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

50th anniversary opening ceremonies
The 50th anniversary celebrations began with an opening ceremony on 1 October in Canterbury and 2 October in Medway. Members of the local Kent community joined our students, staff and alumni for an evening of live music, entertainment and spectacular fireworks. Guests in Medway enjoyed performances by The Kent Salsa Society, Ben Russell and the Charmers, Wondermoth and Rock Avenue. The evening was compered by Kent alumni and now Development Office staff member Jack McDonnell. Professor Dame Julia Goodfellow, Vice-Chancellor, hosted a lecture at both campuses, delivered by Professor Keith Mander, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Chair of the 50th Anniversary Programme Board. You can watch a film about both nights the official film and check out photos too.

Kent has also hosted events in the US and Brussels, where hundreds of alumni and friends who shared their memories of the University and spoke to staff about where their lives have led them since graduation. Photos of the event are now available online.

There are many exciting events and activities taking place throughout the year, including the Vice-Chancellor’s Lectures, Kent sport’s Santa run and the season of films from 1965 which continues with the widescreen Oscar-winning film, Darling. The Pitch it challenge, currently open to students, gives them the opportunity to design the official 50th anniversary t-shirt.

Foundation Day lecture
Dr Gavin Esler, Chancellor of the University and award-winning journalist, broadcaster and author, will deliver this year’s Foundation Day Lecture on Thursday 20 November at 6.30pm. The lecture, titled ‘Trust Me: How Trust has been diminished in the Suspicious Century’, will take place in Woolf College Lecture Theatre on the Canterbury campus. Admission is free and open to all.

50th anniversary student projects
The Student Projects Grant Scheme has been given a boost this year and £65,000 will be awarded for projects that will enhance the student experience and employability of Kent students, offering them the opportunity to gain vital experience outside of the seminar room. Individual grants can be up to a maximum of £5,000 and applications are welcome from student groups in Kent Union, departments, faculties and schools across all our campuses. Application forms and guidelines can be downloaded from the Kent Opportunity Fund webpage. The closing date for applications is 19 December 2014. Contact W.K.E.Chow@kent.ac.uk if you have any questions.

Footsteps Project
The Footsteps Project gives staff, students, alumni and friends of the University the opportunity to engrave a brick with a message that will then be set on the Crab & Winkle Path by the Templeman Library on the Canterbury campus. Over 170 bricks have been sponsored through The Footsteps Project so far, raising over £10,400 towards the Kent Opportunity Fund.
The Medway Teaching and Learning Festival
The Medway Teaching and Learning Festival on Thursday 18 September was introduced by the new PVC of Teaching and Learning, Chris Davies and Nick Grief, Sub-Dean for Medway. Staff enjoyed a range of presentations on topics such as Teaching with Twitter and Audience Response Systems, as well as finding out more about Academic Peer Mentoring and Learning to Learn.

In the opening session, Dan Clark outlined how 'ARS' systems work and demonstrated methods for using different forms of 'clickers' in teaching. Shivaun Gammie (Pharmacy) and Sam Winter (Sports and Exercise Science) talked about how they use 'clickers' to improve and inform their teaching, and how they have found that students enjoy working with the clickers in classes.

In the second session, Karen Devine (Law) gave a lively account of using Twitter to teach students about the law and social media. Tali Gill (Pharmacy) discussed how 'Sim-man' and group work helps students develop key consulting and diagnostic skills. Cate Robinson (KBS Medway) finished the morning session with an evaluation of student attendance and performance.

The afternoon session allowed staff to hear about the support available for schools and for students provided by Student Support and Wellbeing (Lynne Regan) and the Student Learning Advisory Service (Alan Le Grys). Specific examples of how staff can use these services were provided by Laura Hart (Social Work) and Louise Frith (Academic Peer Mentoring).

The festival was a huge success, with staff participating in discussions throughout the day. A similar event is planned for 15 January 2015, just before term 2 starts. This will present ideas and ways to enhance the student learning experience and will be based on the following themes:
  • Developing effective learners through feedback
  • Making the most of personal development planning

The Programme will be available in December at the Learning and Teaching Network page. Reserve your place now.

If you would like to participate, contact Judy Cohen (j.cohen@kent.ac.uk).

The next event for term 1 will be on Wednesday 3 December at 1pm in the Rochester Boardroom. This session will present essential (and useful!) information for staff on the 'need to know' aspects of learning and teaching, including an update on the Higher Education Review. All staff are welcome to attend.
Medway Research Festival - Medfest ‘14
Staff and Research students from the three universities that share the Medway Campus came together on 10 September for the second annual Medway Research Festival. Over a hundred people from Kent, Greenwich and Canterbury Christ Church took part. It was an opportunity to hear about the research going on across the Medway Campus, to foster collaborations, within and between the Universities, and to further develop the research culture on the site.

Prof Phillipe de Wilde, Prof Andrew Westby (Greenwich) and Prof Tony Lavender (CCCU) opened the event, all confirming their commitment to furthering the research links across the Medway Campus. The rest of the event was a mix of demonstrations, posters and conversation, and the research interests ranged from Music and Fine Art to Engineering, via Journalism and Medical Sciences. It concluded with a wine reception, which further helped foster interdisciplinary-and interinstitutional-discussions.

