

Invited speakers Anatomical Society meeting January 2024

Biography: Prof Anne Burrows



Anne M. Burrows, Ph.D., FAAA

I am a biological anthropologist and evolutionary morphologist working on questions surrounding evolution of the face, the development of rare dietary niches in primates, and the co-evolution of humans and the domestic dog. I earned my Ph.D. in biological anthropology from the University of Pittsburgh and am currently a Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy at Duquesne University and the Anna Rangos Rizakus Endowed Chair for Health Sciences and Ethics. I am a Fellow of the American Association for Anatomy as well as the President-Elect of the AAA. I teach Gross Anatomy for students in a variety of health profession programs, and a class on the dog/human bond called “Are Dogs Our Best Friends?”. I spend much of my free time as a volunteer dog handler at Animal Friends shelter in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Biography – Dr Caroline Wilkinson



Caroline Wilkinson became the Institutional Lead for Forensic Research Strategy in 2022, after almost 8 years as Director of Liverpool School of Art & Design. Caroline is a chartered forensic anthropologist Level I (craniofacial specialism) by the Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI) and is an experienced forensic practitioner. Caroline is Director of Face Lab, a LJMU research group that carries out forensic/archaeological research and consultancy work including craniofacial analysis, facial depiction and forensic art. Craniofacial analysis involves the depiction and identification of unknown bodies for forensic investigation or historical figures for archaeological interpretation. Face Lab research relates to facial identification, craniofacial reconstruction, preserved bodies and facial animation.

Caroline is a graduate of the University of Manchester, where she also led the Unit of Art in Medicine 2000-2005 and received a NESTA fellowship to develop a 3D computerised facial reconstruction system for use in forensic and archaeological depiction. In 2014, she moved to LJMU from the University of

Dundee, where she was Head of Human Identification in the award-winning Centre for Anatomy & Human Identification. She has a background in art and science and her research sits at the forefront of art-science fusion and includes subjects as diverse as forensic art, human anatomy, medical art, face recognition, forensic science, anthropology, 3D visualisation, digital art and craniofacial identification.

Caroline Wilkinson has collaborated frequently with museums and the media, especially relating to craniofacial depiction of people from the past. She has worked with the National Museum of Scotland, National Museum of Ireland, Museum of London, Johns Hopkins Archaeological Museum, Theban Mapping Project, Moesgaard Museum and the Fraunhofer Institute. She has current research collaborations with Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design, Chonnam National University, the University of Liverpool and the University of Glasgow. Her high profile facial depiction work includes facial depictions of Robert the Bruce, Richard III, St Nicolas, J.S. Bach and Mary, Queen of Scots.

Biography: Prof Jo Patterson



Jo Patterson is Professor of Speech and Language Therapy and Associate Head of Research of the School of Health Sciences, University of Liverpool, Honorary Professor at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre and Liverpool University Hospital Foundation Trust. She is a Fellow and Professional Advisor for the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists. She leads the Improving Patient Outcomes theme at the Liverpool Head and Neck Centre, which aims to optimise functional outcomes and quality of life in head and neck cancer, with strong collaborations regionally, nationally and internationally (<https://livheadandneck.co.uk/>). Her research programme covers a range of topics, such as holistic prehabilitation, enhanced recovery, psychosocial adjustment and support models, patient-directed consultations, patient-reported outcome measure development, functional assessments and novel swallowing intervention development. This work spans an array of study designs, with a range of feasibility, pilot and randomised controlled trials.

Biography – Dr Phil Cox



Dr Phil Cox is a functional morphologist with a main research interest in the morphology of the mammalian skull. His research is principally concerned with the mammalian skull and how it has been shaped by evolutionary history, environment and ecology. Phil undertook his PhD in the Museum of Zoology at the University of Cambridge, followed by two postdoctoral positions at the University of Liverpool. He was a lecturer and senior lecturer at the University of York before taking up the position of Associate Professor in Anatomy at UCL in the Centre for Integrative Anatomy. Phil has published over 40 peer-reviewed articles and has edited the volume 'Evolution of the Rodents'. His research has been funded by NERC, the Royal Society and the EU, and he is currently co-Editor-in-Chief for the Journal of Anatomy.

Biography: Dr Laura Fitton



Dr Laura Fitton is a senior lecturer in Anatomy at the Department of Archaeology and Hull York Medical School, University of York. With a BSc in Human Anatomy and Cell Biology and a PhD in Anatomy from the University of Liverpool, she has held several postdoctoral positions at Hull York Medical School, University of York, and the School of Engineering, University of Hull. Her expertise lies in virtual and computational anatomy, where she combines biomechanical, virtual anthropological, and experimental techniques to explore connections between mechanical functionality and evolutionary and developmental changes within the masticatory apparatus. Her research has provided valuable insights into the evolution of the primate skull and the impacts of diet on craniofacial morphology. Beyond her research, Dr Fitton is an esteemed educator and mentor. She takes an enthusiastic and engaging approach to teaching, earning her accolades and recognition for her contributions to student learning.

Biography: Mr Jason Fleming



Jason is an academic ENT/Head & Neck Surgeon, specialising in head and neck cancer and thyroid surgery. He is a Senior Clinical Lecturer at the University of Liverpool and an active member of the Mersey Head & Neck Oncology Group (MHNORG), the research arm of Liverpool Head & Neck

Centre (LHNC). His clinical interests include transoral robotic surgery for head and neck cancer, organ sparing and salvage surgery for recurrent disease. His research interests include the innovation and development of new surgical technologies, and the evaluation of cancer therapies to improve outcomes and reduce long term effects of treatment in head and neck disease.

Jason has an active teaching portfolio within the University of Liverpool, lecturing on a variety of University Master modules (Frontiers in cancer, Cancer Clinical Trials). On a regional level he is an academic representative for the regional training committee, a member of the pan-Trust surgical robotic steering group and the Fellowship Director for the internationally renowned Shaun Jackson Head and Neck Surgical Fellowship at Aintree.

Biography: Prof Andrew Schache



A graduate of the University of Otago, New Zealand & University of Warwick, Mr Schache trained as a Head & Neck Surgeon in London and in Liverpool. During his surgical training in Liverpool he was awarded prestigious research fellowships from the Royal College of Surgeons and the Wellcome Trust to undertake doctoral research. After gaining his PhD, he completed a successful period as an NIHR Academic Clinical Lecturer at the University of Liverpool/University Hospital Aintree H&N Unit. He received the Gold Medal for his performance in the Intercollegiate Board Examinations in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery in 2013 and was later appointed as a Clinical Senior Lecturer & Honorary Consultant Surgeon (Head & Neck) in 2015, before becoming a Reader in Head & Neck Surgery 2019.

Within the Liverpool Head & Neck Centre, he has broad academic interests, including molecular oncology and in clinical trials, seeking better outcomes for patients undergoing Head & Neck Surgery. He supervises both clinical and non-clinical doctoral researchers (PhD & MD) from various backgrounds.

Mr Schache is the Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery specialty lead for the UoL School of Medicine and is also heavily involved in graduate CPD courses in Advanced H&N Surgical skills and microvascular techniques, and in postgraduate education through MSc module leadership. As well as a Fellow of The Royal College of Surgeons of England, he is also currently a Member of Council for the British Association of Head & Neck Oncologists and a member of NCRI Research Group in Head & Neck Cancer.