Welcome to the second issue of City, University of London’s estate development newsletter – a brief update on current and future building work.

SEBASTIAN STREET UPDATE

Over the next few weeks you may notice signs of activity around our Sebastian Street site. Before any demolition starts, experts from the Museum of London will be carrying out an archaeological investigation. We don’t know what they might find but there is evidence that a civil war era fort was once situated on part of the site. We have originally scheduled four weeks for this activity but if any significant finds are made, the archaeological excavations might be extended. During these preliminary investigations you will notice excavator machinery on site and the sound of digging, but we don’t expect this work to cause too much noise or disruption.

Meanwhile, we are at the final stages of selecting a demolition contractor. If the archaeological excavations go to plan, we expect demolition of the Parkes and Health Centre Buildings to begin sometime between December 2016 and January 2017. One of the first tasks of the contractor will be to create a detailed demolition plan which will give you a better understanding of the site clearance process. A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 30th November 2016, 6pm – 7pm to discuss this in more detail, I hope you can join us then.
We are now in the final stages of our main entrance and 240-seat lecture theatre project. The lecture theatre is complete and all activity is concentrated on completing the external landscaping and internal reception and pavilion spaces. We hope you’ll be as pleased as we are with the final result. We will resurface the northern section of the Square’s road in the next few weeks. After this, we’ll be ready to re-open the external areas that are currently behind fencing. The overall completion date for all elements of the project is December 2016 and we hope to hold an official re-opening event in January 2017, when we will also unveil a new plaque for a famous former resident of the Square. We will send more details nearer the time and hope you are able to attend. Thank you for your understanding during the project. We appreciate the works have been noisy and are very grateful for your patience.

REGULAR COMMUNITY MEETINGS

We hold twice yearly meetings with our neighbours to discuss the latest news as well as the management of University premises and local issues for which the University and our neighbours are stakeholders. Upcoming meetings are listed on the front of this letter. We will write to you again to let you know future dates and times.