

RECIPIENTS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MEDAL 2019

UNIVERSITY STAFF MEMBERS

Dr Elena Boto

Nominated for her research into the development of a new type of brain scanning - a MEG system based upon quantum sensors, which adapts to any head size and enables free movement during scanning. Academically this has led to high impact papers (4*) and significant research income (£3M+).

Professor Jan Bradley

Nominated for her remarkable dedicated contribution as Hall Warden for over 10 years, Jan has provided critical support to many students through difficult times and has developed a positive culture within halls, with inclusivity and diversity as her guiding principles.

Professor Martin Green

Martin is a founding member of the academic staff at the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science (SVMS) and was instrumental in shaping the innovative curriculum and culture of the School. He was awarded a Wellcome Trust Intermediate Clinical Fellowship and joined the University of Nottingham in 2006.

He established the dairy herd health group at SVMS, a research-led clinical team focussed on improving dairy cattle health. Over the past 12 years, this has focussed on key health issues associated with dairy productivity, such as mastitis, lameness, reproduction and nutrition.

Through his research, Professor Green established the UK's mastitis diagnosis and control programme, leading to a marked reduction in the disease on a national scale.

Dr Susan Huxtable

For her work as leader of the team in the Technology Transfer Office (TTO) over the past 19 years. In the last two years, Susan championed the foundation of Nottingham Technology Ventures, (a partial spin out of TTO). This is unique in the sector and will support the development of the next generation of University Spin-out companies.

Susan is also central to the MICRA initiative across the Midlands, securing a £5m CCF award from Research England.

Clare Jones

Clare initiated many developments of new services at the University of Nottingham to support researchers. She designed and developed the University of Nottingham's careers education training programmes and workshops for early career researchers.

She has been a member of the University of Nottingham Athena SWAN panels, including the current ISAT. Clare was a founder member and national chair of the AGCAS Research Staff

and Students Task Group and has worked with determination to change perceptions so that career planning is seen as an essential skill in research.

Professor Antoni Kapcia

Tony has created a dynamic, supportive community of postgraduate research, nurturing individual researchers, defining UK-based scholarship in Cuba, and working closely with Cuban researchers to organise the largest annual conference on Cuba in Europe, attracting global participation for 20 years.

He has been a supervisor for over 20 PhDs at Nottingham since he started here in 2003, offering unparalleled academic and personal support.

Denise McLean

Denise is a member of the university's Women's Network Committee and authors external articles on advancing Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in science and participates in the government's #notjustforboys campaign advocating technical careers. She is a STEM ambassador, introducing young people to science through outreach projects in schools events like the recent Science Expo in Birmingham.

Denise works with newly qualified police officers to help them understand cultures and customs of the communities they will be policing, and she sits on the Independent Advisory Group for Nottinghamshire Police to help build partnerships with diverse communities.

A strong advocate for technical careers, Denise was invited to speak at New Scientist Live 2018 and is a wonderful ambassador for the University

Harry Moriarty

Harry has been chair of The Trans Working Party (TWP) group since 2016. The TWP was set up following a consultation with Trans colleagues to meet monthly and explore different aspects, including supporting cultural change and awareness, updating systems and dealing with placements.

Harry joined the Gender Equality in Nottingham (GEN) Committee to follow up the TWP recommended actions and further develop progress. In 2018, he secured a position on the University's EDI Committee and works closely with Professor Sarah Sharples advising her in shaping the EDI Strategic Delivery Plan.

Dr SUN Xue-Zhong

Nominated for his work in the community. Since the early 2000s Dr SUN has been actively involved in the leadership of the Nottingham Chinese School, a community school based at Alderman White School, Bramcote, running Saturday classes during term time offering Mandarin from Reception to A-Level.

Dr SUN has performed various roles within the school, such as Treasurer and Head Teacher (since 2009). Dr SUN works closely with the community to develop the school's curriculum and enhance the teaching at the school. Since it was established in 1999 the school has grown to 250 pupils with another 150 on the waiting list.

Hannah Webber

Hannah has worked in the role of Disability Sports Officer for 8 years and more recently expanded her role to focus on both the welfare of students and staff and inclusion in sport in general. Hannah supports staff with advice/support on sensitive and confidential issues linked to mental health. She also hosts monthly welfare meetings for sports club representatives so that they can provide support on sensitive and important issues such as anxiety, depression and how to help students support each other.

Hannah helped support the swim club to host the first ever para-swim open day with participants receiving a taster session with Paralympic coach Glenn Smith. Hannah is also an active voluntary member of the BUCS inclusion board as Disability Sport Chair.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Jaber Alyami

Jaber studied gastroenterology and graduated in 2019. He has written and published two first-author publications in international journals and presented his work at seven conferences. Jaber has won several prizes and awards, such as: six Excellence awards from the Saudi Arabian Cultural Bureau given by the Saudi Ambassador and second best PhD presentation prize at the 5th ICFD in France.

As a University ambassador disseminating research to the general public, Jaber has been filmed with his work in 2016 by Fiona Phillips for an episode of the BBC One series "The Truth About".

