Moving into the top 10

The University made it into the top 10 in a major league table for the first time, achieving 9th position in the 2010 Times Good University Guide.

Research which has an impact on the world

University researchers have made major contributions to our understanding of diabetes, testing for malaria, the acidity of our oceans, investors’ perception of female senior managers and the future of Palestine.

Top 5 for student satisfaction

Exeter returned another strong performance in the National Student Survey, retaining 4th place overall amongst full service universities.

One of the most popular universities in the UK

Student numbers grew to 15,700, including a 44 per cent rise in international admissions.

Investing to build a world-class campus

Work began on delivering the University’s £275 million capital programme. This includes a £48 million redevelopment of the centre of the Streatham Campus called the Forum Project, a £25 million investment in the Business School and £25 million for new facilities for Biosciences. The University is also working with UPP to deliver a £130 million student residences building programme.
Delivering economic benefit during the recession

The University will deliver more than £360 million worth of additional economic benefit to the economy in the 2009/10 financial year – an increase of nearly £40 million since the year before. If we grow as we expect the total contribution will grow to nearly £450 million by 2012.

Becoming a more international University

New links were established with universities around the world including top universities in China and Taiwan.

Putting sustainability at the heart of our strategy

Being a good ‘corporate citizen’ and taking a sustainable approach to development is becoming central to our thinking. Exeter came 2nd in the country for its Corporate Responsibility, based on a national benchmark for UK Universities.

An increasing contribution from Exeter alumni

The University raised £8.06 million in philanthropic gifts in 2008/09, more than double the total donated in the previous year. More than 1,900 alumni, friends and parents made a donation to the University. Exeter is now in the top 12 of UK universities for the percentage of alumni giving. Some 3.14 per cent of alumni now give to us: only 7 UK institutions get more than 4 per cent.

Delivering a step change in our research performance

In 2008/09 the University was awarded over £50 million for its research and knowledge transfer. £34 million came from grants and contracts and £18 million of that came via collaborative projects with industry and other funders.
Vice-Chancellor’s Introduction

Achieving a positive impact on our region, our country and the world

Despite the severe economic climate the University delivered a very successful performance achieving an £8.7 million surplus and an 11 per cent growth in students.

The financial results put the University in a strong position to deal with the cuts in national public expenditure announced by the government. With this in mind the University instituted an across-the-board cut of 5 per cent in its budget to provide planning headroom for possible future cuts in HEFCE grant.

Research income rose to £34 million. A strategic decision to enter 95 per cent of staff in the 2008 RAE – much higher than most universities – paid off with a resultant dividend in research funding.

We launched a £275 million investment programme to provide a world-class campus and enable further growth. Planning permission had to be sought within a very tight timescale to enable the projects to go ahead on time. Building work now underway is having a major positive effect on the economy.

Exeter has been able to invest thanks to the dividends of rapid growth and excellent financial management. At a time when borrowing was difficult, the finance team secured a loan facility of over £165 million. This enabled the re-financing of existing debts at lower margins and access to substantial amounts of revolving credit. Exhaustive work by staff clinched one of the biggest financial deals of the summer, a £130 million investment from UPP to provide 2,600 student residence places.

Internationalisation made stunning progress with admissions up 44 per cent to 1,827. An innovative joint venture programme with INTO also delivered success. Partnership agreements were signed with a number of top universities in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Recruitment activity delivered an increase in student numbers to 15,700. Since 2002 student numbers have risen by nearly 50 per cent.

Exeter’s research income exceeds target to reach £34 million

Exeter’s research income exceeds target to reach £34 million.

The University raised £8.06 million in philanthropic gifts in 2008/09. This is more than double the total donated in the previous year. His Highness Dr Sheikh Sultan bin Mohamed Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and the Ruler of Sharjah, has provided major and continued support. More than 1,900 alumni, friends and parents made a donation to the University. Exeter is now in the top 12 of UK universities for the percentage of alumni giving, with some 3.14 per cent of alumni giving to us.
This is a superb foundation for the launch, in 2010, of our campaign: Creating a world-class University together. Over 4,000 alumni and supporters of the University have already contributed £15 million towards the £23 million target for the campaign, as well as making 165 legacy pledges, against the target of 250, and volunteering 1,221 hours to help with enhancing our students’ employability, against a target of 2,012 hours.

Student satisfaction with the quality of their teaching remained high and the University retained its top 5 position in the National Student Survey.

The net result of these achievements was to propel Exeter into the top 10 of The Times Good University Guide for the first time (in 2005 it was 34th).

It is important to say that our capability to move forward as an organisation also relies on our ability to do ‘the right thing’ and to make a difference in a positive way. Many people are already aware of the great work that our students do in the local community with their volunteering activities. They may also know that we are trying to tackle some of the world’s biggest issues with our research activities. These include climate change, working with the Met Office, and major human health problems like diabetes through the work of the Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry, in partnership with Plymouth University and the NHS in Devon and Cornwall.

What you may not be as aware of is how we act as a corporate entity – the way we manage our glorious campuses, how we are minimising our Carbon Footprint, they way we treat our staff and work with our suppliers (many of whom are from the local communities), and that when considering our strategic projects we also take into account the wider impact of our actions.

University awarded the Carbon Trust Standard

Over the last couple of years we have made some great advances and this year we were awarded the Carbon Trust Standard. This is awarded to organisations that measure, manage and reduce their carbon footprint and it is recognition of taking real action to reduce our direct impact on climate change. We are also benchmarking our performance on these issues under the broad banner of Corporate Responsibility: this is our second year using the Business in the Community survey methodology. This is the set of measures that is widely used by business and leads to the yearly publication of the top 100 businesses – Businesses That Count. Over the coming years we would also like to find out more about how you think we are doing and we would appreciate your assistance in helping us to better understand what our stakeholders think about us.
Delivering a step change in our research performance

The University’s performance in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise was widely acknowledged as a significant step change in the University’s history which saw us generate an additional £3.5 million per annum in Quality Related, or ‘QR’ income.

At a national level, the University of Exeter had the third largest increase in QR funding in cash terms which saw Exeter placed in 15th position nationally when the percentage of research active staff was taken into consideration. The challenge that now lies ahead is to maintain research excellence and effective management preparations ahead of our submission to the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in December 2012. The University has been selected to lead a pilot to determine how researchers can demonstrate the impact of their research on the wider world and which will form part of the REF.

In 2008/09 the University was awarded over £50 million for its research and knowledge transfer. £34 million came from grants and contracts and £18 million of that came via collaborative projects with industry and other funders.

The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) has awarded us a five-year Block Grant Partnership of 119 postgraduate awards worth over £4.2 million. This exceptional result betters previous achievements yet comes at a time of increased competition for postgraduate funding from the AHRC. Classics and Ancient History and Middle Eastern Languages and Culture were highlighted as particular strengths.

Successful RAE delivers increased research funding from Hefce and research councils

The Science Strategy is developing well through its five targeted themes (Systems Biology, Climate Change and Sustainable Futures, Extrasolar Planets, Functional Materials, and Translational Medicine).
The building of effective relationships with our external partners is an important area for the University and we have continued to develop strong partnerships with the Met Office, Airbus, EDF, Flybe, Shell and many others.

We maintained our range of services to business and the region. Our popular Shaping the Future open lecture series (sponsored by the Met Office) attracted international figures to Exeter, including James Smith (Chairman of Shell UK) and Sir Leszek Borysiewicz (Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council).

Research links with international partners are also developing on the back of important visits overseas by the Vice-Chancellor and the senior management team.

