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MEET UEL'S NEW CHANCELLOR

Lord Gulam Noon

SEE PAGE 6

Now & Then

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EAST LONDON'S ALUMNI NETWORK / ISSUE 13 / SPRING - SUMMER

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Welcome from our Acting Vice-Chancellor, **John Joughin**

Welcome to the latest edition of *Now and Then*. I hope you have been keeping well since the last issue was published. You may be aware that there have been some changes at UEL over the last few months. Unfortunately, earlier this year Professor Patrick McGhee resigned from the post of Vice-Chancellor of the University of East London on health grounds. Professor McGhee achieved a tremendous amount as Vice-Chancellor, and all at UEL are firmly committed to building on this work and on the vision expressed in our Transformation for Excellence strategy. The Board of Governors asked me to step up as Acting Vice-Chancellor, and I am dedicated to delivering on UEL's priorities, with the immediate focus on our core business of student recruitment and improving the student experience.

The start of this year also brought the University a new Chancellor; in January we welcomed Lord Gulam Noon to the post. Lord Noon is an incredibly interesting and insightful man. He developed his business from a sweet shop in Mumbai to a multimillion-pound food empire employing thousands of people in the UK. He replaces Lord Brian Rix, the actor and charity campaigner, who was UEL's first Chancellor and the longest-serving university Chancellor in England, as the figurehead of UEL. You can learn more about our new Chancellor on pages 6 and 7.

As ever it has been a busy few months at UEL, with lots of good news stories including history in the making! Not only did the University secure its first trophy success at the British Universities and Colleges Sports (BUCS) finals, but it went on to bring home the winner's medals in every team game in which it competed! Elsewhere, Mala Rao, a leading public health academic at UEL, was appointed to the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2013 New Year Honours List and UEL has been nominated for two Times Higher Education Awards: the nomination for which is widely regarded as a hallmark of excellence in higher education!

The University is continuing to move forward with new developments, and by the time you receive this magazine our new Stratford Campus library in Water Lane will be open for business. The brand-new library will offer all UEL students and staff state-of-the-art facilities including eight high-specification group study rooms; WiFi-enabled social study spaces, and a 24-hour café area. As well as over 150,000 items of stock, students will have access to the vast digital library through over 170 PCs. More information on this fantastic new resource can be found on pages 12 and 13. We are also looking forward to the opening of University Square Stratford, a brand-new campus in the centre of Stratford, opening at the start of the new academic year in September. USS is a unique partnership between UEL and Birkbeck, University of London, funded by the London Borough of Newham and the Higher Education Funding Council. UEL's law, criminology, performing arts and MBA students will study alongside students from Birkbeck College. The new campus is set to be a real asset to UEL.

So on those exciting future plans I shall leave you to enjoy the summer 2013 edition of *Now and Then* and I shall look forward to meeting you at one of our future alumni events.

Best wishes



Acting Vice-Chancellor

Welcome from the Editor and Development Manager, **Charlie Tyce**

Welcome to the 13th issue of *Now and Then*, and the first issue of 2013!

I hope you have all been having a fantastic year so far! 2013 is rolling by just as fast as 2012 did and we have been as busy as ever at UEL.

This issue features lots of great news stories which can be found on pages 4 and 5, including a fantastic story on UEL's recent trophy success at this year's BUCS Cup finals – Go Team UEL!

You may have also heard that UEL has a new Chancellor, Lord Gulam Noon. To find out more about Lord Noon, turn to page 6. It really is great for the University to have such an inspiring Chancellor, and we are all looking forward to working with him in the near future.

On page 8 you can find the latest Alumni Network updates, including information on new benefits and services that we now offer in conjunction with several external companies.

Make sure you check out page 11 to see what your peers have been up to since they left UEL. If you would like to see your story in future issues of *Now and Then*, drop the team an email at alumni@uel.ac.uk.

In this issue we also have a feature on a recent graduate, Yardeena Lieberman, who completed this year's London Marathon. You can read more about her story on page 10.

We also have some other big stories in this edition of *Now and Then*, including a feature on the new Stratford library on page 12, and the story of the UEL cricket team's recent trip to India on page 14.

In addition, there are lots of other great stories for you to read, as well as reports on our recent events on page 22.

And make sure you read this edition carefully as it gives you all the answers for our puzzles on page 24!

Enjoy – and have a great summer (or indeed winter if you are in the southern hemisphere)!



Alumni Development Manager

UEL News

Trophy success for UEL sports teams

Wednesday 13 March saw history in the making for UEL, as not only did the University secure its first sporting trophy success in the British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) championships, but it went on to bring home the winner's medals in every team game in which it competed: men's and women's basketball, men's football, netball and men's volleyball!

With our objective of being the best university in London for sport by 2015, and having never previously recorded a single BUCS cup success, the rapid progress and success of the students was an especially proud moment for UEL Director of Sport, David Cosford, who said:

"This day goes down as Wonderful Wednesday, in true Olympic style, as UEL students swept the board at the BUCS cup finals. As the Director of Sport I have been amazed at the energy, spirit, passion and teamwork of our students, and I am proud to be associated with them and UEL. All our student clubs and teams have performed admirably this year, and the cup success is the icing on the cake."



Talented UEL fashion designer called up for Newcastle Fashion Week

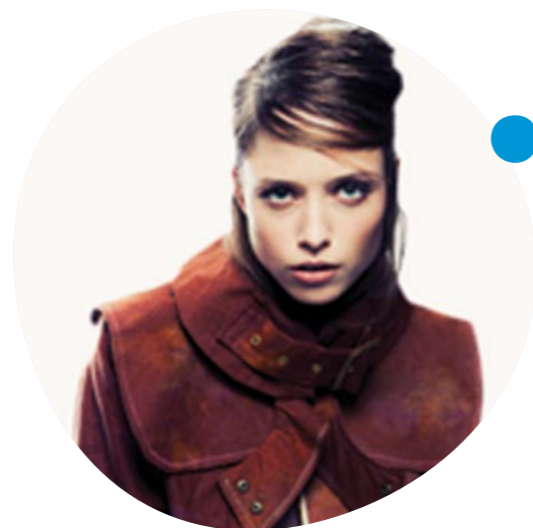
Up and coming fashion designer and former University of East London student Francesca Air has been asked to showcase nine of her designs at this year's NE1's Newcastle Fashion Week. The event, which entered its third year with a seven-day fashion bonanza in May, celebrates Newcastle's cutting-edge fashion scene.