John Britton

John is a medical student whose intercalated research with Professor Dua resulted in two publications about 'Dua's layer' in the *American Journal of Ophthalmology*.

John has been president of the INSPIRE academic medicine society and organised an impressive speaker programme. He facilitated the application process for the Academic Foundation Programme to enhance retention of local medical graduates, and secured a substantial grant from the Wellcome Trust for sustainable activities.

John also initiated the University of Nottingham String Quartet who perform regularly and was invited by the current Vice-Chancellor to play for the Russell Group University Vice Chancellor's meeting.

Toluwalase Fayese

Toluwalase is a mechanical engineering student, and co-founder and President of a new society: One Heritage, which aims to inform on issues relating to the African Diaspora and acts as a community for those who feel isolated.

The society holds numerous debates and discussions such as "The Sound" a showcase of talent from across the university.

Toluwalase is also BME campaign manager, working closely with the SU Education Officer to spearhead the decolonise curriculum campaign which aims to make the curriculum accessible and relatable to all.

Jack Goody

Jack is a medical student and has been an integral member of the Karate Club. He runs a free weekend training session, and covers when the coach is absent. Jack's work in bringing a big reform has seen the club to become one of the highest ranking in the country

Jack has earned Bronze medals at BUCs for 2 years running and he was selected for FISU World Karate Championships, all while studying medicine.

Sam Ibbotson

Sam is a current physics with theoretical physics student at the University of Nottingham, a Sir David Greenaway Scholar, and part of the GB Canoeing Podium Potential programme.

For the last 5 years, Sam has represented the University winning 18 medals in total (7 gold, 6 silver, 5 bronze) across BUCS Canoe Slalom and Wild Water Racing. This has helped towards the University being ranked first in the national rankings for the last three years. Sam is currently the 5th ranked male in the country.

Ashraf-UI-Bari Nobel

Ashraf studied international commercial law and graduated in 2015. He is currently completing a PhD, and represents PhD students on the School of Law's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee and is a Peer Mentor for a PhD Student. Ashraf received a Gold Certificate from the Students' Union for his work as the LLM Course Representative and received the Pro Bono Achievement Award for contributions to the Pro Bono Society. He was also a volunteer judge for the Mooting Society.

As President of the Bengali Society 2017-18, he helped students from Bangladesh and India to settle in, improved the inclusiveness of West Bengal students, and organised socials and shows to promote Bengali culture. He improved the society's status to Silver and received the Student Experience Award from the Union for this work.

Lee Taylor

Lee is currently studying Computer Science. As part of UoN Engage in collaboration with the athletics society, Lee launched the UoN's first ever Couch to 5k engage sessions, running twice a week for both students and staff. Other roles include being a team leader for Foodprint, an Enactus Nottingham social enterprise redistributing surplus food to charities.

Through his efforts, the SU was made waste-free; Lee collected leftover food from Spar and Portland Coffee each day and redistribute to those in need, including the breakfast clubs at three local primary schools. He has also run a successful paperless campaign as the UoN's next Environment and Social Justice Officer, helping the University become more sustainable.

Amelia Watkins-Smith

Amelia studied Sociology and Social Policy and graduated in 2019. She currently holds roles such as Slavery Free Campus Co-ordinator and Reading Programme Director. The Reading Programme has been a huge success, both bringing students together and raising knowledge of modern slavery. In 2018-19, she organised a series of public talks at Lakeside Arts; an evening event 'Survivors in Conversation'; a premier of the film 'California's Forgotten Children' (including a Q&A with the Director, himself a survivor from the film).

In March 2019 there was a 5k run to raise money for Anti-Slavery International thanks to Amelia's engagement with the Antislavery Society. To ensure these events reach people beyond Nottingham Amelia organised live streaming on social media. 'Survivors in Conversation' attracted 72 attendees but more than 1000 watched the live stream on Twitter.

Matthew Watts

Matt graduated in French and Hispanic studies in 2015 and translation studies in 2017. For four years, Matt has worked with the Students as Change Agents (SACA) team within Libraries and has carried out every task possible for SACA from coaching to producing digital resources and reports.

As Senior Student Engagement Assistant he took a leadership role when staff were on extended leave. Showing resourcefulness and drive he lead a review on the Nottingham Advantage Award assessment for SACA, streamlining and enhancing the criteria to provide better and more rigorous outcomes for students.

He is a "go to" colleague for many staff He contributed content to the "Your University Journey" NOOC and has represented UoN at numerous student engagement conferences. All this while teaching in the school and working on his own PhD.

JOINT AWARD

The Bridge Network

Co-created by academics and students, The Bridge Network supports healthcare students who experience mental health difficulties. Anne Felton (Lecturer) and Sabrina Carter (BSc Nursing, Mental Health Alumni), were awarded a Cascade grant and crowdfunded a further £1005 to enable student volunteers to access accredited training in peer support, active listening and self-disclosure.

Student Peer Group Facilitators (SPGF) run group forums for students to meet and share experiences, creating an inclusive atmosphere and facilitating discussions on mental health wellbeing or student experience signposting to support services.