Food fighters
City academics setting the global food policy agenda
The last 12 months have witnessed extraordinary developments at City University London.

In a period of increasingly challenging competition in the higher education sector, City has more than doubled the proportion of its academic staff undertaking world-leading or internationally excellent research. This is hugely important for the Research Excellence Framework, which assesses the quality of research in UK higher education institutions and determines indirectly a significant percentage of the University’s income.

In the meantime, continued investment in the estate now provides facilities of which students and staff can be proud. At the start of the 2013/14 academic year, new and returning students were greeted by a rejuvenated campus at Northampton Square with state-of-the-art facilities and brand new premises at 260 Aldersgate for Cass Business School Executive Education.

There have been significant improvements to premises for The City Law School and the School of Health Sciences. In addition, there has been a transformation of facilities for Engineering including the reconfiguration of the lower floor of the Tait Building and installation of a new wind tunnel. In early 2015 we are due to open Citysport on the site of the old Saddlers Sports Centre, offering an outstanding new service for students and the local community.

2013/14 also saw more scholarships, bursaries and prizes awarded to students than ever before; an indication of the increasing support offered by our alumni and friends and for which we are extremely grateful.

Our investment in academic excellence and our estate, together with support from our alumni community, is helping to ensure that our students benefit from an outstanding experience while at City. This is demonstrated by the University’s performance in the National Student Survey, in which the proportion of satisfaction with City among our students showed the highest percentage increase in England, something about which we are particularly proud.

You can discover more about some of our outstanding research, developments to the estate and what life is like at City for current students in this year’s edition of City Magazine. We shall also continue our two bi-monthly e-newsletters aimed at keeping you up-to-date on developments and events, to which you will be very warmly welcomed. We are very keen to keep in touch with our former students and are truly grateful for the help we receive, all of which helps to benefit current and future students.

I hope you enjoy reading this magazine and that it’s contents encourage you to come back soon to see how the University has progressed since your time here.

David Street
Director Development & Alumni Relations

City Magazine 2014
The magazine for alumni and friends of City University London, produced by the Development & Alumni Relations Office.
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Letter from the Director
David Street
Director Development & Alumni Relations

City Magazine is now in contact with over 100,000 former students in 202 countries.

Between 2012 and 2016, £130m will be invested in City’s estate.
Dispatches

The 2013/14 transformation of our estate continues with work on new facilities for learning, research and sport. Our Chancellor discovered more about the Dubai Centre while high-profile lectures, conferences and an innovative video series ensured City was at the forefront of public debate.

Changing spaces

If you have walked along Goswell Road in the past six months you might have noticed a steel structure rapidly rising out of the ground. This building, due to be completed in early 2015, will be home to City’s new sports centre, CitySport, as well as new accommodation for more than 800 students.

CitySport will be 75 per cent larger than its predecessor, Saddlers Sports Centre, with more than 100 fitness stations, five multi-sport studios and full disabled access. Built upon the old Saddlers Sports Centre site, the new facility will incorporate over 500 bricks from that building, along with the original marble tablet commemorating our first Director of Education and the original marble tablet.

City has embarked on a five-year, £130 million programme of investment in the University’s estate and infrastructure, bringing redundant spaces back into use and creating outstanding new academic facilities. Other recently completed projects include the opening of a new facility for Cass Executive Education at 200 Aldersgate, while at the main campus in Northampton Square the first £130 million programme of investment commemorating our first Director of Education and enterprise. Alderman Woolf is certainly no exception and the changing shape of war in the Middle East, Hollywood and human rights and the Obama presidency reflect the breadth and depth of City’s research strengths.

In March 2014, at one of the most high-profile events of the year, the Governor of the Bank of England, Dr Mark Carney, used the annual Maité lecture at Cass Business School to set out his vision for the Bank’s future. Elsewhere, at a time when the British media are under more scrutiny than ever, City continued to shape public debate on journalism. In October 2013, Ed Richards, Chief Executive of Ofcom, outlined why regulation is good for broadcast journalism, while a month later, Orwell prize-winning journalist Andrew Norfolk launched In Defence of Journalism, a series of events which seeks to remind how the power of the pen can have a positive effect on society. The same month Robert Peston of the BBC delivered the annual James Cameron memorial lecture and more recently, in April 2014, the Rt Hon Dame Tessa Jowell MP held calls for greater representation of women in the media at the Women on Air conference.

Inaugural lectures offer new academic staff the opportunity to present an overview of their research to colleagues, students and the general public. Recent inaugural lecture topics have included: the role of speech and language therapy in helping vulnerable young people to express their feelings without resorting to violence; the case for giving the public greater involvement in health research; and how brain imaging and mathematical modelling can enhance our understanding of the mechanisms and functions of the eye.

Of course, the City community extends far beyond the borders of E1. The City Perspective series brings expert commentary to a wider audience through a series of web articles and videos. Data leaks, the video game industry and the possibility of an EU opt out are among the issues discussed recently by City academics in the series.

CitySport

CitySport in numbers

Accommodation for more than 800 students

75% larger than its predecessor

More than 100 fitness stations

5 multi-sport studios

Incorporating over 500 bricks from the old building

Schools have also benefited from the first phase of estate investment. The undergraduate programme at Cass Business School now has enlarged, refurbished accommodation in the Drysdale Building, while The City Law School and the School of Health Sciences have seen substantial investments in academic office space through improvements in the Tait Building and the complete refurbishment of the Gloucester Building.

