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[Musica Viva: Material](#)

8 February, 1:10pm
Michael Tippett Centre
Tickets: Free - no booking

[Comedy Cavern](#)

8 February, 8:00pm
Burdall's Yard
Tickets: £5 on the door

[The Moving Exhibition](#)

8 February, 10am-5pm
Holburne Museum
Tickets: Free

[Lose Your Face in the Crowd](#)

10 February (various times)
University Theatre
Tickets: Free

[Site Specific Dance](#)

17 February, 7:00pm
Green Park Station
Tickets: Free – no booking

[The Circle of Life: Our Health and the Life Course](#)

Dr. Mary Larkin
Environmental and Social
Research Seminar Series
21 February
5:00pm, SNG01
6:00pm, SNG10

[More Events](#)



[@BathSpaVC](#)



Announcements at:
[The Hub](#)
(sign in required)



Suggestion Box at:
[The Hub](#)

WELCOME VICE-CHANCELLOR

It is an exciting start to 2012 for Bath Spa University as we welcome Professor Christina Slade as our new Vice-Chancellor. And what a first month it has been!

With interviews on the BBC and for local press in the first week, Professor Slade has made it a priority to communicate with staff and stakeholders about the direction for the future and to listen to views and feedback.

A busy schedule of meetings has been punctuated with events that have given the new VC a real taste for Bath Spa's unique offerings.

Opening 'Illuminate Bath' was the first official cultural engagement for Professor Slade who spoke to guests at the dazzling festival of light that embodies all that is wonderful about our vibrant university. Our excellent creative links and stunning student work has been seen first-hand during the 'Material Actions' and 'Bird Box: Blank' exhibits at Sion Hill. International relationships have also been developed through hosting Dr Warwick Carter, President of Columbia College Chicago, as he toured our campuses.

It has been an extremely eventful January and there is a lot more to come as we progress through the year ahead. To keep you up-to-date there are lots of new ways to hear from and talk to the new VC; regular announcements posted on 'The Hub', a twitter account, staff briefings and social meetings have all been made available. Tune in by using the links to the left.

A BIT OF BACKGROUND

Professor Christina Slade brings a wealth of experience from her previous role as Dean of the Schools of Arts and of Social Sciences at City University London. She has been Dean of Humanities at Macquarie University (2003-8) and Professor of Media Theory at the University of Utrecht in which capacity she led a €1.25 million seven nation EU funded project entitled 'Media and Citizenship: transnational television cultures reshaping political identities in the EU.'

Trained as a philosopher of logic and language, her research has focussed on issues of the media since 1990. Her monograph, 'The Real Thing: doing philosophy with media' (2002) examines the role of reason in the media, while 'From Migrant to Citizen: testing language, testing culture', (2010) jointly edited with Martina Möllering, looks at linguistic, legal and philosophical aspects of citizenship testing.





Pipistrelle bats



Looking up at Lesser Horseshoe bats roosting at Newton Park

EXPERT BAT CARE FOR DEVELOPMENT

Our exciting new campus development at Newton Park is underway with some essential works that will help to make the project run smoothly. One key job prior to the building works has been to take care of our bat populations. Ecologist and bat specialist Elaine Austin has been on hand to ensure that our bats get the very best treatment.

There are 16 species of bats in England and while each has its own lifestyle and habitat requirements, many roost in buildings. That is why it is vital to have specialists on hand to help ensure that our protected bat populations are cared for during development work.

Elaine Austin has been achieving this by creating roosting sites for bats across the campus which will make plenty of room for them. Two new, dedicated bat roosts have been created with special heated BatStat bat boxes. These bat boxes are designed for crevice dwelling species (including Pipistrelles, Myotis species, Brown Long-eared bats and Serotines) and are thermostatically heated throughout the bats active period.

A 'stand-alone' timber bat house was also constructed to replicate a Lesser Horseshoe's night-roost. This structure has the potential to be used all year round by all bat species. This adds to the five bat boxes which were erected on mature Yew trees, in April 2011.

It is also vital to make sure that no bats are on the site when it is being developed. Our experts have been conducting bat activity surveys and regular checks. It is a careful process involving tiles being moved by hand and the location of entry points so that bats can leave the buildings but not enter. It ensures the best for our bats, preventing them from roosting in buildings on the development site and directing them to the cosy roosts nearby instead.

