BITS
MAGAZINE

Sharing news and stories across Information Services Group and the University

Treat it like treasure

DATA STEWARD

DATA STEWARD

Information Security

Service Excellence

Stay safe

Data Protection

If you require this publication in an alternative format, please contact Viki Galt, Disability Information Officer on 0131 650 6645 or email **viki.galt@ed.ac.uk**

SUBMISSION DETAILS

If you would like to submit an article, or tell us about some news, please email:
BITS@ed.ac.uk

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of **BITS** is **22 September 2017**.

To keep up to date with ISG news:
www.ed.ac.uk/is/news

FSC LOGO

Editorial

The information, datasets and creative content we work with every day are valuable assets to the University and to other people. We should treat them like treasure. We should know where they are, how safe they are, who has access to them and how easily they might be stolen. Our feature topic for this issue of BITS is information security. This magazine is part of a University-wide awareness raising initiative for all colleagues and students to take care.

We have information and advice about what you can do to keep you and your work safe, and what the institution support services are doing to make that easy. Don't underestimate how attractive even your most mundane information about people, processes and finances might be to someone looking in from outside.

In this issue of BITS, we welcome our new Educational Technology Policy Officer, Information Security Consultant, Head of Web Strategy and Data Protection Officer (DPO). We also have a focus on the new role of Data Stewards across the organisation as they work to ensure that data can be of value to assist in institutional planning and decision making.

I hope you enjoy reading about our growing collections of recorded lectures, digital assets and of course, the newly refurbished jewel in our crown: St Cecilia's Hall. At a busy time of year we have many events to cover including Datafest, Repository Fringe and ISG contributions to the Edinburgh Festivals. I hope you will not hesitate to get involved in Information Security Week as advertised on the back page.

ISG colleagues will be out in force at the start of the semester ensuring that our many services and projects deliver real benefits to students and staff in the experience of working, studying, learning, teaching, researching and moving around our campus. Please keep up to date with all our news throughout the year via our websites and social media.

Melissa Highton
Director of Learning, Teaching and Web

ISG news

New people

David Creighton-Offord

David Creighton-Offord is the new Information Security Consultant.

Joining the University after 10 years working with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and the Department for International Development (DFID) in a variety of roles, David provides insight on working with Agile teams and analysis of third-party suppliers and cloud environments.

"The University has a noticeably different culture to government. There is a greater willingness to take risks and try new things, which has advantages but means we need to work harder to ensure the foundations of good security are in place."

Neil McCormick

Neil McCormick has joined ISG as Educational Technology Policy Officer. He has over 20 years' previous experience in HE research and professional services, most recently managing the Medical School's assessments and move to online exams.

"*What am I agreeing to? Who can view the recordings? Can I still use this cartoon in my lecture? Will students still attend?* It's important we develop a lecture recording policy that allows colleagues across the University to approach this new service with confidence, so that the ability to review lectures consistently makes a positive impact on our students' experience."

Lecture recording – safe, secure and in control

Lorraine Spalding

The University's new lecture recording service, supplied by Echo360, goes live in September as part of a three-year rollout programme covering around 400 rooms. Lecture recording gives students access to learning material for revision and review anywhere, anytime and provides academic staff with state-of-the-art digital technology to support learning and teaching.

The new service, called Media Hopper Replay, provides an institution-wide solution to lecture recording and integrates with the University's VLEs, providing a safe and secure environment for lecture storage and access. The new service places a premium on the safe provision of learning materials. Simple online tools to support editing ensure academic staff are in control of what is released to students.

http://edin.ac/lecture-record

St Cecilia's re-opens

Following a major redevelopment project, St Cecilia's Hall re-opened on 11 May and has already welcomed over 1,500 visitors to explore the galleries, enjoy events and engage with this world-class musical instrument collection.

Visitor feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are delighted to be rated 100% excellent on Tripadvisor.