Engineering facilities have been transformed, as almost the entire lower ground floor of the Tait Building has been reconfigured to provide a new undergraduate laboratory, engineering hall, improved research space and a new wind tunnel. The School of Health Sciences recently launched its new interdisciplinary Clinical Skills Centre designed to mirror ‘real’ healthcare environments for students and to enhance their learning and skills before they put them into practice.

Future development plans include a new Students’ Union bar and café, created on the ground floor of the Tait Building and due to be completed in early 2015; and an iconic new building on the corner of Sebastian Street for research and postgraduate use.

Window on the world

In November 2013, City University London joined 16 Worshipful Company Companies, the armed forces, charities and musical bands from near and far in a three and a half mile celebration of the appointment of Alderman Fiona Woolf as Lord Mayor of London. Only the second woman to hold the post of Lord Mayor, Alderman Woolf was formally welcomed as City’s Chancellor at the University’s degree congregation in January 2014, when she was awarded a Doctor of Science honouris causa.

Since 1966, when the unique relationship between the University and the City of London was established, successive Lord Mayors have flown the flag for City, championing our research, education and enterprise. Alderman Woolf is certainly no exception and in her first six months in office, she and her consort, Nicholas Woolf, have already made their mark on the University. The Lord Mayor’s Charity Leadership Programme, organised by Nicholas and in collaboration with Cass Business School’s Centre for Charity Effectiveness, comprises a series of lectures, conferences and debates designed to promote excellence in charity leadership.

The Lord Mayor also visited City’s overseas campus in Dubai, where she met Cass alumni, students, staff and members of the Dubai International Finance Centre (DIFC). She praised the Dubai Centre’s emergence as an educational hub for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), noting that the current Executive MBA cohort has students of over 20 different nationalities.

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Events at City are usually free and open to the public. For information about forthcoming events please visit www.city.ac.uk/events. Or search online for ‘City Perspectives’ to hear the views of leading academics on contemporary political, economic and social issues.

From the Square Mile to the Middle East
A voice from the past

The story of the 'Cambridge Spies' epitomised the distrust and fear that defined the Cold War. Four men, educated at the University of Cambridge during the tumultuous inter-war period, became informants to the KGB in the belief that only the Soviet Union could defeat fascism. During and after the war, they climbed career ladders in the Foreign Office, MI5 and the Secret Intelligence Service (MIS), while continuing to report to Moscow. In 1951, the two men in the Foreign Office, Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean, disappeared, only to resurface in Moscow five years later.

It was only with the end of the Cold War that historians could begin to piece together the full story of the Cambridge Spies, though their endeavours were frequently hampered by classified files and incomplete archives. In January 2016, City, academic Professor Stewart Purvis and Jeff Hallatt, both of the Department of Journalism, uncovered a piece of the jigsaw puzzle that adds depth and life to the fascinating tale.

After his mobile smartphone ran out of battery again one afternoon in early 2013, City University London postgraduate student Frank Milani (Masters in Innovation, Creativity and Leadership) was inspired to come up with a solution to this very common problem.

Just a year later, Frank and his business partner Matt Sandrinis about to launch Popcord, their portable smartphone charger. A Kickstarter campaign to raise funds for its manufacture attracted £47,000 of pledges, more than double their original £20,000 target.

While developing their business, Frank and Matt received input from the University’s student enterprise team, CityStarters; City’s entrepreneurship centre, The Hangout; and The City Law School’s advice clinic, Start Ed.

“We first attended Start Ed in December 2013 to ensure that we were taking all the necessary steps to protect our intellectual property and obtain legal cover in a global market,” recalls Frank. “At a later stage, the solicitors at Start Ed helped us to establish the right legal structure and understand the terms and conditions required for international pre-orders. They really set us in the right direction.”

Founded by Reader in Law Dr David Collins and City alumnus Eric Risdon in 2013, Start Ed has assisted more than 700 start-ups and small businesses. It is staffed by students from The City Law School who are supervised by local professionals including barristers, solicitors and accountants.

Dr Collins notes that a lack of access to simple legal advice is one of the major barriers to success in the start-up sector.

“Legal advice, even in the most basic form, is essential for anyone thinking of starting a business or engaged in the early stages of running one. But unfortunately it can be prohibitively expensive for small companies. Popcord is a highly successful start-up that promises to be an exciting and profitable venture. I am pleased that we were able to provide Popcord with the initial legal assistance to protect its founders in the right direction.”

In April, Popcord was one of five winners of the CitySpark competition. Frank and Matt received a prize of £3,000 and a place on the CitySpark Summer Accelerator programme.

Thanks to a relationship developed two years ago by the Professional Liaison Unit in the School of Mathematics, Computer Science & Engineering, DrupalCamp London has twice selected City as the venue for its annual jamboree.

DrupalCamp London 2014, held at City at the beginning of March, welcomed 650 DrupalCamp community members, including established tech businesses, start-ups and City computer science students. There were more than 50 sessions for attendees to choose from, including “How to Release More Code”; “What the ECC?”, “tour my MVN” and “Inside the guts of a global publishing platform”; and “A gitworkflow for Drupal core development.”

Commenting on the success of the event, Professor Roger Crouch, Dean of the School of Mathematics, Computer Science & Engineering, noted that events such as DrupalCamp London reinforce City’s reputation as a major provider of computing talent. “We are delighted City was selected for both consecutive years as the venue for such an important gathering of Drupal experts. Events such as this offer excellent exposure and opportunity to our computer science students. DrupalCamp London 2014 also underscores City’s emphasis on an integrated approach to mathematics, computer science and engineering which makes our students highly desirable in the very competitive field of technology.”

