MINISTERIAL VISIT
University of Reading, Whiteknights campus
Thursday 20 October 2016

Please find below an overview programme of the event:

**PROGRAMME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
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| 1139  | Minister to arrive at Reading Station
Penny Mordaunt MP, Minister of State for Disabled People, Health and Work to arrive by train at Reading station. On arrival to proceed to the car park directly under the station where a car will be waiting for her party
*Car provided by Loddon cars -0 1189 321 321* | Reading train station, RG1 1LZ                                               |
| 1210  | Ministerial party to arrive at the University of Reading
Penny Mordaunt MP to arrive at Whiteknights House where she will be met by Professor Gavin Brooks, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Teaching and Learning. Professor Brooks will escort the minister to the Carrington Building | Whiteknights House, University of Reading, Whiteknights campus, RG6 6UR |
| 1215  | Ministerial party to arrive at Carrington Building
Upon arrival Professor Gavin Brooks will introduce the minister to the University of Reading staff present.
- Buffet lunch to be served on arrival | Room 201, Carrington Building                                                   |
| 1225  | Presentations to commence
Guests to be invited to take their seats. Presentations to commence as follows:
- *Welcome and introduction*: Professor Gavin Brooks (3 mins)
- *The Breaking down Barriers project*: (25 mins)
  - Mrs Christina Duckett, Deputy School Director of Teaching and Learning, School of the Built | Room 201, Carrington Building |
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>1310</td>
<td><strong>Demonstrations</strong></td>
<td>Room 201, Carrington Building</td>
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<td>Professor Gavin Brooks to invite the Minister to try the demonstrations around the room:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Department of Biomedical Engineering showcase of projects (8 mins)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Professor Rachel McCrindle, Department of Biomedical Engineering</td>
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<td>- Sensory Objects (8 mins)</td>
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<td>- Dr Kate Allen, Department of Art</td>
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<td>- Reading Mencap researchers</td>
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<td>- Della Keep</td>
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<td>- Kevin Keep</td>
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<td>- Alison Carroll</td>
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<td>- Sally Utting</td>
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<td>- Accessibility Design (8 mins)</td>
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<td>- Mr Ryzard Akita, 2016 Graduate of Typography &amp; Graphic Communication, BA (Hons)</td>
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<td>- Breaking down Barriers simulation suits (4 mins)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Dr Geoff Cook, School of Construction Management and Engineering / Mr Joe Doak, Henley Business School</td>
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<td>- <strong>Close</strong>: Professor Gavin Brooks to say a few words to close the event (2 mins)</td>
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<td>Discreet photography throughout</td>
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<td>1340</td>
<td><strong>Event to close</strong></td>
<td>Whiteknights House</td>
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<td>Professor Gavin Brooks to escort the Minister to Whiteknights House where a car will be waiting to take her and her party to the station</td>
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<td>1345</td>
<td><strong>Minister to depart</strong></td>
<td>Reading train station, RG1 1LZ</td>
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<td>Car to take the Ministerial party to Reading station to catch the 1419 train</td>
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<td><em>Car provided by Loddon cars -0 1189 321 321</em></td>
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Event aims

- To showcase the Breaking down Barriers project at the University of Reading
- To showcase examples of research and innovative projects across subjects and disciplines at Reading, which relate to positive impacts on the lives of disabled people

Breaking down Barriers

The Breaking down Barriers project at the University of Reading builds on the University's already extensive and highly-regarded experience in research and teaching in inclusive design, putting ideas underpinning the Built Environment Professional Education (BEPE) project into practice. The aim of the Breaking down Barriers project is to embed inclusive design in existing and new programmes across the University, including the new undergraduate Architecture course which launched in 2016, providing an exemplar of best practice in inclusive design education in built environment disciplines and beyond.

The Built Environment Professional Education (BEPE) Project. Initiated by the government’s Olympic and Paralympic Legacy Unit and the Mayor of London, aims to stimulate a change in the way built environment professionals – including architects, planners, engineers, facilities managers, and construction, property and surveying professionals – are taught and learn about inclusive design, so that inclusion becomes second nature for all.

