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

**SMFA Degree Shows 2016**

The quality, diversity and range of student work from the School of Music & Fine Art’s BA Fine Art and BA Event & Experience Design is celebrated from Monday 9th May, with a range of innovative live events from EED 3rd Year projects in our production studios, performance space and in sites off the campus.

The special Degree Show preview is on Saturday 21st, after which work will be available for the public to view until 31 May at various venues across The Historic Dockyard Chatham. During this period there will other exciting events, including a concert performed by SMFA music students on 25th May. Check our webpage for updates and regular bulletins! [https://www.kent.ac.uk/smfa/](https://www.kent.ac.uk/smfa/)

The following link will take you to ‘What’s On’ which has all the events listed until April: [https://issuu.com/musicfineartkent/docs/whatson2016?e=10750186/32848596](https://issuu.com/musicfineartkent/docs/whatson2016?e=10750186/32848596)

**Staff Connect – Coming in Spring 2016, providing online payslips for all staff**

Staff Connect is the new HR and payroll system which will enable staff to view their payslips and personal details online via any Internet device.

The Staff Connect system will be provided by one of the UK's leading HR and payroll suppliers used by over 450 UK organisations.

Staff Connect is very easy to access and use, but you will need an active University staff IT account to access the system and your payslips. If you don’t have an active account, contact your line manager. Nearer the time of launch, online guidance and drop-in sessions will be provided to ensure staff are confident accessing and using Staff Connect.

Watch out for more information from the Staff Connect team and take a look at the [project website](https://www.kent.ac.uk/smfa/) for more information, regular updates and answers to common questions.

Please do also contact Su Westerman (Staff Connect Communications and Engagement Manager) if you would like further information about the project.
New on-line resource centre for Kent researchers

The Researcher Development Working Group: 
https://www.kent.ac.uk/hrlearninganddevelopment/documents/researcher/researcherdevelopment/ntwgroup.html has launched a new on-line resource centre for Kent researchers: www.kent.ac.uk/researcherdevelopment/.

Through it researchers can access development opportunities at the University of Kent and externally. This ranges from structured training courses to informal learning events, networks and careers advice. You can also find out about funding available to support researcher development. Thank you to all research colleagues who contributed to the development of the website.

Kent Researcher Development can also be found on Twitter @UoKResDev. Over the summer, the University retained HR Excellence in Research status http://www.kent.ac.uk/human-resources/excellenceinresearch/ following the two-year review overseen by Vitae.

News from Kent Hospitality

KentOne card: 5% discount
The KentOne card is your University ID and if you haven’t got one as yet you should see your Departmental Administrator or complete the online form.

Your KentOne card is a quick, easy and safe way to buy food and drink from our award winning catering outlets on both the Medway and Canterbury campuses. Every time you use it, we give you a 5% discount at the till.

Why use your KentOne card:

  - Saves you money – every time you use it, we give you a 5% discount. This is an exclusive offer to KentOne card users, both staff and students.
  - Safe and secure – instead of carrying round cash, you can top up your card online and if you lose it, the balance will be transferred over to a replacement card.
  - Saves you time – get through the tills more quickly by using your KentOne card instead of cash, debit or credit card.

For a list of places you can use your KentOne card, where you will receive your 5% discount, to top up online and frequently asked questions, visit: www.kent.ac.uk/kentonecard

Staff discounts
If you weren’t previously aware, there are a number of discounts available for all University of Kent staff. Kent Hospitality have recently updated the staff discount form which details the offers available. For further information, or if you know of a company interested in offering a staff discount, please contact Sheena Butterworth on ext 3120 or S.E.Butterworth@kent.ac.uk
Hot drink offer at Cargo and No1 Bistro
If you buy a reusable cup from Cargo or No1 Bistro for just £5, you receive your first hot drink free. From then on every time you reuse your mug at Cargo or No1 Bistro, you get a large hot drink for the price of a small.