"A secret gem of Edinburgh. If you love music or just beautiful things, a must visit!"
TripAdvisor reviewer

www.stcecilias.ed.ac.uk

Information Security
at the University

Alistair Fenemore
Chief Information Security Officer

Our information is a valuable asset and critical to the ongoing success of the University.

Treat it like treasure

We've seen headlines over recent months detailing the latest cyber threat, be it ransomware or phishing email campaigns. With the University relying on the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the information we all use in our day-to-day jobs, it is important that everyone understands these threats, what to do to help protect our treasured data and what to do if it all goes wrong.

The University's ability to operate effectively is heavily dependent on the internet – a tool of opportunity, but also a source of complex risks from a wide range of threat groups. These threats come from different directions, each with their own agenda and motivation. We must ensure that everyone who uses University systems or data understands them and knows what to do to help protect against the risk of our data being compromised.

The University takes a broad, multidisciplinary approach to countering these threats and uses a range of controls to help protect against attacks. We continually review external threats and deploy enhancements as we endeavour to keep our data safe and ensure that the balance between usability and security is managed effectively. These additional steps include improvements to our processes, deploying additional technology and increasing user awareness in considering the value of their assets, so that everyone knows what they can to do to help in this area.

Processes

The current information security policy suite is being revised to provide details on what each college and support group needs to implement. A new set of Standards will also help define the controls that are required to help achieve the outcomes we need and to meet the requirements for data protection legislation.

Technology

Additional technical solutions are being deployed to identify potential risks across the core internal network. Given our reliance on this key business asset, it is imperative that we have greater visibility of the potential risks that could impact this.

People

Our people are our greatest asset in helping to identify issues or gaps in our processes and controls. We are working with internal and external partners to build an ongoing awareness campaign to help bring this to life. See the back page of this issue for details on the interactive Information Security Week we'll be running in October.

The Information Security Division have gathered a number of resources that everyone can use to help secure their information at work and at home. Read more in the articles in this issue of BITS and online at **www.ed.ac.uk/infosec**.

Treat it like
treasure

Stay safe
at the University

What YOU can do to stay safe

01 EVERYONE IS A POTENTIAL TARGET
Don't think it will never happen to me. Everyone is at risk.

02 KEEP SOFTWARE UP TO DATE
Turn on automatic updates and keep all devices patched regularly.

03 INSTALL ANTI-VIRUS PROTECTION
Keep up to date. If you have one, turn on the firewall for added protection.

04 PRACTICE GOOD PASSWORD MANAGEMENT
Use strong unique passwords and never share them with someone else. Use a password manager.

05 BACK UP YOUR DATA
Set up a regular backup schedule.

06 USE MOBILE DEVICES SAFELY
Protect mobiles and tablets by using encryption.

07 LOCK YOUR DEVICE BEFORE LEAVING UNATTENDED
Enable the screensaver and lock if leaving your desk.

08 AVOID BEING CAUGHT BY PHISHING SCAMS
Be careful of opening attachments and clicking links in emails.

09 PROTECT SENSITIVE DATA
Use secure connections (VPN) and encryption tools for sensitive data.

10 STAY INFORMED
For additional information and advice visit:
www.ed.ac.uk/infosec

What WE are doing to keep us safe

01 REFRESH OF SECURITY POLICY AND CREATION OF STANDARDS
Creating a governance model that addresses both common threat vectors and the way in which we build and manage services.

02 REVIEW OF OUR INFORMATION SECURITY INCIDENT REPORTING PROCEDURES
Making sure that contacting the IS Helpline is the still the best way to get the right teams in place quickly to help resolve information security incidents.

03 NEW PUSH TO INCREASE INFORMATION SECURITY AWARENESS AT THE UNIVERSITY
Working with our people to improve behaviours and make it harder for the University to be targeted.

04 INVESTMENT IN PHISHING SIMULATION AND TRAINING
It is imperative that staff are prepared and know what to do in case they receive, or click, on a suspicious email.

