Welcome to the twenty-third edition of the Medway Staff Briefing, we hope you find the items included of interest.

**News from the Centre for Professional Practice**

Dr Anne-Maria Brennan, a lecturer at the Centre for Professional Practice, in November 2018 took part in the Global Forum on Balanced and Inclusive Education which was held in Mexico City.

The UN-backed Forum has been tasked to work on the Universal Declaration on Balanced and Inclusive Education, part of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goal 4 which seeks to “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.”

As part of the Forum, Dr Brennan gave a presentation entitled *From practice to policy... to practice: the UK experience* in a plenary session on *Achieving SDG4, from theory to practice.* Commenting on her presentation she said “the aim was to highlight the need to use evidence-based practice to inform policy, whilst also ensuring the loop is closed by feeding back into practice in a reflective cycle.”

She also formally endorsed the International Call for Balanced and Inclusive Education as Vice President of Science Engagement at the Foundation for Science, Technology and Civilisation.

The work of the Forum will form part of next July’s UN High Level Political Forum on the Sustainable Development Goals. This will review and refine six key goals of the 17 SDGs (including the goal of taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts), with the aim of empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality.

The Centre for Professional Practice programmes and short courses Professional Practice MSc and Introduction to Masters-Level Study have been specifically designed to meet the needs of those professionals who wish to develop their academic ability while maintaining their professional role.

For more information, visit [www.kent.ac.uk/cpp](http://www.kent.ac.uk/cpp), email: [cppmedway@kent.ac.uk](mailto:cppmedway@kent.ac.uk) or telephone 01634 888929.
Congratulations to James Devine

Congratulations to James Devine, Kent’s graduate from the Professional Practice MSc at the Centre for Professional Practice, on becoming the Chief Executive of Medway NHS Foundation Trust, known as Medway Hospital.

James graduated in 2013 with the Master’s in Professional Practice and is very fond of his study time in Medway:

“My employment prospects have improved vastly. Not just having a degree on my record, but the new skill set, confidence and proved competence are all benefits to studying this programme. This degree allows for greater insight, personal reflection and the time to challenge yourself to complete a unique degree programme. It lends itself to each student focusing on their own practice and actually improving it by taking the time to reflect on existing practice based on reality, as well as theory and literature.”

The Centre for Professional Practice offers part-time, flexible, work-related programmes for working professionals. Our programmes and short courses including Professional Practice MSc and Introduction to Masters-Level Study have been specifically designed to meet the needs of those who wish to develop their academic ability while maintaining their professional role. Students may be eligible for loans for both undergraduate and postgraduate study (subject to eligibility criteria).

For more information about the Centre and its programmes: www.kent.ac.uk/cpp

Student Learning Advisory Service and Student Wellbeing

The Student Learning Advisory Service and the Student Wellbeing Team are collaborating to offer a new five-week course on ‘Building Exam Confidence through Mindfulness Practice’.

The course is free and open to all students on the Medway campus.

It will run from Wednesday 27 February - Wednesday 27 March at 10.00 - 11.00am. Students must be able to commit to the entire course.

Places are limited; please book in advance by emailing: Louise Frith lj.frith@kent.ac.uk
Writing retreat for HEA Fellowship/Senior Fellowship – Wednesday 1 May 2019, Medway campus at 9:30am – 3:30pm

Who is the retreat for?
The retreat is for all staff at Canterbury Christ Church, Kent and Greenwich Universities who are in the process of putting together a claim for their Fellowship or Senior Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (now Advance HE).

Places on the retreat are limited, so do book your place before 20 April 2019 via the link: https://goo.gl/forms/flVJi3wVhNyShv4G3. Staff who have already attended a writing retreat this academic year should leave the opportunity to others to attend.

If you wish to cancel your booking, please contact LTE-ADMIN@canterbury.ac.uk
You should already be familiar with what is expected from the level of claim you are applying for, and with the UK Professional Standard Framework (UKPSF). If you are not familiar with these, you will need to attend an HEA Fellowship briefing session first. Briefing sessions are run monthly, and you can book via Staffspace. Information is also available on https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/learning-and-teaching-enhancement/academic-development-programmes/My-Accredited-Pathway-to-HE.aspx

Aims of the retreat:
The retreat is an opportunity for you to have protected time away from your ‘day job’ to focus on making progress with your application to become HEA Fellow or Senior Fellow. You will receive guidance and support from assessors of HEA claims, and share your ideas with others in a similar position. This will give you a chance to further your critical reflection on your professional practice, and transform your ideas into more structured notes and even start writing sections of your claim.