Francesca's latest collection was seen on the Fashion Front Row Catwalk at the venue 'As You Like It', in May, alongside those of other emerging designers.

Since completing her course in 2012, the BA (Hons) Fashion Design and Marketing graduate has been busy designing, styling and working on her new collection.

She will be building on the graduate collection that she started at UEL, a collection that was so successful at Graduate Fashion Week that she caught the eye of fashion house Jaeger, who offered her a full-time job.

Reflecting on the collection, Francesca said: "My new collection, *Negative Space*, shows my signature flair of ultra-feminine style with classic cuts and tailoring. Inspiration is taken from photographs from space and from aerial mapping of earthly contours."



International India Centre: UEL and Sahara sign memorandum of co-operation

The prospect of a major new building in London's Docklands moved a step closer in April when representatives from UEL and Sahara India Pariwar signed a Memorandum of Co-operation.

During a special reception at Grosvenor House in London, UEL Chancellor Lord Noon and Executive Director of Sahara India Pariwar Sushanto Roy put pen to paper on the Memorandum. As part of the Memorandum, UEL and Sahara India Pariwar – one of India's leading multi-business investment conglomerates – will work in partnership towards investing, developing and managing the International India Centre (IIC) at UEL's Docklands Campus.

The IIC will become home to a wide range of education-led activities, linking closely to business opportunities right across South Asia – creating a wide range of exciting employment opportunities for students and local people in the process. Work is now well in hand to select a world-renowned architect to design the IIC and building is anticipated to start in early 2014.



North Pole explorer receives Freedom of the City of London

Dwayne Fields, one of UEL's most inspiring and influential students, was given the prestigious honour of the Freedom of the City of London at a special ceremony in March. Dwayne, a combined honours student in Psychology and Third World Studies, became the first young black British man to walk across the North Pole, following a gruelling 370-mile trek in 2010.

Dwayne, who is currently in training for an expedition to the South Pole later this year, was honoured for his motivational visits to schools, youth clubs and projects, where he urges young people to follow their dreams and to seek inspiration through exploration, adventuring and embracing the outdoors.

Speaking at the ceremony in London's Guildhall, Dwayne said: "I am so thrilled to receive this honour, as it is testament to the work I have put in over the years with young people in trying to inspire them to make productive choices in their lives. I am just lucky that I have managed to carve out a better future for myself, and that I am in position where I can help those who need guidance and direction."



Meet UEL's new Chancellor

The leading entrepreneur Lord Gulam Noon was appointed as the new Chancellor of the University of East London (UEL) in a ceremony at the House of Lords in January of this year.

Lord Noon developed his business from a sweet shop in Mumbai to a multimillion-pound food empire employing thousands of people in the UK. He replaces Lord Brian Rix, the actor and charity campaigner, as the figurehead of London's leading modern research university.

Lord Rix was UEL's first Chancellor and stepped down as the longest-serving university Chancellor in England last year.



Lord Noon said: *"I am both proud and excited to be taking on this role at UEL. This is a great institution, with a strong record of providing opportunities for all to improve and develop. I am looking forward to helping them continue their good work, encouraging diversity and developing entrepreneurship alongside academic excellence."*

General Baroness Patricia Scotland said: *"UEL couldn't have picked a better person to be their new Chancellor. Lord Noon is a brilliant entrepreneur who shares UEL's values and cares deeply about education. He will be a great success, an exemplar for young people to follow."*

Lord Noon – who is credited with introducing the British palate to Indian food on a large scale through his business supplying supermarkets including Sainsbury's, Morrisons and Waitrose – has a long-standing relationship with UEL. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University in 2009 in recognition of his achievements as an entrepreneur, and has helped the University create and run a centre for diversity in business.

Meanwhile, political philosopher and academic Professor Lord Bhikhu Parekh said: *"Lord Noon is a remarkable man who has risen from humble origins to become one of the most respected and admired individuals in Britain and India. His courage, determination, and integrity and moral transparency are clearly evident and he will, I have no doubt, contribute immensely to the University."*

"He brings exceptional ability and achievement and his successful career will be an inspiration"

Mark Stephens, CBE, chair of UEL's Board of Governors, said *"We're delighted Lord Noon has agreed to be our new Chancellor. He brings exceptional ability and achievement, and his successful career will be an inspiration to our students. Lord Noon is also renowned for his love of cricket and he recognises our ambition to be the leading university for sport in London."*

The Chancellor is the formal head of UEL, and acts as an ambassador for the University, its staff and students. As well as playing a key role in graduation ceremonies, Lord Noon will help to raise the profile of UEL and ensure that the talent and ability of our students and graduates are recognised.

Lord Noon's appointment was welcomed by two other honorary graduates of UEL. The former Attorney

Lord Noon is also a fellow of Birkbeck, University of London, with whom UEL are currently developing a new and exciting shared campus in Stratford, opening in September 2013.

Alumni Network updates

New benefits and discounts!

Since the last edition of *Now and Then* we have sourced several new benefits and discounts for our Alumni Network. Take a look below to see what is new!

10% new car discount – car leasing made simple™

Carleasingmadesimple.com
The clever way to lease a new car

We are delighted to offer members of the UEL Alumni Network a **10% discount** off initial rental when leasing a new car.

We have an extremely wide range of cars to choose from, catering for all budgets and tastes. Visit the car leasing made simple™ website to browse the latest and most desirable models.

As we offer both contract hire and personal car leasing you can choose one of our amazing lease deals best suited to your needs.

Call **0800 458 0113** and quote **discount code S27** to take advantage of this special offer.

