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Annual Report 07/08

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HULL**



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# Foreword



Having entered its 80th anniversary year, the University continued to pursue and fulfil its strategic aims in a progressive and successful 2007/08 session. The enhancement of our distinctive academic provision and student experience, the extension of our commitment to inclusion and support, and the development of our international outlook were among our foremost priorities. External validation from sources such as the National Student Survey, the International Student Barometer and the World University Rankings confirmed that we made substantial progress with these priorities.



Our HEFCE-funded and international undergraduate intake increased by 7% to 3,364 students for the 2007/08 academic year; of these, 2,839 were from the UK and other EU countries, and 525 were from outside the EU.

Appropriately, many of the successes of 2007/08 reflected the institution's distinguished 80-year tradition of carrying out pioneering research. Some of our ground-breaking activities this year were endorsed by the Prime Minister, earned plaudits from the European Commission and received high-profile news coverage across the world.

In the international arena, Hull continued to develop its role within the worldwide GU8 group of universities and strengthened links with education providers and government bodies in Europe, Africa, North America and Asia. Additionally, the University's partnership with the World Trade Centre Hull & Humber is helping us to form links with international businesses.

We extended our reach-out and partnership-working operations this year, reinforcing links with institutions in the further education sector and engaging more deeply with the regional community and local businesses. In terms of providing expertise and research, the University's contributions to businesses this year had a total financial value in

excess of £19 million. The University's overall economic impact in the region is of the order of £300 million.

The University's programme of capital investment in both campuses has continued apace: this expenditure totalled £17 million in 2007/08 and has exceeded £75 million across the last five years. Several significant projects came to fruition during 2007/08, and many other ongoing developments in the University's infrastructure and facilities are scheduled for completion in the coming academic year.

We look forward to further progress and successes in 2008/09.

*John Standen,  
Chairman of the University Council*

*Professor David Drewry,  
Vice-Chancellor*

## The Vice-Chancellor's position

At the July meeting of the University Council, Professor David Drewry announced his decision to retire as Vice-Chancellor, effective at the end of August 2009. As Chairman of Council, I am leading the search for his successor – a process which has already begun.

Replacing Professor Drewry is a challenging task: in his nine-year tenure as Vice-Chancellor thus far, David has guided the University to many key successes which, collectively, leave the University ideally poised for further progress.

A more detailed tribute and retrospective of Professor Drewry's time in office will appear in the University's 2008/09 Annual Report.

*John Standen*

# An outstanding student experience

## National Student Survey performance

The 2007 National Student Survey (NSS) placed Hull in the national top 10 (and joint first in the North) among mainstream English universities for overall student satisfaction. This represented the University's third consecutive national top-10 placing. The NSS is the most widely recognised and authoritative method of evaluating the student experience. The survey assesses students' opinions of the quality of their degree programmes, culminating in an 'overall satisfaction' mark.

Results highlighted improvement in student opinion as the University has listened and responded to student feedback; the NSS recorded year-on-year improvement in organisation and management and in learning resources. Students gave the University's programmes in French and physical sciences the highest satisfaction rates in the country, while our degrees in American studies, marketing, teacher training, sociology, chemistry and psychology achieved top-five national ratings.

## International Student Barometer

The University was ranked second overall in the International Student Barometer (ISB), a comparative study tracking international students' opinions of education abroad. Fifty-six institutions participated in the ISB, with the results indicating that international students rated learning experiences and living experiences among the University's major successes, with support services a close second. Encouragingly, some 87% of the University's international graduates would recommend it as a place to study, compared with the survey-wide average of 76%. Students also awarded the University high satisfaction levels for its sports facilities, social activities, students' union, Graduate School and International Office; many other services were ranked in the top five of their respective categories.

## Students showcase talent in national drama festival

Drama students from the University overcame intense competition to have two of their plays selected for the prestigious National Student Drama Festival, held in Scarborough in March. The festival is a week-long celebration of theatre and live performance. More than 100 pieces initially competed for just 12 available places, so to have two University productions selected is a notable achievement. One of the plays chosen for the festival was the University's performance of Martin Crimp's *Fewer Emergencies*; the other, *Strict Machine*, is a two-woman show created by Helen Goalen and Abbi Greenland, both students at the University.

## National award for Hull University Union

Hull University Union underwent its first assessment by the Students' Union Evaluation Initiative (SUEI) in April 2008, and was one of only two universities nationally to receive a silver award. Part-funded by the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills, the SUEI is an assessment model that assists in improving the services delivered to National Union of Students members by indicating areas for improvement.

The students' union scored especially highly in the categories of stewardship and planning, showing itself to be a well-managed organisation at all levels that balances its various services and activities and incorporates key success factors into individual objectives and action plans. The audit noted that 'a performance culture is embedded within the staff of the union'.



The cast of Fewer Emergencies.



Hull students: the most satisfied in the North.



The Hull University Union delegation receiving their award from Lord Young in the House of Commons.

# Developments in teaching and learning

## **European award for Department of Modern Languages**

For the third time in five years, the Department of Modern Languages won the coveted European Award for Languages – on this occasion for its 'Crossing Cultures' programme. Dr Marina Mozzon-McPherson accepted the award from Sir Trevor McDonald, OBE, at a ceremony at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium in November 2007. 'Crossing Cultures' is a national scheme aimed at increasing the knowledge and enthusiasm of talented GCSE and A level language students, delivered through face-to-face events, an online learning programme and online language and culture study groups.

## **Students learn via YouTube**

Digital Media lecturer Rob Consoli of the Scarborough School of Arts and New Media began using the video website YouTube to deliver tutorials, citing the fact that students prefer to learn design software packages outside the classroom – which also frees up more class time for design history and theory. More than 30,000 people have viewed Rob's presentations online; his portion of the site continues to receive 2,000 visits every week. Sponsored by the University's internal Innovations in Student Learning Fund, the videos are the result of a collaboration between lecturers, technicians and students.

## **Taking the stress out of studying**

Dr Peter Clough emphasised the value of effective stress management in education by helping students to hone their stress management techniques to increase the likelihood of future exam success. First-year Psychology students are to complete a questionnaire assessing their level of mental toughness. The findings will be used to tailor and implement a programme of appropriate teaching and pastoral care to make students mentally tougher and more emotionally intelligent.

