

Inspirational thinking right on your doorstep

Distinguished Lectures have been one of the key features of university life for centuries. They offer us all the chance to listen to some of the world's greatest minds discuss issues of common interest, in the finest detail. Nottingham Trent University has had the privilege of hosting a number of distinguished speakers on a broad array of stimulating subject areas. Here you'll find details of up and coming lectures and a brief outline of lecturers who have graced us with their presence in the past.

Be inspired

Our Distinguished Lectures are free to attend, and take place on our City site.

For more information and to reserve tickets, please visit: www.ntu.ac.uk/distinguishedlectures

Dates for your diary

Kevin Cahill CBE

Raising Money, Changing Lives... (and Having Fun Along the Way)

Wednesday 2 November 2011

6 pm, City site

Professor Martin Rees

Life in the Cosmos: from 'Big Bang' to Biosphere

Wednesday 23 November 2011

6 pm, City site

Greg Dyke

Lecture title TBC

Wednesday 7 December 2011

6 pm, City site

Jonathon Porritt

Will Today's 'Third Industrial Revolution' Deliver a Sustainable World?

Wednesday 18 April 2012

6 pm, City site



Kevin Cahill CBE

Raising Money, Changing Lives... (and Having Fun Along the Way)

Kevin joined Comic Relief as Director of Education and Information in February 1991. In June 1992, he became Director of Communications adding fundraising to his responsibilities, and in October the following year, he became Deputy Director taking on the creative brief across the whole organisation, including education work, TV, publicity, press and media.

In July 1997, Kevin was appointed Chief Executive. He had the idea to do Sport Relief and has seen it grow in strength since 2002. He played a key role in the Make Poverty History and Live 8 campaigns and is President of the Charity Projects Entertainment Fund (CPEF), a US charity set up by Comic Relief in 2007. In 2007, Kevin was awarded a CBE for services to charity.

From 1982 to 1991, Kevin was Head of Education at the Royal National Theatre. He set up a new department under Peter Hall to work on programmes that explained the process of theatre, and particularly the repertoire of the National, to its audience, schools and the general public. He was chair of the Gate Theatre for many years and has been a board member at the Young Vic.

He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Nottingham Trent University in 2008.

Lecture abstract:

In Red Nose Day and Sport Relief, Comic Relief has two of the biggest fundraising events in the world. The huge totals raised through them, however, can only be finally judged by the changes the money helps deliver in the lives of the poorest, most vulnerable communities at home and across the world.

This lecture will look at some of the key ingredients of Comic Relief's success so far and the ongoing challenge of raising cash in a more competitive world and difficult economic environment. It will also examine the tougher challenge of changing hearts and minds, and spending the money to deliver sustainable, systemic change.

Date for your diary

Kevin Cahill CBE

On: Wednesday 2 November 2011

From: 6 pm

At: City site

To reserve tickets, please visit:

www.ntu.ac.uk/distinguishedlectures



Professor Martin Rees

Life in the Cosmos: from 'Big Bang' to Biosphere

Martin Rees has been Master of Trinity College, Cambridge since 2004. He holds the honorary title of Astronomer Royal.

After studying at Cambridge, he held post-doctoral positions in the UK and the USA, before becoming a professor at Sussex University, and subsequently Plumian Professor of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy at Cambridge, where he also served for ten years as director of the Institute of Astronomy.

Professor Rees has lectured widely, been on many advisory groups, and received numerous international awards. In addition to research papers, he is the author of eight books.

Martin Rees served during 2005-2010 as President of the Royal Society and in 2005 he was appointed to the House of Lords.

Lecture abstract:

Astronomers have made astonishing progress in probing our cosmic environment, thanks to advanced technology. We can trace cosmic history from some mysterious 'beginning' nearly 14 billion years ago, and understand in outline the emergence of atoms, galaxies, stars and planets – and how, on at least one planet, life emerged and developed a complex biosphere of which we are part. But these advances pose new questions: What does the long-range future hold? How widespread is life in our cosmos? Is physical reality even more extensive than the domain that our telescopes can probe? This illustrated lecture will attempt to address such issues.

Date for your diary

Professor Martin Rees

On: Wednesday 23 November 2011

From: 6 pm

At: City site

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Photograph by Paul Archer

Greg Dyke

Greg Dyke was educated at Hayes Grammar School and later at York University where he read Politics. After an early career as a journalist, he started his broadcasting career in 1977 at London Weekend Television.

He became Editor-in-Chief of TV-am in 1983, and the following year, Director of Programmes for TVS. He returned to LWT in 1987 as Director of Programmes; and from 1991 to 1994, he was Group Chief Executive of LWT (Holdings) plc.

Greg Dyke joined Pearson Television as Chief Executive in 1994. He guided the consortium which created Channel 5 and became its first Chairman. During this early period of his career, he was also Chairman of GMTV, and at various times, a director of Pearson plc, Channel Four Television, ITN and BSkyB. He was a non-Executive Director of Manchester United Football Club 1997-1999, and was a Trustee of the Science Museum 1995-2005.

