's, the course you took your experience of studying in Belfast for those deciding which university to attend?

#### TALK TO PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Prospective students and their families want to hear from graduates about life as a Queen's student. Our recruitment team needs your endorsement at fairs to help spread the word about studying in Belfast.

#### MENTOR YOUNGER ALUMNI

You can offer advice to younger alumni or current students considering working in your profession. Queen's hosts a Speed Mentoring event where current students can talk to graduates about the opportunities available to them after University.

#### PROVIDE A STUDENT INTERNSHIP

Internships and business observation placements are crucial. They give students a taste of the working world and the chance to acquire skills for their future career. Please get in contact if you or your company could host students in London, Dublin or New York.

#### WRITE FOR THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

If you have a story to tell, let us know and we'll spread the word. Gerry Power, editor of **The Graduate**, would love to hear from you (editor@qub.ac.uk or tel: +44 (0)28 9097 5321).

#### GO ON, GIVE IT A TRY!

For further information on Queen's Volunteering programme, email: volunteer.now@qub.ac.uk or tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3135.

# MY TIME AT QUEEN'S

## Dr David Capper

LLB 1982

I studied for an LLB from 1978 to 1982 and undertook the Bar course at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies in 1982/83. I was a 'live at home' student who would have found going away to university too much at that time in life.

Queen's provided a secure and sheltered environment in which my social skills developed. I got involved in the Students' Law Society, serving as Secretary in 1980/81 during the dynamic presidency of Rosemary Connolly. I took part in intervarsity mooting competitions, not with any great success, but for the retiring teenager I had been this would have been almost unthinkable.

I particularly valued the teaching and support from three current friends and colleagues at Queen's today – Norma Dawson, Brice Dickson, and John Stannard – but also deeply appreciated the guidance I received from the late Edgar Graham and from Herb Wallace, Ethne Harkness, Denis Boyd and others.

Queen's Law Faculty at that time was staffed by people very dedicated to teaching and to creating an environment where students were valued as people. Not all would be appointed to academic positions today but during the dark days of the troubles they kept the show on the road. These folk inspired me to become an academic.

I also made lifelong friends among my law class, some of whom I meet every year for a Christmas meal.



Dr DE Lorraine Sterritt

MA French, 1986;

BA French and English, 1983

**Northern Ireland in the 1980s when Lorraine Sterritt, David Capper and Tony Gallagher were students was a very different place what it is of today. Their time at Queen's coincided with the signing of the Anglo-Irish Agreement, the John DeLorean Car Factory going into receivership and the Giant's Causeway being included in the first tranche of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the UK.**

Born and raised in Ireland, Lorraine moved to the United States in 1985 after graduating.

Prior to her appointment at Salem Academy and College in July 2014, she was the Dean for Administration at Harvard College and a member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University.

**What was life like in Belfast when you were a student?** It was a troubled time in the 1980s, and I am very glad to see that things have improved since then.

**What do you remember about your first day at University?** The long queue for getting my student ID card! And how excited I was.

**What are your fondest memories of your**

**time here?** Excellent professors and great friends.

**What do you recall about the campus?** Everything was very well maintained.

**Who was your favourite member of staff?** The staff were fabulous. I especially liked Tim Unwin, and now, 30 years later, we are Facebook friends.

**What clubs and societies, if any, did you get involved in?** I studied all the time!

**What do you remember about your graduation day?** Strawberries; walking across the stage; family.

**What part did Queen's play in your life/career?** Queen's equipped me extremely well for further study. After my Master's degree in French I moved to the United States, where I gained a PhD in French at Princeton University, thanks in very large measure to the wonderful preparation I had had at Queen's.

It also instilled in me a love of academia. I have spent my life in academic institutions and am currently President of Salem Academy and College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. It is the oldest continuously operating educational institution for women in the US, founded in 1772, which is old by American standards, older, in fact than the country itself.



If you would like to share memories of your time at Queen's, please answer the questions above and send them to the Editor, Gerry Power: [editor@qub.ac.uk](mailto:editor@qub.ac.uk). We will include the best submission(s) in next year's issue of **The Graduate**; all stories will also be published online at <http://daro.qub.ac.uk/MyTimeAtQUB>

## Professor Tony Gallagher

BSc, Psychology 1979

Crowded into a noisy, smoky downstairs bar; a bunch of mates squeezed into a booth; a crate of uncapped Guinness bottles on the floor beneath our table – I can't be sure that was my first day at Queen's, but it's the first evening I remember. Freshers' Week, including the Ball, was a heady mix of new people and new promise.

The sober reality of study inevitably kicked in and the next few years were to be dominated by the twin polarities of Lennoxvale, where Psychology was based, and the Students' Union, the heart of our social life in a city which every evening descended into dark and dangerous silence.

Like any Fresher I joined loads of societies, but settled into Rag – at my first ever meeting, I met my future wife, and we recently had our first grandchild. The worst moment came when a soldier and civilian searcher were shot dead on Rag Day, by people posing as students.

I became transfixed by the Social Psychology lectures of Karen Trew and (sadly departed) Marie Logan-Ryan.

