



UNIVERSITY OF
WEST LONDON
The **Career** University

Your
University

The magazine for
alumni and friends

Freddie Mercury

The West London boy who rocked the world

Winter 2016 In this issue:

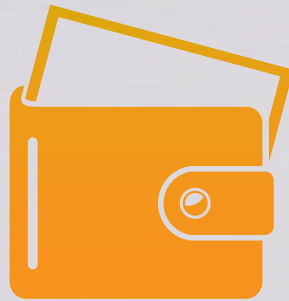
Victor Ceserani MBE • Alumni stories • Our impact on society • The latest news from campus • Lighting the Way campaign

Highlights of 2015/16

- 👍 Top 20 in the country for graduate employability¹
- 👍 Top modern university in London for employment of graduates¹
- 👍 Top 30 in UK and top 10 in London for highest graduate salaries²



Rise of 37 places in the
Good University Guide



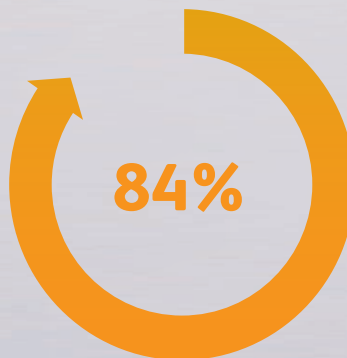
Top 30 in the UK and
top 10 in London for
highest graduate salaries²



96.1% of graduates in
employment or further
study within six months
of graduating¹



Number one in London
for student satisfaction³



Overall student
satisfaction increased to
84%, the largest annual
increase in London⁴



Top 10 in *Good
University Guide* for
mature students

¹ Destination of Leavers in Higher Education Survey of Graduates 2015 (published July 2016)

² HESA Key Performance Indicators 2014/15

³ National Students Survey. Compared to other multi-faculty higher education institutions in London; average of NSS questions 1 to 22

⁴ National Student Survey 2016 Q22 Overall Satisfaction, compared to other multi-faculty higher education institutions in London

Welcome from the Vice-Chancellor

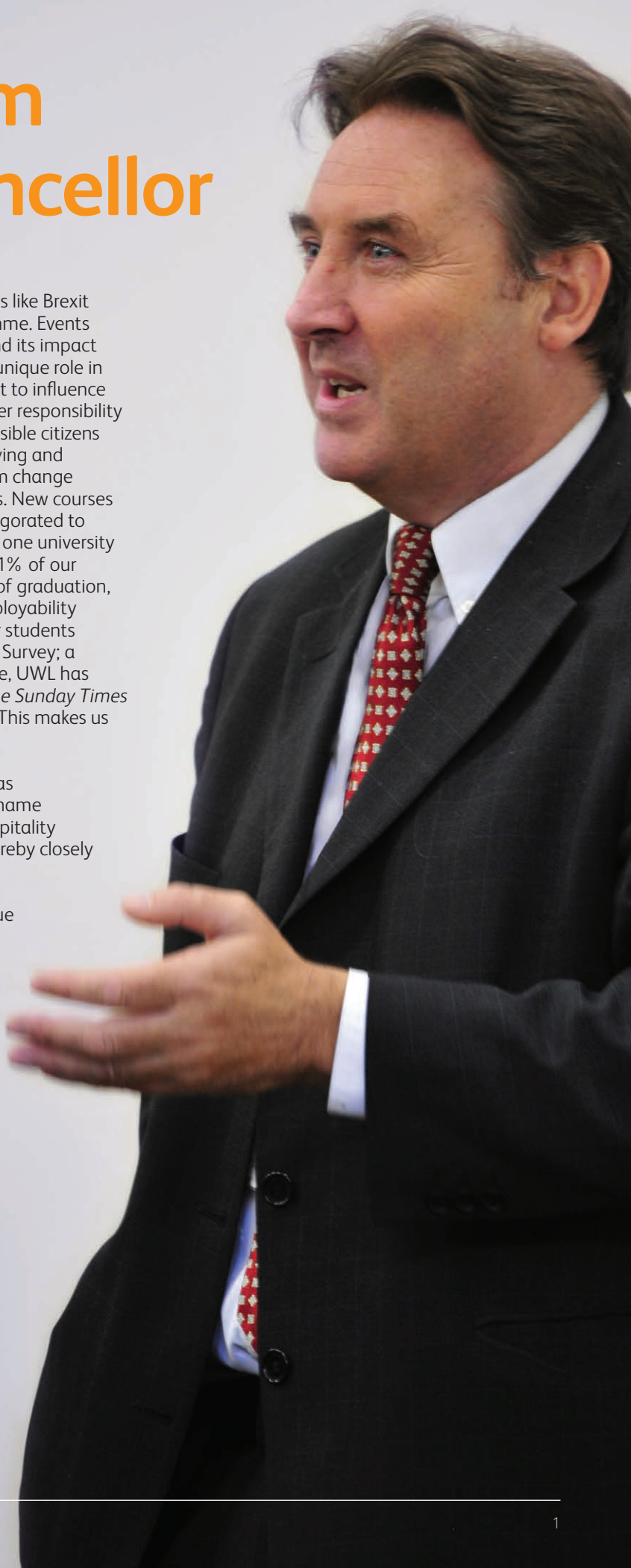
Over the summer months we witnessed momentous events like Brexit and the marking of the centenary of the Battle of the Somme. Events like these remind us all of the importance of knowledge and its impact on individuals, societies and our world. Universities play a unique role in ensuring that knowledge from the past informs the present to influence the future. In an era of uncertainty we have an even greater responsibility to ensure that our graduates are informed, globally responsible citizens equipped with the skills necessary to thrive in an ever evolving and changing world. At the University we have never shied from change ourselves in order to better serve the needs of our students. New courses and programmes have been launched and old courses invigorated to ensure we successfully meet our goal of being the number one university for graduate employment in the country. Already, with 96.1% of our graduates in employment or education within six months of graduation, we share joint top spot with King's College London for employability amongst all London universities. We are delighted that our students returned an 84% satisfaction rate in the National Student Survey; a further endorsement of our direction of travel. Furthermore, UWL has seen the biggest rise of any university in *The Times* and *The Sunday Times Good University Guide* 2017, jumping 37 places to No. 84. This makes us the 14th highest ranked university in London.

Building on the success of rebranding the business school as The Claude Littner Business School, we are delighted to rename our hospitality college as the London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism, after our Chancellor Laurence Geller CBE, thereby closely connecting a leading name in hospitality with the College.

However, we cannot rest on our laurels. We have to continue to invest in further improving our student experience and the environment in which they learn. To make these advancements we cannot rely on government or other forms of public funding as those funds are too often sacrificed in the interest of short term political expediency. We can and must grow our sources of philanthropic income to ensure that we realise all our goals. We are immensely grateful to the over 1200 alumni and friends who have supported our fundraising campaign, Lighting the Way. With only £3 million left to our goal of £10 million by December 2017, any participation or suggestion from you will be hugely valued and welcomed. Do connect. It is your university.



Professor Peter John
Vice-Chancellor



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WEST LONDON
The Career University

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To ensure you keep receiving your copy of the magazine, details of upcoming events and all the latest news, please update your contact details at alumni.uwl.ac.uk



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The West London boy who rocked the world

2016 is the 25th anniversary of the death of alumnus Freddie Mercury, who would have been 70 in September this year. To commemorate this, the Alumni Office talked to his classmate Mark Malden about their experiences of Ealing Art College in the late 1960s.

In the autumn of 1966, Mark Malden and Farrokh Bulsara – known as Fred, or Freddie – became Fashion Design students at Ealing Art College. Finding themselves in the same class with 28 girls, they naturally gravitated to one other. It was the beginning of a lifelong friendship.

For the first year, they were together for lessons in subjects such as pattern-making and textile technology – skills needed to be able to make and design something that looked good, as well as be viable and profitable to manufacture. “The nice thing about studying at Ealing was that most of the teachers also worked in the industry; they were living on a day-to-day basis the things they were teaching in the classroom”, said Mark. He describes Ealing Art College as a fantastic place: “They encouraged us to do anything we wanted. It was an incredibly creative environment. The teachers were very free and easy, generally speaking – although Freddie did push the boundaries. I remember once that one tutor got annoyed with Freddie because he’d just wander in and out of the class. In an hour he might go out three or four times.”

But it wasn't long before rock music became an obsession for Fred. “One day, I walked out of class and found Fred leaning against the wall in the corridor with his eyes closed; he was playing air guitar and singing ‘Purple Haze’ by Jimi Hendrix. He was going through the whole song, pretending to be on stage. That’s how eccentric he was. He had discovered Jimi Hendrix and worshipped him like a god. He would take half a day off to go up to town to see Hendrix play at the Marquee Club or in a matinee concert: every penny he had was spent on going to see him.”

At the end of the first year, Fred was kicked off the course because he was in class so little. “His parents begged for Freddie to be able to stay in College and Fred said he would change to the Graphics course and he’d be a good boy. So he went across the corridor to Graphics.”

An emerging rock star

From the start, Mark and Freddie bonded over their love of rock music. Mark himself played rhythm guitar and sang in a band called Raw Silk, with a fellow student Les Karski (now a Blues musician living in Australia) and their two brothers. Mark recalls, “My band was one of a number playing at a graduation party at Ealing Town Hall and I remember seeing Freddie watching all the bands very, very closely. I think he was learning, thinking to himself, ‘Hmm that’s clever’ or ‘Oh,

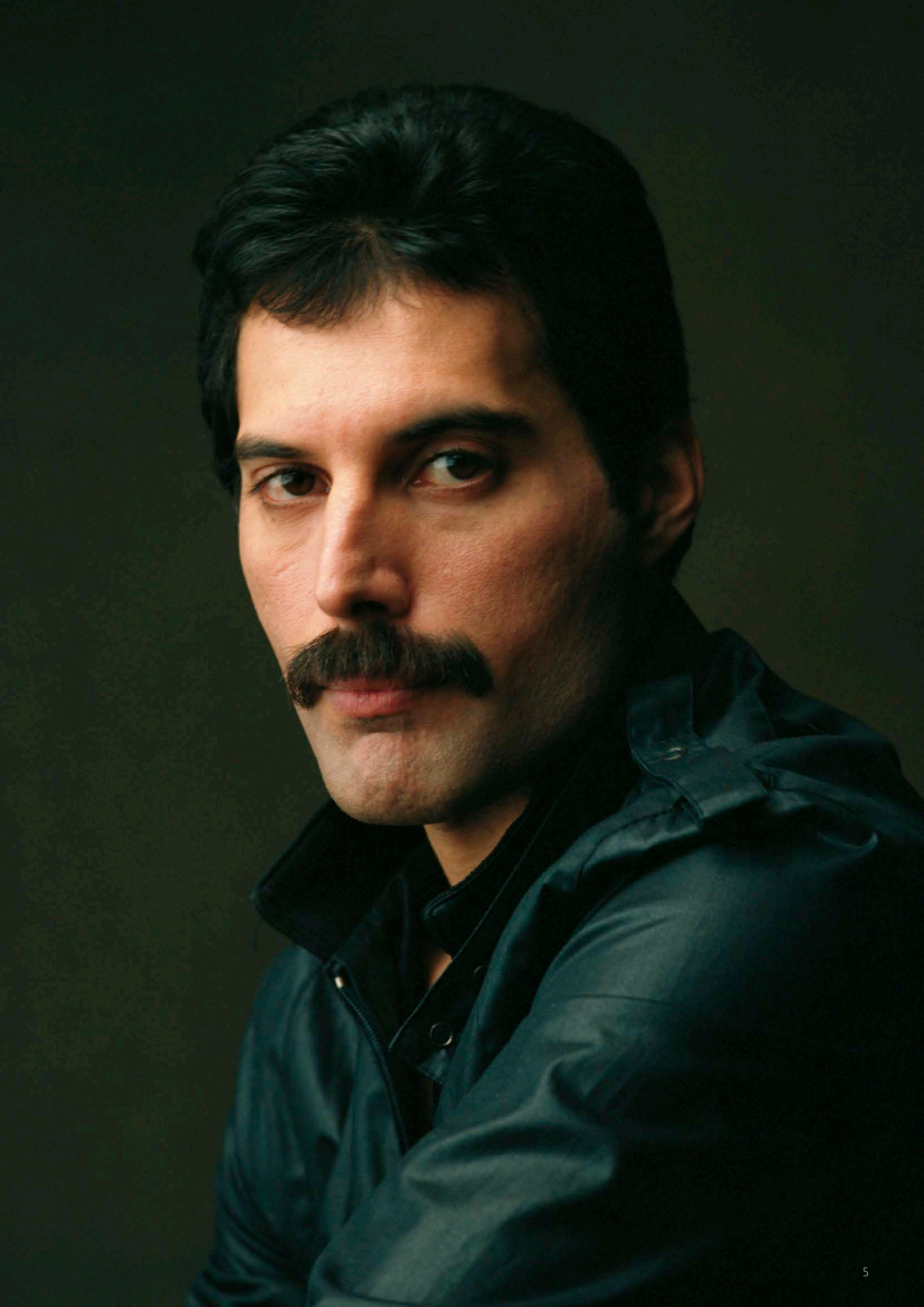
I don’t like that’ or ‘Look at the way they do that’. Funnily enough, one of the other bands playing that night was called Smile – its members included Roger Taylor, Brian May and Tim Staffell who would, with Freddie, eventually become Queen.”

