

Facts, figures and a flavour of the year

Annual Review 2009/10





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Chair of the Board of Directors

Stephen Henwood

I was appointed Chair of the University Board at the beginning of October 2010 and therefore whilst I have not been directly involved in most of the activity described in this report, I can reflect on the difficult actions completed in the year that can give us increased confidence in our ability to respond to the new challenges being faced by the higher education sector.



Above: Stephen Henwood
Chair of the Board of Directors

2009/10 was a difficult year at the university with changes in the leadership team and the Board being completed in parallel with a difficult programme of staff rationalisation and changes to our estate. These actions were essential to put the university on a sound financial footing but the Board does not underestimate the impact that they had both on the staff and students concerned and recognise that work is required to rebuild the trust that is essential to the success of the university. At the end of the year we can reflect that the difficult process of restructuring is essentially complete and has led to substantial savings and a prediction of surplus for the next year.

As we look forward from a stronger base there are many challenges ahead and as a Board we will be seeking to put in place a clear programme of change and development that will ensure that the University of Cumbria is successful in the uncertain new world of profound changes to funding of higher education. I would like to thank Peter Ballard, my predecessor, for all the work that he led to establish the university and for steering it through some difficult times.

Cumbria is one of a small number of universities that is regional—the link is very important. Inevitably though, there are particular challenges in a large area with a small population. Reflecting the nature of the region in the courses we offer, as already happens within our health faculty, is vital, and other areas, for example policing, offer the same opportunities. We need to be clear that we're representing the region and therefore we need to reflect its characteristics. Our course portfolio has to be relevant and appropriate.

“The university has emerged leaner, more efficient and effective, and ready to take on the new challenges that inevitably lie ahead.”

So, looking to the future, I see three main priorities:

1. We have to continue to strengthen the university's finances—good, effective management of our resources is required.
2. Support for the new management and academic team is vital. The senior team has gone through a period of intense change and, with a number of new members, it needs to come together effectively. I am delighted that Professor Peter Strike will be joining as Vice Chancellor in the summer. He brings strong academic and managerial experience and a real commitment to Cumbria; his county of birth. Professor Graham Upton, our interim Vice Chancellor may have been with the university only since May, but in this relatively short space of time he has proved an inspirational, highly able leader with vision and focus, and his influence on the university has been far reaching.
3. The university has been through a difficult time and the external context is going through unprecedented change. We need to define very clearly the way forward. Under the Vice Chancellor's leadership we have started a review of our strategy (something envisaged at the time the first strategy was written) and specific actions will be defined in a new business plan.

We must strive to become a university that is recognised as being excellent at what it does. Having said that, we need to be very clear about what it is we do—we need a clear academic identity that offers a particular student experience, for example good teaching, a variety of types of learning access, studying in a great part of the country. Also, we must develop the academic team who will increasingly build our reputation for research.

Ultimately my vision is for a university that has a clear sense of its own identity and is eager to move forward. In that context we should be proud of where we've come from and equally proud and clear about where we're going.

Good News

In the day-to-day routines of running a university, it is easy to lose sight of the amazing number of success stories that arise as a result of our endeavours. We acknowledge and celebrate this as evidence of our progress as an established university.



Women's Business Centre Quality Standard awarded to the university

At the annual Northwest Women in Business awards the university was one of only eight organisations in the North West to be awarded the Women's Business Centre Quality Standard.

The Women's Business Centre (WBC) Quality Standard is a new international standard of excellence for targeted women's enterprise support being piloted in the north west of England, with funding from the North West Development Agency. The award is public recognition for real achievement against a rigorous standard and a mark of excellence and quality to reassure clients and market services. This year's event was held at Ribby Hall Village in Lancashire and the award was collected by Sheila Kelly and Rachael Sterrett from the university's Business School.

Commenting on the award Sheila said: "The Business School was honoured to receive public recognition for real achievement against a rigorous standard for measuring, benchmarking and improving services for women. The Women's Business Centre Quality Standard aims to create a global network of approved centres to bring women entrepreneurs all over the world together. This award is very exciting news for the university and for women entrepreneurs in Cumbria and Lancashire."

Rachael added "The Business School has many years' experience working with budding and established entrepreneurs and the needs and aspirations of our women clients are well recognised and catered for."

The university's work in terms of workshops, short courses and leadership programmes is greatly enhanced by this recognition—it reflects the special difference that is the University of Cumbria Business School.



Above: Sheila Kelly (left) and Rachael Sterrett at the annual Northwest Women in Business awards

SDF bid successful

Additional HEFCE funding secured to support major university restructure.

