A new horizon

Celebrating female excellence in engineering

Healthy developments: Spotlight on research in the School of Health Sciences

MK Stav Shaffir on her role as youngest-ever member of the Israeli Parliament
I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new graduates who may be reading City Magazine for the first time. As a member of the Alumni Network, you have joined over 130,000 former students located in over 180 countries. The ages of our alumni range from 21 into the late 90s and all have personal memories of their time at City University London or its forerunner, the Northampton Institute.

Our students have gone on to have outstanding careers and experiences across the globe and developed formal and informal networks to keep in touch with the University, their friends and colleagues.

I arrived at City in January 2012 and was immediately impressed by the tradition and heritage of the University, with its historic links to the City of London, the vibrancy of our student base, our engagement with the local population and world-class student facilities. I have also been fascinated to learn about our areas of research expertise; you can read more about some of them on the pages that follow.

What has impressed me most is the passion our former students have for City. Many donate financially to support current students; others donate their time through, for example, our Professional Mentoring and Insight into Industry schemes. You can also read about these in this edition of City Magazine. Support of all forms really makes a difference to the lives of our current and future students, so thank you. We enclose with this magazine a booklet in which we have done our best to thank everyone who has helped us. If you would like to support City and our students, you can find out how to do so over the next few pages.

I hope you enjoy this publication and that it inspires you to attend one of the many events held at the University or around the world. If you haven’t been back to City for a while, you may wish to take this virtual tour of the main Northampton Square campus which showcases our multi-million pound, state-of-the-art facilities: www.city.ac.uk/cm-virtualtour.

We are very proud of all City has achieved and the direction in which it is travelling. There is an update on how we are delivering our 2016 Vision and Strategic Plan on Page 4 and a video at www.city.ac.uk/cm-strategicplanvideo.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Yat Tsang (Healthcare Technologies 2007) who completed our City Magazine Reader Survey in 2012 and won a £50 Amazon voucher in our prize draw. If you also took part in the survey, thank you for your time. You will see that your feedback has helped us tailor this edition of City Magazine, which now includes dedicated School pages and a round-up of alumni awards and publications.
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the University’s Estate Plan for 2012-2016, which sets out the ways in which the University will transform its estate to create stunning new spaces and facilities that meet the changing nature of education and research. Up to £130M of investment was agreed and detailed planning has begun to implement key projects. Once this work is complete, the University will have an estate that provides many more high-quality academic spaces and an environment that enhances the sense of community in and around City.

Some of the most significant estate projects will launch in the 2014/15 academic year, but 2013 is important as we begin refurbishments and reconfigurations of some of our existing spaces and develop new facilities. Here are some of the projects underway:

- The Tait Building Lower Ground Floor Project will reconfigure existing space for the School of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences
- The Lecture Spaces Project will create new education spaces in the lower levels of University Building
- The Cass Undergraduate Project will expand Cass facilities at Northampton Square to encompass the entire top floor of the Drysdale Building.

An update on our new infrastructure, City top for energy efficiency and the launch of a new pop-up university.

Our Vision for 2016

It is now just over a year since City launched its ambitious Strategic Plan 2012-2016, a plan which took 18 months to produce and aims to secure City’s position as a leading global university.

Central to the Plan is our commitment to more than double by 2016 the proportion of City staff producing research of world-leading or internationally-excellent quality. We are pleased to report that we have made significant progress along this path, recruiting more than 130 new research-excellent academics, taking the fraction of academics producing excellent or world-leading research at City from under a quarter in 2010/11 to about a third by the end of last year.

Higher education is undoubtedly a global player in the knowledge economy and with this in mind, City is developing an international strategy designed to give us the edge we need for worldwide success. We are using the links between our International Office and our Alumni network to strengthen our international partnerships and develop the mobility of our students during their time with us. Our new international strategy will be ready later this year.

Investing in our estate and information services, including our libraries, is a key part of our Strategic Plan. City has library space equivalent to the size of four Olympic swimming pools and is investing over £1.5M a year in new infrastructure from now until 2016.

Much of City’s estate was built in the 1960s and some of our buildings are showing their age. In 2012, our Council approved the University’s Estate Plan for 2012-2016, which sets out the ways in which the University will transform its estate to create stunning new spaces and facilities that meet the changing nature of education and research. Up to £130M of investment was agreed and detailed planning has begun to implement key projects. Once this work is complete, the University will have an estate that provides many more high-quality academic spaces and an environment that enhances the sense of community in and around City.

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The Environment Agency ranks City as the greenest university in the UK

The Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) Energy Efficiency Scheme has named City as the most energy-efficient university in the UK. The latest performance league table, published by the Environment Agency, ranked City in 64th place out of more than 2,000 organisations.

The Energy Efficiency Scheme requires private and public sector organisations that use more than 6,000 megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity a year to measure and report their carbon emissions; the league table is based on how well organisations have managed their energy use.

Impressively, City has moved up the rankings by more than 90 places since 2012. This result reflects our commitment as a university to do everything we can to minimise the environmental impact of our buildings and activities.
City Unrulyversity goes live

City Unrulyversity, an exciting new collaboration between City University London and Unruly Media, was officially launched in the heart of Tech City, the technology centre in east London, in February.

High-profile speakers opened the free pop-up university with a series of speeches aimed at exploding the myths surrounding UK tech entrepreneurship. The speeches were followed by a short taster session delivered by Dr Caroline Wiertz (Reader in Marketing at Cass Business School) and Twitter’s UK Sales Director, Bruce Daisley.

City Unrulyversity combines academic rigour and a commitment to pushing the boundaries of knowledge with practical relevance from the world of business.

Individuals who attend five City Unrulyversity sessions have the opportunity to apply to Cass Business School’s entrepreneurship fund, a £10M venture capital fund providing growth equity to start-up and early-stage companies.

Alumnus Sir Brendan Barber among new members of the University’s Governing Body

City has made three new appointments to its Council: Sir Brendan Barber, Iain Gray and Andy Friend.

A former President of the Students’ Union, Sir Brendan graduated with a BSc in Social Sciences in 1974. Speaking about his position on the Council, Sir Brendan said: “As an alumnus of City, I have first-hand knowledge of the University and am delighted to continue my association. City has a proud heritage dating back to 1894 and Andy, Iain and I are keen to help the University secure a confident future.”

• Sir Brendan Barber began a 37-year relationship with the Trades Union Congress (TUC) in 1975. Initially working as a policy officer, he took on a variety of roles before being appointed Deputy General Secretary in 1993 and then General Secretary in June 2003, a role he held until he retired in 2012.

• Iain Gray is the Chief Executive of the Technology Strategy Board (TSB), a position he has held since the Board was established in 2007. Building on his past experience as a leader of major technology-driven manufacturing businesses (including Airbus UK), he has shaped the TSB into a body with an annual budget of around £400M.

• Andy Friend’s career spans nearly 40 years and includes wide-ranging positions in the voluntary, public and private sectors. He has worked in both the UK and Australia managing complex capital projects in multi-stakeholder environments. During his time in Australia, he was Chief Executive of the City of Melbourne.
Dean’s welcome: Professor Andrew Jones

“It has been a busy and eventful academic year in the School of Arts & Social Sciences, with the arrival of many new staff as part of the Strategic Plan investment. We have also had notable research funding success for our staff in Psychology, Sociology and Creative Practice & Enterprise.

We are tremendously proud of our alumni community and very grateful for the support we receive, both in terms of generous donations and in providing important connections to the world of work. I am keen to forge closer links with alumni, particularly as the School works on enhancing its activities to help students find employment in what is clearly a very challenging jobs market.”

Professor Jones became Dean of the newly merged School of Arts & Social Sciences in September 2012, joining us from Birkbeck, University of London where he was Head of the Department of Geography, Environment and Development Studies.

A new model of social class

The BBC published the results from the Great British Class Survey in April. They revealed a new model of social class, with seven categories ranging from ‘Elite’ at the top to ‘Precariat’ at the bottom. A total of 161,458 people from around the UK completed the survey, which was launched in early 2011 on the BBC website.

The analysis of the survey’s results, which has also been published in the Sociology Journal, was carried out by a team of academics from around Europe, including Dr Sam Friedman from City’s Department of Sociology.

Using the findings from the survey, the team has devised a new way of measuring class, one that is defined not just by the job someone does, or the educational qualifications they hold, but by the different kinds of economic, cultural and social resources or ‘capitals’ that people possess.

Dr Friedman said: “It is extremely rare for surveys of this kind to elicit so many responses and the sheer volume of data has enabled the team to have a unique insight into the social make-up of British society. The class categories are only one of many outputs that come from this study. We are still analysing the huge amount of data at our disposal.”

Food policy in the news

The Centre for Food Policy has been extremely busy since moving from the School of Health Sciences to the School of Arts & Social Sciences last September. Highlights include the Centre’s annual Food Symposium, which explored local food policies; Dr David Barling’s and Professor Tim Lang’s contribution to a major United Nations Environment Programme report Avoiding Future Famines.

The Centre’s academics have also been providing media commentary on the various food contamination stories such as the horsemeat scandal earlier in 2013, with Professor Lang a regular guest on BBC radio and TV and commentator in several broadsheet newspapers.

A war of words: Iraq ten years on

The BBC World Service has just published an interactive guide exploring how the language used by the US in Iraq has evolved over the last decade. The guide uses the insights and expertise of Dr Zahera Harb from City’s Department of Journalism, who has analysed over 100 US government statements on Iraq.

