

## WELCOME

The second edition of Freshers' Hartbeat provides you with a further insight into life at UWE Hartpury. We have spoken to some of our existing students and asked them what information they would find really useful at this time of year before coming. Included is information on some of the processes you will need to follow, on life at UWE Hartpury and some information on what our students do after they graduate.

Don't forget the information here complements the information you will have received via UWE and the welcome portal. We will also be building up information on the Hartpury website as we get closer to the start of term – **have a look at 'Starting in 2012' on the right hand side of the front page of [www.hartpury.ac.uk](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk).**

## Higher Education students are in the news!



*The BUCS winning rugby squad*

It has been an exciting year for our Higher Education students so far, with some outstanding achievements and experiences had by all. Despite being two thirds of the way through the academic year, there is so much more to come! Our sports academies continue to go from strength to strength with **our rugby team winning the BUCS Championship Final at Twickenham** at the end of March for the fourth time. Sixteen of our animal and land science students are about to embark on an amazing trip to a wildlife conservation and game reserve in South Africa as part of their academic studies. You can see where they are going at [www.mankwewildlifereserve.net](http://www.mankwewildlifereserve.net). Over Easter our equine students are supporting the Blue Chip Winter Show Jumping Championships and NAF Five Star Winter Dressage Championships being held here at Hartpury.

Many of our Foundation degree and degree students are firming up placement opportunities for the summer. Supported by tutors and our Work Placement Administrator, students are choosing placements that will help them to put theory into practice; develop new links within the industry and gain invaluable references to support them when applying for jobs after graduation. Current placements include a range of rugby and football clubs, including Gloucester Rugby, dairy and arable farms, including one in New Zealand, animal rescue and shelter centres, polo and other equine competition centres. Great opportunities for all students involved!

## Term dates for next year... useful for planning your holidays!

Week beginning	Activity
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Arrival and the start of Welcome Week
10 <sup>th</sup> September	Welcome Week including Fresher's and academic induction
17 <sup>th</sup> September – 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Teaching
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Assessments
17 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> December	Winter holiday
7 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Assessments
21 <sup>st</sup> Jan – 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Teaching
1 <sup>st</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Spring holiday
22 <sup>nd</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Teaching
6 <sup>th</sup> May – 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Assessments
12 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> August	Summer assessments (largely resubmissions)

*Full details are on the Hartpury website under 'Hartpury Life' and 'Term dates'.*

"I have been continually impressed with the involvement of students from Hartpury. Their roles have included assisting with the build-up and breakdown, score collection at the Dressage Championships and this year they will be working as an arena party with the course designer for the 2012 Olympics."

**Kelvin Bywater,**  
Show Organiser for the Blue Chip and NAF Winter Championships

**STOP the press!** Accommodation applications are open now! Application forms are available on the Hartpury website... First year applications received by the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2012 are given priority.

Follow us on



Join us on





The Equine Therapy Centre



Work experience

## Benefits of Higher Education... unlocking new and exciting doors

With the ever-increasing financial pressures of student life, and the increasingly competitive job market, Hartpury has embedded key strategies to support our students in order to gain employment upon graduation. The success of this is illustrated by the steadily rising percentage of students in employment within six months of successfully completing their programme of study.

**This success is closely related to our students joining and completing the following:**

### Graduate Development Programme (GDP)

- GDP encourages students to reflect and critically review their career development, from commencing their studies to employment potential and possibilities.
- GDP helps you identify key employability skills (such as leadership, time management etc.) which graduate employers say they require from new recruits.
- The GDP encourages the development of specific academic skills to support the full achievement of student potential.

### Employability linked assessment

- Assessments for different modules will be of many varied types, including (depending on module choices) writing information leaflets, case studies, report writing, oral presentations, writing scientific papers, practical skills, fieldwork and production of posters. These provide a valuable learning experience in developing the skills required for graduate level employment.
- Many of our programmes embed work placements within modules thus ensuring students gain hands-on experience. See our HE work placements page. Employer feedback highlights this as key to developing CVs that stand out from the crowd.

### Study Week

- Study Week is offered twice a year, mid semester. Students are given the opportunity to attend training sessions, seminars, professional recognised courses and workshops that will develop appropriate skills for their programme and for future employability. Regular careers events at both UWE and Hartpury provide an opportunity to meet employers, acquire further information and identify opportunities. Networking is a crucial part of the search for information and the development of industry contacts.