In July the university received confirmation from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) that its recent funding bid for £5m had been successful.

The university bid for additional resource from HEFCE's Strategic Development Fund earlier this year to support its restructuring and development plans. The fund is available to all higher education institutions, to support specific strategic projects/activity.

Vice Chancellor Graham Upton said: "This is really good news and the university is extremely grateful to HEFCE for its continued support. This additional resource, which is in the form of a repayable grant, will ensure we can support the major restructuring work to reshape and resize this new institution for the future. We have a secure base now to move forward and this decision will support the continuing progress which is being made throughout our recovery process and in our plans to meet the challenging public expenditure environment that lies ahead."

University leaps in national league tables

The university rose 27 places to number 81 in the Complete Independent Newspaper's 2010–11 University Guide, the largest move up the ratings of any university in the UK.

The university was rated as joint fifth best university in the North West, placed above other regional universities like Bolton, Liverpool John Moores, Salford, Manchester Met and Edge Hill. In the Times Good University Guide, the university saw another jump of five places and was rated 78th.

Vice Chancellor Professor Graham Upton said: "I'm very pleased with these league table results. We've advanced so significantly in the Independent's University Guide and continued to improve in the Times. We are proud of our students who continue to excel and we're committed to providing the best student experience possible. This is a testament to the quality of our provision."

From left: host Alexander Armstrong, university marketing manager Graham Kennedy with colleagues and Times Higher editor, Ann Mroz



Marketing team's campaign wins award

The university's marketing team won the prestigious Recruitment Campaign of the Year Award at the Times Higher Education Leadership and Management Awards 2010.

The award ceremony took place in London at the Grosvenor House Hotel on Park Lane on 17 June and was hosted by actor and comedian Alexander Armstrong. The award was for the university's successful marketing campaign to attract more part-time students from a wider audience, as a direct result of forecasts that the number of young Britons is set to decline. It was therefore decided to target women aged 25 to 45 who were looking to improve their skills, return to work or simply study for the enjoyment of it.

The campaign, entitled 'In Your Own Time', ran from April to May last year. The approach taken was based on "emotional marketing", using a real-life example of someone whose life had been changed by part-time study. An exhibition trailer was used to take the message to potential students in Cumbria and Lancashire, and the university's website was employed to encourage dialogue, offering podcasts in which students recounted their part-time experiences. The campaign led to more than 1,000 additional part-time students joining the university this year, bringing in additional fee income of more than £115,000.



Left: The university's Pre-School Centre in Lancaster

Pre-School Centre rated as outstanding

The university's Pre-School Centre in Lancaster has been rated as outstanding in its latest Ofsted inspection.

The report stated: "The very experienced and skilled staff group have an excellent knowledge of each individual child's needs and interests and they make sure that they successfully promote children's welfare and learning to an excellent standard." Also praised were the "extremely strong" leadership and management and the "highly stimulating and vibrant environment" which the pre-school provides for the children to enjoy learning through play.

The enthusiasm and challenging nature of the teaching and the way it motivates the children to

think critically and creatively were singled out for praise, as was the "exceptional organisation of the educational programmes." The Pre-School Centre's commitment to equality and diversity and the support it provides for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities were also rated as outstanding.

Philippa Perks, Pre-School Centre manager, said: "I'm very pleased with the results of our latest Ofsted report and it's a testament to the hard work of our staff that we have been rated so highly."

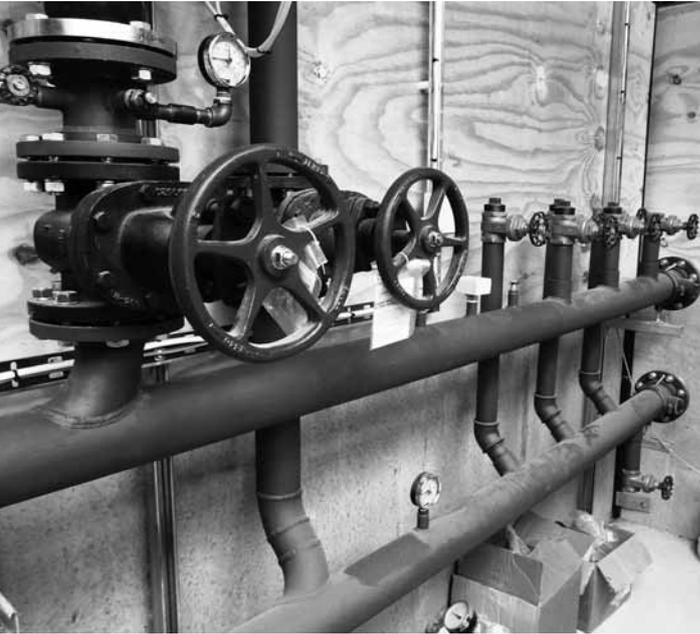
Ofsted is the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages.