Mark remembers Ealing and the surrounding area as a great place for music, “just stuffed with bands, creativity and fun”. He recalls going to Eel Pie Island at Twickenham with Fred. “There was a 1920s hotel on the island which was in a terrible state of disrepair but bands would play on Saturday nights. It was the place to be as far as local students were concerned. The Rolling Stones used to play there and Fred and I went to see them before they were famous. I once met a girl in the cafeteria at College, who was feeling very sad. I said: ‘What’s the matter? You look really unhappy.’ It turned out she’d just split with her boyfriend. ‘He thinks he’s really something now, his name’s Mick Jagger... he’s in a band...’ When you’re young, things like that really do happen to you. I absolutely think the best days of my life were at Ealing. It was so much fun, the creativity was incredible because we were all creative nuts.”

Later, after Mark had graduated, he remembers being told about Freddie’s first band – called Wreckage – who were booked into what was known as the Noisy Common Room. Incidentally, this is now UWL’s Students Union Bar – which today is called Freddie’s Bar, named after the great man himself. Mark recalls, “I wasn’t at the gig but I heard from a reliable source that Fred had his hair permed like Jimi Hendrix. He was wearing a white suit and rolled around on stage singing. It wasn’t a great success: he was literally laughed off the stage by the student body.” But Mark saw a greater significance in what Fred was trying to do: “Freddie was trying to invent someone. He believed that a rock star was somebody who invented a character and then played that character on stage. Now, imagine the fortitude of someone who can get laughed off the stage by their peers and then to go back and do it again and again until you get it right.”



Photo courtesy of Jer Bulsara



The real Freddie Mercury

Fred's strength of character and his resilience was not obvious when you first met him. "The thing about Fred is that he would first strike you as being a very shy young man with impeccable English", said Mark. "He never ever told anyone that he was not educated in the UK; he would simply let you assume he'd been to a private school in England. When asked what nationality he was, he would say he was Persian. He'd just leave it at that and let you assume his family had lived in England for generations. But of course, they hadn't – they'd come from Zanzibar quite recently."

Like most students, neither Mark nor Freddie had two pennies to rub together so having a job of some kind was very important. "He had his job as a baggage handler at Heathrow Airport on the weekends, and I worked in a bakery. Whenever there was an opportunity of making any money we'd tell each other about it. So one day Fred said to me: 'Why don't you do nude modelling for a life drawing class? I've done it and it pays really well.' I think it was about £5 an hour, which was an enormous amount of money for those days. We both did it for a while and that bought me my first pair of Levi jeans, which were absolutely essential at Art College. And they had to be orange tab, which indicated they were the 'working man's jean'. If you weren't wearing Levis with the orange tab you were out. Absolutely out. Just like desert boots, you had to have desert boots as well – very important."

After graduating from Ealing, Mark went to work for Aquascutum, initially based in Kettering, Northamptonshire. At his interview, he showed the interviewer some clothing he had made on his course. "He was impressed that I had made the pattern, cut the fabric and sewed it together. This was all due to the brilliance of Ealing and what I had learnt there", said Mark.

Within a year, they told Mark that they wanted to transfer him to Montreal, Canada – the idea was that he would become Head Designer for North America. "I completely lost touch with Fred until a year or so later, when I came back to London for a visit", said Mark. "I went into what we used to call the Hypermarket, which was the Kensington Market, where artisans and antique dealers rented space. I happened to walk in there and, on the second floor, there was Fred, with Roger Taylor. At that point, Fred didn't speak about his music at all. I think he was afraid he'd fail, because people had laughed at him at College when he said that he was going to be a rock star. It was as though it was beyond anybody's comprehension that he could really be a rock star. But I think that Fred, coming from Zanzibar, saw this new world and lapped it up. He thought, 'I'm going to make it and do something interesting with this life in this wonderful city called London.'

"I saw Freddie again in 1977 in Ottawa, on Queen's first completed North American tour, which was following the release of 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. One of things I asked him was, 'What happened to all our friends?' I remember Fred was always very funny and recounted them all with amusing detail. He seemed to have taken a personal interest in all of us. He was an absolute scream. The only really serious part of his life was his music.

"I knew him for most of his professional life and he would never see a member of the public backstage ever. He was so afraid that they'd find out what he was really like; shy, witty and charming – not the rock god you saw on stage."



Mark Malden as a student in 1968

Freddie Mercury: the legacy

Estimates of Queen's total worldwide record sales to date have been set as high as 300 million. In the UK, Queen has now spent more collective weeks on the UK Album Charts than any other musical act (including The Beatles) and Queen's *Greatest Hits* is the highest selling album of all time in the UK. Two of Freddie Mercury's songs, 'We Are the Champions' and 'Bohemian Rhapsody', have also each been voted as the greatest song of all time in major polls by Sony Ericsson and Guinness World Records, respectively. Both songs have been inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. In October 2007 the video for 'Bohemian Rhapsody' was voted the greatest of all time by readers of *Q* magazine. In total, Mercury wrote 10 of the 17 songs on Queen's *Greatest Hits* album: 'Bohemian Rhapsody', 'Seven Seas of Rhye', 'Killer Queen', 'Somebody to Love', 'Good Old-Fashioned Lover Boy', 'We Are the Champions', 'Bicycle Race', 'Don't Stop Me Now', 'Crazy Little Thing Called Love' and 'Play the Game'.

Consistently rated as one of the greatest singers in the history of popular music, Mercury was voted second to Mariah Carey in MTV's 22 Greatest Voices in Music. In May 2009 a *Classic Rock* magazine poll saw Mercury voted the greatest singer in rock. In a 2010 poll conducted on the BBC Two series *I'm in a Rock 'n' Roll Band!*, Mercury was named the vocalist in the ultimate fantasy band. In 2011 *NME* magazine readers voted Mercury second to Michael Jackson in the Greatest Singers Ever poll. In 2011 a *Rolling Stone* readers' pick placed Mercury in second place of the magazine's Best Lead Singers of All Time. In 2013 *Gigwise* readers named Mercury the best frontman.

Mercury's live performances displayed a highly theatrical style. The late David Bowie, who performed at the Freddie Mercury Tribute Concert and recorded the song 'Under Pressure' with Queen, praised Mercury's performance style, saying: "Of all the more theatrical rock performers, Freddie took it further than the rest... he took it over the edge. I only saw him in concert once and as they say, he was definitely a man who could hold an audience in the palm of his hand." Queen guitarist Brian May wrote that Mercury could make "the last person at the back of the furthest stand in a stadium feel that he was connected".



Over the course of his career, Mercury performed an estimated 700 concerts in countries around the world with Queen. The band was the first ever to play in South American stadiums, breaking worldwide records for concert attendance in the Morumbi Stadium in São Paulo in 1981. In 1986, Queen also played behind the Iron Curtain when they performed to a crowd of 80,000 in Budapest, in what was one of the biggest rock concerts ever held in Eastern Europe. Mercury's final live performance with Queen took place on 9 August 1986 at Knebworth Park in England and drew an attendance estimated as high as 160,000. (Source: Wikipedia)

Ealing Art College, part of Ealing Technical College and School of Art, was based on the same St Mary's Road site as the University is now. Back in the 1960s the Art College was made up of Fashion, Graphics, Industrial Design, Photography and Fine Art Departments. The College also has a history of producing rock stars. Well known alumni include Pete Townshend of The Who, who studied here from 1961–64, and Ronnie Wood from The Rolling Stones who enrolled at the College in 1963.

Today, London College of Music, part of the University since 1991, continues the legacy by producing a multitude of talented musicians each year. Well known graduates include drummer Matt Tong from the band Bloc Party, music producer Robert Orton, and comedian and musician Bill Bailey.



Pete Townshend



Ronnie Wood

To continue Freddie Mercury's incredible legacy, the University has launched Freddie's Fund – a scholarship to be awarded to a UWL student demonstrating outstanding creativity, resilience and ambition. To make a donation to the Fund to support our students in memory of Freddie, please visit alumni.uwl.ac.uk/freddie-fund

Our impact on society

How University research is contributing to real-world issues

Conserving the future of our nation's trees

From Newton's Apple Tree, to the Major Oak, trees are at the heart of the special places and parks that we love. However, studies show that the future of our trees is under increasing threat from disease and environmental pressures. Using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), the School of Computing and Engineering is using its world-renowned expertise to help preserve our living history.

There is limited understanding of how the elements of tree health impact one another, and the current investigation methods used are often destructive. Although the use of non-destructive testing applications has increased in recent years, novel and integrated research is needed to enhance the use of non-destructive testing methods and improve the current software capabilities. This will allow for accurate and safe analysis and interpretation of the threats facing trees in the UK.

Using their well-established work with GPR, the School of Computing and Engineering is researching and developing ground-breaking, non-destructive techniques, to monitor and preserve the health of our ancient trees. The results of this work will have applications across the forestry and horticulture industry: ranging from the assessment of the health of the UK's individual natural landmarks to urban development, the rehabilitation of polluted land, and wider-scale monitoring and prevention of disease in trees and plants.

The project, which involves a team of international experts and is supported by organisations such as The Tree Council and the Whitelands Wood, is led by Professor Amir Alani, Executive Head of the School of Computing and Engineering. The team has designed a series of comprehensive



Discover more about the School of Computing and Engineering at uwl.ac.uk/computing

studies to assess current non-destructive technologies, and help grow our understanding of how key environmental elements affect tree health. From this research a specially designed, multipurpose, non-destructive testing tool will be created, together with enhanced, usable software and a comprehensive knowledge database. This system will be critical in the early diagnosis and treatment of disease and health issues in ancient and notable trees.

This research will have an enormous impact on the way in which we preserve at-risk and ancient trees, and help us to preserve our living history for future generations.

What is Ground Penetrating Radar?

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) is a non-destructive tool that uses radar pulses (electromagnetic waves – similar to radio waves) to show a map of a subsurface. Historically used in mining explorations, it is increasingly utilised in environmental engineering, archaeology, planetary explorations, and the monitoring and assessment of structures, as well as in agricultural and forestry sciences and management.



Professor Amir Alani is Executive Head of the School of Computing and Engineering

National security, counter-terrorism and civil liberties: striking the right balance



As governments around the world face increasing levels of terrorist threat, what is the balance between increasing security to protect citizens and maintaining civil liberties? Dr Julia Rushchenko and Dr Alexandros K Antoniou from Ealing Law School have published and spoken on counter-terrorism, privacy and human rights; here they consider some of the issues that affect us all.

On 2 December 2015, the San Bernardino shooting took place in California: 14 people were killed and 22 were seriously injured in one of the deadliest terrorist attacks in the USA since 9/11. The perpetrators, Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, got married in the USA in 2014 after Malik entered the country on a fiancé visa a

month before. According to the FBI, the two could have been married abroad previously and could have been radicalised, separately or together, by 2015. Despite many assumptions of the couple's radicalisation and their possible links with the terrorist cells, very little was known about who had inspired, coordinated or guided them.

Law enforcement officials believed that one of the perpetrator's iPhones might have contained vital clues for the investigation process. However, Apple refused to generate new software and help the FBI to unlock the encrypted data, citing the importance of their users' information privacy. Apple's resistance to cooperate with the investigation was underpinned by its unwillingness to establish a precedent that any government (including repressive regimes) could manipulate the devices, as a result hindering both privacy and the safety of the public. On the one hand,

governmental intrusion into private data does potentially jeopardise human rights and enable other countries' spy agencies to take control of the information. On the other hand, as the most famous tech company, Apple could have attempted to mitigate these risks while upholding its business values. The FBI did find a solution by hiring a third party (reportedly an Israeli software company) to crack the code.

Is there any winner in this controversial situation? Most likely, both parties could be considered losers as they showed either a lack of technical knowledge or an insufficient creativity and inability to react to the threats of national security. The FBI vs Apple legal battle sparked many debates regarding investigation techniques, digital data privacy, cybersecurity, and balancing counter-terrorism with civil liberties. The encryption dispute has also contributed to polarising public opinion. According to a

recent Pew Research Centre survey, 51% of the respondents sided with the FBI stance, whereas 38% disagreed with unlocking the phone. These divisive points of view stem from a completely different understanding of how governmental powers and human rights principles should be implemented in terrorism investigations.

For the criminologists, this standoff continues to raise important issues such as whether new risks and security concerns justify a punitive crime control agenda that includes encroaching on the private data of many users worldwide not connected to terrorism. Moreover, from a moral and existential vantage point, should terrorism suspects be granted the same rights as law-abiding citizens – including the right to digital privacy – or have they forfeited these rights by murdering innocent civilians or putting their lives at risk?

In a similar vein, should individuals who engage in hate preaching via cyberspace – such as the Islamic State supporters on Twitter or other social media – be considered potential terrorism suspects and their communication be closely monitored by law enforcement officials? David Gomez, a former FBI counterterrorism executive and cyber security strategist, argues that counter-terrorism investigations in the United States are limited by the requirements of probable cause to open a full investigation. Probable cause, ('reasonable suspicion' in the UK) which stems from the Fourth Amendment to the American Constitution, refers to a requirement in criminal law that police are supposed to have sufficient reason to arrest someone and carry out relevant investigations. This regulation aims to prevent the power to be exercised in an arbitrary manner and protect suspects' human rights. At the same time, the San Bernardino shooting could have probably been prevented had the law enforcement officials monitored Farook's communications.

Nowadays, more and more terrorist groups use the Internet and social media for the purposes of enabling radicalisation, spreading information, attracting attention and coordinating incidents. Considerable resources are invested in monitoring websites for controversial content and new laws suppressing Internet-based speech that may be considered extremist, or supportive of terrorism, have been introduced in many jurisdictions. However, such restrictions have posed new challenges for the free flow of information and freedom of expression.