After graduating I served a year as Deputy President in the Students' Union, then completed a Masters and PhD, followed by seven years in other places, before returning to a lectureship in Education in Queen's. By this point I had begun a lifelong quest better to understand societies in conflict and, more particularly, the role education can play in mitigating the potential for hate that seems to lie so close beneath the surface of our lives.

That quest continues.



# CLASS NOTES

Thank you to all who have contributed to Class Notes. Regrettably we are limited by the space available, so apologies if your submission has not been included here. All class notes can be found at <https://daro.qub.ac.uk/QUBClassNotes>

## 2010s

**Gordon Brown, MSc Medicinal Chemistry (2015)**, is taking an MSc at the University of Geneva in Chemical Biology. Gordon, who recently won a National Centre of Competence in Research poster prize enabling him to travel to any conference in the world, works for Boston University looking after exchange students.

**Nicola Coghlan, LLB (2013)** and **Ellen Forester, LLB (2013)**, alumni of the Institute of Professional Legal Studies at Queen's and trainee solicitors from law firm Tughans Solicitors, represented Northern Ireland in the Louis M Brown and Forrest S Mosten International Client Consultation Competition in Canada in April. The pair had triumphed earlier in the year in the local heat hosted by the Law Society of Northern Ireland.

**Dylan McClurg, BSc Biochemistry (2015)**, is now studying medicine at the University of Aberdeen. He graduated from Queen's with first class honours and came top of the year, receiving the Tim Bramely Award for Academic Excellence.



**Javid Jafarov, MSc Educational Leadership (2014)**, from Azerbaijan met his wife Lyaila Shakenova (originally from Kazakhstan) when they were studying the same course at Queen's. The couple married soon after graduating and now have a one year old son. Read their story here <http://daro.qub.ac.uk/JavidandLyaila>



**Dr Adrian Margey, PhD School of Creative Arts (2014)**, continues to exhibit contemporary and traditional art across the island of Ireland. He has moved his practice to the North Coast with his studio and gallery space in the centre of Portrush now open to the public on Saturdays 11am–6pm. His next solo exhibition will be staged at the Culloden Estate and Spa from 27–30 October 2016. To see more of Adrian's work visit [www.adrianmargey.com](http://www.adrianmargey.com)

**Dr Paul Huddie, PhD History (2014)**, published his Queen's dissertation in December 2015. A launch event for The Crimean War and Irish Society was held in March 2016 at Boston College, Dublin, hosted by Maurice Earls of the Dublin Review of Books. It now features as part of Liverpool University Press's Reappraisals in Irish History series.



**Meadhbh Maguire, MSc Environmental Planning (2013)**, has been working as a Transport

Planning Consultant since graduating, specialising in active-travel projects around the UK and internationally and on incentives to encourage walking and cycling.

Over the past year she travelled throughout Nigeria managing a traffic survey programme, applying what she learned at Queen's to a very different environment.

Last October Meadhbh married Calum Mac Leòid, a Scottish Gaelic writer, columnist and political commentator. In February 2016, she was offered a place at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, to undertake a PhD in Urban Planning. She started in September with the support of the McGill Engineering Doctoral Award and the prestigious Schulich Fellowship.

Meadhbh told **The Graduate**: "I am highly grateful to those at Queen's who provided me with great support and insight throughout my programme, in addition to Ciaran Mackel who supported my studies at Queen's through the West Belfast Aisling Bursary."

**Jessica Capps, MSc Management (2011)**, at the University of Texas (UT). In June, she was promoted to Senior Business Analyst, supporting the implementation of Workday ERP software for the campus. Jessica's team at UT works closely with Queen's spinout software company, Kainos.



**Sorcha Chipperfield, BA Drama Studies (2010)** and **Daithi Mac Laimhin, BA Architecture (2010)**, were married on 17 March 2016 at St Matthew's Church, Belfast followed by a reception at Hugh McCann's in Newcastle, Co Down.

On a beautiful day, the couple and their guests from Dublin, England and further afield (many of whom they met whilst at Queen's) had a brilliant time.

**Christopher Floyd, BA French (2010)**, was chosen for Forbes Magazine's 30 under 30: Games. Christopher is 'first officer' and operations manager of Indie MEGABOOTH, helping to showcase the work of independent game developers at conventions. He also organises an eSports tournament – The Rektreational – and recently opened Indies Workshop, a co-working space for independent game developers in Seattle, WA.

**Sarahrose Gourley, LLB (2010)**, earned an LLM in Human Rights from Nottingham University in July 2014. She started working for the Equality Advisory Support Service Helpline in January 2015 and is now studying a Legal Practice Course part-time in Birmingham City University. In July this year she married Dr Philip Hargreaves, an engineer.



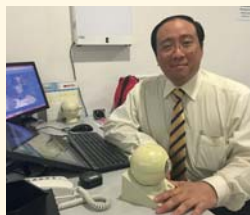
**Jarek Zasadzinski, MBA Business Administration (2010)**, has been promoted to Vice President Overseas in Greiner Packaging International. Jarek will leave Northern Ireland for the company

HQ in Austria, where he will be responsible for strategy, development and mergers and acquisitions activities. He is the youngest person to hold this position and the first non-Austrian to work at this level in the company.

