



## Lancaster University Staff Prizes 2009

---





## Programme

6.00 p.m.      Guests seated

**Welcome and Introduction**

Professor Paul Wellings, Vice-Chancellor

6.05 p.m.

**Community and College Prize (2 Prizes)**

Presented by Professor Amanda Chetwynd, Pro-Vice-Chancellor  
(College and Student Experience)

**Teaching Prize (3 Prizes)**

Presented by Professor Linda Woodhead, Religious Studies

**Commercialisation Prize (1 Prize)**

Presented by Professor Bill Davison, Lancaster Environment Centre

**Research Prize (3 Prizes)**

Presented by Professor Trevor McMillan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)

**Doctoral Supervision Prize (1 Prize)**

Presented by Professor Trevor McMillan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)

**Media and Communications Prize (2 Prizes)**

Presented by Professor Cary Cooper, Pro-Vice-Chancellor  
(External Relations)

*Prizes presented by Sir Chris Bonington, CBE, Chancellor at the end of  
each category*

6.40 p.m.

**Closing remarks**

6.45 p.m.

**Reception**

Music and display boards with posters

*Photographs of Winners with Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor*

7.30 p.m.

**Close**





## Community & College Prizes

### Community Prize

---

#### **Cath Ewan**

*Computing*

The prize is in recognition of Cath Ewan's inspirational role in supporting students in Computing. Cath's long-serving role in supporting these students has not only resulted in countless students obtaining the support they require but has directly informed University best practice in the field. Cath has gone to extraordinary lengths to help students with learning difficulties and disabilities, gaining their confidence and proactively working with them. She has made a profound difference to the experience, and the results, of many students.

### College Prize

---

#### **June Coulson**

*Fylde College*

June Coulson has been Senior Tutor in Fylde since 2004, following a long stint as a College tutor. June epitomises the values of the college system at its best, voluntarily contributing time, and her comprehensive knowledge of the University's systems, to support all members of the college. She enables students to make informed choices and action plans in resolving academic and personal problems, and is excellent at boosting the confidence of new tutors. She also contributes constantly to College activities and events and balances all this with a busy role as Departmental Secretary in Psychology.

#### ***Nominations***

Dr Louise Banton,  
Naomi Elliott,  
Fiona Frank,  
Dr Katherine Froggatt,  
Paul Howarth,  
James Groves and Martin Cook,  
Imogen Tyler,  
Jennifer Whitfield





## Teaching Prizes

---

### **Professor Derek Seward, Bob Mackin, Jonathan Gates, David Lewis, Mark Salisbury**

*Engineering*

This prize is in recognition of the Lancaster Racing team project, which has run for almost ten years, and develops highly valuable employment relevant engineering knowledge, understanding and skills. The project stimulates a sense of pride and competitive spirit, attributes which drive students to complete a new single-seater racing car from scratch every year and to showcase it in the international "Formula Student" competition which this year will be held at Silverstone Racing Circuit 16 to 19 July). The project has established a significant legacy of loyal alumni and has stimulated industrial sponsorship to sustain it. The team provides highly dedicated supervision, technical engineering expertise and support for the students who opt for this project in their fourth year of MEng study and themselves put in considerable personal time to support and inspire the students. The formula student project is a benchmark of best practice nationally.

### **Dr Victoria Mason**

*Politics and International Relations*

This award is in recognition of Dr Mason's broad commitment to critical innovation in teaching and the creation of a stimulating and successful learning experience for students. She has designed an approach to teaching that optimises student engagement by deploying an impressive range of teaching methods and tools to enable the best possible learning environment. This has involved the use of alternative methodologies such as role-play simulations, creating interactive assessment activities such as Internet blog exercises and effectively utilising on-line learning to complement and enhance traditional face-to-face teaching. In addition to this, Dr Mason has developed a new specialised third year course and has played an instrumental role in the reorganisation of her Department's third year teaching.





## Teaching Prizes

---

### **Dr Corina Sas**

*Computing*

This award recognises the excellent contributions of Dr Sas in teaching Masters courses in Human Computer Interaction both within the department and beyond. She has identified various challenges in teaching the skills applicable to the design, prototype and evaluation of interactive technologies and developed innovative solutions to them. The outcomes of her work have gained great support from staff and students and have been disseminated at an international level through eight peer-reviewed teaching related publications. Dr Sas has innovatively redesigned a Masters course, forging links between Computing, Psychology and LICA to reflect its interdisciplinary design. Her course design work has been cited publicly as an indicator of best practice by the British Computer Society. Dr Sas has also contributed to a number of University and external teaching related projects.