05 BLOCKING MALICIOUS ADDRESSES AND IMPROVING INTRUSION DETECTION SYSTEMS
Blocking known contaminated addresses and domains will help protect devices from cyber threats. There is ongoing work to capture netflow traffic from the routers and use analysis tools to provide increased visibility of potential threats.

Live chat for EdWeb

Bruce Darby

A recent upgrade to EdWeb has enabled staff to utilise live chat facilities, allowing fast responses to questions and dialogue that is close to the experience of face-to-face meetings. The process is extremely efficient with no need for appointments. This early contact between a prospective student and the University can kick off their application in an extremely positive way.

http://edin.ac/edweb-enhance-experience

A new strategy for web

Over the coming months a new vision and strategy will be developed for how the University uses web technologies to enhance our students' digital experience, disseminate our best research and engage with our diverse audiences.

Led by Colan Mehaffey, Head of Web Strategy & Technologies, the strategy isn't just about the University website or the EdWeb Content Management System. It will be inclusive and collaborative, in terms of the websites and technologies it considers and the people who contribute to it.

To get involved, read regular progress updates, and find out more about this exciting project:

http://website-programme-blog.is.ed.ac.uk/

A new University web search

Stratos Filalithis

Funnelback has been chosen as the replacement for the University central search engine. Our procurement activities were led by a vision to provide a search service that can reach, categorise, relate and return all of the content, information and data required to guide University audiences to fulfil their tasks quickly and efficiently. We aim to implement the new search engine during the next academic year.

If you would like your website to be included in the central search engine, email website.support@ed.ac.uk.

http://edin.ac/uoe-search-vision

Delivering Service Excellence - September Roadshows ★★★★★

Ed Emerson

At the heart of the Service Excellence Programme is the focus on improving our HR, Finance and Student Administration & Support professional services, and the technology that underpins them, in order to make more time for the things that matter to our staff, students and the University.

As the Programme moves into its next phase of work, we'd like to invite you to join us in that journey at one of our forthcoming Service Excellence Programme Roadshow presentations.

- Thursday 7 September
  James Clerk Maxwell Building
  12pm-2pm
  http://bit.ly/2tMfxGM

- Friday 8 September
  Informatics Forum at the School of Informatics
  9am-11am
  http://bit.ly/2ugDYO5

You can find further details on our website, and we look forward to seeing you at the Roadshows.

http://bit.ly/2r0Qd2g

Risk and security projects

Adam Wadee

New projects relating to risk mitigation and data security have recently started within ISG:

- IT and Library Business Service Readiness For Start of Term (ISG005). This year we will use a project approach to ensure the readiness of our projects, services and people for the start of the semester.

- Establishing GDPR Support Resources (ISG006). This project, led in ISG by the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), will provide support for the work of the Data Protection Office (DPO) and colleagues across ISG to ensure our compliance with this legislation.

Information on current ISG projects is available on the Projects Website at:

http://edin.ac/isg-portfolio-16-17

Resource Lists – Leganto goes live

Angela Laurins

The new Resource Lists system, Leganto, is now live.

Launched by the Library, with support from teams across ISG, Leganto integrates with Learn, Moodle and DiscoverEd to provide students with easy access to course reading materials. Using Leganto, students can interact with their tutors about course reading material and suggest new resources to be added to a list, comment on resources and 'like' resources on a list. Students can also build their own collection of resources and manage their reading using tags. Course Organisers also have access to activity reports, enabling them to see how actively students are engaging with lists and course materials.

Leganto: **http://resourcelists.ed.ac.uk**

Resource Lists webpages: **www.ed.ac.uk/is/resource-lists**

Resource Lists blog for news and updates: **http://libraryblogs.is.ed.ac.uk/resourcelists**

Stay safe at home with Sophos

Sophos Home is next-generation protection. It blocks malware and infections by identifying and preventing the handful of techniques and behaviours used in almost every exploit. It can block web and application exploits, inappropriate or unwanted websites, dangerous URLs, potentially unwanted apps and malicious code.