On Knowledge Transfer our contract research income from industry has almost doubled from £6 million to over £11 million; the Innovation Centre is now developing a steady stream of collaborations and one of the companies, Transition Consulting (run by alumnus Stewart Noakes) was included in the Sunday Times Microsoft Tech Track 100 2007. Our £3 million commercialisation partnership with QinetiQ is identifying business opportunities in telecommunications thanks to research into the structure of butterfly wings; and we continue to run around 13 knowledge transfer partnerships with regional businesses. The Exeter Science Park is now developing momentum and we appointed Professor Sir William Wakeham to lead the project.

We are developing an ambitious new strategy to take us through to 2015. This will be led by the new Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Transfer, Professor Nick Talbot as Professor Roger Kain will be retiring in 2010. We expect to see the University maintaining its significant growth in research income and quality while also growing the numbers of staff undertaking science and medicine research.
Research that Makes a Difference

New study of human pancreas links virus to cause of type 1 diabetes

A team of researchers from the Peninsula Medical School, the University of Brighton and the Department of Pathology at Glasgow Royal Infirmary has found that a common family of viruses (enteroviruses) may play an important role in triggering the development of diabetes, particularly in children. These viruses usually cause symptoms similar to the common cold, or vomiting and diarrhoea. However, the team has now provided clear evidence that they are also found frequently in the pancreas of people who develop diabetes.

The research, which was carried out at the Peninsula Medical School and funded by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) was published in the leading European diabetes journal, Diabetologia. It involved the detailed study of a unique collection of pancreases from 72 young people who died less than a year after the diagnosis of type 1 diabetes.

Fish guts explain marine carbon cycle mystery

New research by an international team led by the University of Exeter has revealed the major influence of fish on maintaining the delicate pH balance of our oceans. Published in Science, the study provides new insights into the marine carbon cycle, which is undergoing rapid change as a result of global CO₂ emissions.

Fish are a major influence in controlling the acidity balance (pH) of our oceans

Calcium carbonate is a white, chalky material that helps control the delicate acidity balance, or pH, of sea water. pH balance is vital for the health of marine ecosystems, including coral reefs, and important in controlling how easily the ocean will absorb and buffer future increases in atmospheric CO₂. The study also reveals that carbonates excreted by fish are chemically quite different from those produced by plankton. This helps explain a phenomenon that has perplexed oceanographers: the sea becomes more alkaline at much shallower depths than expected. The research was supported by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC).
Archaeologists find earliest known domestic horses

An international team of archaeologists led by the Universities of Exeter and Bristol has uncovered the earliest known evidence of horses being domesticated by humans. The discovery – published in leading academic journal Science – suggests that horses were both ridden and milked. The findings could point to the very beginnings of horse domestication and the origins of the horse breeds we know today. The researchers traced the origins of horse domestication back to the Botai Culture of Kazakhstan circa 5,500 years ago. This is about 1,000 years earlier than thought and about 2,000 years earlier than domestic horses are known to have been in Europe. Their findings show that in the fourth millennium BC horses in Kazakhstan were being selectively bred for domestic use. They also show horses were being harnessed, possibly for riding, and that people were consuming horse milk. The team used a new technique to search for ‘bit damage’ caused by horses being harnessed or bridled. Using a novel method of lipid residue analysis, the researchers also analysed Botai pottery and found traces of fats from horse milk.

Malaria research wins support from Bill and Melinda Gates

The University of Exeter has received a US$100,000 Grand Challenges Explorations grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The grant will support an innovative global health research project, which could help tackle one of the world’s biggest killers – malaria. This project is one of 81 grants announced by the Gates Foundation in the second funding round of Grand Challenges Explorations, an initiative to help scientists around the world explore bold and largely unproven ways to improve health in developing countries. A team from the University will use the grant to develop a new device to diagnose malaria. The researchers have developed the first new technique for diagnosing malaria able to challenge the rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) currently used in the field. Early results suggest that the technique could be as effective as RDTs but far faster and cheaper, making it a potentially viable alternative. The technique uses magneto-optic technology (MOT) to detect haemozoin, a waste product of the malarial parasite, in the blood. Haemozoin crystals are weakly magnetic and have a distinct rectangular form. The team has created a device, which gives a positive or negative reading for malaria in less than a minute.

Beetroot juice boosts stamina

Drinking beetroot juice boosts your stamina and could help you exercise for up to 16 per cent longer. A University of Exeter-led study shows for the first time how the nitrate contained in beetroot juice leads to a reduction in oxygen uptake, making exercise less tiring. The study reveals that drinking beetroot juice reduces oxygen uptake to an extent that cannot be achieved by any other known means, including training.
The research team believes that the findings could be of great interest to endurance athletes. They could also be relevant to elderly people or those with cardiovascular, respiratory or metabolic diseases. The research team conducted their study with eight men aged between 19 and 38. They were given 500ml per day of organic beetroot juice for six consecutive days before completing a series of tests, involving cycling on an exercise bike. The group that had consumed the beetroot juice also had lower resting blood pressure. The research was carried out by the University of Exeter and Peninsula Medical School and published in the Journal of Applied Physiology. The research team now hopes to conduct further studies to try to understand in more detail the effects of nitrate-rich foods on exercise physiology.

**Sharp rise in hospital admissions for children’s dental care**

Researchers from the Peninsula Dental School and the UCL Eastman Dental Institute have identified a marked increase in the number of hospital admissions for children with dental conditions. Between 1997 and 2006 there was a year-on-year increase in the number of episodes during the period, averaging out at 29,676 admissions a year – most of which would have required a general anaesthetic. Extractions rose by 66 per cent. The increase in the number of general anaesthetics for children and dental treatment goes contra to desired best practice and may put children at risk. The research team emphasises that further investigation into the reasons why more children are presenting at hospital for dental treatment is needed, but suggested reasons include: the move post-2000 away from the delivery of general anaesthetic to children in the primary care sector to the secondary care setting; and a possible reduction in restorative care provided for children in the primary care sector, either through lack of training, inadequate recompense or the failure of children and their parents to attend appointments. One key finding of the research was the huge difference in instances of dental caries and disease in children from different socioeconomic backgrounds. Twice as many treatments were provided to children in the most deprived sector of society compared with those from the most affluent. Children in more affluent areas were 33 per cent less likely to present as a dental care emergency than those living in more deprived areas, and they were 75 per cent less likely to develop caries than their less well-off counterparts.

**Europe’s first Centre for Palestine Studies**

The first Centre for Palestine Studies (CPS) in Europe has been established at the University of Exeter. The Centre will provide a unique PhD in Palestine Studies and through a series of research activities and events it will make a major contribution to current research in this area. The newly created Centre is housed within the University’s Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies.

The establishment of a Centre for Palestine Studies is an acknowledgement of the academic importance of the Palestine
issue. It will be directed by the historian Professor Ilan Pappé, who is known internationally for challenging traditional beliefs about the development of the Israel-Palestine situation. Professor Pappé regards the development of the Centre as a historic moment. He said “This is long overdue, as the Palestine issue has been dominating European international politics for more than 60 years. Despite immense scholarly interest, no European universities have attempted to address the issue in a concerted way. I regard the opening of the CPS as a rectification of long scholarly neglect of, and academic disregard for, the Palestine issue.”