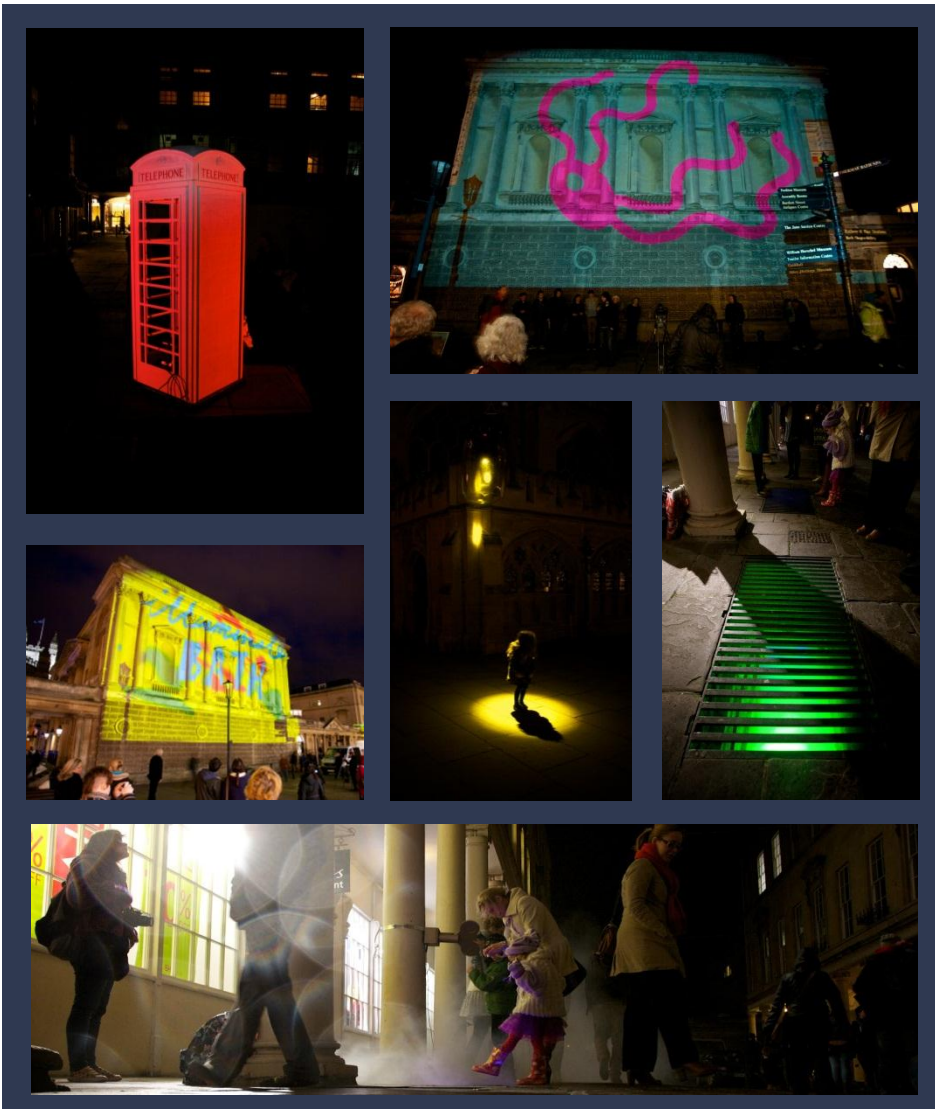
There are lots of other ways that the new development will help bat populations, including a sensitive lighting strategy and planting of native, nectar-rich shrubs to ensure foraging and commuting routes are retained and enhanced.

NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY

The [National Student Survey](#) (NSS) 2012 at Bath Spa University is now online! Entering its eighth year, the NSS gives students the opportunity to give their opinions on what they liked about their time at Bath Spa University, as well as things that they felt could have been improved.

Students are eligible for the NSS if they are in their final year of study. If the final year cannot easily be predicted, students are surveyed during the fourth year of study. If students were due to be in their fourth/final year in 2012 but have withdrawn or are repeating their penultimate year, they are also eligible.





ILLUMINATE BATH

Illuminate Bath returned for a second year bringing beautiful, playful and engaging projected artworks and installations to the city centre.

Banishing the gloom of January's long evenings, this festival of light included a number of original works in public spaces, all of which were completely free to explore.

Congratulations to the festival team for organising such a fantastic exhibition and to our students for creating such beautiful illuminations!

Special mentions go to Bath Spa University's RELAYS Cultural Co-ordinator, Arilda Tymko, the creative direction from our Senior Lecturer in Digital Design, Anthony Head and technical wizardry by Dani Landau.