### ***Nominations***

Dr Samuel Clark, Philosophy

Ali Cooper, Dr Tony Luxon, Susan Armitage – CELT

Dr Richard Hayley, Physics

Dr Annmarie Ryan, Marketing

Professor Derek Seward, Dr Stephen Monk, Bob Mackin, Evelyn Shaw - Engineering

Dr Paul Taylor, Psychology

Dr Gill Vince, Medicine

Dr Kevin Watson, Linguistics & English Language





## Commercialisation Prize

---

### **Dr Andrew Sweetman**

*Environmental Sciences*

Andrew is a member of the Department of Environmental Sciences in Lancaster Environment Centre, and researches into the environmental pathways and fates of industrial chemicals. The use of such chemicals is now covered by the REACH directive which applies incrementally from 2008 to 2018.

Andrew has added to his academic role by leading the establishment of and liaison with The Reach Centre Ltd, a startup company located in the Manley Building. This is a new model of commercialisation for the University, and has successfully created a new and sustainable income stream. The company undertakes expert compliance consultancy and (importantly) provides a stream of research work to LEC where highly specialist academic knowledge is applied to industrial problems.

The Reach Centre is now operating internationally and is significantly enhancing the reputation of Lancaster University in general and of its environmental expertise in particular.

### ***Nominations***

Matthew Ward, LUSU





## Media & Communication Prizes

---

### **Professor Paul Farley**

*English & Creative Writing*

Poet Paul Farley has been awarded a prize for his work with national and international media where he uses English Studies to inform current public debates around the arts and culture. He understands media work as an activity that forges strong links between Lancaster University and its external audiences and is a regular contributor to radio programmes such as The Verb, Front Row, Saturday Review and Night Waves. Professor Farley has developed a high profile as a writer and an academic capable of communicating complex thinking and is called upon whenever a story in literature breaks. He has begun to work more regularly in television. Recent examples include appearances on BBC2's The Culture Show, a documentary on BBC4 ('Why Birds Sing') and a major new BBC series on poets and place, broadcast in May 2009.

### **Dr Graham Mort**

*English & Creative Writing*

Writer and senior lecturer Dr Graham Mort is awarded a prize for his use of the broadcast media in Africa as part of projects which have linked young writers across Africa to mentors in the UK. Dr Mort designed and led a scheme in Uganda to continue to develop new writing in Africa and to enable it to reach much wider audiences via radio – the fastest growing broadcast medium on the continent. The Radiophonics project trained eight writers to work in radio producing short stories focussing on issues of social and political significance. Dr Mort ran the workshops and co-produced a series of radio broadcasts 'Under the Sun' – which went out on a Kampala based commercial radio station Sanyu FM. The broadcasts reached many thousands of people and were then podcast on the British Council Crossing Borders/Radiophonics website to increase their reach and longevity. He has since designed a more developed model of Radiophonics in Nigeria, producing stories with 48 writers in the cities of Kano, Lagos, Enuga and Abuja, broadcast this year by Inspiration FM in Lagos which has a core audience of around one million listeners.

### **Nominations**

Beccy Sims, Lancaster Environment Centre,

Lucy Lloyd, DCE

Group entry: Professor David Brown (Management Science); Professor Alasdair

MacBean (Economics); Susan Lucas (International Office LUMS);

Libby Copeland (External Relations LUMS)





## Research Prizes

---

### **Dr Gerlinde De Deyn**

*Biological Sciences*

#### Early Career Award

This award recognizes the outstanding start to Dr De Deyn's academic career. Her 11 influential publications started with a much cited *Nature* paper, stimulating new research into soil invertebrate interactions on grassland ecology. Two of her Plant-Soil Ecology publications won peer recognition, with the John Harper Prize (*Journal of Ecology*) and "Editor's Choice" in *Science (Ecology Letters)*. Her high impact publications continued at Lancaster with invitations to write a review in *Ecology Letters* and a Special Feature in *Journal of Ecology*. This international esteem led to requests for keynote and invited talks in UK, USA, The Netherlands, Germany, Canada, Sweden and New Zealand. She is a referee for 16 journals and Consulting Editor to *Plant and Soil*.

Dr De Deyn extends her enthusiasm for research by encouraging others and is a highly supportive role model for her students. She has contributed much to the vibrancy of the research environment in Biological Sciences and LEC, by organising the Organisms and Environment seminars and social events. This prize is a fitting tribute to her as she leaves Lancaster for the Netherland's Institute of Ecology, and we look forward to continuing collaborations with this talented young scientist.

