

Shaping Futures

The newsletter for supporters of Nottingham Trent University



Discover who you've
helped this year

The Chancellor's Building
Futures Appeal update

Who did this year's
awards go to?

Your donations
go even further



Message from the Vice-Chancellor

The recently transformed Newton and Arkwright buildings are already providing an inspirational environment for both students and staff.



The state-of-the-art audio-visual technology in every lecture theatre and teaching room, along with the extensive social learning space, will ensure that future generations are provided with excellent facilities. If you have not had the opportunity to visit the new facilities, please view the video by Sir Michael Parkinson on our website (www.ntu.ac.uk/transformation), along with the extensive range of photographs.

I would like to thank everyone who chose to make a donation to the University. These donations have helped to make a difference across many areas of the University, but one particular focus in 2009 was the Chancellor's Appeal. This raised almost £100,000 which, in addition to the University's own investment, has been used to centralise the student support services into the new glazed Central Court that connects the Newton and Arkwright buildings.

Philanthropy is an increasingly important component for the continuing development of Nottingham Trent University. It ensures that essential projects are funded in both our courses and our internationally recognised research. There is an ambitious target of £10m to raise so that we can complete the new development at our Clifton site.

Thank you again for your support.

Professor Neil Gorman DL
Vice-Chancellor

Thank you from the Alumni Calling Team

We would like to thank all former students who were able to speak to our current students during our Spring 2010 Telephone Campaign.

Our students love to hear about your time at Nottingham Trent and compare it to their own experiences and gain advice and tips for their chosen career path, and in some cases an industrial placement.

Over £30,000 was pledged to the University from our alumni, which will go towards supporting the Alumni Fund, cancer research, environmental teaching and research and the Nottingham Business School's 30th Anniversary Appeal. We will report back to you on how your donations have helped these areas in 2011.

Donations to the Alumni Fund are disbursed across the University to various departments and individuals, to support student scholarships, projects and resources which may not otherwise be possible.

In the first instance, funding applications are submitted from across the University, then an Alumni Fund disbursement panel, which includes student representation, judge and approve the applications, subsequently providing donations to that department or individual.

We value the continued support of our alumni and friends and it ensures that we provide the best opportunities for our current and future students, to give them the knowledge, skills and experience to shape lives and society.



A lasting legacy

Through the generosity of our alumni and friends, the Chancellor's Building Futures Appeal has now raised gifts and pledges of almost £100,000. This fantastic support has enabled the University to accomplish its aim of centralising all student support services under one roof in the impressive Newton and Arkwright transformation.

The new Student Services Centre provides a suite of support services; careers guidance, one-to-one counselling, advice on financial matters and help with accommodation issues. Integrating these services will have a positive impact on the student experience at NTU and will ensure that students, particularly disabled students, will find them easier to access and locate.

The Student Services Centre consists of nine private consulting rooms where students can receive confidential advice and support, plus an open area with self-service PCs for more informal matters. Donations have been gratefully received and have helped to furnish and equip the consulting rooms.

The following alumni and friends will have rooms permanently named in their honour as recognition of their generous support to the Chancellor's Appeal:

Thomas Farr Charitable Trust	The Thomas Farr Room
Lady Hind Trust	The Lady Hind Trust Room
John Brydon	The Brydon Room
Turner & Townsend	The Turner and Townsend Room
Morgan Sindall	The Morgan Sindall Room
Eric Barnes	The Barnes Room
Mich Stevenson	The Stevenson Room
The BAND Trust	The BAND Trust Room

In addition, more than 200 alumni kindly donated to this appeal over the past year. Their gifts have gone towards funding important state-of-the-art IT equipment, resources and furnishings, enabling tens of thousands of students to benefit from this new and improved service for many years to come.

The Turner and Townsend Room

Turner & Townsend decided to make a generous donation to the University and now have a consulting room named in their honour within the glazed link building of the Newton and Arkwright transformation.

Turner & Townsend provided project and cost management services to NTU during the Newton and Arkwright project and simply wanted to put something back into the University and help with its success. They have also benefited from the academic side of the University as well and have substantial alumni – over 50 – who have helped the business to grow to what it is today.

“Their quality and drive epitomise the University and our team will be delighted when they read of our donation – we intend to gather them all together and have a few drinks to toast to the success of the University!”

Tom Harrison, Chief Operating Officer, Turner & Townsend

The Brydon Room

John Brydon made a generous donation to the University and to recognise his support we have named a consulting room in his honour. Not an alumnus himself, John is an avid supporter of the University, education and Nottinghamshire.

“Nottingham Trent University is a beacon of excellence in Nottinghamshire and delivers so much in a variety of ways. The University deserves the support of all those who are passionate about our county.”

John Brydon, supporter of NTU





Projectors enhance learning

New Optoma EP761 projectors are now being used to enhance the learning of laboratory-based students in the School of Science and Technology, thanks to the Alumni Fund.

Optoma projectors are distinct from those normally used in teaching rooms or lecture theatres as they can be used in daylight. They have a higher resolution which means they can be used in a much wider range of settings, including laboratories.

Biosciences Lecturer, Dr Christian Thode, said: "The effective communication of scientific facts is an essential skill that students learn in our courses. These projectors enable us to simulate real-life situations, where students present and explain their posters in a laboratory environment – without printing them at high costs. With student numbers increasing, novel teaching practices, such as this one, help to maintain our high standards."

Until 31 July 2011, your gift will go even further with the government matched funding initiative. For every £3 donated by a UK tax payer, the government will give the University an extra £1.

Therefore a gift of £60 will ultimately be worth £100 to us, with gift aid and matched funding, at no extra cost to you.

