Welcome to our Summer edition of the Financial Services Newsletter. During our long hot summer, we have been celebrating our nomination at the THELMA awards along with our fantastic CSE assessment.

THELMA Awards 2018

You may have heard that we had a fantastic night at the THELMA Awards Ceremony in June, where the University picked up the overall top award for Outstanding Leadership and Management Team of the Year plus Outstanding Strategic Planning Team.

Unfortunately, this didn’t include Outstanding Financial Performance where we were pipped by Edinburgh. But the overall award included references to financial health,
being top of the financial security index for 5 years running and demonstrating strong financial sustainability.

So thank you again for Financial Services contribution to this success and thanks particularly to those who were able to attend the Awards ceremony itself. We think most of us got back in one piece.

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**CSE Award**

We have just received the results of our CSE visit and confirmation by our assessor Mr. Mick Lynch that we have retained the Standard and have been awarded another 10 Compliance Plus Awards. This means in total we now have 20 which is a fantastic result and is just reward for all the hard work that has been put into it. This is the highest number for any Service in the University.

A special thank you goes to all the CSE Steering Group members for their efforts in helping to plan the event and to collate all the evidence for our assessor. In addition, Mick truly feels we strive to put our customers first and we are an exemplar for the sector. Therefore, we have agreed to be a case study for the Standard going forward so that other Universities can see what we have achieved so far in Financial Services.

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**Team Finance - World Cup Finalists**

**Don’t Cry For Me Team Finance**

The inaugural staff futsal World Cup took place in June, with teams from across the University including the VCO’s office, Business School, Human and Health Sciences,
IT & CLS, Team Hud and the SU representing different countries from the FIFA World Cup. Representing Argentina, Team Finance performed better than Messi and Co in the actual World Cup, with Phil McEwan aka the Bacup Beckenbauer, and Troels Peterson (so good, the Danes hated seeing him leave) in attack, we were off to a flyer with victory over Research in our first game. Despite no scheduled game in the next round due to a withdrawal, our final group saw a closely fought encounter against our colleagues from Team Hud, who ran out 7-4 victors.

Into the knockout stage, and it was another tough game, but victory over SU sent us into the semi-finals. In a game against the Business School, after being 2-0 down early on, resilience was the order of the day, as Finance rallied and ran out winners by three goals.

This sent us into a final, for another game against Team Hud. A nip-and-tuck game saw two teams that couldn’t be separated in normal time, sharing six goals. The penalty shoot-out went to sudden death and there was an inevitable feeling about the outcome, as pre-tournament favourites Team Hud scored the decisive spot kick.

Well done to our colleagues from Team Hud, and a big “Thank You” to Tabby and Leanne for organising, as well as Liam Bunce and John Clarke who stepped in to deputise for injuries. Tournament organiser Tabby Magida commented "The tournament was a great success, and received positive feedback from the departments involved, a great opportunity for integration and a social event for University staff.” Let’s hope this is an annual event!

New Starters

Financial Services would like to introduce our newest members of the team. Rhian Gregory, School Assistant Accountant; Mike Hopkinson, Student Records Assistant; and Susan Branton who is the newest member of ASIS Support.

Goodbye and good luck to Ruth Bray who has left the University and joined the staff at Leeds University.