



**northumbria**  
UNIVERSITY NEWCASTLE

## Alumni Association

Welcome to this special sporting edition of the Northumbria University Alumni & Friends e-Newsletter

[northumbria.ac.uk/alumni](http://northumbria.ac.uk/alumni)




**FASTER, HIGHER, STRONGER:**  
**A CELEBRATION OF SPORTING EXCELLENCE**

Fundraising Dinner & Auction to Support Excellence in Disability and Para-Sport at Northumbria University




**Name:** Stephen Miller MBE  
**Course:** BSc (Hons) Business Information Systems  
**Graduation Year:** 2002  
**Title/Company:** Paralympic Athlete, Team GB

[Watch now](#)



**Name:** Brogan O'Connor  
**Course:** BSc (Hons) Applied Sport & Exercise Science  
**Graduation Year:** 2015  
**Title/Company:** Sport Services Assistant (Community & Foundation), Northumbria University Sport

[Watch now](#)



### JOIN US IN CELEBRATING SPORTING EXCELLENCE

Northumbria University is hosting a fundraising dinner and auction to celebrate the success of our Para-athlete students and graduates at this summer's games in Rio. At what proved to be Great Britain's most prosperous Games since 1968, Northumbria's students and alumni achieved six medals, including gold.

The dinner will showcase the University's success as a leading UK institution for performance in sport. Funds raised on the evening will enable Northumbria to provide Disability Sport Scholarships to elite sportsmen and women who will study and train at Northumbria; create research opportunities in sport performance and health and wellbeing; and provide specialist equipment and technology to enable more students to participate in sport.

Tables of ten are available to purchase now at £700 with individual tickets being priced at £75 per person.

[Read more](#)



### COME JOIN THE NORTHUMBRIA SPORT SUPPORTERS' CLUB

Northumbria Sport has just launched their supporters club, Black and Reds, and we would like you to join! There is no need to leave the Northumbria Sport family once you graduate from university and we hope the supporters club will help keep all our alumni up-to-date with Team Northumbria's successes and events.

It is completely free to become a member, just enter your details on the Sport Northumbria webpages and like our '[Northumbria University Supporters Club](#)' Facebook page to keep up to date with the latest news and events.

If you are still based in the North East, there are also loads of prizes and rewards up for grabs in return for your support at Team Northumbria games. Loyalty cards give you prizes for every 3rd, 6th and 10th game you attend with 'Supporter of the Month' Zapatista giveaways and loads of great incentives at our games. We can't wait to see you at our next fixture!

[Read more](#)





## PARALYMPIC GLORY FOR NORTHUMBRIA GRADUATES AND STUDENTS

Northumbria students brought home six medals from the Paralympic Games in Rio, including gold in what proved to be Great Britain's most prosperous Games since 1968.

BA (Hons) Leadership & Management students Harriet Lee and Claire Cashmore joined Andrew Mullen as part of Team Great Britain in Rio. Meanwhile, BSc (Hons) Sport Management student, Taka Suzuki, represented his home country of Japan in the pool. The Northumbria quartet have won six medals between them after jetting out to the 2016 Games in South America.

There were also successes in our alumni community with BSc (Hons) Business Information Systems graduate and one of Britain's most successful Paralympic athletes, Stephen Miller MBE, returning home with a bronze in the club throw.

[Read more](#)

## ACADEMIC ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT OF GLOBAL SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Members of the World Association for Sport Management have elected a Northumbria University academic to become its Vice-President.

The World Association of Sport Management was established to aid global research, teaching and learning excellence in the area of sport management. The Association works with international sport federations, non-government organisations and higher education institutions in Europe, North and Latin America, Asia, Africa and Australasia.

Dr Ruth Crabtree, a lecturer in Sports Management & Development and Head of International Development for Northumbria's Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, was awarded the prestigious position of Vice-President during the Association's annual general meeting in Poland this month.

[Read more](#)

## See where our alumni are now...



**Name:** Gintare Prialgauskaite  
**Course:** BA (Hons) Fashion Communication  
**Graduation Year:** 2015  
**Title/Company:** Photographer & Retoucher, JulesB

[Read more](#)



**Name:** Dr Wasiu Oyewole Popoola  
**Course:** MSc Optoelectronic and Communication Systems & PhD Optical Communications  
**Graduation Year:** 2007 & 2010  
**Title/Company:** Chancellor's Fellow, The University of Edinburgh

[Read more](#)

## Want to inspire the next generation of Northumbria students?

To help future students make the right choice and apply to Northumbria University, we're asking alumni like you to share your memories of Northumbria and explain how this has helped you in your career today. By featuring alumni on our website and in our communications we hope to inspire the next generation of Northumbria students.

We'd therefore be very grateful if you could please complete this [form](#), and upload a portrait head and shoulders profile image of yourself as a jpeg. It should only take you ten minutes to complete but could make a real difference to someone's future.