Iraq 2003-2013: The US rhetoric of war identifies key terms and phrases that have shaped the way the conflict was reported by the Arab media. The research, published by the BBC World Service, shows that what was a ‘brutal regime’ in 2003 became a ‘sovereign government’ by 2004 and a US ‘partner’ by 2011, with these words being embedded in an underlying rhetoric of terms such as ‘terror’, ‘freedom’ and ‘democracy’.

As the project lead, BBC World Service’s Inma Gil explains the conflict in Iraq is “probably the most documented in history”.

Dr Zahera Harb
Talking with: Spencer Ball
Journalism and Social Sciences 1994

Spencer Ball studied Journalism at City in the early ‘90s. He came back for a brief period of work experience a couple of years later and 17 years on, he’s still with us.

We talk to the current Head of Marketing for the School of Arts & Social Sciences about what brought him here as a student, how things have moved on in his time at City and his hopes for the School’s future.

**What brought you to City?**
I knew I wanted to study Journalism. It’s hard to imagine now, but back in 1991 very few universities offered journalism degrees – City was one of them.

**What was your dream job while studying at City?**
I wanted to be a sports journalist but I had naïve expectations of what journalism involved. I loved to write, but I don’t think I had the tenacity to be a hack. It took me about ten years to end up back in a related job, marketing.

**How and why did you come to work at City?**
Total serendipity. I sent my old tutor, Wynford Hicks, a Christmas card in 1995, a year after graduating. He called me a few days later to thank me and let me know there was a few weeks’ work available in the Department of Journalism to cover someone’s sick leave. That person never returned.

**What’s been your career path?**
I’ve had various roles in the Department of Journalism, including Undergraduate Admissions Officer, Postgraduate Courses Officer and Executive Officer. I’ve been in my current role as Head of Marketing for the School of Arts & Social Sciences since 2010. My job is to help ensure we meet our student recruitment targets, in terms of both number and quality of applicants. Day to day that means getting involved in everything from content planning and commissioning, to creating advertising plans and covering social media.

**What’s challenging about the job?**
The higher education sector is evolving at a tremendous pace. Increased tuition fees and competition aren't necessarily matched by increased resources, so we need to be intelligent and agile. City is also undergoing something of a transformation – we are growing into an institution that is both committed to academic excellence and focused on business and the professions. That transformation poses a challenge as we seek to promote our distinctive identity in a very crowded marketplace.

Some challenges are, of course, very welcome. For example, there are so many new ways to communicate with prospective students, from message boards to social media and I’m really enjoying navigating my way through this relatively new landscape.

**What changes have you seen during your time at City?**
It would be easier to talk about what hasn’t changed, as even the bricks and mortar have undergone some serious alterations. I was here during the time of the fire in 2001 and remember seeing College Building in flames on the ITV News at Ten.

The biggest change has to be technological – the internet and email were in their infancy when I started. There was only one PC with access to email in the whole Department of Journalism and you could count marketing people at City on one hand. Now it’s a huge operation, with very specialist teams undertaking complex work.

Other than that, the pub on the corner of course, which has gone from the New Red Lion to The Bull to the Queen B to The Blacksmith and The Toffeemaker!

**Where do you hope to see the School of Arts & Social Sciences in the future?**
Leading in those areas where it should be leading; producing great research and holding debates that excite people and add to the public conversation; recruiting the most able students who want to make a difference; making the news and making waves in the UK and internationally. In other words, building on where we are now to prepare for challenging – and exciting – times ahead.
The School of Health Sciences has a long history of providing high-quality education for health practitioners and in recent years, the School has cemented its reputation as a globally-recognised research hub by acquiring some of the best healthcare academics in the country.

Professor Susan Ayers joined City in 2012 as Professor of Maternal and Child Health in our Centre for Maternal and Child Health Research. She is one of only two UK academics whose expertise centres on anxiety and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) following pregnancy and birth.

Not a term typically associated with childbirth, PTSD is more commonly referred to in relation to trauma experienced following a life-threatening event: being a soldier in combat, witnessing a terrorist incident, or involvement in a serious accident, for instance.

However, in the course of her work at St George’s Hospital Medical School, Professor Ayers discovered that 2.8 per cent of women at a London hospital had PTSD at six weeks after giving birth and 1.5 per cent at six months after.

According to Professor Ayers, anxiety during pregnancy is an often overlooked issue.

“It is unclear how many women suffer from problems such as anxiety, phobias and fear of childbirth during pregnancy. Distinguishing between ‘normal’ pregnancy-related mood changes and anxiety problems isn’t always easy.

“However we know that anxiety in pregnancy can have serious cumulative effects, particularly on foetuses, leading in some cases to pre-term labour, low birth weight and development difficulties. A woman’s mental health in pregnancy and after birth is critically important because it not only affects her but also her child and the formation of the mother-baby relationship.”

Professor Ayers’ work over the last 15 years has shown that at least 12,000 women develop PTSD every year in the UK as a result of difficult experiences during birth, with significant negative effects on the women themselves and their families.

Until now, studies have been grossly under-funded but interest among women, academics and clinicians is high and there is a clear demand for further high-quality research and the establishment of effective clinical guidelines. With this in mind, Professor Ayers is working with City’s Development & Alumni Relations Office to secure funding to revive and establish at City an international research network she founded at the University of Sussex. The network aims to give participants – academics, clinicians and voluntary organisations – the opportunity to work together to produce a consistent, unified research agenda to tackle this issue.

Ultimately, in any area of health research, the driving force behind the work is to enhance clinical understanding and improve patient treatment and care.

Professor Victoria Joffe, from City’s Department of Language and Communication Sciences, is another health academic at the University working to enhance policy and practice in her field. She has spent the last six years exploring the relationship between language and communication ability in school-age children; and low social, emotional and behavioural functioning. She is about to embark on a training programme with children in London to help struggling youngsters overcome an important barrier in their development.
As she explains, “Speech, language and communication difficulties are unfortunately common among children.

“From the research we have undertaken, we found that half of children and young people in some socio-economically disadvantaged populations in England have speech and language skills difficulties. Approximately seven per cent of five year olds in England suffer from significant speech and language difficulties and around one per cent have severe and complex communication needs.

“We also know that difficulties in communicating can have serious repercussions on children’s emotional and social well-being. Children with these issues are at increased risk of a broad spectrum of problems, including isolation and bullying, poor educational achievement, behavioural, emotional and social difficulties and criminal behaviour.”

The key to tackling the issue, says Professor Joffe, is two-fold: “We first need to help ‘at-risk’ children develop better communication skills, so they can change their perceived direction and then provide them with the opportunities needed to turn their lives around.”

The new Changing Behaviours programme, based on Professor Joffe’s research, aims to meet this challenge. Through the initiative, Professor Joffe and her team have developed a new teaching model for trained Teaching Assistants (TAs) who will work with secondary school-age young people with speech, language and communication difficulties.

“We are combining training in language and communication, behaviour and social skills into a unique package of support and delivering that training using mentors and TAs who are known and trusted by the young people involved.”

Initially targeted at London schools with high social deprivation, the programme includes a focus on capacity building and dissemination of the training, so that the TAs can pass on what they have learnt to their colleagues and the schools can integrate the new teaching model long-term. As well as being disseminated to participating schools, the training manuals will be shared nationally through inset training and globally via conferences and publications.

Help us to continue researching the issues that matter

Philanthropic support for City University London in 2011/12 amounted to £3.6M and as the University further refines its fundraising priorities, even greater levels of funding from philanthropic sources are anticipated.

The Development and Alumni Relations Office (DARO) is currently seeking funds to support a wide range of initiatives and has been working closely with the School of Health Sciences to support research that has a direct impact on the provision of healthcare services today and in the future, research that informs and improves learning, practice and policy.

If you would like to support research in healthcare at City, please contact the Development Office at developmentoffice@city.ac.uk or call +44 (0) 207 040 8008 for more information.
Dean’s welcome: Professor Stanton Newman

“In the last year the School of Health Sciences has been witness to many changes. We have welcomed some excellent new academics, unveiled world-class facilities and continued striving toward our ambition of becoming the best applied healthcare school in the country, in both research and education. The clinical and theoretical knowledge of our new graduates will be tested to the limit as they make their impact on the healthcare sector.”

Professor Newman has been Dean of the School of Health Sciences since 2010. His research examines the psychological and social issues surrounding physical illness and its treatment and considers the management of chronic disease, the role of self-management and the introduction of technologies.

X-raying the past

Mr Paul Bland, Director of City’s Postgraduate Diagnostic Radiography programme, has contributed to a major new monograph published by the Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA), which examines the pathological changes in the health of Londoners from the Roman occupation to the industrial revolution.

The Museum of London had access to the remains of over 17,000 individuals and the book sheds light on the changing lives of Londoners over the last 2,000 years. MOLA approached the Radiography team at City to harness their expertise and state-of-the-art facilities, which are unmatched in the country.

As Mr Bland notes “MOLA has retrieved an unrivalled collection of human remains through archaeological digs around London. Gaining access to material like this has been a tremendous opportunity. I have been in practice for many years but have never seen evidence of the diseases that these people suffered from, such as syphilis, scurvy and rickets.”