## 2000s

**Bernard J Mulholland**, MA Archaeology and Palaeoecology (2001), MA Byzantine Archaeology and Text (2004), PhD History (2012), was elected to the Irish Mensa Committee in April 2016 for a two-year term. Bernard has written widely on the Early Byzantine Christian Church and published 'the man from MENSA' volumes 1 and 2.

**Dr Catharina Hendrick**, BA History of Art (2006), was recently appointed Lecturer of Museum Studies at University College London in Qatar (UCLQ). Previously Catharina was a consultant for the Naughton Gallery at Queen's where she worked on the Gallery's museum accreditation. She was also consultant/project manager for the Public Catalogue Foundation's photography project of oil paintings in a public collection at Queen's.



**Lim Lik Thai**, MB BCH BAO 2003, has returned to Malaysia after spending 15 years in the UK in Ophthalmology with double sub-specialty in glaucoma and vitreoretinal surgery.

Appointed Professor and Head of Department of Ophthalmology in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) when he was just 37 years old, he is one of the youngest Queen's alumni to be appointed a full professor and ophthalmologist consultant with double sub-specialties. Find out more at: <http://bit.ly/2bY4KpC>



**Jacquelyn Benson**, MA Anthropology (2003), BA English (2002), is about to publish her first novel, **The Smoke Hunter**, a historical thriller set in British Honduras in 1898. The book follows the adventures of a suffragette in search of a lost city with a dangerous mystery at its heart. It is being released by Headline Publishing in the UK in November, having been issued by Grand Central Publishing in the US in September.

## 1980s

**Chris Agee**, MA Anglo-Irish Literature (1989), is Keith Wright Literary Fellow and writer-in-residence at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow and Editor of **Irish Pages**, Ireland's largest literary journal ([www.irishpages.org](http://www.irishpages.org)). Chris recently edited two celebrated issues, **Heaney** (Vol 8, No 2, on the man and his work) and **After Heaney** (Vol 9, No 2, on Heaney's creative, critical and cultural legacy).



His last collection of poems, **Next to Nothing**, was shortlisted for the prestigious Ted Hughes Award for New Work in Poetry, funded by the British Poet Laureate. For more go to [www.chrisagee.net](http://www.chrisagee.net).

**Jonny Bramley**, BSc Computer Science (1987), was selected by the BBC to run with the Olympic torch in Brazil in June, before he headed up the BBC Rio Olympics operation, his 13th Games.



The 2005 BAFTA winner has taken charge of most of the BBC's sports output over the last 25 years including Wimbledon, Open Golf and the Ryder Cup, summer and winter Olympics and the Commonwealth Games.

Jonny was responsible for BBC's coverage (across all media) for the London 2012 Olympic Games, which set a new 'gold standard' for how broadcasters cover global sporting events and raise audience expectations.

**Dr Amitabh Goel**, MB BCH BAO Medicine (1989), is a General Surgeon and Surgical Intensivist working in Cleveland, Ohio. His academic appointment is as a Clinical Professor of Surgery, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.



**Jeff Gilbert**, MB MCh BAO (1986), has worked and lived in Laos for

seven years and for nearly 14 years in Asia. After a busy 12 months supporting the Ebola response in Liberia and Sierra Leone with WHO (2014-15), wife Anh and daughters Sarah (10) and Alex (7) get to see more of him this year – with shorter work trips to Burma (dengue), Cambodia (schistosomiasis) and Indonesia (OneHealth training).

Jeff intends to regale his classmates at the Queen's 30-year medical reunion this November with tales of an alternative career working overseas.

## 1990s



**Peter McGarvey**, LLB (1998), was made Partner in Ronan Daly Jermyn in Galway in January 2016, having been a team leader in the National

Asset Management Agency (NAMA) for four years. After graduating, Peter spent 12 years working for a leading commercial practice in Northern Ireland.

**David Wylie**, BA History and Politics (1998), has been promoted to Director, Primary Investments based in John Laing's in New York. John Laing is an international originator, active investor and manager of major infrastructure projects. David began in the company's head office in London before moving to North America in 2010.

**John McCavitt**, BA Ancient and Modern History (1983), PhD Modern History (1988), has spent his career in the teaching profession in Newry.

John has had a number of books published, including titles on Sir Arthur Chichester and **The Flight of the Earls**. His latest, **The Man Who Captured Washington**, about the Rostrevor man who burnt the White House, was published in February by the University of Oklahoma Press. The cast of characters on both the British and American sides comprises lots of other Irishmen.

## 1980s (cont.)

**David Hughes, BSc (1982)**, currently leads undergraduate geotechnical and highway engineering teaching at Queen's, having been a member of academic staff in the School of Civil Engineering since 1990. He jointly authored the fifth Edition (2015) of the iconic *Highways* textbook with Coleman O'Flaherty.



**Binod K Maitin, PhD** Analytical Chemistry (1982), who retired as SVP and Chief Technology Officer at United Spirits Limited in 2013, is now an Independent Technical Consultant based in Bangalore, India. United Spirits Ltd, now a Diageo Group Company, is the largest Indian alcoholic beverage company.

Dr Maitin, pictured during a recent visit to Queen's, can be contacted via email at [binod@maitin.org](mailto:binod@maitin.org). He would be happy to advise prospective students from India on life at Queen's and in Northern Ireland.