## **Online Masters for serving soldiers**

The University launched its new online MA in International Studies and Security, which is perfect for current Armed Forces personnel. Delivered through eBridge, the University's virtual learning environment, the course provides a purpose-built secure website through which students can access course notes. They can also seek help from tutors and take part in political debates with fellow students at any time of the day or night, and from whichever country they are stationed in. Topics on the course include global economics, nuclear strategy, the relationship between politics and war, and governments around the world.



Dr Marina Mozzon-McPherson receives the European Award for Languages from Sir Trevor McDonald.



Rob Consoli films a lecture for YouTube.

# Research and innovation at the heart of the institution

## **Prime Minister endorses award-winning VERT**

The Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, MP, and the Secretary of State for Health, Alan Johnson, MP, endorsed the Virtual Environment Radiotherapy Training (VERT) system, which subsequently became part of the Government's Cancer Reform Strategy. VERT is being installed in every radiotherapy unit around the country, and all future trainee radiographers will be instructed in its use.

Developed by Professor Roger Phillips and James Ward of the University's Hull Immersive Visualization Environment and Professor Andy Beavis of Hull's Princess Royal Hospital, with Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council funding, VERT allows trainee radiographers to learn to treat cancer in a virtual replica of a radiation therapy suite. The project won the prestigious BT Flagship Award for Innovation at the British Computer Society IT Industry Awards and scooped the Innovation Award at the Medilink Yorkshire and Humber Healthcare Business Awards.

## **Antidepressants paper makes global headlines**

Research into antidepressants and clinical trial reportage by the Psychology Department's Professor Irving Kirsch made worldwide front-page headlines in February. A paper authored by Professor Kirsch and colleagues raised serious issues surrounding drug licensing and clinical trial data, highlighting the fact that antidepressants have no clinically significant effect on most patients.

The paper included studies that had been withheld from publication, obtained using the Freedom of Information Act. With this previously unpublished data included, the improvement in patients on antidepressants was shown to be clinically insignificant in the vast majority of cases when compared with a placebo. As well as receiving high-profile coverage in Australia, America and China, the story figured in every UK national newspaper and was the lead item on many national television news bulletins.

## **European Commission praises INCOFISH**

Funded by the European Union Sixth Framework Programme, INCOFISH (Integrating Multiple Demands on Coastal Zones with Emphasis on Fisheries and Aquatic Ecosystems) is a collaboration between marine scientists and historians from across the world, including staff from the University's Maritime Historical Studies Centre. In summer 2008, the European Commission selected the project – from among 10,000 framework awards – as one of 40 'success stories' for its research into humans' demands on coastal areas, particularly in developing countries.

## **Telehealth system saves NHS man-hours**

In partnership with Hull City Council, Hull Churches Home from Hospital Service and Hull and East Riding Hospitals NHS Trust, the University launched the Telehealth programme in September 2007. Led by John Cleland, Professor of Cardiology at the University, Telehealth is Britain's first mainstream, large-scale deployment of equipment to enable patients with heart problems to monitor their condition at home.

Users measure their own weight, heart rate, blood oxygen levels, blood pressure and glucose levels, then transmit the data to a central NHS computer through a device connected to their telephone. The computer analysis highlights any worrying trends before forwarding the information to a nurse or doctor – creating a medical 'radar' system to identify potential problems earlier. Telehealth has already prevented hundreds of avoidable hospital admissions in Hull, and a roll-out of the home monitoring packages is planned across other UK cities.

### **A world first for endoscopy**

In December 2007, a partnership between the University and Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust successfully piloted the world's first endoscopy training programme for people from a non-medical background. As part of a Department of Health initiative to address the shortage of endoscopy professionals, nine students – from a variety of backgrounds, and including administration staff, a clinical physiologist and a healthcare assistant – took the BSc in Gastroenterology and Endoscopy course. They received tutoring at the University and hands-on training during one-day visits to the trust throughout the year. All nine students passed successfully and are now contributing to endoscopy services.

### **Domesday Book transformed**

The Department of History's Professor John Palmer and George Slater, Computing Services' Executive and Programme Manager, collaborated to complete the world's first complete electronic version of the Domesday Book. Complete with interlinked translation, facsimile, databases, mapping and scholarly commentary, the software earned a grade of 'outstanding' from the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

### **The Ellen Terry and Edith Craig database**

The Arts and Humanities Research Council awarded Dr Katharine Cockin of the English Department an £87,750 grant. This funded the Dame Ellen Terry and Edith Craig Database Project, which describes one of the UK's most significant theatre archives: the papers of the Victorian actress Dame Ellen Terry and her daughter; the theatre director and suffrage activist Edith Craig. The papers (including correspondence from George Bernard Shaw, J M Barrie and Lewis Carroll) were donated to the National Trust in 1939 but this is the first time that the collection has been made fully available to researchers.



The Secretary of State for Health, Alan Johnson, MP, tries out the Telehealth system.



Dr David Starkey, Director of the Maritime Historical Studies Centre.



Non-medical professionals on the endoscopy training programme.

# Developing the campuses

## The Enterprise Centre

Construction began on the £2 million Enterprise Centre in December 2007. The first of its kind in the region, the centre provides a leading-edge development resource to support entrepreneurship and innovation in the area. It is aimed at University students, graduates and staff who wish to set up their own company – helping them to progress their ideas from the conceptual stage through the start-up process and into a working business.

Along with fully serviced offices, meeting and video conference rooms, the centre provides information and training, consultancy services and intellectual property licensing, plus access to a wealth of expertise available on campus and introductions to mentors, potential investors and business support agencies. It is part-funded by Yorkshire Forward and the European Regional Development Fund.

## The Logistics Institute

Richard Lambert, Director-General of the CBI, formally opened the Logistics Institute in March 2008. The only dedicated facility of its type in northern England, the institute brings together the University's strengths in business logistics and communications technologies.

The institute is already a considerable asset as the area seeks to become a global logistics hub. As the UK's largest port conurbation – handling 16% of trade imports – the Humber region was identified in the Government's Northern Way strategy as the 'global gateway', linking the north of England, the Midlands and Scotland. The institute was also awarded the ISO 9001:2000 quality standard – the internationally recognised standard for internal quality management.

## University House

Areas of University House underwent a period of intensive refurbishment during the 2007/08 academic year, costing £2.4 million. A joint project between the University and the students' union saw the construction of an exterior staircase to improve access; and a redevelopment of the building's third floor created the Student Support Centre, bringing all student welfare and careers advice services together under one roof in a state-of-the-art facility.