JUST EAT UK



JUST EAT UK launched in March 2006 and is now the UK's leading online takeaway ordering service, with over 13,000 restaurants for hungry web surfers to choose from.

JUST EAT opened its virtual doors in 2001.

Founded in Denmark by a group of friends with a serious case of the munchies, JUST EAT has gone on to become the undisputed online champ of global takeaway, with local flavours in 13 countries. We now have over 25,000 restaurants in our family bucket and receive an

extra-large portion of 3.5m visits a month, serving well over 100,000 meals a day.

The UEL Alumni Network is pleased to announce that you can now receive a 10% discount off your order* by using the following code: **UEASTALM281**

*The code is for card orders only and for 10% off. It can only be used once per account.
www.just-eat.co.uk

VOOVit



VOOVit is an excess baggage and small box shipping company, who ship worldwide. VOOvit can provide up to a 25% discount per box shipped for UEL alumni. Simply check the 'honesty' box to state you are a graduate when entering details online to redeem this offer. <http://voovit.com/>

Congratulations!

Dr Gayani Gamage, who obtained her PhD in 2011 from UEL's School of Psychology, has been appointed to a fixed-term lectureship in psychology at the University of Peradeniya in Kandy, Sri Lanka. She will be lecturing about developmental psychology and test & measurement development as part of undergraduate research methods teaching. Gayani's PhD thesis was titled The role of message framing and issue-involvement in promoting regular physical activity among sedentary university students. Her director of studies was Professor Mark McDermott, and second supervisors were Dr Ken Gannon and Dr James Walsh.

BOOST YOUR CAREER WITH A POSTGRADUATE DEGREE.

Save 15% on your postgraduate studies at UEL.

The tough economic environment now facing the graduate market has meant that many people are now choosing to go back to university or staying on after their undergraduate studies to get a postgraduate qualification. The advantage that this qualification provides lies in enabling students to differentiate themselves from other graduates by improving their knowledge and skills in specialist areas that will make them stand out ahead of the competition. As Adam Jaw, currently studying for a MA in Education at UEL, affirms:

"I'm currently a primary teacher anyway. I'm coming back into education to further my learning outside of school and hopefully it will bring on more opportunities within the school, and linking my theory to the practice more will help me to become a better teacher."

In addition to the need for people to seek better opportunities through a postgraduate course, with the UK attracting the best people from overseas it is not uncommon for some companies to actively seek those with PG qualifications.

Fit studying around your job

Studying for a postgraduate degree doesn't always have to be restrictive on the other parts of someone's life either. With more and more flexible options for studying, postgraduate courses are an important way for many people to achieve their career goals whilst juggling busy lifestyles with work or parenting.

Dr Fred Mpala studied MSc Information Security and Computer Forensics at UEL:

"The course at UEL appealed to me because of the learning structure (which my employer favoured) as it meant I could still work and not be out of the office for long periods of time. The skills I picked up during my studies at UEL weren't only applicable during my studies but have also been transferrable to other aspects of my career. Skills such as time management and communication are all skills that have developed from my time at UEL and I still apply them to this day."

On many postgraduate courses there is a unique level of engagement that gives students the opportunity to work with industry and large organisations as part of their degree programme. So it's possible that even before a student has completed their studies, they will already have been exposed to industry practices, have attended leading conferences and have developed networks with the workforce in that area.

So whatever life you are looking to lead, a PG course can equip you with the skills, knowledge and infrastructure you need to go on and have the career you dreamt of.

UEL has approximately 270 postgraduate courses on offer, with programmes that are engaging and specialised to benefit both you and your employers. Additionally, as a UEL alumnus you may be eligible for a 15% discount on course fees, which means huge savings.

For information about your eligibility, see uel.ac.uk/pgdiscount

Alumni Network profile

Yardeena Lieberman,
BA (Hons) International Politics,
2012



Yardena Lieberman, a recent UEL International Politics graduate who completed her studies with a 2.1 in 2012, challenged herself earlier this year by taking part in the 2013 London Marathon. Yardena suffers from a muscle condition, which is why she chose to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign (www.muscular-dystrophy.org).

Yardena said "While at UEL, I was listed as being one of the disabled students – I have a muscle condition called benign congenital hypotonia. All of my muscles are weak, and I do not have a normal oxygen intake (born with 30%, now on 60%)."

Yardena's condition meant that she was not able to run the marathon, so she walked the whole way. She beat her target time of 8 hours 45 minutes, completing the gruelling 26-mile race in just 8 hours!

Yardena kindly took the time to answer a few questions, both about the marathon and her time at UEL.

Why did you choose to study at UEL?

There are many reasons as to why I chose to study at UEL, but the most prominent reason was because of the accessibility and support given to those with varying disabilities and/or dyslexia, which is something that is really important to me.

What was your most memorable experience at UEL?

I have so many memorable moments and experiences that I don't think I can choose just one! From the overall general support and understanding by all lecturers and the Disability and Dyslexia Department, to helping set up and run the Jewish Society at UEL in my final year, and not forgetting the donations that people gave when I took part in the 2010 London Marathon.

How do you feel UEL has helped you get where you are today?

Without the support, understanding and guidance, I don't think that I would have been as strong as I am now.

Where do you see yourself in five years time?

Simple answer, I don't know – I don't know where I'll be or what I'll be doing. All I do know is that whatever it is will be a challenge and, just as with everyday, I'm more than ready to face it.

If you could give other alumni one piece of advice, what would it be?

My advice would probably be don't waste the opportunities in front of you – grab it with both hands and always give whatever you do 100%, because then you can't be angry and/or upset with yourself.

If you would like to support Yardena and her cause you can still make a donation. Cheques should be made payable to the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign and sent to the Alumni Development Office at the address on the back cover so we can pass them on to Yardena.

What we do now...

Jacqui Marson,
Advanced
Counselling
Psychology
2005



Jacqui, who set up a private therapy practice in Covent Garden after leaving UEL, has just published her first book, *The Curse of Lovely: How to break free from the demands of others and learn to say No* (Piatkus, £12.99), to great acclaim.

