

# universe

magazine

ISSUE No 60 SUMMER 2007



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TEESSIDE**

Providing Opportunities - Pursuing Excellence

# welcome

## from Professor Graham Henderson Vice-Chancellor

**In pursuit of our mission of 'Providing Opportunities and Pursuing Excellence' the University has, for many years, been actively pursuing a strategy of taking learning out into the community – no longer solely relying on what we believe has become an increasingly-outdated and unhelpful view that learning can only take place at the main campus.**

And the enthusiasm with which we have pursued this strategy has clearly been a major factor in moving the University to a position where, in 2003 to 2004, having reached 12,000 part-time students, Teesside became the third largest UK provider of part-time higher education (HE), behind only the Open University and Birkbeck College (two exclusively part-time institutions). Further, over time, a growing proportion of our students has

been studying on relevant, accessible and largely- vocational programmes 'off campus' to the point where, for example, almost 2,000 learners a year now undertake some or all of their HE studies within our partner further education (FE) colleges across the Tees Valley.

As a result, the University's commitment to continuing to raise aspirations and widen participation in HE, not least in areas which have previously not been well provided for, has led us to adopt a strategy of seeking to create University of Teesside Centres in each partner college. These Centres will enable all residents of the Tees Valley, South Durham and North Yorkshire to have improved access to relevant HE opportunities and progression routes.

With the support of the Higher Education Funding Council for England's Strategic Development Fund, the University has already provided funding for three such Centres at Darlington, Middlesbrough and Hartlepool. Discussions are also nearing completion on plans for further Centres in Redcar and Stockton – which would see every general FE college across the Tees Valley having dedicated accommodation targeted at the delivery and future expansion of HE activity in partnership with the University.

And it is pleasing to see these projects forging ahead, with the first of these Centres being officially opened by our Chancellor, Lord Sawyer of Darlington, in April - a £2m Higher Education Centre within the new Darlington College (see story opposite 'Teesside opens its first neighbourhood HE centre').

Given Lord Sawyer's long-established links with his home town, it was particularly fitting that he was able to preside over this momentous event which we believe signals the start of a major step change in the College's and University's shared aspirations for the expansion of HE, as we move towards a vision of making Darlington a university town - a vision I first shared with Alan Milburn, MP for Darlington, four years ago, shortly after I took up my post as Vice-Chancellor.

The Centre is an excellent example of the University's commitment to accessible HE, which we are confident will not only serve the needs of the 116,000 residents of Darlington but also its surrounding communities, such as Richmond, Catterick, Northallerton, Barnard Castle and Newton Aycliffe - a population of approaching 250,000 people who do not currently enjoy easy access to HE opportunities.

And, our second University Centre is now under construction at Middlesbrough College's new landmark campus at Middlehaven. This Centre will provide a facility for the joint development, teaching and promotion of Creative and Performing Arts.

Delivering a skilled workforce to underpin a viable and sustainable economy here in the Tees Valley is clearly an important priority for us all, and we at the University believe that our strategy of maximising access to relevant, vocational and locally-delivered higher skills will enable us to make a vital contribution to that important goal for the Tees Valley region and the wider North East.



**universe**

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UNIVERSITY OF TEESIDE

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Cover shows Creative Visualisation student Rich Crowe with his 'Dark Unknown' animation project.

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# Time travel through the Corus archive

A joint archival project between the University and Teesside Archives has received a donation of £20,000 from Corus. The British Steel Archive contains an extensive collection of photographs, maps, ledgers, deeds and other documents which trace the history of British Steel. These artefacts also illustrate British Steel's role in shaping local society since the middle of the 19th century. Corus will donate £60,000 in total to the Archive over the next three years.

Due to lack of funds, the Archive has remained uncatalogued and therefore inaccessible to local people, family historians and academic researchers. The project, led by Dr Barry Doyle, Assistant

Dean (Research) and Research Fellow, Dr Joan Heggie, aims to unlock this rich Teesside resource.