Kent Conference Office – Event Management Service
Planning a conference or event can be a very stressful business. With a wealth of experience, the Conference Office is here to help and support you through the entire process. Delegate management and communication are essential to delivering a memorable event and we can offer a wide range of specific services that can be tailored to suit your needs.

The Event Management Service is available whether you are holding your event on our campus or in another venue or even in another country. All we need from you is all the relevant information about the event, the rest we can manage.

Our Services include:
- Setting up the online registration page
- Producing receipts and invoices
- Collection of registration and accommodation fees
- Booking and managing delegate accommodation
- Preparation of delegate packs and badges
- Sending out Joining Instructions
- Manning the desk during registration
- Preparing final accounts and disbursement of monies

To talk through the options and possibilities for your conference please contact the Conference Office to discuss any of the above event management services on 01227 828000 or hospeng@kent.ac.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

Kent Hospitality Pride Award – April nomination deadline
The Pride (‘Personal responsibility in delivering excellence’) Award recognises members of Kent Hospitality staff who go out of their way to deliver excellent customer service.

Any Kent Hospitality staff (permanent or casual) may be nominated from Canterbury and Medway campuses. The award is given in April, September/October and December with each winner receiving £100 of shopping vouchers.

Nominations can be made by any member of University staff, students or visitors. Red nomination boxes are located in all Kent Hospitality’s catering outlets in Canterbury and Medway – with Medway boxes located at CARGO (Liberty Quays) and No1 Bistro (on campus in the Rochester Building). Alternatively, you can download the form and email it to Rooie Thomas.

Please make your nominations detailed and provide as much information as possible. The panel looks for staff who achieve more than what is expected in their role. The deadline for the next award is 1pm, Friday 15 April.

For further information, including details on the December 2015 winners, visit Pride Award online.
One-stop-shop for Medway admin

Medway students can use the new Medway Student Administration Office webpages to easily complete core tasks such as request a status letter or apply for council tax exemptions.

This great new resource can help Medway students throughout their University journey, with links to help with starting University and getting settled to preparing for graduation.

The Medway Student Administration Office also has new iPads in the Gillingham Building reception so students can complete core tasks with the support of staff.

These are just some of the improvements we’re making to enhance your student experience.

To find out more visit the enhancing your student experience webpages.

Follow Medway Student Administration Office on Twitter.

Only a few days left to nominate an inspirational student for a Kent Student Award

There’s only a few days left to nominate a student who you think deserves a Kent Student Award and that £400 cash prize. View the award categories.

The deadline for nominations is midnight on 6 March 2016.

Nominate an amazing Kent student now! The Kent Student Awards recognise and celebrate extracurricular student achievement at the University of Kent.

Please encourage your colleagues, students, businesses and our external partners to nominate.

Welcome to Teresa Gilroy – Master’s Office and College Support Coordinator

Teresa is the new Master’s Office & College Support Coordinator supporting Jane Glew, Medway Master. Teresa’s responsibilities include coordinating the provision of support to students of Medway College and to lead, plan and manage College Life activities.

Teresa is based in office M2-13 on a Tuesday (9-4pm), Thursday (9 – 3.30pm) and Friday (9-4pm). Teresa is happy to help with any queries relating to student non-academic discipline and welfare.
Staff and student discount for The Historic Dockyard

Kent staff and students can access The Historic Dockyard’s attractions and galleries for free with a valid Kent ID card.

You can also get discounted access for up to five accompanying guests at the Group Admission price applicable at the time. Currently (as at February 2016) the discounted rates for your guests are:

- Adult £13.50
- Concessions £12.00
- Child £9.50

Tickets are valid for one day only. Students/staff should obtain their guest tickets from The Historic Dockyard Admissions Desk during normal opening hours on the day of visit.

SMFA Spring term activities

ROOM continues to be developed as a public facing extension of SMFA through a combination of residencies by invited external creative partners and student initiated activities. ROOM is managed by MA fine art students overseen by academics from fine art.

