Imperial College London

reporter

ISSUE 277 ▸ 30 OCTOBER 2014

Sharing stories of Imperial's comm

Spark of inspiration

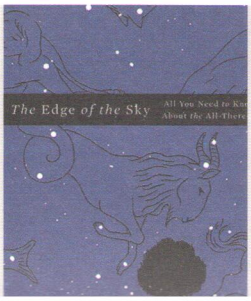
The new Imperial partnership supporting UK primary science

CENTRE PAGES

EQUALITY IN ENTERPRISE

New prize for entrepreneurial female students

PAGE 2



COSMOLOGY FOR THE PEOPLE

Roberto Trotta's refreshing new addition to pop science literature

KICK OFF

Imperial's
Heston spo
ground ope

PAGE 13

Flying robots lab gets the go ahead

A new £1.25 million arena for flying the next generation of aerial robots will be constructed at Imperial thanks to a generous donation.

The global market value of unmanned aerial robot manufacturing is expected to reach an estimated $US 89 billion in the next ten years. These robots have a range of potential applications including search and rescue, wildlife conservation and inspection and repair of industrial facilities, particularly in hazardous environments.

Imperial aims to capitalise on its position as one of the UK's leading centres for aerial robotics research with the development of a new state-of-the-art laboratory at its South Kensington Campus – made possible thanks to a gift from Mr Brahmal Vasudevan, an Imperial alumnus. Based in Malaysia, Mr Vasudevan is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of one of Asia's leading private equity firms Creador.

Imperial's President, Professor Alice Gast, said: "Aerial robotics has a tremendous range of applications, and Imperial is well-equipped to play a pivotal role in this nascent industry. Brahmal Vasudevan's generosity and vision will allow our students, academics and industrial partners to rapidly advance research and innovation in this exciting field."

The Brahmal Vasudevan Aerial Robotics Lab will consist of a two storey laboratory and workshop, hosted by the City and Guilds building, on its roof. It will have teaching facilities for undergraduates and postgraduates, housing a workshop for manufacturing aerial robots and an enclosed arena for safely carrying out test flights. Dr Mirko Kovac (pictured above) will serve as Director of the new Brahmal Vasudevan Aerial Robotics Lab.

–COLIN SMITH, COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Singaporean President visits Imper as collaborations grow

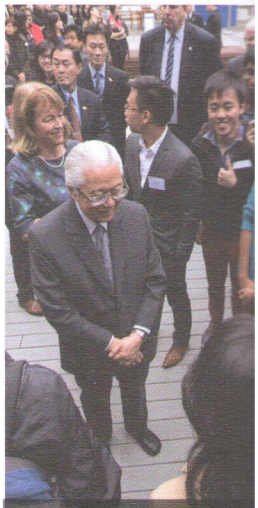
The Singaporean President Tony Tan Keng Yam visited Imperial on Friday 24 October as the university celebrated and strengthened its deep links with Singapore.

As well as Singaporean students forming one of the College's largest groups from overseas, Imperial's connections with the city state include the joint medical school with Nanyang Technological University, LKCMedicine, and a new cybersecurity research agreement signed this week (see below, in brief).

President Tan's visit marks the second occasion that Imperial has hosted a State Visit within a year, after President Park Geun-hye of South Korea visited in November 2013.

At the end of President Tan's four-day visit to the UK, he viewed some of Imperial's education and research accomplishments, including the College's four-storey Carbon Capture Pilot Plant – the most advanced of its kind in the world. Both the British and Singaporean governments have made carbon capture technology national priorities

President Tan was welcomed by Imperial's President Alice Gast, who also sits on the Singaporean Ministry of Education's Academic Research Council.



President Tan meeting some Imperial's 400 Singaporean

"By working together and Singapore can great their capacity to produce quality research, tackle g challenges and commerc new technologies. Togeth are driving innovation fo Singapore and the whole

During a State Banqu for President Tan on Tues evening, Her Majesty The highlighted LKCMedicine saying: "Today Imperial helping to train a new ge of Singaporean doctors, of many important partn that it and other UK univ are building with Singap

–ANDREW SCHEUBER, COMMUNICAT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

in brief

Protecting industrial infrastructure

Making infrastructure more safe and secure will be the focus of a new partnership between Imperial and the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD). The two have signed a five-year agreement that aims to improve the trustworthiness of critical infrastructure, and to protect the devices for regulating them called industrial control systems, from cyber threats. The relationship will enmesh the two universities via academic research and student programmes at the PhD level. At Imperial, the partnership will be led by the Institute in Industrial Control Systems in conjunction with the Institute for Security Science and Technology, both headed by Professor Chris Hankin.

Athena SWAN success

Four Imperial Departments have been recognised with Athena SWAN awards for their work to promote female academics. The Department of Chemical Engineering and the National Heart and Lung Institute were both successful in renewing their Silver Awards, while the Department of Surgery and Cancer and the Institute of Clinical Sciences & the MRC Clinical Sciences Centre achieved Bronze. Athena SWAN awards recognise and celebrate good practice in recruiting, retaining and promoting women in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine and Mathematics) in higher education, with each award lasting for three years.

"It took yea of unrecognised effort classified a 'Friday afternoon research – consi so unpromising t it was not backed an official resear project."

PROFESSOR DONAL BRADLEY, V PROVOST (RESEARCH) HAILS TH PRIZE FOR PHYSICS AWARDED T PROFESSORS ISAMU AKASAKI, AMANO AND SHUJI NAKAMURA INVENTING THE BLUE LED.