After Jacqui was interviewed by BBC Radio Four's *Woman's Hour* on 11th March (see Listen Again, on the Radio 4 website), *The Curse of Lovely* went to number one on Amazon's Movers and Shakers list as sales rocketed by a staggering 1,618%!

The book has also been featured in *The Times*, the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Sunday Telegraph Magazine*, the *Daily Mail*, *Marie Claire*, *Psychologies*, *Red*, *Good Housekeeping*, *The Stylist* and many other publications, including radio and print in Australia and Ireland. The foreign rights have so far been sold in more than 30 countries, including Australia, South Africa, France, Italy, Germany and the Czech Republic.

Jacqui says: "My time at UEL was pivotal to my development as a popular communicator of psychology. Course leader Professor Rachel Tribe nurtured, inspired and helped build my confidence so that I could combine counselling psychology with my journalism skills."

Jacqui is now in demand as a commentator on psychology-related stories in the media, appearing regularly on Channel Five News, ITV's *Lorraine* and *Daybreak*, and various BBC and independent radio stations.

Adrian Rollins, Graduate
Teacher Programme, 2009

Adrian studied the secondary mathematics GTP programme through UEL and found it very engaging and worthwhile. He said "My tutors Simon and Tony were excellent and they both gave me great insights into the world of mathematics education." Adrian had previously spent ten years as a professional sportsman (playing cricket for Derbyshire and Northamptonshire) and found the transition to 'normal life' quite challenging. He went on to say "Thankfully, the GTP course gave me great confidence and I am enjoying my career as a mathematics teacher as much now as I was when I began training."



If you would like to share what you are doing now with your fellow UEL alumni, please send us an email to alumni@uel.ac.uk titled 'What we do now' with a short description (no longer than 200 words).

Big news!

New Stratford Library opening in June 2013

In October 2011 work started on a brand-new library for the Stratford Campus. Our vision was of an integrated and innovative new library reflecting very best practice for higher education library services and providing 21st century facilities to support the learning, teaching and research needs of UEL students and staff. The library is now almost complete and by the time you read this we will have opened the doors to this important new building, located at the very heart of the campus, on 24 June. The library building has been designed in line with best-practice sustainable design standards, aiming to minimise its impact on the environment, and it has been awarded an 'excellent' BREEAM rating (the internationally recognised standard for sustainable buildings).

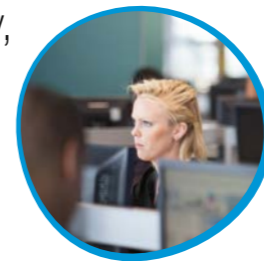


Key features of the new, state-of-the-art library include:

- three floors of high-quality learning space open 24/7 and with Wi-Fi throughout
- capacity for over 130,000 books
- an advanced digital library providing a wide range of e-books and e-journals
- over 220 quiet study spaces
- eight bookable group study rooms with state-of-the-art audiovisual/media facilities
- 120 open-access PCs for student use
- two fully equipped training rooms
- collaborative learning 'pods' equipped with interactive technology
- self-service facilities
- refreshment/vending area.

Award-winning architects Hopkins – whose previous work includes the London 2012 Olympic Park's famous velodrome – designed the new library, working closely with the UEL project team. This included holding discussions with students, library staff and other UEL colleagues to build a picture of the users' requirements for the new building. Students were involved at every stage – from responding to a user questionnaire at the very start of the design process to participating in a furniture selection workshop alongside library and IT staff.

As a result we are confident that the new library will fully serve the needs of all our students, both undergraduate and postgraduate, exceeding their expectations and providing a truly inspiring learning environment. With a central garden providing an unexpected 'wow' factor, and beautiful landscaping and seating outside the library to extend the learning space in the summer months, the library really will be at the centre of the student experience at our Stratford Campus.



The library team has been working very hard to plan services in the new building, where students will find a help desk staffed 9am–9pm each weekday and 12noon–5pm at weekends, with roving library staff offering additional help during our peak opening hours. The building layout has been designed to be as intuitive as possible, with the ground floor providing a range of collaborative learning spaces, interactive technologies and self-service facilities for library users. The ground floor also provides a special collections area and reading room, while the two upper floors offer quiet study space and house all the printed books and journals to support the Schools of Health, Sport and Bioscience, Psychology, Education and Law & Social Sciences.

The building has environmental performance at its heart, with low-energy systems and consideration for the reduction of operational carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions incorporated in the design. Photovoltaic (PV) panels have been installed on the roof to provide a source of clean renewable energy, helping to reduce the building's carbon footprint by 20%. On completion the building will incorporate continual energy monitoring, the results of which will be displayed for library users demonstrating the carbon savings made.

There will be an official opening ceremony in September, with students past and present among the guests, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming UEL students, staff, alumni and other visitors to our brand-new library in the near future.

UEL cricket team bowled over by tour of India



UEL Cricket Co-ordinator Arfan Akram took some time out of his busy schedule to share with us the story of his recent trip to India with the UEL cricket team.

Arfan told Now and Then that *“This tour was both exciting and inspiring for our cricket ambassadors. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to really give something to the communities we visited. It also gave them the chance to promote London and the University through new partnerships, friendships and, above all, through a shared love of cricket.”*

To hear more about the trip in Arfan’s own words read on...

Eleven UEL students and I flew out from London Heathrow on Monday 1 April 2013 and landed safely at Mumbai Airport just after midnight local time. The team was wonderfully greeted by Adrienne Clarke, Director of UEL’s International Office, and Subra and Dheeraj from our India Office at the airport, and swiftly transported to the Sahara Star Hotel. The hotel welcome was one for movie stars rather than students, with all the team being greeted in the wonderful, colourful Indian way.

