



Financial Services Newsletter



Issue 10

December 2019

In This Issue

- Finance News
- Times Higher Education Awards
- COUP Award
- Finance update
- New Starters and Leavers
- Christmas Crackers



Dates for the Diary

- Financial Services will be closed from 12pm on Friday 13th December.



Finance News

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our colleagues. We hope you enjoy the Christmas holidays and we wish everyone a successful 2020, new year and new decade! This year, Financial Services was shortlisted in the Outstanding Financial Performance category at The Times Higher Education Awards 2019, and we enjoyed our Customer Service Excellence achievement of 31 compliances pluses.

The Times Higher Education Awards 2019

In November, Financial Services was shortlisted for a THELMA award. A selected few represented the department at the Awards ceremony which took place in London. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful this time however a great night was had by all.



COUP Lifetime Achievement Recognition Award 2019

The National Procurement Conference Lifetime Achievement Recognition Award 2019 goes to Mr John Thompson – University of Huddersfield

"This category recognises the outstanding contribution to procurement in the Higher Education sector, by an individual, over an extended period of over 20 years. Those who have made an exceptional difference to our community rightly deserve to be thanked. John joined the University of Huddersfield in 1993, and has worked

tirelessly to continuously improve the University's procurement performance. This was evidenced through external validation, the University achieving "superior status" in the PMA assessment, the first northern university to do so. John has raised the profile of procurement both within the University and throughout the sector and has in the past reached the finalists for the Government procurement awards and THELMAs for Outstanding Procurement Team. Regionally, he has chaired numerous commodity groups. Starting in 1995, John became chair of the Stationery and Office Supplies Group, then the Furniture Group and brought about the first successful collaborative regional furniture contract. John represented the sector in the first pan-public framework on reprographics working with The Buying Agency, now Crown Commercial Services, to bring a deal across the whole public procurement sector. He has also Chaired the Northern Universities Insurance Group (2013-2015) and organised the National Insurance conferences and has been procurement adviser to the North Eastern Universities Library Periodicals group for the last five years. He was an original member of the NEUPC board of Directors and the driving force in saving the North Eastern University consortium in 1999, formerly NEUPG, when it seemed it may fold. We would like to thank John for his exceptional contributions to the HE sector."

Finance Update

The ASIS team is saying goodbye to one of their system administrators Susan Branton who is taking up a secondment to work with the Vice Chancellor's office on a new project for the next 6 months and we wish her well in her new venture.

Jonathan Croall is now the ASIS system owner and will manage the ASIS team going forward. Richard Squires is now head of Financial Systems, and will now manage the systems support and development team.

New Starters and Leavers



Financial Services wishes Susan the best of luck with her secondment to the VCO. We are pleased to introduce our newest members of staff: Siobhan Cash joins the purchase ledger team as the International Payments & Procurement Administrator, and Jo Finlay joins the student finance office as a Student Records Team Assistant. (Jo left and Siobhan right)

Christmas Cracker Chuckles

Why did Santa get in trouble with the tax man?

He missed the deadline on his elf-assessment

How does a snowman get to work? *By icicle!*

Who is a Christmas tree's favourite singer?

Spruce Springsteen!

Why do Dasher and Dancer love coffee?

Because they're Santa's star bucks!