



Sent on behalf of Professor Perumal Nithiarasu, Associate Dean for Research, Innovation and Impact

Dear Colleagues,

Please read below about some of the Faculty's most recent success stories. We would particularly like to see more from our Professional Services staff for the next email!

STAFF NEWS

Academic shortlisted for the University Engineering Staff Member of the Year

Congratulations to [Dr Jennifer Thompson](#), who has been shortlisted for the University Engineering Staff Member of the Year, in the [Engineering Talent Awards 2024](#), for her outstanding work as PI for the [50% for the Future](#) project.

Jennifer's continued dedication to the project, alongside her existing roles as Mechanical Engineering Senior Lecturer, Admissions Tutor and SACEME ED&I Lead, has resulted in this well-deserved recognition.

The 50% for the Future project, is a longitudinal study focussed on developing an iterative, collaborative process to improve representation and experience of females studying Mechanical Engineering at Higher Education level





Academic receives the Murchison Award

Congratulations to [Professor Stefan Doerr](#), Department of Geography, for being awarded the prestigious Murchison Award for pioneering research influencing policy and management of environmental risks from wildfires.

The award from the [Royal Geographical Society](#) with IBG (Institute of British Geographers) is in acknowledgement of Stefan's outstanding contribution to geographical sciences with particular impact in the fields of geomorphology, hydrology, soil and wildfire science.

Stefan said: *"I'm thrilled to receive this award on behalf of the whole wildfire community and especially [Cristina Santin](#) who co-wrote the key paper leading to it."*



Scientific Advisor for the European Outdoor Conservation Association nomination

[Associate Professor Nicole Esteban](#), Department of Biosciences, was recently nominated as a Scientific Advisor for the [European Outdoor Conservation Association](#) (EOCA), as one of their [six advisors](#), providing input to selection of conservation projects related to the coastal and marine environment.

EOCA is a charity set up in 2006 to enable companies from the outdoor sector to work collectively together and support conservation work. EOCA supports and funds grassroots conservation, protection and regeneration projects around the world, protecting the wild places and wildlife. Funded projects aim to tackle the loss of biodiversity, mitigate against climate change, be beneficial to local communities and leave a lasting, positive legacy.



Young People's Book Prize 2024 - Shortlisting panel invitation

[Dr Emrys Evans](#), Department of Chemistry, was recently invited to become a panellist for the [Royal Society Young People's Book Prize](#).

The Young People's Book Prize aims to promote literacy in young people and inspire them to read about science. It also supports the writing of excellent, accessible STEM books for under-14s. Each year, the winner is selected by judging panels made up of thousands of young people at schools across the UK from a shortlist selected by an adult panel.

The other panel members include a Fellowship of the Royal Society, a head teacher, a children's TV presenter and a writer.

Swansea NanoMaterials Lab 7th year celebration

The [Swansea NanoMaterials Lab](#), is celebrating its 7th year and a new name - the NanoMaterials Lab: Manufacturing with Atoms.

The Swansea University Nanomaterials Lab was established on 1 June 2017 to connect the fundamental science of materials on the sub-10 nanometre scale to the full spectrum of technological applications.

To date, the lab's output includes 81 publications (plus 17 in preparation), 3 new patents, the formation of two new spin-off companies, Nium and Grove, and established two "satellite" labs – Harwell and Universite Sorbonne Paris Nord.



Funding success for green printed electronics

Following the completion of the [ICuRe Explore program](#), and a recommendation from an expert business panel, the creation of a spinout company was deemed the best route to commercialisation of the innovative reusable silver ink developed by researchers at Swansea.

The team, led by [Dr James Claypole](#), Department of Mechanical Engineering, went on to complete the 3 month ICuRe Exploit training program and was invited to submit an application for the Innovate UK follow on grant to support the creation of the spinout company.

Following a highly competitive Innovate UK application process, a grant of £250k was awarded to the team to establish 'Ail Arain', the spinout company to exploit this technology.

James currently holds a Research Wales Impact Fellowship.



Visiting Professor receives prestigious prize

[Professor Thuc-Quyen Nguyen](#) from University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) recently visited the Department of Chemistry where she was presented with a prestigious award. [The 2023 de Gennes prize](#) from the [Royal Society of Chemistry](#), was awarded for her 'seminal contributions to the development of organic semiconducting materials and device physics of organic photovoltaics to mitigate climate change'.

