

Alumni  
Association



Northumbria  
University  
NEWCASTLE

## NEWS BULLETIN

# UNIVERSITY NEWS

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### **North East universities awarded £8.9m to boost regional research commercialisation**

A new project to strengthen collaboration between universities, businesses, and others to drive growth and create jobs in North East England has received major funding from the UK Government. The North East Strategic Commercialisation project, a five-year programme involving Durham, Newcastle, Northumbria, Sunderland and Teesside universities as well as other partners, has been awarded £8.9 million from Research England. It builds on the foundations of the Northern Accelerator spin-out programme.

[Read now](#)



### **Fellow of the Royal College of Nursing for Northumbria's Deputy Faculty Pro Vice-Chancellor**

Professor John Unsworth OBE, Deputy Faculty Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education) in the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences at Northumbria University has been admitted as a Fellow of the Royal College of Nursing (RCN). John was presented with his Fellowship at the International Nurses Day at, the RCN Congress in Liverpool. RCN Fellowship is the highest honour bestowed by the Royal College of Nursing.

[Read more](#)

# FOCUS ON RESEARCH

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## **New partnership to inspire the next generation of scientists**

Northumbria University and the International Centre for Life (Life) have agreed a new strategic partnership to boost science education and engagement across the North East. The new agreement builds on 15 years of collaboration between the two organisations which has helped bridge the gap between academia and the community, engaging people across the region with science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).

[Read more](#)



## **Northumbria Professor appointed as REF sub-panel Deputy Chair**

Northumbria's Professor Glyn Howatson will be playing a key role in the next national assessment of research quality across UK universities. The outcomes of the Research Excellence Framework (REF) assessment are used to determine how around £2 billion of public funding is allocated - making it of key importance to higher education institutions. With UK Universities and research institutions busy preparing submissions for REF 2029, work is already in progress to pull together a team of academic experts to lead the assessment.

[Read more](#)



## **Northumbria University launches Centre for Responsible AI**

Northumbria University has launched a pioneering centre of excellence in responsible artificial intelligence (AI) research and expertise. The Northumbria Centre for Responsible AI is set to be a "go-to" trusted voice in the region for knowledge and advice on key aspects of AI deployment. The Centre brings together leading academics, policymakers, government and industry experts to advance AI education, research, and policy solutions, with the aim that no one is left behind in the rapidly evolving digital landscape.

[Read more](#)



### **Considering postgraduate research study?**

Northumbria offers over 100 fully-funded PhD studentships per year, covering full tuition fees and a monthly stipend. Many are University-funded with some funded by research councils and industry partners as 'collaborative' studentships. Our vibrant community of over 900 postgraduate researchers tackle big research questions, make important discoveries and help society face new world challenges. You will be supported to deliver impactful world-class research through tutoring from leading academics, access to excellent facilities and the creation of successful multi-disciplinary partnerships.

**[Find out more](#)**



### **Academy of Medical Sciences funds new research from emerging scientific leaders**

Two biomedical sciences researchers from Northumbria University have been awarded grants to further their innovative work by the Academy of Medical Sciences. The Academy's Springboard programme provides support to researchers at the start of their first independent post to help launch their research careers. Dr Emily Hume and Dr Monika Winter are among 62 researchers from across the UK to be chosen to receive funding in recognition of their pioneering approaches to improve human health and wellbeing.

**[Read more](#)**



### **Study identifies attitudes towards personal data processing for national security**

Almost 80 per cent of UK adults support national security agencies collecting and processing personal data to investigate terrorism and serious crime, according to new research by the Centre for Emerging Technology and Security (CETaS) at The Alan Turing Institute, in collaboration with Savanta and Hopkins Van Mil. Professor Marion Oswald MBE from Northumbria Law School, is a Senior Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Emerging Technology and Security (CETaS) and was a co-author on this study.