Dr Heggie said, 'This Archive is a wonderful resource for the people of Teesside. Not only is it an industrial collection of national and international significance, it is full of images and documents about the people who worked in the iron and steel-making industries from the mid-1850s. The donation from Corus will help us to catalogue the entire collection, carry out preservation and conservation work, and open the Archive to the public.'

In addition, Community, the union of the iron and steel industries has donated £60,000 to the project.

## Teesside opens its first neighbourhood HE centre

The University has officially opened its first higher education (HE) centre within a further education college.

Appropriately the opening was performed by Lord (Tom) Sawyer of Darlington, the University's Chancellor. The £2m University Centre is part of the £35m new Darlington College development.

Lord Sawyer was born in Darlington and began his labour movement career as a local engineering union shop steward and secretary of Darlington Trades Council before becoming a union leader with the National Union for Public Employees and General Secretary of the Labour Party.

He said, 'When I was an apprentice at Chapman's Workshops I used to cycle past here four times a day, going to work, home for lunch and back again. It's really strange seeing what's happened, it gives me perspective. Seeing this transformation and change, it's almost like having two lives. It's fantastic to see the wonderful progress in this town and in this College. The progress is essential to the renaissance of the town, Darlington is coming on in every sense and the College adds to it in every sense.'

'The partnership between the University and Darlington College is absolutely splendid. Students are the most important people in any educational institution, their lives, their opportunities, that's why we are here. I'm



Pictured left to right at the launch of the University of Teesside's Centre at Darlington College: Sarah Robinson, Chief Executive of Darlington College; Lord Sawyer of Darlington; University Chancellor; and Professor Graham Henderson, University of Teesside Vice-Chancellor.

proud to be here, proud of the University and its achievements and proud of the College as well. Both are widening access and widening opportunity for the people we are here to serve.'

The Centre provides a number of HE courses including professional management and business, education, journalism and digital

media, engineering, construction management, early years and access to health.

Further courses planned for September will include foundation degrees in outdoor education and leisure and tourism, IT networking, working with young people and young people's services and a BA (Hons) Hospitality Management.

## Rich takes a journey into the **Dark Unknown**



**A spacecraft lands on a seemingly-deserted planet. The craft scans the planet and discovers a giant robot, sitting on a huge carved rock throne. As the sun rises, the robot slowly comes to life.**

This isn't a storyline from BBC One's *Doctor Who*. It is in fact a short computer-generated animation project, entitled 'Dark Unknown', created by University of Teesside student Rich Crowe.

Rich, 30, from Billingham, is pictured on the front of *UNiverse* with the 'Dark Unknown' robot image and has recently completed his BA (Hons) Creative Visualisation. He said, 'I left my full-time post as a web/graphic

designer to gain skills for the animation industry. I returned to Teesside after living in Leeds for five years, due to the University's outstanding reputation. During my course I've developed amazing new skills such as 2D animation and 3D modelling and used these for several commercial websites. 'Dark Unknown' is a prologue to a larger-scale idea I've been developing.'

## Emma signs up for a scholarship

**Emma Swatman is one of over 240 Teesside first-year students to receive a scholarship worth a total of £3,000. The scholarships are designed to recognize and reward academic achievement.**

They are awarded to students who have achieved 300 UCAS tariff points. Students do not need to apply for a scholarship; they are automatically awarded to eligible students who meet the academic requirements.

Emma, 19, from Hartlepool, is in the first year of the BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance. She achieved good A level results in Law and Business Studies at Hartlepool Sixth Form College, making her eligible for the scholarship.

Emma said, 'Being awarded the scholarship was very valuable, it helps with travel and course costs. It also means I don't have to do so much part-time work and so can spend more time on my studies. I'm really enjoying the friendly atmosphere at the University, I feel comfortable and at home. The lecturers make an effort to get to know you as well. I definitely want to work as an accountant when I graduate.'

Scholarships are only available to UK and European Union undergraduate students taking a full-time course on the University campus.

For more information contact the University's Academic Registry on 01642 384228, or e-mail [registry@tees.ac.uk](mailto:registry@tees.ac.uk), or check the University of Teesside's website at [www.tees.ac.uk](http://www.tees.ac.uk).