## 1970s



**Geoff Hill, BA English (1979)**, is now the Daily Telegraph travel section's expert on Northern Ireland. Geoff, who is also motorcycle columnist for the Daily Mirror and editor of *Microlight Flying* magazine, is the author of 11 critically acclaimed books, ranging from novels to tales of epic motorbike journeys.

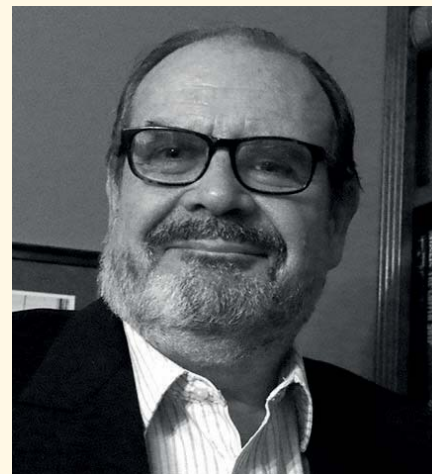
The winner of numerous travel writer awards, Geoff has been named UK and Northern Ireland Feature Writer of the Year several times. He won a Blue at Queen's for volleyball and went on to captain Northern Ireland at the Commonwealth Games, making 122 appearances for the national team – still an Irish record. For more go to [www.geoff-hill-adventures.com](http://www.geoff-hill-adventures.com)

**Dr Arlene Cassidy MBE, BSSc (1974)**, completed her professional postgraduate training in social work at Stirling University. Now CEO of Autism NI, she received the Honorary Degree of Doctor of the University for her services to Autism from Ulster University in 2012.

**Malcolm (Mac) Robertson, BSc Aeronautical Engineering (1973)**, has come out of retirement to become Head of Aviation Technology at Dhurakij Pundit University in Bangkok, Thailand. The new role comes after a 'somewhat lacklustre academic performance' at Queen's Department of Aeronautical Engineering (1967-1973), an undergraduate apprenticeship at Short Brothers and Harland (now Bombardier) and two stints in the military.

"It has taken two military Air Force careers and 22 years in commercial aerospace engineering (10 as a Chief Engineer) in Australia for me to realise a return to academia to introduce a new department to a private university in Thailand (my chosen country for retirement)," Mac told **The Graduate**.

Mac (who is contactable at [malcolm.joh@dpu.ac.th](mailto:malcolm.joh@dpu.ac.th) or [robermac1948@gmail.com](mailto:robermac1948@gmail.com)) now spends half his time in Bangkok and half in North Thailand, developing a Home Stay style resort on the banks of the Mekong River ([www.raiphuchat.com](http://www.raiphuchat.com)).



**Peter Tonkin, BA English (1973), MA English (1974)**, was the subject of an article published in **The Big Thrill**, the magazine of the International Thriller Writers in October 2015.

For more go to <http://bit.ly/2bxnJSL>

**Sr Mary Finbarr Coffey, BA Scholastic Philosophy and English (1972)**, Higher Diploma in Education (1973), obtained a MA in Philosophy and a PhD at Heythrop College, University of London, after several years in South Africa.

Sr Mary has been teaching Philosophy to undergraduate students for the last 12 years, while working on the question of epistemological relativism, with its related concerns of the nature of true knowledge.

In April 2016, Sr Mary published a scholarly work of philosophic analysis, now available on Amazon, entitled **The Question of Relativism**, published by New Millennium.

**Andrew Dougal, BA Classics (1972)**, was appointed non-executive Chair of the Public Health Agency of Northern Ireland (PHA). The PHA is tasked by the Northern Ireland Assembly with protecting the health of the local people and with promoting health and well-being. It has an annual budget of £100m.

**John Leckey, LLB (1971)**, former Senior Coroner for Northern Ireland was the winner of the First Trust Bank Queen's Graduate of the Year Award for 2015. He was presented with his award at the annual Charter Day Dinner in November last year.

John, who qualified as a solicitor in 1974, always had a keen interest in forensic medicine and was one of the first members of the Northern Ireland Medico-Legal Society. He became Deputy Coroner for Greater Belfast in 1984 and in 1992 was appointed full-time Coroner. When the Coroners Service for Northern Ireland came into being in April 2006, John was appointed Senior Coroner. He retired on 31 October 2015.

John and his wife **Janet (BSSc, Psychology)** graduated from Queen's in 1971 on the same day – a doubly special occasion as they also announced their engagement on that date.

Janet is a former President of Queen's Women Graduates.





## 1960s

**Professor John Wylie, LLB (1967), LLD (1980)**, was awarded an Hon LLD by the University of Limerick on 28 April 2016 for services to the Republic of Ireland in the field of land law reform and, in particular, the drafting of legislation which implemented that reform.

## 1950s

### THE MEDICAL CLASS OF 1956 HELD A 60TH REUNION IN MALONE LODGE HOTEL, BELFAST ON 6 JUNE



Reunion organiser **Dr Marshall Eakin, MB BCh BAO (1956)**, explains: "It was perhaps brave or foolhardy to arrange a reunion for octogenarians but we decided that if we had at least 20 positive replies, which we got, plus guests (wives, partners and others) then it would be viable. In the event we ended up with 14 graduates and six guests who all agreed it was well worthwhile.

