



Your monthly update of news, views and interviews from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS).

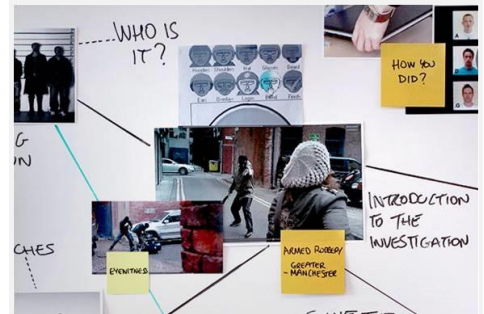
This month's Podmag focuses on the Open University in Scotland (OUiS) and the work they do with employers, unions, charities and voluntary sector groups, to name a few. Karen Foley talks to Khadija Patel, Learning Partnerships Officer, about the exciting partnerships between the OU, Rolls Royce and Unite the Union. Dr Pete Cannell tells us about Open Educational Resources and how these are being used to transition learners into Higher Education. We also hear from Gill Ryan, Learning Partnerships Officer, about how resources are being used to target hard to reach learners to widen participation. To listen to the full edition (approx. 16 minutes) click [here](#).



Image: Legacy Gardens OU Campus

Diary

Forensic Psychology: Careers and Research



Starting **23rd March** to **4th May** we are running a series of live events to coincide with the free FutureLearn course on Forensic Psychology.

To join our weekly live Facebook chats please visit the events section of [The Open University, FASS](#) page.

For more information about the free Forensic Psychology course, which is available from **20 March 2017**, please visit the [Futurelearn website](#).



Khadija Patel

Khadija talks about her role as Learning Partnerships Officer. We hear about one of the exciting projects that the OU is working on which involves Rolls Royce and Unite the Union, and how students benefit from OU study for Work Based Learning. Khadija also

talks about the recent celebration event where 'there is always an emotional element...' as students are handed their certificates by employees of the organisations involved in the partnership. For more information please visit the OUiS website link on partnership work with Trade Unions: <http://www.open.ac.uk/scotland/our-work/unions>

Dr Pete Cannell

Pete explains how Open Educational Practices in Scotland aims to enhance their capacity for developing publicly available and licenced online materials. This work is structured to enable students to engage, participate and feel confident to continue progressing their education. To find out more click on the following link: [Opening Educational Practices in Scotland](#)



Gill Ryan

'Open Learning Champions' is a project Gill is involved with, introducing people to open learning resources in a 'gentle' way to build people's confidence. By working with trusted partners they can engage people who may not otherwise consider themselves learners. Listen to the interview to hear Gill talk about an example of OUIS work with a carer's organisation. You can find out more information about 'Open Learning Champions' on the [OUiS website](#).



The OU in Scotland's online community:

'CTRL + Click' on the icons below to learn more about the OU in Scotland:



The News

Open University in Scotland:

- Graduation is always a really special time of year and a chance to celebrate success and in the Scottish Graduation 560 graduates and honorary graduates were awarded their degrees in October.
- The OU welcomes Professor Peter Scott as new Commissioner for Fair Access. The role of the Commissioner is to be an advocate for disadvantaged learners, working across the education system to provide strategic leadership and drive change.
- At the opening of Ayrshire College's new Kilmarnock campus last month, Scotland's First Minister, Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon, met with a group of students who are studying towards Open University degrees at the college, through an OU-college partnership, as well as recent graduates from the programme.

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences:

The first programme of Meet the Lords was aired at the end of February. A TV first, this 3 part TV series takes you behind the scenes of the House of Lords .

If you haven't been able to watch it live you can view the episodes on [BBC iPlayer](#). And you can explore further with the OU's topical audio and video content on [OpenLearn](#).

FASS online community



Facebook

Have you visited our student Faculty Facebook page yet? Nearly 29,000 people 'like' our page – why not 'like' and follow us too!

Click [here](#) to take a look. Feel free to like, comment on and share our posts.



Instagram

You can also follow us on Instagram. Click [here](#) to view our latest posts.



Twitter

Are you a FASS follower?

Catch up with the latest tweets from the Faculty [here](#).

Students – have your say

If you have any suggestions for interviews or features you would like to see either via The PodMag or our student focused Facebook page please feel free to let us know, we'd love to hear from you.

Would you like to be interviewed yourself and tell your story? If so, please contact us on connections@open.ac.uk