Groups are key to good health

The quality of a person’s social life could have an even greater impact than diet and exercise on their health and well-being. There is growing evidence that being a member of a social group can significantly reduce the risk of conditions like stroke, dementia and even the common cold. New research by the Universities of Exeter and Queensland, Australia, shows that membership of social groups has a positive impact on health and well-being. The work highlights the importance of belonging to a range of social groups, of hanging onto social groups, and of building new social groups in dealing with life changes such as having a stroke and being diagnosed with dementia. Exeter psychologist Professor Alex Haslam said: “We are social animals who live and have evolved to live in social groups. Membership of groups, from football teams to book clubs and voluntary societies, gives us a sense of social identity. This is an indispensable part of who we are and what we need to be in order to lead rich and fulfilling lives. For this reason groups are central to mental functioning, health and well-being.”

Membership of social groups promotes health and well-being

Women on company boards face stock market prejudice

Companies with female board members fare worse on the stock market, despite performing as well on all other measures as those with all-male boards. This is the finding of a new study by the University of Exeter, published in the British Journal of Management. The research suggests that shareholders respond negatively to women being appointed to their boards, causing share values to decline. This is consistent with other recent research that has examined responses to the appointment of female CEOs in the United States. The team from the University of Exeter’s School of Psychology and Business School conducted a comprehensive analysis of performance data from all FTSE 100 companies between 2001 and 2005. This found that companies with all-male boards had a market valuation equivalent to 166 per cent of their book value, while companies with at least one female board member had a market value equal to just 121 per cent of book value. However, the research also showed that appointing a woman to a company board does not compromise objective measures
of financial performance, specifically, return on assets and return on equity. In fact, within the data set as a whole there was evidence that companies with women on their board were a far better investment than those without. This suggests that shareholders systematically over-value companies with all-male boards, while being unenthusiastic about the appointment of women to senior positions. This is despite there being no evidence that women’s appointment has an adverse impact on company’s performance. The findings also fit with previous research from the University of Exeter which has shown that women are appointed to leadership positions when a company is in crisis. Dubbed the ‘glass cliff’ phenomenon, this trend involves women being placed in precarious positions when there is a high risk of failure. This has led to women being associated with weak performance.

During the Second World War people’s reactions to bombing were never uniform or consistent. Within the UK, the prevailing image of bombing is still that of the Blitz in which British people all pulled together; their moral stiffened by their shared experiences, until the storm was over. The research is designed to test common assumptions about political solidarity, strengthened morale and a popular determination to win the war, which the conventional image still sustains. In France and Italy populations had to come to terms with the paradox of being bombed to be liberated.

Professor Overy also completed the final volume of a four-volume series in association with the Imperial War Museum which charts the World War Two experience from 1939 to 1945. He has also published two critically acclaimed books in 2009, *The Morbid Age: Britain Between the Wars and 1939 Countdown to War*.

**Exeter at the forefront of World War Two analysis**

An Exeter historian is leading a major new study of bombing during World War Two funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). Professor Richard Overy is working with the Universities of Newcastle and Reading to examine the experience of bombing in Britain, France, Germany and Italy. The study places particular emphasis on the political and cultural responses to bombing between 1940 and 1945. It focuses on the ideas, attitudes and culture generated by the experience of being bombed rather than on the social and economic effects or strategic consequences.

**Centre for additional excellence**

Additive Layer Manufacturing (ALM) is a technique for manufacturing components in a succession of layers (additively) as opposed to traditional machining which cuts material away from a solid block (subtractive). It is a clean, computer-based process which is almost like 3D photocopying direct from a CAD design. It could be used in a wide range of manufacturing sectors (bio-medical through transport and aerospace to large-scale structures) and can be used with a wide range of materials. It is much less wasteful and uses much less energy than traditional machining. It also allows manufacturers to
create sophisticated one-off or short-run components with little tooling-up costs. Exeter has a unique alliance with EADS Airbus which is undertaking research and development projects with a value of more than £6 million into how ALM processes can be used by mass market manufacturers rather than the specialist aerospace or high-performance car racing industries. Through these programmes and our connection with local business we aim to secure a key role for the region in what is expected to become one of the most important manufacturing techniques of the next decade.

Exeter research sheds light on brain disease

Cutting-edge optical imaging technology developed at the University of Exeter will help develop smart nanodrugs to treat brain diseases like schizophrenia, depression and dementia. The University of Exeter, London School of Pharmacy, Kings College London and GlaxoSmithKline are working together to develop new drug delivery techniques for brain diseases. The research team, led by the London School of Pharmacy, has won a £1.7 million grant from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC). The project, which is funded for three years, is one of only nine to have been successful in this highly competitive programme.

Dr Julian Moger from the University of Exeter has developed a new optical imaging technique to monitor the transport of particles less than one thousandth of a millimetre in size within biological tissues. Dr Moger is able to locate these nanoparticles within brain cells using pulses of light less than one millionth of a millimetre in length. This new imaging technique enables him to tune into the molecular signals from these sub-wavelength particles and identify their precise location. 95 per cent of potential new drugs never make it as pharmaceuticals because they simply do not reach the part of the body where they are needed. These problems can be overcome by encapsulating drugs in nanoparticles.

Graphene science explores benefits of being thin

South West to lead the way in exploiting world’s thinnest material

The Universities of Exeter and Bath have revealed their plans for a new world-leading research centre to explore and exploit the properties of the thinnest material in nature. The two universities have won a £5 million Science and Innovation Award from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) to create the Centre of Graphene Science.

A form of carbon, graphene was discovered in 2004 and is the thinnest known conducting material. It is a single layer of graphite which is just one atom thick and has unique mechanical, electrical and optical properties. Scientists believe it could play a major role in the future of computing because it has the potential to speed-up the transfer of information. It could become the basis of a new generation of devices, from ultra-fast transistors to chemical and biological sensors with ultimate (single-molecule) sensitivity. These devices will find a wide range of applications, from nano-electronics to medicine and healthcare.

Based in Exeter and Bath, the Centre will act as an international focus for graphene science, supporting academic research and forging links with industry. Seven new academic positions will be created and the Centre’s laboratories will feature state-of-the-art equipment.
A Top 10 Student Experience

Satisfied students vote Exeter one of the best

The University continued its strong showing in the National Student Survey, retaining its fourth place amongst full-service universities. This put Exeter highest in the South West and just one place below Cambridge in the survey of 272 UK universities and colleges. A score of 90 per cent was achieved for overall satisfaction, against a national average of 81 per cent. The University has maintained its top 10 position since the survey was launched six years ago.

The University’s reputation for high levels of student satisfaction was reinforced by the Student Experience Survey published by Times Higher Education magazine. It put Exeter in 7th place overall. In the THE survey the University was the most improved institution, moving up from 21st place in 2008.

Another student satisfaction survey also rated Exeter among the best student cities in the country. A survey of 38,000 students by accommodationforstudents.com saw 10 universities achieve the top score of 62 per cent: only two (Exeter and Brighton) were in the south of the UK.

More popular at home and abroad

The University’s total student population grew to 15,700. Since 2002 the student population has grown by nearly 50 per cent.

Postgraduate research applications were driven forward by a strategic decision to advertise 100 PhD studentships and 80 bursaries worth £7 million in Times Higher Education magazine. PhD student numbers are now an important measure in winning research funding. The studentships covered all fees for three years plus an annual maintenance grant. Bursaries were worth £7,000 a year and included the opportunity to teach.

International admissions were boosted by the University’s new top 10 status. New international fee degree level and study abroad students totalled 1,827, a 44 per cent increase on 2008. Applications were particularly strong from China and South East Asia. An innovative joint venture with INTO to teach students pre-degree and English language courses was also extremely successful. INTO saw a 37 per cent growth in Foundation students and a 191 per cent increase in Diploma intake. The Centre is now teaching more than 850 students. Students who successfully complete their courses have the option to study on full Exeter degree programmes.