The first day in Mumbai was a hectic yet critical day for the team. It included an educational visit to Sathaya College, where the Principal went out of her way to be incredibly hospitable, providing snacks and drinks for all. The UEL cricket team and Sathaya College students spent half an hour sharing experiences. The UEL students gave their Sathaya College counterparts an insight into life at UEL and the hosts gave us an insight into life in India. After exchanging experiences we walked across to the



college’s cricket nets, where I organised a joint cricket coaching session for UEL and the Sathaya College students.

The afternoon was a humanitarian experience for the student ambassadors. Through the help of Big Shot Cricket, we met our guide, Anson Thomas (who has also taken cricketers such as England captain Alastair Cook and former Australian skipper Ricky Ponting to some of his projects), at the Sahara Star Hotel. Anson then took the team to a slum in Mumbai. After negotiations with the local groundsman we managed to get onto the field. The kids from the local area poured in when the word got around that a UK team was coaching and playing cricket. After a hard day’s coaching, the team returned to the hotel to get ready for a recruitment-based function organised by the International Office for UEL agents and potential new students, which was held at the impressive Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA).

Day two saw our first game, against Bombay Gymkhana. The UEL team was met by the Honorary Secretary of Bombay Gymkhana, who advised us that India’s first-ever Test Match, against England in 1932, was played at the Bombay Gymkhana ground.

The team was genuinely inspired to hear this impressive piece of history. The temperature was 32°C and it was also very humid. After much conversation, the captain, Ali Wood, decided

to bowl first. Bombay Gymkhana batted very well and scored 228–7 in their 35 overs; a rusty, out-of-season UEL team tried extremely hard and did well not to concede a higher score. UEL’s batting was held together by Sam Foster, who scored 59, and Tom Kopelman who made 41. However, UEL fell 59 runs short of the target. The team then returned to the Sahara Star Hotel, where our Alumni Team had organised a function for alumni based in Mumbai and partners of UEL, hosted by Jagrato Roy’s parents. The students, colleagues from our India Office and International Office Director Adrienne Clarke spent the evening conversing with our alumni and guests.

Day three started at St Xavier’s College. Two years ago Father Frasier Mascarenhas, Principal of St Xavier’s College, visited UEL and this was a great opportunity for us to see the great work that St Xavier’s does. The tour of the college started at their own museum, which gives a wonderful insight into the history and existence of St Xavier’s. This was followed by a visit to the library, which overlooks the stunning listed college building. The library is accepted in India as one of the greatest Indian libraries, due to its wonderful collection of old books. The library itself was a mix of old history and modern innovations, such as the solar panels on the roof, which generate energy to run the electricity that keeps the library going.

“The tour was an incredible experience and could not have been possible without the support and guidance of many people, including the staff in UEL’s International Office, the India Office, in particular Dheeraj Kumar, and staff in Corporate Marketing. I thank all of them for making this a very successful trip.”

The students were then taken to the Partially Sighted Research Centre, where we were shown how partially or fully unsighted students use technology to study, communicate and even play sport, such as cricket and football. After the tour, the UEL students were met by students of St Xavier’s for an opportunity to interact. We then took a coach to the Taj Hotel where we embarked on a trip organised by UEL Chancellor Lord Noon.

On day four we played our second match, this time against PJ Hindu Gymkhana. The hosts invited us to bat first and after losing a couple of early wickets we batted well. Sam Foster again led the way with a magnificent century and was well supported by David Booth and the lower-middle order. We scored 198 all out in a 40-over match. Dave Booth and Tom Kopelman bowled with great skill with the new ball and after 11 overs PJHG were 51 for 3. Ali Wood and Mark Barrell supported the openers and we ended up bowling PJHG out for 150 to secure our first victory on tour.

After the match we headed to the Rotary Club, where four of our students came head to head against four Rotarians (young members of the Rotary Club) in a debate on pre-selected topics (with sport and education as the main theme). Even though it is fair to say that we were outdone in the debate, the judge showed typical Indian hospitality to call the contest a tie. The students and staff then watched some traditional Indian dance, including participation from Adrienne Clarke and student Fraser Watson. The formal function was followed by an informal dinner, where our students had the opportunity to interact with 120 or so Rotarians about UEL and studying in London.

Early the next morning we set off for Pune, stopping en route to work with a project for underprivileged children called the Akshara Kids Project. The students once again showed fantastic ambassadorial skills by coaching and playing a cricket match in the college’s car park. After the session we continued on to Pune and finally had an evening on which to relax!

The final day was an incredible experience. The team travelled to the Subrata Roy Sahara Stadium to watch Pune Warriors v Kings XI Punjab. The match was slightly one sided, but the passion and love for cricket was fully on show. Straight after the match we travelled back to Mumbai for our return flight to London.

UEL leading research on Bethnal Green WWII disaster

Dr Toby Butler, Senior Lecturer in History at UEL, is leading a project to piece together and publicise one of the worst civilian disasters to take place in Britain. The tragedy, at Bethnal Green Underground Station shelter in 1943, claimed 173 lives and occurred at the height of the Second World War.

A memorial service commemorating the 70th anniversary took place on 3rd March at St John on Bethnal Green Church, which included local resident and celebrity builder Tommy Walsh, MP for Bethnal Green and Bow Rushanara Ali, singer Cheryl Baker (formerly of Eurovision winners Bucks Fizz) and a number of survivors, family members and rescue workers.

The disaster occurred on 3rd March 1943, when an air-raid warning sounded and local people in their hundreds converged on the station entrance to seek shelter underground. A new anti-aircraft rocket battery opened fire nearby and the unfamiliar, deafening noise led some people to think that bombs were falling. People on the stairs leading down to the station stumbled and hundreds behind them fell forward.

The authorities demanded a news blackout so that detailed news of the disaster and the findings of a subsequent enquiry were suppressed. The event has now been largely forgotten, and until recently there was nothing to commemorate the tragedy, which claimed more lives than the Hillsborough and Bradford City football stadium disasters combined, beyond a small plaque at the station entrance.

UEL will record the memories of some 20 survivors, rescuers and relatives of those who died. These and other documents relating to the disaster and the effect of the war on Bethnal Green will form the basis of an exhibition, which will travel to twelve local venues. Two audio guides – one for adults and one for children – will also be produced, featuring some of the interviews from survivors and specially commissioned music. These will be available from the nearby library and freely accessed on smartphones.