## Campus integration

The £3 million site integration project – linking the east and west sides of Hull Campus with a pedestrianised, hard-landscaped plaza – proceeded apace. When completed in the 2008/09 academic year, the development will provide improved access, additional car-parking spaces and a visually striking entrance to the campus.



The Logistics Institute reception area.



The redeveloped University House entrance.



The Enterprise Centre.

# Investing in partnerships and the community



The Medical Research and Teaching Centre at Castle Hill Hospital.

## The Daisy Appeal

The £6.5m Hull and East Yorkshire Medical Research and Teaching Centre, based at Castle Hill Hospital in Cottingham, opened in July. It is the product of years of work by volunteers and supporters, led by Professor Nick Stafford, Director of the University's Postgraduate Medical Institute and Chairman of the Daisy Appeal – the charity behind the new centre, which is dedicated to improving research and trialling new treatments for cancer and heart disease. Hull York Medical School and Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust have supported the appeal. Sir Stirling Moss, an honorary graduate of the University (see page 18), is a patron of the appeal and chairs its board of trustees.

## World Trade Centre partnership

A partnership between the University and the World Trade Centre Hull & Humber is allowing British businesses to benefit further from the University's expertise. The World Trade Centre Hull & Humber is part of a network of such centres operating across more than 90 countries: a one-stop shop for organisations looking to operate more effectively at international level.

This partnership provides more opportunities to form links with local and international businesses with supply chain needs. The Logistics Institute's involvement enables the University and the World Trade Centre to build on the region's strengths as the UK's largest port complex and Europe's fourth-largest trading estuary. Additionally, the Law School will provide bespoke courses on international business negotiation and the Language Institute is offering guidance on different cultures and how business is done in particular countries.

## Holocaust Educational Trust

The Holocaust Educational Trust chose the University to accredit its national Lessons from Auschwitz project – a scheme which takes two sixth-formers from each school in the UK to visit the former Nazi concentration camp as part of a programme to educate young people about the events of the Holocaust. The University is offering all young people who complete the scheme the chance to gain 10 Credit Accumulation and Transfer points.

## The South-East Asia Museum

The University unveiled its new South-East Asia Museum, featuring tribesmen's weapons from Borneo, ornate bridal headdresses and Indonesian shadow puppets among its exhibits. Staff and students who have travelled across Asia donated some items in the collection, while others were bequests and gifts from institutions or individuals (such as the late Dr Ray Bruton, an educational sociologist with a special interest in the Sarawak region of Malaysia, who left his collection of books and papers to the University).

At the official opening in April, the Vice-Chancellor welcomed guests including the High Commissioner of Brunei, plus representatives from the Royal Thai Consulate and the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia. Located in the Wilberforce Building, the museum is primarily a teaching collection but is also open to the public.

## Flood review

Hull City Council asked the Geography Department's Professor Tom Coulthard to chair an independent review of the causes of the summer 2007 floods, which affected more than 10,000 homes in the Hull area. Professor Coulthard's independent review body concluded that the lack of a single agency taking overall control exacerbated the situation and questioned whether Hull's drains and water pumps had adequate capacity. Subsequently, Yorkshire Water announced plans to upgrade three local pumping stations, and Phil Woolas, MP, the then Minister of State for the Environment, empowered the Environment Agency to assume overall authority in any future recurrences.

### The Associate Institutions' Network

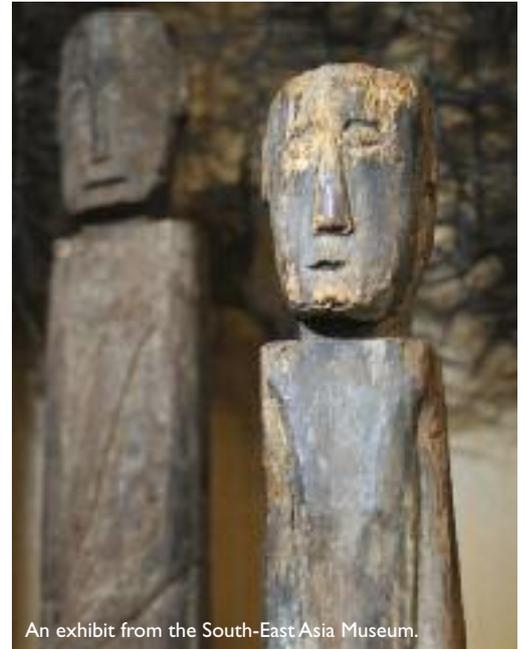
The University launched its Associate Institutions' Network in July, with a first annual forum in the Logistics Institute. The network comprises educational providers up to Level 3: sixth-form colleges, schools with sixth forms, further education colleges, secondary schools and those primary schools which are contracted partners with the University. It aims to attract those within the University in academic and support roles with particular responsibility for reach-out, research, admissions and curriculum design.

Delegates participated in workshop sessions on identifying and developing more able and talented learners, engaging with employers, restorative justice and University departmental offerings available to network members. The network's key areas include encouraging collaborative debate and action in curriculum development, professional development of staff, accessing contemporary research findings and encouraging progression for pre-higher education learners.

### The Federation of Colleges

In September 2007, the University launched its Federation of Colleges: a group of further education providers that have committed to a partnership with the University. Membership includes Doncaster College, East Riding College, the Grimsby Institute of Further and Higher Education, Selby College and Yorkshire Coast College.

The federation's objective is to embed a closer working relationship between the University and its partner colleges. Early work has centred around joint development of higher education in further education strategies as part of a selected pilot run through HEFCE. Other activities have included the development of a federation website and the creation of the first Community of Practice around Applied Digital Media.



An exhibit from the South-East Asia Museum.



The Hull & Humber World Trade Centre.



The summer 2007 floods in Hull.

# International engagement



## GU8 activity

The University further developed its role within the GU8 consortium, a group of 10 universities from across the world.

Professor Mike Elliott, Director of the Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies, attended a GU8 workshop on 'Globalisation and Marine Affairs: Human Dimensions of Global Change' at the University of Rhode Island. Professor Elliott outlined how restoring and recreating estuarine, coastal and marine habitats can counterbalance biodiversity loss related to climate change – citing examples such as habitat creation in the Humber Estuary.

The GU8 Research Committee met at the University of Le Havre in June 2008 to discuss a number of joint initiatives, including a significant proposal from the University of Haifa dealing with marine and environmental issues, which gained the support of all parties. With Pro-Vice-Chancellor Barry Winn representing the University, the committee also considered a framework for managing intellectual property resulting from joint research between GU8 members.