# 07 open days

**The University will be hosting two Open Days for potential applicants and their families this year. Course details will be available from all of the University's six academic Schools. Campus tours will also be offered, in addition to information about scholarships and bursaries, student finance, graduate careers and student accommodation.**

The first takes place on **Wednesday 22 August** from 10am to 5pm. This is tailored mainly for students who have just received their results and are considering university entry for 2007.

The second, on **Wednesday 17 October**, is again from 10am to 5pm. This is for students who are applying for university study beginning in autumn 2008.

For more details email [scl@tees.ac.uk](mailto:scl@tees.ac.uk), or call 01642 342275.

# TEESSIDE STUDENTS ENGINEER SUCCESS

**Paul Howard and Paul Giles are two of the engineering students to celebrate the University of Teesside's success in a nationwide league table.**

For the table, produced by *The Guardian* newspaper, placed Mechanical Engineering at Teesside in second place among the British universities teaching the subject.

Paul Howard and Paul Giles are both design engineers working for AMEC in Darlington and have just completed four years of part-time study at the University. They will be graduating this autumn with their BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering.

Dr Paul Shelton, the subject's Project Tutor at the University, said, 'Coming second overall in *The Guardian* league table for Mechanical Engineering confirms what we have always

known about the quality and relevance of our courses here at Teesside.

'We topped the country's universities for the graduate-level employability of our Mechanical Engineering graduates. And I know we could find jobs for twice as many graduate Mechanical and Design Engineers as we are able to produce.'

The University's overall ranking has gone up from 79 last year to 70 in 2007, out of 120 UK higher education institutions. The league tables also reveal that, nationally, Teesside's subject rankings are in the top 20 for Education and Art and Design.

Professor Graham Henderson, the University of Teesside's Vice-Chancellor, said, 'I was delighted to see *The Guardian* league table. It is yet another indicator of the success of the

University of Teesside in realising our mission of providing opportunities and pursuing excellence, and I take great pride in the continuing achievements of our staff and our students.'



Paul Giles, left, with Paul Howard, in the University of Teesside's Innovation Building.

## Become a Creative Master



**The University will launch its first master's (MA) degree in Creative Writing in September. The MA will draw on the expertise of established North-East writers and be delivered by award-winning professionals with extensive publishing experience. The course can be taken part or full time.**

The programme will include both postgraduate certificate and postgraduate diploma awards, with modules ranging from essential creative writing skills and techniques to dedicated options in poetry, drama, fiction and screenwriting.

Dr Chris Thurgar-Dawson, the MA's programme leader, pictured, said, 'We'll also be offering an exciting new module in Writing for Professional Development for people who want to teach creative writing or perhaps use writing in their own future careers. We think

this will be of interest to teachers in the local community and encourage them to get in touch.'

The MA was launched with a short story competition. Aspiring authors were invited to submit their own stories, entitled *The Teesside Time Traveller*. The top three entries will be announced in September.

The full MA will also allow writers to explore their potential in a longer creative writing project which will provide a guided opportunity to produce work of a publishable standard.

UK and EU students may be eligible for financial support from the European Social Fund towards maintenance and tuition fees.

**Applicants with an undergraduate degree, or with former writing experience, can apply to the School of Arts & Media on 01642 384019, or contact Dr Thurgar-Dawson at [c.thurgar-dawson@tees.ac.uk](mailto:c.thurgar-dawson@tees.ac.uk).**



# University Courtroom hosts first murder trial

**University of Teesside Senior Lecturer in Law, Cath Crosby, was murdered by one of her students. Not only did Cath know the identity of her future assailant, Law student Taib Kasnazany, she also had advance notice of the time and location of her demise!**

Left to right: Cath Crosby faces the wrath of Taib Kasnazany.

Cath's 'mock murder' sparked the beginning of the University's first 'Crime Day', an event that involved collection of evidence, police interviews and a mock trial. The jury was made up of upper-sixth-form students (aged 17 to 19) from St Mary's College in Middlesbrough, who listened to evidence presented in the University's new mock Courtroom. The teenage jurors then reached their verdict, finding Taib guilty, although the jury was split on gender lines, with the girls believing he was guilty and the boys less convinced.