See more images on the [Illuminate Bath website](#).

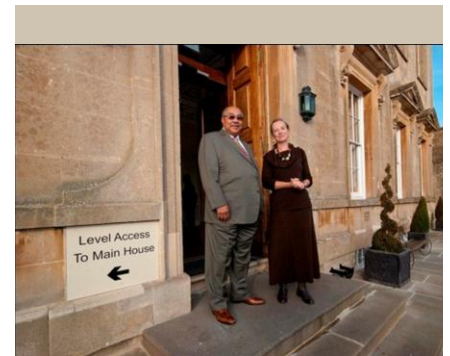
US COLLEGE PRESIDENT VISITS

Bath Spa University welcomed a visit from Dr Warwick Carter, President of [Columbia College Chicago](#). The visit built on the University's strategy to cement international relationships and Dr Carter took the opportunity to view exciting work from a range of students studying creative subjects and to explore future collaboration.

Both institutions share a history of very strong creative courses and are linked by a cornerstone partnership that has its roots in creative writing. This year there will be collaboration at a major US writing conference and joint projects running in film and media.

Dr Carter, who spent many years developing global education and live arts programmes for Walt Disney Entertainment, toured our beautiful campuses, art and design facilities, theatres and music studios. He also met with our new Vice-Chancellor Professor Christina Slade.

Our shared strength in fiction writing has been an excellent starting point for the partnership and Dr Steve May, Head of Department of Creative Writing, was "delighted to be building on our excellent links with Columbia College."



STUDENTS UNCOVER JOLLY'S HISTORY

Our History students need your help to compile a history of Jolly's of Bath. They are calling for local people to share their memories, photographs or any memorabilia that they have of the store.

The students hope to put on an exhibition are keen to add a human element to the story.

If you have any information on Jolly's history or know a past employee please email:

jollys.bsu@gmail.com



Jolly's has been a presence in Bath since James Jolly opened a seasonal shop in New Bond Street in 1823, and it has been trading in Milsom Street since 1831

VISIT FROM UNIVERSITE DE PARIS DIDEROT

On 16 January, a party of 25 Geography and Planning students from [Paris Diderot](#) took part in a 'talking tour' of Bath organized by Dr John Robb, Department of Social Sciences. They were accompanied by professeurs Sophie Baudet-Michel, Marianne Guérois and Sandrine Berroir who were in the region to meet experts from local Geography departments.

The focus of the morning was the historical geography of the city and the evolving tensions between the management of heritage resources, planning and development in the present day.

John was relieved to find that the students' understanding of English was excellent! He said: "Having taken students to France for many years I am very pleased to host a reciprocal trans-manche field event in our home city and hope that we can continue to work with Paris Diderot in the future."



Students from Paris Diderot enjoying their tour

INTERNSHIPS WITH PARRAGON BOOKS

The world's leading publisher of illustrated non-fiction books, [Parragon](#), is offering a new internship scheme to make the most of the wealth of original talent on Bath Spa University's Publishing degree course. Each paid placement runs for a period of 12 weeks and involves working within one of the company's editorial teams based in Bath.

Publishing course leader, Katharine Reeve, said: "I'm delighted that six of our students will walk straight into internships on graduation – it's a great start to what we hope will be long and fulfilling publishing careers."

PaRRagon

Bath • New York • Singapore • Hong Kong • Cologne • Delhi
Melbourne • Amsterdam • Johannesburg • Auckland • Shenzhen

APPETITE FOR LEARNING LANGUAGES

Following the announcement of a series of modern language courses for students earlier this month, all spaces filled up within three hours of the courses going live on Bath Spa CareerHub.

To meet the demand, a new 'Get by in Japanese' course has been added, plus a further Spanish course. Further opportunities to learn are likely to be added in due course, with planning already taking place for later in the year.

Around 100 students attended the information session to meet course organisers and tutors. They also met [Bath Spa Careers](#), [Writing & Learning Centre](#) and ERASMUS representatives, who were on hand to highlight the support and opportunities available for students.

Commenting on the huge interest in the programme, Adam Powell, Head of Employability said: "The interest from students is fantastic. We know that employers really value the ability to understand cultural differences and to be able to converse in a second language. With the jobs market as competitive as it is right now, additional skills such as this can sometimes be just enough to increase graduates' marketability and open new doors in terms of employment in the UK and overseas."

