Inside the beautiful game
As the Champions League final comes to Cardiff, we hear from alumni working in football

Examined lives
Developing Hollywood games, researching the onset of diabetes and leading the England cricket team

Changing spaces
The importance of place in an age of digital learning as the University builds for the future
Get involved

At Cardiff University, our worldwide alumni community plays an active role in our ambitious future.

Make a gift
Contributions of all sizes help talented students to thrive, and make life-changing research possible.

Inspire a generation
Alumni are Cardiff's best ambassadors: you can inspire talented students to study at Cardiff University.

Share your expertise
Thousands of Cardiff students benefit from professional development offered by Cardiff alumni, from career talks to internships and placements.

Start fundraising
Hundreds of runners, cake-bakers and other fundraisers have raised thousands of pounds for Cardiff University's cancer research, neuroscience and mental health research, and student support.

To learn more about supporting Cardiff University, visit cardiff.ac.uk/alumni and cardiff.ac.uk/donate

Stay connected

Keep in touch
1. +44 (0)29 2087 6473
e. alumni@cardiff.ac.uk
w. cardiff.ac.uk/alumni

Deri House, 2-4 Park Grove, Cardiff CF10 3BN
{cardiffunialumni
@CardiffAlumni
bit.ly/cardiffalumni
/cardiffuniversityalumni

Fake news: read all about it
11

Keep in touch
1. +44 (0)29 2087 6473
e. alumni@cardiff.ac.uk
w. cardiff.ac.uk/alumni

Deri House, 2-4 Park Grove, Cardiff CF10 3BN
{cardiffunialumni
@CardiffAlumni
bit.ly/cardiffalumni
/cardiffuniversityalumni

Cardiff Connect
Spring 2017
Editor
Shayoni Lynn (MA 2010), Communications Manager
Assistant Editor
Alex Norton (BA 2016)
Managing Editors
Craig McHaffie, Deputy Director of Supporter Relations
Tilly Gianukou, Director of Development and Alumni Relations
Claire Sanders, Director of Communications and Marketing
Contributors
Emma Darby, Head of Communications
Thomas Reeder (BA 2016, International Public Relations and Global Communications Management 2016)

Desig
Barry Diamond, Senior Designer and Brand Manager
Illustration
Anton Brand
Produced by Development and Alumni Relations
Printed by McLays

ON THE COVER

Unless otherwise indicated, copyright of this publication belongs to Cardiff University. This document can be made available in alternative formats upon request.

ON THE COVER

Contents

Cardiff Connect
Spring 2017
Editor
Shayoni Lynn (MA 2010), Communications Manager
Assistant Editor
Alex Norton (BA 2016)
Managing Editors
Craig McHaffie, Deputy Director of Supporter Relations
Tilly Gianukou, Director of Development and Alumni Relations
Claire Sanders, Director of Communications and Marketing
Contributors
Emma Darby, Head of Communications
Thomas Reeder (BA 2016, International Public Relations and Global Communications Management 2016)

Design
Barry Diamond, Senior Designer and Brand Manager
Illustration
Anton Brand
Produced by Development and Alumni Relations
Printed by McLays

ON THE COVER

Unless otherwise indicated, copyright of this publication belongs to Cardiff University. This document can be made available in alternative formats upon request.

ON THE COVER

Contents

Cardiff Connect
Spring 2017
Editor
Shayoni Lynn (MA 2010), Communications Manager
Assistant Editor
Alex Norton (BA 2016)
Managing Editors
Craig McHaffie, Deputy Director of Supporter Relations
Tilly Gianukou, Director of Development and Alumni Relations
Claire Sanders, Director of Communications and Marketing
Contributors
Emma Darby, Head of Communications
Thomas Reeder (BA 2016, International Public Relations and Global Communications Management 2016)

Design
Barry Diamond, Senior Designer and Brand Manager
Illustration
Anton Brand
Produced by Development and Alumni Relations
Printed by McLays

ON THE COVER

Unless otherwise indicated, copyright of this publication belongs to Cardiff University. This document can be made available in alternative formats upon request.

ON THE COVER

Contents

Cardiff Connect
Spring 2017
Editor
Shayoni Lynn (MA 2010), Communications Manager
Assistant Editor
Alex Norton (BA 2016)
Managing Editors
Craig McHaffie, Deputy Director of Supporter Relations
Tilly Gianukou, Director of Development and Alumni Relations
Claire Sanders, Director of Communications and Marketing
Contributors
Emma Darby, Head of Communications
Thomas Reeder (BA 2016, International Public Relations and Global Communications Management 2016)

Design
Barry Diamond, Senior Designer and Brand Manager
Illustration
Anton Brand
Produced by Development and Alumni Relations
Printed by McLays

ON THE COVER

Unless otherwise indicated, copyright of this publication belongs to Cardiff University. This document can be made available in alternative formats upon request.

ON THE COVER

Contents

Cardiff Connect
Spring 2017
Editor
Shayoni Lynn (MA 2010), Communications Manager
Assistant Editor
Alex Norton (BA 2016)
Managing Editors
Craig McHaffie, Deputy Director of Supporter Relations
Tilly Gianukou, Director of Development and Alumni Relations
Claire Sanders, Director of Communications and Marketing
Contributors
Emma Darby, Head of Communications
Thomas Reeder (BA 2016, International Public Relations and Global Communications Management 2016)

Design
Barry Diamond, Senior Designer and Brand Manager
Illustration
Anton Brand
Produced by Development and Alumni Relations
Printed by McLays

ON THE COVER

Unless otherwise indicated, copyright of this publication belongs to Cardiff University. This document can be made available in alternative formats upon request.