A free copy of Sophos Home is available for personal devices for all staff and students, and it can be downloaded from the Sophos website. Once installed, it updates directly from the Sophos Cloud, so there is no need to be connected to the University network to do this. You can use the software on up to 10 individual devices per user account and versions are available for Windows and Mac OS, running versions on most popular browsers. Sophos also provide free anti-malware products for Linux and mobile devices and these can be downloaded from the same site.

https://home.sophos.com/

Role of a Data Steward

Dave Berry

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

Treat it like treasure

A Data Steward is responsible for a particular data set. They ensure the data is secure, authorise access, ensure it is documented and establish data quality processes.

The University's Central Management Group has approved a recommendation to formally define this role and to assign stewards for the University's core data sets.

We aim to create a community of practice for Data Stewards and to provide them support in this role.

Information Security website

Do you want to know how to encrypt your files? Use your mobile safely? Practice better password management? How to protect research data? Who to contact in the event of 'an incident'?

The Information Security website is your source of guidance and best practice at the University.

www.ed.ac.uk/infosec

INFOSEC

Stay safe online with Lynda.com

Interested in online training on how to browse the web more safely and securely when using your desktop or mobile device? Then why not have a look at the Digital Skills & Training Lynda.com playlist, where you can learn more about surfing safely online: **http://bit.ly/2t262Uz**

More information on Lynda.com at the University of Edinburgh can be found at: **www.ed.ac.uk/is/lynda**

What is **phishing?**

Phishing aims to lure individuals into inadvertently revealing sensitive information. Common phishing attacks include obtaining your usernames and passwords for personal or work accounts and bank details.

Impact

Phishing can result in significant personal and workplace impact, including falling victim to a ransomware attack, which results in your computer being encrypted and unable to be used.
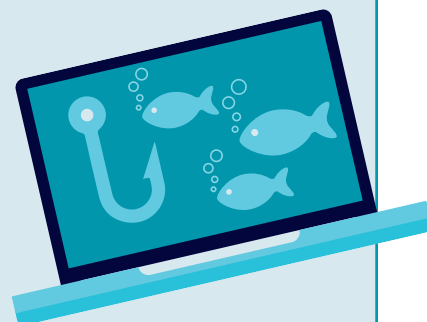
How to identify phishing

Look for the following:

- Asking for **sensitive information** via a link or a form
- Prompting users to **click on links or download attachments**
- **Sense of urgency** and/or threats in the subject or email body text (for example, 'You must do this… otherwise we'll close your account')
- **Logos/company names that look suspicious** (low quality, incorrect spelling or a fake company)
- **Misspellings and bad grammar** in the email text

Be wary of a URL or hyperlink in an email, PDF file or document – check the link is sensible by hovering over the link with your mouse (however, do not click it!).

What to do

If you suspect a phishing email, stop! Do not click on any links or reply to the email. Do not open any attachments that may be included with the email.

If you believe you have been sent a phishing email or clicked on the contents, report it immediately to the IS Helpline.

Preserving the University's **digital assets**

Kirsty Lee & Rachel Hosker

Over the past three years, the Centre for Research Collections (CRC) has been working to develop a robust, trustworthy solution to the preservation of born digital archival collections either created by the University, as part of its ongoing business or acquired from external donors.

We are currently testing open source tools for authentic transfer of digital records that protects embedded metadata from artificial alteration, provides additional creator-supplied descriptive metadata and which uses checksum generators and validators and the Library of Congress's packaging functionality (BagIt).

Using groundbreaking technology, created by the Software Preservation Foundation, the Kryoflux will enable us to take authentic, forensic copies of data from obsolete 5.25" disks. This way we can retain the author's original intent and ensure the integrity of the rest of our digital collections.

Building trust in digital archives is all about the harvest of rich metadata. With strong and continually enhanced metadata, future researchers can be assured of the authenticity and integrity of our historically rich and diverse collections.