### Work experience

- Work experience is also considered particularly valuable by employers. Students on both foundation and honours degrees are encouraged to seek out and take up relevant opportunities, for paid or voluntary work experience, in addition to modular requirements. Contacts with local and national employers and volunteer organisations are actively promoted, giving students the opportunity to gain experience, develop new skills, and/or upgrade existing skills.

### Careers advice

- Guest speakers from relevant industries are a regular feature of Hartpury life.
- A wide range of training days and short courses are available to students at a significant discount, thus giving students the opportunity to acquire valuable new skills or upgrade and refresh old ones.
- Students are encouraged to develop and review their career goals, target appropriate strategies, and develop CV writing and interview skills.
- Students are also encouraged to take full advantage of the services and resources offered by UWE/Hartpury Careers, other sources of support such as UWE Volunteering and the Students' Union, as well as other relevant staff within their departments.

### DID YOU KNOW?

96.1% of our 2010 graduates gained employment or went on to further study, within six months of successfully completing their courses. This compares with 95.4% in 2009, and 91.2% in 2008.

If Hartpury was considered as a stand-alone institution, it would have been 9<sup>th</sup> nationally in terms of employability.



"The best part of the MA Sports Management course is the practical work-based element. The applied industry management module gives you 25 days work experience; this combined with my graduate assistant role in the marketing department really prepares you for the working environment and gives you the skills employers want. The campus at Hartpury provides a great setting for both studying and playing sport. The lecturers are also very supportive and always trying to get the best out of you which has really enhanced my experience at Hartpury."

**Russell Westcott**

## Student Study Week



Students at Study Week

Student Study Week was once again a huge success with a wide range of activities on offer to students in the Animal and Land Sciences team. Over 100 ALS students participated in activities, which included a lambing and foot-trimming training course, a "How to be a Zoo-Keeper" day at Cotswold Wildlife Park and an Animal First Aid course. For the first time an ALS student ran a workshop; Emily Birch (BSc (Hons) Animal Behaviour and Welfare) led an Introduction to Dog Agility, which was very popular with participants. Getting students more involved in the running of Study Week certainly added an additional dimension to proceedings, and highlights the talent and ability of Hartpury students.

The focus of this Study Week was "Aspirations", so activities particularly looked at how students can raise their achievements and gain the job of their dreams. This was addressed when teaching staff from across HE spoke to students regarding CV development, volunteering and increasing their skill set, ready for the world of work.

Student Study Week is going from strength to strength, with more activities already planned for the next event in October 2012.

### Don't be a stranger... You are welcome to our:

- **Careers Morning:** additional date of the 28<sup>th</sup> April
- **Open Day:** Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June from 10.00am to 4.00pm
- **Summer Events:**
  - › International Dressage: 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> July
  - › International Eventing: 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> August
- **Clearing Open Day:** 18<sup>th</sup> August
- **Welcome Weekend:** 9<sup>th</sup> September

Find out more and register at  
[www.hartpury.ac.uk](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk)

**Any questions in the meantime...**  
Don't hesitate to ask us directly:  
[academic.systems@hartpury.ac.uk](mailto:academic.systems@hartpury.ac.uk)

## Where are they now?...

### 10 students whose careers are within the industries they studied

Name	Course	Position
Laura Tennant	BSc (Hons) Animal Science	Research Assistant
Pauline Addis	MSc Equine Science	Completed a PhD with the University of Newcastle
Sara Alan-Smith	FdSc Animal Behavior and Welfare	Assistant Manager for Blue Cross
Sam Whyley	BSc (Hons) Equine Management	International Groom in Canada
Lucie Stangl	BSc (Hons) Equine Science	Education Officer for World Horse Welfare
Andrew Cole	BS (Hons) Agriculture and Land Management	Assistant Farm Manager, Cotswold Farm Park, Glos.
Luke Kavanagh	BSc (Hons) Sports Conditioning and Coaching	Sports Therapist/Personal Trainer at Core Strength Studios
Alessandro Johnson	BA (Hons) Sport Business Management	Events Coordinator & Admin at VU Ltd
Kate Middleton	BSc (Hons) Equine Science	European Client Manger, VetCell (Pharmaceuticals)
Jason Poole	BSc (Hons) Sports Coaching	Professional Tennis Coach