New bursaries

The National Institute of Health Research selected City’s School of Health Sciences as one of ten leading institutions in the UK to receive fully-funded Masters of Clinical Research (MRes) places in September 2012. City has been awarded 12 full-time bursaries a year for the next three years.

In 2007 the UK Clinical Research Collaboration Sub-committee for Nurses published a report supporting the development of research skills and academic careers among experienced graduate nurses, midwives and allied health professionals.

The bursaries give healthcare professionals the opportunity to train in research and applied data analysis and apply this research knowledge to clinical settings.

www.city.ac.uk/cm-clinicalresearch

Screening study of equipment and its impact on eye care

The Fight for Sight Optometry Clinic at City is conducting research to investigate the value of visual assessment using state-of-the-art technology. These instruments can sometimes detect signs of disease, including glaucoma, at the earliest stages.

In December 2012, the Alumni Office invited former students aged over 60, who attend their opticians periodically for eye examinations, to take part in the project.

Each participant undergoes an assessment using advanced equipment, followed by a standard eye examination by a research optometrist.

One of the study participants, Barry Crow (Electrical Engineering 1975), said: “I was very impressed by the friendly professional attitude of the academic and her colleagues, their clear instruction, patience and the detail of reporting after the testing. Over the years, I’ve had numerous eye tests and examinations but nothing that compares to this study. I would recommend anyone over the age of 60 who has the time to take part in this vital research project.”

The study will continue until the end of 2013. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Priya Dabasia at priya.dabasia.3@city.ac.uk or call +44 (0) 20 7040 8338 or +44 (0) 20 7040 8939.
Dean’s welcome: Professor Roger Crouch

“Within the brief time I have been at City, I have been fortunate enough to meet many alumni who continue to be closely connected to the University.

“City has a proud record of graduate employability and skilled Engineering, Mathematics and Informatics graduates are in great demand. Our proximity to major infrastructure projects, the growing number of innovative, inspiring, tall buildings and Tech City, London’s influential burgeoning hub of digital industries, all contribute to making City an exciting place to be within this thriving capital.

My appointment as Dean will enable me to help focus and strengthen research at City, as well as assist in shaping our courses, so that our alumni continue to be recognised as amongst the very best in Europe.”

Professor Crouch joined City in April 2013 from the University of Durham where he was Head of the School of Engineering and Computing Sciences. His research considers the structural analysis and thermomechanics of nuclear reactors.

Data visualisation video featured in New Scientist

Describing visual analytics as valuable to anybody who wants to make pictures from complex data sets, Professor Jo Wood leads modules on data visualisation for students in the School of Informatics and across the University.

His recent research project with Transport for London considered the behaviour of users of the Barclays Cycle Hire scheme and turned data from some 18,000,000 journeys into a fascinating snapshot of travel patterns in the capital. The resulting computer animation is both a feat of number crunching and a beautiful and fluid work of art. More important than aesthetics, however, is the potential to use this deeper understanding to inform the placement of new bicycle docking stations and help match supply and demand across the network.

The research was featured widely by the media, including the influential New Scientist. The story, entitled ‘Iron-like map of bike journeys reveals London’s hubs’, also emphasised the important work being undertaken by City’s Transport Collaborative Hub.

You can view the animation in full at www.city.ac.uk/bikeflow.

Need to review your website? Have an idea or prototype you want to test?

The City Interaction Lab, the consultancy arm of the Centre for Human Computer Interactive Design (HCID), is here to help.

Established in October 2006, the Lab is one of London’s largest human computer interaction research groups and offers access to the latest technologies for usability testing for websites and multimedia devices, including mobile phones. Facilities include eye tracking, creativity pods, Microsoft Surface and brain interaction.

Made up of usability consultants, user experience designers, accessibility researchers and requirements analysts, the team has extensive experience of working with a range of clients – from large corporations to small and medium-sized businesses – across various sectors of the industry, including Vodafone and The Royal Opera House. Their broad skillset means they can offer a service tailor-made to an organisation’s particular goals.

For more information, please visit www.city.ac.uk/interactionlab.

New MSc Advanced Computer Science to launch in September 2013

City is launching a new MSc for those with undergraduate degrees in Computer Science or a related subject. The course is designed to produce computer science professionals who can deliver solutions to contemporary problems in the field.

On graduation, students will have in-depth knowledge in core areas of the discipline and importantly, first-hand research experience in a chosen area of specialisation.

The Readings in Computer Science module provides regular exposure to current topics and fosters and challenges students’ analysis and presentation skills. Association with research groups and mentoring by experienced researchers will strengthen students’ expertise in research and development, with the course also preparing students wishing to read for a PhD.

City graduates enrolling onto a School of Informatics Masters course starting in autumn 2013 are automatically entitled to a bursary. The deadline for applications is 30th August 2013 and successful applicants will automatically be entered into the scheme.

More information is available at www.city.ac.uk/cm-computerscience.
Fifty years of dedicated service

Professor Ian K Smith, from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, has spent half a century educating students and conducting world-leading research at City. This remarkable achievement was marked last October when Professor Smith delivered a lecture entitled ‘Power to the People’ to an audience of colleagues, former students, friends and family members.

Professor Smith’s distinguished tenure at City has been characterised by his outstanding contribution to education, research and the vital work of cementing ties between academia and industry. He established the Centre for Positive Displacement Compressor Technology in 1995, a world-leading centre of expertise which has been at the forefront of compressor and expander technology ever since.

During the celebratory lecture, Professor Smith examined the revolutionary role played by electricity in raising the standard of living of humanity, a role he believes far surpasses any social or political revolution. He also talked about his work in increasing electricity generation by recovering power from lower temperature heat sources.

Professor Smith has published over 180 refereed papers, co-authored two monographs and filed eight patent applications. He is the holder or joint holder of ten professional awards or prizes including the 1981 Institute of Marine Engineers Silver Medal and the highly prestigious 2005 IMechE James Clayton Prize.

Read about Professor Smith’s recent IMechE award on Page 20.

New MSc in Decision Sciences

A new Masters in Decision Sciences, launched this September, will provide students with a broad-based introduction to decision-making in management.

“Decision Sciences is a general term for the science of making correct choices, covering techniques including operational research, game theory and computational modelling,” explains Programme Director Professor Mark Broom. “The decision-making process is absolutely central to modern management and the importance of understanding these methodologies grows as the decisions become more complex.

“While there are many MSc courses covering some aspects of these methods, often in great detail, ones that cover a broad range are rare. With this MSc, we want to equip students with the insight and ability to adapt to an ever-developing field, rather than an in-depth knowledge of specific methods and packages.”

The MSc should leave students well-placed to work in areas requiring significant quantitative and computational expertise such as credit risk, project management, information systems and supply chain and operations management and is relevant for positions that require a general understanding of risk management and organisational behaviour.

Find out more about the course at www.city.ac.uk/cm-decisionsciences.

City recommended for visually impaired students

Despite suffering from glaucoma, which severely restricted the vision in his right eye, Aaron De-Allie joined over 1,800 students graduating from City in January. Aaron completed a BSc in Mathematical Science and “highly recommends City to prospective visually-impaired students”:

“City arranged for me to have a note taker to help with lectures and gave me tremendous library support in finding books, ordering additional lighting and helping me to scan and photocopy study materials.”

He was joined by his proud mother, brother and sister at the graduation ceremony and recalled some of the difficulties he faced as a new student:

“Shortly before starting my degree at City, I underwent surgery to reduce the pressure in my right eye. Unfortunately, a cataract appeared and threatened my ability to read anything clearly and easily. Initially, I questioned if I should remain on the course or try to switch to a different one. I definitely had to manage my fears about the further deterioration of my vision.”

Aaron’s disability, however, didn’t prevent him from having a balanced life at City. He combined his love of playing classical and jazz piano with being a Student Ambassador in his final year.

Aaron, who obtained an upper second class degree, had a desire to study at City because of its links to the world of business. He hopes to pursue a career in investment management.

Aaron De-Allie
With women filling just nine per cent of engineering roles in the UK, the profession has a long way to go to reach gender equality. But with more girls now studying engineering subjects and female professionals acting as role models, City is working to inspire a new generation of women to make their mark in the field.

City’s history of encouraging women to pursue engineering careers dates back almost 80 years to when, in 1934, Marjorie Bell became the first female student on the Northampton Institute’s Electronic Engineering course. At the time, the Engineering Society did not accept women and she wasn’t allowed even to enter the common room. Despite this, Marjorie went on to become a successful engineer with the factory inspectorate and was later awarded a medal for her services during the Second World War.

We have continued to celebrate the achievements of women undertaking engineering degrees at the University ever since and actively encourage girls to consider studying Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

As Danielle Russo from City’s Widening Participation Team (WP) explains, “Our aim is that every girl at school in London and beyond knows the options an engineering degree can open for them. We run an Engineering Summer School for 15 year olds and an Engineering Masterclass for sixth-formers. Both are designed to encourage young men and women to come to City and study engineering subjects.”

Attracting female students is just one factor in addressing the gender balance. Another is to ensure female students are encouraged and supported to seek the best jobs. “Having positive role models for female students wanting to break into the professional echelons of engineering is an important factor. Alongside the careers fairs and panel events we hold throughout the academic year, we’ve established a Professional Mentoring Scheme, where students are matched with engineering professionals who can offer them advice on securing roles with leading firms.”