As City Magazine goes to press, the University’s sportsmen and women are coming to the end of another successful season. At the British Universities & Colleges Sport Leagues (BUCS), the Men’s Rugby team secured promotion, winning 11 of its 12 league matches. The Men’s Tennis team enjoyed similar success, winning 9 of 10 matches and league promotion, while their female counterparts reached the quarter final of the Conference Cup, an achievement that was recognised when they received the Team of the Year shield in City’s 2014 Students’ Union Awards.

Golf and Cheerleading may be relatively new sports for the University, but novelty has proved no barrier to success. The Mixed Golf team marked the end of its second season with a runner-up finish in its league, while the Central City Allstars, City’s cheerleading competition squad, finished in second place at the ICC British Nationals Competition in March 2014.

CitySport is as committed to its individual sportswomen and men as it is to its representative teams. At the BUCS Individual Indoor Championships in February 2014, City fielded an exceptional group of student athletes who competed in sports including Fencing, Judo, Karate, Mountaineering and Swimming. In the Men’s Judo Individual Championships, Sungyong Jeong reached the semi-final in his category, while High Jumper Georgia Nwawulor (pictured left) represented the University for the second consecutive year. With an impressive 1.67 metre jump, Georgia claimed the Bronze medal on the final day of the competition and just one month later, she won the prestigious Sportsperson of the Year award at the Students’ Union Awards.
City’s biomedical engineers are pioneering new developments in healthcare, with sensors that transform life opportunities. Elsewhere, academic staff are changing how we think about smell and touch, deepening our understanding of a complex continent and challenging the fundamentals of criminal procedure.

**Engineers at the forefront of healthcare**

City’s Biomedical Engineering Research Group (BERG), established in 2004, is leading the way in a discipline that is transforming developments in medicine and healthcare delivery. Under the leadership of Professor Panicos Kyriacou, the Group has as its mission the extension of the frontiers of science and technology by developing new tools and techniques to solve challenging medical problems.

More specifically, BERG’s focus is on the use of engineering principles to advance understanding of how biological or physiological systems operate. The ultimate goals? The development of effective medical-based technologies for application across societal needs including breakthroughs in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease and the design of novel devices, sensors and processes.

Reflecting BERG’s twin emphases on advances in basic bioscience and applied biomedical engineering, Professor Kyriacou says the Group’s work can be summed up succinctly as “creating biomedical technologies from design to the bedside.” The Group’s principal areas of expertise are in medical sensors and instrumentation; biosensorial and imaging analysis; biomedical optics; electrical impedance; physiological measurement; and physiological modelling.

**Transformative sensors**

Developments in optical technologies mean that some sensors are no larger than a hair and can “go into places in the body that people have never gone before.”

The startling potential of ever-smarter and smaller sensors created by the Group includes non-invasive monitoring of blood oxygen levels in specific organs and tissues to ascertain their condition and tracking the progress of critically ill patients during surgery and in intensive care. This research challenges the status quo in monitoring blood components such as glucose, haemoglobin and cholesterol by innovating new non-invasive sensors that have the potential to make such measurements possible, without the invasive extraction of blood. Such technologies will enable patients with chronic diseases such as diabetes to monitor their wellbeing and remain in control of their condition.

BERG has recently been awarded a major research grant by the National Institute of Health Research to develop a personal lithium blood analyser for patients with bipolar disorder. This will revolutionise the monitoring of psychiatric disorders given that there is currently an absence of non-invasive medical devices for monitoring or assessing bipolar disorder.

The mood of patients with bipolar disorder frequently changes, featuring episodes of depression (with feelings of being lethargic and “low”) and mania (with feelings of being “high” and overactive). These patients are dependent on lithium to maintain their mental equilibrium. Too much lithium causes toxicity and too little causes patients to have uncontrollable mood swings.

Some sensors are no larger than a hair and can “go into places in the body that people have never gone before.”

The personal lithium blood analyser will assist in providing more information on lithium blood levels to psychiatrists, clinicians and patients, allowing for more effective management of bipolar disorder with lithium therapy. A low cost, portable healthcare technology which makes use of smart medical sensors allows bipolar patients to have more control of the earliest signs of health problems with medications that can be detected and corrected.

Preliminary studies will involve the spectrophotometric evaluation of lithium in blood to determine the optimum parameters for the sensor. The ultimate goal is to provide a handheld technology to monitor lithium levels non-invasively at home and to provide a personal monitor to assist, support and inform both the patient and clinician.

**Funding future breakthroughs**

While members of BERG are revolutionising the care of patients in critical condition, colleagues elsewhere in the School of Mathematical, Computer Science & Engineering, led by its Dean, are set to transform the life opportunities of babies born with congenital heart disease.

Find out how alumni and friends of City can help funding this groundbreaking research on page 15.

**Telehealth**

Telehealth, which is the management and delivery of health-related services through telecommunications technologies, has the potential to transform healthcare in the United Kingdom and around the world. It offers healthcare providers the means of tackling the twin challenges of an ageing population and limited resources, while for patients and their families, telehealth could help avoid admissions to and lengthy stays in hospital, so it can facilitate care in the home or the local community.

Professor Stanton Newman, Dean of the School of Health Sciences and a leading expert in telehealth, has undertaken research into the integration of health technologies in the healthcare pathway for different chronic conditions and individuals with different levels of severity. He notes that “while telehealth holds huge promise, it’s important for us to recognise that we have a long way to go before we can easily and successfully implement such a programme throughout the country.”

“We need research to demonstrate the best techniques to integrate telehealth into a sustainable and effective model that could not only save many lives, but also help the NHS save millions of pounds annually,” adds Professor Newman. “Key to the sustainability of a telehealth pathway for chronic conditions is ensuring that patients are able to utilise the additional information that telehealth can provide and change their behaviour to manage their condition.”