ON THE COVER
Bringing turbine wakes to life

Understanding the nature of these wakes could help make a significant contribution to reliable, predictable, renewable energy. Through accurately characterising a turbine wake, the potential environmental impacts can be calculated.

Tim Ebdon (Engineering 2015) was awarded second place for his submission at Cardiff’s Doctoral Academy event, Images of Research 2016.

A wake from a tidal stream turbine, simulation and photograph combined.
Heart transplant recipient James Tottle (MSc 1994) and his band are raising awareness of the possibility of organ donation outside of Wales.

Over the past five years, the singer-songwriter has joined forces with 11 fellow performers and transplant recipients, releasing music under the name ‘The Gifted Organs’.

“My band and I have been married, had a son, and since then had a daughter. James said: “In the 20 years since my transplant, I have been married, had a son and recently had a daughter.”

The band is looking to raise awareness of the need to opt-in to organ donation – although in Wales, the programme has been automatic opt-in since 2015.

Now, with a range of whisky, gin and tonic, and daquiri-inspired flavours, the company’s products are gaining recognition, winning the Lyric start-up competition in Dublin in October.

“It’s never easy to have an original idea, and even less so to make it work. However, we’re passionate about creating an experience: that innovation and element of discovery is at the heart of what we do,” said Melanie.

The duo are now starting to branch out into a range of other foods and inventive flavours.

To learn more about the company, visit smithandsinclair.co.uk

To keep up to date with the band, visit facebook.com/giftedorgans

ANAESTHETICS EXPERT RETIRES

Professor Bill Mapleson (DSc 1973, Hon 2003), who opened the Mapleson Wing of the Muslin Museum in December, has retired after working for 64 years at Cardiff University.

The new wing plays host to a rotating education exhibit and a schools’ engagement programme to educate the next generation.

Professor Mapleson was appointed to the Welsh National School of Medicine in 1952 as a Research Assistant in the Physics of Anaesthesia. He has made wide ranging contributions to anaesthetic science, helping develop understanding of a variety of subjects – from the pharmacokinetics of volatile agents to the flow dynamics of breathing systems.

Aerospace technology tests for osteoarthritis

A disposable smart patch being developed by Cardiff University could help reduce costs of diagnosing and treating osteoarthritis.

Biomechanical and structural engineers at Cardiff are using aerospace sensor technology to test for early signs of the condition. They hope to utilise the technology - predominantly used to detect damage to aircraft wings - in the production of a smart patch which can be attached to joints.

The technology then records subsonic cracking sounds to detect early signs of osteoarthritis, a common form of joint disease which affects 8.75m people in the UK.
The project was intended to challenge preconceptions around collaborative work, and required creative input from the teams of both institutions. In total, 250 staff members and students were involved, each making an individual contribution of 100 pencils to the installation. Sergio Roveda, of the School, said: “It is very rare in schools of architecture, or in design institutions in general, to think about design as a collective endeavour. “The installation was conceived as a platform to enhance the commonalities and connections amongst all those participating in the workshop.”

### CAN DEEP-OCEAN SOUND-WAVES PREVENT TSUNAMIS?

**RESEARCH**

Dr Usama Kadri, of Cardiff’s School of Mathematics, suggests that the utilisation of acoustic-gravity waves (AGWs) could help prevent the destructive force of tsunamis.

AGWs are naturally occurring soundwaves, which can travel at the speed of sound, thousands of metres below the surface of the ocean. In an article published in the journal Helixon, Dr Kadri suggests that by finding a way to engineer AGWs, they can be fired towards oncoming waves (AGWs) could help prevent the destructive force of tsunamis and help to dissipate energy, reducing their impact and potentially saving hundreds of lives.

“Up until now, little attention has been paid to trying to mitigate the force of tsunamis and the potential of acoustic-gravity waves remains largely unexplored,” said Dr Kadri.

In the workshop, participants described a new feeling of control over their medication caused by needles dropped by approximately 20%. 99% of the study participants described a new feeling of control over their medication when using the device.

### DIABETES DEVICE SET TO SAVE NHS MILLIONS

**RESEARCH MEETS BUSINESS**

A research study led by Cardiff University has found that a simple device for controlling and organising diabetes medication could prevent life-changing complications and save the NHS millions of pounds.

Cardiff University provided diabetes patients with an insulin delivery device, which allowed users to prepare insulin needles a week in advance, attach and remove them safely from the insulin pen, and offered touch-free disposal of used needles.

Before the study, 226 of the participants had either missed insulin injections or accidentally taken a double dose. During the study, University researchers found the rate of mistakes and accidents caused by needles dropped by approximately 20%, 99% of the study participants described a new feeling of control over their medication when using the device.

### MAKING MUSIC WITH XIAMEN UNIVERSITY

**STUDENTS**

Strategic partners Cardiff University and Xiamen University recently collaborated in a new way, when a student orchestra from Cardiff’s School of Music performed at a concert in China.

Students from Cardiff spent nine days in Xiamen, where they enjoyed classes in Chinese language and culture, a kung fu lesson, and orchestra rehearsals with students of Xiamen University.

The trip ended with an evening concert at the Art College of Xiamen University, where students performed together in a collaborative orchestral concert.

Head of Cardiff’s School of Music, Professor Kenneth Hamlin, said: “The tour to Xiamen was an absolutely unforgettable, artistically satisfying and culturally fascinating experience.