Green

The university is committed to sustainability in all its activities. Its aim is to embed environmental sustainability, the protection of biodiversity and conservation into its culture and to demonstrate continuous, measurable improvement, and with high profile university projects acknowledged as leaders in the field, this goal is within reach.



Below: Newton Rigg's eco-friendly biomass boiler



Green energy at Newton Rigg campus

Students at the Newton Rigg campus are to have their homes heated by an eco-friendly biomass boiler. Burning willow grown on the Newton Rigg estate will provide 100 per cent green energy for heating radiators and water in the campus residences.

“As far as I am aware our students will be the first in the UK to have their homes heated by carbon-neutral energy crops generated by their own university estate,” said Environmental Sustainability Co-ordinator, Garry Sharples.

One hundred and twenty students live in the residences. The biomass boiler was switched on this March. Former Newton Rigg forestry student William Barden installed the boiler which is the latest environmentally-friendly initiative at the campus.

“As a former student it’s great to be able to come back and contribute something as worthwhile as this to the Newton Rigg campus,” he said. “Sustainability of energy supplies is going to become one of the most crucial issues facing society over the next few decades. It’s good to see the university throwing its weight behind energy sustainability and environmental responsibility.”

Elsewhere at Newton Rigg:

Farm vehicles are powered by rape seed oil grown on Sewborwens Farm; food waste is turned into mulch for the gardens via a special composter; student residences have been insulated and smart metres installed; the grounds are sympathetically managed for wildlife and birds.

Moving the university towards sustainability is a key objective over the next few years.

Garry explained that the biomass boiler—which is expected to burn four to five tonnes of wood a week—would save 260 tonnes of carbon dioxide from being emitted to the atmosphere every year.

This, in turn, will help to offset some of the emissions made by university vehicles travelling between sites. Whilst burning the wood emits carbon dioxide, this is only what was originally absorbed by the willow when it was growing, creating the carbon neutral emissions cycle. The willow is coppiced and harvested every three to four years.

“The university is taking the lead within the county in transformational projects such as the biomass boiler which will reduce our environmental impact,” said Garry. “We are already getting huge interest from other universities in the UK. It is great to see a real commitment from the university to sustainable development.”

The project has been managed in-house with departments working closely together. In particular the following staff have contributed to the project’s success: Allan Hartley and Liz Dick from the estates department, facilities management staff, the grounds manager (Con Maguire) at Newton Rigg, and the Faculty of Science and Natural Resources. David Woodcock (farm manager at Newton Rigg) has also been a key player as he grows the wood on the farm.

Culture change for cycling

The university instigated travel surveys which included questions to staff and students about the improvements that they would like to see that could encourage them to reduce their car use.



Above: members of staff taking advantage of *Cycle Scheme*

In line with other UK universities, specific measures in relation to cycling and walking scored quite highly, helping to demonstrate that there is potential to increase 'active travel' to the university.

What's been done?

Corporately, the university introduced *Cycle Scheme* in early summer 2009. Approximately five per cent of staff have taken the opportunity to get hold of a bike at a reduced price. A new online active travel forum has been created on the university's eLearning site, Blackboard. This allows debate and information regarding cycling and walking issues. Health awareness and vitality programmes have included more cycling events than before, with guided rides, cyclists' breakfasts and free bike maintenance.

Specific things have also been happening on some of our sites. At Newton Rigg, a good working relationship with Cumbria County Council (CCC) has made some improvements possible. In spring 2009 CCC resurfaced most of the main cycle route between the site and Penrith (part of

the C2C route). At Carlisle, we held a travel fair in November 2009 which included promotion of cycle friendly Carlisle. For those who are not comfortable cycling on the road, both the main university sites have signed cycle paths nearby. A grant from Sustrans has also allowed new covered cycle parking to be installed at Fusehill Street and Milbourn Street.

At Lancaster we have launched Velocampus Cumbria. This was made possible with a £40k grant from Cycling England which allowed us to install new secure cycle parking and set up a low cost, high-spec bike loan scheme for students. This will help our students to get around more easily and cheaply and help to reduce the number of full-time students who need to bring a car to university. A lot of the work has been a joint programme with the Cycling Demonstration Town, a project run by the city council with funding from Cycling England. It would not have been possible to create Velocampus Cumbria without their detailed knowledge and ongoing help and funding.