Entry standards rise

Undergraduate entry standards showed a further increase for 2009 with an average rise in our A-level offers of 12 points at Exeter and 25 in Cornwall. The number of subjects requiring three As at A-level has risen from 21 per cent to 42 per cent between 2008 and 2010.
Investing in the Library virtually

Library purchasing during 2009 focused on buying electronic books as well as the more traditional paper variety. Some £800,000 was allocated to purchase e-journal backfiles and a collection of e-books to support science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM) subjects. Purchases included nine core e-journal backfile packages with more than 4,000 titles, a range of Science Direct e-books and arrangements with Reed Elsevier. A one-year pilot project to digitise core student texts also got underway. Key chapters of the most heavily used texts in the ReadyText and Temporary Reserve collection were made available online to staff and students, complying with copyright restrictions. Some 35 of the most heavily used texts were purchased as e-books.

Building on our educational mission

The construction work taking place on the Streatham Campus has led to the site being granted National Skills Academy for Construction status. This encourages on-site apprenticeships, as well as education opportunities for the University, colleges and local schools. It is the first scheme of its kind in the South West and the first for a higher education institution.

Top 10 status boosts international student numbers

Improving our academic structure

Consultation took place during 2009 on plans to move the number of academic units from nine schools to five colleges. The plans were approved by the University Council and the changes will take place from 1 August 2010. This will create three new Colleges:

- Humanities (to include Archaeology, Classics, Drama, English, Film, History, Modern Languages and Theology).
- Social Science and International Studies (to include Education, Law, Philosophy, Politics and Sociology, and incorporating the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies).
- Life and Environmental Sciences (to include Biosciences, Geography, Psychology and Sport and Health Sciences).

The Business School and the School of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Sciences will remain as they are. The change is designed to build capacity as the five would be roughly equal in size.
Regional

The Princess Royal officially opened the Innovation Centre Phase 2. She met some of the small businesses who are tenants of the Centre. The £10 million Innovation Centre is home to 36 businesses, which have created 136 jobs.

David Willetts, Shadow Minister for Universities and Skills, visited the Cornwall Campus and met academics and businesses involved in the Peninsula Research Institute for Marine Renewable Energy (PRIMaRE).

Minister of State for Higher Education and Intellectual Property David Lammy visited the Streatham Campus. The visit showcased major developments in the region, including the plans for a new Science Park in Exeter. The Minister also met members of University staff and discussed graduate employment opportunities.

Exeter city councillors were briefed on the University’s capital and revenue spending plans at a special event. They were also told about the University’s community liaison efforts. We held the first of our yearly Stakeholder events.

National

The Vice-Chancellor Professor Steve Smith took over the presidency of Universities UK – the representative body for Higher Education – at arguably the most difficult time for Higher Education in the last 20 years. The government has targeted universities first in its drive to cut public expenditure and tackle Britain’s post-recession debt problems. Professor Smith has argued that universities must take a fair share of the cuts; but the government risks cutting too far and damaging the investment they have made in Higher Education over the past decade.

Said Professor Smith: “It is clearly the job of ministers to urge the spenders of public funds to do so more efficiently. We are all in this together and so £915 million (7.5 per cent of the Government’s HE spend) has been cut from the national HE budget with barely a murmur from universities. But to go beyond that, the Government will be undermining the very investment they have made in Higher Education. The effects may not be obvious for years, but they will be real, profound and serious for the economy and for the life chances for our citizens. Lord Sainsbury recognised the
vital role of effective higher education in his report Race to the Top; the alternative is a race to the bottom. This would be terrible news. The successful economies of the future will be knowledge economies. Universities are the core mechanisms for achieving that knowledge economy, and their contribution cannot be substituted or made good later in the economic cycle.”

The UK has the most cost efficient Higher Education system in the world. We rank 28th out of the 34 countries in the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) league table for public investment in universities. Yet for quality the UK is second only to the United States (which proportionally invests far more).

International

A senior management business trip to China was very successful. New Memoranda of Understanding were signed with Fudan University in Business and Management (the leading Chinese university in this subject area) and with China University of Politics and Law (generally considered to be top for Law in China). Out of 1,300 universities in the country, the first and third-ranked Tsinghua and Fudan were visited, along with East China Normal University. Two alumni events were attended by 130 alumni in Beijing and 83 in Shanghai.

A delegation from East China Normal University visited Exeter to discuss potential links in areas of teacher training and inclusive education.

A visit to South East Asia by the Vice-Chancellor and senior colleagues covered Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Malaysia. Evening receptions for more than 200 alumni were held in Bangkok, Taipei and Kuala Lumpur. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the National Taiwan University. A delegation of Vice-Chancellors from 20 Chinese universities was hosted on the Streatham Campus.

The Chinese Student Scholars Association celebrated the Chinese New Year in style. They put on a stunning programme for students, staff and families including authentic Chinese snacks and Chinese astrology, Dragon and Lion Dancing Parade, karaoke and comedy shows with Chinese food and a firework display. This event was supported by the Self-Catered Association, International Student Support Office, INTO, Chinese Embassy, Streetwise, Wang Ping Travel, the Asian Society and the Imperial China Restaurant.
Solid foundation for campaign launch

During 2008/09, the University raised £8.06 million in donations from alumni and supporters, more than double the amount raised in the previous year. In excess of 1,900 alumni and supporters made a gift to Exeter.

Exeter is among the top universities in the UK when it comes to alumni giving, with 3.14 per cent of alumni now giving to us. Only a handful of UK universities get more than 4 per cent, although US universities have a much higher percentage of alumni giving.

The gifts received provide a solid foundation for the public launch of the University’s £23 million fundraising campaign in 2010. The University of Exeter’s friends and alumni have already contributed £15 million towards the £23 million campaign target.

The University of Exeter campaign: Creating a world-class University together aims to raise £23 million, 250 legacy pledges and 2,012 volunteering hours by 2012.

We hope to achieve this through attracting philanthropic support for:

- **World-class campuses** – creating a new heart for the Streatham Campus through the Forum Project and a new building to cater for the growth of our world-renowned Business School.

- **World-class graduates** – providing scholarships so that Exeter can welcome all students that will most benefit from the education on offer, irrespective of means or background.

- **World-class research** – postgraduate studentships and academic posts in key research areas which deliver outcomes with global impact.

The University would like to thank the members of the University’s Fundraising Campaign Board, chaired by Nicholas Bull (Chemistry 1973), for their support in helping Exeter.

College of Benefactors grows

2009 saw three further individuals and one Foundation join the University’s College of Benefactors, the highest honour that the University can bestow upon its supporters. The Ibrahim Ahmed Foundation joined the College during the winter graduation ceremonies in January. Alumni Les and Claire Halpin and Barry Bateman were inducted alongside graduating students in July.

They join the College’s founding member, His Highness Dr Sheikh Sultan bin Mohamed Al Qasimi, as well as Sir Christopher Ondaatje and Nicholas Bull.

Established in 2006, membership to the College gives public recognition to the University’s greatest benefactors.
A G Leventis Foundation boost for Classics

The library and meeting room within the Department of Classics was renamed in recognition of a longstanding and generous benefaction to the University.

The newly named Leventis Room, which sits at the very heart of the Classics Department, provides a space for Classics students and academics to come together in discussion and debate.