“All in all, it was a thrilling week and, I hope, the first of many similar collaborations.”

### NATURAL BLUE COLOURING AGENT HAS COMMERCIAL BENEFITS

**RESEARCH MEETS BUSINESS**

Researchers from Cardiff University and 21 international partners are collaborating to help develop ways to use a natural blue pigment as a colouring agent for commercial application.

The pigment is currently used to increase the value of oysters, serving to create a gastronomically desirable shade of green and forming part of an industry worth millions of euros in France.

Cardiff University researchers are investigating how the pigment, which is produced by single-celled algae of the genus Haslea, can be used as a colouring agent at a commercially viable level, specifically within the cosmetic and food industries.

### DIABETES DEVICE SET TO SAVE NHS MILLIONS

**RESEARCH MEETS BUSINESS**

A research study led by Cardiff University has found that a simple device for controlling and organising diabetes medication could prevent life-changing complications and save the NHS millions of pounds.

Cardiff University provided diabetes patients with an insulin delivery device, which allowed users to prepare insulin needles a week in advance, attach and remove them safely from the insulin pen, and offered touch-free disposal of used needles.

Before the study, 226 of the participants had either missed insulin injections or accidentally taken a double dose. During the study, University researchers found the rate of mistakes and accidents caused by needles dropped by approximately 20%, 99% of the study participants described a new feeling of control over their medication when using the device.

### MAKING MUSIC WITH XIAMEN UNIVERSITY

**STUDENTS**

Strategic partners Cardiff University and Xiamen University recently collaborated in a new way, when a student orchestra from Cardiff’s School of Music performed at a concert in China.

Students from Cardiff spent nine days in Xiamen, where they enjoyed classes in Chinese language and culture, a kung fu lesson, and orchestra rehearsals with students of Xiamen University.

The trip ended with an evening concert at the Art College of Xiamen University, where students performed together in a collaborative orchestral concert.

Head of Cardiff’s School of Music, Professor Kenneth Hamlin, said: “The tour to Xiamen was an absolutely unforgettable, artistically satisfying and culturally fascinating experience.

“All in all, it was a thrilling week and, I hope, the first of many similar collaborations.”

### NATURAL BLUE COLOURING AGENT HAS COMMERCIAL BENEFITS

**RESEARCH MEETS BUSINESS**

Researchers from Cardiff University and 21 international partners are collaborating to help develop ways to use a natural blue pigment as a colouring agent for commercial application.

The pigment is currently used to increase the value of oysters, serving to create a gastronomically desirable shade of green and forming part of an industry worth millions of euros in France.

Cardiff University researchers are investigating how the pigment, which is produced by single-celled algae of the genus Haslea, can be used as a colouring agent at a commercially viable level, specifically within the cosmetic and food industries.

### COLLABORATION WITH SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY TO BEAT BREAST CANCER

**RESEARCH**

Cardiff University and Sun Yat-sen University recently signed a memorandum of understanding, and now aim to collaborate in the field of breast cancer research.

Joint research will focus on three specific areas: triple negative breast cancer novel, targeted anti-cancer drugs directed against metastatic breast cancer; and clinical trials.

Both institutions have strong track records in laboratory and clinical breast cancer research, and will partner in the search for novel therapies which can improve breast cancer survival rates. Sun Yat-sen University has one of the largest breast cancer teams and clinical facilities in China, while Cardiff University is home to leading experts in the design and conduct of clinical trials.
NEW AVENUE OPENS FOR TREATING COMMON DISEASES

Health

Researchers at Cardiff’s School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences have discovered a clinical approach that could provide a new avenue for treating a range of common diseases including cancer, strokes, and high blood pressure.

It involves a process labelled ‘indirect kinase inhibition’, and works by targeting a particular type of enzyme called kinase, which can malfunction and cause cancer, hypertension, and many other diseases.

Dr Youcef Mehellou (PhD 2009), who led the research, said: “Longer term, this research opens a new avenue for the discovery of new drugs for diseases such as cancer, hypertension, strokes, neurodegenerative diseases, viral infections and cardiovascular diseases.”

VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT COULD HELP TREAT VERTIGO

Research

Virtual reality, also known as VR, could be used to diagnose triggers in sufferers of visual vertigo and help to prevent occurrences of the symptoms.

A research team at Cardiff’s School of Psychology are now looking to create a range of virtual environments closely associated with the experience, which typically manifests as extreme nausea and dizziness.

It is not widely known which environmental factors provoke the syndrome, which most commonly stems from damage to the inner ear.

However, Head of School and project leader Professor Peter Sumner is hopeful that the technology now on offer represents an opportunity to make a decisive breakthrough.

“Virtual environments allow us to break down a scene into its components, to test what the key factors are,” he said.

“Added to that, they may simply be more engaging and thus encourage more time to be spent on rehabilitation exercises.”

Ancient human footprints discovered on the Welsh coastline are 7,000 years old and could show a snapshot of a Mesolithic hunting party, researchers have said.

Discovered in 2014, the pre-historic footprints of both children and adults at Port Eynon on the Gower peninsula were initially thought to date to the Bronze Age but analysis carried out at Cardiff University has revealed they are actually 3,000 years older than that.

Archaeology PhD student Rhiannon Philipps (BSc 2009, MA 2011, Environmental Archaeology 2013) carried out radiocarbon dating on the fragile footprints, which now places them in the Mesolithic period, a time when humans were predominantly hunting and gathering.