The University led joint work on logistics research through Professor Chandra Lalwani, Academic Director of the Logistics Institute, while Professor Winn was elected Chair of the Research Committee, to take office from 2009.

## The European University Association

During 2007/08, the Vice-Chancellor played a prominent role in the affairs of the European University Association (EUA), both as the Universities UK representative on the EUA Research Policy Working Group and as a speaker at the autumn and spring conferences.

Wrocław University of Technology hosted the autumn conference in October 2007 – the first of two EUA events addressing the implications of 'The Governance of European Universities Post-2010: Mission Diversity, Autonomy and Accountability'. Professor Drewry presented an institutional case study entitled 'Ensuring Universities Can Manage: The

UK Experience'. He highlighted the fact that – with a combined staff of around 415,000 and a turnover of £20 billion – UK universities are big businesses, and achieving appropriate governance arrangements is critical to their success.

In March 2008, the University of Barcelona staged the second conference and – continuing the post-2010 governance theme – the Vice-Chancellor drew on the experience of developing the University's 2007–12 Corporate Plan in his presentation, 'Making Strategic Choices: How to Engage the Academic Community'.

## WISE awarded European Union funding

The Wilberforce Institute for the study of Slavery and Emancipation (WISE) received a €309,000 research grant from the European Union, for its partnership in the international EURESCL research initiative Slave Trades, Slavery, Abolitions and their Legacies in European Histories and Identities, funded by the EU through its Seventh Framework Programme (an EU strategy which gathers all research-related EU initiatives together under a common roof, playing a crucial role in reaching the goals of growth, competitiveness and employment). The aim of the project is to write a history of Europe approached from the angle of the study of the slave trade and slavery, showing its products and their contemporary legacies.

## Poland

The University strengthened its existing firm links with Poland by opening a branch of the Consulate of the Republic of Poland at the Hull Campus in April. Her Excellency Barbara Tuge-Erecinska, Polish Ambassador to the UK, performed the official opening at an event organised by Professor Jo Carby-Hall, Director of International Legal Research at the Centre for Legislative Studies (and Honorary Consul to Poland). Believed to be the only one of its kind worldwide, the Consular Branch focuses on scientific and educational activities such as staff and student exchanges and international conferences.

### Nigeria

In March, the University hosted the second Annual International Conference of Nigerian Students. Speakers included Ambassador Dozie Nwanna, Nigerian High Commissioner to the UK, and Dr Alimi Abdul Razaq of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission, an alumnus of the Law School. The conference focused on issues affecting Nigerian students during their studies and after graduation and examined how Nigerian students can positively contribute to their country's reputation.

### Malaysia

The University signed a Memorandum of Intent with the Malaysian Investment Board, formally enabling the University to work with the Malaysian Government to investigate the creation of a branch faculty at Education City, or 'EduCity'. Situated in Johor, EduCity would comprise various faculties representing universities from around the world within a designated 600-acre enclave – envisioned as a community of best practices in academia. If the project is successful, it is anticipated that the University will deliver a range of science courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level, including Business, Engineering, Computing, Logistics and Health Technologies.

### China and Hong Kong

In March, the Vice-Chancellor visited China to consolidate Hull's relations with universities and Government agencies. In Hong Kong, Professor Drewry spoke about the scientific background to climate change alongside Christine Loh, Chief Executive of the independent public policy think-tank Civic Exchange (and a Hull alumna). Part of the British Council of Hong Kong's 60th anniversary celebrations, the lectures referenced recent intergovernmental research findings about the changes to the polar regions and climate change in Asia.



Her Excellency Barbara Tuge-Erecinska, Polish Ambassador to the UK, with Professor Jo Carby-Hall at the new Polish Consulate.



The Vice-Chancellor lecturing on climate change in Hong Kong.



The Wilberforce Institute for the study of Slavery and Emancipation.

# Business competitiveness and innovation

## Chemtrix goes Dutch ... then goes global

Chemtrix Ltd, a company established jointly by the University and Dutch firm Lionix BV, has secured £1 million of investment to move into the microreactor market. The investment, from a Netherlands-based consortium, means that Chemtrix will now be registered in that country and will trade from a science park in Geleen, near the Dutch–German border.

Using expertise from the University, Chemtrix develops production units with built-in microreactors. Chemtrix has now secured its first contract – from global manufacturing company DSM – and is close to completing a benchtop reactor which will open up new international market opportunities. The company's research will continue, under commercial contract, in the University's chemistry labs.

## IP Group

The University collaborated with IP Group Ltd in an arrangement allowing the group to invest in technologies produced by University research. IP Group's core business is the commercialisation of intellectual property originating from research-intensive institutions. They evaluate intellectual property and assist with commercialisation by investing in and helping to develop businesses based upon it. IP Group's expertise in this area, combined with its extensive knowledge of industry and finance, has enabled the group to create a formidable track record of consistently delivering excellent results for their companies, partners and shareholders.