Dr Butler says *"We are honoured to be involved in researching and interpreting the history of the disaster and its aftermath. We will be working very closely with the Stairway to Heaven Memorial Trust, which continues to work tirelessly to raise funds for a proper memorial. This year for the first time, everyone will be able to lay wreaths and flowers on the first phase of the Stairway to Heaven Memorial, across the road from the church. There will also be a dedication service for the plaques, which list the names of all 173 people who died, as well as a number of smaller plaques that will give accounts of what happened."*

UEL would like to hear from anyone who had any involvement or records from the disaster, the treatment of casualties or the subsequent enquiry.

Please contact t.butler@uel.ac.uk or +44 (0)1732 366670.



Developments in psychosocial studies at the University of East London

Psychosocial studies is a unique field of enquiry that has been achieving national recognition. We can very proudly say that psychosocial studies had its institutional beginnings at the University of East London in the mid-1980s.

The driving passion of those who work in this field has been to break down the traditional divisions between the psychological and sociological domains as the divisions are viewed as obstacles to a better understanding of the human world. Whilst this is in part a theoretical project, it is also one driven by the belief that much professional practice can benefit from this perspective.

The work of the area has centred on an undergraduate degree programme that has thrived for over 25 years, and there are now over 1,000 graduates, many of whom work in social, welfare and community work in the east London area.

We are pleased to report that there have been some important developments in the field recently.

- After a number of years, an informal grouping of psychosocial academics who work in various universities across Britain have founded the Association of Psychosocial Studies. The Association has received national academic recognition as a learned society and is now a member of the Academy of Social Sciences.
- A Psychosocial Studies Research Group has been set up and recognised by UEL (see the links below for more details).

- An MA Psychosocial Studies degree has recently been validated and will run for the first time in September 2013, in distance learning mode. This will be of interest to those who want to engage with psychosocial thinking for the first time, or to refresh their thinking and achieve professional development.

If you are interested in studying MA Psychosocial Studies please contact the Programme Leader, David Jones, at d.jones@uel.ac.uk

We are very keen to further our links with psychosocial studies graduates.

Please do get in touch and tell us what you are doing at www.facebook.com/groups/163215453744997/



ROYAL DOCKS BUSINESS SCHOOL LAUNCHES UEL CANARY WHARF PROGRAMME

New York City is the nerve centre of the United States' economy and its financial hub, but its sister across the pond is definitely Canary Wharf, which is not only becoming the heartbeat of British finance, but of the world's. Consequently, when Professor Nora Colton left the New York metropolitan area where she had taught and chaired in the Economics and Business Department at Drew University to become Dean of the Royal Docks Business School at UEL, she saw a perfect opportunity to replicate Drew's successful Wall Street Programme in London.

The Canary Wharf Programme brings Royal Docks Business School students into the heart of Canary Wharf, One Canada Square, to learn from professionals who work in the financial world, and to visit the places that make up this successful financial district. With the support of the Canary Wharf Group, UEL will offer its students more than just classroom space in Canary Wharf. Students will take a critical look at the operations of London's financial markets, explore the district's history, and discuss and learn from the recent financial crisis while interacting with the practitioners who make Canary Wharf the vibrant centre it is. At the end of the semester, students will have a deep understanding of the role of London's financial markets within the rest of the British economy, as well as an appreciation of topics and controversies affecting the UK and European financial sectors.

As well as using the Canary Wharf premises to provide Royal Docks Business School students with a unique Canary Wharf semester experience, UEL will also be using the venue to run development days to prepare graduates for its new Graduate Internship scheme, as well as deliver training sessions, assessment centres and networking events to prepare its undergraduates for today's highly competitive job market. UEL believes that one of the best ways to prepare its students and graduates for the world of work is to immerse them in it. The Canary Wharf Programme certainly meets this aspiration.

This programme will be offered each year at two different levels:

Undergraduates

The semester will include a module on Money, Banking and Finance, in which students will gain a thorough understanding of the international financial markets and institutions, and be able to analyse the impacts of monetary policy. They will gain the skills of evaluating the validity of theoretical models in practice, distinguishing between efficient and inefficient financial markets, and being able to apply asset pricing and value at risk models. Topics covered within this module include stock markets, international finance and monetary policy, bond pricing and the role of regulators, among others.

Postgraduates

The Economics of Money, Banking and Finance module will equip postgraduates with first-hand knowledge of the key elements of macroeconomics and their connection with financial markets. They will gain a deep understanding from a real-world context of how macroeconomics and financial markets provide ways to analyse the salient problems faced by the modern macroeconomic policy maker. Students will be able to analyse monetary policy and its effect on financial markets, explain the factors that contribute to financial instability, and suggest strategies that can be used to reduce the risk of their occurrence. Students will analyse actual problems facing macroeconomic policy makers. Topics covered within this module include macroeconomics and the world of finance, banks versus capital markets, bank runs and regulatory responses, and financial crisis.

Both these modules will be based on experiential learning, in which students will engage with the material through site visits and speakers who live the material they are learning. Students will take part in a transformational immersion programme in which investment banks, exchanges, government regulatory agencies and financial bureaus become part of the classroom.

UEL CANARY WHARF PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Dr Dooruj Rambaccussing has been specifically recruited by the Royal Docks Business School to lead this programme. Dr Rambaccussing received his Doctorate in August 2012 from the University of Exeter. Prior to joining UEL, he was working as an associate research fellow at the Xfi Centre for Finance and Investment at Exeter. He has also been a lecturer in econometrics and statistics courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels for over four years. His research focuses on trading strategies, asset allocation, forecasting combination and tests of long memory. If you would be interested in contributing to this programme by speaking to our students, please contact Dooruj at d.rambaccussing@uel.ac.uk

More stories from the 2012 Olympic Games



Nearly a year down the line we are still being asked to share stories from the Olympics and what a great story this one is!

