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

**University welcomes Mayors to Medway campus**
A number of mayors from Kent met students and staff at the University's Medway campus[1] during a visit on Monday 28 January.

The party visited the University's Centre for Journalism[2] and the Medway School of Pharmacy[3], which is jointly run with the University of Greenwich.

Professor Tim Luckhurst, Head of the Centre for Journalism, demonstrated the Centre's multi-media newsroom, radio and TV studios and told the visitors that his students were equipped with the right skills when they graduated to get good jobs in the media.

The visit to the shared campus - organised by the Mayor and Mayoress of Medway, Councillor Vaughan Hewett and Mrs Jenifer Hewett - was co-hosted by University Vice-Chancellor Professor Dame Julia Goodfellow and Professor David Maguire, Vice-Chancellor, University of Greenwich.

There was a similar theme at the Medway School of Pharmacy, where the party saw a demonstration of Sim Man, a life-size computer-controlled ‘mock patient’ who can talk, wheeze and groan. Head of School Professor Iain Cumming said his graduates were now in demand as pharmacists across the region.

Kent mayors and mayoresses representing Sandwich, Ashford, Maidstone and Hythe as well as the chair of Dover took part in the visit, along with the Mayor and Mayoress of Barnet.
School of Sport and Exercise Sciences
Dr. Lex Mauger, Dr. Glen Davison and Prof. Sam Marcora have been awarded £109,965 by the ‘Arthritic Association’ to conduct a study to determine the efficacy of a dietary intervention to manage the symptoms of osteoarthritis. The project will run for two years and a research assistant will be employed to manage to day-to-day running of the study.

Dr. Lex Mauger has been given a funded invite to Massey University as an International Visiting Researcher. He will spend 4 weeks at the Wellington campus in July 2013, helping to run a research study, contributing to their research seminar series and delivering a guest lecture to their UG and PG cohorts.

New Medway campus Research Network launched
A new network aimed at bringing together research-active staff from across the Medway campus to share best practice, discuss issues of mutual interest and provide a showcase for research excellence has been launched.

At the first event which took place on 30th January 2013, 52 academics, researchers and PhD students representing all three faculties attended to discuss how such a network would benefit research staff at Medway. Organised by Research Services and Chaired by Professor Alistair Mathie, Director of Research at the Medway School of Pharmacy[1], the new network aims to be as inclusive as possible.

The second networking event took place over lunch on 27th February 2013 and was attended by over 40 staff and students. This proved a useful forum for present and possible future collaborative research.

The next event, due to take place on 1st May 2013 will be a Medway Research Festival, showcasing research excellence on the campus. It is hoped that future events will consist of a programme of workshops, talks and social activities.

For more information, contact Helen Leech, Research Funding and Contracts Officer, Research Services, email: H.Leech@kent.ac.uk[2]

Mock trials at Dartford Magistrates’ Court
On Thursday 14 February at Dartford Magistrates’ Court, 6 KLS Medway 3rd year students took part as prosecution and defence counsel in three mock cases relating to charges of burglary. The day was arranged by Kent Police and the Magistrates Association as a way of giving police cadets experience of giving evidence in court before they have to do it ‘for real’ as serving officers. The judges in each of the cases were magistrates, the clerk to the court was a magistrates’ court clerk of 20 years standing, all the witnesses (apart from the police cadets) were magistrates, and the 3 defendants were also magistrates.
The students had to find their witnesses and interview them in the witness room at the court, decide on the order in which the witnesses were to present their evidence, examine and cross-examine them in the witness box and finally sum up on the law at the end of each case. Other KLS Medway students who watched the proceedings were allowed to join the magistrates while they deliberated on their decisions.

The day was so successful that Kent Police want this to be an annual event. Our students were praised by the magistrates and the clerk and were given tips on how to improve their advocacy. They were also invited to attend the police cadets’ passing out parade on 1 March and Helen Strotton (KLS) who organised the day was invited to attend the pre-parade luncheon as a VIP.

**Update from Corporate Communications**

**Pointing in the right direction**

If you want to know what’s where on the campus and beyond, look no further than our new online maps. The maps have been put together by a team in Corporate Communications.

