

September ...

Mis Medi ...

Three things to draw your attention to at the start of a new term: the [Institute of Physics Careers Fair](#); [Public Engagement Grant Scheme](#); and [Mobile Careers 2007](#) which is at Swansea on 10 October and in Cardiff on 11 October.

I wish to thank the volunteers who helped me at the Eisteddfod this August. We had very positive feedback and we will therefore be there next year! Therefore, any members who live in the vicinity of Cardiff and wish to help out on the [Institute of Physics stand at the Eisteddfod next year](#) please drop me an e-mail (Angharad.Thomas@iop.org)

I'll leave you with a fact about September. It comes from the latin 'septimus' which means "seventh". September was the seventh month of the Roman calendar until 153 BC.

Best wishes for the start of term – Dymuniadau gorau ar ddechrau'r tymor

Angharad

News in Brief

Newyddion yn Fyr

The new [Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills](#) (DIUS) integrates the science and innovation responsibilities formerly held by DTI, with the development, funding and performance management of higher education (both in teaching and research) and the government's wider skills agenda from the former Department for Education and Skills (DfES). The DIUS will also contain the Office of the Chief Scientific Adviser.

Ian Pearson is to be the [new UK science minister](#) in Gordon Brown's government. He takes up the post in the newly created Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS).

[Universities as generators of income](#) continue to boost Wales's economy and communities, new figures show.

Apparently, [it all started with a bounce and not a bang!](#) Physicists believe they have proved that there was life, or at least matter, before the Big Bang.

A [great ape has been shown to use water as a tool for the first time](#), in the latest demonstration of their remarkable problem-solving skills.

A new scientific study concludes that changes in [the Sun's output cannot be causing modern-day climate change](#).

Institute of Physics in Wales

Sefydliad Ffiseg yng Nghymru

[Mobile Careers 2007](#) – members of the Institute are entitled to use the careers service regardless of their employment status. A careers adviser can provide advice on a range of topics including: changing careers; redundancy; taking a career break; retiring and updating your CV. The careers advisor will be at Swansea on 10 October and in Cardiff on 11 October. For more details and to register, click [here](#).

Institute of Physics

Sefydliad Ffiseg

The [Institute of Physics Careers fair](#) will be held on 31 October 2007. The fair is targeted at final year students and recent graduates from science, engineering and technology degrees and is the perfect opportunity to showcase the careers your company can offer. If you are a company interested in exhibiting at the fair, please e-mail careersfair@iop.org for more information.

Are you a great communicator? Do you have a fantastic idea for making physics accessible? Can you inspire other people with your enthusiasm? Do you need some support to make your outreach activity happen? If you answered “yes” to all these questions, then why not apply for a [Public Engagement Grant](#) from the Institute of Physics? The grants are worth up to £1000 and aim to support physics-based outreach activities throughout 2008. Application forms and guidelines for the grant scheme are available online at www.iop.org/activity/outreach/. Or e-mail physics.society@iop.org.

The Institute has a new range of professional development and training services, designed exclusively for IOP members. These include: [MyCPD](#) – a free online tool which allows you to identify your development needs and plan and record new learning; and [Learning Online](#) – a range of transferable skills courses you can undertake at your own pace and in your own time. There are a number of other new member services – keep an eye on www.iop.org/careers for further developments.

[Forthcoming Institute Conferences](#)

[What's on in Physics](#)

physicsweb events listing which lists [all physics related events](#).

Events in Wales

Digwyddiadau yng Nghymru

As science and technology are continuing to transform contemporary life, materially, socially and ethically, is society prepared to engage fully with the scientific and technological issues driving these changes or risk alienation? The IWA Swansea Bay Branch is holding an event, [Science and the Public: Engagement or Divorce](#), on Tuesday 18 September 2007 at the Royal Institution of South Wales, Swansea Museum. The seminar will begin at 5.30 pm (followed by a buffet at 8 p.m.) There will be two keynote speakers, the Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM, First Minister and Science Minister, National Assembly for Wales and Sir Roland Jackson, Chief Executive, The British Association for the Advancement of Science.

The [ABPI Cymru Wales Annual Lecture](#) is being held at 6.30pm on Thursday 18 October 2007 at The Julian Hodge Building, Cardiff University. The speaker is Professor Sir Leszek K. Borysiewicz who is Deputy Rector at Imperial College, London. His topic will be, "Universities, the Pharmaceutical Industry and the Global Health Agenda". If you wish to attend, please e-mail HMorton@abpi.org.uk no later than Monday 24 September 2007.

Useful Links

Cysylltiadau Defnyddiol

[EPSRC](#) – Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

[STFC](#) – Science and Technology Facilities Council

[HEFCW](#) – Higher Education Funding Council for Wales / Cyngor Cyllido Addysg Uwch Cymru

bbc.co.uk/wales / bbc.co.uk/cymru – BBC Wales / BBC Cymru website

[The National Assembly for Wales](#) / [Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru](#)

[The Welsh Assembly Government](#) / [Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru](#)

[European Commission – Research](#)