Five recent UEL graduates didn't get much chance to relax in summer 2012. The ink had barely dried on their dissertations when the five BA (Hons) Sports Journalism students found themselves working at the biggest sporting event this country has ever hosted – the Olympic Games!

For David Charnley, Ola Kasali, Zsanett Furka, Dominique Hume and James Kemble, it was a case of consorting with the enemy. Along with five current students, they were working for Team USA, who used the University of East London's sports facilities to train during the Games.

So, while the rest of the country was holding its breath at the exploits of Jessica Ennis, Mo Farah and Bradley Wiggins, the graduates were attending press conferences held by the likes of Venus and Serena Williams, Michael Phelps and Ryan Lochte. And, of course, the basketball Dream Team!

"I'm a massive fan of the NBA (America's basketball league)," David Charnley said. "so it was amazing to watch them at close quarters and get a chance to talk to guys like LeBron James."

"I'd like to say they were really down to earth but, as they were all about seven foot tall, that's not exactly true!"

The team was producing copy for *USA Daily*, a newsletter that was emailed to around a quarter of a million American journalists, supplying them with quotes, facts and figures about the US competitors.

Former programme leader for sports journalism Dr Maxine Newlands had been developing links with the US team ever since it was announced in 2010 that they were going to use UEL's facilities. The deal was finally sealed when she travelled to Los Angeles for the Women in Sport conference at the start of 2012 and managed to meet a key member of the American media team.

The arrangement caused quite a stir, leading to Dominique Hume being invited onto BBC World Service radio to discuss what they were up to. She must have made a good impression, as she was invited back as an Olympic expert later on during the Games.

As well as writing for the newsletter, the team produced short video clips which were shown on the United States Olympic Committee's YouTube channel. One clip, featuring the basketball stars, clocked up 30,000 views in 24 hours, while even a film about a less well-known competitor, judo medallist Kayla Harrison, received 5,000 views in the same time period.

The graduates were attending press conferences held by the likes of Venus and Serena Williams, Michael Phelps and Ryan Lochte. And, of course, the basketball Dream Team!

Teamwork was essential. Zsanett Furka found out which US athletes were training and when, and produced daily schedules that proved invaluable. While the others went out to interview the stars, Ola Kasali was prepared to play a backroom role, editing their footage. *"The Americans really left us to find our own stories"* Dominique said. *"For example, I discovered that three members of the same family were part of the US Taekwondo squad – two as competitors, one as coach – and that made a really nice story. The Olympics isn't just about the Mo Farahs and Michael Phelps."*

The UEL students were joined by a group of students from one of America's leading journalism schools, Penn State University, which has been teaching journalism for more than 80 years. By contrast, David, Ola, Dominique, Zsanett and James were part of the first cohort of students to graduate in sports journalism at UEL as the programme was only launched in 2009.

"There were some days when I'd look at USA Daily and see our students had twice as much copy in there as Penn State," Dr Newlands said. "It meant a great deal to me to think that our journalists could look these American students in the eyes knowing that they were matching, or even bettering, what they could do."

Business Coaching Sessions at Knowledge Dock are back again!

The Centre of Excellence for Women's Entrepreneurship (CEWE) and The Women's Business Centre (WBC) are offering ALL female UEL students past and present FREE one-to-one business coaching. If you're interested in starting, or currently run, your own business, don't miss this fantastic opportunity to get FREE support from qualified business coaches and advisors.

This is for you if you...

- have dreams of running your own successful business
- have a business idea and are ready to get started
- want to take an existing business to the next level
- urgently need an objective and clear perspective
- want support in making the right decisions for yourself
- are ready to make things happen!

Here's how it works...

A business coach will work with you to define precisely what you want from your business and what actions you will need to take to get there. They will help you to get clarity on what you want, set clear goals, plans and strategies, review the actions and progress against that plan and adapt as necessary to help you achieve your dream.

What you will get...

- more success in accomplishing your business goals
- clarity; knowing what to do and how to do it
- increased business knowledge and successful growth

- increased self-confidence and business confidence
- a sense of purpose and drive for your company
- better work-life balance.

What clients say...

"I feel my coach is so committed to seeing me succeed and is genuinely interested in my business and me. She encouraged me when I had doubts. She was there to make me feel safe when I thought I was taking risks, and she's so thrilled for me when I have successes." Previous client

Register now by sending an email to: ceweadvice@uel.ac.uk or by calling **Ashraf Islam** on **+44 (0)20 8257 4204**

This offer is for UEL students and alumni ONLY. Sessions are held at the Petchey Centre, Knowledge Dock, UEL and the Women's Business Centre, East Ham.

We look forward to helping you make your business a success!



Did you know you can base your business at UEL's Knowledge Dock Business Centre

Base your business at UEL's Knowledge Dock Business Centre (KDBC) – whether you need a hot-desk to use for a few hours per week or a dedicated space for your business, we can help.

Our location

Knowledge Dock Business Centre is located at the University of East London's Docklands Campus. We have great connections to public transport, with Cyprus DLR station adjacent to our campus and on-site car parking facilities. We are also close to City Airport, providing you with a gateway to internationalise your business.

We can offer you:

- fully furnished office space
- a reception service open from 8am–5.30pm
- meeting facilities for anything from two to one hundred and twenty delegates
- general office services, including deliveries and postage
- access to catering facilities with four outlets on UEL's campus
- access to UEL's facilities and academic expertise, including a 24/7 library
- subsidised membership of SportsDock, UEL's £21 million sports centre that hosted Team USA during the London 2012 Games
- a community of entrepreneurs, businesses and experts
- networking events, workshops and seminars to support you take the next step for your business.

Our space for businesses includes:

- hot-desking and shared offices: ideal if you are just starting out or looking to move into a business space for the first time
- business units for between one and ten people (9m² to 68m²) with 24/7 access: perfect for professional services, creative and digital businesses
- light industrial units: ideal for light manufacturing
- virtual membership: access our support services and use KDBC as your registered business address.