**[Read more](#)**



### **Satellites observe glacier committing 'ice piracy'**

A glacier in Antarctica is committing 'ice piracy', stealing ice from a neighbour, in a phenomenon that has never been observed in such a short time frame, say scientists. This activity was previously believed to take place over hundreds or even thousands of years, but high-resolution satellite observations have revealed that one huge glacier has been relentlessly stealing ice from its slower-moving neighbour over a 17-year period. The research team included experts from the UK Centre for Polar Observation and Modelling based at Northumbria.

**[Find out more](#)**





### **New research could enhance the future of teaching in higher education**

Academics from universities across the UK, led by Professor Nic Whitton of Northumbria University, are about to launch a research project which could lead to changes in how higher education is taught with a move away from traditional lectures in favour of a more interactive and playful approach to learning. In an ever-changing world, employers are looking for more than just academic knowledge from university graduates. The three-year study will aim to evidence the value of different approaches to learning.

**[Find out more](#)**

## **BENEFITS & OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **Join the Alumni Association in New York & Toronto!**

Join our Alumni & Philanthropy Team to catch up with old friends and meet other graduates at our Alumni social events in New York and Toronto. On Thursday, 5 June 2025, 6pm - 7:30pm we will be at Peter Dillon's Bar, 2 East 36th Street, New York and on Monday 9 June 2025, 6pm - 7:30pm we will be at The Broadview Hotel, 106 Broadview Avenue in Canada. You'll be able to find out what's happening at Northumbria and give your views about the University's plan to develop alumni networks in the US and Canada. Refreshments will be provided.

**[Register your place](#)**



### **Work for Northumbria - KTP Associate in Chemistry**

We are looking for a driven candidate with a chemistry background (including chemical engineering, materials science, polymers, or a related discipline) whose ambitions align with our goal to deliver impactful research that addresses sustainability in industrial plastic processes. The successful candidate will combine their academic skills with their desire to work in industry and the opportunity to oversee the implementation of their work and resulting future changes in business.

**[Find out more](#)**



### **Welcome to the Graduate Careers Club**

Find out more about the Graduate Careers Club and how it can help you achieve graduate success following your graduation. Whether you graduated recently or up to five years ago, and whether you're already working or still exploring your options, the Club provides the careers support you need, every step of the way. The Graduate Futures Team are running two sessions in July and August to find out more about the Club. Bookings will open soon on **JobsOnline** and you will need to **register** on the platform if you no longer have access.

**[Find out more](#)**



### **Share your experience of accessing Graduate Futures support**

Faezah Masjedi graduated from MSc Project Management in 2024 and secured a Project Control Engineering role with Turner and Townsend, one of her top employer choices thanks to the support she received. If you have accessed help from our **Graduate Futures Careers Team** and have your own success story to share, get in touch as we would love to hear from you!

**[Read more about Faezeh's journey](#)**



### **Northumbria University public lecture and event series**

Northumbria University's public lectures and events series allows you to explore the cutting-edge research of the University's leading lights, alongside high-profile guest speakers. Hear from the North East's finest musicians in our concerts and recitals series or visit our galleries and exhibitions. These events are free of charge and open to all. Visit our website for further information.

**[Find out more](#)**

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**EXPERIENCE  
THE VIBE.**

**BOOK AN  
OPEN DAY**  
28 JUNE 2025



**GET INVOLVED**

Northumbria University Alumni Association encourages our graduates to get involved in the work of the University as one of our Alumni Ambassadors. From providing an alumni profile to providing a lecture, talk or workshop, there are lots of ways to volunteer.



**DONATE**

There are a range of opportunities to support the University and our students. With your support we can continue to inspire students to take on the challenges of tomorrow without financial barriers. Join our growing numbers of alumni supporters today!



**OBITUARIES**

We commemorate and celebrate the lives of alumni and friends of the University who are no longer with us. If you would like to submit an obituary for an alumnus or former member of staff for inclusion, please email [alumni@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@northumbria.ac.uk).



**northumbria.ac.uk/alumni**



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Or alternatively you can write to us at:

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