An inspiring role model

Jaz Rabadia graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering from City in 2006. She became the youngest chartered energy manager in the UK shortly afterwards, when she was appointed Energy Manager (Group Services) at J Sainsbury. She recently joined Debenhams as their only energy manager.

Jaz was shortlisted for the Young Achiever Award at the Asian Women of Achievement Awards in 2012 and is now a STEMNET (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Network) Ambassador, acting as an inspiring role model for other young women wanting to break into the field.

Jaz says her time at City prepared her well for building a successful career in engineering: “Writing compelling business cases, financial appraisals, data analyses and reports, working in teams and becoming a future leader of the business are all skills I learnt at City and am putting into practice now.”

Sharing expertise

In March 2013, we were delighted to welcome Roma Agrawal to City for her inspirational lecture on ‘Engineering the Shard’. Since studying Structural Engineering, Roma has progressed to Associate Structural Engineer at WSP Group and has been involved in several iconic building projects, including the Shard.

Roma was awarded Young Structural Engineer of the Year 2011 and was a finalist for the ‘Young Woman Engineer of the Year’ Award, as well as being featured on Channel 4’s documentary, The Tallest Tower, in 2012.

Over 60 students and alumni attended her talk, which concentrated on the structural aspects of the Shard: its design, construction and unusual features. We hope this will be the first of many lectures at City by successful female engineers, helping to inspire a future generation to follow in their footsteps.

If your company would like to help us support female students to progress in engineering, please contact us by email at developmentoffice@city.ac.uk or call +44(0)20 7040 5550.

If you are an Engineering graduate interested in sharing your expertise with a current student through City’s Professional Mentoring Scheme, please contact the WP team at wpteam@city.ac.uk or call +44 (0)20 7040 4242.
Dean’s welcome: Professor Carl Stychin

“This year has seen much success for The City Law School, including several mooting victories culminating in our student team winning the Commonwealth Mooting Competition in South Africa. There were many successes for our staff as well, including the Teaching with Technology Award from the Association of Law Teachers.

“One of my priorities for the year ahead is to forge even stronger relationships with our alumni. Our students value the opportunity to learn about your experiences in the ‘real world’ and to get advice on their own careers. I hope to meet as many of you as possible at City events over the coming year.”

Professor Stychin was appointed Dean of The City Law School in December 2012. Originally from North America, he joined us from the University of Reading, where he served as Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Enterprise).

City students win top honours at The Times Law Awards

Two students taking the Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) have won the top prizes at The Times Law Awards 2013. Andrew Lomas and Lara Hassell were awarded first and second place respectively, beating hundreds of other entrants from leading law schools across the country, who submitted essays on the topic of ‘Privacy and Regulation of the Press’.

This is the seventh time in the past ten years that students from City have won these exclusive accolades.

Extensive refurbishment of The City Law School unveiled

Opened by Vice-Chancellor, Professor Paul Curran and Dean, Professor Carl Stychin in April, the refurbished building in the Innovation Centre in Whiskin Street provides a state-of-the-art, central venue for students studying law at City.

The School’s move allows easy access to the adjacent Social Sciences Building and includes a common room, events space and redeveloped law library, complete with a well-equipped IT laboratory and an ‘academic corner’ with publications from staff.

Grant awarded to business advice clinic

A legal advice clinic based at City has been recognised by the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) for its ground-breaking approach.

City Enterprise Services was selected as one of the UK’s ten most innovative university projects by The Fast Forward Competition, an initiative designed to encourage universities to collaborate on inventive approaches to enterprise. The winning projects create new products and services for businesses and the wider economy.

City Enterprise Services offers accessible legal and commercial advice to small businesses and start-ups. It is staffed by City law students, who are supervised by local professionals including barristers, solicitors and accountants. The IPO grant will be used to expand the clinic’s connections with the Tech City community and develop some new legal advice materials aimed at the start-up sector.

City Enterprise Services, which was set up in 2011 by Dr David Collins, Reader in Law and Eric Klotz (CPE/Diploma in Law 2008) has already helped more than 300 start-ups and small businesses in London. The project gives City students the opportunity to gain a practical understanding of relevant law including commercial contracts, intellectual property and business planning.

“Programmes such as City Enterprise Services (soon to be re-branded as Start-Ed) provide an exciting platform to develop legal skills of future lawyers and business leaders at City,” says Eric Klotz.

The Law Library would like to include books written by alumni. If you can recommend or donate a text, or would like to visit the new space, please contact us at e.allbon@city.ac.uk or call +44 (0) 20 7040 4020.
Dean’s welcome: Professor Steve Haberman

“We’re delighted to be welcoming up to 40 new academics to Cass this year, in fields as diverse as corporate social responsibility and international finance. We are moving our Executive Education and Executive MBA activities into a new building and transforming our undergraduate space, so there’s plenty of change and development to look forward to.”

Professor Haberman was appointed Dean Elect of Cass Business School in October 2012 and succeeded Richard Gillingwater in January 2013.

Alumni World Forum 2013

Following the successful inaugural Alumni World Forum (AWF) in 2010, Cass hosted its second Forum in May. The flagship one-day event in London featured high profile business leaders sharing their expertise and masterclasses from Cass academics.

Attendees saw Professor Liu Mingkang, former Chairman, China Banking Regulatory Commission, launch the day’s events with a keynote speech. Other speakers represented firms including Citigroup, BNY Mellon and Goldman Sachs.

The panel discussions were streamed live and watched by alumni around the world, with satellite events held in 30 different countries.

New London Executive Centre

In September, Cass will begin providing its Executive Education and Executive MBA courses from a new location in London’s financial heartland. Located on the second floor of 200 Aldersgate Street, it is a ten-minute walk from the main Cass building on Bunhill Row.

Launch of joint Masters degree with Singapore Management University

Cass has launched a new joint MSc in Quantitative Finance with Singapore Management University (SMU). The one-year degree, which will start in September, will give SMU students the chance to study at Cass in their second term.

Cass is delighted to be working with one of Asia’s most respected universities to offer the School’s first joint Masters degree.

Political impact

In July 2012, Professors Ajay Bhalla, and Joseph Lampel from the Faculty of Management, presented a joint study to Nick Clegg on UK Employee-Owned Businesses (EOB). The Cass study was presented alongside the Nuttall Review, a report examining how to promote employee ownership in the private sector and spread benefits to the wider economy.

Mr Clegg urged more employees and managers to consider John Lewis-style employee-owned businesses as he endorsed recommendations in the Nuttall Review, which were reinforced by the Cass study.

Professors Lampel and Bhalla commented:

“Our study shows that EOBs pay greater attention to building a culture where employees’ skills are continuously upgraded and customers are given greater attention, both in good times and when times are tough.”

Towards the end of last year, Professor Leslie Mayhew from the Faculty of Actuarial Science and Insurance, was also invited to give evidence to the Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change at the House of Lords. The meeting was held to determine how to make health and social care systems better at preventing problems; and how to reduce crisis interventions to help manage the UK’s ageing society.

Professor Mayhew has published reports highlighting some of the issues that will affect the UK’s ageing population. He argued that prevention is a key weapon in the armoury for meeting the challenges of an ageing society and that services need to become more synchronised.

“An ageing population provides society with several challenges - the status quo is not an option. There is much that can be done to encourage healthier behaviour and personal independence but once a person becomes frail and dependent the system must respond effectively and efficiently.”
Each year in City Magazine, we feature City alumni forging successful paths in their chosen fields. Here we glimpse into the lives of another five rising stars.
Convinced that we can achieve our goal by focusing on quality and innovation.”

Outside CapMark Clarity, Amit has a passion for music and dance. In 2006, he choreographed City’s entry into Face-Off, the largest inter-university dance competition in the UK. He was also part of a team organising and promoting shows for Flex-FX, Europe’s leading Bollywood dance and production company and has been a regular presenter on local radio.

@smithamundasad

Sophie was named Route Publishing’s Next Great Novelist in 2011 and received critical acclaim following the publication of her debut novel *Rites* in June 2012. *Rites* tells the story of a group of four teenagers who make a virginity pact away from the watchful eyes of parents and priest. Ten years later, they look back on the events and reveal how it all went horribly wrong.

Sophie also had short fiction published in the *New Writer* and the *Momaya Annual Review*. Commenting on her time at City, she said: “For me, learning from feedback was an essential part of finding my voice as a writer. Doing an evening course at City gave me great exposure to constructive feedback on my work, both from my course tutor and from the friends I made there. I stopped feeling as if I was writing into a void.”

Sophie is now working on a PhD in eighteenth-century literature at the University of York, but is on a three-month Art Council-funded leave of absence while she writes her second novel. She is also writing a play, *Michaelmas*, a political drama set at a university reunion dinner.

@SMCoulombeau

For more information about short courses at City, see Page 35.

Matthew, a Visiting Lecturer in the School of Health Sciences, is the *Nursing Standard’s* Nurse of the Year 2013.

Matthew has presented at local, national and European conferences on respiratory disease and was instrumental in establishing the Breathing Space Clinic at St Joseph’s Hospice, Hackney. The clinic aims to help patients who have advanced chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) plan for the future and manage their long term symptoms.

