Bulletin board

Email any school/faculty news to: robert.ounsworth@nottingham.ac.uk, marking your email bulletin board.





Sculpting an ancient seat with roots in park's history

When an ancient beech tree atop The Downs finally succumbed to disease and decay, the Estates team was determined that the centuries-old landmark should not be forgotten.

The tree is a link the landscape's past long before the University was born. Indeed Lenton Close, the last private house to be built on University Park, was designed to take in the view of The Downs and the ancient beech tree that for centuries stood at the top of the rolling wildflower meadow.

Nottingham-based artist Errol Morris was commissioned to work with the old tree and produce a lasting feature that could be enjoyed by staff and students for years to come.

"We wanted to create a bench, so it had to be a practical as well as a sculptural design," says Errol. "At the same time there are a lot of features that I've left and kept the form out of respect for the old tree. It will be here well after I've gone. The tree was hundreds of years old and I hope it will be here for hundreds of years to come."

Martyn Lloyd, Grounds Maintenance Manager, said: "The seating will serve as a long term reminder of this fantastic old tree. Using it in this way not only provides an artistic sculpture but we're making use of the tree and retaining a relationship with the landscape."

Claire is new Head of Student Welfare

Claire Thompson has been appointed as Head of Student Welfare. Claire has been the University's Senior Mental Health Advisor since 2007 and will start her new role on 1 July.

Her appointment follows a change to the Student Services structure and Claire heads a team that will be the main liaison point for the Chaplaincy and Faith Advisors, the University Health Service at Cripps Health Centre and the Students' Union Student Advice and Representation Centre.

Call for teams as football and netball leagues launch

Friendly sports leagues for University staff and postgraduate students are being launched.

Initially seven-aside football (males) and netball (female) leagues will run over five to six weeks on Tuesday and Thursdays, 5.15pm to 6.15pm. The cost per team

will be £40. Leagues will start the week commencing 23 June. Places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Each sport will initially be limited to 12 teams.

Glynn Dignum, Intramural Sports Coordinator, said: "We are open to ideas for other activities you want to see over the summer. If you have any suggestions please get in touch. Just consider that to run any activity we do need to have the critical mass to make it worthwhile."

If you want to enter a team please contact Glynn:

t: 0115 748 44 55

e: Glynn.Dignum@nottingham.ac.uk

Death of Professor and New Testament authority

A former Professor of New Testament Languages and Literature at the University has died. Emeritus Professor Maurice Casey, who died on 10 May, was appointed as lecturer at Nottingham in 1979. He retired in 2006. He was best known for his work on the Aramaic sources for the New Testament and the 'Son of Man problem' and in 2010 completed a substantial work that brought together his research: Jesus of Nazareth: An Independent Historian's Account of His Life and Teaching.