Out & Proud' LGBT+ Staff Network Role Models Exhibition

University of Kent Vice Chancellor, Professor Karen Cox, Champion for the University’s LGBT+ Staff Network, opened the ‘Out & Proud’ LGBT+ Staff Network Role Models exhibition at the Drill Hall Library on Thursday 14 February. The exhibition is on display throughout February for LGBT History Month.
Student Services

Medway Student Services would like to say thank you to all staff who donated to the Helping the Homeless Christmas Appeal in December. Each year Medway Student Services collect items of food, non-perishable goods and Christmas treats that are then delivered to the Open House Project to help those in need over Christmas. The Open House Project is a drop in centre for those people in our community living alone or who are homeless. It is located in the Quaker Meeting House in Rochester and is open every Saturday from 2pm - 4pm, when other local support agencies are closed. They aim to provide food, shelter and companionship in a peaceful and friendly environment and open over the Christmas Holiday.

Medway Student Services raised £115 for the Molly McLaren Foundation on the run up to Christmas – as well as holding a raffle, we ran a lunchtime quiz - with a £1 per person donation, we had three very competitive teams covering Student Services, SLAS and Student Admin.
Medway Student Services, along with Drill Hall Libraries, SSPSSR, GK Unions and SSES took part in the VCs cup events, coming second overall, to Drill Hall Libraries in first place. Final standings below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Table Tennis</th>
<th>Badminton</th>
<th>Bowls</th>
<th>Petanque</th>
<th>Mini Olympics</th>
<th>Bat n Trap</th>
<th>The Cube</th>
<th>Quiz Qs</th>
<th>Cockney</th>
<th>Elements</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medway Student Services</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSPSSR!</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-1</td>
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<td>-1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>GK Unions</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>-1</td>
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<td>-1</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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**GK Unions Student Advice Centre**

The Student Advice Centre is here to provide free, confidential and impartial advice to all University of Greenwich and University of Kent students studying at the Medway Campus.

Advice is offered on a range of topics, including academic, finance, student funding, and housing. We also offer immigration advice to University of Kent students.

Any students who require advice should view the [Contact Us](#) section of our website to check our availability and the methods to receive advice. Any amendments to our opening hours/drop-in sessions will be advertised via our 'News' section or [Contact Us](#) part of the website.

**World Record for the most displayed origami hearts**

On 9 February a Guinness World Record attempt for the most displayed origami hearts took place at the Student Hub, Medway Campus. Over 40 different community groups took part including Medway students who would have otherwise not been involved in volunteering projects to create 53,704 origami hearts. We now have to wait to see if all the evidence is accepted by Guinness.

The record-breaking event was thought up by Ian Farr, a PhD student in the University’s School of Sport and Exercise Sciences, and is part of a campaign by Sport Studies Society of the
universities of Kent and Greenwich to raise funds for two charities, The Molly McLaren Foundation and Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY). The heart was chosen as the project’s emblem as it is an anatomical and physiological symbol of health, vitality and compassion.

A six-metre square installation was divided to resemble the chambers of the heart. People were able to walk through it and become essentially blood cells moving in and out of the heart and so become part of the art.

Thanks to everyone who took part:
Undergraduate students, Postgraduate students and University Alumni across Medway and Canterbury, The School of Music and Fine Art, SSPSSR, Drill Hall Library, Medway PhD and PGR Café, Ospringe Primary School, Canterbury Christ Church Create Arts Group, Age UK Strood, Age UK Sittingbourne, Age UK COGs Group, Age UK Herne Bay and Whitstable, Medway Scouts, 2nd Lorswood Guides, 6th Walderslade Brownies, Mid Kent College, Medway U3A, Chatham Grammar School, Rochester Hub, Cobtree Men in Sheds, University of Kent Innovation Centre, Universities at Medway, Neptune Explorer, Scouts Herne Bay, Strood Academy, Longfield Academy, Oasis School, Bradfield’s Academy, Rainham Women’s Institute, Hoo Women’s Paediatric Team Fun in the Sun Festival, NHS Stroke Team, Meopham U3A, wHoo Cares, Sun Pier House, Nucleus Arts, The Mess Room, Razmatazz Medway Theatre Group, The Peer Arts Group, Kent Association for the Blind Medway Art Group, Age UK Gillingham, The Right Step, People United.
The Medway College would like to invite you to a range of College Life sessions to be held in the Senior Common Room (R2-04) and in the Galvanising Workshop. The aim of the sessions is to give staff the opportunity to come together, network and relax whilst participating in some refreshments. Even if you can only pop in for a short while please put the dates in your diary and use them as an opportunity to take some time out and enjoy the company of colleagues.