They include a new Medway Campus Guide showing, for the first time, just University of Kent buildings, from the Historic Dockyard to Liberty Quays. The guide, put together with help from Lesley Farr in Design and Print, is available in pdf format at: [http://www.kent.ac.uk/maps/medway/?tab=campus-map](http://www.kent.ac.uk/maps/medway/?tab=campus-map)

The new maps also include a guide to student life in the Medway area by Jack McDonnell, a third-year student from the School of Arts at Medway and the face behind the @UKMStudent twitter channel. The guide, which includes supermarkets, bars, eateries, cinemas and other leisure activities, is ideal for prospective and current students, and their family and friends. Take a look at: [http://goo.gl/maps/9mYcI](https://www.flickr.com/photos/universityofkent)

Also, as part of the maps project, new interactive maps for both Canterbury and Medway campuses should be available on trial later this month (March). Watch out for an update on Campus Online. To comment on any of the maps, contact Corporate Communications at: communications@kent.ac.uk

**Bus-stop posters**

Finally, you may spot the University on a bus-stop near you! Posters promoting research at Medway, from top cyclists helped by the School of Sport and Exercise Sciences and tourism studies by Kent Business School, have been placed on bus-stops around the Medway area. You can see the posters on Flickr at: [http://www.flickr.com/photos/universityofkent/set/72157632806900768/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/universityofkent/set/72157632806900768/)
Medway Estates Update
Estates are currently awaiting quotes for larger signage for the Compass centre and Drill Hall car park.

A new heavy duty waste bin will shortly be installed at the Campus Shuttle bus stop.

In order to improve the efficiency of the reporting process for maintenance defects and requests for work to be carried out by the caretakers at Medway, access to the Estates Helpdesk web portal will be available for designated staff. The facility will enable the designated member of staff in your department to have authorised access to the defect reporting screen, where you can input details of any maintenance defects or requests for the caretakers. This information will then be processed by the Estates Helpdesk and you will be able to track the progress of the job.

Update from the Director of KentHealth
KentHealth is the University of Kent's one-stop-shop for health and social care expertise in research, training, innovation and partnerships with the regional NHS. Celebrating its second birthday on 1st March 2013, the key aim was to bring the region's healthcare agencies together to promote collaborative practice. The University of Kent has a wide variety of strengths in Health Training, Research and Innovation but these are scattered across a range of Schools and Centres on both our major campuses. KentHealth is our vehicle to bring these cross-University activities together into a coherent interface and present a co-ordinated and clear one-stop shop for both internal and external stakeholders.

During the first year the vision was launched and confidence built via face-to-face discussions, the publication of ‘KentHealth: the first year’ and the creation of a website (www.kent.ac.uk/health). In addition, a presence on the relevant regional committees was established which laid a framework for development of new co-operative partnerships for both training and research activities. In the second year, these connections were exploited to bring a number of validated programmes online and to initiate new collaborations for funding bids. In addition, national initiatives around the creation of Academic Health Science Networks has enabled us to establish a leading role in the regional healthcare environment.
News from the School of Arts

Sculpture project ‘Skylines’ with Brompton Academy students

Brompton Sculpture Project takes flight. Our School of Arts student ambassadors helped 200 Brompton Academy students create a large-scale landscape installation. Over several days the art installation had grown on the school stage. On Friday 8th March we had the final assembly to launch the Sculpture project ‘Skylines’, with the press invited along to take some photos to launch the project in the community. 1000 students had been involved in building the installation and have given some very good ideas to the UoK for the actual theme of the sculpture, which will be created by a local artist in the summer ready for its new building.

ROOM at Chatham Historic Dockyard - Summer 2013

Partners; ROOM, University of Kent, Kent Architecture Centre, Chatham Dockyard Trust

ROOM mobile space is an altered shipping container that functions as a studio, gallery and public engagement space. For this multiple partners project we propose to deliver a series of site specific responses to public spaces in Chatham, which include participatory activities designed to inspire the public.

The space will be used to present parts of the BA final show during early May, which are then followed by a couple of short term artist residencies which respond to Chatham dockyard.

ROOM will manage and curate these residencies, and work in partnership with University of Kent to maximise usage of the space, so that both students and professional artists can benefit from this unique temporary facility in the Dockyard.