### 10 students who used their degrees to enter some more unusual careers

Name	Course	Position
Glynda Swaine	BSc (Hons) Animal Science	Finance
January Roberts	BSc (Hons) Animal Science	International team administrator for British Dressage
Melanie Lean	BSc (Hons) Equestrian Sport Science	Studying Veterinary Medicine in Europe
Sarah Loxton	FdSc / BSc (Hons) Equine Science	Working for Grandstand Media
Katherine Ward	BA (Hons) Equine Business Management	Sales Executive for Coca Cola
Xiang Tong	BA (Hons) Agricultural Business Management	Import and sales of BMW cars to China
Joseph Randall	BA (Hons) Sport Business Management	Manager, Shore Excursions - UK & Ireland at Intercruises Shoreside and Port Services
Miles McAlister	BSc (Hons) Sports Coaching	Works for McLaren F1
Ben Lovett	BSc (Hons) Sports Studies and MSc Sports Coaching	Works for a drugs rehabilitation project
Tom Lawton	BSc (Hons) Agriculture and Conservation	Wildlife ranger taking part in crocodile, cassowary and general wildlife management in Australia.



"I graduated in 2007 and moved to Australia. I worked as a crocodile research assistant at Australia zoo but now work for the Australian government in north Queensland as a wildlife ranger taking part in crocodile, cassowary and general wildlife management."

**Tom Lawton**

## Things to consider between now and starting at UWE Hartpury

### APRIL/MAY

- ☑ Have you confirmed UWE Hartpury as your FIRM choice with UCAS? Deadline is 9<sup>th</sup> May!
- ☑ Don't forget to make your finance applications for student funding through student finance.
- ☑ Have you applied for Hartpury based accommodation? You will receive confirmation of your allocation after the 1<sup>st</sup> June if we received your application by the 9<sup>th</sup> May.\*
- ☑ Have you submitted your DIY (do it yourself) Livery application if you want to bring your own horse?\*

### JUNE/JULY

- ☑ Good luck in your exams!
- ☑ Have you been to the campus? If not join us at our Open Day on the 9<sup>th</sup> June.\*
- ☑ Keep in touch with Hartpury news by joining us on Facebook and Twitter.\*
- ☑ Time to take a well-earned holiday - make sure you have a proper break after the stress of the exams.
- ☑ Working over the summer can help you build up key savings before coming to University... it can also provide invaluable references, learning opportunities and the potential to return there as a placement student (if you have a placement as part of your course).

### AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

- ☑ Exam results - good luck, and fingers crossed you gain the qualifications you need.
- ☑ Make sure you regularly check your email account - you will receive emails from the UWE welcome website about information they require such as exam results as well as essential information you need.
- ☑ Check the Hartpury website 'Starting September 2012' for joining information specific to Hartpury. This will include everything from equipment you need to buy, key text books, to arrival times and Student Union / Fresher's activities.
- ☑ You will receive the final Freshers' Hartbeat which will include all the information about which forms to complete and send to us, alongside other essential information.
- ☑ **9<sup>th</sup> September = Welcome Week!** 😊  
On the Sunday, all new students will arrive on campus, with Fresher's events starting in Legends Bar that night. From Monday to Friday, Fresher's events will continue alongside academic induction and by the end of the week you will know the campus, fellow students and academic staff really well.

\*Information is available on the Hartpury website [www.hartpury.ac.uk](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk)

## WELCOME WEEK... what is it all about?

Welcome Week starts on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September when all new students arrive on campus. This is an opportunity to meet other students and staff, and if you are based in Hartpury accommodation, move in and find your feet. On arrival, go to the Sports Academy where you will be greeted by academic staff and receive a timetable for the academic induction which starts 9am Monday morning. You will be shown to your accommodation and helped to settle in and unpack, with help provided by returning students and support staff, who can answer lots of questions – everything from where the nearest supermarket is to what time the bar opens! If you are not living in Hartpury managed accommodation, you will have a campus tour and an opportunity to relax, meet some other first years and the academic team. Sunday night kicks off Fresher's activities with an event in the bar... a great way to get out there and meet new friends!

From Monday, a range of academic induction activities start – everything from meeting the other students on your course, your tutor, completing module choices forms to facility inductions. This is a great time to really understand where your course can take you in terms of knowledge, experiences and of careers. Don't worry if when you arrive and think perhaps this may not be the right course for you... every year we have a few students who swap within the first three weeks from one programme to another. In fact it can be a good idea to attend lectures from different courses during the first couple of weeks to make sure this is the course for you.

Lots of our students make lifelong friends during Fresher's activities throughout Welcome Week. Activities run every evening from Sunday to Friday, and have included bands, DJs, traffic light parties and pub crawls... your first experience of student nightlife in Gloucester! There is also the Fresher's Fair which is a great way to find out about the clubs, societies and activities you can join in during your time at UWE Hartpury. As the week goes on, the academic Induction becomes quieter to allow you to make as much of the Fresher's activities during this first week.