For further
information about
Ealing Law School
uwl.ac.uk/law

Whilst freedom of expression is not an absolute right, it is open to debate whether the impact of counter-terrorism can be used as a trump card against it. Powers encroaching upon free speech interests must be explicitly outlined by accessible laws and should only be exercised when sufficiently pressing considerations of crime prevention exist. Additionally, the measures adopted should be proportionate to the aim pursued; using a sledgehammer to crack a nut can adversely affect our right to impart and receive information. Effective remedies should also be available to those whose rights may have been violated, reinforced by an autonomous and rigorous system of oversight. Individuals have a right to privacy, liberty and security, but they also have a right to free speech. The right balance must be struck between competing interests, without tipping it too far in favour of public safety and security services' policy objectives.

Since it is impracticable to disengage radical groups from Internet communications, Peter Neumann, Professor of Security Studies at King's College London, suggests that more promising ways of dealing with online radicalisation should be explored, such as exploiting cyberspace by gathering intelligence in

the most systematic and tactical way possible. Moreover, rather than limiting free expression, its virtues can be used to undermine the appeal of extremism online by promoting fruitful discussion and nurturing critical thinking, following the example of Canadian efforts to develop resilience towards extremist messaging.

The growing technological arsenal of terrorist and extremist groups has thoroughly shaken the balance of power on both sides of the counterterrorism equation. Whilst there are strong arguments for the employment of wider powers to conduct surveillance, their potential impact on individuals' freedoms cannot be ignored. If proposed counter-terrorism measures fail to provide substantive safeguards to guarantee against their disproportionate and arbitrary use, there is a grave risk that they will erode the freedoms that democratic governments claim to fight for.



Dr Julia Rushchenko is a Lecturer in Policing and Criminal Investigations



Dr Alexandros K Antoniou is a Lecturer in Criminology



Find out more about
the London Geller
College of Hospitality
and Tourism at
uwl.ac.uk/lgcht

Improving the nutrition of vulnerable populations

A healthy diet is fundamental to wellbeing at any stage of life and safeguards the human body from a number of possibly life-threatening diseases. For vulnerable populations, such as children in schools, patients in hospitals or older people in care homes or under care at home, a well-balanced nutrition is particularly important. For this reason, the London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism makes the development of recipes and menus designed to support vulnerable populations an important aspect of student training and education in its Food Studies programmes.

One area of concern is the nutrition and hydration of people with dementia, a chronic disease involving the degeneration of brain cells and cognitive impairment, and which is considered a public health priority in many countries. Studies have shown that nutrition and hydration are key factors in the impairment of cognitive function, alongside sociability, general intelligence, and the individual's level of exercise and fitness. However, it is also scientifically proven that micronutrients and fat stores accumulated during the

individual's lifecycle influence the risk of neurodegenerative and cerebrovascular changes in the later stages of life. This means that the risk exposure to such changes depends on an individual's sugar intake and blood sugar balance, its B-vitamin status, coffee and tea consumption, intake of omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids from oily fish, and anti-oxidants (mainly vitamins C and E and flavonoids) from fruit and vegetables.

In the College, Associate Professor Dr Amalia Tsiami is conducting systematic reviews of all the latest epidemiological studies, clinical trials and experimental research in order to identify stronger evidence that particular micro-nutrients have an adverse effect on brain cell degeneration. Her findings form part of the curriculum taught to the students who, under the guidance of Senior Lecturer Peter Cross, are experimenting with different ingredients rich in these micro-nutrients. They then develop recipes for dishes that are not only healthy but are also tasty, aesthetically appealing and commercially viable.

The menus that are developed are largely based on, but not confined to, the principles of the MIND diet – which stands for Mediterranean-DASH Diet Intervention for Neurodegenerative

Delay. It is a combination of two diets: the Mediterranean, with little meat and a lot of healthy fats, and the DASH diet, mostly with vegetables and fruits. The main components for the menus are green leafy vegetables, other vegetables, whole grains, nuts, beans, berries, fish, poultry and olive oil. However, in the College, the food development process also takes into consideration many cultural aspects in order to address the requirements of Afro-Caribbean, Asian, Far-Eastern and Middle-Eastern consumers.

The College's intention is to disseminate the knowledge gained from this research at academic and trade conferences and in the press. It is also exploring the possibility of offering special workshops for carers at home, and also for chefs and carers in care homes.



Professor Alexandros Paraskevas is
Chair in Hospitality Management

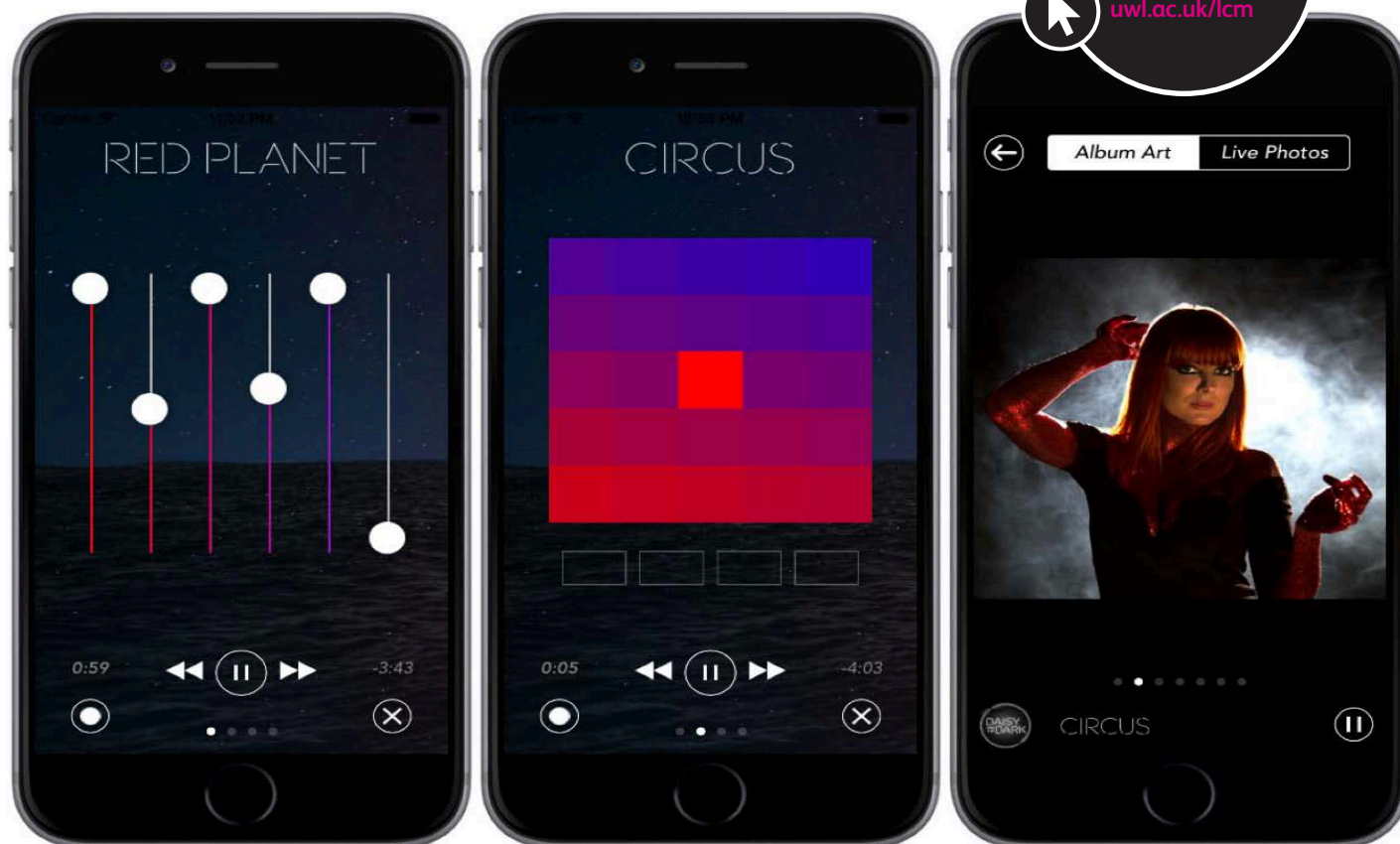


Dr Amalia Tsiami is Associate
Professor in Food Sciences



Peter Cross is Senior Lecturer in
Culinary Arts and Food Studies

New interactive format allows users to remix albums as they listen



A new iOS app has been launched, designed by Dr Justin Paterson at London College of Music (LCM), and Dr Rob Toulson of Anglia Ruskin University's CoDE Research Institute. The app contains an interactive music album, which includes unique features that allow the listener to explore and effectively remix the music as they listen.

Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the album app includes artwork, song lyrics, production credits, artist biography and other visual media that were previously synonymous with the vinyl format, and provides links to social networks, websites and videos. Users can manipulate the playback of the music, and switch between acoustic, electric, electronic or even karaoke versions at the swipe of a finger. Dr Justin Paterson explained, "Listeners can

modify the playback of a song, for example to hear a stripped back acoustic version or maybe a more upbeat electronic version in real time, but the focus is always on music playback rather than a more 'novelty' multimedia experience. The interface is intelligent and seamless, giving the user a unique experience." Dr Rob Toulson added, "We think it will lead to people engaging with the music at a deeper level. The album app could prove to be an important development for the commercial music industry."

Other collaborators, including Grammy award-winning mastering engineer Mandy Parnell (Bjork, Aphex Twin, The XX), Jonathan Shakhovskoy (U2, Amy Winehouse and Rod Stewart) and LCM alumnus Russ Hepworth-Sawyer, applied a unique approach to mastering the music. LCM's Dr Sebastian Lexer led the software coding with further contributions being made by London College of Music alumni Steve Massey and Jerry Fleming. LCM PhD

student Jonas Ritter assisted the research. The team were invited to present their research at the Audio Engineering Society Convention in Warsaw, the Innovation in Music Conference, Music Tech Fest in Slovenia and the American Audio Engineering Society Convention in New York. Dr Paterson and Dr Toulson have applied for a patent for the intelligent audio-crossfades that were developed for the app. Discussions are also under way with Warner Music Group around commercialising the app with major artists. The app is a key distribution platform for the release of band Daisy and The Dark's Red Planet EP.



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



Dr Justin Paterson is a
Senior Lecturer in Music Technology

Visit www.daisyandthedark.com for further details, where you can also sign up to receive your free app. A tutorial video and demonstration can be found on YouTube by searching for Red Planet App.



Read more about the
School of Human and
Social Sciences at

uwl.ac.uk/hss



Improving the life of people with co-existing mental health disorders and substance misuse problems

There is a strong connection between mental health and substance use. Substances can trigger or exacerbate pre-existing psychiatric problems and psychiatric symptoms can develop as a result of withdrawals, as acute effects while intoxicated by drugs or alcohol (for example, cannabis or amphetamine induced psychosis), or can follow long-term use or dependence. Substance Use and Misuse Studies (SUMS) courses at UWL have contributed to enhancing knowledge and competence in practitioners working with clients with co-morbid mental health and substance use problems.

A report commissioned by the Department of Health found that 75% of users of drug services and 85% of users of alcohol services were experiencing mental health problems. It is also estimated that a third of patients in mental health services have a substance misuse problem. Substance misuse is under-diagnosed in psychiatric patients and a large number of individuals in addiction services who suffer from moderate mental illness are not diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder. A recent study conducted by Denis Mirlesse, whilst he was a UWL student on the Graduate Diploma in Psychology, assessed 100 participants who were in treatment for substance misuse and found that they suffered from significantly higher levels of depression, anxiety, stress and overall negative affect than the non-clinical population; however the psychological

distress was often not identified nor addressed. Patients with 'dual diagnosis' are one of the most vulnerable groups in society, with high risk of poor physical health, high risk of suicide, high levels of personality disorder, great levels of disability and a low quality of life. Moreover, because mental illness and substance misuse are conditions that have historically been associated with a sense of blame, shame or secrecy, individuals with co-morbidity are often affected by double stigmatisation, which may prevent them from seeking help and from having a fulfilling professional and social life.

Often practitioners are faced with the 'chicken and egg' dilemma: what comes first? Are the psychiatric symptoms a result of drug use, or is substance use a

self-medication strategy to cope with a primary mental disorder? Most of the time the answer is not straightforward: the relationship between the two disorders is complex, especially in long-term conditions. While, in some cases the answer may not be clinically important; what is certain is that substance misuse affects mental health recovery and vice versa. It is becoming apparent that common risk factors, such as trauma, domestic violence or pre-existing predisposition, can underpin both mental disorders and substance misuse and, while practitioners are trying to unravel the knot, clients may fall between the gaps.

The best treatment that can be offered is where mental health and substance misuse services work together in a coordinated manner, although currently this model is far from being implemented effectively. In 2007 the Drug Misuse and Dependence: UK Guidelines on Clinical Management expressed concern about lack of specified core competencies, inadequate assessment and poor integrated care. Despite progress having been made, the newly published Five Year Forward View

for Mental Health recognises the need to develop the workforce so it can respond more effectively to substance misuse. Judgmental attitudes of healthcare professionals towards clients with substance misuse problems have also been identified as creating a barrier to effective treatment.

Dr Raffaella Margherita Milani in the School of Human and Social Sciences was recently offered the opportunity to be involved in an exciting and promising approach that will be rolled out for the first time in the UK in West London. The programme is called Dual Diagnosis Anonymous (DDA) and is based on the AA 12-step model, with the addition of five steps geared towards supporting the specific needs of dual diagnosis clients.