Designed as beginners' or refreshers' courses, each programme aims to help people develop conversational skills relevant to the modern world, whilst gaining wider cultural awareness. Presented by Bath Spa Careers in partnership with the School of Education - and delivered by native speakers - the programme is interactive and supported by online materials. It is designed to provide a platform for intermediate further studies.

Following enquiries from a number of staff from across the University about this learning opportunity, discussions are in the pipeline to explore whether similar courses could be offered to staff in the near future.



Everyone enjoyed Turkish cuisine

RACE IN EDUCATION

Bath Spa welcomed [Dialogue Society](#) of Bristol for a joint seminar this month. The event saw 25 people from the Turkish community joining our staff and students for a lively discussion about race and schooling.

The Dialogue Society is a registered charity with the aim of advancing social cohesion by connecting communities through dialogue. It does this by bringing people together through discussion forums, courses, capacity building publications and outreach.

In a short talk, Professor Stephen Ward, Dean of the School of Education, examined the ways in which British schools have responded to a changing post-war Britain as a multicultural, multiracial and multi-faith society.



Richard Bidgood (SU President), James Page (Estates Manager) Susanne Sutherland and Tim Holden (SU Membership Services Manager)

TRAVEL SURVEY WINNER

The 2011 travel survey was a huge success with participation increasing by over 50% when compared to the previous year. Thank you to everyone who took part.

Bath Spa University and Bath Spa Students' Union jointly administered the prize draw for the iPad and we are pleased to confirm that Susanne Sutherland from Newton Park Library services was the lucky winner. Congratulations to Susanne!

IN THE LOOP: HOTELS TO HOSPITALS

In the second of our 'In the loop' feature, we are sharing some of the relationships members of the employability team are developing with external partners. Here's a snapshot of what they have been up to...

In a joint meeting with Bath School of Art & Design, the team met with dcav8, a fascinating global travel retail business which has relocated to Batheaston. They explored placement, project and employment opportunities for students. The team has also spent recent months continuing to source placement opportunities and industry mentors with Chicken House Publishing.

Links with Bath and North East Somerset Council have grown with discussions about a new placement programme, exclusively for BSU students. Adam Powell, Head of Employability, also met with Cllr Nathan Hartley, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children and Youth with responsibility for Skills and Employment. Cllr Hartley – himself a BSU graduate (Study of Religions, 2005) – was keen to learn more about the efforts the university is taking to support students and graduates, with a particular emphasis on engaging local business and promoting graduate retention in the area.

At the Bath Life Christmas Drinks, Bath Spa University met with a range of local business owners including Bath Energy Centre, Media Clash, Frome- and Bath-based boutique retailer Boho, Bath Contemporary and You're so invited ..., a business start-up bespoke party organiser.

Job Shop continued to add to its inventory of part-time and seasonal vacancies through discussions with the General Manager and HR Manager of Hilton Bath City. Following a meeting with the Director of HR, RUH Bath Trust, they also caught up with the latest developments regarding recruitment in the local healthcare sector, ensuring the University remains well-placed to benefit from employment and mentoring opportunities.

Finally, they found out more about local plans to develop a creative and digital hub in the centre of Bath and how our enterprising students, graduates and staff could benefit from such an initiative set to launch in early 2012.





PHOTOCOPYING SURVEY

Each year the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) visits 15 universities to undertake a photocopying survey. The CLA have confirmed that they will be visiting us between 6 February and 23 March 2012.

The survey itself is undertaken by the CLA Survey Operations Team and is used to allocate licence fees for distribution to copyright holders.

The schools and locations that are being surveyed are:

- Newton Park and Sion Hill Libraries
- The School of Education
- The School of Science, Society and Management
- The School of Humanities & Cultural industries.

The survey itself is relatively straightforward and further details will be made available nearer the time in the locations that are being surveyed.

In the meantime the [CLA website](#) provides thorough information.

Should you have any further questions please contact James Page, Estates Manager on x5426 or by [email](#).



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION VISIT

On 25 January 25 colleagues in the School of Education met with representatives from five Israeli Arab Colleges to discuss teacher education. The visit was organised by the British Council who had recommended Bath Spa University as an outstanding provider of initial teacher education. There was a sharing of experiences and good practice in teacher education. Bath Spa staff were invited back to Israel for further collaboration.

GRANT AWARDED TO INFORMATION SERVICES

Congratulations to the Information Services department on receiving a £80K competitively awarded grant.

The grant will fund the second stage of the [JISC Course Data](#) programme to help fulfil the increasing demand for course data in the UK education system. The project will start in January 2012, and finishes in March 2013.

