

Agents News

Your Monthly Update

APRIL 2014

Last chance to apply for a postgraduate scholarship

Although the deadline for Business School scholarships has now passed, there is still a little time for applications to be made for students with existing offers for MSc's in the College of Engineering, Mathematical and Physical Sciences or in the College of Life and Environmental Sciences. Each scholarship is worth £5,000 and the deadline for applications to be received is 30 April 2014. For more information, please click [here](#).

Applicants with offers for LLM Masters of Law have a little longer to submit their application as the deadline for these six scholarships, each worth £5,000, is 31 May 2014. For more information, please click [here](#).

Our [Funding webpages](#) have further information about awards available to international students and also link to our Funding Database, a searchable resource containing details of all university funded schemes from undergraduate to PhD level.

Applying for University accommodation – now open

Applications for accommodation commencing in September 2014 opened on 14 April 2014. Even though the formal deadline for applications is not until 31 July, students should be advised to apply for accommodation as soon as they have firmly* accepted the University's offer of a place to study. Postgraduate accommodation is allocated on a first-come first-served basis so an early application is strongly recommended in order to maximise their choices and options. Students do not need to have met their academic / English language conditions in order to apply for accommodation. Applications for accommodation are made online, see [here](#).

Details about available undergraduate accommodation can be found [here](#). For postgraduate accommodation please click [here](#).

* Agents are reminded that LLM, MA, MSc, or MRes applications must have paid their £1,500 tuition fee deposit (unless they are being funded by a bona-fide sponsor) before they can make an accommodation application. Undergraduate applicants must have made the University their firm choice through UCAS. For more information please see overleaf.



Postgraduate tuition-fee deposits

Agents will need no reminding about the importance of encouraging your students to pay a tuition fee deposit. UK visa regulations require applicants to demonstrate the ability to pay all costs incurred as a result of study overseas and payment of the deposit demonstrates commitment in this respect.

Taught postgraduate (LLM, MA, MSc or MRes) applicants who need to obtain a Tier 4 student visa will be emailed their Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies statement only when the deposit and, if applicable, any academic or non-academic conditions of our offer have been satisfied. The CAS statement will include both tuition fees due and any advance payments received at the date of issue.

Postgraduate applicants who wish to make a larger deposit against their tuition fees can therefore do so at their own discretion as can undergraduates for whom payment of a deposit is optional. For more information both about how to pay and our refund policy, please [click here](#).

Virtual Open Day

The College of Engineering, Mathematical and Physical Sciences will be holding a further virtual open day for postgraduate offer-holders on 20 May 2014. Programme Directors from MSc Supply Chain Management, MSc Engineering and Management, MSc IT Management for Business and MSc Financial Mathematics will each talk about their programme and be available, along with colleagues from the International Office, to answer applicants' queries. All offer holders will be sent further information and log in details in due course. Please forward these onto applicants if they are sent to your contact address.



Online Easter egg hunt helps scientists unlock secrets of camouflage

An [online game](#), created by a research team led by [Dr Martin Stevens](#) from the University's Biosciences department, in which players act as 'predators' to find hidden bird eggs, will help scientists better understand camouflage and its evolution.

In the game, players search for eggs hidden in images resembling the nesting habitats of three species of nightjar from a study site in Africa. After each generation, only the top 50% of the eggs in a 'population' survive and reproduce. The next generation starts with those most camouflaged eggs from the last generation, along with 'mutated' versions that have changes in their colours and patterns. These are presented to players again and the game continues. Over time, the eggs evolve different camouflage patterns and become harder to spot.

Egglab is the third citizen science game released by the team, with two smaller scale games previously attracting around 15,000 players. Alongside the new evolving egg game, the team has also made an Easter egg hunt challenge, which works in Facebook as well as in web browsers. This involves people picking eggs and hiding them in a background, and then sending a challenge to friends to find them.

University closure dates for May Bank Holidays: 5 May and 26 May 2014

Agents are reminded that the University will be closed twice in May, each time for just one day; Monday 5 May and Monday 26 May. The University will reopen the following day at 09:00 as usual.

Applications received between 30 April and 31 May 2014 might be subject to slight delays beyond normal turnaround times and students should be advised accordingly of these possible delays in order to manage their expectations for University decisions.

KEY DATES

1 – 2 May	International Office representative visiting Jordan
5 May	University closed for May Bank Holiday
23 – 30 May	International Office representative visiting U.S.A.
26 May	University closed for May Bank Holiday