Funding was secured for a 12-month pilot, which started in summer 2016. Dr Milani had the opportunity to participate in a group that has recently adopted the DDA model and was impressed by the way participants felt free to share their feelings and emotions regarding their everyday

struggles, and their successes in dealing with their mental illness and substance use. The group offered a space where attendees were listened to in a non-judgemental, empathetic and respectful manner. A recurring topic was the crucial role that the group had for them in achieving and sustaining recovery. One young participant who attended the DDA group for the first time left with a smile saying "this is the first time that I have connected with a group".

Dr Milani experienced first-hand the power of peer support when she facilitated groups of families with alcohol and drug related problems. Self-help groups cannot and should not substitute the work of professionals, but they certainly offer an on-going, invaluable and cost-effective resource that can improve the life of individuals and people around them. It is the hope that the evaluation of the DDA pilot will help the programme spread in London and other parts of the UK.



Dr Raffaella Margherita Milani is Course Leader and Senior Lecturer in Substance Use and Misuse Studies



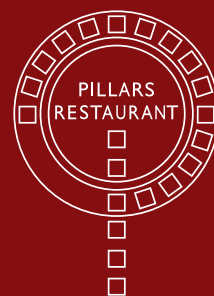


Experience exceptional dining here on campus

Pillars is the London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism's award-winning training restaurant in the heart of the University.

Open Tuesday to Friday for lunch, and Thursdays and Fridays for dinner, it offers the perfect opportunity to return to campus and enjoy an elegant and contemporary dining experience with your classmates.

Please visit [**uwl.ac.uk/pillars**](http://uwl.ac.uk/pillars) for further information.



Catering for Life

Down memory lane with Victor Ceserani MBE



Victor Ceserani MBE (front row, third from right) at a Hotelympia competition

In a career spanning over 50 years, Victor Ceserani MBE has made an enormous impact on the culinary world; not just as a chef, but also as a highly respected catering educator and industry advisor. He spent 30 years teaching at Ealing Hotel School (now the University's London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism) and for 16 of these he was Head of the School, influencing generations of students and staff. Renowned chefs have described him as the "culinary hero of British cuisine" (Anton Mosimann) and as "one of the pillars of the industry" (Michel Roux).

As Victor turns 97 this autumn, the Alumni Office looks back on the life and times of this inspirational former Head of School, who paved the way for hospitality and culinary arts education.

Early life

Victor Ceserani, or Vic as he is commonly known to friends and peers, was born on 23 October 1919 in Knightsbridge to an Italian father and a Belgian mother. From a young age he was exposed to the catering world through his father, who worked as a wine butler at the Ritz Hotel. At the age of 15, Vic announced to his parents his ambition to become a chef and, unsurprisingly, they were fully supportive. In 1934, his father secured him an apprenticeship at the Ritz, where he worked under Head Chef Monsieur Arsène Avignon. It was here at this iconic and renowned hotel that his passion for culinary arts truly began. Working in all areas of the kitchen: from the 'pastry partie'; to the 'garde-manger' (larder) section, Vic took to his apprenticeship like a duck to water, despite describing the Ritz kitchens as a 'mad house'.

Reflecting on his time at the Ritz, Vic in his autobiography *Catering for Life*, says, "I had taken most things for granted, as is often the way with the young. It wasn't until years later, as I gained a wider insight into the industry and the wide variation in standards, that I realised what a fortunate start I had made to my career, acquiring not only a wide repertoire of classical cuisine, but also knowledge of the discipline necessary to achieve such high standards."

Not one to rest on his laurels, Vic progressed into his next job as a chef in a private gentleman's club, named the Orleans Club. Shortly after the outbreak of World War Two, Vic was conscripted and joined the Royal Fusiliers and, after completion of three months military training, he was posted to the 19th Battalion as an officer mess cook at Northwich, Cheshire. It appeared that his background in cookery had not gone unnoticed with the War Office!

After the War, Vic returned to London and secured a job as second chef at Boodles Club in St James's Street. After two years and on the retirement of the Head Chef, he took over. Food rationing was very much in place for several years. In his autobiography Vic recounts one occasion of obtaining a beaver from the butchers, roasting it and putting it on the Boodles menu, much to the amusement of members!

"Those who dare to teach must never cease to learn."

By the age of 30 Vic had gained a vast amount of skill through his time in the industry and was keen to pass on his knowledge to those following in his footsteps. He decided to enrol in a teacher training course and, during this time, he was informed of a job going as a lecturer at Acton and Ealing Hotel School. Despite the advertisement specifically asking for a woman, his tutor encouraged him to apply. He got the job and there started his career in catering education, which continued to flourish for three decades.

Vic started teaching at the School, part of Acton Technical College, in September 1951. In contrast to the number of students the College has today (around 1,600), back then there were around 60-80 full-time students, studying cookery, hotel and catering operations, or bookkeeping and reception, as well as part-time students. The School was run by Mary King MBE, a name that many alumni will remember – indeed, the College's training restaurant was originally named after the lady herself, before it was refurbished and became Pillars. Vic remembers Mary fondly, as a woman with a firm, but gentle, management style and who commanded great respect. In 1964, after Mary's retirement, Vic ably took over the helm as Head of the School, with Paul White as his deputy.

Due to the need for more space, the Hotel and Catering School moved to be part of Ealing Technical College and School of Art at St Mary's Road. By the late 1950s there were around 100 colleges in the UK offering courses in catering training. The three-year full-time hotel and catering operations course had become a four-year sandwich course, enabling students to spend valuable time gaining industry experience. This "pioneering work", as Vic describes it, reflected the School's approach to an industry-focused training, something that Vic still strongly believes in. By colleges working closely with industry, talking regularly to industry professionals and inviting them in to work with the students, students could gain, as Vic explains, "a full and practical training, giving them confidence to enter the industry". This is still very much the case today, and the London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism remains intrinsically linked with a number of catering professionals and organisations, many of which are run by former students.



Victor (third from left) with Lord Charles Forte presenting the annual awards

In response to the rapid growth in the number of catering courses being offered, the Association of Catering Teachers was set up in 1959. Vic became its first Chairman and held this position for four years, which he found very rewarding. The Association's motto 'those who dare to teach must never cease to learn' would especially resonate with Vic a few years later, when he applied to do an MBA at Michigan State University. Speaking about his time in the US, Vic reminisces, "It was a momentous 12 months which considerably widened my experience and horizons, left me with many memories and made me a much more open and broadminded person."

Educator, author, industry advisor

In addition to culinary arts and teaching, Vic gained a reputation as a best-selling author of cookery textbooks. So, what inspired him to put pen to paper?

Whilst teaching, Vic was dissatisfied with the amount of time he was spending writing out recipes on a blackboard, dictating them to students, and then rewriting them for the next class. He felt that there ought to be a quicker way of transferring this knowledge to students. Together with Ron Kinton, a fellow tutor, they wrote the first edition of *Practical Cookery*, which was published in 1962 and was very well received. Their second book, *The Theory of Catering*, followed shortly

afterwards. These flagship publications, and the editions that followed, became the essential textbooks for generations of hospitality and catering students, both in the UK and overseas.

During the late 1960s and early 1970s the reputation of the Hotel School continued to grow, both internationally and in the UK. The running of the School was a tremendous task, but Vic still found time to lend his expertise to a number of initiatives and committees, in addition to his role as Chairman of the Association of Catering Teachers. For 20 years he was a member of the HIC Catering Advisory Panel and for many years he was also Chairman of the Junior Salon Culinare, Hotelympia. The respect he had gained in the industry meant he was often approached to judge regional and national cookery competitions.

In February 1975, Vic was awarded an MBE for services to catering education from Her Majesty the Queen, which meant a great amount to Vic. In 1999, he was granted honorary life membership of the Hotel and Catering International Management Association. He was also awarded an Honorary Fellowship from Ealing College of Higher Education and received an honorary membership of the Association Culinare Française, and of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

David Foskett MBE, who was Dean of the College from 1997 to 2015, said "Victor Ceserani created the foundations for an international hospitality school; he had a very clear vision for the School and understood the industry needs. His desire was to create the best hospitality education system at all levels, for all who wanted to progress their careers in the hospitality industry."



A lasting legacy

In time, Vic started to feel conflicted between his love for teaching and the enormous administrative pressures placed on him as an academic and as Head of School, so made the decision to retire in 1980. Now living in Isleworth, in the house he has called home for over 40 years, Vic is reflective of his time in the catering world and the experiences he has had. “I count my blessings for having enjoyed my self-chosen first job,” said Vic.

Read more about the London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism at uwl.ac.uk/lgcht

This year we are delighted to launch the Victor Ceserani Scholarship Fund, which has been set up in Vic’s name in recognition of his immense contribution to catering education. The Fund will provide vital support to the highest achieving final year culinary arts or hospitality student.

For more information, please visit alumni.uwl.ac.uk/victor-ceserani

In 2016 we were delighted to rename the College the London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism after alumnus Laurence Geller CBE, thereby closely connecting a leading name in hospitality with the College.



Victor at his home in Isleworth

With over five decades in the industry, what sort of changes has he seen? One of most fundamental developments has been the establishment of degrees in the fields of culinary arts and training. The recognition of culinary arts as a discipline equal to other disciplines for which degrees are awarded was always a dream of Vic’s and he is very pleased to see it fulfilled. He also feels that the image of the chef has changed dramatically, which he attributes to the “many talented and innovative chefs who have not only carved reputations for serving good food but have taken their art and skill to the public through TV and effective marketing”.

However, Vic believes that the main values and objectives in culinary arts training are the same now as they were 30 or 40 years ago. “Colleges’ responsibility should be to equip students to fit into industry as it is today,” he says. “The more all concerned strive to improve and strengthen catering education, the better equipped the students will be. This, in turn, should have the effect of making improvements in industry standards.”

When asked what advice he would give to a recently graduated culinary arts student, Vic said, “Congratulations on successfully completing your course, which should help you on the way to becoming a good member of the hospitality industry. Now you need to plan your career. Experience working with respected professionals in quality establishments, either in the UK or abroad, is recommended. Don’t be tempted by offers of a senior position with good money too soon. Concentrate on building a good CV and be prepared to learn from those who have made the grade. Be patient and take every opportunity to learn. There is no substitute or quick path to experience. A world of opportunity awaits you in which I wish you all every success.”

With a remarkable career behind him, there is little doubt that Vic’s experiences and legacy have served as an inspiration for current students, graduates and catering educators alike.

Excerpts taken from Catering for Life: The Autobiography of Victor Ceserani © 1989 Victor Ceserani.



In September 2016, James Edmunds became the new Dean of the London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism. James has over two decades’ experience of teaching and managing tourism, hospitality and aviation courses within higher education. Most recently, he has been involved in managing commercial pilot degree teaching contracts, which has involved working with the world’s two largest flight training providers as well as a number of high profile international airlines. James has published two academic books and has undertaken a range of consultancy for organisations ranging from Scandinavian Airlines through to Visit Britain and the London Borough of Ealing.

University news

Recent developments on campus and in our community

GRADUATION DAY HIGHLIGHTS

The Class of 2016 were warmly welcomed into the UWL alumni community during the summer Graduation ceremonies, which took place across two days in July. Wembley Stadium was a scene of celebrations, group photos, selfies and emotional moments, as over 1,700 students took to the stage, watched by their family and friends.

Laurence Geller CBE, Chancellor of the University and himself an alumnus, addressed the new graduates as he gave his congratulations and spoke about the lifelong relationship they will have with UWL as members of the Alumni Association.

The event was also an opportunity to bestow this year's Honorary Awards, nominated by the University's eight schools. We were delighted to confer honorary degrees to the following recipients, in recognition of their business success, contributions to civic and cultural life and long-term support for the University's work.



**Lord Daniel Finkelstein OBE –
Honorary Doctor of Law**

Associate Editor and columnist for *The Times*, and politician

"It gives me great pleasure to receive this honour from an institution which is so committed to educating the next generation of professionals."



**Kay Fitzherbert –
Honorary Doctor of Letters**

Social worker and Founder of the National Pyramid Trust for Children (Pyramid Programme)

"Throughout my working life I have tried to help children achieve their full potential, and with the University's huge support I know my work will continue into the future."



**Trish Knight –
Honorary Master of Science**

Healthcare Workforce Specialist

"It is a great honour to be recognised by the University of West London, which is dedicated to improving the education of healthcare workers and the wellbeing of the communities they serve."



**Professor Jeremy Levy –
Honorary Doctor of Science**

Consultant Nephrologist and former Director of Healthcare Education

"I have always been hugely impressed by the quality of graduates emerging from the University. It is an honour to receive this award in recognition of the hard work being done across the region to deliver innovative and integrated care."



**Lord John Lytton –
Honorary Doctor of Letters**

Crossbencher in the House of Lords and a specialist Chartered Surveyor
"I am delighted and privileged to receive this honour. Excellence in the built environment, and optimising social, economic and environmental performance, is a passion I share with the University."



**Rami Ranger CBE –
Honorary Doctor of Letters**

Chairman of Sun Mark, and Sea, Air and Land Forwarding
"Throughout my working life I have tried to develop understanding and cooperation between different communities, and I am pleased to accept this honorary doctorate in recognition of that public service."



**Frank Renton –
Honorary Doctor of Letters**

Musician, conductor and broadcaster
"It gives me tremendous pleasure to accept this honorary award for having spent a lifetime doing something that I love."



**Dr Bert Van Walbeek –
Honorary Doctor of Letters**

Hotelier, lecturer and marketer of tourism
"It is an honour to accept this award from the University of West London, where the tourism professionals of the future are taking their first steps."



