

## School of Languages Rio Reader

**D**R Colin Grant, Reader in the School of Languages, gave a series of invited research seminars on various aspects of communication science/politics and cognition at university institutes in Rio de Janeiro in late March/early April 2002.

On 20 March he presented a lecture on the 'Communication of Legitimacy and Legality in the EU' at the invitation of the inter-university research centre CEBELA (Centro Brasileiro de Estudos Latino-Americanos). Dr Grant then presented a research seminar entitled 'Theses on Complexity and Communication' on 2 April and continued on 4 April at the invitation of the cross-disciplinary advanced

ergonomics research group (Gente) based in the prestigious COPPE (Coordenação de Programas de PÙs-Graduaõ em Engenharia) at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ).

Dr Grant also offered supervision to research postgraduates and signed a research partnership agreement on complexity and communication with the Gente Director, Dr Mario Cesar Vidal. He has since been invited to join the Editorial Board of the journal "Ergonùmica".

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## Water Minister

**P**ROFESSOR John Swaffield has been invited by The Right Honorable Michael Meacher MP, Minister for the Environment to continue as Chairman of the Water Regulations Advisory Committee until July 2003.

## Jubilee Dates

**A**S part of the celebrations for the Queens Jubilee, the Government has announced an extra Bank Holiday.

As a result Heriot-Watt University's Edinburgh Campus will be closed on Monday 3 June and the Scottish Borders Campus, Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 June 2002, due to different local May Bank Holiday dates.

## Danish Directorate Lecture

**P**ROFESSOR Roland Paxton, Civil and Offshore Engineering, accepted an invitation from the Danish Roads Directorate to visit Denmark to give a lecture on recording and conservation of the historic engineering infrastructure of the United Kingdom to young engineers at Odense University on 14 May.

The team which Professor Paxton represented at the lecture has engaged on precision radar mapping project which

has been shortlisted for the prestigious MacRobert Award for innovation in engineering 2002, with the award winner announced later in the year.

Also later in the year, Professor Paxton will host over 200 guests from the Association of Industrial Archaeology, when they visit the university to view an exhibition of outstanding historical artefacts and celebrate the unveiling of a Sir John Watson Gordon oil painting of Scotland's leading Scottish railway engineer John Miller (1805-83) by the Principal.

# Grants

### Chemistry

£68,777 EPSRC

For project: Synthetic and computational studies of C-C bond activation in N heterocyclic carbene complexes of ruthenium  
Duration: 1 October 2002 to 30 September 2005  
*Under the direction of Dr Stuart Macgregor*

### Civil and Offshore

#### Engineering

£183,938 EPSRC

For project: Threshold conditions for uniform sediments revisited  
Duration: 1 October 2002 to 30 September 2005  
*Under the direction of Professor Gary Pender*

### Mechanical and Chemical Engineering

£161,099 EPSRC

For project: Pressure wave propagation in unsteady compressible flow of granular material in fast and slow rheology  
Duration: 1 September 2002 to 31 August 2005  
*Under the direction of Professor Raffaella Ocone*

### Mechanical and Chemical Engineering

£208,860 The Royal Academy of Engineering

For project: Post-doctoral research fellowship. Bio-electric systems - a novel bioprocess intensification strategy  
Duration: 1 October 2002 to 30 September 2007  
*Under the direction of Dr Mark Bustard*

### Physics

£312,543 European Commission  
For project: HOLMS: High-speed Opto-electronic Memory Systems  
Duration: 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2005  
*Under the direction of Dr John Snowdon*

For full grants listings visit website:

<http://hw-news.hw.ac.uk>