Cath Crosby said, 'If I had to be bumped off by somebody I'd sooner it was Taib! He's been a real asset to the course and in other circumstances I'd be sorry to see him imprisoned. This is the first time we have run

an event like this and we've already been asked if we can offer more of the same. It's been great fun and we hope this will be the first of many.'

Taib, 30, from Middlesbrough, is a student on the University's postgraduate LLM Criminal Law degree. He said, 'Playing Cath's murderer was so far removed from my attitudes and my personality! It was an interesting day, being cross examined and seeing how the mock Courtroom works in practice.'

Staff and students from the following courses took part:

- Law, with students acting as Taib's defence, prosecution and court clerks
- Criminology, where the sixth-form jury was presented with information about sentencing
- Investigative Studies, giving the visitors the chance to experience 'hands-on' collection of evidence.

Elizabeth Burke, Subject Manager of Law at St Mary's College, is a Teesside Law graduate. She returned with her students for the 'trial' and added, 'This was a unique opportunity for our students to apply their theoretical knowledge and for them to gain an insight into the legal process.'

- Foundation Degree in Police Studies. Cleveland Police's police trainers arrested and interviewed Taib and collected evidence



Evidence is presented during the 'murder trial'.

## A resource for the whole University

**Following the 'murder trial', the University's mock Courtroom was officially launched. The Room is based on the first floor of the University's tower block. Those attending included His Honour Judge Peter Fox QC, Senior Circuit Judge and Recorder of Middlesbrough, and His Honour Judge Leslie Spittle, Circuit Judge at Teesside Combined Court.**

The mock Courtroom is an exact replica of one of the courtrooms at Teesside Combined Court, including state-of-the-art equipment and a video link. It is fitted with overhead projectors, video playback facilities and cameras, which transmit events like the mock trial around the University. The Room can be set up for family, Crown or magistrates' court hearings.

Keith Haley, Technician Manager in the School of Social Sciences & Law, visited Teesside Combined Court before the University's Room's construction. Russ Pennell, IT Systems

Manager at the Court, explained how the technical equipment worked to Keith.

The University aims to use the Courtroom as a resource for law, forensic and crime scene students. Students on the University's foundation degrees in policing, delivered at Teesside and West Mercia in the Midlands, will also use it to practise giving evidence.

Keith said, 'It's a resource for the whole University. It's a scaled-down version of a courtroom with additional features for teaching. We can have two-way communications, such as Q & A sessions via the video conferencing unit, as long as the other party also has video conferencing equipment. We can also transmit the proceedings over the web, using streaming technology, so that it can be watched on other PCs which are connected to the internet.'

Jackie Hall, Customer Service Officer at Teesside Combined Court, said, 'Everything is exactly the same, even down to the colour of

the walls, it's quite spooky really. It really is a cracking effort. The University has the authority to use the royal crest and it's quite possible that, in theory, smaller civil or family cases could be heard there. And it's another place for a remote video link for those who don't or can't come into court.'



# University's international expansion

**New offices in India and Malaysia are just two of the new developments from the University's expanding Centre for International Development (CID).**



International students on the University's main campus.

The office in Mumbai, India, is designed to grow over the next two years to a fully-fledged office of the University. It will fully represent all the University's functions in India and act as a regional centre to Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. In addition, the University is actively working on partnerships with Indian universities and educators.

The fully-fledged office in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, will act as a regional office for the South-East Asia region. Malaysia is positioning itself as a regional education hub and the University aims to work within the country as part of this. Several Teesside programmes are running in Malaysia already, with more to start.

As well as the new offices, the following CID appointments have been made:

- Norman Parrington – Deputy Director. Norman is a previous Associate Dean in the University of Sunderland's School of Computing and Technology. There he was responsible for international development within the School and had considerable input into the University's overall student recruitment. He also has extensive experience of Transnational Education, delivering UK programmes overseas
- Hou Liang – International Development Officer (China). Hou Liang previously worked at the City of Sunderland College and will be assisting in developing the University's strategy for China.