## Benefits & Services



### JOHN CONNELLY AWARD ASSISTS STUDENT WITH OVERSEAS VOLUNTEER WORK

A Physiotherapy student at Northumbria University, has been awarded an inspirational scholarship to undertake a volunteering trip outside of the UK.

Jemma Isaac is the first recipient of the John Connelly award after her application to volunteer in Ghana was accepted. The award is open to all students who are enrolled on a Nursing, Midwifery



### CAREERS AND EMPLOYMENT WILL BE CONTACTING YOU SOON!

The Careers and Employment Service will be getting in touch with you if you graduated between 1 January 2016 and 31 July 2016. The University has to complete the Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey and we can't do this without your help.

As a census the Careers Team will be looking to find out what you will be doing on **12 January**

or Allied health profession pre-registration programmes and is a once in a lifetime opportunity to study or volunteer in a foreign health development.

Patricia Hodgson, University Governor 2001, set up the award earlier this year in memory of her father and to acknowledge the value of link between donor and beneficiary. The level of the award is £500 and the visit can be of any duration.

To find out more about making a donation to Northumbria University [click here](#).

**2017.** All graduates at every UK institution, whether in the UK or travelled overseas, are contacted and asked the same questions. Each institution is also asked to achieve very high response rates. This enables the government, employers and future students to get a really accurate picture of the graduate labour market.

Whether you're in employment, further study or taking time out to travel or doing something else we would really appreciate your help. It's really easy to do and only takes a couple of minutes.

[Read more](#)

[Read more](#)

## News



### **NORTHUMBRIA UNIVERSITY'S GRADUATE INTERNSHIPS**

Northumbria University is launching a new European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) project to support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to employ Graduate Interns for 6 months to undertake graduate level work. The Graduate Internships, one strand of the £2.1m Northumbria Enterprise and Business Support (NEBS) project, will support 126 individual SMEs and Graduate Interns.

This latest tranche of European funding follows Northumbria's highly successful ERDF-funded 'Northumbria Graduates into Business' project which ran for two years from 2013.

We are looking to involve our graduates in this new project either by them providing an internship or by undertaking an internship. The University being able to support 126 individual SMEs to



### **SANDYFORD STRENGTHENS CITY CENTRE CAMPUS**

Northumbria University, Newcastle, has enhanced its facilities and learning, teaching and research environment for students and staff by acquiring the Sandyford Building from Newcastle College.

It is situated on Northumbria's city centre campus, but has historically been part of Newcastle College. Its acquisition forms part of the University's plans to invest £52 million over the next two years, to improve its campus estate and transform the student experience.

This includes creating a new Student Central zone that will bring together all student-facing services, such as careers, welfare and international support to one area in the heart of the campus. Work also includes two new state-of-the-art buildings to bring major benefits for students on computing and



employ graduate interns to work for each SME for six months. For more information on the project click 'Read more'.

[Read more](#)



### **NORTHUMBRIA'S LEARNING RESOURCES PRAISED IN NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY**

Northumbria University continues to outperform the sector for student satisfaction, according to the results of the 2016 National Student Survey. The National Student Survey asks final year students at all UK universities to rate their experiences of studying at their chosen university.

Northumbria University scored an average of 86% overall satisfaction, and performed above the sector average in the areas of providing academic support; prompt and clear assessment and feedback; and in personal development.

The University's learning resources received particular praise, with 92% of students stating that they were satisfied with Northumbria's library resources and IT services.

[Read more](#)

information sciences and architecture and built environment courses. Work also includes two new state-of-the-art buildings to bring major benefits for students.

[Read more](#)



### **NORTHUMBRIA JOINS GLOBAL LEADERS IN BUSINESS ETHICS RESEARCH**

Northumbria University, Newcastle, has been rated among the world's top 50 institutions in an academic report measuring the impact of research into business ethics.

In the latest analysis of citations in ethical business practice, published in the August Journal of Business Ethics, Northumbria was also ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in the UK - making it the highest placed University for research in this field in the North East.

The study, 'A Citation Analysis of Business Ethics Research: A Global Perspective', considers citations of articles published in ten business ethics journals between 1999 and 2012. In so doing it seeks to rank the world's leading institutions in business ethics research impact.

[Read more](#)



## **FREELANCING, SELF-EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS START UP**

Do you have a business idea or want to be self-employed? The Student and Graduate Enterprise Service can give you free support.

Student and Graduate Enterprise is a free start-up support service for Northumbria University graduates (up to 5 years) who want to be self-employed, start their own business or become a freelancer. As portfolio careers are becoming increasingly common whereby individuals may have multiple strands to their career, self-employment or starting your own business does not necessarily need to be seen as an alternative to a graduate job.

Northumbria is ranked third in the UK for graduate start-ups based on the estimated turnover and the number of jobs created by graduate companies (HEBCIC 2014/15). Since 2011, it has supported the development of more than 120 companies who in turn employ over 1,000 staff and have a combined turnover of £66.7 million.