To help bridge the gap between traditional and technology-based healthcare, Professor Newman has been involved in launching the Advancing Care Coordination and Telehealth Deployment (ACT) programme, a pan-European study that will uncover some of the barriers to implementation of telehealth services and establish best practice in the sector.

The Development & Alumni Relations Office is supporting Professor Newman with this important research. To find out more about how alumni can help, please contact David Street: +44 (0)20 7040 5557; david.street@city.ac.uk.
Catching a whiff of pervasive computing

Professor Adrian Cheok, Professor of Pervasive Computing at City, is working on innovative ways of using mobile phone technology.

Liberating digital interaction from the confines of the computer or mobile phone screen, Professor Cheok and colleagues in his Mixed Reality Lab are exploring mixed reality and empathic communication by digitally conveying smell and touch.

The ever-expanding field of pervasive computing involves embedding microprocessors in everyday objects such as mobile telephones, kitchen devices and items of clothing. It is the “internet of things”, implying instant connectivity and availability.

In January 2014, Professor Cheok joined Michelin starred chef, Andoni Luiz Aduriz and Dr Luis Castellanos, President of creative consultants Jardin de Junio, Professor Cheok has recently received extensive media exposure for his work, including appearances on BBC Click and CBS News and articles in publications including Wired and Computer Weekly.

Questioning a complex continent

The European Social Survey (ESS), based at City University, London, has long been recognised as a critical tool for charting and explaining the interaction between Europe’s changing institutions and the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns of its diverse populations.

At the end of 2013, the European Commission acknowledged its importance by granting it the status of a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERCIC).

Established in 2001, the ESS was led by its founder, Professor Sir Roger Jowell, until his death in 2010. Now under the directionship of Barry Fitzgerald, the Survey takes place every two years and is currently in its sixth round.

It asks questions of Europeans from 36 countries concerning their political orientations, attitudes and preferences; their social and moral values; and their national, ethnic and religious allegiances.

The Survey is renowned for its rigorous methodologies and while the data it generates are of critical value to academics and policymakers, its commitment to promoting excellence in quantitative research is of equal importance.

The ESS is the only ERCIC-hosted in the UK and it joins some of the most innovative research infrastructures in Europe, including CERN, the world’s largest particle physics laboratory. With this prestige comes the corresponding freedom to plan for future exploration of the changing faces of Europe.

Research conducted at the School of Health Sciences has shown that deaf children with reading difficulties are being neglected, as current tests focus exclusively on hearing children and adults. The findings indicate that reading and dyslexia-sensitive tests can be used for some deaf children; these tests could allow educators to understand better the reading deficits of deaf children and to support them through specialist reading interventions.

While there have been extensive studies of dyslexia in recent years, the relationship between deafness and reading difficulties has been virtually unexplored. There are 44,800 deaf schoolchildren in the UK and many face difficulties when learning to read. Dr Eric Herman, a member of the research team, explains more: “As reading is based on spoken language – which many deaf children struggle to acquire – reading problems in this group are generally attributed solely to deafness, yet given the genetic basis of dyslexia, it is likely that some deaf children will also be dyslexic.”

Discoveries

The privilege against self-incrimination

The privilege against self-incrimination is often represented as a principle of fundamental importance in the law of criminal procedure and enjoyed in all countries. A logical implication of recognising this privilege is that a person cannot be compelled, on pain of a criminal sanction, to provide information that could reasonably lead to his or her prosecution for any criminal offence.

However, there are statutory provisions in England and Wales making it a criminal offence not to provide particular information that, if provided, could be used in a subsequent prosecution of the person providing it.

Professor Andrew Cho’s 2013 book, The Privilege Against Self Incrimination and Criminal Justice, examines the operation of this principle in criminal proceedings. He says the research highlights several doctrinal and theoretical issues that are of particular contemporary concern.

“The evidence demonstrates that despite the supposed importance of the privilege against self-incrimination, there is little agreement on its content or effect. The law as it has developed over the years cannot very easily be rationalised. This is partly because of a lack of care or consistency in the articulation by the courts of the legal rules that govern the privilege.”

Professor Cho asks whether, far from being a fundamental principle, the privilege is in reality, a device deployed by the courts when it is convenient for them to do so.

If this is the case, then it is misguided to expect the privilege to perform a major role in regulating pre-trial criminal process and the focus should instead be on ensuring the existence of robust pre-trial regulation. Having dedicated pre-trial protections in place which are routinely supervised and enforced may be far more important than expending energy and resources on attempting to define precisely what the privilege against self-incrimination should entail.

Professor Cho is the author of five books and numerous publications about criminal evidence and procedure. His published work has been cited in decisions of various appellate courts, including the House of Lords, the UK Supreme Court, the Privy Council and the Supreme Court of Canada.
This year’s Diary attests to the global nature of City’s alumni network. Events around the world provide opportunities to network, learn and rekindle old friendships, while alumni stories articulate exactly what makes City so special. Elsewhere, alumni generosity and a very special legacy are shaping City’s provision of outstanding education, research and student support.

Events in 2013/14

In the last 12 months we have been delighted to meet alumni around the world. Here are just a few of the highlights.

June 2013
Annual London Reunion (1)
Nearly 200 alumni returned to Northampton Square to meet fellow former students and hear about the University’s plans for the future. Members of the Year of 1968 took the opportunity to meet for lunch and tour their old haunts before the reunion.

September 2013
Visit to Bletchley Park with Professor David Stupples (2)
Professor David Stupples, Director of City’s Centre for Cyber Security Sciences, gave a fascinating talk on codes and code-breaking to a group of alumni at Bletchley Park. Pictured are alumni at the Polish Memorial while on a guided tour of the park.

