

Alumni
Association



Northumbria
University
NEWCASTLE

NEWS BULLETIN

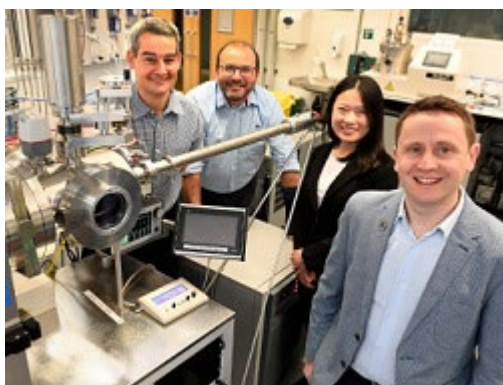
FOCUS ON RESEARCH



Northumbria's Peaks of Research Excellence

Northumbria is a research-intensive university with a proud heritage of making a difference to individuals and to society. Our Peaks of Research Excellence highlight the areas where our research is truly outstanding and shaping knowledge and practice around the world. You can find out more about our collaborative research by visiting our [research webpages](#) or download our Peaks of Excellence brochure.

[Find out more about research at Northumbria](#)



£11m funding to expand access to renewable energy research in the North East

World-leading research by three North East universities, including Northumbria, to advance renewable energy technologies, has been awarded funding of almost £11.5m to expand its work and include people from under-represented backgrounds to drive the transition towards Net Zero. The funding includes £5.3m from The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council which will enable further development of ReNU, the successful Centre for Doctoral Training in renewable energies.

[Read more](#)



Brighter, cheaper blue light could revolutionise screen technology

Research has identified methods of simplifying the structure of high-efficiency blue organic light-emitting diodes (OLEDs), potentially leading to longer-lasting and higher definition television screens. OLEDs are organic electronics, used in smartphones and displays and are more efficient than other technologies. OLED screens have vivid picture quality but are expensive with a short lifespan. In a paper published in Nature Materials, researchers from Northumbria, Cambridge, Imperial and Loughborough universities outlined the technology and benefits of more stable blue light.

[Read more](#)



Research to explore evolutionary mystery of early life on Earth

Northumbria University academics Professor Iain Sutcliffe and Dr Paul James have been awarded a share of £12m funding provided by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) to support projects which have the potential to transform our understanding of the rules of life. The BBSRC's Pioneer Awards aim to encourage unconventional thinking and approaches, funding new investigations which aim to radically change the way we think about important biological phenomena covering plant, microbial and animal sciences.

[Read more](#)



Northumbria University recognised as an Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research

Northumbria University has maintained its status as an Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research (ACE-CSR). Following a recent assessment by the National Cyber Security Centre and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Northumbria was named one of just 21 universities across the UK awarded ACE-CSR status for the next five years. This is the second time Northumbria has been recognised, having first gained ACE-CSR status in 2019.

[Read more](#)



Researching ethical review to support Responsible AI in Policing

Northumbria University has secured £286,000 research funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) to investigate the role of ethical review in contributing to responsible artificial intelligence (AI) in policing. Part of a wider £100m boost for AI research announced by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), including the AHRC-funded research through its Bridging Responsible AI Divides (BRAID) programme, this will inform future AI in key sectors including education, policing and the creative industries.

[Read more](#)

NEWS



Virtual reality learning recognised as best practice in education

Northumbria University's innovative use of virtual reality and simulation technologies in nursing education has been highlighted as an example of best practice in the UK. After investing in a new state-of-the-art virtual reality learning platform specially designed for healthcare training, a team from the University's Department of Nursing, Midwifery and Health designed SkillsFest, a simulated practice placement programme for nursing students that enhances their learning journey.

[Read now](#)



Northumbria film makers recognised by The Royal Television Society

Rising stars from Northumbria University have won the award for Best Student Drama at the prestigious Royal Television Society Awards for the North East and Borders. Northumbria's talented students and graduates received the award for their work on their suspenseful and dark drama entitled SWINE at a prestigious ceremony attended by a host of TV celebrities including Vera's Brenda Blethyn and author Ann Cleeves.

[Read now](#)



Northumbria University graduate wins British Council Study UK Alumni Award

Poornima Meegamma has won the 'Social Action Award' at the Sri Lankan Alumni Awards. Poornima is Founder of Nextgen Girls in Technology (Nextgen), which increases women's participation in emerging tech careers to bridge the gender disparity in the industry in Sri Lanka. She was awarded Forbes 30 under 30 in 2022 and has dedicated the past decade to advancing technology education amongst girls, winning global accolades including a UNESCO Prize and being named Sri Lanka's Social Entrepreneur of the Year. She directs the Nextgen Skills program at the Shilpa Sayura Foundation, which benefits 2000+ university students and 1000+ school students.