The naming recognises the generous philanthropic support of the A G Leventis Foundation and in particular the support of Constantine Leventis, the former director of the A G Leventis Foundation, who in 1998 founded a postgraduate studentship in Classics at Exeter.

Exeter joins forces with Santander

The University of Exeter and Santander joined forces to provide scholarship support and awards to students.

Under the partnership, the company will provide £120,000 worth of financial support over the next three years to fund studentships and bursaries.

The aim is to help the exchange and movement of students to the UK from Latin America and the Iberian peninsula and to encourage UK students to study and research in Spain, Portugal and Latin America.

As part of the agreement, the University of Exeter will join the ‘Santander Universities’ network of more than 700 universities in Latin America, Portugal, Spain, Russia, Morocco, the United States and the UK.

Philanthropic giving increases to £8.06 million
Annual Fund raises £198,000

In 2008/09, the Annual Fund raised £198,000 from alumni and friends. A large proportion of this was raised through the ‘telethon’ – whereby current students call past students (our ‘alumni’) to talk about their Exeter memories and share the latest news of life at the University. Over the year, 70 students telephoned 6,450 alumni living throughout the UK, as well as in Ireland, the USA and Canada.

The Annual Fund supported:

• the Exeter Award scheme
• student allotments for the Cornwall campus
• a scheme to engage new sporting alumni
• the volunteer support fund
• a student mentoring programme
• a law associates scheme
• the tandem language exchange initiative
• the purchase of sailing boats for the Sailing Club
• developing academic writing skills
• societies and international student integration
• innovations in physical activity challenge
• supporting the leaders of the future
• Falmouth energy week
• M&D room renovation
• a postgraduate research conference
• a student workshop and conference in animal behaviour
• develop your expertise at Exeter: what PhD study offers
• a mediation service
• a talk series for undergraduate and postgraduate students on ‘Exploring gender’

Student telethon reaches 6,450 alumni in the UK, Ireland, the USA and Canada
Legacy gifts

Dr Norman Hardyman, former University Treasurer, member of Council and Honorary Graduate, left £5,000 in his Will for general purposes.

His widow, Carol, wrote that there were several aspects of the University that were special for him, namely the grounds where he used to wander and check the favourite plants and vistas through the years; the wellbeing of the University’s administrative staff; and the Classics department, since he had been a classical scholar.

Norman was widely known across campus and we send thanks to his family for his most generous gift.

Supporting our alumni

The University of Exeter’s worldwide community continued to grow and develop in the last year. There are now more than 70,000 alumni in 172 countries.

The Alumni Relations Office has worked to expand the benefits and services provided by the University to our alumni. We have expanded the opportunities for alumni to keep in touch with their friends and make new connections with fellow University of Exeter alumni for personal and professional networking.

Exeter alumni work in a wide range of fields, and we have set up professional networks specifically for alumni working in business, law, media and the arts, and most recently politics and government. We also have a special network to support recent alumni (those graduating within the last 10 years).

We are also investing in our use of the internet to communicate with alumni and have worked to redevelop our website to help alumni engage with the University and each other. The improved website features its own online community for alumni called Exonline.

Growing alumni networks

During the last year, we have organised alumni events in the UK and internationally. We now have 33 alumni country contacts around the world and held alumni events in Malaysia, Thailand, Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, and the United Arab Emirates. In the UK, we held a number of networking events and receptions.

Some highlights included:

- the Gala Dinner at Inner Temple Hall with guest speaker Sir Clive Woodward, OBE (Hon LLD 2007), Director of Elite Performance for the British Olympic Association;
• the Media and Arts network event at Ofcom hosted by Stewart Purvis, CBE (Politics 1969, Hon LLD), Ofcom Partner for Content and Standards, and recipient of the Royal Television Society’s Gold Medal for an outstanding contribution to television;
• the Law network event at Lovell’s, hosted by Patrick Sherrington (Law 1975), Global Head of Dispute Resolution.

The University is proud to count a number of members of Parliament and members of the House of Lords, across the political spectrum, amongst its alumni. Alumni MPs and other Exeter alumni working in politics recently attended a dinner with the Vice-Chancellor at Westminster, and plans are underway for an event at the House of Lords in November.

Alumni support future generations

We are delighted that a growing number of alumni are helping future generations of Exeter students by volunteering their time to support the University. We launched the pilot phase of the University of Exeter career mentor scheme, linking students with alumni for ongoing career advice and support, in 2009.

Volunteer mentor Julie Morgan (Biology and Psychology 1980), who works with KPMG, gives advice to third-year Economics and Accountancy undergraduate Daniel Cross.

Alumni return to give careers advice and support to current students

Our programme of activity includes providing strategic guidance to the University, offering careers advice and support for students by giving talks, conducting mock interviews and presenting workshops for current students and recent alumni.

Alumni Network Group

Our alumni efforts are supported by the Alumni Network Group, made up of several dozen committed alumni volunteers who guide the University’s activities and support our new initiatives.
One of the UK’s leading universities for corporate responsibility

Using a national benchmark for Universities, Exeter came 2nd in the country for its Corporate Responsibility.

The survey is led by the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) and is based on the rigorous Business in The Community (BITC) Corporate Responsibility Index, which forms the basis of the Financial Times table for the most ‘Responsible Businesses’.

Heidi Hallam, Stakeholder and Corporate Responsibility Manager, said: “This is an excellent result and we are very proud, it reflects the hard work of staff and students across the University. The challenging questions in the survey helped us measure our broader impact, including how we support our staff, students, the environment, the many communities we are a part of and how we govern ourselves.”

Corporate Responsibility is ‘the management of a university’s positive impact on society and the environment through its operations, products or services and through its interaction with key stakeholders such as employees, students, investors, funders and research partners, communities and suppliers.’ Universities that Count (2008).

It is now even easier to find out more about the University’s Corporate Responsibility (or CR as its known) and to engage with the many projects at the University by logging onto www.exeter.ac.uk/about/vision/cr

Engaging with our stakeholders

You have been telling us what you think and this has helped shape our thinking and actions. Residents, students, staff and other stakeholders responded to the many consultation requests over the year. Some of these included: consultation for the new £48 million Forum Project at Exeter, various resident liaison meetings, a Community Survey, Vice-Chancellor’s Garden Party and the new yearly Stakeholder Event.

The culmination was the recognition by the Royal Town Planning Institute of the partnership and engagement that was central to the Master planning process for the Tremough Campus, which received a Commendation from the judges.

By listening to our stakeholders we have improved our decision making and, for example, have retained the aim for the new Forum Project of being awarded a BREEAM ‘excellence’ rating. If you would like to engage more fully please contact us as we have improved how we work with our stakeholders and would be delighted to hear from you.
Helping students integrate into the local community

Following a successful pilot, the University’s Community Warden scheme was extended. Under the scheme, students are employed to offer help and guidance to fellow students living off-campus. The aim is to cut down on instances of anti-social behaviour and to improve ‘community skills’ such as putting the rubbish bin out on the right day. A total of 10 Wardens are now operational. The scheme is part of a larger Community Engagement Programme.

Police Constable Dave Dalziel, was appointed to the new position of Neighbourhood Beat Manager for the University of Exeter community. Known as Diesel, he helps staff and students stay safe and liaises with local residents and hall tutors.

The new StreetWise fund was launched and provides up to £500 for Exeter residents, students, and community organisations to develop projects that enhance the relationship between University students and permanent city residents.

Encouraging greener travel

A new low emission car lease scheme was launched with Lombard Vehicle Management. Staff were encouraged to take part in Cyclescheme, a salary sacrifice scheme where employees get tax and national insurance relief on the purchase of a new bike, accessories and safety equipment.