To read more about the London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism, visit uwl.ac.uk/lgcht

UWL EXAMINES CURRENT FOOD ISSUES IN INDUSTRY LECTURE SERIES

Spring 2016 saw the London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism host two industry focused events, addressing important issues facing the food sector. The inaugural event on 19 February explored the impact of fraud in food supply systems. UWL was delighted to welcome guest speaker Professor Chris Elliott, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University, Belfast, who had led the independent review of Britain's food system after the 2013 horsemeat scandal. Professor Elliott's talk looked at a variety of food scams, including the Sudan Red industrial colour used in food, and the replacement of oregano with other green leaves. He welcomed the close collaboration of industry and universities to get the best results for the consumer.

After his speech, Professor Elliott was joined by a panel of experts including: Andy Milner, Director of Procurement and Supply Chain at the UK's largest catering and hospitality supplier WSH; David Jones, Director of Technical Services at Bidvest

Food Services; and David Richardson, Regulatory and Commercial Affairs Director at the Wine and Spirit Trade Association, who took to the stage and explained how industry reacted to food fraud scares.

A second event on 6 April tackled the issue of food waste in the hospitality industry. Guest speaker Dr Richard Swannell, Director of Sustainable Food Systems at WRAP (the Waste and Resources Action Programme), discussed the increasing pressures to produce more food as the global population rises, and how this would impact the environment and climate change. He identified the tension between dislike for food wastage, versus the need for the industry to deliver perceived 'value for money' for consumers. He then demonstrated how this can be addressed using simple solutions: for example, by offering a variety of portion sizes to consumers and the careful management of hospitality buffets.

Panellists Dr Rebecca Hawkins of Responsible Hospitality Partnership; Ken Mulholland of Brakes Group; and Nicki Crayford of Compass Group, then discussed the difficulties in measuring levels of food waste and the challenges faced in addressing the issue across global markets and supply chains.

Both events were held at Asia House in Central London as part of the Victor Ceserani Lecture Series. Named in honour of the former Head of the School (see pages 16-19), the lectures were made possible thanks to kind support from UWL Honorary Member, Charles Wilson. The two events were attended by 145 industry professionals, including alumni of the College and representatives from major culinary and hospitality organisations. Professor Alexandros Paraskevas, Chair in Hospitality Management at UWL, said, "The University of West London's Victor Ceserani Lecture Series brings together professionals from across the hospitality sector and continues to lead industry debate on burning issues for the industry."

INDUSTRY PANEL DISCUSSES THE RISE OF CITIZEN JOURNALISM



In April, industry experts in the fields of political blogging, network news and freedom of speech, took to the dais in UWL's Weston Hall to talk about the rise of citizen journalism and its future.

The panellists – Laurence Durnan from Political Scrapbook, considered one of the most influential blogs on politics in the UK; Hazel Baker, Digital Editor at Sky News; Robert Sharp from English Pen, the Freedom of Speech advocates; and Martin Hoscik, the founder and blogger of Mayorwatch.org – each shared their perspectives on blogging and citizen journalism to a packed house of students and academics.

Putting the issue of citizen journalism into a global perspective, Robert Sharp highlighted the plight of bloggers whose attempts to question governments and advocate democratic reforms have been met with imprisonment and, in some cases, death.

Hazel Baker then took the audience through the definition of citizen journalism from the point of view of an established news network. Her focus was on how user-generated content, such as mobile phone-derived pictures and videos, is used to support news reports.

Laurence Durnan and Martin Hoscik, both bloggers and founders of their respective sites, took the rapt audience through some of their biggest breaking stories, discussing their relationship with major news organisations, the importance of having a voice, and the right to question government, institutions and individuals in the public eye.

There is no doubt that blogging and citizen participation is here to stay. The question now is how traditional news organisations engage with this audience and the content they produce – and for those bloggers out there – how can they effectively be heard in a growing competitive space?

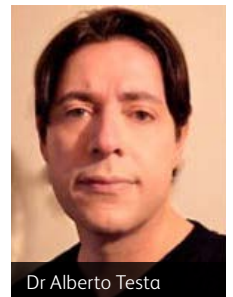


Panelists Laurence Durnan, Hazel Baker and Martin Hoscik

Find out more about the London School of Film, Media and Design at uwl.ac.uk/lsfmd and follow on Twitter @UWL_LSFMD



Find out more about
Ealing Law School at
uwl.ac.uk/law



Dr Alberto Testa

UWL ACADEMIC SPEAKS OUT ON EURO 2016 VIOLENCE

Dr Alberto Testa, Senior Lecturer in Criminology at Ealing Law School, was interviewed on the subject of football hooliganism for a number of radio programmes during this summer's Euro 2016. The football championships, which took place in France, saw 24 teams compete and Portugal crowned as the winners. The tournament created an atmosphere of excitement and patriotism throughout Europe, but incidents of football hooliganism were often in the headlines.

Having researched and published widely on football spectators' violence and the far-right, Dr Testa used his expertise to speak to broadcasters, including BBC local radio, Voice of America and LBC Radio, about the origins of football hooliganism and the steps being taken by the French authorities. In his interviews, he highlighted the links to far-right groups, with history showing that a rise in the extreme right correlates with violence on the terraces. He explained that groups of violent fans are becoming increasingly organised, many of them with close links to far-right political groups such as the anti-Islam Pegida movement. "This originated in Germany from neo-Nazi hooligans, the New Hunters, but they have a branch here in the UK, Pegida UK, which, not surprisingly, is led by a former hooligan."

Dr Testa also spoke about the Neo-Nazi hooliganism present amongst some of Russia's ultranationalist fans and how they see themselves fighting the Kremlin's geopolitical battles on a small scale. "Some of them have a background in the military," Dr Testa said. "They are generally very good in boxing and martial arts, and they plan their violence carefully and in detail."

Speaking to LBC Radio, Dr Testa described the differences between the types of violence seen in the Euro 2016 finals. He explained that most British hooligans generally get drunk, become prone to violence, interact badly with the police, and use whatever weapons are to hand, including bottles and street furniture. He then described how other fans, whom he labelled the Ultras, have a far-right ideology. In this category, Russian fans come prepared with weapons and are committed to violence and the far right, whereas the hooligans are given to spontaneous violence, with no ideological unifier.

During the tournament, the French deployed 90,000 personnel, and the police had their powers under the post-terror attack state of emergency extended, meaning they were more able to stop the movement of people. However, Dr Testa said that, for the

future, the causes of the violence need to be countered – the rise of far-right groups with an anti-immigration philosophy, and the marginalisation of second and third generation Muslims, which provides a fertile ground for terror ideology.

With Russia due to host the World Cup in 2018, what are the potential risks? "The biggest danger is further collusion between far-right political forces and highly organised hooligans, targeting not only rivals, but also political opponents and minority groups", Dr Testa said.

One of the research projects that Dr Testa is currently involved in is ENABLE. This is a collaboration with national police forces, which aims to prevent and tackle football spectators' violence, or hooliganism. ENABLE is led by Professor Clifford Stott; Dr Testa is member of the scientific committee and Director of ENABLE Italy.

In summer 2016 Dr Testa became a Researcher for the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies (RUSI), the prestigious defence and security UK think tank, supported by the British government.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: ERIKA EDMAN

Your University caught up with current student Erika Edman about her time on placement in 2016-17, her plans for the future, and the support she has received throughout her student journey.

Why did you choose to study at UWL and on your particular course?

I heard about UWL through attending a Careers Fair in my final year at High School in Dubai. I decided to study Hospitality Management because it involves some of the things that I enjoy the most in life: making people happy and connecting with people from different cultures and countries, whilst providing services that are going to enrich their lives in some way, whether they be travel or food related.

Where have you been on placement and what has it entailed?

I'm completing my placement year at the Fairmont Dubai, the first Fairmont Hotel to open in the Middle East. I am working in the front office, handling guest check-ins and check-outs. I also offer them information about what they can enjoy during their stay – both within the hotel and in the city. I have discovered what it takes to make sure that a guest's stay starts off in the best possible way.

What have you enjoyed most about your placement?

The best part is that no day is the same; there is always something new going on or something new to learn. I love meeting people from all parts of the world and hearing their stories. I come to work knowing what daily tasks I have to do, but at the same time not having a clue what the day will turn out like: it all depends on the type of guests you have and the occupancy of the hotel.

What are the main things you have learnt?

I have gained so many different experiences from working at Fairmont. I have learnt the fundamentals of being a good receptionist; how to anticipate and meet the needs of guests, and also how to deal with guests who are not happy about something. Luckily, the latter doesn't happen very much and my colleagues and I are, for the most part, dealing with very satisfied guests.

Have you had any challenges or difficulties?

Working within the hospitality or tourism sector is challenging because of the amount of time you spend working. I was quite shocked when I found out that I would be working six days a week, nine hours a day, with only one day off per week. In the beginning it was extremely hard and I was very tired all the time. But eventually I got used to it and the more confident I became in my role at work, the easier it became.

What would you say to other students who have been given the opportunity to undertake a placement, especially abroad?

I definitely would recommend it! Going on placement will give you so many different experiences and you will grow as a person, which is what has happened to me.

A placement year abroad in particular will be lots of fun, although challenging at the same time, especially if you are in a country you have never been to before. At the end I can guarantee you that you will never regret

having completed it there, because of the experiences and the knowledge you will gain. It is such an intense period where you will learn so many new things about the industry, all of which will be useful for your future career.

What are your aspirations after you graduate?

I either want to continue my studies with a master's degree in hospitality or tourism, to give me even more knowledge about the industry, or become a front office manager or a sales and marketing manager for a hotel. The human resources department also interests me. From there, I will see where the industry can take me!

How has UWL helped to support you in your goals?

I was really fortunate to be awarded one of the William Barry Bursary Awards this past academic year. After my placement, I will be returning to UWL to complete the final one and a half years of my course. The bursary will make living as a student in London much easier which, in turn, will allow me to focus on completing my University studies. Thanks to the generosity of the William Barry Trust, my dream of being a successful hotelier will be easier to reach.

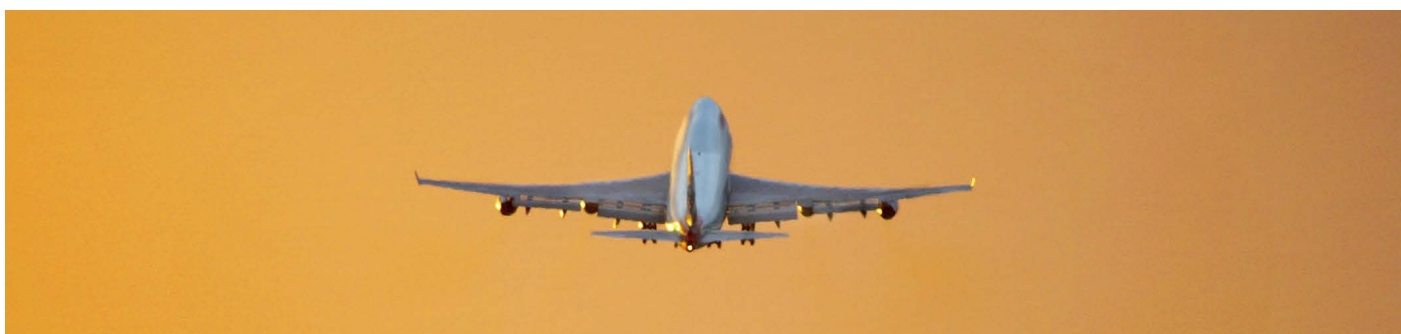
Keiko Iwaki, Trustee of the William Barry Trust, said, "We feel so fortunate that, through our work, we can be actively involved in students' pursuit of their dreams and aspirations. Our work is about supporting those who would otherwise be unable to continue with their chosen studies, so that their talents and potential will not be wasted."

To find out how your business could benefit from hosting a student on placement, visit alumni.uwl.ac.uk/placements or contact placements@uwl.ac.uk

Lighting the Way – SUPPORTING OUR FUTURE

Since its launch two years ago, 1,233 alumni, friends, businesses and foundations have contributed over £7 million to our first major fundraising campaign. This is a truly encouraging sign and we are determined to meet and exceed our target of £10m by 2017. However, £10 million is more than just a number. By supporting the University, donors benefit both staff and students: they enable us to improve the learning environment, increase the number of scholarships and hardship bursaries available and advance the most promising research ideas. We are proud to share just a few examples of some of the projects and donors who have made a significant difference to the Lighting the Way fundraising campaign.