Photo: The Kryoflux device will be used to facilitate forensic data recovery.
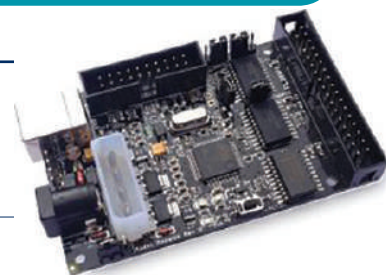
Student perceptions
of learning technology

Barbara Rola & Ross Ward

A recent Innovation Fund project looked to establish some baseline data about how students interact with tools and services that support teaching and learning.

The project aimed to gather students' perspective on Learn and other learning technologies at the University. Using top-task voting approaches as an alternative to a traditional survey, we gathered the opinions of almost 300 students on their priorities for Learn. The study revealed the current focus is on the need for accessing lecture material, grades and submitting assessments. We will use this feedback as a comparison against a number of usage statistics in Learn.

We also held a series of focus groups that provided valuable insight into students' experiences of Learn. There is a clear need for consistency in the course structure across different schools, and we hope that our findings can inform future course designs.

Our findings will be shared with the eLearning@ed and Learn User Group communities, as well as made available on our webpages.

Image: CC0 – Edited by Ross Ward

Online marking growth

Robert Chmielewski

The number of student submissions marked online using Turnitin continues to grow. During March and April – traditionally the busiest marking months – 21,562 student submissions were marked via Turnitin. The figure represents a growth of 14% compared to 2016 and 189% compared to 2015 (year-on-year).
www.ed.ac.uk/is/turnitin

21,562
submissions marked online

Celebrating data innovation at
DataFest

Nicola Osborne

This March saw the inaugural DataFest take place, a weeklong celebration of data innovation with events running throughout Scotland. EDINA was delighted to be part of Designing with Data, a set of events in the DataFest fringe that were free to attend and open to all. Alongside QGIS and DataShare workshops, we ran a large session on Edinburgh Cityscope, the ambitious initiative to make Edinburgh a Global City of Learning powered by shared data, apps and tools. Find out more about that project at:

EDINBURGH CITYSCOPE

www.edinburghcityscope.org

Learning and Teaching **contacts in ISG**

We have a network of ISG Learning and Teaching contacts for each School, to work alongside the existing IT Consultants and Academic Support Librarians, as an additional point of contact for staff seeking support for learning and teaching related queries.

LT Reps are happy to be invited to learning and teaching committees and other relevant school meetings, and to provide bulletins and service updates as required.

The aim is to better facilitate the flow of information to the relevant learning technology teams within ISG and to support colleagues to access support and guidance on learning and teaching priorities. This is not intended to change existing lines of communication in any way, but if staff are unsure who to contact regarding learning and technology, the Reps can help.

Full list of Reps: **http://edin.ac/lt-reps**

eLearning@ed Conference

Nicola Osborne

This year's eLearning@ed Conference focused on Playful Learning in its broadest senses. Professor Nicola Whitton (Manchester Metropolitan University) and Dr Hamish Macleod (Moray House School of Education/Centre for Research in Digital Education) provided inspiring keynotes, while speakers from across the University shared their own playful and games-based learning approaches and experiences. We were also delighted to host workshops on making, creating and playing in emergent educational ways.

http://elearningforum.ed.ac.uk
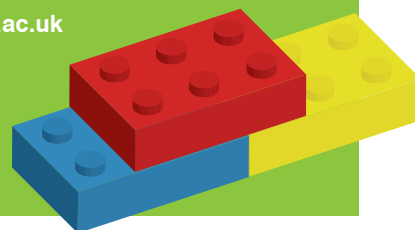
EDINA Innovation Fund updates

Reference Rot in theses

A HiberActive Pilot is working with postgraduate student interns to understand how PhD students can be supported through tools that enable resilient links and associated archiving of web resources being used and cited in research.
To find out more, contact **nicola.osborne@ed.ac.uk**.