Chatham’s future shaped at latest Creative People and Places event

VISITORS reflected on Chatham’s past and helped shape its future at the latest Creative People and Places: Swale and Medway event. Our Space: Evolving Medway Waterfront took place inside Chatham Library on Saturday (March 16) where almost 100 visitors made the most of the activities on offer as well as sharing their views about the kinds of projects they would like the consortium to support with almost £1.5million from Arts Council England. Kent Architecture Centre worked with second year students on the University of Kent’s Creative Events course to organise a series of interactive activities.
Update from Enrolment Management Services

Partnership Office Updates:

SKYLINE - The Partnership Development Office is very excited to be leading on The Skyline Sculpture Project. This is a project involving Brompton Academy, primary schools in Medway and the adult community culminating in the production of a permanent sculpture which will be positioned at the new Brompton Academy site. After 6 months of discussion the 1st event to inform the students of Brompton Academy of what Skyline is all about has finally started. The assemblies run by Student Ambassadors from the School of Art (see article and information above from the School of Arts) were a huge success and the blog was launched at the same time: [http://blogs.kent.ac.uk/skyline/](http://blogs.kent.ac.uk/skyline/) There were over 1000 comments from the students of what they would like their sculpture to be.

We are delighted to learn that the University’s application to The Ministry of Defence for a community grant for the Skyline Sculpture Project at Brompton Academy has been successful. The money will support the production of the sculpture and allow the production of a transient exhibition of the work produced in workshops, the 2D art competition, research on the heritage of the area. There will be a public vote to decide the final design similar to the 4th Plinth in London voting in 2006.

We are very much looking forward to how this project develops – it is producing an enormous amount of interest.

AMBASSADOR SCHEME – The Partnership Development Office has been working with Student Ambassadors for many years. As the scheme continues to expand within the University and into academic schools, a brand new website ([www.kent.ac.uk/ambassadors](http://www.kent.ac.uk/ambassadors)) has been developed to offer students and staff useful information about how to get involved.

The University of Kent recruits undergraduate and postgraduate students to the Student Ambassador Scheme to represent the University in local schools, colleges and the community. Ambassadors also have the opportunity to work on-campus at Open Days and Visit Days.

The scheme allows students to gain recognition for the work they undertake in academic schools and departments. Ambassadors work in a range of paid roles, volunteer placements and credit bearing modules. The scheme provides the training needed for students to support on and off campus events such as the School of Arts ambassadors who were recruited by the academic school and trained by the Partnership Development Office.

FE PROGRESSION DAY FOR MID KENT COLLEGE – We have a close working relationship with Mid Kent College and are looking forward to 100 of their Sports and IT students coming to the Medway Campus for inspirational workshops and seminar sessions. Some of these students will be accepted onto the 2 day residential at the Canterbury Campus in the summer. There is always a number of these students who apply to the University of Kent.
**DA VINCI DAYS** One of the many visit days the Partnership Office organise but possibly the most exciting is Da Vinci days for years 7 and 8 at Brompton Academy our sponsored school. About 400 Year 7 and 8 students come up to the Medway campus on 4 days at the end of April and beginning of May. This year the students will make a car out of materials such as egg boxes, cotton reels, elastic bands and CDs. This event introduces them to creative and scientific ideas culminating in a race between the cars made by the students.

This is one of the most popular events in the school children’s calendar as well as that of the students ambassadors and staff from University of Kent.

**Recruitment and Marketing activity at Medway**

UCAS Visit Days have been very successful this year, running from December to April. Visitor numbers overall have been up on 2012, and feedback has been very positive, particularly regarding the quality of accommodation at Liberty Quays and the friendliness of the campus. The recruitment team have engaged with the Student Ambassador Scheme and there has been a marked improvement in the quality of information and advice given to applicants by current students. If any members of staff have any feedback for the Recruitment and Marketing or Visit Days team on UCAS Visit Days please email Clare Rudland at c.l.rudland@kent.ac.uk

The next Open Day will be held at Medway on Saturday 22nd June 2013, from 9am-2pm. There will also be a Clearing Open Day on Saturday 17th August 2013. The Autumn Open Day will be on Saturday 12th October 2013, when we will be recruiting for 2015!

**Medway Student Administration Team**

Denise Gardner from the Medway Student Administration Team has moved on to a new job at Imperial College London. Denise has worked within the Medway Student Administration Team for the last 8 years moving from the University of Kent provision at Horsted, she has seen the campus grow from the very early days.

Denise was a valued member of the team and Medway campus as a whole and will be greatly missed by colleagues and students alike, we would like to wish Denise all the best in her new job.
Please see below current staff within the team:

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Finally, thank you to all members of staff who have contributed to this edition.

Please see below the date of the next edition and deadline for articles, which should be sent to: Denise Flockhart d.flockhart@kent.ac.uk.

**Medway Staff Briefing No: 6**  
**Friday 28th June 2013**  
Deadline for articles:  
**Friday 14th June 2013**