[Read more](#)



## **NORTHUMBRIA STUDENT'S ESSAY IS GIVEN ROYAL SEAL OF APPROVAL**

A prestigious prize for health and social care students in the UK has been awarded to a Northumbria University student by HRH the Prince of Wales.

Sean Harrison accepted this year's Michael Pittilo Essay Prize at a conference, held at the Royal Society of Medicine in London. The prize, named after the late Professor Michael Pittilo, Vice Chancellor of Robert Gordon University, is run by the College of Medicine and is usually won by a medical student.

However, the £500 prize has this year been awarded to Northumbria Integrated Masters in Nursing student Sean for his essay 'Food the forgotten medicine; how can clinicians and patients maximise its potential benefits?' which will be published in the International Therapist Journal.

[Read more](#)



## **NORTHUMBRIA GRADUATE IS 'IN FASHION' AFTER INTERNATIONAL AWARD WIN**

A Fashion graduate from Northumbria University has won a prestigious award at one of Europe's oldest and most respected competitions for young designers.

Ryan Cruzado Gangan, who studied Fashion Design at Northumbria, won the Origin Stone Special Award at the Mittlemoda 23rd Edition Fashion Awards this month.

Ryan is a UK based fashion designer who was born in the Philippines before moving to the UK. He creates men's fashion inspired by his own interpretation of masculinity, while echoing his own personality and signature style.

The awards show will mark the 11<sup>th</sup> year of the annual event and provides an unrivalled platform for Scottish creatives, ranging from designers and photographers, to models, fashion communicators and industry leaders.

[Read more](#)



## **BUSINESS SCHOOL EXTENDS ITS INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

Northumbria University's Newcastle Business School has announced a partnership agreement with the Qatar Finance and Business Academy (QFBA) to provide joint professional and academic programmes.

Signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) further confirms Newcastle Business School's growing reputation as a global provider of business education. It was named Business

## **GRADUATE'S GANGES EXPEDITION TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE EFFECTS OF POLLUTION**

A globetrotting Northumbria University graduate is about to set off on one of his most arduous expeditions yet, in which he will paddle almost 1,600 miles down the Ganges river to investigate the effects of pollution.

BA (Hons Design For Industry alumnus, Spike Reid, has undertaken a number of global expeditions since graduating from Northumbria. He has led expeditions to countries including Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Siberia and Nepal and spent seven months circumnavigating the globe investigating the human impact of climate change.

Adventurous Spike has a passion for stand-up paddle-boarding. He has already paddle-boarded the length of the River Shannon, across the breadth of England, and the entirety Portugal's Algarve. Earlier this year he was part of the first ever crew to paddleboard around the Caribbean island of Martinique.

[Read more](#)



## **PHYSICS GRADUATES SET THEIR SIGHTS ON THE STARS**

Northumbria celebrated a 'quantum leap' this summer when its first cohort of Physicists graduated from the University.

The high-achieving students were the first to graduate from Physics and Physics with Astrophysics at Northumbria, since the courses were launched three years ago, and the successful cohort have gone straight into exciting careers or further study. The cohort has been



School of the Year in the prestigious Times Higher Education Awards for 2015, and it recently achieved double AACSB international accreditation in Accounting and Business - making it the only business school in Europe to earn such an accreditation).

The agreement is also a significant achievement for the QFBA that will lead to a strategic cooperation in various technical and scientific fields in addition to the exchange of expertise and professors to provide the best accredited academic and professional programmes.

praised by Dr Neil Beattie, Programme Leader in Physics and Physics with Astrophysics, who accompanied the Physics graduates at their graduation ceremony.

He said of their achievement: "I am delighted to see our first cohort of Physics graduates. With exciting career prospects lined up, 87% of these students achieved a First or an Upper Second Class degree and all of them are now heading into the world of full-time employment, teaching training or starting a PhD."

[Read more](#)

[Read more](#)

## Events

Nov  
8



**Business, Finance and Law Fair** - For more details and to book your place, [click here](#).

Nov  
14



**Public Lecture Series: Eldon Lecture Professor Sir Mark Walport** - For more details and to book your place, [click here](#).

Nov  
16



**British Accounting & Finance Association Workshop** - For more details and to book your place, [click here](#).

Nov  
22



**Henry Rothschild Memorial Lecture** - For more details and to book your place, [click here](#).

Nov  
23



**Public Lecture Series: Professor Ghanim Putrus** - For more details and to book your place, [click here](#).

Nov  
26



**Sri Lanka Alumni Networking Reception 2016** - For more details and to book your place, [click here](#).

Dec  
7



**Public Lecture Series: Professor Rona Lee** - For more details and to book your place, [click here](#).

Dec  
13



**Northumbria University Carol Service** - For more details and to book your place, [click here](#).

[northumbria.ac.uk/alumni](http://northumbria.ac.uk/alumni)



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Or alternatively you can write to us at:

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