RECOGNITION FOR RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT

Bath Spa University has achieved the HR Excellence in Research Award from the European Commission. Twelve new universities have now been given the accolade bringing the UK total to just 50 higher education institutions recognised in this way.

The award highlights support being provided for the professional development of researchers.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Following our travel survey results, Firstbus is now working on a revised timetable including revisions to the 'SPA2' service which will better serve Waterside Court and Charlton Court residences whilst also picking up at the Windsor Bridge Road and Newbridge Road locations.

Firstbus has indicated that a draft timetable will be available for consultation during February 2012.

STUDENT SUCCESS



"I studied and gained a degree in Food, Nutrition and Consumer Protection and I loved it."



£3 MILLION TASTE BUDS

Bath Spa University graduate Eleanor Freeman's specialist skills are so valuable that she just had her taste buds insured for £3 million!

Eleanor is a senior snack inventor at graze.com which delivers tasty, nutritious snacks to grazers up and down the country. The hand-picked snacks are delivered in the post and provide a healthy alternative to naughty snack temptations.

Eleanor gets to taste the best ingredients in the world when visiting suppliers like bakers or nut roasters. She also tracks down new foods and recently found the Lingonberry which is foraged in the Nordics and is set to be the new super berry for 2012.

Commenting on her time at Bath Spa University, Eleanor said: "I studied and gained a degree in Food, Nutrition and Consumer Protection and I loved it. The course was very varied, learning about all aspects of food including microbiology, legislation and nutrition. It provided a great foundation for working in the industry.

"It was the Product Development module that I really enjoyed and was inspired to do a year in industry in my 3rd year in a product development team. Whilst searching for the placement, and during my year in industry, I was really encouraged and supported by my tutor Iain Haysom.

"I went to work for Innocent Drinks which was brilliant experience and I was offered a full time job there when I finished my degree; I was there for 3 ½ years before I joined the graze.com team.

"I now get to taste thousands of different foods every year. I've always been very sensitive to different tastes so working at graze.com has provided the perfect opportunity to make the most of my palate. Unlike many taste connoisseurs, I'm not tied to a specific food type so I love being able to come up with new and exciting creations for our grazers."

ATHLETE'S ACCOLADE

Business Administration and Geography student Jamie Cooke has been named winner of the British Olympic Association Modern Pentathlon Olympic Athlete of the Year Award. It came at the end of a season that saw him achieve the London 2012 qualification standard and win the World Junior Championships.

Cooke's stunning 2011 saw him climb to second in the junior world rankings and 14th in the senior world rankings.

The 20-year-old has also established himself as the fastest swimmer on the senior circuit, breaking modern pentathlon 200m freestyle world records in three successive swims in competitions in the summer.





The 3F jacket

ISPO AWARD

Sandra Doerfel (Year 2 MA in Fashion and Textiles) has won the [ISPO award](#) for 'Outdoor Style' with a waterproof outerwear jacket that she designed using fabric from [Sympatex](#).

The international jury consisted of journalists, retailers, athletes and designers from nine countries. They debated 262 applications to select the winners based on innovation, design and performance. The recyclable and highly functional outdoor jacket, which is produced in an eco-friendly way, convinced the jury in the newly established 'Outdoor Style' category.

The detailed statement from the prestigious international jury said: "The 3F jacket crosses over from style to outdoor. This is the future of many of the clothing brands since there are a lot of people who do not feel comfortable with the existing outdoor styles."

The ISPO Award is one of the most important prizes in the sports equipment industry.

ON THE CATWALK

Congratulations to Rebecca Head and Haf Evans; the Year 3 Fashion Design students are having their work exhibited at Vauxhall Fashion Scout during London Fashion Week. This following a national design competition run by Fashion Awareness Direct.

In other fashion news, graduate Lucy Penny has been causing a stir after being selected as one of ten finalists to have her collection 'Skin Deep' shown on the catwalks of Paris. Her collection appeared at the [Who's Next](#) fashion show. It was part of the 'Fame' area of the show at Porte de Versailles.

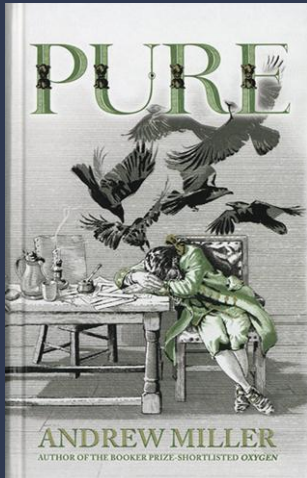
Lucy describes the collection as 'a contemporary feminine womenswear collection, inspired by the beauty of the human figure'.