The articles reproduced here are edited versions of those originally published in the above titles.
My dad was a pharmacist and was teaching at Cardiff’s School of Pharmacy. He introduced me to Dr Paul Nicholls, who was the head of Pharmacology; it seemed that this would be a great opportunity for me to return to Wales and complete a doctorate which was in keeping with what I enjoyed as an undergraduate at Southampton University.

My grandfather was a coalminer around the Valleys. He had pneumoconiosis and his breathing was impaired when he got older. I wanted to use human tissue for my research, and was able to pick up a sample of lung tissue from a coalminer. When I saw this sample, I was shocked – it didn't look like tissue at all. That was an eye-opener; I realised what the miners had to go through in those days.

What I really wanted to do with my journey was drug discovery and development. I watched a movie called Easy Rider about two guys driving across America on motorbikes. I wanted to experience that, so I moved to Yale on the East Coast and joined a company called Wyeth, who are now part of Pfizer. If I hadn't gone to Cardiff to do my PhD, and realised the importance and significance of having a fellow Welshman [Dr Nicholls] to guide me, I would never have had that opportunity.

I've had a significant amount of experience researching diabetes. Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is a chronic condition, caused by insulin deficiency following an autoimmune disruption of the pancreatic beta cells. There are 3 million T1D patients in the USA. The only useful therapy today is lifelong insulin injections and the complications are pretty horrendous.

A group at Cardiff University have engineered a non-invasive blood glucose measure. While you're waiting for the cure to come along, it's really important to make sure the patient can control their blood sugar levels. Innovation is so important today, and most of the innovation comes from universities.

In March we went to the Rugby Sevens in Las Vegas. Wales participated in that; a whole group of us, including a couple of Welshmen, went to support our respective teams. I miss Welsh singing! I miss the rugby, although soccer is much more visible in the US - I watched the EUROs with a great deal of interest last year. I was lucky enough to be in Paris for two of the games. It was awesome!

There are three types of people in this world: the Welsh, those who want to be Welsh, and those with no ambition! I saw that on a postcard in Barry, and I'll always remember that. Ambition and luck can make one's journey very rewarding.
In a turbulent era of fake news, Donald Trump, Brexit, online trolls, bots, Russian hackers, disinformation and lies, the need for accurate reporting and informed comment and analysis is all too clear.

At uncertain times, people need information they can rely upon in order to make informed choices about their lives. But we should make no mistake, the populist politics of the moment – and the shifts in media consumption – mean that it is harder than ever to be sure about the quality of the news and information we consume.

The internet has allowed anyone to take part in public debate. There is much to be celebrated about a more democratic media environment – but it has also led to deliberate misinformation (sometimes for commercial reasons, often for political reasons) – which has become toxic.

More fundamentally, traditional journalism has been based on unassailable ideals of facts, evidence and openness. Much of it (although not all) attempts to occupy the neutral middle ground. But the middle has given way in an increasingly polarised set of political arguments – either you’re with us or against us.

And contributing to what sometimes feels like a perfect storm, the economic model for well-resourced news is collapsing as newspapers disappear or hollow out their operations, leaving much of local government in particular unscrutinised.

What is sometimes called the “democratic deficit” – a lack of knowledge or understanding about how democracy functions – is feeding into the dissatisfaction reflected in the Brexit vote in the UK, and populist elections globally.

The latest research confirms that publishers around the world are facing unprecedented levels of disinformation to business models and formats from a combination of the rise of local platforms, the move to mobile phones as a primary source of information and the rejection of online and digital advertising by consumers. As a consequence, costs are being cut, media sensationalism is doing its attempts to get noticed and in many areas quality of information is suffering.

This doesn’t just affect the media. The post-truth climate is affecting all sectors and all forms of communication. The complexity of communicating climate change has long been discussed with polarised views persisting in spite of the overwhelming evidence about the science. Now the same tensions are applying almost every area of human activity.

Are free trade blocs good or bad? Do lower prices justify closing factories and damaging communities as jobs go overseas? Is immigration a net contributor or drain to our economy? Should we cast aside the preconceptions of the Cold War and forge new alliances with old enemies or should we beware their hidden agendas?

We may all have opinions, but the public assessment about evidence seems harder than ever to reach. Good journalism, then, matters. Public debate and decisions rest heavily on the quality of news and information they access – and a robust, high quality, ethical media can make a profound contribution across the societies they serve.

Following President Trump’s attacks on the US news media, the question of media bias has become a hot topic. At Cardiff, we have devoted both time and resource to this issue, conducting a number of impartiality reviews for the BBC Trust, as well as exploring, in recent years, a range of issues from the coverage of migration across European media to Brexit in the UK.

A first rule of thumb is that those who shout loudest about media bias – whether Donald Trump or the Daily Mail – often have a political axe to grind and little independent evidence to support their claims.

In the UK, our national press leans firmly to the right – something we might expect given the wealth and resources required to run a newspaper. We know from a range of studies that this shapes the views they choose to report and the way they report it.

Our broadcasters, by contrast, are legally obliged to be impartial. This can be a difficult balancing act: the need for impartiality has to be set against reporting what the weight of evidence tells us. So, for example, it is misleading to report climate change as a debate between climate scientists and sceptics, when the overwhelming weight of scientific evidence is with the climate scientists.