September 2013
Hong Kong (3)
Local alumni and students attended a masterclass on “Market Cap or Monkey? An Evaluation of Alternative Equity Index Weighing Schemes” led by Dr Nick Motson, Lecturer in Finance at Cass Business School, at Hong Kong Maritime Museum. This was followed by a drinks reception hosted by Alderman Roger Gifford, the then Lord Mayor of London and Chancellor of City University London.

December 2013
New York (4)
Alumni and friends of City joined other guests at a reception and panel discussion at the British Council in New York. “Ethics in Business: Still a Tick-Box Exercise?” was the title of a debate featuring a panel of distinguished alumni. Pictured from left: Bob Kelly, Nicole Young, Row Daniel and panel chair, Professor Andre Spicer, Professor of Organisational Behaviour at Cass Business School.

February 2014
Dubai (5)
Alderman Fiona Woolf, The Lord Mayor of London and City University London’s Chancellor, was the guest speaker at The Lord Mayor’s Annual Alumni Reception in Dubai. Pictured with Alderman Woolf (second from left) are Roy Leighten, Chairman of Cass/City Advisory Board for Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Council Chairman of British Expertise and Chairman of Financial Services Champions UKTI; Ehsan Razavizadeh, Regional Director, MENA and Head of Dubai Centre and Edward Hobart, Her Majesty’s Consul General to Dubai.

March 2014
Toronto (6)
Hosted by Professor Carl Stychin, Dean of The City Law School, a reception for alumni in Canada was held at Osgoode Hall in Toronto.

March 2014
Johannesburg
Professor Stanton Newman, Dean of the School of Health Sciences, hosted an alumni event at the Radisson Blu Gautrain in Johannesburg. Professor Victoria Joffe, Associate Dean for taught postgraduate studies at the School of Health Sciences and a leading authority in developmental speech, language and communication needs in children and young people, explained how the University’s Changing Behaviours – Changing Futures research is helping to improve lives.

April 2014
Athens (7)
The annual alumni evening in Athens was held in the Grande Bretagne Hotel. Hosted by Professor Dimos Argyropoulos, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International & Development) and Ambassador-at-Large of the Hellenic Republic (Enery Policy and Technologies), the evening included an LLM Martime Law Panel Discussion and a Masterclass led by Dr Anthony Papadimitriou, President of the Alexandros S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation.

Events in 2014/15

We are now planning our events calendar for 2014/15. A particular highlight will be in autumn 2015, when we will celebrate 40 years since the establishment of the Department of Music. We will contact former students and staff nearer the time with more information. To receive our bi-monthly email events bulletin, please provide us with your email address. All our events are also posted at www.city.ac.uk/alumni. We look forward to seeing you during the next year.
City graduates are entitled to a range of benefits and services from the University, from the new Graduate Loyalty Discount to continued access to the library.

A lifelong relationship

Graduate Loyalty Discount

Whether you are looking to broaden your employment options, advance in your chosen career or prepare for further study, a postgraduate degree from City can challenge, inspire and open doors.

The Graduate Loyalty Discount offers graduates a fee discount of at least 10 per cent when enrolling for one of over 150 postgraduate taught courses starting in September 2016. You are eligible to apply if you have completed an undergraduate degree, postgraduate degree or a period as a Study Abroad student at City and you meet the entry criteria for the course.

Fee discounts by School:
- Cass Business School, the School of Arts & Social Sciences and the School of Health Sciences offer a 10 per cent discount.
- The School of Mathematics, Computer Science & Engineering offers a discount of £2,500.
- The Law School offers a discount of £4,500 on all postgraduate degrees and a discount of £1,000 on the Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC).

For further details about the Graduate Loyalty Discount please visit www.city.ac.uk/graduate-loyalty-discount.

Library Membership

City alumni are entitled to free use of the University libraries for reference and as a 10 per cent discount on the annual rates charged to external visitors for borrowing privileges.

Membership includes access to the main University library in Northampton Square and libraries at Cass Business School and The City Law School.

Alumni can access e-journals remotely through JSTOR and Emerald. There is also on-site access to other online resources through the Libraries at Bunhill Row and Northampton Square.

To take advantage of this service, contact us to receive an Alumni Network Card which you can use to prove your status as an alumnus when visiting the Library for the first time. Email alumni@city.ac.uk or telephone +44 (0)20 7040 5557.

Other benefits

Outstanding networking opportunities at events throughout the world

Access to a wide range of professional development courses through Cass Executive Education

The opportunity to meet up with City’s world-leading academics at events around the world and continue to learn how City is changing lives through its groundbreaking research.

Free support from City’s Career Service for up to three years after graduation

The opportunity to apply for roles within the University and other organisations in London that advertise through Unimats.

Use of The Hangout, a working space for entrepreneurs in the heart of Tech City. If you have graduated within the last two years, you can join The Hangout for free. All other alumni are entitled to a discount of between £50 and £250 per month for a desk. Members are entitled to use the event space and all alumni may hire the event space at a discounted rate.

To access your benefits and services remember to update your details online. Have you moved house or changed jobs recently? Please let us know by visiting www.city.ac.uk/2014citymagazine/update.

Help big business to go green. Start here.

One of the new campaign posters, featuring alumni Jaz Rabadia.

Alumni take centre stage

How can a university engage its diverse audiences, from prospective undergraduate students to major employers, from working professionals to over 17,000 current students?

For City, the answer is through harnessing the power of its alumni network.

