



Bradford College

# International Centre Newsletter



## Congratulations to all of our 2011 graduates!

Bradford College held its annual Festival of Achievement in December, celebrating the fantastic successes of our graduating students. The International Centre team would like to congratulate all of the College's students on their achievements.

We have a special photographic edition to celebrate our international students' graduations, please see more photos inside.

Please contact Michelle Millar in the International Centre if you have any photos from the day - [m.millar@bradfordcollege.ac.uk](mailto:m.millar@bradfordcollege.ac.uk).





# Vietnamese visits

A film crew from Vietnam TV jetted into the UK to visit Bradford College to gain an insight into skills training and industry links in a UK Further Education institution.

Ha Thu Hang and Nguyen Vu Hai from Vietnam TV, accompanied by Vu Hai Dang, a British Council representative, visited various programme areas across the College to film and interview staff and students about college life and skills gained at college.

The visit was arranged as a result of existing high profile and inspiring partnerships between Bradford College and Nguyen Tat Thanh University in Ho Chi Minh City and the Vocational College of Agricultural Mechanics (VCAM) near Hanoi in Vietnam. The Vietnamese government has placed demands on its education centres to deliver a higher level of teaching and has invested in a five-year project, in which it is hoped international partnerships with institutions such as Bradford College will help the centres to improve quickly.

The visit by Vietnam TV strengthens the long-term links between the College, the city of Bradford and Vietnam, building on its strong reputation and educational partnerships.

Joanne Wallace, Head of Collaborations and Partnerships comments, "We are thrilled that the British Council in Vietnam selected Bradford College as an exemplar to showcase vocational skills education in the UK to Vietnam."

Bradford College Principal, Michele Sutton OBE, jetted to Hanoi this October. Following the UK visit in May by VCAM to discuss partnership opportunities, Michele was invited back to Vietnam to see the institution.

Whilst in Hanoi, the Principal also provided an official welcome to the inaugural Ophthalmic Dispensing cohort at another of our partners, Nguyen Tat Thanh University. She also took part in the official signing of the agreement for the College to be the pre-Olympic training camp for the Vietnamese Olympic team.

Along with Martin Binns, Head of International, and Joanne Wallace, Michele also attended the British Council's Education UK recruitment fairs in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh, and assisted on the stands due to the high number of enquirers.



Vice Principal Kath Oldale gives an interview outside Westbrook Building



British Council Education UK recruitment fair



Michele Sutton at Nguyen Tat Thanh University



Michele advises a prospective student

## Make the most of your student status

There are many ways in which you can save money, especially being a student. Here are some ideas...

### Travel

There are also savings to be made if you are planning to travel. The following cards are available on public transport:

#### •• Student Plus Metro Card

Available to under 22's or mature students in full-time education: [www.wymetro.com/TicketsAndPasses/YoungPeople/StudentPlusMetroCard.htm](http://www.wymetro.com/TicketsAndPasses/YoungPeople/StudentPlusMetroCard.htm).

This card offers unlimited bus travel and includes all train journeys within rail zones 1-5 in West Yorkshire.

#### •• National Express Young Persons Coachcard

Valid for either 1 or 3 years (£10 or £25) and will give you up to 30% discount but beware this discount will not apply to promotional 'funfares' and special offers. Always check the tariff with and without the coachcard to book the best option. Check the National Express website for more details:

[www.nationalexpress.com/coach/offers/studentcoachdeals.cfm](http://www.nationalexpress.com/coach/offers/studentcoachdeals.cfm).

#### •• 16-25 Railcard

Costing just £28 for a 1 year Railcard, or £65 for a 3 year version, the 16-25 Railcard will give you a staggering 30% off the rail fares across Britain: [www.16-25railcard.co.uk/](http://www.16-25railcard.co.uk/). This card is available for people aged 16-25 and mature, full-time students aged 26 or over. If you are a mature student, we will provide you with a letter confirming you are studying with us.

#### NUS Extra card

The first step is to check the benefits of having an NUS (National Union of Students) Extra card at: [www.nus.org.uk/en/NUS-Extra](http://www.nus.org.uk/en/NUS-Extra). The card costs £11 for one academic year. You can obtain this card in the Bradford College's Students' Union, A Floor, Westbrook Building, or order online. If you decide to order your card online, for an extra £1.99, your card doubles as an International Student Identity Card (ISIC), so you can also use it to get discounts and special offers when travelling abroad, in over 100 countries.

If you are visiting a gallery, going to a concert or to the cinema, or buying clothes, always ask if they offer concessions for students and show your student card.



Bradford College Qatar Student Society officers  
Khalifa Al Kuwari, Hamad Al Naser and Bandar Al Hoban

## Launch of first international student society

With support from the International Centre and the Students' Union, the Bradford College Qatar Student Society has now launched.

At the first meeting in November, three Society Officers were elected: President, Hamad Al Naser; General Secretary, Bandar Al Hoban; and Treasurer, Khalifa Al Kuwari.

The group intends to launch a joint society with the University of Bradford Qatari Student Society this semester, which will be for all Qatari students studying in Bradford.



International Projects Officer, Michelle Millar, was asked to speak at BCB Radio in September about the Erasmus programme, along with one of our newest Erasmus students, Patrik Blomqvist. They recorded a 30-minute round-table discussion about the benefits and drawbacks of the study and work abroad opportunities.

Finnish Erasmus student Patrik had only arrived in the UK four days prior to the recording, but bravely agreed to speak on the radio about his experiences and expectations so far.

They were joined by University of Bradford staff members Sue Bunney, International Coordinator for Study Abroad and Exchanges, and Adam Parkin, International Partnerships Assistant, who also shared their views on the Erasmus programme.

The broadcast featured on BCB Radio 106.6 FM, and is available on the Euranet website [www.euranet.eu](http://www.euranet.eu).



2011 Erasmus student welcome meeting

## Where was the bear?

Congratulations to the winner of our last newsletter competition. The International Centre bear was in Venice, Italy.



## BRADFORD COLLEGE STUDENTS' UNION

Welcome all international students! Here at Bradford College Students' Union, we are passionate about student life and finding ways to improve it. Our International Students' Officer is Rashid Ali and he has committed to holding a weekly office hour in the Students' Union (A Floor, Westbrook Building) every Wednesday 12-1pm to listen to any student issues that you wish to raise and any ideas that you might have to improve the way that the College or the Students' Union operates.

Any time outside of Rashid's office hour you are more than welcome to come and socialise in the Students' Union or come and chat to the members of staff in the Union.



You can contact Rashid at:  
[s.international@bradfordcollege.ac.uk](mailto:s.international@bradfordcollege.ac.uk)

And you can make general enquiries to the Students' Union at:  
[s.union@bradfordcollege.ac.uk](mailto:s.union@bradfordcollege.ac.uk)

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Questions? Comments? Suggestions?  
Please contact us...

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