In order that we can ensure we have an appropriate level of refreshments please register for the sessions you would like to attend by emailing: MedwayMastersOffice@kent.ac.uk at least two working days before the session date.

If you have any suggestions for future sessions, please email: MedwayMastersOffice@kent.ac.uk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>07.02.19</td>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>The Galv</td>
<td>Book club and refreshments</td>
<td>Discuss the first book of the year (The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes) and choose a second book (Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>14.02.19</td>
<td>12:00-13:00</td>
<td>R2-04</td>
<td>Valentine's Day special</td>
<td>Valentine's themed quiz and refreshments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>19.02.19</td>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>R2-04</td>
<td>Cream tea</td>
<td>Join us for cream tea and a chat.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>01.03.19</td>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>The Galv</td>
<td>Lunch and live music</td>
<td>Head over to The Galv for lunch and live music organised by Dockside Live.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>06.03.19</td>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>R2-04</td>
<td>Book club and refreshments</td>
<td>Discuss the second book of the year and choose a third book.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>15.03.19</td>
<td>12:00-13:00</td>
<td>R2-04</td>
<td>Red Nose Day</td>
<td>Fundraiser event. Details to be confirmed nearer the time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>22.03.19</td>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>The Galv</td>
<td>Lunch and live music</td>
<td>Head over to The Galv for lunch and live music organised by Dockside Live.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>27.03.19</td>
<td>12:00-13:00</td>
<td>R2-04</td>
<td>Quiz and refreshments</td>
<td>Topic to be confirmed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>02.04.19</td>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>R2-04</td>
<td>Book club and refreshments</td>
<td>Discuss the third book of the year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Scholarships at Medway and Canterbury

The Community Scholarships programme is no longer accepting applications for 2018-19. This year we received 100 application pack requests with the following breakdowns:

**Location**
- Medway requests = 16
- Canterbury = 77
- Not currently registered = 7

**Year of Study**
- UG = 60
- PG = 33
- Not currently registered = 7

Out of the total number of application pack requests 21 students submitted an application form, two of which were successful in the autumn term at obtaining the full reward and four that were submitted to the Canterbury Community Scholarships Board for approval on Tuesday 5 February and one that is still to be submitted to the Medway Community Scholarships Board for approval this month.

The two scholarships currently running are both based in Canterbury and vary in scope. Grace Lau's project, **Art at Heart** is a series of ten art and craft workshops based at Pilgrim's Way Primary School for pupils in Year 3 and 4 who have learning difficulties and/or low confidence. The purpose of the workshops is to improve emotional wellbeing and self-confidence of the pupils through art making, introducing alternative ways for them to express themselves.

Aida Sharaf is in the process of organising a concert called **Music for Change** that aims to raise awareness of mental health, domestic abuse, drug abuse and social inequality/discrimination through the lyrics. The hope is the "concert will give a platform of expression to people who are struggling with issues that are not discussed as much as they should be. Many students and young adults struggle with mental health, abuse and social inequality/discrimination but sometimes can feel like they are trapped. I have found that art allows people to be expressive which can be an outlet for a lot of these suppressed issues." Music for Change will be held at the Gulbenkian Theatre on Wednesday 13 March from 19:00-21:00 and you can book a free ticket at the Gulbenkian Box Office website: www.thegulbenkian.co.uk

**Final Publication Date for 2018/19**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Medway Staff Briefing No: 24</th>
<th>Friday 28 June 2019</th>
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<td>Friday 14 June 2019</td>
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