PRESERVING HEATHROW ARCHIVES



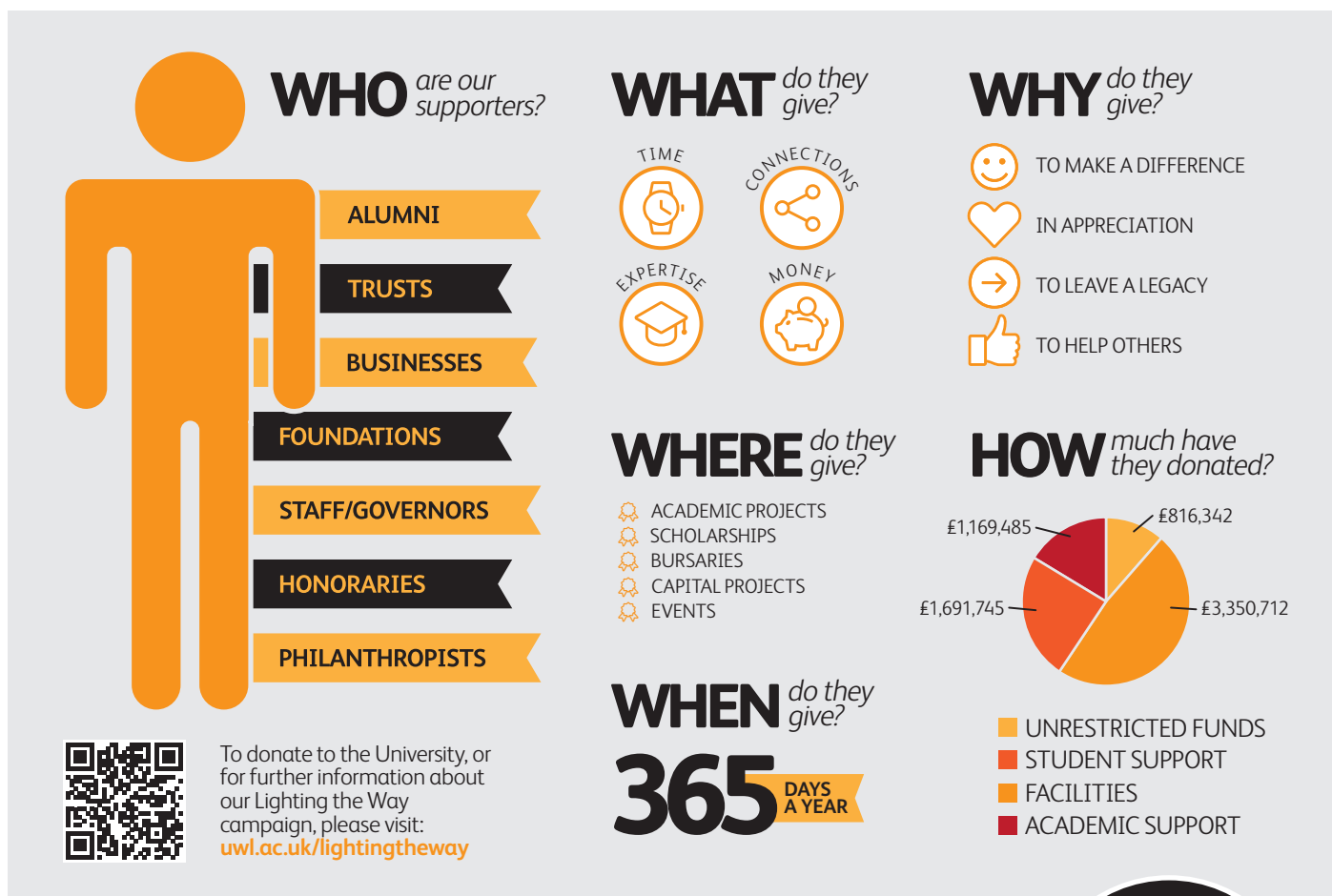
In the 70th anniversary year of the first flight from Heathrow, the University of West London has been granted a unique opportunity to host and maintain Heathrow Airport's historical archive. With a generous contribution from both Heathrow Airport and the Heritage Lottery Fund, UWL will act as a focal point for leading academics, students, and members of the general public who are interested in finding out more about Heathrow's fascinating past.

The Archive was initially held and displayed in Heathrow's oldest passenger terminal, Terminal 2. Here, irreplaceable artefacts including historical travel brochures and pamphlets, old uniforms, photographs and film footage, were held – allowing passing-through travellers, cabin crew, and pilots from across the world the chance to view the past of Britain's oldest passenger airport. When the decision was made to completely redevelop and refurbish Terminal 2 in 2009, the Archive had to be moved somewhere that it would be safe and secure from any damage, destruction or misplacement. However, the only quick solution available was to put all these precious items into storage in an off-site warehouse. The public joy and excitement of learning and appreciating them had disappeared.

UWL has always had strong links with the aviation industry as well as reputable academic expertise in this area. For this reason, Heathrow Airport identified UWL as a suitable host for the Archive. It was decided in 2015 that the items would be moved from the holding warehouse to the University so that they would be safe, appropriately stored and managed, and displayed once again to an appreciative public.

To celebrate the 70th anniversary, Heathrow Airport Ltd has generously given £100,000 to create a dedicated exhibition at UWL in order to once again expand the public's interest and fascination with this crucial part of our modern history. We are fortunate enough to have received numerous incredible artefacts dating from the 1940s until the present day. In this exhibition space, these items will be on display in an appealing fashion to the general public, as well as industry experts, students and academics. The accessibility and convenience of the space will allow people of all ages, backgrounds and circumstances to learn, discuss and understand the significance that Heathrow has had on so much of British culture and heritage.

Given their historical significance and importance, it is crucial that these timeless artefacts are handled appropriately and with care. The Heritage Lottery Fund has kindly contributed nearly £80,000 towards the establishment of posts for a part-time Archivist and a Curator, as well as the appropriate training of staff in handling the collection. These invaluable artefacts will thus be preserved for generations to come, and we are excited that we will soon be able to display what is undoubtedly a major part of British history, on a personal, local, national, and global scale.



ALUMNI LEAVE THEIR MARK ON CAMPUS



We are incredibly grateful to all those graduates and friends of the University who have donated through our Take a Seat appeal. By purchasing a named seat in our performance space Lawrence Hall, or the new multifunctional auditorium Weston Hall, you have helped us raise nearly £16,000 in support of the University and our students.

For Jill Sands, naming a seat in Weston Hall was a way of leaving a lasting memory of her time at Thames Valley University, where during her 50s she studied on the Professional Studies (Nursing) course. Reflecting on her time at TVU, Jill said, "I thoroughly enjoyed meeting new people at each module and travelling to the different campuses. The course was hard work, but I look back on those days with great affection and felt such a sense



of achievement as I walked across that platform at the graduation ceremony."

The caption Jill chose for her seat's plaque, "It's never too late to learn", is a message for current and future students, whom she hopes will be inspired to follow their dreams and study at any time in their life.

Speaking about why she chose to give back to her alma mater, Jill said, "I want UWL students to have the same advantages as I have been lucky enough to have had. In donating to the University I like to feel that I am encouraging the students' development and contributing to their future."

Laurence Geller CBE on what giving back means to him

Laurence, a proud alumnus and philanthropist, was appointed the University's fourth Chancellor on 12 May 2011.

Since his appointment Laurence has made it a point to attend all Graduation ceremonies as well as other important events in the University's calendar. He has also played a leading role in giving back to his alma mater and in encouraging other organisations and individuals to support our vision to be the country's leading modern university with the best record for graduate employment.

Laurence's journey from a fresh faced teenager at what was then Ealing Technical College to Chancellor is noteworthy. At the young age of 13 he made up his mind to pick a career that did not involve sitting behind a desk. Already familiar with the world of hospitality, through part-time jobs in various London hotels, he travelled to Zurich aged just 15 to learn the trade by working in hotels there. He soon realised that to get a well-paid job he would need to supplement his experience with proper training. He joined Ealing Technical College's National Diploma for hotel managers as it enjoyed the reputation for being the best in the country. Laurence fondly recalls that in those days Ealing Technical College was "far from being a university, bit more of a craft/vocational school". However, it catered for a number of disciplines; from art, photography and design, to management, languages and law, and this opened his eyes to the multitude of career options and pathways to success available. It also fuelled his ambition not to settle for mediocrity, but to reach for the stars in his chosen field. More importantly, his time at the College instilled in him the enjoyment of learning "directly and through osmosis, of questioning and gleaning information from everyone around him".

Upon graduation Laurence embarked on what was to become a highly successful career in hospitality. He became Director of Grand Metropolitan Hotels in London, Senior Vice President of Holiday Inns, and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Hyatt Development Corporation. He went on to set up Geller & Co, a gaming, tourism and lodging advisory company, in 1989. In 1997, he founded Strategic Hotels and Resorts and remained its President and Chief Executive Officer until 2012. Departure from Strategic allowed Laurence to focus much more on the University and his other civic interests.



Laurence (fourth from left) with his classmates

We caught up with Laurence at the University's graduation ceremony in Wembley to understand what drives his philanthropy and his passionate commitment to the University.

How have you seen the University transform and evolve since your time here as a student?

Over the years I have watched in bewildered awe this technical college, in what was an almost distant London suburb, metamorphose from a disparate group of vocational and craft courses into a university, come close to the precipice of disaster, survive and develop into one of the best modern universities in London. I am very proud to be its Chancellor.

How did it make you feel to be asked to become Chancellor in 2011? What difference did you think you could make to the University?

Firstly, I had no idea what a Chancellor did. Secondly, I thought I was a fraud and that someone would eventually find out that I have no degree, five mediocre O levels and no academic knowledge. Truly though, I was over the moon with pride – not just for me, although my already oversized ego was well massaged by the appointment, but for all those that were at Ealing Tech, doing craft courses, part-time diplomas, learning trades and many, like me, not being 'good' enough to go to universities. Frankly, it was that overall recognition of worthiness that makes every day as Chancellor of this great university worthwhile.

You have personally donated and encouraged others to give to UWL. Why does giving back to UWL financially matter to you?

The vast majority of British universities don't have a history of fundraising. From the day I accepted the great honour of being Chancellor, I knew that UWL had to be ahead of the game in fundraising, as austerity and budget crises would soon force the UK Government to cut back on funding to all universities. I reasoned that if I didn't take the lead and show an example of giving "Wealth, Work and Wisdom" (the three W's of fundraising) to UWL, then who would? We are a great university and have to strive for academic excellence in every aspect of our work. Why should our fundraising skills be any different? We have to be the best in what we do and I passionately believe we can and will be, but excellence requires investment beyond public funding and that is where fundraising comes in.

Do you think other alumni should follow your example and why?

None of us should just be takers. We have to give back to the University that shaped us. If we don't give back, then we will leave the next generation worse off. I am conscious that we are all busy and have families and other interests. I know that many of us have little money to give. However, I equally know that we can give as little or as much as we are able to and it all makes a difference. We can give the gift of time by helping to raise funds, mentor students and offer placements or work experience. It is in our interest that UWL continues to thrive.

“It is in our interest
that UWL continues
to thrive”





Laurence in 2011 on the day he was inaugurated as Chancellor of the University

Tell us about some of the other causes you have raised money for?

When my kids were growing up, my eldest daughter had serious heart problems. I believed Chicago (where I live) needed to have a top-ranked children's hospital and I gave generously with all that I had. As a result, we built a great hospital in the centre of Chicago that cost over \$1 billion and is ranked amongst the finest in the world. I have been passionate about the lessons that can be learnt from the life and times of Sir Winston Churchill and have been Chairman of the Churchill Centre for a decade. It has been a long struggle but now politicians, academics, writers and people throughout the world realise the relevance of history, especially in these fragile, dangerous, rapidly changing and volatile times. I am proud that one of my long-held ambitions is about to be finally realised and we are opening the National Churchill Library in Washington DC in the autumn. Finally, I am passionate about supporting people with dementia. It wrecks families and is a drain on all of our resources. As Chairman of the Alzheimer's Society Dementia Appeal, I will work relentlessly to raise money and awareness for this disease and I think UWL, with its outstanding College of Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare, is poised to be at the leading edge of change for the good to battle this awful disease.

You are a very committed philanthropist. What motivates this spirit of giving?

That's simple. I come from the humblest of backgrounds. I never expected to have money enough to do anything other than have a house with a mortgage, that would most likely kill me, and a couple of weeks annual vacation somewhere warm. I had some great mentors over the years, got lucky, made and lost money, all too often got knocked down, forced myself to get up, dusted myself off, took a deep breath and started again and, thankfully, survived. I don't need to be personally rich and, above all, now that my kids have their own families and careers, I don't have to worry about leaving them money so they can fly first class when I didn't! So I decided to give away two things: the less valuable

being money; I long ago decided to give away the majority of any money I earn to my causes. The far more valuable asset I decided to give away is my time, energy, passion and advice. That for me is the real measure of philanthropy.

How does your experience as a successful entrepreneur inform your work as a philanthropist?

Philanthropy is just another business challenge. There is no magic to it. I set out a bold vision, work out an even bolder and creative plan to meet the objectives. I make sure I have adequate time and money to invest in executing the plan, set the timeline, enlist the help required and then go forward, knowing that the plan has to be shaped and moulded by circumstance, results, lessons learnt and opportunities that present themselves. I think that is the very essence of entrepreneurialism.

As Chancellor what achievement are you most proud of?

I have contributed so very little. However, if I have motivated the staff and leadership of UWL in any way then I am incredibly proud. If my example has motivated any of our students in any way, I am even prouder. If I have shown that anyone, from any background, can achieve recognition within the university and their sector; for me that is Nirvana.

What is your hope for UWL in the immediate and long-term future?

UWL must continue to flourish and thrive. I have no doubt that it will achieve all its goals and will be acknowledged as the most outstanding modern university in the nation.

Any words of wisdom for those who have just graduated?

This is not my parent's world, not my world, it is now your world. Go and grab it, shake it up, change it, laugh at the set-backs and try again and again. Your only limit is your willingness to dream. Make society a better place for you to live in, for your children to grow up in and for your grandchildren to be proud of. You now have the tools – it is up to you to do the job!

My postgraduate experience

Shawlina Pun reflects on her time as a postgraduate student and explains why she decided to return to UWL for further study.

Why did you choose to study on the MSc Finance and Accounting course?

I decided to return to study for a master's course because of the excellent experience I had on the BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance course, which I graduated from in 2015. Postgraduate progression felt like the right path for me and the lecturers really brought out the researcher in me; I am looking into doing a PhD now!

What did you do prior to your undergraduate course?