‘The Medway Festival was a great success,’ commented Prof de Wilde. ‘All the work I have seen, without exception, has great potential for impact outside the academic community. ‘It’s good for Researchers to come out of their labs and exchange ideas with their peers. There is no doubt that the Medway Research Festival will have expanded the social and peer networks of our researchers.’

Thank you to all Researchers who took part, and we look forward to seeing even more people at the event next year. For more information on future events at Medway, contact Helen Leech on h.leech@kent.ac.uk

An update on Medway Community Scholarships
- Medway Community Scholarships are now in their second year.
- The scheme has been present and promoted at University open days, Registration and welcome events including lectures as well as Employability events.
- We are currently supporting 9 projects this year which is an increase from 5 projects in the first year. Some of these need to provide additional evidence before they are approved funding.
- Projects include an element of student and community engagement in a range of areas including; rehabilitative exercise sessions, youth football academy, family open days with craft and creative storytelling, spoken word poetry performances, entrepreneurial workshops with youth groups, sensory learning activities with adults and children in day care.
- 5 scholars will be building on their successes and strengthening links with community groups from last year.
- Last year approximately 200 community members benefitted from engagement with community scholarship projects and though students are in the planning stages, it is expected that numbers will increase this year.
- Many of the projects have scope to develop an ongoing legacy in the Medway area and develop new and existing links.

More information can be found here
http://www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/undergraduate/medway-community-scholarship.html please feel free to pass queries to medwayscholarships@kent.ac.uk
Employability Fair 2014
The Employability Fair at Medway on 15 October was a great success. 647 students attended the fair, an increase of over 80% on last year’s fair. The Careers and Employability Service worked with GK Unions Volunteering to host the fair which featured over 50 stands in the Pilkington Building Open Space. Exhibitors included SEO London, Rate My Placement, Activate Sport, Amnesty International and HM Prison Service. Thank you to all of the staff who helped to promote this event and to those who supported it on the day.

Cargo
Cargo Bar & Bistro first opened its doors in September 2014 within the student village situated at Liberty Quays, Gillingham. Run by the University of Kent’s hospitality department, it is a landmark venture for the university in that the site is both situated off campus and is open to students and the public alike.

Cargo seeks to make an impact from the moment you step through the door, boasting an impressive industrial style interior with a nautical twist – a nod to Chatham’s strong merchant and naval history. If the bold interior wasn’t enough to pique your interest then the varied and reasonably priced menu and the prospect of a pint from as little as £2.50 is bound to.

The menu has everything from your classic beefburger and sausage and mash to goat’s cheese baguettes and battered calamari. A range of desserts are also available from just £2.95.

Catering for a variety of dietary requirements – from vegetarian to gluten free – Cargo also has a kids menu in place to keep the little ones happy. Everyone is welcome so why not pop down, enjoy the atmosphere and give your oven a rest? With a variety of beers, spirits and soft drinks on offer and a tempting cocktail menu it really is the perfect place to relax and enjoy a drink with friends. Even better Monday to Friday 5pm-9pm you can take advantage of Mates Rates drinks deals and save a bit of cash too!

With 8 TV screens, both Sky & BT Sports and various live music events lined up there is always something going on. Reservations are available for both small and large groups and Christmas bookings are now being taken. The friendly staff are always happy to help, so just come on in and ask.

Follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/cargobarmedway](http://www.facebook.com/cargobarmedway) and Twitter @CargoBarMedway to keep updated on the latest events and live sports being shown at Cargo.
Centre for Professional Practice

CPP would like to extend our congratulations to two members of Medway staff who graduated this July from the BA in Professional Practice programme. Well done again to: Alison Crump (UELT and SLAS) and Ruth Cox (School of Sport and Exercise Sciences).

Would you like to accredit your professional knowledge and skills into academic credit?
The Centre for Professional Practice’s Professional Practice PCert and MSc programmes offers you the opportunity to attain academic recognition for the skills, knowledge and experience that you have developed in the workplace. You will be given opportunities to focus on specific areas of practice relevant to your work and select optional modules of professional interest to enhance your career progression.

The programme is structured to meet the needs of part-time students and is taught via a series of extended weekend sessions to minimise disruption to every-day life. Sessions are taught in a welcoming, friendly and supportive environment.

These Professional Practice programmes are suitable for a variety of professionals working within the University of Kent and staff may be to apply for:

Fee Remission
http://www.kent.ac.uk/hr-learninganddevelopment/guide/forms/feeremission.html
and
Learning and Development Funding
http://www.kent.ac.uk/hr-learninganddevelopment/guide/forms/

For further information please contact the Centre for Professional Practice.

T: 01634 888929
E: cppmedway@kent.ac.uk
W: www.kent.ac.uk/cpp

Finally, please forward any articles for future briefings, dates below, to d.flockhart@kent.ac.uk

**Medway Staff Briefing No: 11**
Deadline for articles: Friday 27th March 2015

**Medway Staff Briefing No: 12**
Deadline for articles: Friday 26th June 2015