In January 2000, he became Director-General of the BBC. In his four years at the organisation, he started four new digital television channels, five new digital radio channels, opened two new BBC regions, launched the BBC's interactive television services and helped create Freeview, a new free to air digital platform. He also made major commitments to expand the BBC's education services and to improve the cultural diversity of the workforce.

After leaving the BBC, Greg Dyke was made Chancellor of the University of York in December 2004. In 2005, he became Chairman of HIT, a large international television production company specialising in programmes for the under-fives. In January 2006, he became Chairman of Brentford Football Club. He is also a member of the supervisory board of ProSiebenSat.1, one of Europe's largest free-to-air broadcasting groups.

In March 2008, he succeeded the late Anthony Minghella as Chairman of the British Film Institute. He became Chairman of ATG, Britain's biggest theatre group in November 2009. He is also an adviser on leadership to the NHS. His autobiography entitled *Greg Dyke: Inside Story* was published in September 2004 by Harper Collins.

Date for your diary

Greg Dyke

On: Wednesday 7 December 2011

From: 6 pm

At: City site

To reserve tickets, please visit:

www.ntu.ac.uk/distinguishedlectures



Jonathon Porritt

Will Today's 'Third Industrial Revolution' Deliver a Sustainable World?

Jonathon Porritt, Co-Founder of Forum for the Future, is an eminent writer, broadcaster and commentator on sustainable development. Established in 1996, Forum for the Future is now the UK's leading sustainable development charity, with 70 staff and over 100 partner organisations, including some of the world's leading companies.

In addition, Jonathon is Co-Director of The Prince of Wales's Business and Sustainability Programme which runs Seminars for senior executives around the world. He is a Non-Executive Director of Wessex Water, and of Willmott Dixon Holdings. He is a Trustee of the Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy, and is involved in the work of many NGOs and charities as Patron, Chair or Special Adviser.

Jonathon was formerly Director of Friends of the Earth (1984-90); co-chair of the Green Party (1980-83) of which he is still a member; chairman of UNED-UK (1993-96); chairman of Sustainability South West, the South West Round Table for Sustainable Development (1999-2001); a Trustee of WWF UK (1991-2005), and a member of the Board of the South West Regional Development Agency (1999-2008).

Jonathon stood down as Chairman of the UK Sustainable Development Commission in July 2009 after nine years providing high-level advice to Government ministers. His latest books are *Capitalism As If The World Matters* (Earthscan, revised 2007), *Globalism & Regionalism* (Black Dog 2008) and *Living Within Our Means* (Forum for the Future 2009).

Jonathon received a CBE in January 2000 for services to environmental protection.

Lecture abstract:

We're already in the foothills of an extraordinary period of technological change – embracing renewable energy, cleantech, smartgrids, cloud computing, cradle-to-cradle engineering, low-carbon farming, nano-materials and so on. Much of this is hugely positive from a sustainability perspective. But is such a mega-technofix all we need to secure a genuinely sustainable world – for nine billion people by 2050? What about social justice, some of today's dominant world views, contemporary models of progress, human behaviour and all the rest of today's complex dilemmas? Could it be that techno-fixing on this scale will actually divert us from dealing with these deeper challenges?

Date for your diary

Jonathon Porritt

On: Wednesday 18 April 2012

From: 6 pm

At: City site

To reserve tickets, please visit:

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Past lectures

The Distinguished Lecture Series continues to bring high-profile guest speakers to the University. The events feature leading academics, key decision-makers and well-known individuals working in a wide variety of fields such as politics, education, law, culture, science and the environment.

If you missed them, don't worry – a recorded version of most of the lectures can be found on www.ntu.ac.uk/pastdistinguishedlectures

Lord Saville of Newdigate	The Conduct of a Public Inquiry
Shami Chakrabarti	Common Values: The State of Rights and Freedoms in Modern Britain
David Bellamy	Stitching Natural History Back Into Sustainable Order
Richard Thomas CBE	Putting People First
Dr Ian Johnston CB FRSA	Apprenticeship or University? The Well-being Choice for the Next Generation
Professor Sir James Underwood	The Matter of Life and Death: Ethics and the Human Body
Lord Puttnam of Queensgate CBE	New Ways of Learning in a Digital Age
Diarmuid Gavin	The Emergence of a Contemporary Garden
Baroness Susan Greenfield	The Future of the Brain
Lord Krebs FRS	Public Policy – How can Science Help?
Mark Jones	Museums in the 21st Century
Chris Cramer	Trust and Integrity in the Modern Media – Has the Media Lost the Message?
Sir Mike Tomlinson	Vocational Education should be a Rounded Education
The Hon. Mr Justice Beatson	Judicial Independence and Accountability: Pressures and Opportunities
Sir Liam Donaldson	A Safer World for Healthcare
Professor Tim Burt	Long-term Monitoring of the Natural Environment: Perceptive Science or Mindless Monitoring?
Sir Michael Hopkins	Building in the Back Yard – Opportunities for Architecture in the 21st Century
Dr Peter Horbury	Aim for the Heart not the Head
Professor Sir Alec Jeffreys	Genetic Fingerprinting and Beyond
Baroness Estelle Morris	Amidst Great Changes... what might higher education look like at the end of the decade?
Professor Sir David Williams	Public Order and Freedom of Expression

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