## Team helps shape the face of public life

**Work which is shaping the way local government is policed is being carried out at the University.**

Dr Michael Macaulay, Head of the Centre for Public Services Management in the University's Business School, is leading a team that investigates ethics in public life.

He was initially approached to carry out research for the Standards Board, which oversees the way councillors and local government officials behave. The initial work helped shape the code of conduct by which the Board operates and the team then followed that up with analysis of questionnaires sent out to councillors and officers.

Having analysed the answers, Dr Macaulay and his team recommended a key change to the code. He said, 'What emerged in our work was that there was no section on bullying in the workplace. One of our key recommendations was that one be added to the code, which has now happened.'

Dr Macaulay has also co-written, with Dr Gary Hickey, Head of Research at the Standards

Board, a paper on ethical leadership which was published in a learned Lithuanian publication. It was the first time the Board and a university have collaborated on such work. Dr Macaulay said, 'I have always been

fascinated by ethics and ethical leadership. I think there is more awareness today about the issue of trust in our leaders. People need to see ethical leadership.'



# IDI will be DigitalCity's nerve centre

**The University's four-storey Institute of Digital Innovation (IDI) on Woodlands Road, Middlesbrough will provide the nerve centre for Teesside's ambitious DigitalCity project, which aims to create up to 300 new jobs and 130 companies within three years.**

The Building's 4,250 square metres will include specialist digital sound studios and screening rooms and research and development commercialisation space. In addition, the top floor will house business accommodation for companies looking to work alongside graduates and research and development teams.

Along with space for joint academic and business research, the IDI will also be home to the University's DigitalCity Fellows. The Fellows are talented graduates and Teesside alumni from the region who are given support to develop commercially-viable portfolios or business ideas. The Fellowship Programme offers bursaries, focused business and skills training, support and mentoring from industry specialists, and is helping to keep creative entrepreneurs in the North East.



Artist's impression of the University's Phoenix building, home to the Institute of Digital Innovation, due to open in autumn 2007.

The first businesses are set to move in during autumn 2007, with an official launch event next year. The regional development agency One NorthEast is a partner in the IDI development, contributing nearly £6m towards the project.

Professor Graham Henderson, University Vice-Chancellor, said, 'It's our ambition to make the IDI the driver for business innovation and growth in digital technologies. This is a unique opportunity and a unique challenge, and I look forward to some truly rewarding partnerships with business.'

## NEIL'S NEW BUSINESS ROLE

**Neil Hannah has been appointed as the University of Teesside's New Business Manager. Neil, 54, from North Yorkshire, has a critical part to play in developing strong relationships with new and expanding businesses. He will head up the University's campus-based business start-up service, which offers accommodation and support for graduate entrepreneurs. In addition, Neil will be responsible for the high-spec serviced business accommodation on the top floor of the new £12m Institute of Digital Innovation (IDI) (see story above).**

Neil said, 'I'll be working with colleagues and DigitalCity partners to attract companies to the IDI which can draw real benefit from the expertise and facilities we have to offer. We're looking to create a high level of

synergy between the needs of growing businesses and research and innovation at Teesside.

'I see this as a really exciting role. I'm passionate about the opportunities offered through encouraging entrepreneurship at all levels, both in and outside the University. We want the cluster of companies in the IDI to act as a magnet for other companies which can see the business benefits of DigitalCity. All of these developments are vital for the regeneration of the Tees Valley region. I'm keen to play my part in this process.'

DigitalCity is an initiative led by the University of Teesside and Middlesbrough Council, with support from One NorthEast, to help shape the economic future of the Tees Valley. It is founded on the vision of a new digital technologies 'signature industry' for the area.





Pictured left to right: Amanda Clarkson, CACTUS Clinic Manager and Researcher; Dave Woodhouse, Head of the Clinic.

## The CACTUS Clinic – seven years on

**In 2000 a new clinic, the first of its kind in the UK, was established at the University by Steve Baldwin, a professor of psychology. The Clinical and Counselling Training Units (CACTUS) Clinic was set up by Professor Baldwin to help children and teenagers who had been prescribed the amphetamine drug Ritalin as treatment for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD).**

CACTUS was set up with the specific aim of providing alternative treatments to Ritalin, including counselling, family therapy and psychotherapy. Professor Baldwin developed a treatment programme from previous work in the USA and Australia.