Partnerships

Working together is invariably more effective than working in isolation. As evidence of this, the University of Cumbria collaborates successfully with the public, private and charitable sectors.





New water pump built in African village

A new, clean-water pump has been built at an African village school thanks to sales of bottled water at the university.

One Water has been the only bottled water sold on the university's campuses since 2007 and all the profits made by the company go towards building drinking-water pumps in deprived areas around the world.

The money made by the university's sales has paid for a new water pump in Malere primary school in Lesotho in southern Africa and will provide clean drinking water for a community of 1400 people. The university's logo will feature on the side of the pump. *One Water* uses its profits to build roundabout-powered PlayPump water systems. Children play on a roundabout that pumps fresh, clean water from deep underground into storage tanks for use by the entire community. The pumps mean that families don't have to walk for hours to collect water and then bring it back to their homes. Children are able to spend that time in school and this has already made a big difference with educational standards and attendance going up wherever the pumps have been placed. Ann Burgess, commercial services manager, started the university stocking *One Water* in 2007. She said: "I'm very pleased the university students have been able to help the Malere community and fund their new water pump. As the largest provider of teacher training in the UK it is a good link to assist in the education of children whilst supporting an ethical business in this way."

Above: The water pump in Malere village in Lesotho, southern Africa

Below: Scale How, Ambleside



Mountain Heritage Trust creates archive at Ambleside

The Mountain Heritage Trust is to form a partnership with the university to create a sports history and culture archive.

With its breathtaking landscape, Cumbria has always been the natural home of British climbing. So where better to launch a partnership aimed at creating a permanent archive of the sports history and culture?

The university and the Mountain Heritage Trust have joined forces to work towards this objective. The aim is to build on the existing archive of film and artefacts at Ambleside so that within the next five years the university and Mountain Heritage Trust will share an international asset which will also engage the Alpine Club and other key collections in Cumbria based on landscape. As well as being of international interest to students and historians, the collection would be used to develop areas of the undergraduate and postgraduate curriculum at the university.

Sir Chris Bonington said: "The key role of the Mountain Heritage Trust is to ensure that mountaineering's fascinating heritage, artefacts, history and traditions are conserved, documented, made accessible and—perhaps most importantly of all—communicated to a wide audience. I can think of nowhere more suitable for the job than Cumbria."

Climbing mountains for fun was pioneered by the British in the 1840s—with many subsequent famous climbers having strong Cumbrian links. A programme of events will look at the way mountains have inspired the arts and business, become important demarcations in geopolitics and war, and examine the effects of climate change on water sources. The vice chancellor and Sir Chris Bonington launched the partnership on 10 November.

University selected as lead partner for libraries change project

The COLLABORATE Project aims to use collaboration as a means to challenge and transform university library services and ways of working at a number of the North West's universities.



The project will be funded by the Higher Education Academy's Change Academy initiative, which encourages and supports collaboration across higher education institutions, working in partnership with the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education. The universities involved are University of Cumbria, University of Bradford, University of Huddersfield, Edge Hill University, Leeds Metropolitan University, Liverpool John Moores University, University of Salford, Teesside University and University of York.

Head of Learning Information and Student Services, Margaret Weaver is the team leader for the COLLABORATE Project. She explains: "This project is all about putting the student experience at the heart of everything we do. By working collaboratively, we can better serve all our students and provide a better higher education learning experience. Libraries are traditionally good at working together and therefore our starting point is to build on current library collaborative approaches, developing the capacity for collective leadership to inform possible new shared services, and staff engagement, and to harness emergent technologies for twenty-first century student-centred services using the Change Academy co-creative techniques."

Above: Head of Learning, Information and Student Services, Margaret Weaver

Research

The intellectual life of a university is underpinned by research. It permeates all aspects of campus life and stimulates discussion and initiatives, generating not only new courses but also opportunities in the private sector, while enhancing the academic reputations of those involved. The University of Cumbria's research profile continues to expand across a range of disciplines.



Professor Frank Peck receives accolade from the Academy of Social Sciences



Left: Professor Frank Peck

Outstanding work on economic matters has paid dividends for a university professor. Frank Peck, research director at the Centre for Regional Economic Development, has been given the title of academician by the Academy of Social Sciences.