Perhaps the greatest threat to impartiality comes when powerful voices – notably politicians and private media owners – put pressure on broadcasters (especially the BBC) in an attempt to push them towards their agenda. To maintain impartiality, broadcasters need not only to resist this pressure, but recognise the biases displayed by our more partisan newspapers.
Cover feature

FAKE NEWS

It is a defining moment for those who work and study at Cardiff’s School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies (JOMEC). The subjects we tackle here have rarely carried such importance, and our exceptional research record has seen the School recognised as one of the very top institutions in the UK – with a score of 100% for our research environment and the impact of our research in the last Research Excellence Framework report.

Such expertise is built upon a proud history of vocational journalistic training, focusing on strong practical skills backed by a solid understanding of ethical, legal and civic issues. In an age where media literacy has fallen significantly, employers consistently tell us that our graduates arrive with the skills and critical thinking to be ‘newsroom ready’.

We take great pride in our alumni, who have reached the highest levels of the news media at home and further afield. This spans the breadth of the industry: from those behind the camera such as ABC News president James Goldston (PGDip 1991) to those working in print, such as the Times editor John Witherow (PGDip 1977) or the Mirror’s Kevin McGuire (PGDip 1984).

We are also proud to enjoy a close association with a number of industry luminaries, such as BBC News anchor Huw Edwards (BA 1983, Hon 2003), former long-serving Guardian editor Alan Rusbridger and even Honorary Professor Carl Bernstein – a man whose key role at the heart of the Washington Post’s Watergate investigation embodies the spirit of the Fourth Estate.

Furthermore, the Centre for Community Journalism helps develop hyperlocal sites around the UK and support those running them – trying to address that democratic deficit many communities feel. To that end, we have also developed the world’s first Community Journalism free online course.

However, we are all too aware of the need to innovate and keep pace with the rapid developments in media.

Cardiff’s MSc in Computational and Data Journalism is at the leading edge of vocational training, combining coding and technology development with journalism – whilst the joint MBA with Cardiff University Business School specialises in the management of media businesses amidst tremendous economic upheaval.

That is why we are developing a new centre for the School. Situated amongst the new BBC Wales headquarters and MediaWales offices in Cardiff’s Central Square, our new home – to be opened in two years’ time – will allow us to develop the School’s traditional strengths, grow our activities and develop into not just a UK centre of excellence but a global centre for journalism and media.

We believe our role is to help both strengthen and improve media and also to help the public critically assess and understand the information on which they depend.

To achieve this we will be growing the School’s footprint of courses and students, establishing a new research environment and the facilities and space to innovate alongside industry. Universities have to remain relevant to the societies they serve. We therefore believe it’s important to build on our decades of expertise to support both the individual and institutions meet the unprecedented challenges of the times and fulfil their democratic function.

Read more at: cardiff.ac.uk/cardiff-connect

Cover feature

Cover feature

Cover feature

Cover feature

Cover feature

Cover feature
Modiwl newydd newyddiaduraeth Cymraeg Prifysgol Caerdydd yn hero

Mae modiwl Cymraeg unigryw newydd, ‘Cymru: Y Senedd, awyddus i barhau astudio a dysgu Astudiaethau Diwylliannol sy’n Newyddiaduraeth, y Cyfryngau ac yr aber i’r penawdau cynhyrfus ac cael eu dosbarthu a'i ddarllen ar chymaint o newyddion ‘ffug’ yn ddiddordeb iddyn nhw. Gyda i rannu digwyddiadau sydd o newyddion, ond gan algoryddau ei guradu nid gan olygyddion hagenda newyddion yn cael "Mae pobl ifainc wedi hen arfer Dywedodd Sian Morgan Lloyd: Herio 'newyddion ffug' cardiff.ac.uk/cardiff-connect

IELTS.com/Ranawbial

Eric Tan

I've lived in three continents and been exposed to many different cultures. I was born in Hong Kong, and moved to America aged 11. I returned to Hong Kong before moving to Cardiff to study for an undergraduate degree in Business Management, and this is something I value greatly. My Cardiff degree certainly opened doors for me. I specialised in the Entrepreneurship in Small Businesses module I had in preparing yourself for a future career and in my Business Administration year I met people from all over the world who had plenty of culture, and an abundance of money; we're helping to repair their inaccuracies. We're backed by three major studios: Universal Pictures, MGM, and Lionsgate, as well as the actor and comedian Kevin Hart. Fifth Journey connects their games across multiple platforms, as well as incorporating the in-game sales potential of auxiliary products such as cinema tickets or merchandise. Virtual reality has the potential to blur the boundaries between games and movies. Smartphones and their processors are becoming more powerful, and there's scope to put gamers in 3D re-creations of their favourite movies. We are working on VR projects, but we have our reservations as to whether it can transcend into mass markets - it's easy to carry a smartphone on the tube or bus, it's not so easy to carry a headset. Don't overlook the power and long lasting influence of the Internet. That would be my advice for anyone looking to break into this industry - or any industry, I once had the opportunity to intern at a record label but rejected it on the basis that it didn't pay, instead of thinking about the long term value it offered. I still kick myself over that; I could have been part of the in-game sales potential of auxiliary products such as cinema tickets or merchandise. I once had the opportunity to intern at a record label but rejected it on the basis that it didn't pay, instead of thinking about the long term value it offered. I still kick myself over that; I could have been part of the

Read more at: cardiff.ac.uk/cardiff-connect
New spaces create new opportunities

Head of Cardiff’s Welsh School of Architecture and Chair in Sustainable Design Professor Chris Tweed (PhD 1989) writes about the new physical spaces that “will change the face of the University and city for generations”.