Project team

- Mrs Christina Duckett (Lead)
- Dr Geoff Cook
- Dr Jeanne-Louise Moys
- Dr Faustina Hwang
- Mr Joe Doak

Department of Biomedical Engineering projects

In Biomedical Engineering we invent technologies to diagnose disease at early stages, restore lost body functions and improve quality of life for patients and the elderly. Five projects will be briefly demonstrated today. The first of these is a tablet application VISAD (Visual Impairment Simulator for Auditing and Design) that uses a range of image processing techniques to educate designers about how individuals with different eye conditions would view a particular building, environment or piece of packaging etc. The second project, developed in conjunction with colleagues in Clinical Language Sciences is a Kinect-based application, MaLT (Motor and Language Therapy tool) which combines motor and linguistic aspects of rehabilitation for patients post stroke or other acquired brain injury. Two further projects use wireless technology and smartphone apps to assist patients with communication difficulties, one as a cueing therapy treatment for patients with anomic aphasia, and the other as a communication aid for patients who have lost the ability to speak or who cannot speak clearly enough to be understood. The final project, CHIIP (Computerised Help, Information and Interaction Project), again uses wireless technology to assist individuals with age related memory loss and mild dementia, and their carers, to live more safely and independently in their own homes. At the core of all these project is ease of use, affordability, and personalisation to an individual’s needs.
Sensory Objects

“Hands-on exhibits bring a space to life, giving a greater understanding and meaning to cultural heritage. This is especially important for people with learning disabilities” (Lord Rix, 2005, President of Mencap).

This project aims to address this problem in three ways. One is to create a series of interactive, multisensory objects that replicate or respond to artworks of other objects of cultural significance in our national collections. A second – especially innovative – is to employ people with learning disabilities as participant researchers in generating and designing these art objects, so that they cater for a wide and yet targeted range of needs. The third is to explore techniques for developing interactive sensory objects, focussing on iterative design through participant workshops, with a view to developing best practice guidelines which can provide a basis for future development and provide a lasting resource for museums and heritage sites to support them in engaging with user groups.

Inclusive Design App Prototype

Developed by recent University of Reading graduate Ryzard Akita, this interface was developed as part of his final year self-directed project studying Typography and Graphic Communication. The project prototypes a food ordering interface that prioritises accessibility for users with visual impairments.

Attendees

Presenters

- Professor Gavin Brooks, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Teaching and Learning
- Mrs Christina Duckett, Deputy School Director of Teaching and Learning, School of the Built Environment
- Dr Jeanne-Louise Moys, Department of Typography and Graphic Communication

Demonstrators

- Department of Biomedical Engineering showcase of projects
  - Professor Rachel McCrindle, Department of Biomedical Engineering
- Sensory Objects
  - Dr Kate Allen, Associate Professor, Art
  - Della Keep
  - Kevin Keep
  - Alison Carroll
  - Sally Utting
- Inclusive Design App Prototype
  - Mr Ryzard Akita, Graduate of Department of Typography and Graphic Communication
- Breaking down Barriers Simulation kit
  - Mr Joe Doak, Associate Professor of Urban Planning & Development, Henley Business School
  - Dr Geoff Cook, Associate Professor, School of Construction Management and Engineering
  - Mr Lee Snow, Graduate of School of Construction Management and Engineering
Guests, University of Reading staff

- Professor Ellie Highwood, Dean for Diversity and Inclusion
- Professor Simon Chandler-Wilde, Dean for Diversity and Inclusion
- Dr Elizabeth McCrum, Teaching and Learning Dean
- Dr Nina Brooke, Centre for Quality Support and Development
- Ms Amanda Clarke, Associate Professor, Archaeology
- Ms Joy Collier, Centre for Quality Support and Development
- Professor John Connaughton, Professor of Sustainable Systems in the Built Environment

External guest

- Ms Julie Fleck OBE, Project Lead, BEPE

Dress code

Business attire

Travel and transport information

By train: from Reading Station

On arrival at Reading train station a Loddon Cars vehicle will be waiting in the Underground car park, directly beneath the station for the Minister and her party.

Loddon cars can be contacted on 01189 321 321 and will also apply a car for the return journey from the University of Reading back to the station.

The best post code to use for SatNav for the University of Reading’s Whiteknights campus is RG6 6UR. Whiteknights House is adjacent to Car Park 5 (visitors car park)

More information can be found here www.reading.ac.uk/findus

Contact details

Advance

If you have any queries in advance of the event please contact

- Victoria Baldwin, Head of Events, 0118 378 7109 or events@reading.ac.uk

On the day

- Victoria Baldwin- 07734 863501
BIOGRAPHIES

Presenters

Professor Gavin Brooks, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Teaching and Learning
Professor Brooks has strategic responsibility for all teaching and learning across the University, including the areas of: careers and employability; student recruitment; student experience and student achievement; widening participation; teaching quality and enhancement; and, e-learning.