Pixel This

Pixel This looks at how we might create more arresting visuals for promotion/marketing by using a photographic technique known as light painting.
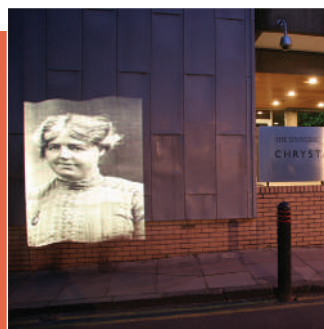
Specifically, we are using a piece of technology called a pixel stick to over-paint light onto conventionally captured photographs.
For more information, contact **james.reid@ed.ac.uk**.
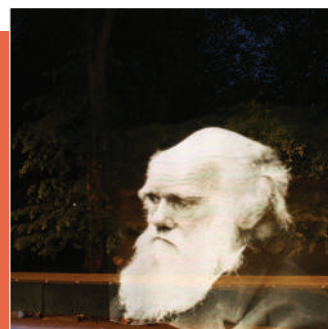
CMALT congratulations

Susan Greig

In 2016 ISG offered a bursary to fund and support learning technologists to become Certified Members of the Association for Learning Technology (CMALT). In this first year 23 people from across the University took part, attending regular meetings and writing retreats. Eleven have already submitted portfolios, and five are awaiting results. We are pleased to congratulate Ross Ward, Louise Connelly, Graeme Ferris, Brendon Owers, Rosie Watson and Lorna Campbell who have achieved certification.

> **"The meetings are really helpful both for CMALT's portfolio preparation and also for meeting and spending time with other colleagues who might be doing similar or related work in their jobs. I always leave the meetings feeling positive."**
> Feedback from CMALT applicant 2016/17

Congratulations to Ross Ward, our first University of Edinburgh-funded CMALT holder

The scheme will continue to run in 2017/18 and 10 people have signed up for the next cohort:

http://edin.ac/cmalt

Digitisation strategy

Claire Knowles

Library & University Collections (L&UC) already provides access to a wide range of digital resources, but we want to increase the number of our own collections available in digital format.

We have launched webpages which detail what digitisation means for L&UC, as well as case studies where digital content is currently being used for teaching, research, learning, community, culture and business.

Read our pages at http://edin.ac/digitisation and send any feedback to **is-crc@ed.ac.uk**.

Data-driven decisions
through dashboard development

Craig Middlemass & Damon Querry

In Research Information Systems, we wish to provide insight into research activity by presenting information from a number of systems to inform the kinds of questions a planning officer would ask our schools.

Research Management is complex, and 'success' can look very different across academic disciplines. The challenge for us is to present information in such a way that we can see the patterns of behaviour.

Data-driven decisions in this instance is about being able to see the trends and raise the right kinds of challenges.

We've been working hard to develop a dashboard which can present information about a school's research performance based on a variety of data, to help inform policy and decision-making at a local level.

In the example dashboard on the left, we see a school that has steady growth and a diverse set of funders. Interestingly, however, the gap between applications and awards is growing. So our focus for this school could be on the quality of applications, or investigating if particular funders are not giving us the same rate of return.

If you would like to know more about our dashboard development, please email **craig.middlemass@ed.ac.uk** and **damon.querry@ed.ac.uk**.

Data dashboards
for finding new markets

The University has a range of online e-learning programmes which aim to recruit learners from all over the world. In support of our strategic ambition to increase distance learning numbers, teams in Learning, Teaching and Web Services are looking at new ways to develop digital marketing tools for our colleagues to use alongside their websites and social media. Lauren Johnston-Smith, Marketing and Communications Manager from CMVM, has joined us to give her insights and advice moving forward in our reach and impact.