Thuc-Quyen talked about the work that has led to this prestigious prize, but also covered her humble upbringing in a Vietnamese village and how she has set up a foundation to support people in similar villages.

During the visit, Thuc-Quyen was keen to meet with ECRs and PGRs and coach them a little on career paths in academia.

Computer Science research group receives Research and

Innovation award

Congratulations to the CORE group which received the Research and Innovation Award for Outstanding Contribution to Shaping the University's People, Culture and Environment at the Research and Innovation Awards 2024.

The CORE (COMputer science Research Energies) group, established in 2021, serves as a dynamic platform for Early Career Researchers (ECRs) and others at Swansea University. The initiative provides a range of support, including mentorship, REF induction, career development support and grant writing support and training.

[Read more about CORE](#)



International Women in Engineering Day success

On 10th June, the Faculty of Science and Engineering hosted a highly successful International Women in Engineering Day 2024 event which was attended by over 70 female students from four Comprehensive Schools. Students had the opportunity to learn more about Chemical, Aerospace, Civil and Mechanical Engineering through presentations and tours.

The day was completed by a "Zine" (magazine) making Workshop, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

The event was organised by Lydia Webber, Project Officer and [Dr Jennifer Thompson](#), Department of Mechanical Engineering with Rhian Jeffs from MRI taking the photographs!

STUDENT NEWS

Mechanical Engineering student wins the 3MT

Congratulations to PhD Mechanical Engineering student [Oli Fryatt](#) who triumphed at the [Three Minute Thesis competition](#) final, competing against 13 other postgraduate student across the University's three faculties.

In his compelling presentation, Oli addressed the urgent need for improved recycling methods for end-of-life solar panels to recover valuable raw materials. He highlighted an innovative recycling method using liquid nitrogen, which has the potential to significantly support the green energy transition by embracing the principles of the circular economy.

The event took place as part of the Postgraduate Research (PGR) Festival, a month-long series of events showcasing the cutting-edge research conducted by Swansea University students.

"I'd like to thank my supervisors Dr Jenny Baker and Prof Davide Deganello for their support and guidance throughout my 3-minute thesis journey. Their expertise and encouragement have been invaluable to helping me achieve this success."



[Read more...](#)



MSc Students showcase their skills

[Dr Vasilios Samaras](#) and [Mr Ian Hobson](#) recently accompanied 7 students from the MSc Engineering Leadership Management programme (ELM) to the [Seda International Packaging Group](#) near Newport where they had the opportunity to showcase their exceptional skills and insights. Students on the programme explore leadership styles, processes, and the importance of soft skills in engineering management through a year-long project.

The Seda Group provides innovative, high-quality and effective solutions for all kinds of packaging applications using a wide range of materials as well as printing and converting technologies.

Featured Event

New IPM 2024: Emerging Opportunities

Looking to learn more about the developments in Integrated Pest Management? Sign up for our symposium this September where we will be bringing together world-renowned researchers, industry representatives, regulatory bodies, growers, supply chain professionals, and end-users to discuss the latest in research and development, policy, and market trends.

Don't miss out on:

- Engaging discussions on IPM-related issues
- Industry networking opportunities
- Integration of various disciplines like biopesticides, AI, health, and more
- Showcasing multifunctional microbes and growth stimulants
- Product demonstrations and strategy sessions
- Networking events for grant applications and collaborations

[Sign up...](#)



PROFESSORIAL INAUGURAL LECTURES 2024

Upcoming Lectures:

[Professor Daniel Thompson](#) and [Professor Ian Mabbett](#) - Wednesday 11th September 2024

[Save your spot](#)

REF2029 CANVAS HUB

A reminder that a new Canvas hub has been published. Developed by the REF Officers team, this is a central repository for the REF2029 documentation, guidance, resources and news.

The joining link is <https://canvas.swansea.ac.uk/enroll/BDY36G>. Please enable notifications as this site will be updated with guidance, news, consultations etc as they are received.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

If you are aware of any recent achievements to share, either for yourself or for any members of your team, we would love to hear about them! We're interested in stories from academic and professional services communities. Please email any news to Anna Ratcliffe (a.c.ratcliffe@swansea.ac.uk). **Deadline for submissions: 15th of each month.**

If you would like to promote a research event on the FSE Events webpage, please contact fse-reception@swansea.ac.uk

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