Welcome To Keele

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Keele Ranked Among World’s Best

Keele has moved into the top 1.75% of the world’s leading universities in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2013-14.

The University has been placed, for the third consecutive year, among the world’s leading universities, moving into the top 350 of the world’s best higher education institutions.

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings are the only global university performance tables to judge world class universities across all of their core missions - teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook. The table presents a broad view of institutional performance based on 13 performance indicators.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nick Foskett, said: “Our position among the world’s top universities underlines our commitment to teaching excellence and outstanding research. It is very pleasing that not only have we maintained a placing among the World’s best universities but we have improved our position.”

Phil Baty, editor of the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, said: “Keele’s position in the top 350 is very impressive. The University’s international outlook appears to be its key strength and has helped it return to its position in the top 1.75% institutions worldwide.”

The full results can be found at http://bit.ly/thewur.

New Wi-Fi offers campus wide connectivity

Students and staff can now benefit from Wi-Fi access across the Keele campus from October onwards.

Over £1 million has been invested in the Wi-Fi infrastructure in academic buildings, halls of residence and outdoor spaces over the summer, so wherever you are on campus you can get connected.

The new Wi-Fi system uses eduroam (education roaming) for staff and students and our new ‘visitor’ network for our conference visitors. eduroam allows students, researchers and staff to get Internet connectivity across campus and in over 5,000 other institutions globally, using a single Wi-Fi profile for connection regardless of location.

David Shepherd says of the system: “This development to our infrastructure is strategically important to support our students and staff. Joining this global community show our continued commitment to providing the latest technology to enhance our student experience.”

To connect to eduroam all you need is your Keele IT username (followed by the realm, which for Keele is @keele.ac.uk). As long as you have a device that can connect using 802.1x networking standard, you should be able to access the internet via eduroam.

For more information regarding connection check out www.keele.ac.uk/wireless
A great start to 2013/14

What happened to summer? Well, before we knew it, the 2013/14 Academic year was upon us. Hundreds of international students arrived on campus, soon to be followed by masses of home students and their families. They received a warm Keele welcome, quite literally, with the weather helping make the start to the year a memorable one.

Colleagues and student staff worked furiously, yet happily, through the weekend to welcome, enrol, guide, support and advise students and their families.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Nick Foskett, welcomed over 1,000 students and their families in welcome addresses in Keele Hall.

The following day, the Keele Welcome Festival could not have been a more welcoming experience. A welcome from the Professor Foskett and Pro-Vice Chancellor, Education and Student Experience, Professor Fiona Cownie, as well as the Presidents of KeeleSU and the KPA was followed by a fabulous festival full of music, activities, and many, many opportunities for our new students, to get involved, try new activities and make new friends.

Almost 1600 students queued to get into the Westminster Lecture Theatre to experience a very original induction and welcome talk. UniSmart is billed as the ‘Live Survival Guide to University’. The presentation began with a spoof and very ‘tired’ lecture but soon transformed into an action packed show which includes all the key elements of what can be a roller coaster introduction to university life. Topics covered and explored included: culture shock, staying safe, drink spiking, sexual health and where to go for help, support and advice.

The highlight of the show was when the audience were all up on their feet talking to people they had never met before and making new friends. The feedback from our students has been amazing with comments; one student in his feedback said “it made me excited about University and making new friends...brilliant, utterly brilliant”
Welcome to Keele
World Mental Health Day - Time To Change

World Mental Health Day - both the University and KeeleSU took this opportunity to make a joint Time to Change Pledge.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nick Foskett, and KeeleSU President, Victoria Taylor signed the pledge prior to the Students’ Union’s ‘Forum for Change’ on behalf of the University and Students’ Union.

During the day information fair was held. Staff attended from key support services within the University as well as from several external wellbeing and mental health services, including (ADSID) and ‘It’s a Goal’ a football therapy project which is being introduced at Keele in November, the first service of its kind in a UK University.

To find out more about ‘Time to Change’ and why we are making this public commitment to challenge mental health Stigma go to www.time-to-change.org.uk

• Second year Mental Health student nurses celebrated World mental Health Day by designing posters and leaflets and displaying them at the Harplands Hospital and the Clinical Education Centre.

Welcome Tea Party For Kenyan Students

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nick Foskett, welcomed 20 Kenyan students to Keele with afternoon tea in the Salvin Room in Keele Hall.

The Vice-Chancellor, who was accompanied by Sir Jeffrey James, member of the University Council and former British High Commissioner to Kenya, said he was delighted to welcome the Kenyan students to Keele. He said the University had built a ‘strong network’ in Kenya and was pleased that among the group were six students who had been awarded Keele scholarships through the Keele-Kenya Jubilee Scholarship scheme.

Photography courtesy of ‘KeeleSU Activities’