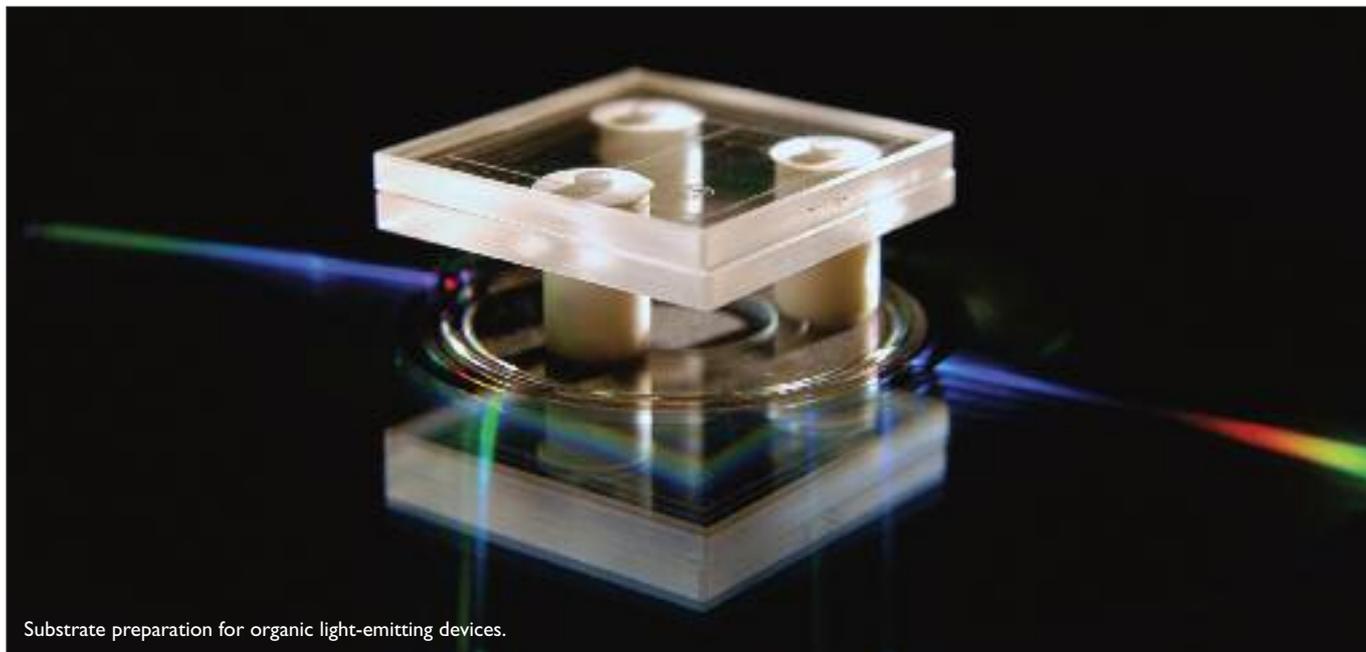
## Pioneering eco-friendly cosmetics

Professor Bernie Binks, Professor of Physical Chemistry, developed 'dry water' – a substance with potentially far-reaching implications for the cosmetics industry. Professor Binks mixed water with nanoparticles such as silica (minute pieces of glass, commonly used as an abrasive in toothpaste) and combined it with air to form a powder. This so-called 'dry water' has a cooling effect when placed onto the skin, and it releases moisture when sheared by rubbing. The particles exfoliate the top layer of skin, allowing the water to be absorbed more quickly than in its liquid form.

Although other elements would need to be added to make the substance a credible product, dry water already has two properties that are needed for a skincare solution – a cooling effect on the skin and the ability to deliver moisture quickly and effectively. In addition to its simplicity, dry water has environmental advantages: with density as low as one-fifth of the density of bulk water; it is lighter to transport, cutting down on carbon emissions.

## Customer First accreditation

The University's Business and Community Knowledge Exchange (BACKE) achieved 'Putting the Customer First', the national standard for customer service. This quality assurance framework underpins the University's business and community knowledge transfer relationships. The standard recognises excellence in consistently and regularly meeting customer expectations: it provides a framework for driving change and developing a customer-focused culture. Accreditation is increasingly seen as essential for organisations involved in providing top-quality business services and delivering public-funded programmes.



Substrate preparation for organic light-emitting devices.



Professor Bernie Binks working on 'dry water'.

# Culture and heritage



Drama students performing work by Chikamatsu Monzaemon.

## The Chikamatsu Project

University drama students reinvented a classic work by 'the Japanese Shakespeare', Chikamatsu Monzaemon, for a modern audience at the 2008 Edinburgh Festival Fringe. In association with The Chikamatsu Project, which aims to popularise the playwright's works outside Japan, 10 students took the acting roles – memorising the gestures and body movements particular to Japanese theatre, as well as dialogue – and three departmental staff had backstage duties for a performance of *Imamiya no Shinju* (Lovers' Suicides at Imamiya), a tragedy written in 1711.



Professor James Booth reads one of Larkin's letters.

This was the University's third Chikamatsu production, and had been warmly received when the students performed it Japan earlier in the year. The production is part of a wider research project examining cultural transfer: how culture moves around the world and how it adapts and transforms along the way.

## Larkin's letters come 'home'

The University took possession of thousands of letters written by Philip Larkin – many of them never before read by anyone outside of the poet's family – following a donation from his niece. The letters, sent to his mother and close relatives, reveal a warm and jovial side of the poet's character at odds with his rather doleful public persona. The University already holds the country's largest Larkin archive, including his interview on *Desert Island Discs*, the BBC *Monitor* episode 'Philip Larkin Meets John Betjeman' and personal items such as his trademark spectacles.



Moving Matter.

## Moving Matter

Two eye-catching sculptures, representing the interaction of minds and the human aspect of logistics, were installed outside the Logistics Institute in December. Collectively entitled 'Moving Matter', the large heads – each 1.75 metres tall – were created by sculptor Joe Hillier, who fulfilled the University's brief to reflect the institute's ambition, vision and mission. The sculptures consist of various parts: one head has 66 layers and the other is made up of hundreds of round steel particles.



Rowan Oliver supervising in the recording studio.

## Students launch record label

Creative Music Technology students launched their own record label at the Scarborough Campus, aided by lecturer Rowan Oliver. As well as enabling students to gain the specific skills to succeed in the music industry, the record label will help to raise students' awareness about music technology and sound engineering.

## Royal Philharmonic Society award

Music graduate Evis Sammoutis was awarded the Royal Philharmonic Society's Composition Prize, winning a prestigious competition open to composers aged under 29 from across the UK. He was chosen from more than 60 applicants and will write a new composition, to be performed by the Philharmonia Orchestra at London's Royal Festival Hall next June. Evis was recently appointed Assistant Professor in Music at the European University in his home country of Cyprus.

## The University Art Collection

The 2007/08 academic year saw a varied programme of exhibitions in the University Art Collection, housed in the Middleton Hall. There were 10 exhibitions in all, including the first showing of a major retrospective of the paintings of Paul Reid; an exhibition of costumes by fashion students inspired by costume designs in the University Art Collection; work by students from the University foundation degree and two of the University's partner institutions, Hull College and Wyke College; the Annual Exhibition of Hull Art Circle; and displays of fine art prints purchased to enhance the visual appearance of the campus.

# Achievements and appointments



Professor Chris Reid.

**Chris Reid** joined the Department of English as Professor of Creative Writing in October 2007. Twice nominated for a Whitbread Award for poetry, he held the prestigious post of Poetry Editor at Faber and Faber for eight years and recently edited the acclaimed *Letters of Ted Hughes* (a collection of previously unseen letters by the celebrated poet). In May 2008, Professor Reid received the Michael Braude Award for Light Verse from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

clinical nursing and midwifery practice. Julie's scholarship recognised her pioneering work in wound care and marked the first time that a University staff member had received the award.