What do you remember from first arriving at university as a student? When I arrived in Cardiff to study at the Welsh School of Architecture I recall the distinguished, if rather stern, Neo-Greek classical facade of UWIST’s Main Building (now the University’s Bute Building) and the approach along the tree-lined King Edward VII Avenue. Those first impressions conjure up memories of an exciting but daunting time that will stay with me forever. After a few months, of course, the sombre facade of the Bute engendered fondness for a home from home, full of adventure, challenges and new friends. I imagine the same is true for students arriving today, even those staring at the shiny screens they hold an arm’s length away. From a student’s perspective, I’m sure place still matters.

Many years before, the celebrated Welsh architect and former head of the Welsh School of Architecture, Professor Dewi Prys-Thomas, described his first encounter with Cathays Park having arrived from rural North Wales as follows:

“The impact of that magical first impression is indelible... All these noble buildings shone in mellow harmonies of white.”

Those who have been privileged to sit through any of Dewi’s mesmeric lectures will hear these words delivered as a hoarse whisper punctuated by a dramatic pause — when he drew on his untipped Senior Service cigarette — before exhaling the dependent clause in a cloud of grey-blue smoke. The spellbound room would then resonate to the staccato click of his fingers, his cue for the technician at the back of the lecture room to advance to the next slide. Long before anyone talked about learning technologies, he relied on pure theatre, and nicotine.
New spaces create new opportunities. Proximity nurtures collaboration. That is the rationale behind many of the new ventures the University is pushing forward.

What memories are we building for tomorrow’s students? It is reassuring to see the University understands how important physical places are to nurturing the inquiring minds of staff and students. This is underlined by a commitment to providing top class research and learning environments. Discovery needs to happen somewhere and the University is creating more spaces for those Eureka! moments at Cardiff University. This is underlined by the inquiring minds of staff and students, and the physical places are to nurturing opportunities. Proximity nurtures discovery and collaboration. That is the rationale behind many of the new ventures the University is pushing forward.

Cathays Park sets the bar high: it has been called a ‘mini-Washington’ with its collection of fine buildings, laid out along the tree-lined avenues, gathered around Alexandra Gardens (the perfect barn for exam-flayed nerves), and yet only five minutes’ walk from the city centre. The new Centre for Student Life (see photo above and on pages 18-19) will extend the ‘white city’ of the Park across Park Place to a site opposite the University’s Main Building and in front of the Students’ Union. Full planning permission was granted for this building in December 2016.

New spaces create new opportunities. Proximity nurtures collaboration. That is the rationale behind many of the new ventures the University is pushing forward. On the Innovation Campus, the Cardiff University Brain Research Imaging Centre, the Hadyn Ellis Building, and the Cardiff Business School Postgraduate Teaching Centre will be joined by two new centres of excellence, Innovation Central and the Translational Research Facility. Innovation Central will be home to two facilities: the Innovation Centre, designed to provide start-up companies with the resources and support to encourage growth, and the Social Science Research Park (SPARK) which aims to provide innovative and effective solutions to pressing, global, societal problems.

In the same year, a short walk from the Students’ Union and the University is creating more spaces for those Eureka! moments at Cardiff University. This is underlined by the inquiring minds of staff and students, and the physical places are to nurturing opportunities. Proximity nurtures discovery and collaboration. That is the rationale behind many of the new ventures the University is pushing forward.

1883
In 1883, the University College of South Wales & Monmouthshire opened its doors on Newport Road. The former Main Entrance would be transformed into the University’s Main Building. The edifice of excellence, the Edwardian façade of Main Building remains the focal point of the University today.

1909
A move to Cathays Park was completed in 1909, and the Edwardian façade of Main Building remains the focal point of the University today.

1916
Originally part of Cardiff Technical College, the neoclassical Bute Building was built in 1916 and has been an appropriate base for the Welsh School of Architecture for almost a century.

1997
The Welsh National Medical School moved to Heath Park in 1971, and today the site is home to Cardiff University’s School of Medicine following a re-merger in 2004.

Cardiff University Students’ Union President 2016-17
Cardiff University Students’ Union has been involved in the Centre for Student Life project from the very beginning and it has been incredibly exciting for successive Sabbatical Officers to contribute to this during their time in office.

We know that the campus upgrade as a whole represents the single biggest investment in the student experience for a generation. However, the University has been supporting the Students’ Union’s delivery phased redevelopment since 2011.

The effect is visible throughout the building. Creating spaces specifically designed to enhance student life at Cardiff – including the transformation of the nightclub on the second floor into a multi-purpose venue for the day and night, and the redevelopment of a space on the first floor to create a dance studio for our student groups to use.

The wider public have also benefited from the University’s substantial investment in the transformation of the University’s Grand Entrance, which now provides a warmer welcome and a range of shops and cafes for all who want to use them.

Sophie Timbers (BA 2015)
What memories are we building for tomorrow’s students? It is reassuring to see the University understands how important physical places are to nurturing the inquiring minds of staff and students. This is underlined by a commitment to providing top class research and learning environments. Discovery needs to happen somewhere and the University is creating more spaces for those Eureka! moments at Cardiff University. This is underlined by the inquiring minds of staff and students, and the physical places are to nurturing opportunities. Proximity nurtures discovery and collaboration. That is the rationale behind many of the new ventures the University is pushing forward.
I was asked on a June morning last year, whilst walking through the streets of Bordeaux. It was a few hours before Wales kicked off their EURO 2016 campaign against Slovakia. The gentleman in question had never seen a shirt like mine and was asking to which team it belonged.

