

# The Leader

Newsletter of the School of Construction and Property Management

Issue Nr 28 - 9 November 1999

## University News

The University Senior Management Team retreat of last week resulted in some new ideas and facts emerging. The VC outlined his vision for Salford as being a leading UK Enterprise University. We are already 4th out of nearly 100 UK Universities in national league tables in this activity. Other facts to emerge, that we may be unaware of, are that Salford has the safest campus in Greater Manchester according to police records and more car park spaces than most UK Universities.

Martin Betts

## School News

### New Staff

We have a new Technician in the School. Mike Collins who has been temping with us has now acquired a permanent position and can temporarily be contacted on extension 54975.

Peter Unsworth

Interviews take place this Thursday for the position of Professor of Property/Facilities Management. Watch this space next week for details.

Martin Betts

### "News from the Construction Process and Procurement Scholarship Group"

You might recall the following news item from August - 'Training bid - Full Proposal to EPSRC Masters Level Training Initiative - Training for Performance Improvement in Construction

A bid was made for funding of £155,000 to develop 13 new MSc modules that would lead to new masters programmes in Lean Construction and in Strategic Procurement Management. The simple idea is to shift the emphasis in our current masters programmes more towards process (to sit alongside our current Construction IT/management modules).

The modules themselves will be process/IT flavoured and will be developed with industry around our research portfolio - hence we are emphasising to EPSRC that they are industry lead

but research driven. The good news is that EPSRC have agreed to fund the bid!! This was the only successful construction bid in the UK. This is a great opportunity for us to develop our masters programmes; it enables us to meet our objectives of having research driving the teaching at this level. That the bid succeeded in competition with Universities and disciplines from across the engineering and science base, is a great credit to the University and the industrial sponsors. A sign of being a world leader in scholarship in our discipline perhaps. These courses will also complement the development of the proposed Centre for Construction Innovation (see last weeks newsletter).

Peter McDermott

### M41 Regional Cluster of Demonstration Projects

Following the success of the first M41 meeting, hosted by the University on 13<sup>th</sup> October, there will be a follow-up meeting dealing with the subject of Key Performance Indicators on the 11<sup>th</sup> November in Faraday House. More details will be available later in the week. The industrialists will be joining in with the following seminar which has also been arranged and described below.

### Seminar

Lean Construction, Lauri Koskela, VTT Finland, Thursday 11/11/99 at 1.00 in Rayleigh room, Faraday House. Watch your e.mail for further details.

Peter McDermott

### Diary Dates for Next Week

**Wednesday - School Executive, Teaching & Learning Committee (University Wide)**

**Thursday - School Admin Meeting**

## MSc IT Management Course

"The MSc IT Management taking place Mon/Tues of this week is in the Conference Suite, Clifford Whitworth. The module is Virtual Environments and the module leader is Dr Terence Fernando."

Michelle Wallwork

## Postgraduate Success

Dilanthi Amaratunga, a full-time postgraduate research student, has won an award for Graduate Research for the year 2000 from the British Federation of Women Graduates. The chief criterion for the award is academic excellence substantiated by a proven ability to carry out independent research. The amount of the award has yet to be finalised. Another sign of world leadership in Scholarship?

Dilanthi is also the nominee of the British Federation for the International Federation of University Women Fellowships for the year 2000.

Congratulations Dilanthi!

## MPhil Success

Congratulations to Paul Featherstone who has successfully completed his MPhil degree in record time. Paul's thesis is entitled: The Application of Effective Facilities Management Techniques to Best Optimise the Provision of Community Health Services within Community Health Care Premises and his supervisor is David Baldry.

## PhD Success

Congratulations also to Patrizia Lombardi who has successfully completed her PhD degree. Patrizia's thesis is entitled: Understanding Sustainability in the Built Environment. A Framework for Evaluation in Urban Planning and Design and her supervisor is Professor P S Brandon.

Sandra Heyworth

## Research News

### Bids Submitted

A Research bid for 98K has been submitted to the BT Higher Education Awards to develop a national web-based PhD clinic. Further details of the outcome to follow.

Ghassan Aouad

Three further bids have been submitted this week. The first is an EPSRC bid for £200,000 under LINK IDAC. The proposal is titled 'Re- engineering lean frame processes using advanced technologies. Those involved with this project are Peter Barrett, Ghassan Aouad, David Eaton, Marjan Sarshar and Martin Sexton.

The second bid is a collaborative project with Loughborough under IMI for £100,000 and is titled Project Supply Chain Optimisation using and Integrated Solution (Proc-ures). Involved in the project are Ghassan Aouad, Les Ruddock, Marjan Sarshar and Ming Sun.

The third bid is an EPSRC bid for £96,000 (total cost £190,000) under IMI CAMP. The proposal title is Trust in Construction: Achieving Cultural Change in the Construction Sector. Those involved with this project are Peter McDermott, Graham Wood (Business School) and Rachel Cooper (Research Group for Design Innovation).

Mary Hamblett

## Enterprise News

Construct IT is holding its twice yearly Members Meeting at Warwick University on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. More than 60 senior members of industry are attending. The theme of this meeting is Information and Knowledge Management.

Martin Betts

## The Leader

This newsletter is for the School, about the School and by the School. It would be good to get input to this from anyone with information to share. Anyone wishing to contribute to the newsletter please do so through Joanne Nuttall on 55362 or j.l.nuttall@salford.ac.uk