Thank you to all our donors for helping us to take advantage of this government initiative.

For more information on our priority projects, please visit our website www.ntualumni.org.uk and click on 'Supporting NTU'.



Measuring success

Ongoing consumable costs for a BIOSEN C_line Sport analyser for use by students on the BA (Hons) Sport and Exercise Science course have been provided by funds donated by NTU alumni.

A BIOSEN C_line Sport analyser measures lactate and glucose concentration in the blood. Students David Brown and Katie Bayfield used the analyser during the completion of their level 3 dissertation, which focused on interventions that may accelerate lactate clearance from the blood, and hence recovery, following high-intensity exercise. The success of their project was evident when David and Katie presented their work at the 2010 British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) annual student conference.



First on the scene

Forensic Science students participating in crime scene investigation and forensic evidence photography exercises will now get the opportunity to use crime scene equipment which matches that used by UK police forces – thanks to the Alumni Fund.

Principal Lecturer, David Butler said: “Digital photography is now standard practice at crime scenes and when working on forensic evidence. I would like to thank the Alumni Fund donors for providing students with access to this specialist equipment. It is important that we can match standard police practice when training our students in order to enhance their employment prospects in the sector.”

The Crime Scene Training Facility house, based on Clifton campus, has been so successful that both Nottinghamshire Police and Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs (HMRC) have used it to develop their own crime scene security and collection and preservation of evidence training programmes.





Making a splash

Our latest recipient of the Alumni Fund Award for Sport is flatwater sprint canoeist Joe Seaman. Committed to becoming ‘the best of the best’ in flatwater sprint canoeing, second year student Joe can be seen most mornings, bright and early, training on the lake at Nottingham Water Sports Centre – after which he’ll head to the gym, or the pool, or go for a run around the lake.

Joe trains up to three times a day, six days a week – as well as studying for a BSc (Hons) Sport Science and Management. He says: “I have to plan my time wisely in order to fit in both studying and training. I try to reduce my stress levels by completing my university work well before deadline. I also have to sacrifice my social life – I’m normally in bed for 9.00 pm! I never go out on weekdays because I want to feel fresh for every training session, and I only go out at weekends if I have no training scheduled for Sunday.”

Joe, who is currently ranked in Great Britain’s top 15, is already looking ahead to 2012, “It’s my ambition to be the best of the best as quickly as possible. After University I’m going to train full-time in the lead up to 2012 and compete in several World Championships in the meantime.”

Joe really appreciates the generous donations made by alumni. He said: “I’m really grateful. Your support gives me great confidence and motivation when training and competing. It really opens up opportunities which I’ve never had before and hopefully it will lead me to my ambition – to represent my country in 2012.”

Donations strike a chord

Chris Adams, a second year Biomedical Sciences student who plays in both the concert band and orchestra at NTU, has received the Alumni Fund Award for Music enabling him to purchase a soprano saxophone for use during his time at NTU, after which the instrument will remain at the University.

Additionally, this year's recipient of the Clifford Beck Music Award, an annual scholarship set up in memory of a former lecturer, is Ellie Fieldsend. She is in her third year studying Visual Arts, plays the piano and is also a member of the NTU Choir, NTU Chamber Choir and Youth Choir UK. She will be putting the money towards tuition for both singing and piano lessons.

She added, "Music is an important part of my life. I play piano everyday and sing all the time! I would like to say a big thank you to Clifford Beck's family for such a kind donation and giving me the chance to carry on with my piano and singing lessons."





Bringing Physics lectures to life

When Physics students were asked for end-of-module feedback they requested more lecture demonstrations. Thanks to donations to the Alumni Fund £1,700 has been spent on new technology for use in the lecture theatre.

New equipment purchased includes a high visibility multimeter with USB interface, transparent voltmeters to place on OHPs and large mechanical apparatus to visualise waves and wave phenomena including reflection, refraction and wave speed.

Senior Lecturer in Physics and Maths, David Fairhurst, said: "Physics is all about understanding physical effects and processes, the explanation of

which becomes so much more vivid and memorable when seen live rather than in a PowerPoint presentation or with multimedia. Thanks to donors to the Alumni Fund, students can now enjoy good, clear lecture demonstrations. I've already had positive feedback from students who say they have enjoyed the demonstrations and found them really useful."

Remembering us in your Will

Making a gift to Nottingham Trent University in your Will is one of the greatest gifts you can make.

Due to financial constraints throughout our lives, we cannot always give at the level we would like to, therefore leaving a legacy may give you the opportunity to make a significant difference.

After providing for your family and friends, please consider remembering Nottingham Trent in your Will and leaving a legacy to benefit generations of students. Perhaps you may decide to support a particular area of research, for example our world renowned cancer research into vaccines for breast cancer and prostate cancer or fund an award or scholarship. You may even wish to commemorate a loved one by naming an award, scholarship, room or building in their honour.

If you would like more information or a brochure about leaving a legacy to NTU in your Will, please contact the Fundraising team on **0115 848 8810** or by emailing us at **alumni@ntu.ac.uk**



Makaton resources teach Education students

Donations to the Alumni Fund will benefit students across a range of programmes within the School of Education by providing improved Makaton resources.



Makaton is a unique language programme used to teach communication, language and literacy skills through signs, symbols and speech.

Jackie Scruton, lecturer and Makaton trainer, said: "The use of Makaton within schools, colleges and the wider community has proved to have a beneficial effect on children and young people being able to lead independent lives."

For more information on Makaton visit **www.makaton.org**

Thank you!

Many thanks to all our donors listed below who chose to make a gift to the University during 2009/2010 academic year. Thank you also to our donors who have chosen to remain anonymous.

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