I took a gap year. This really helped me focus on what I wanted to study. I applied through clearing and was so happy to find a course that suited my interests: maths and business.

How have you funded your study?

The alumni discount from UWL was a great help in funding my master's course. The new PG loans from the government are also a really good idea, as many of my friends wouldn't have been able to carry on without the £10,000 now available.

What do you feel are the main differences between undergraduate and postgraduate study?

As a postgraduate student you work more independently; however support is always on hand. The class sizes suit the teaching and are delivered in a professional manner; I feel as though I have gained a great deal of knowledge of the accounting and finance industry.



Shawlina Pun

What are your plans now that you have finished your MSc?

I am looking into further study – I have really enjoyed being in education and would like to progress even further by doing a PhD. I may apply for a graduate scheme or to an accounting firm with a view to furthering my education whilst I work.

Alumni who have obtained a three-year undergraduate degree from UWL, or one of its predecessor institutions, are eligible for a £2,000 discount on postgraduate study. Students can also apply for a £10,000 Postgraduate Loan from the government. For further details, visit: www.uwl.ac.uk/students/postgraduate/exclusive-alumni-discounts



Thinking about studying for a PhD at the University of West London?

We offer exclusive alumni discounts on full-time and part-time PhD research course tuition fees.

Studying for a PhD enables you to develop an area of specialism that will give you an edge, whether you are planning to work in industry or to develop expertise to teach in further or higher education. We provide structured research training, expert supervision, and an environment where you can discuss your research with other PhD students and researchers.



For further information, please visit: uwl.ac.uk/phdexclusive



Alumni Board

Chair of the Alumni Board, Alistair Telfer, gives an update on our alumni engagement campaign and talks about the value of keeping in touch.



The achievements and continued involvement of its former students are one of the most important measures of a university's success. The Alumni Relations Office at UWL recognises the value of our alumni community, which is why it is committed to nurturing the relationships with our graduates and providing opportunities for you to engage with the work of the University.

This year, as we reach the pinnacle of the University's Lighting the Way Campaign (see pages 26-30), we are delighted to have now reached and surpassed our target to engage with 10,000 graduates. They have shown their commitment to the University by volunteering, donating financially, attending events and much more, and we are immensely grateful to them all.

I am proud to lead the enthusiastic and dedicated group of volunteers that make up the Alumni Board. Together, we act as the eyes and ears of all former students; this not only includes UWL graduates, but also alumni of our predecessor institutions. Every graduate has access to a wide range of lifelong benefits and services through the Alumni Association – from careers advice, library access and discounts on postgraduate study – to industry offers, events and mentoring opportunities. Over the next few years, the Alumni Association will build upon its existing activities, whilst increasing the focus on continuing professional development and networking opportunities for our alumni – tying in closely with UWL's mission as The Career University. I thoroughly encourage you to keep your contact details updated and to stay connected through social media so that you can engage in our work and take advantage of the services and support available to you as a graduate.

By staying in touch and supporting in whatever way you can, you can help shape the future of the University and those students following in your footsteps. Whatever you studied and whenever you left us, there has never been a better time to be involved.

Best wishes,
Alistair Telfer

Established in 2008, the Alumni Board meets to review and develop an inclusive alumni programme, aimed at engaging graduates as a strong and effective lifelong support network, both for the University and for its alumni. The Board provides a vital source of advice and information to help shape alumni activities, giving feedback to UWL's Office of Development and Alumni Relations.

Alumni Board Members

Alistair Telfer FIH (MBA '93)
Chair

Elizabeth Anionwu (Emeritus Professor, College of Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare)
College of Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare Representative

Wendy Bartlett (OND Catering Management '79)
London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism Representative

Judith Cannon (HND Hotel Management '68)
London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism Representative

Paul Hendrick (BSc (Hons) Computing and Information Systems '11)
School of Computing and Engineering Representative

Laurence Llewellyn (MMus Composition, Film & TV '14)
London College of Music Representative

Sumit Malik (MBA '00)
The Claude Littner Business School Representative

Zenobia Nadirshaw (BSc (Hons) Psychology '12)
School of Human and Social Sciences Representative

Sukey Parnell (PGC Photography '10)
London School of Film, Media and Design Representative

John Perry (BA (Hons) Law '74)
Ealing Law School Representative

Helen Pidgeon (LLB (Hons) '93)
Ealing Law School Representative

Andrew Thompson (PG Cert Teaching & Learning '13)
School of Computing and Engineering Representative

Debra Wootton (BA Animation '09)
London School of Film, Media and Design Representative

Alumni news

A snapshot of news from our alumni community.



SUDAKSHINA BHATTACHARJEE

BA (Hons) New Media Journalism with Film and TV, 2005

Sudakshina co-authored a textbook *Improve Your Global Business English: The Essential Toolkit for Writing and Communicating Across Borders*, which was published by leading international publishing house Kogan Page. As a result, a number of business writing opportunities have come her way and led Sudakshina into a career in content marketing. She is now Content Marketing Executive for Affinion International.

It was always Sudakshina's ambition to work in the media industry and, since graduating, she has had jobs in the education and finance sectors, whilst at the same time taking on writing and editing projects on a freelance basis. She has also had the opportunity to teach journalism, media studies and psychology at various FE colleges in London and Kolkata, India. It was this rewarding and satisfying experience in teaching, combined with her interest in social media, that led to her involvement in the business English textbook.

Sudakshina says, "It has been an interesting, challenging and gratifying 11 years since I graduated and I have the University to thank for this."



OLIVER KADEL

BA (Hons) Music Technology Specialist, 2014

Working recently for Visualise, one of the UK's leading virtual reality content production companies, Oliver had the opportunity to prepare the audio soundtrack for a 360° video featuring the Royal Guard parade in honour of Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday. It was a challenging assignment but the video was a huge success, delivering this rare spectacle to thousands of people who wouldn't otherwise have had the opportunity to attend the event themselves. The project was commissioned by the Ministry of Defence and the BBC Research and Development team.

Since graduating, Oliver has been specialising in virtual reality sound design and audio branding, launching his own sound agency whilst studying part-time for an MA in Advanced Sound Technology. Virtual Reality is a rapidly developing industry, predicted to attract billions of pounds of investment across the globe by 2020. Oliver hopes that many sound engineering graduates will get involved in the innovative field of positional and spatial audio and will feel inspired to pursue their interests in this newly emerging industry.



SUMON DUTTA

BA (Hons) Marketing with Business, 2010

Sumon works for Accenture in Mumbai, where he has achieved the Accenture Numero Uno Employee Award and the Consumer Goods and Services Generalist Certification. As a Project Manager in Digital Marketing, his clients have included Procter & Gamble. Sumon describes Accenture as being very friendly and a collaborative global work environment.

While Sumon was studying at the University he was the Student Representative for his class and also worked part-time in the Learning Advice Centre (LAC), where he gained useful work experience and practical skills. Sumon says, "My undergraduate course was a great experience and has equipped me to perform well in Digital Marketing."



If you have a story to share, please email

alumni@uwl.ac.uk

ELEANORA MURPHY: RIO OLYMPICS INTERPRETER

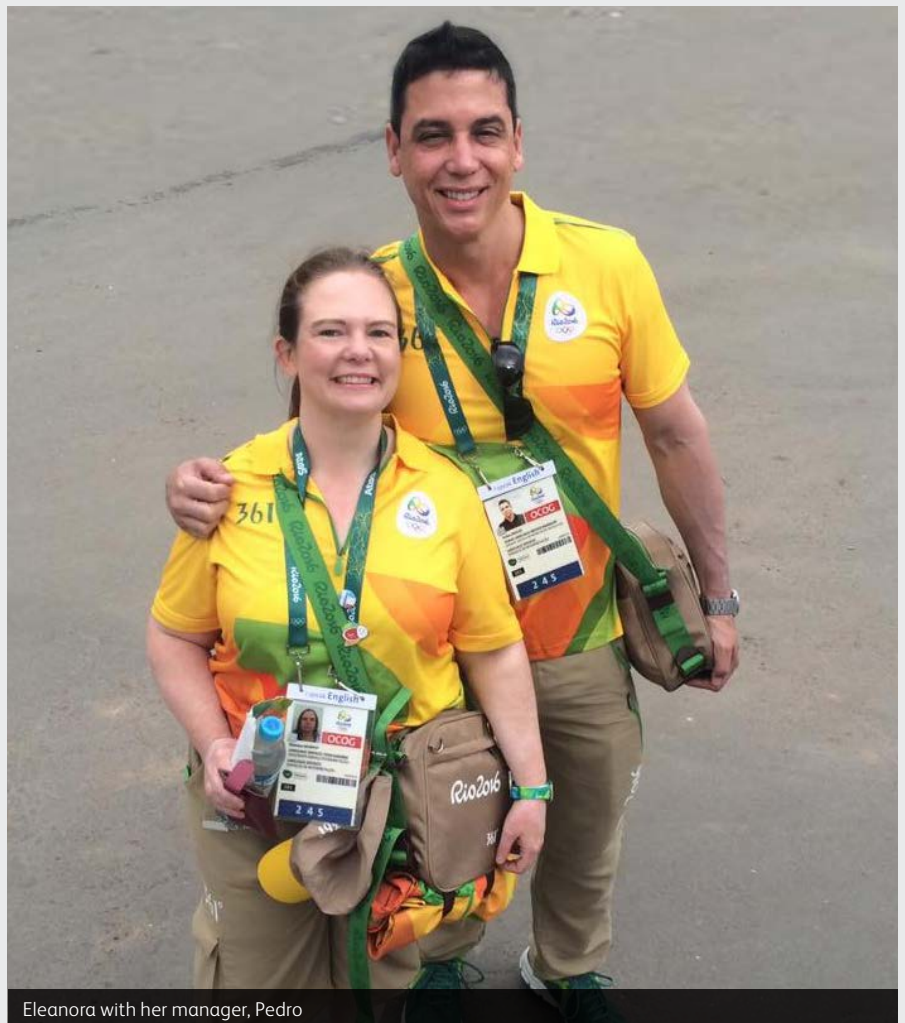
Eleanora graduated from BA (Hons) Applied Language Studies in 1995. Over the summer she took a break from her role working for Barts Health NHS Trust to travel to Rio de Janeiro and volunteer at the 2016 Olympic Games. Here, she shares her experiences.

Being part of the 30th Olympic Games at London 2012, as one of the 70,000 Games Makers, was incredibly special. So much so, that many of us decided to apply to volunteer for Rio 2016.

I was one of the lucky ones. After an online interview using software similar to Skype and several tests to prove that I was as good at other languages as I claimed to be (I have an honours degree in French and German and I also speak Spanish), I was offered my dream role, interpreting for the media at Deodoro Stadium. There was no way I was going to turn down such a unique opportunity, especially if it meant the chance to travel to somewhere new and use my languages.

Given the distance between London and Rio de Janeiro, most of my training for the role was done online beforehand. When I arrived I met my manager Pedro at the venue, who was very warm and who went out of his way to put me at ease, taking great lengths to show me all around the areas where I would be working and explain what would be expected of me. With every shift after that, I was greeted with a huge smile and a hug, exactly what I needed to start the day in a good mood. As I collected my bright yellow Games Maker uniform, I had many happy memories of doing the same at London. Although when I wore it for the first time, I felt a bit like a jaundiced Oompah Loompah, especially as I have such pale skin in comparison with my Brazilian counterparts, who all looked amazing in yellow!

Deodoro Stadium is based on an army barracks, so security was pretty tight, and even more so for the Games, just as we had visibly heightened security at London 2012. My first big job was to interpret an interview from Spanish to English with



Eleanora with her manager, Pedro

the captain of the Ecuadorian women's rugby sevens team for OBC (Olympic Broadcasting Company). They had just been beaten 55-0 by the Australians, and in spite of this, it was a great match to watch. She was very gracious in defeat, although part of me wished that she could have spoken a little bit more slowly, so I could get absolutely all the salient points of the interview. Given that I have hardly spoken Spanish in almost 20 years though, I was still pretty pleased with myself and how I performed.

During my time there I had the privilege of meeting some famous Brits too. John Inverdale, Sir Matthew Pinsent and Sir Clive Woodward were all charming and very generous with their time, chatting about

the Games and life back home in the UK as if we had known each other for years.

When I came to Brazil I could speak only half a dozen words of Portuguese, but after 10 days there I could hold an entire short conversation in the language. Even with three other languages under my belt, I surprised myself with the speed at which I was learning.

I met countless people, made many new friends and absolutely had the time of my life. I can honestly say that the decision to work my socks off to save up and afford this trip to Rio, and have this incredible and surreal experience, is the best thing I have ever done, and I will never forget it.

NURSE MARY SEACOLE COMMEMORATED WITH LANDMARK STATUE



Elizabeth Anionwu CBE (centre) with guests at the unveiling of the Mary Seacole statue

In July 2016, a memorial statue of Mary Seacole, the Jamaican-born nurse and Crimean War heroine who was voted as the Greatest Black Briton in 2004, was unveiled in the grounds of St Thomas' Hospital on London's Southbank. The statue was a result of a 12-year community fundraising campaign raising £500,000, co-led by Elizabeth Anionwu CBE, UWL Alumni Board member, Emeritus Professor of Nursing and Vice-Chairperson of the Mary Seacole Statue Appeal. Designed by internationally renowned sculptor Martin Jennings, it is the UK's first memorial statue for a named black woman.

It has been 160 years since Mary Seacole travelled across the globe to care for British soldiers over the course of 18 months during the Crimean War. Born to a Jamaican mother and a Scottish father, she followed in her mother's footsteps and became a boarding house keeper, a "doctress" and a nurse, learning traditional Creole and Western medicine techniques. Using her own resources she opened the British Hotel in Crimea, which she described in her memoirs as "a mess-table

and comfortable quarters for sick and convalescent officers".