Prices start from £49 per month for virtual membership, with business units available from £300 per month. Our rates are inclusive of internet, utilities and cleaning

For more information:

Contact Jacqueline Chandler on j.m.chandler@uel.ac.uk or **+44 (0)20 8223 3388**

uel.ac.uk/knowledgedock

Recent Events



Indonesian alumni dinner, March 2013, Indonesia

In March UEL participated in the British Council's Education UK Exhibition in Jakarta, Indonesia. Several UEL alumni gave up their time to help out for an hour or two to provide an insight into UEL for prospective Indonesian students.

This was most helpful, as it added an extra dimension to our counselling and most students were happy to engage with the alumni as they have first-hand experience. After a hard day's work the UEL team took our alumni volunteers for dinner at the Ritz Carlton Hotel as a thank-you for their efforts. If you would like to get involved in helping at similar events, let us know!



Dinner with the School of Architecture, Computing and Engineering, April 2013, Malaysia

Whilst visiting Malaysia in April, Solomon Alexis and other members of staff from the School of Architecture, Computing and Engineering hosted a small dinner with a group of dedicated and engaged UEL alumni. This event gave staff the chance to update our alumni on what both the School and the University have been up to over the recent months. Keep an eye out for more small events like this popping up in your country!



The School of Architecture, Computing and Engineering Alumni Event, March 2013, Docklands

The event saw a fantastic turn-out for two great speakers! Over 100 alumni, current students and staff attended the School of Architecture, Computing and Engineering's alumni event, entitled *Architecture, computing and engineering are the thrust for the British economy. What are the skills needed to boost the sector for the next ten years?*

The audience was treated to two exciting speakers:

- Dr Ken Shuttleworth, founder of Make Architects and a former partner at Foster and Partners. Set up in 2004, Make is a creative and imaginative architectural studio whose recent projects include the London Olympics Handball Arena, the Gateway Building for Nottingham University, The Cube in Birmingham and an office refurbishment for HSBC Private Bank in Geneva.
- Paula Walsh, director of the world-renowned international multidisciplinary design and engineering consultancy Arup. Paula leads one of the building engineering groups in London and specialises in the design of offices, residential and mixed-use projects. Arup was founded in 1946 and first came to the world's attention with the structural design of the Sydney Opera House and, subsequently, the Pompidou Centre in Paris.

The pair combined their presentations and really engaged the audience with their thoughts and views on the topic at hand. A great night was had by all!



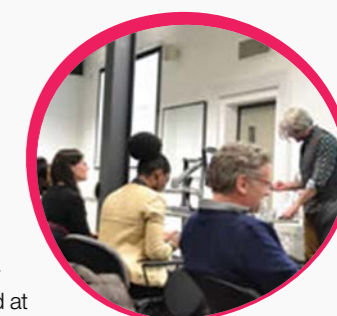
Meet the Employability and Enterprise Team, February 2013, Docklands Campus

In February the Alumni Development Office, in conjunction with UEL's Employability and Enterprise Team, held two informal meet-the-team sessions to help raise awareness amongst recent graduates of what they can achieve after they graduate. Graduates from the last two years were filled in on how the team can help them succeed in their chosen career path. Everyone in attendance found the sessions really useful, and many of the graduates were surprised to discover what UEL offer even after students have graduated.

UEL's Alumni Development Office presents: the 2012 Occupational, Organisational and Business Psychology Reunion, December 2012, Stratford Campus

In December 2012 around 30 attendees gathered together for this special event, which aroused much attention from alumni, students and staff alike. All this attention was partly due to the high-profile nature of our speaker, Professor Rob Briner, Professor of Organisational Psychology at the School of Management, University of Bath. He also previously worked at Birkbeck, University of London for 19 years.

The evening started with an introduction by Rachel Mulvey, Associate Dean of the School of Psychology at UEL. This was followed by Professor Briner giving an inspiring but pragmatic talk from his vast experience on organisational psychology.



Recent Events



2012 Alumni Network Christmas Party, December 2012, Canary Wharf

The Alumni Network Christmas party was a fantastic night, with a great turnout of approximately 100 attendees. The alumni and guests celebrated Christmas together at Smollensky's bar and restaurant in the heart of Canary Wharf.

The food was amazing, with a wide selection of platters, and the bar had a great buzz. The celebrations began at 6pm and continued through to just before 11pm. The atmosphere was great and the room was filled with laughter and enjoyment. Congratulations once more to all of our raffle winners and this year's quiz competition winner, Gaitree Cuppoor, who managed to score 10 out of 10 on her quiz.

For more information on upcoming events please visit our Facebook page, [facebook.com/ueralumni](https://www.facebook.com/ueralumni) or the events section on our website, uel.ac.uk/alumni/events

UEL PUZZLES

Play our fun puzzles – you even have the chance to win a prize!

COMPETITION

The answers to the ten questions below are all in the magazine: take the first letter of each answer and they will spell out a word! To win a £30 Amazon voucher just email this word, plus your name and contact details, to alumni@uel.ac.uk by 1st September 2013.

QUESTION 1

- What studies do you need to have completed at UEL to be eligible for a 15% discount on postgraduate fees?

QUESTION 2

- Where did up and coming fashion designer and University of East London graduate Francesca Air showcase nine of her designs?

QUESTION 3

- UEL anticipates it will start work on which new building at the Docklands Campus in early 2014?

QUESTION 4

- What is the name of the excess baggage and small box shipping company that is providing one of the Alumni Network's new benefits?

QUESTION 5

- What is missing from the following: Centre of _____ for Women's Entrepreneurship?

QUESTION 6

- Which School has launched the UEL Canary Wharf Programme?

QUESTION 7

- Where is the new UEL library?

QUESTION 8

- Which country did the UEL cricket team recently visit?

QUESTION 9

- What is the surname of UEL's Alumni Development Manager?

QUESTION 10

- What is the first name of the recent UEL graduate who completed this year's London Marathon?

COMPLETED WORD

For further information about all alumni matters and enquires please contact:

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