"We met at 11am for coffee, followed by lunch and a visit to the magnificent McClay Library. In the afternoon we had four talks and then an excellent dinner. All considered, it was a good day and while local graduates

may meet up from time to time, for obvious reasons there will not be another organised reunion."

**Leslie Morrell OBE, BAgr Agriculture (1955)**, has retired as Company Secretary of Choice Housing Ireland Ltd but has been elected as Honorary President of the association.

This marks the completion of 40 years of active participation in the Voluntary Housing movement in Northern Ireland as a Chairman or Company Secretary. Leslie continues to work as a director of Oaklee Housing, which provides social housing in the Republic of Ireland.

# OBITUARIES

It is with sadness that we include obituaries and appreciations of some of those graduates and former members of staff who are no longer with us.

### Ted McConnell OBE, LLB 1955 (26.06.15)

Entrepreneur and philanthropist

Edward (Ted) McConnell, financial consultant, honorary graduate and Queen's Foundation Board member (2002-05), died in Toronto in June 2015, having suffered from Lewy Body Dementia and Parkinson's for several years.

Ted studied Law at Queen's, graduating with an LLB in 1955. As a student he was an accomplished athlete, captaining the University's hurling team which won the Fitzgibbon Cup.

He moved to Canada in 1957 and his future wife Pauline followed him to Montreal the following year. They married and then lived in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce.

After working in investments Ted became CEO and President of the International Trust Company (Citibank) in 1970. He set up his own counselling firm EJ McConnell and Associates in 1976 and remained the Principal for over 20 years.

An LLD from Queen's in 1988 was followed by an OBE from Her Majesty the Queen in 1991. He was appointed First Honorary Consul General of Ireland in Canada in 1997. He was also Director of the Ireland Fund of Canada and Grand Marshal of the St Patrick's Day Parade in Toronto.

A former President of the Queen's University Association (QUA) he remains the only overseas person to hold the office.

He also helped found the Canadian branch of the QUA, serving as its President.

Ted is survived by his wife Pauline and children Eamonn, Eileen, Stephen, Michael and David.

### Wesley Burrowes, BA 1952, 2000 (31.12.15)

Writer and dramatist

Arthur Wesley Burrowes, creator of the long-running RTÉ drama **Glenroe**, died in December 2015 following a long illness.

Born in Bangor, Co Down, he was educated at the Royal Belfast Academical Institution, before graduating from Queen's in 1952 with a BA in French and German.

After University, he moved to Dublin to work for an insurance company. He became a full-time writer in 1963, getting his big break in television as a script writer on the RTÉ drama series **Tolka Row** the next year.

In 1966, he became editor and chief script writer for **The Riordans**, penning over 300 weekly episodes between then and 1979. In 1983, he created the RTÉ drama serial for which he will be most remembered, **Glenroe**, which ran on Sunday evenings until May 2001.

Wesley also wrote theatrical productions including **The Becauseway** and **Affluence...**



If you would like your news to appear in Class Notes, please contact **Gerry Power** (Editor, *The Graduate*), [g.power@qub.ac.uk](mailto:g.power@qub.ac.uk) or go to <https://darro.qub.ac.uk/QUBClassNotes>

and the musical **Carrie**, scripted screenplays for the movies **Rat** and **Mystics**, composed Ireland's entry for the 1967 Eurovision Song Contest, **If I Could Choose** (which finished second), and played bridge, representing Ireland at international level.

He is survived by his wife Helena, son Kim and daughter Ciara.

### Sean Fulton, MA 1964, LLD 2000 (22.01.16)

#### Educationalist and University administrator

Professor Emeritus Sean Fulton died at Park Manor Nursing Home in January.

Born in 1933, he played football for Ballymena, Cliftonville and Crusaders and represented Ulster as a junior tennis player.

A maths teacher, he took up a lectureship at St Joseph's College of Education, now St Mary's University College.

A move to Queen's Department of Education, and a PhD from Keele (1975) preceded his appointment to a Chair of Education in 1976 and to Head of Department in 1977. He went on to become Dean, Provost and ultimately Pro-Vice-Chancellor.

In 1995, he chaired Queen's Sesquicentenary Committee, which celebrated the University's 150th birthday. In December 2000 Queen's awarded Sean an Honorary Degree for his immense contribution to the University.

In retirement he became the University's inaugural Director of Development, serving on the Queen's Foundation Board from June 1998 to March 1999.

He is survived by his wife Betty, daughter Mary, son Greg and grandchildren Camilla, Matthew, Richard, Emily, Sean, Isobel and Daniel.

### Keith Jeffery (12.02.16)

#### Military historian

Keith Jeffery was Professor of British History at Queen's, a distinguished military historian and author of the acclaimed **MI6: The History of the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), 1909-49**.

Born in Belfast on January 11 1952, Keith John Jeffery was educated at Methodist College Belfast before an academic career in the USA and at Cambridge University (St John's College) beckoned. He joined Queen's in 2005, having taught at the Ulster Polytechnic and the University of Ulster for 20 years.