The University took part in National Liftshare Day on Tuesday 9 June. In line with its sustainable travel agenda the University has joined the car lift sharing website.

University and Cycle Exeter fund cycle parking spaces at Streatham and St Luke’s

140 new cycle parking spaces on St Luke’s campus were unveiled. The project cost £56,400 with half being funded by Cycle Exeter. This supports delivery of the University Cycle Strategy and the Cycle Exeter Partnership. The University has now agreed the Cycle Parking project. This is a £70,000 investment (half funded by Cycle Exeter) in cycle parking on the Streatham campus to be completed by end July 2010. This will be a mix of short stay cycle hoops, covered and locked parking.

The University is also committed to encouraging alternative ways of travel. The University Sustainable Travel Plan encourages cheaper bus tickets through salary exchange, special deals on bicycle purchases and a car sharing scheme. Staff can also apply for interest free loans to fund season tickets for public transport. In line with our sustainable travel agenda, the University has a private car sharing group through carsharedevon.

Student Wardens help students living in the city to be responsible neighbours.
Staff charity efforts

The ‘X on Legs’ women’s walking team took part in the first Exeter Night Walk, raising more than £6,000 for the Exeter Leukaemia Fund and Macmillan Cancer Support. Another team tackled the Three Peaks Challenge raising £3,000 for Médecins Sans Frontières, the Stroke Association and Dream-a-way. Andrew Adams from the Sports Park organised a charity bike ride for ‘Help for Heroes’ riding 116 miles between the Royal Marine training centre at Lympstone to the Royal Naval Air Station at Culdrose in Cornwall. A staff pub quiz raised £242 for Breast Cancer Awareness.

The School of Geography donated over 40 monitors and miscellaneous keyboards, mice and cables to Computers 4 Africa.

Harrison Building staff raised more than £200 on a bake and eat cake day in support of Children in Need. A total of £1,260 was raised by five hirsute chaps in the School of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical sciences who grew moustaches for Prostate Cancer Charity UK. Event Exeter supported the Hospiccare ‘D-Day’ appeal by hosting an event at Reed Hall. Staff were encouraged to donate unwanted goods.

The University set up a new scheme to allow teams a paid day to undertake volunteering in the community. This one-day event is known as a Community Challenge. It can be incorporated into a team-building exercise as a department.

Creating a greener university

The University was ranked 14th ‘greenest’ University in the UK. The People and Planet Green League Table 2009 gave Exeter a ‘First class award for environmental performance’. The University rose 22 places in 2009. A new Sustainability website (www.exeter.ac.uk/sustainability) was launched as a ‘one-stop-shop’ for all information relating to environmental and sustainability issues.

Thanks to all-round effort in reducing electricity usage and keeping heating under control, emissions of carbon dioxide were reduced by 1 per cent last winter, in spite of much colder weather. This kept the University on track to meet its Carbon Management Plan target of a 2 per cent annual reduction and save £2.16 million on energy and water as a result of reduced consumption.

First-class award for environmental performance

Fifteen teams of staff are taking part in ‘Green Impact’ – an environmental accreditation scheme. Green Impact is open to all staff across the whole University.

The Cornwall campus has joined the 10:10 Challenge aiming to cut carbon dioxide emissions by at least 10 per cent during 2010.
We are the champions

The Men’s Rugby Sevens squad won the British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) championships overcoming rivals UWIC and Loughborough in the Semi and Final to become national champions. The University Men’s Hockey 1st team won promotion to the top domestic hockey league in the country, the EHL Premier Division.

Sports scholars James Rusden and Rob Partridge won individual gold at the BUCS Inland Sailing Championships. Scholar Tim Saxton and Alice Currey took bronze and Elliott Parsons and Nicole Groves finished 6th so Exeter won the national team title.

The Cricket Club won their annual Cricket Varsity match. A big crowd watched at the County Ground as Exeter made 223 in their 50 overs and bowled Loughborough UCCE out for 166.

The women’s rugby team were crowned champions of Europe after they beat French team Lille 29-24 in the final of the European Students Rugby Sevens Championships.

The University has teamed up with Taunton Tigers, a local basketball club competing at a national level. Three students have already broken into the ‘Tigers’ ranks – Josh Lemin, Fabio Acampora and Chris Page.

Facility improvements

The new indoor cricket centre opened on the Streatham Campus. The Sir Christopher Ondaatje Devon Cricket Centre is an 800-square-metre facility with indoor nets, bowling machines and video analysis. Former England Captain Mike Gatting launched the centre with local young cricketers.

A running trail was opened at the sports park to enable runners and joggers of all abilities to run laps on relatively flat ground. It will be expanded in future years to provide a network of different distances.

New Centre is focal point for cricket activity across Devon

Sports Ambassadors

Olympic silver medallist sailor Joe Glanfield and gold medallist swimmer Adam Whitehead were on campus to help train 18 of our sports scholars to become ‘sports ambassadors’ and to go out into local schools. The sports ambassadors aim to engage, motivate and inspire young people to participate in sport.
Students’ Guild

Students’ Guild one of the best

The Students’ Guild was awarded the NUS Participation Award in recognition of achievements such as recording the highest turnout in sabbatical elections in the country (34 per cent), the highest turnout at a general meeting, a massive 30 per cent response rate to its ‘Big Ask’ survey and the large number of students taking part in volunteering and society activities.

National recognition of the Students’ Guild’s efforts to improve environmental performance was also granted through the awarding of the Bronze Sound Environmental Impact Awards. The Guild has also committed to a two-year assessment programme, SUEI, which helps Students’ Unions improve the activities and services they deliver to their members.

Mammoth fundraising haul for RAG

RAG raised £72,000 for charities including the Rainbow Trust, Operation Imprezzza and Positive Action South West. The students who organise these events gain skills and abilities that help them extend their CVs and often describe them as life-changing experiences.

Award-winning student media

XMedia consists of: a fortnightly newspaper, Exeposé; the campus radio station, Xpression FM; the student TV station, XTV; and the student-run website, XMedia Online. More than 1,000 students are involved in XMedia and many recent graduates who gained experience through their involvement are now pursuing careers in the media industry. XTV had a fantastic year and picked up a record haul of five awards at the National Student TV Awards (NaSTA).

XMedia Online was shortlisted in the Guardian Media Awards and Xpression FM picked up the award for Best Entertainment Programme.

High societies

More than 8,000 students are engaged in the Guild’s 140 societies, which range from the Chocolate Society to the International Society. Involvement in the societies provides students with the opportunity to organise and participate in a vast array of activities and events. In the summer, Exeter University Theatre Company (EUTCo) received rave reviews at the Edinburgh Fringe for its production of ‘Chatroom’.

Community Action – in action

Community Action provides students with the opportunity to give something back to the local community through volunteering. Community Action runs 11 projects with children, older people and the environment. 674 students were signed up to the CA volunteer database.

The Works

The Works offers students an array of part-time, temporary and vacation job opportunities and enables students to enhance their employability. During the year 2008-2009, The Works advertised 2,842 jobs to 5,612 registered students.
Delivering the capital programme

Intensive work on the capital programme enabled the University to secure funding and planning permission for six major projects on the Streatham Campus. Five of the projects got underway during 2009 and will be completed between autumn 2010 and summer 2012. The projects are:

- **Expansion of the Business School.** A £25 million investment which will enable the School to double its annual turnover and create 60 new jobs. Building started in July 2009 and is due to be completed in February 2011. The new building will provide research, teaching, learning and social space.