COPD kills around 25,000 people a year in the UK and an estimated three million people are living with the disease in England. However, despite the prevalence of the disease there is very little support in place. It was with this in mind that Matthew established the Breathing Space in 2011. Matthew currently lectures on the COPD & Asthma CPD Module. He is also undertaking his professional doctorate in Nursing and developing a patient-reported experience questionnaire in COPD.

www.city.ac.uk/linkedin-hodson

In 2010 Michael co-founded the London Irish Graduate Network (LIGN) with three fellow Cass alumni. The network was established to help ambitious, talented and business-focused graduates build a network in London.

Under Michael’s presidency, LIGN held six events, including ‘An Evening with Peter Sutherland’ (Chairman, Goldman Sachs International). Michael helped grow LIGN’s membership to over 700, built official relationships with the Embassy of Ireland in Great Britain and the Irish International Business Network and secured funding from the Irish Government.

Since 2011 Michael has been mentored by one of Ireland’s leading businessmen and entrepreneurs, Leslie Buckley. Michael’s mentorship began from an initial meeting with Mr Buckley, who has since invited him to sit on the board of SaonGroup, one of the world’s fastest growing online recruitment companies.

Currently working in the Insurance Industry Group of Moore Stephens LLP, one of the world’s major accounting and consulting associations, Michael is also studying for the ACA qualification with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

www.city.ac.uk/linkedin-feeney
The Olive Tree Programme is a unique initiative for young people from Palestine and Israel whose lives have been framed by conflict and whose talents and leadership potential single them out as candidates for an exacting three years of study and debate in London. The Programme offers the participants scholarships to study at City and a challenging programme of extra-curricular activities which help them engage in cross-cultural dialogue.

If you are interested in supporting the Olive Tree Programme, please contact us at developmentoffice@city.ac.uk or call +44 (0) 20 7040 5550.
“People tend to look at young people who are determined to make a change with suspicion, but you simply have to move forward.”
Here we showcase City graduates and staff who have been recognised this year for their contributions to industry and academia.

Health Management graduate recognised in New Year Honours list 2013

Nancy Hallett (Health Management 1999), former Chief Executive of Homerton University Hospital NHS Trust in Hackney, was made Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to healthcare. Nancy is credited with overseeing the London trust achieving top ratings while delivering integrated healthcare for a locally deprived population.

Civil Engineering alumnus knighted

Sir Dick Olver (Civil Engineering 1970), chairman of BAE Systems, was knighted in the 2013 Birthday Honours for services to business. In a speech at City’s Annual Chancellor’s Dinner in April, Sir Dick outlined his belief that the UK’s ability to deliver STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) skills is critical to the UK’s commercial success.

Multiple Emmy success for journalism alumni

Ramita Navai (Broadcast Journalism 2003) and Nicole Young (International Journalism 2003) were recognised in the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences’ News and Documentary Emmy Awards in October 2012. Ramita won for her work on the Public Broadcasting Service Network’s Syria Undercover, while Nicole received three awards for her work on documentaries broadcast on CBS’ pioneering show, 60 Minutes.

Journalism graduate wins inaugural Sunday Times scholarship

George Arbuthnott (Investigative Journalism 2010) has been named winner of The Sunday Times’ inaugural Marie Colvin scholarship. George said: “I am indebted to the superb journalistic grounding I received on the MA Investigative Journalism at City. Without that, I would never have had a shot at such a fantastic opportunity.”

Alumna receives prize at British Journalism awards

Emma Slater (Investigative Journalism 2009) was named as the New Journalist of the Year at the British Journalism Awards in January 2013 for her investigation Return of the Supergrass, broadcast by BBC’s Panorama. Emma began the investigation at City after discovering that 175 ‘supergrass’ deals were signed between January 2006 and April 2012. In 156 of these cases, offenders received considerably reduced sentences despite, in some examples, their evidence not being believed or being discredited in court.

Music Professor awarded National Teaching Fellowship

Professor Steve Stanton from the Department of Creative Practice, was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship in July 2012 by the Higher Education Academy in recognition of his ‘highly valuable contribution to learning and teaching’. Since joining City in 1977, Professor Stanton has led curriculum innovation within the Department of Music and influenced the direction of degree courses at several internationally-renowned conservatoires.

Professor Grattan awarded Sir Harold Hartley Medal

Professor Ken Grattan, Dean of the Graduate School, has received the prestigious Sir Harold Hartley Medal from the Institute of Measurement and Control for his contribution to the technology of measurement and control.

Biomedical engineers recognised for research into bipolar disorder

Professor Panicos Kyriacou and Dr Michelle Hickey won City’s 2013 Excellence Award as joint winners of the sixth annual University Research Competition. The pair, from the Biomedical Engineering Research Group submitted a proposal entitled: ‘Personal Lithium Blood Level Analyser for Bipolar Disorder Patients’.

Posthumous tribute

Dr Gary Baker, former Senior Lecturer in the Department of Optometry and Visual Science, received a posthumous award in October 2012. The Association of Optometrists (AOP) recognised Dr Baker as ‘an undergraduate lecturer who has provided dynamic, interesting, innovative and informative lectures or study programmes for undergraduate students’. This was the first time the AOP has given the award posthumously.

If you have recently won an award, we would love to know about it. Please contact us at alumni@city.ac.uk
Honorary graduates

Since the last edition of City Magazine, the University has recognised eight distinguished individuals and business leaders through the award of honorary degrees.

Honorary degrees are awarded to people who have achieved international academic distinction or held major leadership roles nationally or globally in business and the professions and are considered excellent role models for the University’s students.

Alderman Roger Gifford
Doctor of Science
Alderman Roger Gifford was elected as the 685th Lord Mayor of the City of London in October and took office in November 2012. He is the global ambassador for UK-based financial and business services, as well as City’s Chancellor.

Professor Zhores Alferov
Doctor of Science
Nobel Prize winner.

Pamela Castle OBE
Doctor of Law
Solicitor and Chair of The Castle Debates.

His Honour Judge Donald Cryan
Doctor of Laws
Chairman of the Centre for Child and Family Law Reform, a research and study centre sponsored by The City Law School.

Professor Neville Jackson
Doctor of Science
Chief Technology & Innovation Officer, Ricardo plc.

Muhtar Kent
(Administrative Sciences MBA 1977)
Doctor of Science
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Coca-Cola Company

Dr Basil Phrixos Papachristidis
Doctor of Science
Chairman of Hellespont Holdings Ltd and director of Hellespont Marine Services Ltd.

Nick Robinson
Doctor of Science
Political Editor for the BBC.
A snapshot of City’s literary highlights from the last 12 months, including new books written by alumni and staff.

City of Blood
MD Villiers (Towards Publication/Writers Workshop 2004)
www.fantasticfiction.co.uk/v/martie-de-villiers

From a taste for Nordic noir immortalised in The Killing to Sophie Hannah’s best-selling psychological crime novels, our appetite for crime stories is greater than ever. But what is literary crime fiction? And what distinguishes it from ordinary crime fiction? Martie De Villiers discussed these questions a special crime writing event at City in March. Martie signed a two-book deal with Harvill Secker in 2012 for her crime novels, the first of which, City of Blood was published in May.

The Saxophone: the Saxophone as a Musical Miscreant
Professor Stephen Cottrell, Department of Creative Practice
www.city.ac.uk/cm-cottrell

Despite its fame, or perhaps infamy, the saxophone has had very few scholarly books dedicated to it. Professor Cottrell hopes to amend this with the publication of this book, launched at his inaugural lecture in February. The Saxophone examines the social, historical and cultural trajectory of the instrument and considers how and why, with its idiosyncratic shape and sound, the saxophone should have become important for so many different music makers around the world.

Displaced: The Human Cost of Development and Resettlement
Dr Christopher McDowell, Department of International Politics
www.city.ac.uk/cm-mcdowell

Displaced: The Human Cost of Development and Resettlement collects oral histories that reveal the challenges millions of resettled people face, such as the loss of cultural identity, shifting social roles and fractured family relationships. These accounts reveal incredible resourcefulness and resilience in the face of profound change.

The Shadow of the Rock
Thomas Mogford (CPE/Diploma in Law 2004)
www.thomasmogford.com

Thomas published his first novel The Shadow of the Rock in August 2012. Described by The Times as ‘evocative, engrossing and entertaining’, Mogford’s work has also been praised by established novelist Susan Hill as ‘original, pacy, a great writing debut’. The crime thriller is based in Gibraltar where the book’s central character, tax lawyer Spike Sanguinetti, gets embroiled in a murder case while trying to save the accused, his old friend Solomon.
We all enjoy looking back on our student days. If you have any memories or photos you’d like to share, please get in touch.

Giulio Folino (Business Computing Systems), Students’ Union President

“It is a great time to be President of the Students’ Union as at the end of 2012 we marked King Carrot’s centenary.

“In the formative days of the Union, sports clubs travelled to grounds at Palmers Green using a horse-drawn bus. Because of the frequent reluctance of the horse to cooperate, a carrot was dangled in front of its nose. This became such a regular occurrence that the carrot found itself as mascot of the Union and was first called ‘His Most Noble Majesty, King Carrot’.

“Various versions of the carrot have existed, from fibreglass to cloth. Alarms were installed to alert students in case of Mascot Raids by other London Student Unions - everybody would rush out of lectures to save the carrot from its foes! Consequently during the 1970s the mascot was made out of four tonnes of concrete and attached to a pillar in the bar. Reverently called King Carrot VI, it is believed to have been stolen by a rival London university and has not been seen since.