This title is given to distinguished scholars from either the public or private sector who have made a significant contribution to the social sciences. Frank was nominated for his work in promoting the field of regional studies over the last 30 years or so and through his involvement in the activities of the Regional Studies Association. His research work includes a significant number of publications on the regional effects of inward investment, corporate change and industrial restructuring and the role and effectiveness of regional development strategies. Through his work at the Centre for Regional Economic Development he has undertaken social science research involving close links to regional policymakers and practitioners involved in economic regeneration. He also currently acts as an independent expert evaluator of proposals for EU research programmes (FP7).

University duo wins national award

The development of guidelines to support the academic induction of newly appointed university lecturers in teacher education has seen two staff collect a national award.



Above: Kim Harris and Pete Boyd

Principal lecturer Pete Boyd, and senior lecturer Kim Harris—based in the Faculty of Education—won the award at the British Educational Research Association's annual conference in Manchester, for work carried out with Professor Jean Murray, from the University of East London. The Sage British Educational Research Association Practitioner Research Award recognises practitioner researchers demonstrating excellence and impact in the application of research in practice in a 16+ learning environment. In addition to independent research by the team members, more than 50 lecturers in teacher education from a wide range of universities and colleges took part in national seminars, which contributed to the creation

of the guidelines. The project was supported by funding from ESCalate—the Higher Education Academy subject centre for education. Pete said: “The project was stimulated by our personal experiences of becoming university-based teacher educators and the need to support newly appointed colleagues through the transition from expert school teachers to academics. We are very pleased to receive this recognition for our project, and would like to thank ESCalate for their support for the project and acknowledge the large number of colleagues who contributed to the development of the guidelines.”



Left: Emeritus Professor
Margaret Ledwith

University professor lands “best-selling title of all time” award

Emeritus Professor Margaret Ledwith has been awarded ‘Best-selling Title of All Time’ and a ‘Lifetime Achievement’ award by The Policy Press—a leading international publisher of high quality books and journals across a wide range of subjects.

Margaret’s peers have been full of praise. Professor Ira Shor of the City of New York Graduate School says: “This is a wonderfully readable and thoughtful book that merges theory and practice in challenging social inequality.

“For studying community needs, and for the future development of new communities, Margaret Ledwith’s book is essential reading.” This award-winning book, *Community Development: A Critical Approach*, was published in 2005, and reprinted just three months later to meet demand. Not only is it used widely in the UK, but it has made its mark in other countries, from Malta to Nepal.

Community development is about social and environmental justice, creating a better world for all by getting people involved. Community development workers work in communities in partnership with local people exploring the issues that are affecting their lives, and acting together to change things for the better. For many years, this is the work that Margaret did in communities affected by extreme poverty, and these experiences have been the foundation for her writing.

The book advocates a critical approach to community development, emphasising that theory is an essential part of practice if we are to make sense of what is happening in society and do something about the escalating crises of social justice and environmental sustainability that face us. Margaret is a storyteller, and her writing is brought alive by the stories she tells of her own experience in community development practice.

Community development is much more than just a profession to Margaret; it’s a way of life and this is evident throughout the book. “I am passionate about my work. It’s a life commitment, not just a job, so having the opportunity to write a book like this and having it so widely appreciated has been a great privilege. And now, receiving this Lifetime Achievement award from The Policy Press is an immense honour.”

Margaret’s third book, written with Jane Springett, *Participatory Practice: Community-based Action for Transformative Change*, was published by The Policy Press in November 2009.

Students

Without its students, a university has no purpose. At the University of Cumbria, we continuously celebrate their outstanding achievements and success.



Students take part in Aimhigher mentoring scheme

Students have been mentoring pupils from schools and colleges across Lancashire and Cumbria to help them to successfully make the transition into higher education.



The Aimhigher Associates scheme is a national initiative that utilises undergraduate students (Associates) to support under-represented groups of learners at key points in their education and to equip them with the skills/knowledge needed to succeed at university. It involves Aimhigher Area partnerships and higher education institutions across the country. Associates work with pupils on a one-to-one and group basis, helping them with learning skills, subject choice, HE applications and student finance. The sessions help to boost the confidence and raise the aspirations of pupils, as well as encouraging them to see higher education as something attainable.

The university currently has 56 Associates, comprising students from Lancaster, Fusehill Street, Brampton Road and Newton Rigg campuses. The university's Associates are currently working with over 245 learners in twelve schools and three colleges across Lancashire and Cumbria. All Associates were required to pass an interview and then an intensive two-day training course to prepare them for their role. Students have been very positive about the experience. Patrick Haley, Associate at Dallam School said: "As a trainee teacher I want to help all children find their path, and Aimhigher gives me the opportunity to help young adults steer towards a possible better future." Associate at Preston College, Fazila Umarji added: "I loved hearing that there is something out there that supports young students in progressing to their potential, making them feel special, capable and supported!"