As City Magazine goes to press, the University’s Marketing & Communications team is launching a major promotional campaign built around inspiring alumni stories. Designed to strengthen the University’s identity and support student recruitment, the campaign focuses on how City helps alumni lead lives that make a difference to the world. The opportunity to tell their story is an important part of City’s efforts to share evidence of the ways that time spent at City can provide firm foundations for professional success.

In February 2004, the eyes of the world were on Sochi, Russia, as 2,876 athletes competed for 1,300 medals at the 21st Winter Olympic Games. Riding high on the back of the 2012 Olympic Games in London, the Sochi Games received more media coverage than any Winter Olympic Games in history, with an estimated 88,000 hours of worldwide cumulative television and digital coverage.

Two City alumni graduates were at the heart of the action. Benjamin Westlake-Trittin (BA (Hons) Journalism, 2013) was an Assistant Assignment Editor for the Olympic News Channel, a feed to rights-paying broadcasters worldwide. He filmed news packages, interviewed athletes before and after their events and produced features on topics surrounding the games.

Elsewhere, Julie Stewart Banks (MA International Journalism, 2010), who undertook an internship with Sky Sports and Sky News during her MA at City, streamed regular reports on the performance of US and international athletes for Fox Sports 1, as part of the Sochi Now series. Julie is familiar to US audiences for her role as a correspondent on Fox Soccer Daily, a programme she joined in August 2013.

If you have an inspiring story that could feature in the City campaign we would love to hear from you. Contact us at alumni@city.ac.uk.

From City to Sochi

Seven City University London alumni were named amongst the top ten young barristers in England and Wales in 2013.

A report by Legal Week, a leading law magazine, included them on the annual ‘Stars at the Bar’ list after a tight selection from more than 325 recommended junior barristers. Professor Carl Stychin, Dean of The City Law School, commented: “It is tremendous to see our alumni achieving this level of recognition so early in their careers.”

The City stars were Simon Atrill (BVC, 2005) of Fountain Court Chambers; Siddharth Shair (BVC, 2010) and Amy Sander (BVC, 2006) of Essex Court Chambers; Charles Raffo (BVC, 2005) of Handel Chambers; Luke Pearce (BVC) of 20 Essex Street and the University of Oxford; Michael Watkins (PG Dip Professional Legal Skills, 2007) of One Essex Court; and Can Yeginsu (BVC 2007) of 20 Essex Street and the University of Oxford.

For prospective students and been involved with alumni activities. The campaign was another welcome opportunity to stay connected and share my City experience”.

Bar success for City alumni

From City to Sochi
Over the past 10 years, support from alumni and friends has changed the face of student life at City. Last year, generous support from alumni raised over £3,000,000 for a variety of student-based projects around the University. By donating to the Annual Fund, alumni can make a real difference to the student experience at City now and in the future.

You can find out more about the Annual Fund and all of the projects mentioned above by visiting our website (www.city.ac.uk/alumni). Alternatively, please use the gift form mentioned above by visiting our Annual Fund and all of the projects to the student experience at City commitments and a commute to a mature student, juggling family embarked on her journey at City as Second year student Emma Rhodes.

The City Future Fund

Second year student Emma Rhodes embarked on her journey at City as a mature student, juggling family commitments and a commute to London to establish the BAE Systems Sir Richard Olver Chair of Aeronautical Engineering in the School of Mathematics, Computer Science & Engineering. This Chair is a fitting way to celebrate Dick’s contribution to Engineering as well as the impact of his work on future generations of engineers.

A timely legacy: George Daniels CBE

On the importance of the scholarship, Emma says: “My scholarship has alleviated a great deal of pressure, which has in turn reduced the burden on my children and allowed me space to engage myself in my studies. I am so grateful to those responsible for this support and for the help in financing, so many students over the years.”

The Cass Fund

Throughout the Student Assistance Fund, the Cass Fund supports high-achieving students at Cass Business School who face unexpected financial difficulty. For many recipients of bursaries from the Fund, this support is the boost that enables them to reach graduation day. Last year, all 76 recipients either graduated or are now in their final year of study. One recipient of a bursary from the Fund, said: “I am very thankful for the assistance and no after graduating and starting a new job, I am a very active member of the Cass alumni community.”

Alumni donations to the Cass Fund have also helped to create a brand new state-of-the-art financial resources suite, complete with eight new Bloomberg terminals, numerous new study spaces and other computer facilities.

BAE Systems, one of the world’s leading defence contractors, has partnered with City University London to establish the BAE Systems Sir Richard Olver Chair in Aeronautical Engineering in the School of Mathematics, Computer Science & Engineering. The new Chair will honour Sir Richard (Dick) Olver’s contribution as Chair of BAE Systems between 2004 and 2014 and will support research into the ways that emerging technologies can enable aerospace design.

Dick graduated from City in 1970 with a first class honours degree in Civil Engineering and in 2004 he was awarded a Doctor of Science honoris causa by the University. Before joining BAE Systems, Dick worked for BAE for over 30 years.

From the easy work in of Frederick Handley Page in aeronautical engineering to George Daniels, who was one of the leading watchmakers of the twentieth century, we have at our core the ability to make a real difference. This research, which has the potential to transform young lives, takes current technology to the next stage through its emphasis on patient-specific features. It will place City firmly on the map in the field of computational bioengineering.

If you would like to find out more about how you can help to fund this ground-breaking research, please contact Ruth Welschen, Head of Campaigns: +44 (0)20 7040 5290; ruth.welschen@city.ac.uk.