Mrs Christina Duckett, Deputy School Director of Teaching and Learning, School of the Built Environment
A chartered architect and town planner, Christina has extensive experience of private practice in London and elsewhere and has worked as lead conservation and design officer in the planning department of a unitary authority. She was formerly Regional Design and Quality Manager for the Homes and Communities Agency, heading a team of specialists in design, economic viability and sustainability, representing the HCA on the South East Regional Design Panel Steering Group. She continues to provide expert advice on design and built heritage. Her responsibilities at the University include work relating to the establishment of the new School of Architecture.

Dr Jeanne-Louise Moys, Department of Typography and Graphic Communication
Jeanne-Louise teaches design practice, theory and research skills across a range of genres and platforms. Her professional and research interests lie in user-focused design across both digital and traditional media. Her doctoral research investigated how changing the typographic presentation of information can change people’s impressions of documents and how they decide to engage with information. She continues to extend her research into typographic communication to different genres, including the presentation of complex information and user-engagement across digital devices. She is also interested in research methods and design pedagogy.
Demonstrators

Professor Rachel McCrindle, Biomedical Engineering, School of Biological Sciences

Rachel has substantial computing experience gained in industry and through research. Her research investigates the use of digital technologies (smart phones, tablet computers, games-based technology) and sensor-based systems to support healthy living, rehabilitation and care with particular emphasis on working with an aging population to address longer life issues in ways that are accessible, engaging, & personalised to an individual’s needs. Her research provides an ideal platform to move forward discussion, dissemination & exploration of life enhancing applications for ageing adults at risk from restricted mobility, early life mortality, and social isolation in today’s modern society.

Dr Faustina Hwang, Associate Professor, Biomedical Engineering

Faustina’s research interests are in accessible computing which aims to ensure that computer systems can be used by people with diverse abilities. She is Co-Investigator on the Sensory Objects project, working with people with learning disability to create interactive artworks to facilitate access to museum collections. She is also working on several projects which explore the design of technology to support good nutrition and hydration in the older population, including people with mild cognitive impairment and dementia. She is Associate Editor for the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Transactions on Accessible Computing and member-at-large for the ACM’s Special Interest Group on Accessible Computing.

Mr Ryzard Akita, undergraduate student, Department of Typography and Graphic Communication

Ryzard Akita graduated with a BA (Hons) in Graphic Communication from the University of Reading in July this year. As part of his final year self-directed project, he prototyped a take away ordering app for visually impaired users.
Dr Kate Allen, Associate Professor, Art
Kate is the Principal Investigator of the award winning Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) project, 'Interactive sensory objects made for and by people with learning disabilities’, or Sensory Objects. Sensory Objects creates multisensory interactive art works that respond to museum collections, alternative ideas for museum interpretation, developed through sensory art and electronics-based workshops by people with learning disabilities in collaboration with an interdisciplinary research team. Researchers from the University of Reading and RIX Research and Media at The University of East London have worked together with Mencap Liverpool Access to Heritage Group at Speke Hall, Reading College’s Learners with learning difficulties and disabilities at the Museum of English Rural Life, and Tower Project London at The British Museum.

Mr Joe Doak, Associate Professor of Urban Planning & Development, Henley Business School
Joe is a chartered town planner with interests in the formulation and implementation of spatial planning policy, concentrating on sustainability, local economic development and the property development process. Joe has been undertaking an audit of the curriculum of undergraduate programmes in real estate and planning to identify opportunities to integrate inclusive design in core and optional modules.

Dr Geoff Cook, Associate Professor, School of Construction Management and Engineering
Dr Cook’s current research interests include an examination of the ability of people who are visually impaired to identify differences in chroma, hue and gloss in order to make the interior of buildings more accessible. In addition, he examines environmental engineering factors within the built environment which impact on the safety of people who are visually impaired.

Mr Lee Snow, undergraduate student, School of Construction Management and Engineering
Lee Snow graduated with a first class degree from the School of Construction Management, University of Reading in July this year. He is now working in Bristol as a graduate Building Surveyor.