Above: a group of the university's Aimhigher Associates

UCSU volunteers in ‘Tree o’Clock’ Guinness World Record attempt

On a very cold and wet Saturday morning in December, 42 volunteers comprising university students, staff and their families, participated in an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most number of trees planted, in multiple locations across the UK, within one hour.

Watches were synchronised and the ten-second countdown to 11.00am was announced before the digging could begin. Our volunteers contributed an amazing 642 native



trees: blackthorn, hawthorn, bird cherry and crab apple, which were planted around the ‘cow dome’ at Sewborwens Farm on the Newton Rigg campus.

To comply with Guinness World Records regulations, the planted trees had to be verified by two independent witnesses, Joan Raine, Vice Chair of Eden District Council and PC Adrian Hill. The record they were trying to beat was 653,143 and at the time of writing they were still waiting to hear if they were successful!

“This was a great opportunity for our volunteers to support and sustain biodiversity in a fun way,” says Emma Egglestone, UCSU Volunteer Coordinator.

“Volunteering is a really valuable and worthwhile activity to take part in, not just for you and your community, but for your environment too!” adds Emma Green, President of the Students’ Union.

This project was a BBC Breathing Places initiative as part of National Tree Week.

Above right: UCSU volunteers in world record attempt

Right: mental health branch students at the Fusehill Street campus

Time to Change campaign

The new September 2009 intake of mental health branch students from the university’s Fusehill Street campus in Carlisle showed their support for the *Time to Change* campaign this autumn.



Time to Change is England’s most ambitious programme to end discrimination faced by people who experience mental health problems. The vision is to make lives better for everyone by ending mental health discrimination. One in four people will experience a significant mental health problem during their lifetime and this includes staff and students within higher education. Check out the *Time to Change* website at www.time-to-change.org.uk/home and play your part in creating a mental health promoting society and university.

Lancaster campus hosts multicultural awareness event

A multicultural awareness day was held on the Lancaster campus in October with a range of activities organised by students and staff.



Members of the university's Multicultural Society gave students and staff the opportunity to learn more about different cultures and experience some of their traditions, such as meditation and Bollywood dancing. The event, which was held in the Students' Union on Wednesday 21 October, also featured stands for henna hand painting, origami and Indian head massages, traditional English tea cakes and threading. A German Society member taught German phrases and there were also opportunities to learn Welsh. The president of the society, Judith Hill, said: "Our members have

made a huge effort—I hope this day has raised awareness about the Multicultural Society. We are hoping to organise an international evening in January or February 2010."

Minority ethnic recruitment and retention project leader, Sally Elton-Chalcraft, commented: "This event has been a great success and I want to thank everyone who took part. We hope to organise similar events on our other campuses and do as much as we can to promote diversity throughout the university."

Student success at regional RTS Student Awards

Entries from the university were voted Best Fiction Film, Best Factual Film and Best Entertainment at the Royal Television Society's student award ceremony at The Sage, Gateshead.

Programme leader Rob Charters said: "This is a fantastic achievement for our students. They've worked really hard over the past three years, and it's great to see their work being recognised in a professional context. These awards should help boost their careers."

Richard Leshone, 22, was the director of *Inc*, which picked up the award for Best Fiction, beating off competition from students at the University of Sunderland and Newcastle College. The production team was made up of Stephanie Whitehead, Gavin Power, Alex Wright and Max Heisler.

The award for Best Factual film went to *Impressions*, a film about a blind radio presenter and drummer from Belfast. It was directed by Judith Kinsella, with a production team of Don Morrison, Cameron Chalmers, Lucas Albro and Austin Blaylock.

The Best Entertainment category was won by *Learn a Language*, a series of three short campaign films designed for television, cinema and the internet directed by Michael Morgan Bain. The team included Abigail Allsop, John Pierre Casanova, Carla Jagger and David Hunter.

These awards are the latest in a long line of awards won by students of the course stretching back to 1994. The university is always up against stiff opposition from other universities in the region such as Sunderland, Teesside and Northumbria. Always strong in the areas of drama and animation, the university has been developing its provision in the areas of documentary, commercials and music video production and is now hoping to work with industry in the development of video games and new media. Winning the awards in the Factual and Entertainment categories shows the development of a broad range of provision has given the students the opportunity to create interesting and award-winning work.

Michael Mitchell, lecturer in producing, said: "This is great for the university and a tribute to all of the staff both academic and technical. Achieving a clean sweep on Saturday night helps show many of the positive things that happen at the university and also shows that even though the university is going through some difficult times, we are still competing in real terms with the other universities in the region."

