INTRODUCTION FROM CHRIS OLDHAM

I hope to see many of you at the All Staff Meeting next Wednesday 19 December in ICLH (Colchester) and TF.2.10 Boardroom (Southend, 12-12:30 only). Three time slots have been arranged to provide an opportunity for everybody to attend a session; 8-8:30, 12-12:30, and 3-3:30.

As you will know we have just been named University of the Year in the Times Higher Education Awards. Our teams play a vital part in creating and maintaining the stimulating and welcoming environment enjoyed by students and staff at all three campuses, and we can justifiably share in this accolade. It’s great news to celebrate as we head towards Christmas and may I wish you all an enjoyable time and a Happy New Year. I’m sure you will all spare a thought for those colleagues working on our campuses over the holiday to keep essential services operating.

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Who has impressed you this year? The window to vote for the Celebrating ECS Staff Excellence Awards is open until 31 January. They are a fantastic way to show your appreciation to a fellow colleague within Estates and Campus Services. Visit this link to nominate online or look out for paper nomination forms and boxes available across Essex.
WIVENHOE PARK DAY NURSERY FESTIVE FAIR A SUCCESS

Wivenhoe Park Day Nursery’s annual Winter Fair was a great fundraising success, attracting more than 200 visitors and raising £643. There were plenty of activities for the children and their parents, including craft stalls, a grotto with Mr and Mrs Claus for the children to visit, a festive puppet show, a live choir, and barn owls!
Wivenhoe Park Day Nursery also raised £254.14 for Children in Need by wearing their pyjamas to Nursery. The children enjoyed Children in Need themed art and craft activities and baking.

SUPER HEROES WALK RAISES £5110 FOR ROBIN CANCER TRUST
For the second time The University of Essex Colchester campus hosted the ‘Super Heroes’ charity walk. The Robin Cancer Trust is the UK’s only germ cell awareness charity, and the event was a huge success, raising £5110 on the day. Senior Business Development Manager for Event Essex, Mark Smith, dressed up in a Sonic Outfit to support them!

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**ESSEX SPORT RECRUITS FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

Essex Sport has recruited its first full time Football Development Officer, Sarah Dooley. Sarah took some time out to explain her new role, and what she hopes to achieve.

**Hi Sarah, how excited are you about your new role?**

I’m very excited to be here. Essex, with its recent investment in the Sports Arena, has shown its commitment to sport and physical activity and it is fantastic to be at the forefront of futsal development as well as more traditional football activity. Essex has just become one of only 15 universities around the country awarded Tier 1 status within the University Grassroots Football Hub Programme for 2018/19 putting us at the forefront of a campaign to engage students, staff and the local community in football and futsal.

**What are your aspirations for football and futsal at Essex?**

In an ideal world, it would be for every student, staff and member of the local community to have the opportunity to take part in football or futsal activity at the University or within the local area.

**How long have you been playing football?**
I hung up my playing boots a number of years ago to move into coaching and development having played for Ipswich Town Ladies (in what was the 2nd tier of women’s football in England), Arsenal Ladies Academy (in the same cohort as Alex Scott) and in a summer league for Boston Renegades in America.

Are there plans to expand your team?

We currently have Yvan Godby working part time as Football Activator; his role primarily focuses around the development and sustainability of opportunities for male students as well as exploring appropriate offers for and within the local community. In the very near future, we will be recruiting a female Football Activator who will be tasked with driving female participation in football through alternative playing opportunities as well as recruiting new coaches, referees and administrators to the game.

GREEN IMPACT

If you’re not already taking part in Green Impact, it’s not too late to get involved. The programme is aimed at encouraging staff across the University to embed sustainable actions into their practices driving an ethos that prioritises the planet. You may already be doing many of the actions, so this is an opportunity to be recognised and rewarded for being a part of a community that is improving the University’s environmental impact. You can work as a team in your office or as a group within your section to achieve Bronze, Silver or Gold. If you’d like to know more, contact Daisy Malt on the link below.
WIVENHOE HOUSE

It’s all hands on deck at Wivenhoe House as we are now in full party season. During December, there are 1300 party night guests, 150 people booked to dine on Christmas Day, and 100 booked for the New Year’s Eve gala. The hotel also has a full calendar of parties in the brasserie and Prosecco lunches.
EVENT ESSEX WINS NHS BID

*Event Essex* found out this month that they were successful in securing a long term contract with Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust to provide accommodation to overseas nurses at the Southend Campus. This fantastic news has resulted in establishing an excellent relationship and further links between the University and Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.
ESTATES AND CAMPUS SERVICES FIRST BREAKFAST CLUB

Save the date for your 2019 diary - our very first ECS Breakfast Club. Join us on Wednesday 23 January in The Hex Building 9-10 to hear from different areas around the Section to enjoy a chat, coffee and croissant with colleagues. You’ll soon find an invite in your inbox. It’s a great opportunity to learn more about our different departments, put faces to names, and to put your views across. If you’d like to attend, please let your line manager know.

We hope that you enjoyed the latest Estates and Campus Services newsletter. If you’d like to contribute to the January edition, please send your story to ecscomms@essex.ac.uk by 21 December 2018.