Fast forward three weeks, and to Lyon on the day of the first semi-final: Wales vs Portugal. Walking to the stadium, I was serenaded by chants of “Pays de Galles” by hundreds of locals, all of them wanting to see the Welsh progress to the final. Even before the tournament, the respect for Welsh football at UEFA was enormous. As one of the original four members of the International Football Association Board (IFAB), the body which first defined the international rules of the sport in 1886, the Welsh FA is seen as a true founding father of the game.

That, combined with Cardiff’s hugely successful hosting of the UEFA Super Cup in 2014 and now the UEFA Champions League final, means that Wales (and Cardiff in particular) is about to attain a global profile.

I graduated from Cardiff University in 2010 with a 2:1 in Computer Science, and moved to Switzerland to work for UEFA in January 2015. I am an IT Business Analyst, which involves understanding any aspect related to European football which could be improved through the use of technology.

I remember one first year lecture in which the lecturer was talking about possible roles; as soon as he described that of Business Analyst, I knew it was for me. It’s strange to think about where I would be if I had missed that one lecture.

Working at UEFA as a proud Welshman couldn’t get much better at the moment. Such is the interest that I have been stopped more than once by colleagues asking if I can teach them basic greetings or how to order a beer in Welsh!

I’ve also been asked what to do before the match, particularly which beaches to visit in Rest Bay, Portseale (my recommendation). I usually explain that the great thing about Cardiff is the variety: sport, live music, theatre; the choices are endless.

During the week itself, we’ll have the UEFA Women’s Champions League final on 1 June at Cardiff City Stadium. It offers a great chance to experience a Champions League final atmosphere, as does the Champions Festival in Cardiff Bay – it includes a Legends Game, which is always a real highlight.

As Cardiff prepares to play host to the 2017 UEFA Champions League final, we hear from five alumni working in the world’s favourite sport.
“THAT WINNING FEELING MADE ME LOVE THE SPORT EVEN MORE”

ELLIO T THOMAS (BA 2012)
Wales’ highest capped futsal player

For the last four years, I’ve been playing futsal for both Cardiff University and Wales – last year we beat England 6-2 in the final to become Home Nations champions! Never before has the Welsh slogan, “Together Stronger”, been more apparent than that weekend.

My futsal career undoubtedly has its roots in my time as a student; without the set up in place at Cardiff I would not have been able to trial for the national squad, and therefore not been able to become the highest capped Wales national player to play the sport.

With that in mind, I can’t think of a more perfect venue than Cardiff for the Champions League final in 2017. In tandem with the success of EURO 2016, I hope it can kick start a culture of grassroots, technical football that can only benefit Welsh sport in the future.

Either way, let’s hope for an amazing final to complement an amazing city.

"WE MANAGED TO LIGHT UP THE EIFFEL TOWER IN THE WELSH FLAG COLOURS TWICE!"

LAUREN DAVIES (BA 2015)
Media and Marketing Assistant for the Champions League at the Football Association of Wales (FAW)

My main responsibility is the Wales Women’s game but my role also incorporates the Senior Men’s side – and it was in that role that I headed out to EURO 2016.

I managed FAW’s social media platforms, and it was fantastic to scroll through our notifications to see how excited everyone was back home. We managed to light up the Eiffel Tower in the Welsh flag colours twice! That was such an achievement, to know that our content was engaging a new fan base across the globe.

The Women’s final will also be taking place in Cardiff and I’ll be watching keenly; looking back at the EUROs, I’d like to create a similar feeling around the Wales Women’s team. We’ve got a fantastic bunch with some great personalities and we really want to see bigger attendances from fans and media.

THOMAS KEOHANE (BSC 2014)
2017 UEFA Champions League final Volunteer Coordinator at Football Association of Wales (FAW)

As a proud Cardiffian, graduate of Cardiff University and huge football enthusiast, the opportunity to support the biggest global sporting event of 2017 in my traditionally rugby-biased home city was unmissable.

I am the Volunteer Coordinator with the Local Organising Committee for both the Men’s and Women’s finals in June. My role is diverse. So far, I’ve spent most of my time visiting universities and colleges, promoting the opportunity to volunteer at the final.

Volunteers are vital in ensuring the success of any large scale event and as Cardiff is the smallest city ever to host the finals, we need more volunteers than ever before.

We’re now in the process of screening applicants and facilitating around 1800 interviews – while organising a party for all volunteers to be hosted on 4 June with free food, drink and entertainment.

Without volunteers, these finals simply couldn’t take place.

“WORKING IN ANY PART OF THE SPORTS INDUSTRY IS UNDOUBTEDLY A PRIVILEGE FOR THOSE LUCKY ENOUGH TO DO SO”

JAMES WOODROOF (BA 2006)
Head of Content at Crystal Palace Football Club

Working in any part of the sports industry is undoubtedly a privilege for those lucky enough to do so, and working for a club or governing body is, in my opinion, the ultimate.

Those working in Premier League club media teams exist to create informative and entertaining content to enthuse fans and help ensure club platforms are the best place to follow the club, enabling commercial return.

Content teams are understandably keen to push the boundaries to grab fans’ attention - there’s nothing worse for fans than bland, corporate content! But if we overstep the mark or misjudge a situation slightly (probable on social media), a situation can be inflamed and become a PR challenge.