Right:
Tom Marper

Running up that hill...

A teenage athlete from Dalston near Carlisle has set his sights on winning a medal at the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. University student Tom Marper, 18, is already setting impressive times at 800 metres.



"My personal best is currently 1 minute 48 seconds and only about a quarter of a second separates me and the other top six runners of my age in the country," he said. It also puts him just three-and-a-half seconds behind the personal best of current UK 800 metre champion Michael Rimmer.

Currently studying sport at the Newton Rigg campus, Tom has now been offered scholarship at two universities in America. His lecturer, Graham Murphy, said: "He's a terrific ambassador for the university and has the talent—and speed—to go all the way. We've been really flexible in making sure that the course fits around his training needs and the various meets he needs to attend. He is right on the cusp of becoming a professional athlete."

At five foot six inches tall and just over eight stone Tom is working hard—both in the gym and on the track—to hone the physique he needs to boost his speed. "I'm doing gym sessions, heavy weights and low repetitions, to build my power and lots of speed work on the track," he explained.

Already working as a pace setter in top-level races, Tom cites British Olympic champion Sebastian Coe as his inspiration. "I'd love to meet him one day as he is a legend in middle-distance running," he said.

Tom only started running 800 metres within the last couple of years, previously competing in 1500m and 3k events after running cross country at school.

"I'm competing in the British Milers Club 800 metres at Watford in two weeks time so we will see how that goes," he said.

His longer term ambitions include representing his country at the Commonwealth Games, Glasgow, in 2014, the World Championships, South Korea, in 2015 and ultimately the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro in 2016. "The qualifying time for the Olympics is 1 minute 45 seconds. I'm at 1 minute 48 seconds but now it's getting really hard to get my time down further," he admitted.

Connor treads the boards

Conor Neaves has been recruited by the organisation which taught two James Bonds how to act. Eighteen-year-old Conor, a student on the National Diploma in Performing Arts, was recently joined up with the National Youth Theatre (NYT) in London.

Former students of the NYT include Daniel Craig, Timothy Dalton and Orlando Bloom. Thousands of students from across the country auditioned for the few places available.

Conor, who's from Carlisle, said: "It was a terrific experience. I now get sent regular emails about castings that I otherwise might not know about.

"The London lifestyle is completely different to what I'm used to. I loved it. There was so much going on and I really did learn a lot. I want to be as versatile a performer as I can be, whether that's in film, television or theatre.

"The university has been great for me. Even though I was only 16 when I started my National Diploma in Performing Arts, I have always been treated like a student, rather than a sixth-former."

James Issitt, senior lecturer in drama at the university said: "It's a very impressive achievement. The best young actors in Britain apply to join the National Youth Theatre, so for Conor to be accepted is something special. Conor consistently produced outstanding work and we are extremely proud of his achievement!"

In 2009 Ofsted praised the high success rate of the university's National Diploma in Performing Arts.

The National Youth Theatre was launched in 1956 by Michael Croft, with the aim of using theatre to help in the development of young people. Members are taught how to improvise, devise and perform under the guidance of a professional director and specialist tutors, developing an understanding of skills and disciplines which will serve them in the future. The acting company of the NYT is made up from selected acting members once they have completed a course.

Silver medal for Jonathan



University of Cumbria student Jonathan Shaw has just returned from Germany with a silver medal after representing Great Britain at the Junior European Canoe Slalom Championships.

Jonathan is currently studying for a National Diploma in Sport (Outdoor Adventure) at Newton Rigg and won the medal competing in the Canadian Double Teams event held on a purpose-built white water course just outside Leipzig.

Jonathan only started canoeing in 2004 but quickly developed a real desire to compete seriously in the sport and was selected to train with the GB World Class Junior Development Squad the following year. In May this year Jonathan and his paddling partner, Liam Allwood from Doncaster, were selected to represent their country in the Canadian Double Team event at both the World and European Championships.

Jonathan says: "This is the first year we've been selected to represent Great Britain in this event, and earlier this summer we were placed 11th in the individual C2 class of the Junior World Canoe Slalom Championships in France, so winning Silver at the European Championships is a dream come true.

"My tutors have been extremely supportive, especially when training commitments have clashed with my studies. I'm just starting the final year of my course and ideally, I'd eventually like to combine my love of the outdoors and canoeing with being a paramedic".

Mark Lawton, one of Jonathan's tutors at Newton Rigg, says: "This is a fantastic achievement for Jonathan and no less than he deserves. He has worked hard to balance his studies, his training commitments and the large amount of travelling and is progressing extremely well in his course. The result in Germany is testament to his determination and hard work."