Aeronautical excellence: the BAE Systems Sir Richard Olver Chair

Professor Roger Crouch, Dean of the School of Mathematics, Computer Science & Engineering, said: “During his time as Chairman of BAE Systems, Dick was a passionate supporter of the company’s objective of encouraging young people to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This Chair is a fitting way to celebrate his work. It will benefit business and academia by providing the opportunity to further our understanding of emerging technologies.

City’s aeronautical engineering courses are accredited by the Royal Aeronautical Society and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and the aeronautical research group is an active participant in the UK Aerospace Technology Institute.
Whether they’re inspiring guerrilla gardening or grappling with governments, the academics at City University London’s Centre for Food Policy have one goal: to make food and everything associated with bringing it to our plates part of the national and international consciousness. Nicky Evans meets the three crusaders who consistently set the global food policy agenda and who have spent more than two decades hammering home the message that food matters.

The town of Todmorden, in West Yorkshire, is a town in bloom. Herbs sprout from the train station platform, fertile plots in the church cemetery double as raised beds and ears of corn wave in the breeze outside the police station. Wherever there’s a stretch of unused public land, there’s food – and it’s all free to anyone passing by.

The vegetables were the first stage in a multi-faceted project masterminded by activist Pam Warhurst. Tired of waiting for local government to rescue her town’s dying market and flagging high street, she came up with an idea to use the common language of food to bring her community together, branding it Incredible Edible.

“I’d had enough of waiting for others to do something,” explains Warhurst. “I wanted to see what we could do to help people rethink the way they live and the future environment they want for their children. I decided to put food at the heart of community, learning and business and motivate people to create change for themselves.”

What started as guerrilla gardening became a phenomenon that rejuvenated the town and its inhabitants. Warhurst encouraged allcomers to bring their individual skills to the project, with designers creating placards to describe the food on offer, green-fingered locals helping children to grow vegetables and keen cooks turning leftover produce into dishes to sell in the market. Once established, it went further, obtaining lottery funding for a ‘food hub’ at the town’s high school and developing donated land into greenfield sites.

So far, this resounding success story has inspired more than 200 similar initiatives in Britain and worldwide. Warhurst credits Professor Tim Lang, Professor of Food Policy at City’s Centre for Food Policy (CFP), as the inspiration behind Incredible Edible. “In 2007, I heard Tim remind us about the plight of the planet and future generations and I just thought, ‘Right, that’s it’. I made the whole thing up on the train home and it launched the following year.”
**A broad remit**

Although inspiring grass-roots projects in English market towns is not the bread and butter of the CFP, the fact that it played a part in the origins of Incredible Edible comes as no surprise, widening the breadth of scope of the Centre’s reach. Since moving to City in 2008, Professor Tim Lang and Martin Caraher and Dr David Barling have become major players in UK-based and international food policy conversations, sitting on advisory boards; working on international food policy conversations, and giving speeches about their research at international conferences. Their manifesto is a holistic public health outlook: looking at the food chain in its broadest sense and the impact such an approach has on public health and the environment.

“We are traditional academics trying to explore what a good food system is and holding up a mirror to society to ask, ‘is this what you want?’”

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**High stakes**

When it comes to food policy, there is much at stake, not least for the food industry, consumers, and the wider public. “The potential for environmental and big vested interests” are at play, according to Lang. As the global community works to rethink the issues around sustainable diets, big business is anticipating the potential consequences new policy could have – and using the CFP’s expertise.

“The CFP helps to identify issues and find solutions that lead to private sector initiatives or policy framework conversations,” says David Croft, Director of Quality and Technical at Waitrose. “The Centre helped us to assess the long-term sustainability of fish populations. All of our fish come from sustainable sources, but by 205 it will be fully traceable and there is no question that shellfish will ensure fish stocks are maintained in the long term. Tim’s insight into these issues and how policy might develop from them makes it easier for businesses like ours to invest large sums of money in the future.”

Navigating these choppy waters requires a steady hand, especially when the academics’ message might not be what everyone in the room wants to hear. However, those on the business side of the table say the CFP’s self-proclaimed “brutal but constructive” approach is a constructive networkers.” The way they approach problems and the fact that they have personal-level dealings with many people in the industry means that they can achieve what they would otherwise do,” says Opie. “Their approach is not about food politics for its own sake, but about diet related ill health. The report would go on to inform the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Food 2030 strategy, which aimed to address the long-term sustainability of the UK’s food system.

Andrew Opie, Food and Sustainability Director at the British Retail Consortium, who represents the interests of the big supermarkets, witnessed Lang and Barling at work when they were part of the government strategy group investigating obesity. “I saw Barling and Mauds report. He credits the CFP for its creation.

“Food Matters was very much a group effort, but the CFP’s big achievement was putting forward the need for such a document in the first place,” he says. “The CFP was one of the first groups talking about food policy, before anyone joined up food policy strategy and argued for policy that covers a lot more than just agriculture or food legislation.

Open up again through another door. We didn’t get the big picture.”

Part of this bigger picture involves planning for the future and this means nurturing the next generation of food activists, many of whom go on to fill advocacy roles at NGOs, take up policy-related positions within the private sector, or continue academic research. The research centre welcomed 43 postgraduate students in 2013 from all over the world; three times the number who enrolled when the Centre first opened at City.

“Tim, Martin and David are the seed bed of the next generation of well-informed food politicians, ” says Opie. “They are taking the next generation forward.”

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A world-class reputation

They also supervise PhD students: one of Barling’s current PhD candidates is studying urban food strategies at City as part of PUREFOOD, a Marie Curie-funded training programme which awarded the CFP a €250,000 grant. In 2012, he negotiated co-funding for a City Masters student to compare Australia’s National Food Plan with British policies formulated as part of Food and Food 2030. It is telling that the organisation funding her research is Australia’s national research centre, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation in Sydney, which had been impressed by a keynote speech Barling gave at its international conference.