Following Professor Baldwin's death in the Selby train crash of 2001, the Clinic closed. It re-opened two years later, thanks to a donation from Professor Baldwin's family. CACTUS has continued to offer a range of treatments to over 100 children and teenagers from across the UK and Europe, with ages ranging from three to 17.

When CACTUS was first established, 114,000 children in the UK were prescribed Ritalin. Last year 456,909 prescriptions were issued for Ritalin in England and Wales, as well as 55,859 for Straterra, a new drug prescribed for ADHD and ADD. These figures show a rise of 80,000 in a year.

Dr Dave Woodhouse, Head of the CACTUS clinic, said, 'The Clinic's overall philosophy remains the same as when Steve established it. We don't believe that medication should be the first resort in treatment of ADD or ADHD.'

'There is a slight change in that we use more than one approach with the children, not just behavioural but also nutritional, looking at diet. We also leave the ultimate decision with parents as to whether they wish their children to continue on medication while going through our programme, or take them off it.'

As part of the nutritional programme, every client undergoes a food allergy test and a hair mineral analysis, to develop a 'mineral profile'. This is combined with a behavioural programme, involving both children and families.

Dave Woodhouse said, 'The mineral profile has revealed that most of the children have unacceptably-high or low levels of magnesium in their bodies. It also showed high levels of aluminium, lead or mercury. The most common food allergies are wheat and milk; almost all of the children have one or both.'

'Almost all also have a history of antibiotic use when young. The nutritional side is the most interesting and contentious. We've found that quite a lot of behaviour can be changed without medication. The majority of the 100 children treated have changed to some extent; they're healthier in terms of their overall well-being.'

The CACTUS team has also worked on research projects with secondary schools, including one in Basingstoke. This research project with Patrick Holford, Head of the Brain Bio Centre and trustee for the Food For the Brain Foundation, has featured on ITV 1's *Tonight* with Trevor MacDonald.

**To contact CACTUS e-mail  
d.woodhouse@tees.ac.uk.**

## David sees Chicago for the first time

The US city of Chicago is sometimes associated with Al Capone and 1920s gangsters. Or possibly with the musical and its Oscar-winning film version. Or even as the setting for the TV medical drama *ER*. For Teesside Disaster Management student David Cowley the city has a different dimension. He flew to Chicago recently as part of a month-long group study exchange, examining the emergency planning and response systems being used in city and collar counties.

It included visits to:

- the FBI's new regional headquarters
- the OEMC, Chicago's emergency planning offices and dispatch centre
- several fire and paramedic stations
- NIPSTA – a multi-agency training facility including special weapons and tactics (SWAT), fire, urban search and rescue
- a number of police departments, which also included a five-hour car patrol
- SWAT weapons range.

David, 30, from the Isle of Man, has just completed his BSc (Hons) degree. The group study exchange was organised by the Rotary Foundation. The international Foundation was set up in Chicago in 1905 by business and professional leaders to help people in need



and now gives over £21m each year to international and humanitarian programmes.

David was part of a team of five, including two emergency planners and two police officers. He said, 'It was my first time in the USA and Chicago was a fantastic city, very diverse and friendly. It is difficult to pick a highlight, there were so many. The FBI headquarters was very interesting, we were shown how they analysed photographs for various crimes. We also looked over some of

the different weapons that had been seized, including a portable rocket grenade launcher!

'Socially, we experienced the wide variety of the city's entertainment, including the Green Mill jazz club, a hangout of Al Capone in the 1920s which hasn't changed since. It still has the secret passages for transporting alcohol to the bar during the prohibition period. Chicago is definitely a place I would like to visit again.'

## A return to rebuilding

**The devastating Pakistan earthquake of October 2005 killed thousands of people and left hundreds homeless. Lecturers from the University joined the international aid effort through a project in Kashmir, in North-Eastern Pakistan.**

Dr Steve Bloomer, University subject group leader for construction, and David Kitchen, a part-time lecturer in civil engineering, provided their expertise for free.