The University's **staff survey** once again proved to be extremely valuable in obtaining feedback, and the overall response rate and outcomes were welcomed. One outstanding indicator was the high proportion of staff who would recommend the University as a place to work (74%) or as a place to study (86%). It was especially satisfying to note the extent to which positive responses were in line with – and exceeded – those of other universities against which Hull's results were benchmarked.



Professor Lynne Frostick.

Professor of Geography **Lynne Frostick** was appointed as the second-ever female President of the Geological Society of London. She has been a fellow of the society for more than 25 years and was one of the first Chartered Geologists. Since 2005, Professor Frostick has also been a member of the Research Assessment Exercise Sub-Panel dealing with Geographical and Environmental Studies.

The University continues to enhance its teaching provision and research capacity by recruiting and developing high-quality staff. Professors and senior lecturers appointed during 2007/08 included **Kevin Bales**, a world-leading expert on slavery and President of international lobby group Free the Slaves, who accepted a Visiting Professorship in the Department of Social Sciences. Joining him in the department was **Gayatri Desai**, who was appointed Senior Lecturer in Social Work. Arrivals within the Hull York Medical School: **Thomas Walther** joined as Chair in Biomedical Sciences and Professor in Cardiovascular Physiology, while Dr **Francesco Rivero Crespo**, a molecular cell biologist, took the post of Senior Lecturer in Biomedical Sciences.



Professor Mike Feintuck.

Professor **Mike Feintuck**, the Director of the Law School, was appointed as a Specialist Adviser to the House of Lords Select Committee inquiry into media ownership. The inquiry explored areas including news providers' changing agenda and the way in which news provision should protect the public interest. The inquiry's results could lead to proposals for statutory reform on media regulation.

Dr **Goel Vinod**, a specialist in rational and emotional processing, joined the Department of Psychology as a senior lecturer, and **Richard Harris** – who teaches in mathematics education – became a senior lecturer at the Scarborough School of Education. There were two noteworthy appointments in the Department of History: in January 2008, Professor **Simon Smith** became Professor of International History, joining – by improbable coincidence – another Professor **Simon Smith**, who had recently taken up the position of Professor of Modern History and Diaspora Studies.



Julie Santy.

The Prime Minister invited Professor **David Drewry** to become one of three new Trustees of the Natural History Museum, serving an initial four-year term. Professor Drewry's background in earth sciences and climate change are especially relevant to the museum's global conservation programmes. Also during 2007/08, Emmanuel College, the University of Cambridge, elected the Vice-Chancellor (who gained his PhD there) Honorary Fellowship, the most significant honour that the college can bestow. It acknowledged Professor Drewry's contribution to glaciology and geophysics.

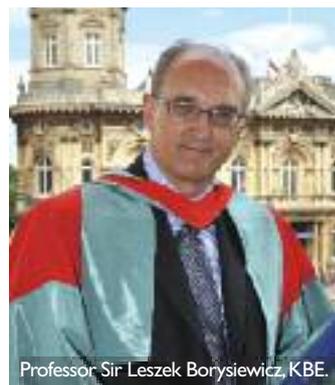
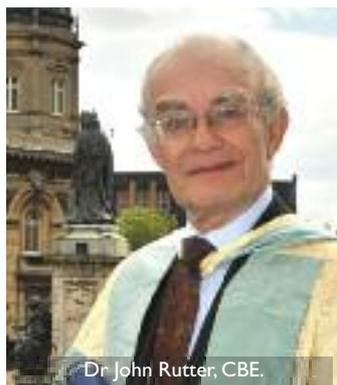
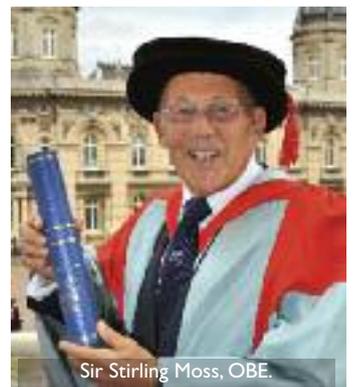
**Julie Santy**, Lecturer in the Faculty of Health and Social Care, won a prestigious Smith & Nephew Foundation scholarship. Only two of these scholarships are awarded annually, to nurses wishing to undertake postgraduate research into improving

# Honorary graduates

At graduation ceremonies across the year, the University conferred honorary degrees on a diverse range of eminent individuals.

At the January ceremonies, degrees were awarded to **Lt Gen Sir Michael Willcocks**, KCB, the current Black Rod in the House of Lords, and to locally educated film producer **Tracey Seaward**.

Receiving an honorary doctorate at the July ceremonies were the composer **Dr John Rutter**, CBE; **Dame Rosalyn Higgins**, DBE, QC, the President of the International Court of Justice; the noted palaeobiologist **Professor Simon Conway Morris**, FRS; **Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz**, KBE, Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council; the motor-racing icon **Sir Stirling Moss**, OBE; the renowned political theorist and Emeritus Professor at Hull, **Professor Lord Bhikhu Parekh**; and the Oscar-winning actor **Sir Ben Kingsley**, CBE.



# Distinguished visitors



Sir Malcolm Rifkind, MP.

Throughout the 2007/08 academic year, the University welcomed an array of distinguished visitors to both campuses.

In November, the Rt Hon **Sir Malcolm Rifkind**, KCMG, QC, MP, delivered the Annual Jean Monnet Lecture on 'Britain and the European Union: A New Strategy for a New Future'. Sir Malcolm's lecture examined the implications of the EU on Britain's political strategy and discussed Britain's current relationship with the EU and the climate of Euroscepticism.



James Hughes-Hallett.

Also bringing the issue of Europe to the fore, the Rt Hon **Peter Mandelson**, MP, European Union Trade Commissioner; visited the Department of Politics and International Studies (specifically the Centre for European Union Studies and the Centre for British Politics) in September to give a lecture entitled 'Britain's Relationship with the European Union'.



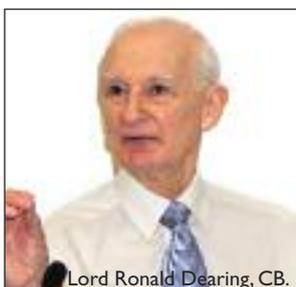
Peter Mandelson, MP.

The Logistics Institute hosted the inaugural Peter Thompson Lecture in October. **James Hughes-Hallett**, Chairman of John Swire & Sons Ltd – the parent company of the Swire Group, which includes Cathay Pacific Airways among its subsidiaries – and sponsor of Professor John Mangan's Chair in Logistics, gave a fascinating talk entitled 'Moving Targets: Logistics from an Asian Perspective'.



Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York.

The Rt Hon **Alan Johnson**, MP, the Secretary of State for Health, delivered the University's annual Whitehall Lecture in November. In an address entitled 'Westminster, Whitehall and Hull', Mr Johnson reflected on his career in parliament and local politics.



Lord Ronald Dearing, CB.

The former US Army Captain **James Yusuf Yee**, who was wrongly accused of espionage and imprisoned for eight months by the US Government (including 76 days of solitary confinement), spoke about his ordeal and the subsequent campaign for an official apology at a public lecture at the University in December.

In January, **Lord Ronald Dearing**, CB (a Hull alumnus), gave the keynote speech at the University's second annual Learning and Teaching Conference. This year, the conference focused on the effect of national priorities in relation to the accessibility of higher education and on academic issues relating to managing transition to and progression into HE. More than 200 University academics and representatives from the local authority gathered to share best practice and new research and to identify innovation.

Another prominent visitor was the Rt Hon **Theresa May**, MP, the Shadow Leader of the House of Commons, who spent time with representatives of the University's students' union and with the Senior Management Team at the Hull Campus in February.

Local school children interviewed **Sarah Ferguson**, Duchess of York, at the University's Holme Media Centre in March. Having learnt about achieving a healthier lifestyle through the Shape-Up Europe programme, the youngsters were interested in the Duchess's approach to diet and fitness. Through an 11-year association with Weight Watchers, the Duchess has distinguished herself as a passionate advocate of healthy weight loss and weight management.

# Moving to environmental sustainability



The Cycle2Work scheme, in partnership with Halfords.

## Gold medal for research into cleaner fuels

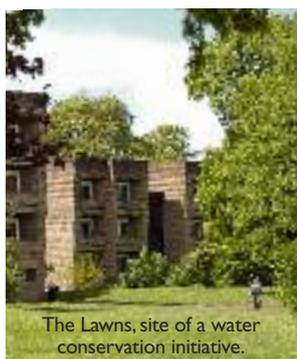
Pioneering work into new clean energy sources by Dr Jeremy Dunning-Davies won the prestigious Hadronic Mechanics Prize from the Santilli-Galilei Association, set up to promote work into alternative fuels. Specialising in thermodynamics, Dr Dunning-Davies has revolutionised the field by extending structural generalisations into hadronic mechanics (a branch of quantum physics). This has enabled others to look at alternative theories in key areas such as anti-matter:



Fairtrade products at the Continental Cafe.

## The Higher Education Carbon Management Programme

Continuing its commitment to minimising its environmental impacts, the University joined the Higher Education Carbon Management Programme – a strategic approach to reducing carbon footprint and environmental impact through waste disposal and water usage. Two student-centred energy and water conservation programmes were successfully operated at The Lawns and Taylor Court.



The Lawns, site of a water conservation initiative.

## University achieves Fairtrade status

The University officially attained Fairtrade status in January, demonstrating its commitment to the long-term future of the planet's people and resources. The achievement follows months of hard work by staff and students to meet the strict criteria required for official Fairtrade status. Fairtrade products are now on sale in all University shops and cafes, and are served at all meetings hosted by the University and the students' union. The University is helping enhance understanding of Fairtrade across the Hull area, raising awareness of Fairtrade issues and increasing Fairtrade consumption.



An artist's impression of the Proteus devices on the Humber.

## Environmental Action Group

The Environmental Action Group is leading on the University's commitment to sustainability. The group, which is chaired by Pro-Vice-Chancellor Peter Lutzeier and comprises staff drawn from various departments, is responsible for implementing the University's environmental policy and ensuring the adoption of best practice with respect to energy management and cost-effective use of resources, as well as minimising the institution's environmental impacts.

## Turning the tide in favour of renewable energy

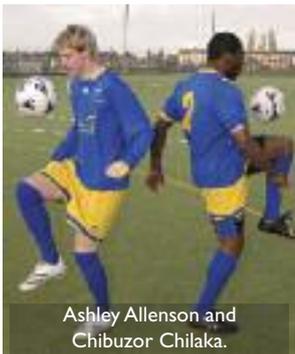
The University's Marine Renewable Research group achieved a tidal-power breakthrough that could revolutionise renewable energy use. The group worked with a local consortium, Neptune Renewable Energy Ltd, on a device to convert tidal power into energy. Following extensive research, the Proteus NP500 Tidal-Power Pontoon achieved a greater efficiency than any other tidal-power device. Manufacturing costs are minimal – meaning that, for the first time ever, tidal electricity can be generated at commercially competitive prices. Ten Proteus devices could potentially provide 15% of Hull City Council's energy requirements.

Successfully tested in the University's research facility at The Deep, Proteus generates power by using computer-controlled shutters to direct tidal currents onto a large multi-paddled water turbine. It has been developed by honing mathematical applications and using the results to conduct practical experiments. The next stage is to create a full-size prototype that would be positioned in the Humber.

## Cycle2Work scheme

In partnership with the leading cycle retailer Halfords, the University has continued its Cycle2Work scheme, enabling staff to complete their daily journey in a manner benefiting the environment and their fitness levels. The scheme offers staff the opportunity to contribute a small portion of their salary towards a new bicycle and the appropriate cycle safety equipment over an 18-month period, with an option to purchase for a nominal fee at the conclusion of the agreement.

# Sporting successes



Ashley Allenson and Chibuzor Chilaka.

## Hull students to represent England

In January, two University students were chosen for the English Universities football team and will feature in the World University Games in Belgrade in July 2009. Ashley Allenson, a first-year Sports Coaching student, and Chibuzor Chilaka, a second-year Human Biology student, fought off competition from across the country to earn the prestigious selection.

Ashley and Chibuzor were picked after a two-day Football Association camp saw the most talented footballers in higher education competing for places in the squad. The pair's success is partly attributable to the University's football programme, which offers a professional, structured training regime with top-level coaching and sports science support.



SportsAid student James Earles.

## University supports young athletes

The University is supporting promising sports stars in the region through a partnership with the charity SportsAid Yorkshire & Humberside – supplying cash grants, expertise and use of the University's state-of-the-art sports science facilities.