Since graduating, Lucy has been working at Karen Millen as a footwear and accessories design protégé. This has enabled her knowledge of the industry to grow immensely. She has had a number of designs included in forthcoming collections, as well as being given the responsibility of coordinating accessories and initiating belt, glove and jewellery designs.



One of Lucy Penny's designs

STAFF STORIES



COSTA BOOK AWARD WINNER

Andrew Miller, Bath Spa University Lecturer in Creative Writing, has won the Costa Books Awards beating stiff competition to the prize. His sixth novel, *Pure*, scooped Costa's 'Best Novel' earlier this month and has now been crowned overall winner of 'Costa Book of the Year'.

Pure was highly commended by the judges: "A structurally and stylistically flawless historical novel, this book is a gripping story, beautifully written and emotionally satisfying. A novel without a weakness from an author who we all feel deserves a wider readership."

[See an interview with Andrew Miller by the BBC.](#)

PICK OF THE WEEK

In 2007 Professor Maria Lalic was commissioned by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery to make site specific paintings to be installed in its £20 million refurbishment and extension.

The commissioned paintings, funded by the Arts Council of England, are from Maria's 'Colour and Metal' series - in which artists' colour is placed in relation to the metals from which they are derived - and were installed in November 2011.

They are sited in relation to the orientation of the building's walls to face historic sites of metal production. The largest work is 'Lead and Ten Colours' and when facing the painting one is also facing Priddy in the Mendips, the site of St Cuthbert's Roman lead mine.

The Museum and Art Gallery re-opened to the public on 16 December and the exhibition has received critical acclaim, including the Guardian newspaper's 'Pick of the Week'.



'Lead and Ten Colours' by Maria Lalic and the installation team at Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery



[See the trailer for 'Paper Hearts'](#)

FILM FESTIVAL SELECTION

Robert Brown, Lecturer in Film and Creative Production at Bath Spa University, saw his film 'Paper Hearts' screened at the London Short Film Festival on 13 January. The film had already obtained backing from Hollywood actor Kevin Spacey and received positive reviews whilst showing at Rushes Soho Shorts, Singapore International Film Festival and Leeds International Film Festival.

The film tells the story of a dysfunctional father and son and tackles perceptions of homelessness.

BBC HISTORY EXPERT

Professor Iftikhar Malik, Senior Lecturer in History, has been providing expert comment on judicial activism in Pakistan and Pakistan's political situation and developments. The interviews were aired on BBC World TV, BBC News and BBC radio stations across the UK.

OBE FOR FORMER VC

Professor Frank Morgan, who retired as Bath Spa University Vice-Chancellor in December 2011, has received an OBE for services to Higher Education. The New Year honours list announcement follows 15 years in the post of the University's Vice-Chancellor and 25 years' service at the University.

Professor Morgan's retirement followed a career of very significant accomplishment, steering the then Bath College of Higher Education to University College status in 1999 and University title in 2005.

NEXT MONTH

Don't forget to keep us informed of all you news throughout February to make sure it appears in the next issue.

Send your stories to:

t.griffiths@bathspa.ac.uk

Deadline:

20 February 2012

STAFF NEWS

STARTERS

Graham Gribble - Maintenance Electrician, Estates
Jonathan Brain - Cleaner/Caretaker, Corsham Court
Charlie Drewitt - Developer, Information Services

LEAVERS

Zara Johnson - Quality Assurance Manager for Continuing Professional Development, School of Education
Sandra Randall - Lodge Cleaner, Domestic Services
Alison Kennedy - PA to the Vice-Chancellor
Frank Morgan - Vice-Chancellor
Duncan Welsh - Events Manager, School of Music and Performing Arts
Barbara Stentaforde - General Kitchen Assistant, Catering
Darren Kelsey - Lecturer: Media Communications, School of Humanities and Cultural Industries
Terence Cook - Gardener, Estates

IN THE TWITTERSPHERE...



Ralph Salmins @ralphsalmins

24 Jan

Really enjoyed my lecture at Bath Spa University. Everyone seemed very switched on...looks like a great course. The drummers were great

Retweeted by Bath Spa University



Bath LitFest @BathLitFest

24 Jan

Learn about what Bath Spa University students will be up to during the festival on their rather lovely looking blog:

voicesofbath.wordpress.com/about/

Retweeted by Bath Spa University

[View media](#)

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www.facebook.com/bath.spa.university