

## **Principal's Update mid-September 2012**

Colleagues

### **British Science Festival in Aberdeen**

This is a brief additional update to staff from me because I did not want the tremendous success of the British Science Festival to pass without recording my heartfelt thanks first to everyone across the University who was involved in the many months of planning and organisation that made the events go so well; and second to everyone across the University who made our guests feel so welcome. All the early signs are that this was one of the most successful festivals held in recent times and one for which we received some impressive coverage in the national and international media.

I know that everyone on campus last week would have got a real sense that the Festival has led us all to feel a renewed pride in what the University can deliver for our wider community.

### **Research Excellence Framework 2014**

As colleagues will know, Professor Phil Hannaford is working tirelessly on our preparations for the REF 2014 and the next year will see us enter an especially critical phase in those preparations. Over the coming weeks and months Phil will be leading on a number of planning and review processes as we intensify our preparations towards making our submission to REF 2014. It is absolutely vital that colleagues support that process as fully as possible to help ensure that we can have as robust a process as possible to help make our final submission as strong as it can be. I know I can rely on your help.

Best Regards

Ian Diamond

Principal and Vice-Chancellor