As well as financial help with training and travelling costs, the 14 youngsters – aged between 10 and 17, and specialising in a range of disciplines, including athletics, rugby league, squash, cycling and judo – will benefit from cutting-edge physical testing in the University's sports science laboratory and expert advice in a range of areas from nutrition to rehabilitation. Including the cash grant, the package is worth more than £1,250 per athlete.



The Black Queens training at the University

## Black Queens World Cup training

The Ghanaian national women's football team, the Black Queens, chose the University as their training base to prepare for the FIFA Women's World Cup in China. Aside from the 3G football pitches and the refurbished Sports and Fitness Centre, the University supplied individual conditioning programmes – based on an aerobic capacity and heart-rate response test designed by the Department of Sport, Health and Exercise Science – plus advice on nutrition, injury prevention, sports psychology and recovery strategies, at a level of expertise unavailable in Ghana.



Jim Dick and Mandy Brown with the Hull and Humber clipper.

## Hull Campus selected as Olympic training venue

The University has been chosen as a training venue for fencing and archery teams competing at the 2012 Olympic Games. With training facilities of the highest level, the Sports and Fitness Centre has a track record of accommodating both of these sports. The centre has long been the base for Hull University Union's fencing squad in the British Universities and Colleges Sports league, hosting a range of national fencing competitions. The centre is also home to Hull Kingston Archers and has staged numerous archery tournaments at local level.

## The Hull and Humber in Singapore

Bearing the University's logo, the *Hull and Humber* clipper performed superbly in its first Round the World Yacht Race, finishing in second position overall after a 10-month 35,000-mile circumnavigation of the globe. University Council member Jim Dick formed part of the clipper's crew for the autumn 2007 leg of the race from Brazil to South Africa, while Mandy Brown – a senior lecturer from the Business School – was among the crew of a rival clipper, *Durban*, further increasing the University's involvement with the competition. The *Hull and Humber's* January arrival in Singapore during the fourth leg of her journey coincided with a series of University-led events exploring the synergy between the two world-famous ports.

The University currently has more than 1,800 alumni in Singapore, and a networking dinner provided the Hull delegation, headed by Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Barry Winn, with an opportunity to reinforce links with the Singapore Alumni Association. More than 100 guests and alumni then attended a major conference and evening reception, with the British High Commissioner to Singapore, His Excellency Paul Madden, among the speakers. The events also allowed the Logistics Institute to strengthen its relationship with its local counterpart, The Logistics Institute – Asia Pacific.

# Accounts overview

Consolidated income and expenditure account  
for the year ended 31 July 2008

	2008	2007
	£000	£000
<b>INCOME</b>		
Funding Council Grants	55,882	51,147
Tuition Fees and Education Contracts	48,630	41,200
Research Grants and Contracts	10,063	9,296
Other Income	25,688	24,768
Endowment and Investment Income	1,261	961
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>141,524</b>	<b>127,372</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Staff Costs	81,091	75,308
Other Operating Expenses	46,419	39,759
Depreciation	6,933	6,237
Interest Payable	751	667
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>135,194</b>	<b>121,971</b>
Surplus on continuing operations after depreciation of tangible fixed assets at valuation and before tax and exceptional items	6,330	5,401
Net loss relating to flood damage	0	(250)
Surplus on Disposal of Tangible Fixed Assets	0	5,604
Taxation	0	0
Transfer from/(to) accumulated income within specific endowments	11	(84)
Surplus on continuing operations after depreciation of tangible fixed assets at valuation and disposal of assets, tax and exceptional items and transfers in respect of specific endowments	6,341	10,671

The income and expenditure account is in respect of continuing activities.

## Balance sheets as at 31 July 2008

	Consolidated		University	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
	£000	£000	£000	£000
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible Assets	98,166	87,370	98,166	87,370
Investments	4,140	4,796	5,822	6,478
	102,306	92,166	103,988	93,848
ENDOWMENT ASSETS	10,552	11,037	10,552	11,037
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stocks	71	65	71	65
Debtors	13,870	13,366	15,588	15,258
Investments	5,045	17,312	5,045	16,285
Cash at Bank and in Hand	674	196	645	167
	19,660	30,939	21,349	31,775
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	(29,799)	(39,714)	(31,547)	(39,808)
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES	(10,139)	(8,775)	(10,198)	(8,033)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	102,719	94,428	104,342	96,852
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	(7,500)	(7,500)	(9,143)	(9,318)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	(1,432)	(3,846)	(1,432)	(3,846)
<b>NET ASSETS EXCLUDING PENSION (LIABILITY)</b>	93,787	83,082	93,767	83,688
PENSION (LIABILITY)	(18,231)	(12,278)	(18,231)	(12,278)
<b>NET ASSETS INCLUDING PENSION (LIABILITY)</b>	75,556	70,804	75,536	71,410
DEFERRED CAPITAL GRANTS	49,763	43,109	49,763	43,109
ENDOWMENTS				
Specific	4,384	4,345	4,384	4,345
General	6,168	6,692	6,168	6,692
	10,552	11,037	10,552	11,037
RESERVES				
MRI Reserve	5,609	6,349	5,609	6,349
Revaluation Reserve	2,563	2,610	2,563	2,610
	8,172	8,959	8,172	8,959
General reserve excluding pension (liability)	25,300	19,977	25,280	20,583
Pension Reserve	(18,231)	(12,278)	(18,231)	(12,278)
General reserve including pension (liability)	7,069	7,699	7,049	8,305
<b>TOTAL</b>	75,556	70,804	75,536	71,410

The financial statements were approved by the Council on 25 November 2008, and signed on its behalf by:  
MR J STANDEN (Chairman of Council) • MRS N J DUNCUMB (Treasurer) • PROFESSOR D J DREWRY (Vice-Chancellor)

# Student profile

## Student population

	Full-time/ part-time	04/05			05/06			06/07			07/08		
		H/EU	Int	Total									
Hull Campus	F	8644	1360	10004	8870	1185	10055	9086	1214	10300	9425	1570	10995
	P	2654	328	2982	2490	228	2718	2494	197	2691	2719	189	2908
Hull Total		11298	1688	12986	11360	1413	12773	11580	1411	12991	12144	1759	13903
Scarborough Campus	F	1193	177	1370	1241	146	1387	1262	156	1418	1317	110	1427
	P	62	8	70	82	19	101	86		86	78		78
Scarborough Total		1255	185	1440	1323	165	1488	1348	156	1504	1395	110	1505
Grand Total		12553	1873	14426	12683	1578	14261	12928	1567	14495	13539	1869	15408

## Full-time equivalent