Jonathan relies on sponsorship to continue training and competing at this level. He has received some financial support from Asda and Lancashire Rising Stars (Warburtons) but if any other firms/organisations would like to consider supporting him financially in his quest to one day represent GB at the Olympics in canoe slalom, he can be contacted at mark_shaw@tiscali.co.uk

Governance & Management

Student numbers:

8084 full-time equivalent students (FTE)

Academic staff numbers:

485.4 full-time equivalent (FTE)

Professional services numbers:

785.7 full-time equivalent (FTE)

University Board Directors who held office during academic year 2009/10

The Venerable Peter Ballard
Chairman

Mr Euan Cartwright
Vice Chairman

Very Revd Mark Boyling
(w.e.f. 10 March 2010)

Mr Bill Broekhuizen MBE

Mr Ian Bullough

Dame Alexandra Burslem DBE JP DL

Mr Robert Clarke OBE

Mr Andrew John Collier CBE

Mr Darren Connor
Staff Representative

Mr Alan Cooper OBE

Mr Ed Elvish

Mr Bill Hamilton

Ms Carole Heatly

Mr Brian Hetherington

The Revd Dr Canon David Jenkins
(to 30 November 2009)

Lord Roger Liddle

Mrs Patricia Lowrie

Prof Peter McCaffery
Vice Chancellor
(to 19 May 2010)

Bishop James Newcome

Mr John Robb
Student Representative

Mr William Sang

Ms Barbara Stephens OBE

Prof Graham Upton
Interim Vice Chancellor
(w.e.f. 24 May 2010)

Senior Management Team members in post during academic year 2009/10

Prof Peter McCaffery
Vice Chancellor
(until 19 May 2010)

Prof Graham Upton
Interim Vice Chancellor
(w.e.f. 24 May 2010)

Professor Liz Beaty
Pro Vice Chancellor
(Academic Enterprise
and External Relations)

Ruth Jenkinson
Pro Vice Chancellor
(Student Experience)
(until January 2010)

Helen Marshall
Pro Vice Chancellor
(Academic)
(until March 2010)

Neil Harris
Registrar and Secretary

Peter Armer
Director of Resources,
Finance and Estates
(until September 2009)

Peter Nixon
Director of Operations and
Corporate Services
(until December 2009)

Stephen Avery
Interim Director of Finance
(w.e.f. October 2009)

John Parr
Interim Director of HR/Change
Management
(w.e.f. January 2010)

Charles Mitchell
Dean, Faculty of the Arts

Dr Eunice Simmons
Dean, Faculty of Science
and Natural Resources

Melissa Shaw
Dean, Faculty of Education
(w.e.f. 1 June 2009)

Dr Robin Talbot
Dean, Faculty of Health, Medical
Sciences and Social Care

Professor Robert Hannaford
Dean, Faculty of Business, Social
Science and Sport

Financial summary

Scope of the Financial Statements

These Financial Statements comprise the consolidated results of the university and its wholly owned subsidiary companies.

Results for Year

The university made a consolidated surplus before exceptional items of £1.8m for the 2009/10 financial year. This was a remarkable achievement for the university following two years in which financial losses had occurred.

The consolidated Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 July 2010 is summarised below:

	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Income	91,360	81,007*
Expenditure including taxation	89,518	90,502
Trading surplus/(deficit)	1,842	(9,495)
Exceptional item: Impairment of Newton Rigg assets	(6,993)	0
Exceptional item: Restructuring	(3,781)	(1,932)
Deficit for the year after exceptional items	(8,932)	(11,427)

*2008/09 income figure includes a prior period adjustment of £1.8m as explained in note 32 to the Financial Statements

2009/10 was a year of significant change for the university. The university has been right-sized, restructured, and has introduced new management in order to turnaround the university's financial performance. The achievement of a surplus before exceptional items begins to reflect the financial impact of these changes.

The university, despite the significant financial challenges and major change programme to support the turnaround of the financial performance, has continued to focus on its core business. Students and staff continue to deliver great achievements that build on its national and international reputation. Applications to the university continue to rise, as have the university's ratings on a number of national university guides.

For full details of the annual accounts visit www.cumbria.ac.uk/Services/Finance/Finance.aspx

For more details go to www.cumbria.ac.uk



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This document may be viewed in electronic format on our website (www.cumbria.ac.uk) and can be made available in alternative formats (for example Braille). Contact the Vice Chancellor's Office on 01228 616056.