- **The £48 million Forum Project,** which will provide new learning, library, social and student services space in the heart of the campus. Wilkinson Eyre Architects and the design team took the project through several stages of refinement in consultation with potential users. Planning permission was secured and enabling works began in the autumn. The project main build begins in March 2010 and is due to be completed in December 2011. Part of the scheme is to create a new access road leading to Devonshire House.

- **INTO.** Work got underway on both elements of the £47 million project – a new teaching centre on Stocker Road and residential accommodation at Duryard. The teaching centre is due to be completed in autumn 2010. The listed Duryard House was also refurbished to provide extra teaching space. INTO is a joint venture company with the University which recruits international students to pre-degree and English language courses. If they successfully complete their studies they are eligible to progress to full degree courses at the University.

- **New student residential accommodation worth £130 million.** Planning permission was granted for an additional 832 bed spaces on the Birks Grange site and work got underway in the summer of 2009. This is a vital component of a £130 million scheme to accommodate 75 per cent of future student growth in purpose-built student accommodation. The new buildings will be provided by University Partnerships Programme (UPP) and are designed to help reduce pressure on the local rented housing market. The other major element of the scheme is a redevelopment of the Lafrowda residences, for which planning permission was secured.

- **Biosciences.** Construction work to create £25 million worth of new lab space got underway in June 2008 and is due to be finished in autumn 2010. The work includes the creation of new state-of-the-art aquaria and is part of the University’s Science Strategy.

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**Investment**

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• **Mood Disorders Centre.** Planning permission was granted for a new research facility for the Mood Disorders Centre at the School of Psychology. The £3.6 million facility aims to improve psychological interventions for mood and personality disorders, such as depression and bipolar disorder. The centre is being funded by the Wellcome Trust and work is due to start during 2010.

**University invests £275 million in capital projects**

**Transforming our libraries**

A £2 million investment in the Old Library building has created a stunning world-class research library space with a new special collections suite and an additional 10 kilometres of shelving for research collections. Now called the Research Commons – a place the research community holds in common – it provides a large, light WiFi-enabled new reading room, multi-media seminar space, and 56 new reader seats with dedicated data and power. Long-term shelving capacity has been increased by 35 per cent and there is a new reception, exhibition hall, café-style break-out with tea and coffee vending and terrace area.

These works will also support the Forum Project by providing alternative study and storage spaces during its construction. Planning has been taking place to ensure that the redevelopment of the Main Library on Streatham Campus provides a facility befitting a ‘Top-10’ University. The aim is to create a good study environment, ensuring that collections are easy-to-locate, whilst allowing students and staff to exploit the latest technologies available. It’s anticipated that the floors will be updated on an individual basis, allowing the library to operate throughout the Forum development. Current plans state that the work starts on the lower floor in June 2010.

A £1 million upgrade of the Haughton Library at St Luke’s campus took place over the summer. A variety of networked study spaces have been created to create a productive environment for all elements of research and study. Being largely self-service, it’s now easier for users to borrow and return books. A wireless network has been introduced, along with loan laptops and laptop lockers. The building now has room for a number of student services including the St Luke’s IT Helpdesk, careers and employment services, counselling, learning and disability support.

**Cornwall Campus – planning for Phase 3**

The two major University of Exeter elements of the planned Phase 3 expansion of the campus moved forward during 2009. BDP were selected to be the Design Architects for a new building to house the proposed new Environment and Sustainability Institute and incorporate facilities for the Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry’s European Centre for the Environment and Human Health. BDP is the largest interdisciplinary practice of architects, designers, engineers.
and urbanists in Europe. Subject to European funding, the ESI will generate world-class research into the causes and consequences of environmental change and how to manage its effects. BDP were selected from a shortlist of five architects following a series of public exhibitions of the proposed designs which took place on both the Cornwall and Streatham Campuses.

Work also continued on the design for an increase in ‘shared spaces’. A new building will include a Welcome Centre, library, IT, learning spaces and academic support and student support functions.

The latest phase of Glasney Student Village was completed in the autumn. It provided 105 new self-catering units.

Looking further into the future development of the campus, a masterplan was approved by Kerrier District Council.

Science Park moves closer

The outline planning application for the Exeter Science Park was submitted four months ahead of schedule. The Science Park partnership unites the University with Devon County Council, East Devon District Council, Exeter City Council, the Met Office and South West RDA. A potential 3,700 jobs could be created. Professor Sir William Wakeham, former Vice-Chancellor of Southampton University and an Exeter graduate, has been appointed as the first Chair.

Greenhouses open

New state-of-the-art greenhouses for Biosciences are now complete and have been handed over to the School. They are situated between the back of the Geoffrey Pope building and Laver and will replace the ones next to the main library which will be demolished to make way for the Forum. The process of transferring plants has taken place.

Rowancroft re-opens for students

New self-catering blocks have opened at Rowancroft, housing 219 students near to the St Luke’s campus. Three of Rowancroft’s new buildings have been named in recognition of the generosity of past legacy donors Dr Courtenay Ralegh Radford, Mr Guffydd Davies and Mrs Marie Francis, who have collectively donated in excess of £1.4 million in legacies to the University over the last 10 years.

Mitigating the effects of the construction work

With such a large number of building projects underway at the same time a great deal of thought and planning has gone into mitigating the effects of the construction work on staff, students and visitors.

A Mitigation Management Group has been established and meets regularly. Three new appointments have been made to strengthen the University’s ability to manage the impacts of building works: Construction Health and Safety Officer Steve Jones, Communications Officer Jo Cole and Mitigation Manager Mahesh Shah.

One of the most significant changes has been to car parking with the loss of car parks on Stocker Road, Queen’s Building and at the Business School. This has necessitated a change in parking habits to car parks A and B and around the Lafrowda and Holland Hall residences. New signage has been produced directing drivers to these locations and a mini bus shuttle service launched between the central campus and car parks A and B. The service also operates during the evening for visitors attending events at the Exeter Northcott along with a bus service to and from the town centre. A special contractors car park with 140 spaces has been created on North Park Road to ease pressure on staff and student parking.

New footpaths have also been created to aid progress around campus. A new lit path leading to and from Birks Grange was built since the traditional route to campus via Cardiac Hill is unusable because of the residences building work there. New footpaths have been created around Amory to ease pressure on Stocker Road.

Preparatory works for the Forum Project meant the relocation of the student radio service Xpression FM from its traditional position under the steps of Devonshire House to a more central location.

Enabling works for the Forum have also entailed tree removal and pruning works to create a new access road leading to Devonshire House. The route has been specially designed to protect the rare trees. Around 20 specimen plants and trees were relocated. As few trees are being felled as possible and these have been agreed by the city council under planning conditions. Wood from this phase of work will be used as part of a wood sculpture project. It will also be turned into unique craft items including bowls and walking sticks.
Thirty new scientists, six of them professors, were appointed to new academic posts funded through the University’s £100 million investment in science. The initial posts all support research in five areas: Climate change and sustainable futures; Extrasolar Planets; Functional materials; Systems biology; and Translational medicine, personalised healthcare and public health.

A new University of Exeter Women’s Network offers events, workshops and networking opportunities for staff across the three campuses. The Network aims to be useful and relevant across all schools and services – and to be what staff members want and need.

The University’s Retired Staff Association was set up five years ago and is thriving. Membership costs £6 a year and is open to all retired employees and retired former employees of the University, including semi-retired employees. Joint membership with spouse or partner is free. Activities on offer include walks, lunches, opera and concerts, garden visits, badminton and bridge.