In demand internationally as a lecturer, from 2005 he was seconded to the Cabinet Office to write the official history of MI6. He later returned to his work on the First World War period, and in 2015 published his book **1916: A Global History**.

Professor Jeffery retired from Queen's in January 2016. He is survived by his wife Sally and sons Ben and Alex.

### Dr Michael Leong Hong Kah (12.02.16)

#### Medic and entrepreneur

Dr Michael Leong died in Singapore in February aged 54, following a short illness.

From Ipoh, Malaysia he graduated with a MB BCh BAO in 1985. During his time at Queen's he was Vice President of the Malaysian Students' Society of Northern Ireland (MSSNI).

After leaving University he worked in a dermatologist's practice in London before relocating, in the late 1990s, to Singapore as a medical systems specialist with a US multinational hardware company.

The medic-turned-entrepreneur founded ShareInvestor in 1999 to provide real-time information on shares. He sold the company to Singapore Press Holdings in 2008 and spent the next seven years with his family.

Michael is survived by his wife Irene, daughter Annabelle and son Aaron.

*A tribute by Dr Chow YN is available on the Development and Alumni Relations website.*

### Neil Oliver (19.05.16)

#### Corporate lawyer and broadcaster

Neil Clive Oliver died in the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald, from metastatic intra-cranial disease (inoperable tumours on the brain) aged 73.

Born in 1942 in Ealing, London, he moved to Northern Ireland and made the region his home. He studied law at Queen's where he served as Chairman of the Conservative and Unionist Association before graduating with an LLB in 1968.

Owner of two financial companies and a corporate consultant lawyer, it was Neil's work for the BBC's *Money Programme*, a show he presented many times in the late 1970s, that brought him to prominence.

He is survived by his older brother, the Reverend Mervyn Pascal Oliver, niece Esther and nephew Arthur Oliver-Brown.

### Dr James Holmes McCauley (30.07.16)

#### Doctor

James McCauley was born in Omagh in 1931. He studied medicine at Queen's, graduating in 1955 with a MB BCh BAO. Dr McCauley died in Canberra, Australia. Predeceased by his son James, he is survived by his wife Doris, two grandchildren, four sisters and a brother.

### Among other graduates and former members of staff who have passed away are:

- **Dr Elizabeth Audrey Graham** (née Alexander), BA 1947, MA 1948, PhD 1955 (24.07.15)
- **Dr Brendan Macaulay** BDS 1960 (22.12.15)  
**Dr Francis Macaulay** MB BCh BAO 1948 (05.04.16)
- **Dr Leslie McFall** PhD MTh BA 1974 (04.11.15)
- **Dr Robert F Greene** MB BCh BAO 1958 (08.03.16)
- **Professor Ken Bell** BSc 1961, PhD 1965, (former Pro-Vice-Chancellor) (10.06.16)
- **Judge Corinne Philpott** QC, LLB 1976 (16.06.16)
- **Jonathan William Willatt** Physics student (2009-10) (17.06.16)
- **Professor Roy Crawford** BSc 1970, PhD 1973, DSc 1987 (former Pro-Vice-Chancellor) (23.06.16)
- **Shona Killen** LLB 2010 (12.09.16)



Further obituaries and appreciations can be found online at

<http://daro.qub.ac.uk/obit>



# HONORARY GRADUATES

## CLASS OF 2016

A Nobel prize-winner, leaders and innovators in global business and industry, renowned artists – all were among the 11 people to receive Honorary Degrees at Summer Graduation.



**Sir Paul Nurse**, a former President of the Royal Society, received the degree of Doctor of Medical Science. He is one of the leading global figures in cancer research and cell

biology and was jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology in 2001 for the discovery of protein molecules that control the division of cells in the cell cycle. Errors in cell growth and division may lead to cancer and other serious illnesses.



From the arts world, **Colin Davidson**, the Belfast painter whose subjects have famously included Angela Merkel for the cover of Time Magazine, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences while the Belfast-born filmmaker **Marcus Robinson**, who documented the rebuilding of the World Trade Centre, was awarded a DSSc for distinction in art.



Queen's graduate and former Pro-Chancellor **Ratha Johnston**, the Chair of NI Screen, is driving forward the expansion of the local creative industries. She was made a Dame in the Queen's 90th Birthday Honours and she has now been honoured by Queen's with the degree of Doctor of Laws for her service to the University and to business and commerce.



**Dato' Lim Si Boon** received a DSSc for services to education. A Queen's graduate, he is the owner of Tenby Schools in Malaysia which, since 1960, have been uniting students of different cultures and nationalities. There is also a partnership with Queen's and Stranmillis in developing an international Postgraduate Certificate in Education.



Queen's graduate **Michael Brown** is Commissioner of Transport for London and received the degree of Doctor of Laws for distinction in public service. He was in charge of

London Underground during the terror attacks of 7/7 and it was his job to get the city moving again. He was also made a Member of the Royal Victorian Order for his success in handling one of the Underground's greatest challenges – the Golden Jubilee weekend in 2002.