[Read Poornima's alumni profile](#)



Northumbria graduate raises funds for the Intensive Care Society

Northumbria Graduate Luke Stevens who is an Advanced Clinical Practitioner in Emergency Medicine, is taking part in a Ski Mountaineering Challenge to raise vital funds for the Intensive Care Society. Luke and a team of healthcare professionals will tackle the Patrouille des Glaciers route from Zermatt to Verbier, which is considered one of the toughest courses in the world. He is raising funds for the Intensive Care Society's Thriving at Work Project to support critical care staff across the UK.

[Find out more and donate](#)

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Working in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion?

Northumbria University is hosting an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Conference in June 2024 for staff and students. This will showcase our 'Amplifying Inclusion' Seminar Series which highlights best practices, and has included misogynistic terrorism, understanding the complexities of life as a Disabled LGBTQ+ youth, textiles programmes for women accessing criminal justice services, and understanding how teachers are trained to talk about race in the classroom. If you have an EDI story to share, get in touch today!

[Get in touch](#)

BENEFITS



Santander Open Academy
Develop your professional skills

Courses Tools Scholarships



Access free CPD & support future generations of Northumbria University students!

The Santander Open Academy is a digital learning platform open to all University graduates. It includes a repository of thousands of on-demand, online courses and learning materials on different topics, including technology, languages, studies, research, soft skills, professional practices and leadership. For every registration on the platform before 30 April 2024, Santander will donate £1.20 to the University's HEWB Fund. Sign up now!

[Find out more](#)



Sports Ball 2024 - Award Sponsorship

The Annual Northumbria University Sports Ball celebrates outstanding student participants, athletes, interns, volunteers, coaches, clubs, teams and staff. You can sponsor an award for £750+VAT, receiving a generous package of benefits to promote your brand.

For more details or to discuss sponsoring an award, please contact [Emma Davey](#) by 18 April 2024.

[Register your interest](#)



Use the University Library for your career research

Did you know that Northumbria alumni can apply for University Library Membership at both City Campus and Coach Lane libraries? Once a member, you can loan up to 15 books (4-week loans only), renewable up to a maximum of one year. The cost is £50 per annum or £17 for 4 months. If you are looking for help with assessment centres, interviews, cover letters, or CVs, you can access useful books to help you.

[Find out more](#)



Researching Careers with Graduate Futures

If you are a recent graduate without a clear idea of your career path, the maze of possibilities can seem daunting. The Graduate Futures Team can help you by providing advice and access to extensive resources for researching job titles, and employers and industry reports and insights to explore career sectors. The [Careers Online](#) website offers career planning tools to help you uncover your motivations and preferences and discover how you can improve your skills and increase your employability.

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



Graduates First – free access to practice assessments!

Assessments and psychometric tests are often an integral part of the graduate recruitment process. Don't let that put you off applying for an opportunity! There are many ways you can practice to improve your chances of success. Recent Northumbria graduates can get free access to hundreds of Graduates First practice assessments. With over 150+ assessments reflecting those used by over 12,000 employers, from Ability and Personality Tests, to Game Assessments and AI based Video Interviews, this resource will help increase your confidence in completing these tests.

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

EVENTS



Working Well in Healthcare Event, 18 April 2024

Join Laura Serrant, Leadership, Development and Inclusive Practice Specialist and Mark Radford, Deputy Chief Nursing Officer for England for our Working Well in Healthcare: The Changes, Challenges and Opportunities for Developing your Workforce event. Speakers will outline a range of topics including the challenges and opportunities surrounding the long-term workforce plan, measures that can be taken to retain and upskill your existing workforce and the importance of ensuring wellbeing and equity across your workforce when it comes to supporting staff retention.

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



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Remember your time at Northumbria University with a special treat from our **brand new** range at 'Shop at Northumbria'.

The Northumbria x New Balance sports range.



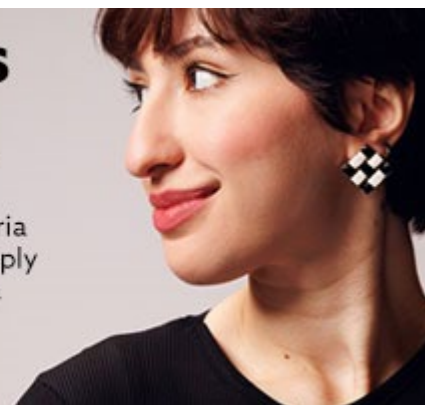
10% off online using code **NUALUMNI**
www.shopatnorthumbria.co.uk

RETURN TO STUDY A MASTERS

Virtual event: 17th April, 4pm - 5pm (GMT)

Thinking about returning to education to advance your career? Join us at our online event to find out more and put your questions to the panel. Graduates of Northumbria can receive up to **£2,350 off course fees*** and you can apply in a few minutes via the short application form† *T&Cs apply.

DISCOVER MORE



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.



northumbria.ac.uk/alumni



Stay connected to your Alumni Association [here](#). If you have any comments or queries, please email us at alumni@northumbria.ac.uk.