Student interns

This year we've welcomed student interns focusing on a range of projects, from working on the Lecture Recording Programme to handling public engagement with our collections. Please visit MyCareerHub for more information on our advertised internships.

http://mycareerhub.ed.ac.uk

> The ISG staff are very supportive and I am developing skills that will aid me in my future career.

Jialei Ding,
Project Management
Intern

> Interning has allowed me to use my degree and develop new skills, making me more optimistic about career prospects.

Karoline Nanfeldt,
Lecture Recording Intern

> It's been inspiring being able to see the impact of my internship, which encourages public engagement with a collection that has been inaccessible for decades.

Ellen Black,
Anatomical Museum
Collections Intern

PlayFair Steps progress

We have welcomed some excellent speakers to ISG as part of our commitment to raising understanding of equality and diversity issues in our workplace. It has been particularly interesting to have academic colleagues present the most up-to-date data from their research and describe how their work influences public policy development in Scotland. Our speakers this year have been Barbara Melville (Equate Scotland) on the language of job ads; Morna Simpson introducing Girl Geek Scotland; Professor Sheila Riddell (Chair in Inclusion and Diversity) on disability data and employment; and Dr Tom Callard (UoE Business School) on managerial perspectives. ISG directors have also considered initiatives for apprenticeships and 'Women Returners' projects, and we have become an institutional sponsor of Girl Geek Scotland. ISG staff can keep up to date with all the PlayFair Steps initiatives on the ISG Change Programme Sharepoint site.

http://edin.ac/isg-change

Morna Simpson (Girl Geek Scotland) and Melissa Highton (Director of Learning, Teaching and Web Services)

Repository Fringe 2017

This August marked the 10th Reposity Fringe, where we celebrated progress we have made over the last decade in sharing content and debating future trends and challenges.

Our 'Repositories without Borders' theme drew a packed programme, chaired by Fiona Wright, featuring 10x10 presentations, a session led by the Scottish Funding Council and a Wikidata Hackathon.

www.repositoryfringe.org

Repository Fringe 2017

Healthy Working Lives

Keeping active at work

In response to the 311 ISG staff who completed a lifestyle survey earlier this year, we have planned a programme of activities over the coming year to respond to your needs and interests to help you keep active at work.

Activities will include relaxation classes, walking groups, exercise classes and a pedometer challenge for the competitive ones among you. If these don't appeal, more opportunities will be advertised over the coming year in response to what you told us. We hope you get the chance to get involved in at least some of the opportunities on offer to you.

If you have any comments, suggestions or feedback on what is happening, please get in touch with **healthy.university@ed.ac.uk**.

See the full schedule of activities at: **http://edin.ac/healty-uni-isg**

The IS Crowd running in the EMF Hairy Haggis Team Relay

Sharing, reusing and remixing MOOC-produced media

An extensive collection of digital video and audio continues to be generated as part of the University's MOOC portfolio. Lucy Kendra is leading on a project to collate, categorise and make available this content for use as Open Educational Resources. The project is a collaboration with Open.Ed, Media Hopper and the Centre for Research Collections.

Featured **thesis**

Gavin Willshaw

The PhD thesis of Helen Pankhurst, great granddaughter of suffragette leader Emmeline Pankhurst, has been made available online as part of Library & University Collection's PhD digitisation project. Dr Pankhurst, whose thesis studies the interaction between women, the peasantry and the state in 1980s Ethiopia, is a campaigner and activist in the areas of international development and women's rights.

http://edin.ac/pankhurst-thesis

60 seconds with:
Dr Rena Gertz

"

Data protection is a necessity.

What is GDPR?

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a significant reform putting data subject rights to the fore. It applies to data processing in the EU, regardless if the subject is an EU citizen or not, and to EU citizen data processed outside the EU. Reforms surrounding the right to be informed about data use, consent, privacy impact assessments and the right to be forgotten present challenges for the University. We are working to comply with the GDPR for when it comes into effect on 25 May 2018.

Tell us about your position.

I am the Data Protection Officer. Mine is a statutory role under the new EU law called the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which the University will have to comply with independently from Brexit's outcome.