### **Professor David Lyth**

*Physics*

#### Established Researcher - Joint winner

Professor Lyth is one of the leading experts in Inflationary Cosmology and Cosmology Perturbation Theory. His international collaborations and highly productive research career span over 40 years with 126 publications in leading Physics journals. These include groundbreaking research and some of the most highly cited papers in his discipline. He is sharing his expertise with early career researchers at Lancaster through weekly workshops on Cosmology. He is a member and leading participant of the International Advisory Committee of the COSMO conference series, and the EU Network "Universnet". Professor Lyth was Scientific Leader in the Cosmology Group for the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise for Physics, which is ranked first in the UK for world leading research excellence.





## Research Prizes

---

### **Professor Steve Jones**

*Spectrum Centre for Health Research*

Established Researcher - Joint winner

This is in recognition of the enthusiasm and energy that Professor Jones dedicated to establishing the new Spectrum Centre for Mental Health Research. Professor Jones arrived at Lancaster in 2008 and rapidly recruited and developed a team of 12 staff and research students. He has created a thriving centre and won more than £2.5 million in research funding. He has 73 publications in Clinical Psychology, Mental Health and Bipolar Disorder and recognition of his esteem includes a commissioned report on Bipolar disorder for the British Psychological Society. He chairs the British Association for Behavioural and Cognitive Psychotherapy's Bipolar Special Interest Group and is European representative for the American Association for Behavioural and Cognitive Therapy's Bipolar Disorder Special Interest Group.

### **Professor George Pickett FRS, Professor Peter McClintock, Professor Shaun Fisher, Professor Tony Guénault, Dr Ian Bradley, Dr Richard Haley and Dr Viktor Tsepelin**

*Low Temperature Physics Group, Physics*

Research Group

This prize is in recognition of the Low Temperature Physics Group's outstanding international success in the physics of Superfluid Helium and Quantum Turbulence. Appreciation of their work includes collaborations with top laboratories across the globe, and is echoed by their many honours, prizes, invitations to give plenary talks and the continued funding success by members of the group. Since 1990 their publications in high impact journals included 40 in *Physical Review Letters* and four in *Nature Physics*. They contributed to the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise for Physics, which is ranked first in the UK for world leading research excellence.

### **Nominations**

Dr Adam Skalski, Mathematics and Statistics

Dr James Falconbridge, Geography





## Doctoral Supervision Prize

---

### **Professor Charles Alderson**

*Linguistics and English Language*

This prize is in recognition of providing highly effective support, supervision and encouragement of a large number of postgraduate students over a sustained period, many of whom have progressed to successful academic careers of their own. The award also recognises the way in which Professor Alderson has mentored less experienced colleagues (including his own students) to become effective supervisors in their own right, his co-supervision of research students in a number of Universities in other countries, and a clear dedication to challenging research students to produce work of the highest quality.

### ***Nominations***

Dr Elizabeth Shove, Sociology

Dr Alan Waters, Linguistics and English Language

Dr Aneta Stefanovska, Physics

Dr James Taylor, Engineering





## 2008 Staff Prize Winners

---

### **Community & College Prizes**

Ruth Love, Sociology  
Kate Haywood, Department of Continuing Education  
Dr Christopher Grocott, History

### **Media & Communications Prize**

Sue Peters, Institute for Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development  
Dr Rob MacKenzie, Christine Valentine, Debra Hurst, Deborah Lee  
and Dr Brian Davison, Lancaster Environment Centre

### **Research Prizes**

Dr Jos Barlow, Biological Sciences  
Dr Nina Caspersen, Politics and International Relations  
Professor David Collinson, Management Learning and Leadership  
Dr Thomas Dixon, History

### **Prize for Interdisciplinary Research**

Dr Paul Rayson, Computing

### **Commercialisation Prizes**

Professor Alan Dix and Dr Joe Finney, Computing  
Professor Bahram Honary, Communications Systems

### **Teaching Prizes**

Dr Wendy Beekes, Accounting and Finance  
Georgia Georgiou, CELT  
Dr Aristotle Kallis, European Languages and Cultures  
Dr Edward Venn, Lancaster Institute for the Contemporary Arts

### **Doctoral Supervision Prize**

Professor Jonathan Tawn, Mathematics and Statistics





---

Human Resources  
Lancaster University  
Lancaster  
LA1 4YW  
United Kingdom

T: +44(0)1524 65201  
F: +44(0)1524 593712

[www.lancs.ac.uk/hr](http://www.lancs.ac.uk/hr)