“Since 1935 (and possibly earlier) Carrot Awards have been presented to “record and acknowledge the services rendered by students and other persons to the Students’ Union”. Recipients have included Sir Brendan Barber (Sociology 1974), General Secretary of the TUC from 2003 to 2012 and the Apollo 15 Astronauts, who visited City in 1971.

“The Carrot represents the lighter side of life at City so to celebrate his 100th birthday, we held an informal event in the Saddlers’ Bar where our sabbatical officers wore full carrot outfits and students took part by wearing orange and carrot necklaces. It was a fun way for us to raise awareness of the Carrot to our new intake of students and to instil a renewed sense of pride in our University mascot.”

“I still have my bronze and silver carrot pin awards. If there was an official function and you came without your pin, it would cost you a round of drinks.”

Ann Alcock (nee Norrie) – Applied Physics 1969

“One Carrot Day, I remember a misguided group of miscreants handling an open top MG TD sports car up the front steps on St John Street. The car was positioned squarely in the foyer just in front of the Principal, Mr Laws’, office.”

Dr Neil Thomas – Applied Physics 1969

“I remember once when King Carrot was stolen, we had to ransom him back with blood - I think it was 100 pints. The National Blood Transfusion Service was used to sending confirmation to colleges saying that the ransom had been paid!”

Doreen Pechey (nee Pawley) – Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1969
Aurore Hochard (Graduate Entry LLB 2012) and her partner Rahul Ahuja presented their start-up, Taskhub, to the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson in June 2012, who had come to open the Wayra Academy in London. Taskhub was one of 16 companies selected from 1,031 entrants to join the Wayra UK Academy. Wayra, described as ‘the technology accelerator of O2’s parent company Telefonica’ by TheNextWeb, gave the 16 selected teams office space and a support network of coaches, mentors and technology for nine months.

Aurore describes Taskhub as “a marketplace where you post tasks you need completing and people in your community undertake them at an agreed price”. She had the idea for the business during her studies at City.

“A friend, originally from New York, had a baby but instead of spending quality time with him, she was busy taking care of chores as she didn’t have family around to help. Rahul and I searched for a website that would help her find locals she could trust to do small tasks for her. That website didn’t exist and that’s what led us to building Taskhub. Our aim is to help our members find local people either to do their tasks for them, or to make some money by doing tasks locally themselves.”

Taskhub has secured another round of investment (a six figure sum) from Telefonica Ventures as well as a commercial partnership with O2 UK, which is also providing space in its Piccadilly Circus office for 18 months. Talking about her time at City, Aurore says: “Although my experience as the COO of O2’s parent company Telefonica by TheNextWeb, gave the 16 selected teams office space and a support network of coaches, mentors and technology for nine months.

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Taskhub has secured another round of investment (a six figure sum) from Telefonica Ventures as well as a commercial partnership with O2 UK, which is also providing space in its Piccadilly Circus office for 18 months. Talking about her time at City, Aurore says: “Although my experience as the COO of a start-up and becoming a solicitor seem like two very different fields, I would not be where I am today if I hadn’t studied law at City. I have learnt how to read fast, be critical, analytical, concise and thorough. I have also learnt how to make connections.

City was great in offering free events where I could meet people. In my first year I thought I was ticking the right boxes by just attending these events. I realised, in my second year, that wasn’t enough to secure me a work placement or a training contract. So at one particular event, I noticed a lawyer from his name badge and asked him if I could shadow him for a few days. He gave me his card and the next day I was offered a placement at his firm. That is the power of networking.”

Taskhub has recently expanded its small team and recruited two developers and a marketing assistant. They are also in the process of developing a charity section of the site which will help match organisations with volunteers. With support from O2, Aurore hopes to grow Taskhub’s user base from 800 to over 30,000 by the end of the year.

Aurore’s advice to any young City entrepreneurs? “Stop planning ten years ahead. Start learning and practising the art of networking today, as this will help you connect with the right people and find a job. Alternatively go and create your own job! I don’t like saying you’ve got nothing to lose, rather you have everything to win.”

As a City graduate and her own boss, Aurore is keen to give something back to City students and to help those looking for work placements or jobs in a tech company like Taskhub. Contact Aurore at aurore@taskhub.co.uk to find out more.
TheBackscratchers.com

TheBackscratchers.com is the first skills swap and collaboration site for the creative community.

Jody Osborne and Patrick Elliott (Culture, Policy and Management 2011) came up with the idea for TheBackscratchers.com over a pint in their local pub. At the time, Jody needed a photographer for a gig and Patrick was looking for a designer for his latest record. They realised there wasn’t a platform where graphic designers, website builders, film-makers, performance artists, musicians and other creative professionals could come together and exchange their skills. TheBackscratchers.com, an invitation-only skills swap and project collaboration website for the creative community, was born.

Winners of CitySpark 2011, the University’s student enterprise competition, Jody and Patrick took full advantage of their prize: £2,500 in cash, desk space in the London City Incubator and mentoring from established entrepreneurs.

In 2012, TheBackscratchers.com was selected to participate in a prestigious Springboard Accelerator programme providing seed funding of £15,000, office space and continued mentoring. Jody says:

“We found out about CitySpark through some of our cohort. They had attended some of the CitySpark mentoring sessions and workshops and invited us to tag along. We realised it would be a great opportunity for us to get our thoughts about the company onto paper and the possibility of a cash prize was a good incentive to hit the deadlines and flesh out the idea.

“We wouldn’t be a company if not for CitySpark. We had a nice idea and it probably would have just stayed an idea if we hadn’t been encouraged to write a business plan and figure out exactly what our offering could be. The boost we got from winning made us realise that it could actually be a good business.

“The prize money was valuable as well, helping us attract our third founder, Leo Critchley, who became our Chief Technology Officer. With the full team together, we built the prototype of the site that was eventually what we used to get onto Springboard, the start-up accelerator.

“We have just had the public launch of the website and over the next few months, we will be rolling it out across London and the UK. We are also in the midst of raising our first seed round for the business (with half already committed).”

Incubating innovation

The London City Incubator supports the idea-to-market process for some of City’s innovative technologies, as well as external technology start-ups. Through it, students can access training in commercialisation and be matched to consultancy projects such as pricing strategies, market segmentation and value proposition validation. Aspiring entrepreneurs can also benefit from mentoring opportunities and receive additional support from our Enterprise Education programme, CitySpark, a year-round extracurricular programme for students looking to develop their skills and entrepreneurial approach.

TheBackscratchers.com (described below) is just one of City’s student start-ups that has benefited from the service.

For more information, please visit www.city.ac.uk/cm-incubator or call +44 (0)20 7040 5145.
Benefits and services

As a City graduate, you are entitled to many free and heavily discounted benefits and services, including continued access to the library and a bi-monthly e-bulletin.

For full details of what’s available, please visit www.city.ac.uk/cm-benefits.

To access your benefits and services, please remember to update your details and let us know whenever you move house or change job by visiting www.city.ac.uk/cm-details.

City alumna launches Experience Card

Mahvish Ayoob (Mathematical Sciences 2005) came up with her Experience Card business concept two years ago when she was working for an investment bank. Experience Card is London’s members-only experience club, offering two for one or a minimum 33% discount on a wide range of carefully selected experiences, client entertainment and corporate events in and around the capital. Members receive preferential rates on experiences such as paintballing, Pilates, luxury spas, personal training, vineyard tours and flying lessons, with new offers added regularly.

“Both myself and my friends were unimpressed with the quality of service we received from offers through daily deal companies, but still wanted to enjoy what is a very expensive city at more reasonable prices,” says Mahvish.

“Since setting up Experience Card, I have been working with City to investigate grants to help the business expand. We will also be collaborating on some City alumni events in the future so watch this space!”

Mahvish is offering annual Experience Card membership to City alumni at the discounted rate of £20 (instead of £35). See www.experiencecard.co.uk for more information on experiences, membership and gift options and quote the code CITYALUMNI to receive the discounted rate.

Access to Chatham House

Chatham House is a world-leading source of independent analysis, informed debate and influential ideas on how to build a prosperous and secure world for all. As a City alumna, you can join the Chatham House network where members, supporters and speakers with a deep interest in international affairs come together to share ideas and engage in debate.

Members can attend events, network, use the Library, receive publications such as International Affairs and The World Today and be part of the Under 35s Forum. Members can also access online content including the Chatham House eLibrary - with over 1,500 international relations journals and Chatham House publications - as well as view podcasts and live streams of events and research.

Alumni under the age of 35 are eligible for Under 35 Membership. Use the code CityAlumni2013 and the £30 joining fee will be waived (until December 2013). If you are over 35, contact Chatham House for other available offers.

To access online-only content, join as a web member and receive a complimentary copy of the latest The World Today magazine.

www.chathamhouse.org

For more information, please visit www.city.ac.uk/cm-merchandise.

Alumni merchandise

Many of our alumni have asked if they can buy City merchandise as a reminder of their time at the University. With this in mind, we have been working with Eva London, Campus Clothing and The Certificate Framing Company to produce a bespoke range of alumni merchandise, including jewellery (rings, charms and cufflinks), crystal and pewter gifts and Waterman pens, all of which can be personalised.

The University’s Students’ Union also has a new range of merchandise available to buy online, including ties and scarves in traditional City colours, hoodies and jackets.

