

Alumni
Association



Northumbria
University
NEWCASTLE

NEWS BULLETIN

UNIVERSITY NEWS



Northumbria University News Spring 2023 edition out now!

The first issue of 2023 shares exciting plans for Northumbria's Centre for Health and Social Equity (CHASE) - a brand new, state-of-the-art hub featuring world-class clinical skills facilities, labs, and teaching space, which will be situated within the University's City Campus. This edition also covers all the latest research news, including a solar scientist using artificial intelligence to predict space storms, a sustainable plastic alternative developed by Northumbria engineers and work to eradicate the use of torture during police interviews around the world.

[Read more](#)

FOCUS ON RESEARCH



Northumbria University's Peaks of Research Excellence

At Northumbria University we have a number of areas where our research is truly outstanding and is shaping knowledge and practice around the world. We call these our 'Peaks of Research Excellence' and they are a vital part of our vibrant research landscape alongside the high quality research undertaken in our academic departments. These Peaks are focused and cohesive areas of research within our academic departments where we have particular strengths and exemplify the outstanding research being undertaken.

[Find out more](#)



Lockheed Martin join forces with Northumbria to unlock the future of space-based solar power

As part of British Science Week, Lockheed Martin has announced an investment of £150,000 to Northumbria University in a project that aims to accelerate the delivery of space-based solar power. Combining science and technology, the project will use specialised photovoltaic cells that will collect and convert laser power into useable power for future space and lunar vehicles. This technology has future applications that could include space-based solar power to deliver a consistent source of clean energy.

[Read more](#)



Research shows the current diversity of tree species has been shaped by climate change

A new global survey of 1,000 forest areas shows how past climate change has had a major impact on the diversity and distribution of the tree species we see today. The results can help to predict how ecosystems will react to future changes, helping to shape conservation management around the globe. A research team from more than 50 research institutes around the world including Northumbria University, has assessed how past climate changes have affected the composition of tree species.

[Read more](#)



Research funding gives hope for sight loss breakthrough

A team of scientists led by a Northumbria University academic has won funding to research an eye disease suffered by over 190 million people worldwide. The award, from the Academy of Medical Sciences' Springboard Scheme, will help fund ground-breaking techniques to study age-related macular degeneration (AMD), a common disease that affects vision, particularly in elderly people. It is believed that the research, led by Dr Gerrit Hilgen, has the potential to lead to new treatments for AMD.

[Read more](#)



Study will examine whether popular podcast can influence research culture

A podcast which shares regular insights into the trailblazing research and teaching at Northumbria University's School of Design is now the subject of a study aimed at uncovering the potential impact on research culture. Led by Senior Research Assistants Helen Simmons and Dr Nkumbu Mutambo, the Designamite podcast was launched last summer as a way of helping to highlight the people and projects driving creativity and innovation across all activities within the School of Design at Northumbria.

[Read more](#)



Polar ice sheet melting records have topped during the past decade

The seven worst years for polar ice sheets melting and losing ice have occurred during the past decade, according to new research, with 2019 being the worst year on record. NASA and the European Space Agency awarded funding to the Ice Sheet Mass Balance Intercomparison Exercise (IMBIE), which is led by Northumbria University's Centre for Polar Observations and Modelling, in 2011 to compile 50 satellite surveys of Antarctica and Greenland to determine their rate of polar ice sheet melting.

[Read more](#)

FOCUS ON SCHOLARSHIPS



Assura supports Northumbria University Health students through scholarships

Northumbria is delighted to welcome Assura as a new corporate supporter of our Higher Education Without Barriers campaign. Assura engaged Northumbria University through the Centre for Health And Social Equity (CHASE) capital development project after attending a stakeholder session at The Baltic in June 2022. Subsequently, they have pledged to support five first-year, undergraduate Health-based scholarships, and student living costs.

[Read more](#)



Female entrepreneurs get business boost

Female entrepreneurial students and graduate entrepreneurs are set to benefit from a new Female Accelerator programme, thanks to generous support from the Susan Dobson Memorial Fund. The Fund was set up in memory of Susan Dobson, who grew a thriving international business in the North East and throughout her professional life was committed to combatting the challenges facing the North East following the decline of heavy industries. Her memorial fund recognises and supports women's entrepreneurial achievements for the benefit of the regional economy.

[Read more](#)



Professor Richard Terry Memorial Scholarship

A memorial scholarship has been set up to commemorate respected and popular academic, Professor Richard Terry, whose teaching and mentorship inspired many of his colleagues and students during his 13 years at the University. Richard was a passionate literary scholar, renowned within the field of Eighteenth-Century Studies and served in a number of positions at Northumbria including Head of Humanities and Associate Dean for Research. Richard's family have supported the establishment of the scholarship which will help students from under-represented backgrounds studying Humanities.

[Find out more](#)

GET INVOLVED



Study UK Preparing for Work

The Study UK campaign, delivered by the British Council in partnership with the UK government's GREAT Britain campaign, is launching its next run of the 'Study UK: Preparing for Work' free online course. The Massive Open Online Learning Courses (MOOC) is for international final-year students, graduates and alumni of a UK university, who are preparing to enter the jobs market or wish to develop their careers. It is specifically designed to help participants present their UK education, skills and knowledge to prospective employers and navigate the global employment market.

[Find out more](#)



Neurodivergent graduate career development

The Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services is collaborating on a new research project, 'Enhancing Neurodivergent Graduates' Access to Graduate Employment (ENGAGE)', in collaboration with the University of Southampton and Lancaster University. As part of this project they are surveying both employers and neurodivergent graduates to capture their experiences and perceptions and hope to use the results of this project to inform workshops and other related training in support of neurodivergent graduates' career development.

[Find out more](#)

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[Apply now](#)

EVENTS



Join us for Northumbria University's Sport Dinner

Join us for Northumbria University's Sport Dinner on Friday, 20 October 2023 at St James' Park, Newcastle. The Dinner will raise funds in support of the Higher Education Without Barriers fund. It will create scholarships for students with the potential to excel both at university and in the sporting arena; provide PhD studentships for scholars from low participation backgrounds; provide enhanced learning resources and extend sport volunteering and wellbeing programmes.

[Book now](#)



Save the date - Careersfest 2023!

Are you a recent graduate in need of careers support to help you move into a professional-level role? Careersfest 23 is a day of interactive careers workshops. Taking place in Newcastle on Monday 26 June, come along and get a VIP pass to careers support, grab a FREE lunch and win prizes! There'll also be an opportunity to network with local NE employers. Follow Graduate Futures on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#) for updates on this event.

[Access careers support](#)

POSTGRADUATE STUDY LOUNGE VIRTUAL EVENT

**TUESDAY 30 MAY 2023
5.15 PM - 8 PM**

Join us on campus at our next event and hear from students who have returned to study a Masters at Northumbria and put your questions to the panel.

BOOK NOW

MASTERS SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**SAVE UP TO 50% ON
TUITION FEES AND MORE**

This year Northumbria are offering an array of financial incentives on an extensive range of Masters courses, which can help you achieve your career goals in 2023.

EXPLORE SCHOLARSHIPS



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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.