Key figures from two of Queen's most successful spin-out companies were honoured with the degrees of DSSc Econ for services to business and commerce. Queen's graduate **Dr Donal Denvir** is a founder of Andor Technology and **Dr Brendan Mooney** is MD of Kainos, the software company. Andor was the first Queen's spin-out to float on the Stock Exchange and Kainos is the latest.



Two other women who are leaders in business received degrees: Queen's graduate **Christine Browne**, Managing Director of Thomson Airways, and **Janet McCollum**, Chief Executive of Moy Park, were honoured with DSc Econ Honorary Degrees for services to business and commerce.



**Deborah Wince-Smith**, who received the degree of Doctor of Laws for distinction in public service, was for 20 years a senior US Government official serving in both the Reagan and George HW Bush Administrations. She is internationally renowned as a leading voice on innovation, science and technology policy, energy, education, economics and business.



To find out more about Queen's 2016 Honorary Graduates please visit

<http://daro.qub.ac.uk/HonGrads>



## It's still your campus!



Did you know that as a graduate of Queen's you are entitled to services and discounts around campus and beyond?



- Recent graduates can use the Student Guidance Centre to seek help with their employment.
- All graduates are entitled to discounted membership at Queen's libraries, Queen's Sport (PEC) and even our accommodation during the summer months.
- You can purchase a Perks card that offers discounts at thousands of restaurants, shops and retail outlets across Northern Ireland.
- As a graduate of Queen's you can even get married on campus.
- And, you can join the Queen's Graduates' Association and other alumni networks around the world.

**For more benefits and information, please visit**  
<http://daro.qub.ac.uk/QUBBenefits> or tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3100.



## THE LIVES OF OTHERS: JOURNEY TOWARDS GIVING

On a weekend in June, two women stood on Slieve Croob in Co Down, took a deep breath, and set off downhill.

Their aim: to walk the entire length of the River Lagan, from source to sea.

Their destination: Titanic Belfast, 56 miles away.

But they also had another objective: to raise money for Queen's Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB).

One of the walkers was Karen Martin who had breast cancer two years ago. Her companion was Queen's graduate Dr Gwyneth Hinds from the Breast Unit at Belfast City Hospital. Both are members of the Lagan Dragons, a group of enthusiasts who row together on the river every weekend in an initiative to improve fitness for those recovering from breast cancer and to raise awareness of the disease.

The double-marathon, two-day walk raised £4,250, but as Helen Surgenor, Queen's

Head of Medical Fundraising, says: "It will have done so much more than that. A lot of people aren't aware that you can give directly to medical research here. Sponsorship activities like this are a way of making that known and giving people ideas.

"Patients and their families often want to do something to acknowledge the care and attention they have received from their doctor. They want to give something back in return. They may have no connection with Queen's,



but through their doctor they may become aware of the ongoing research locally in their disease or may have had the opportunity to take part in a clinical trial.

"They choose to support Queen's to help to drive forward the development of new treatments that will help others coming after them.

"But whatever their route to giving they are very important to us, and we make them very welcome members of the Queen's family.

"We are very grateful for all the gifts we receive and for the fundraising efforts of every individual family."

"Patients, their families and friends have this year raised over £250,000. Often the funds raised provide important seed money,



perhaps for a young researcher starting out, someone who has an idea that they want to develop but they can't apply for a grant from a bigger organisation until they have some test data," adds Helen.

One person being helped in this way is Dr Kienan Savage at CCRCB who is receiving support from a family who have been impacted by hereditary breast cancer and are trying to do something to improve the outcomes for other families similarly affected.

Kienan says: "This makes an enormous difference. It allows us to pump prime, to invest in pilot projects that we would otherwise not be able to get funding for. It's a big benefit to me in my work on hereditary breast cancer and it's also wonderful to have a close connection with a family, to see the people you're helping."

Cancer research is not the only area being supported. There are donations towards treatments for multiple sclerosis, eye disease, diabetes and lung disease, including cystic fibrosis and more.



Dr Damian Downey is Joint Director of the Northern Ireland Regional Adult Cystic Fibrosis Centre and leads a large bronchiectasis service. He says: "I talk a lot with people who want to give something back for the treatment they, or someone close to them, have received. They are interested in the research we do in collaboration with Queen's. I'm very happy to connect them with the University so that they can give a donation. They know these valuable contributions can make a big difference to someone else's life."

Helen believes that supporting Queen's research in this way can also be an important part of a very personal journey: "For those who have lost a loved one, it helps them to come to terms with that loss. It's part of the grieving process. They feel they're doing something to say 'thank you' to the doctor – acknowledging that their relative has died, and they're doing something that may mean other people not having to go through the same experience.

"The donations are all very personal. They tend to be specific to a disease or an experience. People have an opportunity to give directly to the source, to the research, and they know that all of their money is

going there. There are no administration costs taken out of it."

For Karen Martin, one of the two intrepid Lagan walkers, it's all about the lives of others. "Thanks to research, I received the best, most effective treatments that have made such a difference to my life. I am passionate about raising money for breast cancer research at Queen's as I know it will help other women affected by cancer and will ensure that they receive new, even more effective, drugs and treatments in the future."

If you would like to raise money for medical research at Queen's University, please go to <http://darq.qub.ac.uk/FundraisingGuide>, where you will find a helpful new fundraising guide full of useful tips and hints and templates for posters and fliers.