But as the guardians of club platforms, we always strive to create media that presents the club and its players in the best possible light – and will resonate with our fan base, wherever they may be.
I started to fall in love with cricket when I was about six years old. My brother and I played in the back garden, and we both joined the local cricket club, Plymstock CC. I spent most of my childhood there playing in the boys’ and men’s teams, but didn’t really view cricket as a potential career path until I’d spent four years playing for England. That’s when full time professional contracts came in.

I wanted to go to a university with an MCCU cricket academy. Having visited Cardiff for an open day, I felt it had a really good vibe and I knew I would enjoy my time there. I was particularly interested in Physiology, and Cardiff has a very strong Bioscience department, which was also attractive.

Midway through my degree, I was called up for England’s tour of India in 2010. I had to become very good at organising my time very quickly! After India, I was frequently on tour for months at a time, meaning I had to study a lot of the lectures remotely. I also had to take some of my exams in the re-sit periods, as I’d missed the original dates due to international commitments. The department were always brilliant with allowing me extended time for assignments, and remaining flexible; I think it helped that my personal tutor was cricket-mad!

My Cardiff degree made me see things outside the sporting world from a different perspective. Nevertheless, having got into the England team in my second term, I haven’t managed to revisit the field of Physiology since graduating. It’s definitely an area that I’ll always retain a real interest in, and remains an option to explore later in my career.

As captain of England, I lead from the front. Having been given the opportunity to lead and shape the team going forward, it has been hugely exciting and I’ve really enjoyed my first year in the job. I’ve always tried to lead the team in my own way and try to be as open and honest with the players as I can.

Women’s cricket has progressed exponentially since I first became involved with England seven years ago. The game’s exposure is becoming greater over time, and professional contracts are becoming standard practice around the world. Furthermore, the introduction of T20 leagues like the Kia Super League and the Big Bash mean that cricket is played all year round. I’m glad I got my degree when I did, as it would certainly be much harder now.
In memoriam
Cardiff University extends sincere condolences to the friends and families of those listed below for whom we have recently received notification of death.

Sir Aubrey Flores Trotman-Dickenson
Former Principal of the University of Wales Institute of Science & Technology and University of Wales, College of Cardiff.
Died November 2016, aged 90.

A distinguished chemist, Sir Aubrey Trotman-Dickenson spent academic stints on both sides of the Atlantic before being appointed Principal of the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology (UWIST) in 1968. 20 years on, he would lead the institution in to its successful merger with University College, Cardiff to form what is the modern day Cardiff University – an institution which he led for a further five years as principal, in addition to his role as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wales.

Reputed to frequent his office even on Christmas Day, Sir Aubrey’s energy, vision and attention to detail are credited with laying the groundwork for the success of today’s institution.

If you would like to share the news of a Cardiff University staff, student or graduate’s recent passing, please contact alumni@cardiff.ac.uk

Calendar
Cardiff University hosts a packed calendar of events for students, staff and alumni as well as the general public. In addition to the highlights below, visit cardiff.ac.uk/events/

If you are interested in running for #TeamCardiff and raising money for either cancer or neuroscience and mental health research, visit cardiff.ac.uk/cardiff-half

In memoriam
Cardiff University extends sincere condolences to the friends and families of those listed below for whom we have recently received notification of death.

Dr Myrddin Evans (alumnus)
Died 2017, aged 95

Windsor Lewis (BSc 1963)
Died 2017, aged 89

Terence Jenkins (1954)
Died November 2016, aged 82

Alan Parsons (BA 1958)
Died February 2017, aged 80

Professor George Thomason CBE (PhD 1963, Hon 1981)
Died January 2017, aged 89

Sir Aubrey Trotman-Dickenson (Hon 1987)
Died November 2016, aged 90

David Richards (BA 1991)
Died December 2016, aged 47

David Batchelor (Cert 1991)
Died January 2017, aged 69

Miranda Bannister (BA 1994)
Died December 2016, aged 65

Professor Oliver Smithies (Hon 2013)
Died January 2017, aged 91

Rhianon Smith (BScEcon 2016)
Died March 2017, aged 21

Professor Garel Rhys CBE
Died February 2017, aged 76

Undergraduate Open Day
7 July 2017
Cardiff University
If friends or family are considering their transition into higher education, this is one for you.
Find out about studying here at Cardiff and drop in to the Alumni Stand to get involved; explore how alumni can enhance the student experience and inspire the next generation of Cardiff University graduates.

Cardiff University cancer research showcase
15 June 2017
Central London
This event will showcase the world-leading work of cancer researchers at Cardiff University, and is open to the public. More details will be confirmed in due course. Visit cardiff.ac.uk/events/

National Eisteddfod
4-12 August 2017
Anglesey
Join Cardiff University at this year’s National Eisteddfod in Anglesey as we celebrate Welsh language and culture during a week of festivities and competitions. Further details will be confirmed in due course. Visit cardiff.ac.uk/events/

Cardiff Day
24 June 2017
Hadyn Ellis Building
Cardiff Day provides a chance for Cardiff University staff and students to meet with supporters and celebrate the life-changing impact that donations make to the University.
This event is invitation only.
Everyone can leave a legacy

Please consider leaving a gift to Cardiff University in your Will

A gift can make a lasting difference - inspiring students to enquire, innovate and bring real change to the world today and in the future

Please contact: Alice Sockett, Cardiff University, Development and Alumni Relations Office, Deri House, 2-4 Park Grove, Cardiff CF10 3BN
t: +44 (0)2922 510296  e: socketta@cardiff.ac.uk