Over the next year, my job will mainly be helping all departments, colleges and schools of the University get compliant with GDPR before 25 May 2018 in order to avoid fines and maintain our reputation.

Could you tell us more about monitoring the protection of personal data at the University?

I am here to help and give advice about every issue involving personal data, allowing people to do their work while ensuring that what is done with personal data is lawful. Monitoring data protection means finding workable solutions for everybody so that people can carry out their projects within the framework of the law.

Although my current priority is implementing the GDPR, I am also aiming to create a network of data protection champions throughout the University, finding one or more in each college, school and department. They will be my contact and come to me when there are questions and problems. The Data Stewards, who are already working in various parts of the University, will be a good starting point for the creation of the network.

What are the challenges of your job?

First, not having people hiding when they see me coming: I am here to help! Although the University colleagues I have worked with so far have been very welcoming and appreciate that I'm trying to support them, I need to make sure that everybody understands that data protection is a necessity. Compliance is beneficial to everyone, even if it requires extra work.

My second challenge is working across an institution as big and complex as our University.

What do you find most exciting about it?

I truly enjoy working in my subject area; I think data protection is fun! I also think that creating a new data protection system for the new legislation will be interesting. Moreover, I really enjoy meeting and working with many people from different backgrounds working in different roles within the University.

Tell us about your professional background.

I qualified as a lawyer in Germany before moving to Aberdeen for my LLM and PhD. I was meant to spend one year in Scotland, but I never left! After Aberdeen, I got a postdoc fellowship focusing on interface genetic research and law at the Law School in Old College. I then went to work as Data Protection and Freedom of Information Compliance Officer in local government for 7 years, and I am now back at Old College.

What do you like to do outside work?

I am a traditional Scottish Gaelic singer; I sing in a choir and have a band, but I also sing solo. I am currently participating in First World War commemorations during which I sing songs both in Gaelic and German, showing the grief and loss on all sides. In addition, my band will play at the Lindisfarne Folk Festival this year.

ISG at the Festivals

During the Festival Fringe, two ISG staff members are performing at the Cabaret of Dangerous Ideas. On 7 August, Archives Manager Rachel Hosker presents 'Alternative facts: is the truth in the archives?', investigating whether archives can expose the darker side of power. On 11 August, Digital Education Manager Nicola Osborne asks 'Is your online reputation hurting you?', examining whether our digital footprint is a good reflection of who we are.

Rachel also leads three events at the Book Festival: 'How we store our stories' (12 August), 'Games of horrible handwriting' (23 August) and 'Cans, reels and video' (24 August).

codi.beltanenetwork.org   **www.edbookfest.co.uk**

Information Security Awareness Week

This year's Information Security Awareness Week will be held 2-6 October. The week will focus on why Information Security matters to staff, and will highlight steps to take to protect personal data and research material. Talks on different aspects of Information Security will be held in Argyle House by the InfoSec Team and are aimed at all audiences.

We will be active on Twitter during the week. Tweet us @UoEInfoSec using #UoEInfoSec.

www.ed.ac.uk/infosec

The Next Big Thing on campus

Liv Laumenech

Following the redevelopment work at McEwan Hall and Bristo Square, it's almost time to welcome a new artwork to the Square. *The Next Big Thing is a Series of Little Things* by artist Susan Collins will take the form of a series of bronze circular inlets in the Square's surface. As though someone has walked through the square with a leaking tin of bronze coloured paint, these will run as a long series of drips from McEwan Hall's original main entrance across the Square. This is the first major public art commission at the University for many years, and will be an exciting addition to the wonderful redevelopment project. Installation, undertaken by Powderhall Bronze Foundry, will take place in October 2017. For more information, contact Liv Laumenech, Public Art Officer. **liv.laumenech@ed.ac.uk**

The Next Big Thing is a Series of Little Things (In production- 2016) Image Courtesy of the Artist