Steve and David first visited last year, meeting builders, contractors, architects, engineers and village elders. They returned to Pakistan recently, to oversee the initial construction of three houses based on their designs. The first of the houses, based in the village of Sehunta, will be used as a medical and the second as a training centre, with services including general surgery and a visiting eye surgeon.

The designing duo has helped with the formation of a charity 'Healing Hands' to provide funds towards Pakistan's reconstruction. The other partners involved in the charity's formation are Bob Gibson, Chair of Stockton Council, the local community, Dari Taylor, MP for Stockton South, and Dr Mohammed Shafiq.

Steve, 47, from Washington, Tyne and Wear, said, 'One of the differences in our design is a pitched triangular roof rather than the previous flat one, which should be more resistant to earthquakes. The villagers can also live in the roof in an emergency. The houses will be built from different materials, such as reinforced block and timber imported from Russia.'

'There were 70 houses in the village and only one was left standing after the earthquake.



Picture of children in Sehunta taken by Steve Bloomer.

'We've left the designs and building instructions over there for the villagers to follow. Hopefully the designs will have an impact for years to come.'



Pictured left to right: Rachel Featherstone and her mother Jean. Both work for the North East Chamber of Commerce and are enrolled on the new foundation degree in leadership.

## A foundation for leadership

**The North East's first ever dedicated leadership degree course has been launched, a collaboration between the University and the North East Chamber of Commerce (NECC).**

The Foundation Degree in Leadership and Management was established in response to feedback from NECC members that a lack of trained leaders was one of the biggest issues

affecting their future growth. The Degree offers a practical, hands-on approach to leadership and management and was over-subscribed even before its official launch earlier this year.

Nigel Evans, Acting Dean of the University's Business School said, 'We have an excellent track record in developing employer-led learning and supporting emerging business

leaders. Good leadership needs to be demonstrated at all levels of organisations and is vital in delivering regional growth.

'So the University is delighted to be working closely with the NECC and its members to run this new programme. It contains a number of highly-innovative features that have been developed through a true partnership of education and business, and will encourage best practice to be widely disseminated.'

The course consists of two-day masterclasses, supported by in-work assignments and learning that add practical improvements to any business. Twelve modules will run in Newcastle, Durham and Middlesbrough to benefit businesses across the North East. Each completed module will accrue credits towards the Degree. Delegates can attend the whole Degree or simply a set of masterclass-based modules.

The course is suitable for any junior or middle managers, particularly those whose skills and experience are not yet recognised by a degree award. It could be run on company premises and tailored to an organisation's needs, provided a minimum of 20 delegates is assured.

**For more information call the NECC director of training and workforce development, Karen Brown, on 0191 386 1133 or email [karen.brown@necc.co.uk](mailto:karen.brown@necc.co.uk).**

## JOIN THE INNOVATIVE INTERNS

**Combining a part-time tiling business with a law degree may not appear a natural combination. But that's what enterprising Teesside student Daniel Tozer has successfully achieved. Daniel is also one of the University's first set of Enterprise Interns.**

The new two-year project, funded by the Learning and Skills Council, encourages students to sign up as Interns. They receive a bursary, paid in instalments throughout the year, to promote enterprising activities to their fellow students. Each of the six academic Schools has its own Intern.

Daniel, 20, from Folkestone, Kent, has just completed the second year of the LLB (Hons) degree. He saw the project advertised

in the Students' Union and signed up. Daniel said, 'I liked the fact that it was totally new and had never been done by the University before. A lot of businesses and employers are looking for commercial awareness in graduates and being involved in enterprise can help you build that awareness.'

Daniel has recently set up his own business, Daniel Tozer Tiling. He combines the tiling with study, working in both the Tees Valley in term time and Kent during the holidays. He is following in the entrepreneurial footsteps of his father, Simon, who has his own plumbing company. Daniel added, 'Dad has always encouraged me to go into business. The Interns have set up their own Enterprise Society to inspire others and we hope it will

become a permanent feature of the Students' Union's societies in years to come.'

**For more information on the Interns email [cfe@tees.ac.uk](mailto:cfe@tees.ac.uk).**



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