Margie Tunbridge from the School of Education and Lifelong Learning featured on the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square as part of Antony Gormley’s living sculpture which was on show in July.

Honorary graduates

- Dr Clive Lee and Professor Robin Ling, inventors of the Exeter hip
- Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council
- Sir Ian Carruthers OBE, Chief Executive of the South West Strategic Health Authority Board
- Gerald Sturbridge, Vice-Chairman of the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Trust
- Professor Sir Denis Pereira Gray, GP
- Professor Chris Mullard CBE, for community policy
- Sir Michael Barber, government adviser
- Clive Stafford Smith, human rights lawyer
- Dr Richard Ward, CEO of Lloyds insurance
- Bill Ind, former Bishop of Truro
- Satish Kumar, Jainist monk
- Don Boyd, film director
- Karen Armstrong, leading commentator on religious affairs.
Appointments and departures

The portfolios of two of the Deputy Vice-Chancellors were changed: Professor Neil Armstrong now leads on internationalisation and Professor Mark Overton takes on External Affairs and Cornwall.

Dr Shaun Curtis was appointed Director of International Exeter. He will lead our ambition to become one of the top 100 universities in the world by 2015. An Exeter graduate, he was previously the Head of the UK Higher Education International Unit at Universities UK.

Professor Rick Rylance, Head of the School of Arts, Languages and Literatures, is taking a four-year secondment to become Chief Executive of the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

Professor Nick Talbot, currently Head of Biosciences, will become Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Transfer from 1 April 2010. He replaces Professor Roger Kain, who is leaving to become Dean and Chief Executive of the University of London’s School of Advanced Study.

The Rev Dr James Theodosius became the new St Luke’s Chaplain. Before ordination he worked as a teacher, arts manager and docker.

Professor Sir John Tooke left the Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry to join University College London as Vice Provost for Health. Professor Liz Kay, Dean of the Peninsula Dental School, was chosen to become the Interim Dean until a successor is appointed.

Historian Professor Alexandra Walsham and Geographer Professor Paul Cloke were elected as fellows of the British Academy, the national academy for the humanities and social sciences.

Awards

The University’s 2009 Postgraduate Prospectus received the Gold Award for Best Postgraduate Prospectus in the annual HEIST Higher Education Marketing Awards.

Finance Services was shortlisted for two Times Higher Education Leadership and Management Awards 2009 – Outstanding Finance Team and Outstanding Finance Initiative.

The Research and Knowledge Transfer office were reaccredited with the ISO-9001 standard.

The AMBA (Association of MBAs) accreditation panel has recommended that the Business School is awarded a full five-years’ re-accreditation for the MBA.

Corporate Services achieved Customer First UK accreditation, the national standard for customer service excellence. The standard provides a framework to drive change and is about developing an organisational culture that puts customers at the heart of what it does.

Professor Tim Niblock was the only academic ‘specially commended’ in the 2009 Arab-British Culture and Society Award.

Professor Keith Atkinson, one of the original driving forces behind the creation of the Combined Universities in Cornwall, won a lifetime achievement award at the Cornwall Works WISE awards.
Geologist **Professor Chris Turney** made it onto the long-list of the Royal Society Prize for Science Books for *Ice, Mud and Blood: Lessons from Climate Past*.

**Sue Burkill**, Head of Education Enhancement, and **Professor Alison Wride**, Deputy Director of the Business School, were awarded National Teaching Fellowships. Fifty awards were made nationally. The scheme aims to raise the status of learning and teaching in higher education.

The Museums, Libraries and Archives Council granted the **Bill Douglas Centre** full accredited status. The museum is therefore recognised for meeting national care and access standards, which will aid fundraising for activities and research.

**Holland Hall**, **Pennsylvania Court** and **Birks Grange** each achieved a Four Star Campus Accommodation EnjoyEngland rating for providing ideal accommodation for groups, functions and individual visitors.

**Event Exeter** won a silver award in the Business Tourism category of the South West Tourism Excellence awards. Event Exeter was launched in 2009 to represent the University’s portfolio of venues.

**Deaths**

**Professor Frank Barlow** died aged 98. He spent 23 years as Head of the History Department, and retired in 1976.

**Dr John Raymond (Ray) Drabble**, former Reader in Physics from 1960 until the mid-1980s.

**Dr Birgit Haas** who lectured in Drama. She was an expert in political drama, dramatic theory, gender and drama, and performance theory of the 20th and 21st centuries.

**Joy Hooper**, who for nearly 25 years was a valued member of the team based at the Law Library.

**Pat Kirkman**, retired Senior Lecturer in Accountancy. He was instrumental in setting up the accounting department.

**Dr Martin Lee**, an alumnus and a former member of St Luke’s staff.

**Dr Ken MacLeod**, Director of Clinical Studies at the Peninsula Medical School, died suddenly aged 47 years. He was one of the key architects of the School’s patient-centred undergraduate curriculum and a consultant physician in general medicine and endocrinology.

**Emeritus Professor David Mattingly**, the first Director of the Postgraduate Medical Institute and therefore responsible for establishing postgraduate medical education in Exeter. He was an endocrinologist with a major interest in diabetes and in metabolic disorders.

**Roddy Ross**, former Registrar of the University of Exeter, who helped guide the institution through the process which led to it becoming a university in 1955.

**Geraint Rosser**, retired Reader in Geophysics.

**Freddie Smith**, Head of English at St Luke’s College from 1956-1978

**John Thacker**, former Director of the Masters in Educational Psychology training course.

**Henryk Zienkiewicz**, formerly of the School of Engineering.
Facts at a Glance 2009/10

15,700 Students
11,700 undergraduate
4,000 postgraduate

Undergraduate Entrants by School Type
70% from State schools
30% from Independent schools
Percentages calculated from FT, UG entrants in 2009 with school type known.

3,048 Staff
1,167 academic
1,881 support
As at December 2009.

£203,210,000 Turnover (net)
£33,310,000 research grants and contract income
£14,980,000 HEFCE research funding
£52,680,000 HEFCE/TDA T grant and other funding council income
£60,035,000 tuition fees and contracts
£51,355,000 other income
(£9,165,000) less: share of income from joint ventures

Data for 2008/09 as at 31 July 2009.
Our Vision

The University of Exeter helps to shape the future by extending the boundaries of knowledge for the benefit of individuals, society and the environment. Our vision is to be a leading international university, recognised for the high quality of our research and the distinctive student experience we offer.

Our Key Characteristics

• Research intensive, recognised internationally for the excellence of our research.

• Offering challenging programmes at all levels of study, highly attractive to students from varied backgrounds.

• Providing an outstanding student experience which prepares students for meaningful employment and a fulfilling life.

• Offering a high-quality, campus-based living and learning environment which is welcoming and inclusive.

• Committed to making a positive, distinctive and measurable impact on society, and playing a leading role in the South West region.

• An international university, in outlook and impact.

Our Values – we aim to be

• Tolerant, humane and liberal minded, with the pursuit of truth, openness and equality and diversity at the heart of what we do.

• A champion for our students, dedicated to their development and wellbeing.

• Engaged with our graduates and rejoicing in their success.

• Committed to being an employer of choice, providing support, recognition and reward for our staff.

• Customer focused, providing the highest standards of service for students, alumni and external partners.

• Outward looking, bold and creative, working in partnership with others to achieve success.

• Self-determining through sound governance, self-investment, and with less reliance on the State.

• Responsible, sustainable and ethical, meeting the needs of the present and leaving a better environment for future generations.

• Always striving to be better than our previous best.