The inscription on her statue, words written in 1857 by *The Times's* Crimean War correspondent Sir William Howard Russell, shows the impact of the woman known as Mother Seacole. "I trust that England will not forget one who nursed her sick, who sought out her wounded to aid and succour them, and who performed the last offices for some of her illustrious dead", he writes.

Sir Hugh Taylor, Chairman of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, said: "Mary Seacole was a pathfinder for the generations of people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds who have served the NHS over the years, and she remains a positive role model for the current generation. The Trust is proud to be hosting the statue, not least because it speaks to the diversity of our local population, our patients and the staff who work here."

Speaking about the statue's significance, Professor Anionwu said, "I am a nurse of mixed heritage, and so was Mary Seacole,

which is why this statue is important to me. There are not enough statues of women, let alone of black women. St Thomas' are proud to host the statue of Mary Seacole, both in recognition of the work done by their black and minority ethnic healthcare staff, and also because of the diverse community they serve. Mary Seacole was a feisty woman, and I believe this statue is a fitting tribute to her."

Professor Elizabeth Anionwu CBE was appointed Dean of the University's School of Adult Nursing and Professor of Nursing in 1997. In 1999 she established and was Head of the Mary Seacole Centre for Nursing Practice at the University. When Elizabeth retired in 2007, UWL honoured her with the award of Emeritus Professor of Nursing. She became a member of the Alumni Board in 2010, representing the College of Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare.

Her memoirs *Mixed Blessings from a Cambridge Union* have been published as an e-book and paperback – see www.elizabethanionwu.co.uk

Exclusive Alumni Discounts

Take advantage of alumni discounts from industry providers on a range of services, including:

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Theatre tickets



Hotel rooms



Healthcare



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Are you a UWL graduate with a product or service that you would like to offer to fellow alumni at a discounted rate?

If so, please contact alumni@uwl.ac.uk



Find out more about the other benefits available to UWL graduates, including careers and employment support, post-graduate study discounts, room hire discounts and library access, at alumni.uwl.ac.uk/benefits



Five minutes with...

Vanessa Skoura

BA Economics, 1994

"Entrepreneurship is very rewarding and it can be applied to many industries and professions."

Vanessa Skoura graduated with a First Class Honours degree in Economics from the Business School at Thames Valley University in 1994. Shortly after graduating she secured a role with Credit Suisse and has since gained over 20 years experience in private banking, working for companies such as RBS and HSBC. In 2014, she joined German firm Berenberg, one of the oldest banks in the world, to develop their International Key Clients business and was subsequently promoted to manage Private Banking UK. She leads a team of professionals that provide international private clients with worldwide wealth management services. We caught up with Vanessa to talk about work, ambition and her philosophy on life.

What does a typical day look like for you?

Wealth management is very much a service business, therefore I have to be ready to provide an excellent service to my clients. This involves keeping abreast of daily news and market developments. I read the financial press on my way to the office and visit the BBC News webpage.

The rest of the order of my daily activities are dictated by client needs. Of course there is a plan, but I need to remain flexible to attend client meetings, answer client queries over the phone, prepare for bespoke marketing presentations, deal with organisational and management issues, and importantly, call our clients to discuss their thoughts and needs. There is a lot of planning, prioritising and reshuffling that takes place!

What do you love most about your job?

The opportunity to combine relationship management and market investments. When I was a BA Economics undergraduate, I was convinced that investment management and financial markets reflected my career preferences. I soon discovered that speaking with clients and building long-term trusted relationships is equally, if not more, rewarding. I am so fortunate that my career enables me to do both.

What is your least favourite part of the job?

The stress and pressure associated with dealing with so many different and urgent matters. Multi-tasking is very important for my work and it really helps with this.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I enjoy the arts and travelling. My passion is the natural world. The more I discover about nature, its complexity and order, the more humbled and impressed I become. I strongly believe we must respect and protect our natural habitat, not just for our own sake, but for all creatures and living things.

Is there an alternative career path you would have enjoyed?

I always enjoyed helping people learn and develop. Supporting people to achieve their objectives is important to me and, as a result, I enjoy getting involved with our graduates' training.

How would you describe yourself in three words?

Energetic, determined and perceptive.

What's the most important lesson you've learned in life?

A balanced approach is key for success and personal satisfaction.

Whom do you most admire, and why?

Anyone who finds inner peace.

Describe the place you most like to spend time.

I enjoy the water. I find it relaxing and it helps me with creative thinking.

My personal philosophy in life is...

Decisive planning, passionate execution and flexibility to adapt and move forward.

What are your top tips for success in your industry?

To succeed in wealth management one needs to stay informed, be adaptable and able to make personal connections by listening to and respecting clients.

What advice would you give to those who have just graduated? Particularly those from The Claude Littner Business School?

Entrepreneurship is very rewarding and it can be applied in many industries and professions. I recommend it as an approach for anyone, irrespective of their position and employment status.

Alumni events



Guests at the Ealing Law School dinner



Nathaniel Perera and Sandy Duffy with Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter John



Lord Finkelstein OBE with Head of Ealing Law School Philip Ells

NINTH ANNUAL LAW DINNER WELCOMES LORD FINKELSTEIN

Ealing Law School was honoured to welcome political journalist and Associate Editor of *The Times* Lord Daniel Finkelstein OBE as guest speaker for the ninth annual dinner on 3 March. During his speech 'Six Things I Believe', Lord Finkelstein gave his views on the rule of law, as well as an engaging insight into the political scene based on his experiences as a key advisor to the Conservative party. After sharing anecdotes with guests, he concluded by remarking that what moves us most in politics are the experiences in our own lives.

The evening was also an opportunity for the 70 guests, gathered in the University's fine dining restaurant, to congratulate the recent recipients of the Ealing Law School bursaries. Second year student Nathaniel Perera was named as the recipient of the Michael Molyneux Bursary Award and final year student Sandy Duffy was awarded with the Ealing Law School Bursary.

Philip Ells, Head of Ealing Law School, commented: "The annual Ealing Law School dinner is an opportunity for alumni, honorary members and supporters of the School, as well as students and staff, to connect with the School and each other, and to celebrate achievement. We applaud the successes of our graduates and the achievements of current students so generously assisted by bursaries. It is also an event where all unite in recognising the work of the Law School in developing students to become part of the wider legal community, to reach their potential and fulfil their ambitions."

We are incredibly grateful to all those who made a contribution towards the Ealing Bursary Fund in advance of the event or on the night. This money will go towards awarding another bursary next year, providing crucial support to a promising student facing financial difficulties.

LUKE JOHNSON GUEST OF HONOUR AT BUSINESS LEADERS DINNER

Luke Johnson was Guest of Honour at the University's annual business dinner on 10 March. Luke's keynote speech was full of inspirational advice to entrepreneurs and leaders and was well received by the assembled guests. Among his many roles, Luke is currently the Chairman of Risk Capital Partners, StartUp Britain and The Institute of Cancer Research. He also writes a weekly column in *The Sunday Times* and his book, *Start It Up*, was published in 2011. The entrepreneurship theme was echoed by alumnus and Visiting Professor Claude Littner in his address to the guests.

Now in its third year, the event provides an opportunity for corporate representatives and alumni to connect and hear from distinguished business leaders. The networking reception and dinner, attended by over 70 business leaders, alumni of The Claude Littner Business School and staff, provided everyone with the opportunity to network and listen to some very thought provoking speeches.



Luke Johnson



Guests at the Business Leaders Dinner

ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING PRESIDENT SETS OUT EIGHT PRINCIPLES

In the centenary year of the Royal College of Nursing (RCN), its President, Cecilia Anim, gave a special lecture on 2 February to an audience of alumni, staff and students, on the topic of Human Rights, Diversity and the Principles of Nursing and Midwifery. Cecilia addressed guests by describing the Eight Principles of Nursing, which outline what all people can expect from those practising nursing, including colleagues, patients, and the families or carers of patients.

She spoke with passion about the challenges facing black and minority ethnic (BME) workers and their effect on diversity in high-level roles within the NHS. During her speech she also highlighted the growing issue of female genital mutilation (FGM) and how the Royal College of Nursing and other organisations are working together to raise the profile of FGM practices in the UK. This crucial work has contributed to the implementation of a national policy and an advice toolkit available to healthcare professionals. Cecilia commented that

this is a fantastic example of nurses and midwives making a tangible difference to the lives of vulnerable groups.

The event, which was chaired by Professor Elizabeth Anionwu CBE, Professor Emeritus of Nursing, ended with a lively and thought provoking Q&A session. Cecilia responded to questions from current students, graduates and external guests, who included Lesley Page, President of the Royal College of Midwives. Cecilia then offered invaluable advice to those in the industry, reminding nurses and midwives of the importance of raising concerns and to always remember what motivated them to enter the profession when faced with challenges. Charmagne Barnes, former Dean of the College of Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare, echoed these sentiments and expressed gratitude to Cecilia for an inspiring talk.

Issy Smith, a current student said, “Attending talks like this is very valuable, as they bring current issues alive and inspire thinking.”



Royal College of Nursing President, Cecilia Anim



Royal College of Midwives President, Lesley Page with lecture guests

GRADUATES SHOW SUPPORT AT MUSICAL THEATRE ALUMNI NIGHTS

Final year students from the BA (Hons) Musical Theatre and BA (Hons) Acting courses performed their fantastic showcase productions in April. These productions of *Punk Rock*, *Bad Girls* and *Assassins* were also attended by former students and friends on the LCM Musical Theatre Alumni Nights, which provided a great opportunity to catch up with fellow graduates and London College of Music staff.

All graduates of the University are entitled to a special discounted rate on many LCM Live performances and events by presenting a valid Alumni Card at the Box Office. Please visit alumni.uwl.ac.uk/benefits for details.

To hear about future alumni events, please ensure that you've registered your email address at www.uwl.ac.uk/alumni



Guests at one of the LCM Musical Theatre Alumni Nights

ALUMNI OF EALING SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY WOWED BY NEW FACILITIES

To read more about the Ealing School of Photography's former students and hear about future reunions, please visit

www.ealingschoolofphotography.co.uk



This May, we were delighted to welcome back on campus a group of alumni from the Ealing School of Photography era. Michael Brown (Class of 1969) tells us more:

"Nearly 50 years have passed since I was a student at Ealing School of Photography at Ealing Technical College, as it was in those days. For the past 25 years I've organised ad hoc visits and reunions for alumni, and every time we visited the photographic facilities there was something new to see."

"Our visit on 10 May was certainly the most impressive development that we've seen. Apart from the amazing transformation of the structure and fabric of the campus, we were amazed at the leading-edge technology that is available to the students of visual communications. We were made most welcome and hope that this event will develop into a regular conduit between past and present students."

Here, other graduates from Ealing School of Photography share their memories...

"I was extremely fortunate to be at Ealing School of Photography. I joined in 1961 straight from grammar school and found the course to be very comprehensive, teaching theory and practical skills. I was always grateful for the three pleasant, formative years I spent there, as I subsequently enjoyed a long and successful career as an advertising photographer and maker of TV commercials."
Bob Cramp (Class of 1964)

"In my second year, I left some prints washing and they floated over the outlet, flooding the office of the then Principal, Mr Lightfoot. I wasn't the first to do this, but I was the only one to own up!"
Mae McDermott (Class of 1959)

"I have many happy memories of Ealing School of Photography, I met my wife here! The course gave me an excellent grounding in photography and stood me in good stead throughout my career."
Phill Davies (Class of 1969)

"I spent a very happy two years at Ealing School of Photography. I learnt the basics of photography, which set me off on a lifetime of interesting worldwide experiences."
Jenny Campbell, née Price (Class of 1961)

"As a potential photographic graduate at Ealing Technical College and School of Art I recall the excitement of moving to London from the West Country. I recall one student spending his full term's grant on a fibre optic fountain lamp that we admired in the darkroom, but which resulted in him having to squat in an empty house for the rest of the year, owing to lack of funds. I was young and unsettled, which resulted in early withdrawal, but I returned to photography and eventually became Programme Leader of Photography at several universities."
Richard Clegg (Class of 1973)

Are you planning a reunion, or interested in hosting one at the University?

Please contact the Alumni Office at alumni@uwl.ac.uk

Forthcoming alumni events

For full and up-to-date details of all events and reunions, please visit alumni.uwl.ac.uk/events

LCM Live

For details of the latest performances and masterclasses run by the London College of Music, please visit uwl.ac.uk/lcmlive. UWL graduates can enjoy a 50% discount on tickets to many LCM Live events by purchasing an Alumni Card. To apply, see alumni.uwl.ac.uk/benefits

Careers and Employment Events

UWL alumni can take advantage of the careers and employment fairs, workshops and seminars that are run throughout the year. See more at uwl.ac.uk/events



Public Lectures

For details on UWL's Public Lecture series, please visit uwl.ac.uk/lectures

The following alumni events are planned to take place during 2017:

Ealing Law School Dinner
Computing and Engineering Reunion
Hospitality and Tourism Dinner
Business Leaders Dinner

Details correct at the time of publication.

To ensure you receive your invitation to these or any other future events, please update your contact details at alumni.uwl.ac.uk



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Register via our alumni portal at alumni.uwl.ac.uk to update your contact details and communication preferences.

Reconnect

Looking to reunite with lost classmates? We can put you in touch by forwarding messages on your behalf to those whose contact details we have.*

Alumni Relations Office

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* Data protection policies apply