Friday photo

Every Friday afternoon we post a photograph, taken somewhere around City, to Facebook and Twitter. If there is a particular place (or person) you would like to see again, please let us know and we will try to include it or them in one of our Friday photos.

www.facebook.com/Cityalumni
https://twitter.com/cityalumni

We also have a group of nearly 6,000 alumni on LinkedIn. Each School has its own subgroup so please join if you are interested in networking with experienced professionals from the same industry or background as yourself.

www.city.ac.uk/linkedin-alumni
Unitemps is a new online recruitment service at the heart of City University London.

If you’re an employer, we can help raise your profile on campus and link you up with the skilled, motivated graduates and students you need to fill your vacancies.

If you’re a graduate looking for work, we’ll let you know about jobs available within the University and other companies in London that best suit your skills.

Whether it’s a temporary, part-time or short-term vacancy you’re looking to fill, or find, Unitemps is the only recruitment service you need at the heart of the City. Contact us today for more information about our services and how we can help. Visit www.unitemps.co.uk or call +44 (0)20 7040 4684.

For full details of all City’s Career & Skills Development Services, see www.city.ac.uk/careers or call +44 (0) 20 7040 8093.

“After months of applying for graduate schemes and internships, I registered on the Unitemps website. A few weeks later, I had a temporary job in the Careers Service at City, perfect for an Organisational Psychology student. This role has since led to a permanent position.”

Victoria Didilica (Psychology 2012)
Highlights

The Alumni Office helps to organise and host a full calendar of events and activities each year, where alumni can socialise, network and hear from a range of expert speakers. These are some of the highlights from the last 12 months:

June

Alumni Reception and Masterclass, Greece

Hosted at The Hotel Grande Bretagne in Athens and attended by over 250 alumni, this event included a choice of two Masterclasses followed by a networking reception.

The City Masterclass was hosted by Maria Sarafoglou, a journalist for ERT SA Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation, where she presents a daily news programme Symvainei Twn. Maria’s talk, ‘Hard news in tough times’, considered the media’s coverage of the Greek economic crisis in relation to the European reality and political developments in Greece.

The Cass Masterclass, ‘Trading Opportunities and Risk Management in the Freight Markets’, was hosted by Professor Nikos Nomikos, Director of the MSc in Shipping, Trade and Finance.

July

Annual London Reunion 2012

Over 200 alumni from across six decades and as far afield as the USA and Hong Kong attended our Annual London Reunion last year.

September

Alumni Reception, Hong Kong

Billionaire businessman Ronnie Chan and the Lord Mayor of the City of London joined former Cass and City students at this event.

Mr Chan, one of Asia’s best known entrepreneurs, mixed with more than 100 alumni at the exclusive Asia Society, which he co-chairs.

For information about the City Alumni Network in Hong Kong, please contact Alumni Group Coordinator, Christopher Jones (pictured above, centre) - hk.linkedin.com/in/joneschristopher

Alumni Gathering, Mexico

Professor Dinos Arcoumanis, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International & Development) and Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic, hosted an informal drinks gathering in Mexico City.

Guests had the opportunity to meet other local alumni and senior University staff who were visiting Mexico as part of the World Cities World Class (WC2) University Network.

For more information about WC2, please visit www.city.ac.uk/cm-wc2network.

Keep in touch

If you are interested in organising a reunion, please let us know. The Alumni Office can help in many different ways, including booking venues and sending invitations. Contact us by email at alumni@city.ac.uk or call +44 (0) 20 7040 5557 for more information.

City also hosts a range of public lectures, conferences, concerts and workshops throughout the year which all alumni are warmly invited to attend. For details of events being hosted at City over the year ahead, please visit www.city.ac.uk/events.
October

40-year Reunion
A group of friends who started at City in 1972 got together to celebrate their 40th anniversary. They met in a local pub before coming to the University for a short tour.

November

Cohort of 2002-2006 reunion
Former Students’ Union President, Deepak Kashyap (Media Communications Systems 2006), hosted a reunion in the Students’ Union Bar for alumni who studied at City between 2002 and 2006.

January

Journalism Dinner, New York
Professor George Brock, Department of Journalism, met a small group of Journalism alumni in New York whilst on a research trip to the US.

Professor Brock updated guests on news from the Department and how the industry in the UK is responding to various recent news headlines, including the Leveson Inquiry and the phone-hacking scandal.

March

Alumni Reception, Belfast
The Park Inn by Radisson was the venue for a small dinner which gave City staff attending the Northern Ireland UCAS Recruitment Fair the opportunity to meet local alumni.

Economic Evaluation in Healthcare/Health Economics Reception
Students and staff (past and present) from the MSc Economic Evaluation in Healthcare and MSc Health Economics programmes were welcomed to a reception at City. Around 50 people attended, including collaborating academics, professionals and organisations and enjoyed the opportunity to meet others from the same academic discipline in a relaxed and informal setting.

April

City Law Alumnae Network (CLAN)
CLAN meets twice yearly and provides a unique opportunity for female City Law School graduates to meet like-minded solicitors, barristers and other law graduates from across the UK. The network also provides an encouraging environment in which to discuss issues facing women in the modern profession, share experiences and offer mutual support.

Honorary Graduate, The Rt Hon Margaret Hodge MBE MP was the guest speaker at CLAN’s spring event. Margaret spoke on the topic of ‘Women in Public Life’ and her talk was followed by questions from the audience.

For more information about CLAN, please contact Katherine Reece Thomas, Reader in Law, by email at M.K.Reece-Thomas@city.ac.uk or call +44 (0) 20 7040 8312.
Colin Bickler,
Associated with the Department of Journalism for more than 20 years.

Passed away in January 2013.

As a Fellow in International Journalism, Colin influenced the careers of dozens of journalists now practising in many parts of the world. The marked effect he had was measured by the number of alumni who, on contacting the University, would first inquire about his welfare. Sharif Nashashibi (International Journalism 1999), co-founder of Arab Media Watch, spoke for many when he said in 2010, that Bickler “left the biggest and most lasting impression on me during my time at City and to this day, whenever I see him, I feel like I am in the presence of a mentor”.

Professor Maurice Jacob Cohen
Passed away in February 2013.

He was a Reader at Northampton College where he designed and oversaw the construction of a wind tunnel which stayed in use for over 40 years. The Times (23rd March) described him as “a renaissance man in breadth of learning and knowledge, taking great pride in mentoring the young.”

Professor Peter Daniels
Assistant Dean and Professor of Applied Mathematics until his retirement in December 2011.

Passed away in April 2012.

Peter had given a lifetime of service to the University since he joined the Department of Mathematics as a Lecturer in 1977, becoming a Reader in 1981 and Professor of Applied Mathematics in 1985. Peter also spent ten years as Head of the Department of Mathematics from 1987 to 1997.

Dr Douglas Doughty
(Electrical & Electronic Engineering 1970) and former member of staff.

Passed away in December 2012.

Gerry Edwards
Lecturer in the Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering during the 1960s.

Passed away in November 2012.

Fred Elliott
Retired lecturer from the Department of Civil & Mechanical Engineering.

Passed away in 2012.

He was a Warden of Finsbury Hall and was active on Convocation (which later became the Alumni Association) before he retired.

Brian Field
Chemist Lecturer at City from 1966 to 1989 and Warden of Finsbury and Heyworth Halls and Northampton Hall in the 1980s.

Passed away in August 2012.

On his retirement in 1989, he was awarded the lifetime presidency of the N’ions, the Northampton Hall alumni association. Brian remained in touch with many of his former students until his death.

Vera Frankl
Passed away in December 2012

Vera was an inspirational radio journalist, producer and tutor. She made a lasting impact on the generation of City students she worked with during her five years at the University.

Derek Hammond-Stroud OBE
(Optometry 1949) An English singer best known for his performances of German lieder and opera.

Passed away in May 2012.

In 1976 Derek was made an Honorary Member of the Royal Academy of Music and in 1982 an Honorary Fellow of Trinity College of Music. He was the recipient of the Sir Charles Santley Memorial Gift and in 1987 was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE).

John Milner
Passed away in February 2013

John started work for Northampton College of Advanced Technology in September 1960. For many years, he was a lecturer in the Department of Physics and, when that closed, he transferred to Electrical, continuing to teach until a few years ago. After that he frequently visited the University, keeping in touch with colleagues in all departments.

Dr Margaret Wood
Retired from the Department of Social Science and Humanities in 1987.

Passed away in May 2012.

Margaret lectured in Developmental Psychology. Her work explored the development of personality and behaviour in children.
Remembering City

As the University moves towards its 120th anniversary, we invite you to join others who have made a difference to our future by leaving a legacy gift. Including City in your Will is a wonderful way to make a long-lasting impact on the University and future generations of students and to leave an enduring impression in years to come.

You can be very specific about how you would like your legacy to help City. For instance, you may decide to support your old Department or School, or talented students who are financially challenged. You could provide funding towards a particular area of academic, scientific or medical research, support our internationally-renowned Olive Tree Programme (see page 18 for more information) or help develop our campus and infrastructure.

Alternatively, a legacy can be made for the general benefit of the University. Such a gift is particularly valuable as it allows us to respond flexibly and allocate funds where they are most needed at the time they are received.

Leaving a legacy to the University can provide considerable tax benefits for both the donor and the University. City is an exempt charitable body and is registered as such with HM Revenue and Customs. Due to its tax exempt status, City would not pay tax on gifts of money or property made during your lifetime or on your death. Additionally, gifts made in your Will are free from inheritance tax which may otherwise be charged to your estate.

