Dr Claire Fox has won a Keele University Teaching Excellence Award. She won the award on the basis of the high quality support she provides to students, and dissertation supervision. The panel also recognised Claire’s achievements in relation to pastoral support including her work in relation to the personal tutor scheme and her development of the peer e-mentoring scheme. One of the students who supported Claire’s application for the award, wrote, ‘Claire… goes out of her way to ensure that all her students achieve the best that they can…. I always feel that Claire’s main focus is treating every student as an individual and this is a great teaching quality to have.’

WHAT’S HAPPENING - NEW COURSES???
The Dual Honours BSc in Applied Psychology, which got off the ground this academic year, is flourishing!!!!!! “A fantastic range of applied placements are opening up for our students” says Dr Sue Sherman (programme director), “these are likely to include working with learning disabilities, forensic opportunities, educational psychology and bereavement services”.

In 2011 – 2012 our final year students will be able to MAJOR in psychology for the first time. This means dropping the other programme and concentrating just on psychology. We are busy putting new final year modules together, so WATCH THIS SPACE!!!!!!!!!

NEW MASTERS COURSES
Are you interested in studying ESRC-accredited masters in Child Social Development, Clinical Psychological Research, Psychology of Health and Well Being, and BACP-accredited counselling psychology? Do you want to stay at Keele? Do you want £1000 off your fees? Find out more about our new and existing masters courses at http://www.keele.ac.uk/psychology/forapplicants/mscourses/

HOT – OFF the Press: Cutting-edge swearing research
Dr Richard Stephens, School of Psychology, has been invited to give a series of seminars in the USA on his research on swearing as a response to pain. These invitations follow the publication in the summer of Dr Stephens’ research paper on the same topic in the journal NeuroReport. The research generated international media attention and was covered in major US media outlets including: ABC, CNN, New York Times, Scientific American, and Time Magazine. Dr Stephens gave live radio interviews across the world including BBC Radio 4’s The Today programme. The paper remains the most viewed and most e-mailed article on the Neuro Report website.

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING – FURTHER RECOGNITION OF THE HIGH QUALITY OF OUR TEACHING IN PSYCHOLOGY.
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Celebrating our students’ successes during 2009-2010 and Updates on new courses
Alicia Khoshdel Y3, supervised by Dr Alexandra Lamont, was awarded a School of Psychology bursary to cover travel and subsistence expenses to present her final year research project, “Effect of music on video game performance”, at the British Psychological Society Scotland Undergraduate Student Conference on Wednesday 10th March 2010 at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh.

Prize winners !!!!!!!
The winners of the 2009/10 Psychology Third Year Project Poster Prizes are:
Best Cognitive / neuropsychology poster
Krissie Tam
(supervisor Dr Sue Sherman)
Best Social / developmental poster
Stephanie Case
(supervisor Dr John Hegarty)
Best Qualitative poster
Emma Wardell
(supervisor Dr Sally Sargeant).

The Keele “bubble”: an ecopsychology student investigates By Jaspreet Pandahl (Y3 2009)
The “Keele bubble” is a term widely used among Keele students. But what does it mean? I devised a questionnaire and asked 30 students to fill it in for my project.
The Bubble was seen as Keele having its own little environment, like a mini-society, with everyone knowing each other. Keele felt sometimes to be in the middle of nowhere with little sense of the ‘outside world’. The rural setting helped to produce this, with Keele surrounded by fields. The Bubble feeling meant it was easy to socialise within Keele, and feelings of friendliness, safety, closeness to others.
Yet it wasn’t all positive. The Bubble sometimes implied feelings that were claustrophobic, isolated and with everyone being on top of each other.

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