To find out more, or to make an individual gift to medical research, contact **Helen Surgenor, Head of Health Fundraising** on tel: +44 (0)28 9097 1568 or email: [h.barnes@qub.ac.uk](mailto:h.barnes@qub.ac.uk)



**DONATIONS  
FROM 85 PATIENT  
FAMILIES**

**£250,000**



**RAISING MONEY  
FOR CANCER,  
LUNG DISEASE,  
MS, EYE DISEASE  
AND DIABETES**

# QUEEN'S AND THE CHINA CONNECTION

In July, a group of young Chinese visitors enjoyed a short tour of Northern Ireland. They took in such notable landmarks as Titanic Belfast, Stormont, the Giant's Causeway and Carrick-a-Rede – with some Game of Thrones locations along the way.

But sightseeing was not the only reason for the trip. Their main purpose was to spend time at Queen's, to explore the University and experience what it has to offer.

The group was made up of students and staff from several top Chinese universities. They were taking part in the annual summer programme for Chinese students, a Queen's showcase for potential postgraduates.

This event is just one example of how the University nurtures its strong links with China – and it was not the only showcase in 2016.

In May, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Johnston, led a team to China to launch an energy conference co-sponsored by Queen's and the Beijing Institute of Technology and funded by the British Council.

Among the members of the delegation was Professor David Rooney, of the School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering. He has had research links with China for the past 14 years and is now the Vice-Chancellor's envoy to the country.

David says: "The event looked at the future of energy and sustainable transport, particularly in urban settings such as

Beijing, with the impact of pollution on health, and its focus was on early career researchers, encouraging them to think to the future.

"There were also Queen's workshops run by the William J Clinton Leadership Institute, looking at communicating across boundaries, and by the Research and Enterprise Directorate on writing grants which are going to address some of the global grand challenges."

There are 26 active Queen's partnerships with key institutions across China. They include Jilin University, the country's largest, which has more than 60,000 students. Queen's staged an event there

looking at close linkages with Belfast and with representatives of each of the three Faculties outlining their work.

The jewel in the crown of the Queen's-China connection is the China Queen's College, established at the China Medical University (CMU) in Shenyang, where students are studying for an undergraduate degree from Queen's in pharmaceutical science or pharmaceutical biotechnology.

When the Vice-Chancellor and his colleagues visited CMU they teamed up with some other people from Northern Ireland – the then Lord Mayor of Belfast, Arder Carson, and a delegation from InvestNI – who were signing a 'sister cities' agreement between Belfast and Shenyang.

**There are now 150 students at the China Queen's College and the ambition is to have 500 by 2019.**

David Rooney, who has an additional role as Vice-Dean of the College, says: "When it started in 2014, I came out to make sure the estate was in order for the first intake of 60 foundation students. In September 2015 they transferred on to the Queen's programme and then we took in another 90."

The China story is one of growth. Academics at Queen's have secured £3.3m funding for China-related research in areas such as sustainable energy, entrepreneurship, IT, land and agriculture, food security and cancer research.

A total of 100 Queen's researchers have participated in more than 150 research projects with partners in China and co-authored almost 800 publications.

Other connections include joint laboratories with Shanghai Jiao Tong University and Harbin Institute of Technology – a legacy of

the UK-China Science Bridge Programme in which Queen's played a leading role – while Queen's Management School has links with Shenzhen University going back 18 years and providing a foundation programme for 25-30 Chinese students each year.



Professor Johnston addressing conference delegates in Beijing

Queen's graduates are leaders in industry and innovation in China: such as – Meng Li, Director of International Cooperation at China National Biotech Group; David Ren, CEO and President of Ryzur Medical, which specialises in medical devices; and Wenzhe Zhou, co-founder of Brainpage, which is involved in big data analytics.

David Rooney believes alumni play a vital role in keeping up the connections. "They go on to take up significant positions in their country and demonstrate from their own experience what can be gained at Queen's. They are extremely good ambassadors and they are part of the message for Queen's, Belfast and Northern Ireland."

In a speech during his visit, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Johnston said: "Queen's partnerships with China have been a proud and significant part of our history. In working together we will continue to produce not only advances in knowledge and societal impact, but also graduates who are truly global citizens – the leaders, thinkers, creators and innovators of tomorrow who are so crucial to the future of both our countries."





# LEAVE A LEGACY

"When one of our patients received world-class care at the Cancer Centre at Belfast City Hospital, he decided to leave a significant legacy to Queen's. His generous bequest will enable our researchers to develop individualised treatments that will have higher cure rates, longer survival times, fewer side effects and provide a better quality of life."

**Professor Richard Wilson,**  
Consultant Oncologist and  
Director of the NI Cancer  
Trials Centre (NICTC)



Queen's  
Foundation

Registered Charity Number:  
NIC102044

Help support the pursuit of world-class  
education and life-changing research

If you would like to speak to someone about leaving a gift  
in your will, please contact **Susan Wilson, Legacy Manager,**  
Development and Alumni Relations Office, Queen's University.

T: +44 (0)28 9097 3162 E: [susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk)

[www.queensfoundation.com](http://www.queensfoundation.com)