To discuss, in confidence, any aspect of leaving a legacy gift to the University, please contact us at developmentoffice@city.ac.uk or call +44 (0) 20 7040 5599.

If you would like to donate to the City Future Fund, you can do so online at www.city.ac.uk/cm-donate or by calling us on +44 (0) 20 7040 3098.

City Future Fund

Through generous donations from alumni and friends, the City Future Fund is able to help the University in three key areas: student support, world class research and community outreach.

Spotlight on: student support

Emma Rhodes, a first year Human Communications BSc student, received a City Future Fund Scholarship in 2012 and spoke at our Annual Scholarship Awards Evening about how the support has been crucial to her experience at City:

“It is difficult to find the words to convey quite how much impact the City Future Fund Scholarship has had on my studies at City University London and my family life. The money allows me to pay for my daily rail fare from Bedfordshire and essential books for my course. Above all it has alleviated a great deal of pressure reduced the disruption of my new routine to my children and allowed me space to engross myself in my studies.

“I am grateful for this chance to thank those responsible for the support: for the helping hand that has lifted so many students over the years and continues to do so.”

The City Future Fund changes lives and without alumni we cannot continue to boost and improve the experience of these students in need of help and guidance. Thank you for your support.
City is one of the most popular universities in the UK for international students. Over 25 per cent of our alumni live outside the UK and our global Alumni network ensures that former students, no matter where they are in the world, can maintain their connection with the University.

Since the last edition of City Magazine, the Alumni Relations Team has continued to work closely with alumni around the world.

Planning a visit to London?

If you live outside the UK and are planning a trip to London, don’t forget to contact us. We would be delighted to show you around the University and discuss ways we can connect you with other alumni in your home country. Since the last edition of City Magazine, we have been pleased to welcome back the following International Alumni Group Coordinators:

Juliet Ye Zhu
Erasmus Mundus MA in Global Journalism 2008 – Singapore
www.city.ac.uk/linkedin-zhu

Anthony Bello
Air Transport Engineering 2009 – Nigeria
www.city.ac.uk/linkedin-bello

Rafey Altaf
Bar Vocational Course 2003 – Pakistan
www.city.ac.uk/linkedin-altaf

We currently have alumni group coordinators in the following countries:

- Argentina*
- Australia
- Austria*
- Azerbaijan
- Bahrain*
- Bangladesh
- Belgium*
- Botswana
- Brunei*
- Bulgaria*
- Canada
- China
- Colombia*
- Croatia*
- Cyprus*
- Czech Republic*
- Egypt*
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- Hong Kong
- Hungary*
- India
- Indonesia*
- Iran*
- Ireland*
- Isle of Man*
- Israel*
- Italy
- Japan*
- Kazakhstan*
- Kenya*
- Korea*
- Latvia*
- Lebanon
- Luxemburg
- Malaysia*
- Malta*
- Mauritius*
- Mexico*
- New Zealand*
- Nigeria
- Norway*
- Pakistan
- Poland
- Qatar
- Romania*
- Russia*
- Saudi Arabia*
- Singapore
- South Africa
- South Korea*
- Spain*
- Sri Lanka
- Sweden*
- Switzerland*
- Taiwan*
- Tanzania
- Thailand*
- Turkey*
- Ukraine*
- United Arab Emirates
- Uruguay*
- USA

* Cass Alumni Groups
City staff and students are encouraged to get involved in volunteering projects; learning new skills and making a difference in the lives of others.

Improving lives in the sub-Sahara

Every year several City engineering students give their time and expertise to support Developing Technologies (DT), a charity co-founded by Professor Keith Pullen of the School of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences. The aim of the charity is to develop technologies which help people in developing countries, particularly Africa, improve their lives. Students work on real problems put forward by partners in the countries to develop acceptable and affordable solutions. Promising solutions are then introduced and tested with local partners by volunteers, usually found through the charity Engineers Without Borders, UK.

Over the past six years, ten projects have been introduced in Africa. They include two motorcycle ambulance-trailers, which are currently on trial in Zambia and have completed over 150 trips carrying emergency patients, mainly maternity cases, from rural villages to a clinic, saving many lives. In Sierra Leone, DT is drilling three water wells for a Royal Society for Protection of Birds conservation project in the Gola Forest. We are working on several projects here at City, including developing (with a partner in Nigeria) a moulding process for recycling waste plastic into marketable roofing and floor tiles and designing and constructing a small petrol engine unit for a bicycle to tow an ambulance. Design groups led by two fourth-year Mechanical Engineering students, Funmi Odusanya and Priya Talwar, are working on an Alternative Transport Service Vehicle (ATSV). This is a low-cost vehicle for helping poor families in rural areas transport their farm produce to local markets and generate much-needed income. The ATSV has been in development over the last three years and the manufacture of a prototype vehicle is nearing completion.

For more information, including the opportunities available to support Developing Technologies, please visit www.developingtechnologies.wordpress.com.

Cambodia Speech and Language Therapists

Since 2007, 43 City graduates have taken part in a volunteer project in Cambodia to work for three months as speech and language therapists. Cambodia’s healthcare remains poor for most of the population (14 per cent of children die before the age of five). There is neither training for speech and language therapy nor any awareness of the role it can play.

City’s graduate volunteers have found the project a lasting and valuable experience and remain involved in its planning and development and in the selection and training of each new cohort of volunteers.

Each graduate needs to raise £2,500 to cover flights, accommodation, vaccinations, food and equipment. They also need a translator when working with the children. We would like to help them raise this money.

If you would like to contribute to this project, please visit www.city.ac.uk/cambodiaproject for more information.
Feedback from City students has shown that innovative ways to engage with alumni and ‘real life’ exposure to industry are rated very highly. In response, the Alumni Office works closely with the Careers & Skills Development Service to offer a range of ways for you to meet current students and help them prepare for employment.

For information about the different ways to volunteer at City, please visit www.city.ac.uk/cm-getinvolved.

For information on how to become a professional mentor, please contact the Widening Participation team by email at wpteam@city.ac.uk or call +44 (0)20 7040 4242. The scheme will open again in August 2013.

The Professional Mentoring Scheme is supported by the City Future Fund. See Page 31 for more details.

Become a mentor

Our Professional Mentoring Scheme matches second and third-year undergraduates with professionals who can help them develop the skills and confidence to compete in today’s jobs market. The average profile of a ‘mentee’ is a student from a non-traditional academic background, with the drive and ambition (but a lack of knowledge) on how to pursue their dream, or unsure of where their degree can take them. This is a competitive scheme and all students undergo a formal assessment. As a mentor, you will receive full training delivered by teams specialising in talent management. We will then ask you to commit to meeting your ‘mentee’ every two to four weeks.

Joanna Rogers (LLB 2002)

Alumna Joanna Rogers has had an exciting and varied career in law. She has spent time at the New York Bar, working for US law firms and is founder of Navistar Legal. Joanna is also one of our professional mentors. She says: “I wanted to get involved as I have learned a significant amount since I left the University and enjoy sharing that knowledge. “I left City feeling hopeful but found myself becoming disillusioned as time went on. I want to give students information and guidance to put them on the right path and help them feel inspired and passionate about their careers.

“My involvement in the scheme has grown year-on-year. I now know where my strengths are as a mentor and find the right team to support my mentee with the rest.

“I love supporting students and will continue to do so as long as I can.”

Host a coffee meeting

Our coffee meetings are a great way to support the development of our students, who value your opinions and advice. For your organisation, it is also an excellent way to establish a friendly and approachable brand on campus.

If you would like to host a coffee meeting, simply let us know which group of students you would like to meet and we will either invite them to apply for a place, or select them internally. The meetings take place in a small boardroom with around 15 students, interested in learning about your career path. They last for no more than two hours and are a great way to give something back. We can run your meeting on a date and at a time to suit you and will provide refreshments.

For more information about coffee meetings, please contact the Career & Skills Development Service at careersevents@city.ac.uk or call us on +44 (0)20 7040 8425.

Agree to be shadowed

Formerly our Work-Shadowing Scheme, our new Insight into Industry Scheme offers City’s most proactive students an opportunity to shadow professionals who have specific knowledge about the occupation or career in which they are interested. This is a competitive scheme, where students apply for a place and complete a series of assessments and training tasks. This helps ensure we send you the brightest and best students, who are prepared to make the most of your time.

We recognise that, in some cases, it can be difficult to arrange structured work experience so we have devised various ways for you to get involved, from hosting a few days of work shadowing in your offices to holding a short meeting at City.

For more information about the Insight into Industry scheme, please contact the Career & Skills Development Service at industryinsights@city.ac.uk or call us on +44 (0) 20 7040 8425.
Get ahead
In the heart of your City

Career-enhancing part-time evening and weekend courses at City University London

From film editing to finance, website development to writing, City has the short course that will help you take the next step in your career. We offer over 100 subjects from introductory to advanced levels and our students benefit from City’s unique combination of academic excellence and a focus on business and the professions.

“Taking the course was one of the best decisions I have made and I owe the tutors a tremendous amount in developing my career as a writer”

Kirstan Hawkins
Author of Doña Nicanora’s Hat Shop (Hutchinson and Windmill, 2010)

Are you ready to return to your City? To learn how short courses at City University London can help you further your career. Call +44 (0)20 7040 8268 or visit: www.city.ac.uk/shortcourses