8 Feb to 11 March

Margherrita Gramegna Director of 51zero film festival working with fine art students invites you to become part a video installation and/or to collaborate in the development and production of the piece provisionally titled: Fun - study 1, portrait. Participation in the installation involves individuals being filmed and requires between 5 to ten minutes of your time and a sense of humour.

During the 1st stage of the project over 50 visitors a day passed through ROOM including students and staff from all 3 universities and a police woman.

You can take part by emailing mgramegna@51zero.org or drop by ‘Room’ from 11.30 till about 2pm, Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 February. Additional filming may take place during the following weeks dates TBC.

14 -15 March - Memoirs of a Hypochondriac Interactive Video and sound installation by Nimisha, Dhingra 1st yr fine art.

16 -17 March - Alex Aldam and Emily Dabhill 1st year fine art. Participatory installation.

18 – 20 March - The Cloudbuster - MA students Tracey Affleck, Val Bolsover, Sophie Brown, Jose Fernandez Levy, Fiona Townend and Claudia Chiappini. Entering this blue-as-the-sky space, in order to understand it collaboratively, are a group of six Fine Art MA artists from the School of Music and Fine Art, working with a proposition by artist and senior lecturer Adam Chodzko.
Night in the Museum Friday 4th March

On Friday 4 March as part of an ongoing collaborative project a group of students from SMFA will be spending the night in Rochester Guildhall museum. The stay forms part of 2nd year fine art modules Place and Site and Practice and its Publics. Students are working in response to the museum and the collection. The project has included working closely with curators and museum staff who have given students virtually unlimited access to objects in storage areas, as well as public displays. The project culminates in an exhibition of student responses and proposals in the museum entitled *Show don’t Tell*.

The show will open on Wednesday 30 March. As part of the modules students will present their proposals to a panel of museum staff and professionals from the local creative and cultural community.

**Artist Walks**

- **Walk 1:** Goshka Macuga, 18 September 2015
- **Walk 2:** Ruth Ewan, Swale & Sheppey, 27 February 2016
- **Walk 3:** Mike Nelson, Isle of Grain, 21 March 2016
- **Walk 4:** Brian Dillon, Uplees, Faversham, 9 April 2016

Four Artist Walks have been devised to explore possible alternatives to artist talks. They aim to test the proposition that a walking journey with an artist could be as valuable as hearing her or him address a lecture theatre, and that sharing a range of sights and sounds could reveal something that slides and video clips do not.

Information about the artists and the politics, history and imaginative potential of the landscape being walked through, will be disseminated before/after in a document in order to keep the walk itself as ‘present’ as possible.

Walkers will be invited to mix and mingle during the walks, with an emphasis on informal conversation. Midway through the walks, students will present a set of questions to the artists which will later be collated, with the artists’ responses, in the Whitstable Biennale’s online journal.

Each route will culminate at a point along the Medway estuary and river Swale, forming a string of reference points between which the connections between the walks can be contemplated.

Places on the walks are limited and can be booked, on a first come, first served basis. Tickets cost £5. Walkers will each receive an artist’s pamphlet.
Please click the following links to book a place:

Goshka Macuga (took place 18 September 2015)
Ruth Ewan (tickets available now)
Mike Nelson (tickets to be released shortly)
Brian Dillon (tickets to be released shortly)

The walks will be largely off-road. Participants are recommended to wear waterproof walking boots and warm outdoor clothing. Please also note that access to drinking water and toilet facilities will be limited.

Artist Walks is a collaborative project with the School of Music and Fine Art at the University of Kent. It is supported by Kent County Council.

**Arts Society**
The Medway Arts Society set up last year with assistance from GK Union continues to flourish mounting a series of events for students from across schools.

Please see the link below for information relating to their Cubist event taking place on 2 March at 12.30. [http://www.gkunions.co.uk/organisation/TheArtsSociety/](http://www.gkunions.co.uk/organisation/TheArtsSociety/)

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Please see below the date of the final Medway Staff Briefing document 2015/16:

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<tr>
<th>Medway Staff Briefing No: 15</th>
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<td>Deadline for articles:</td>
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