So global reach and the fact that the CFP’s reputation has translated into international policy circles, means that the Centre is a beacon for the University’s worldwide reputation.

Professor Andrew Jones, Dean of the University’s School of Arts & Social Sciences, certainly thinks so. “The CFP is a truly world-leading centre which has given strength to this strength,” he says. “It is no exaggeration to say that colleagues within the Centre have been responsible for developing the whole field of food policy on a global stage and have propelled City to the forefront of global policy debate in this area.”

Despite their impact on the policy landscape and their contribution to the long-term rise in interest in food matters in Britain, the academics are wary of thinking about their place in history.

“We are no in place to talk about legacy,” says Lang. “We are too focused on the future. Britain is a divided society and the food sector illustrates that we face rapidly growing rich world hungry, a food system that’s compounding with its land use and a massive impact from diet-related diseases. I’m looking to the future. That’s why young people come to study with us from all over the world: we are asking the right questions.”

They are also inspiring non-politicians, like Wadburst, to question convention and, more importantly, to take action. “I hope we can help to break the sleep-walking into an environmental disaster,” says Wadburst, who is giving voice to a new generation, leading a challenging the status quo that has been shaped by his time in the political landscape and their contribution to the food and health debate.

“We have a symbiotic relationship with City,” says Lang. “We have grown with City over the years and as the University has become stronger, so have we.”

Lang argues that the CFP found a good home at City. “The University has been fantastic. It took us on us 13 years ago, when food policy and the questions we were asking academics, like City, gave us headroom and the space to be seen by not thinking that that risk has been paid back.”

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**Graduates of the Centre for Food Policy have recently established an alumni group. To find out more about talks and events, join the Centre for Food Policy, City University LinkedIn group.**
In this year’s edition of Five to Watch, we meet recent graduates going places in the worlds of technology, sport, healthcare, broadcasting and entrepreneurship.

Emma Barnes
BSc (Hons) Speech and Language Therapy, 2013

Since leaving City, Emma has been able to combine her passion for campaigning and political influencing with her love for speech and language therapy and desire to help others. She works at the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists, running the Giving Voice campaign, a UK-wide initiative to raise awareness of speech and language therapy and communication difficulties.

She emphasises how important it was for her career to develop her campaigning skills through her work as a part-time officer on the Students’ Union Executive Committee. In her final year at City, she was awarded the Outstanding Contribution to the Students’ Union Award and a Silver Carrot award for contribution to student experience.

Emma says: “The support that lecturers and staff at the Students’ Union gave me to combine a challenging degree with a busy Union role was invaluable in helping me to gain the skills I needed to be a campaigner.”

“Find out what you are passionate about and about it, use extra-curricular opportunities and get involved with everything happening at City,” Emma’s advice to City students preparing for graduation and their professional lives.

Philip Whitehall
BSc (Hons) Computer Science with Games Programming, 2013

Philip is a Software Engineer at the BBC, responsible for the development of the news website of one of the most prestigious broadcasters in the world. His career in broadcasting and web development started in 2006 when he was involved in online radio broadcasting through Radio Nintendo, where he produced live shows. He later went on to create XiinEngine, a platform for web development.

Philip’s freelance work allowed him to refine his skills as a developer and his time at City was also crucial for his career. He says: “City really helped me craft my career path, thanks to the Professional Liaison Unit and the wide array of modules available. The skills I acquired opened up many job opportunities after I graduated. My degree helped me with soft skills, like interacting with people and also with critical architected skills.”

Commenting about his current ambitions Philip says: “I want to make a big impact in either the software or broadcasting world. Both mean a lot to me and I want to be involved with these ideas at a higher level in the future.”

He expects that his next big step will be to become a product manager, either within a large organisation or working independently.

Anne Faber
MA Television Current Affairs Journalism, 2016

Anne Faber began her journey in food journalism when, during her time at City, she took an internship at ITY’s Saturday Cooks. After graduating she worked at Associated Press for over two years before she decided to pursue her real passion: food journalism.

On her internship experience, she comments: “City was a great stepping stone. The internship gave me a real insight into the industry and also got me my first job. It was the perfect placement! Who could have known that, five years later, I’d have my own cooking show?”

Anne became a regular freelance for Time Out’s Food & Drink section, worked for German television channels and has been writingber her food blog “Anne’s Kitchen” since 2010. In 2012 she was commissioned to write a cookery book and she also pitched an accompanying television programme to a broadcaster in Luxembourg. In 2013 the channel commissioned her show for two years and Anne’s ultimate dream is in the future to be adapted and broadcast to German television audiences.

Commenting on what she loves about her job, Anne says: “I love waking up every day and knowing that whatever I’m doing, I’m doing it for myself. I really enjoy the full spectrum of the creative process, from coming up with recipes to cooking, styling and photographing the final dish and writing little stories to accompany my recipes.”

Lanre Oyebanjo
BSc (Hons) Mathematics, Economics and Finance, 2013

Lanre is a professional footballer who combined his degrees in Mathematics and Finance, during his first year at City, with his training sessions at York City FC. In his first season the club won the FA Trophy and gained promotion to the Sky Bet League Two in a play-off final at Wembley Stadium. In June 2014 he joined League One side Crawley Town FC.

His job as a footballer involves training four times a week, competing in matches once or twice a week and, in the days leading up to a game, analysing the opposition and working on tactics and formation. Lanre says: “What I enjoy most about my job is the whole match-day experience. Running onto the pitch and hearing the fans roar gets my adrenaline pumping. This is where all the week’s training comes into action and where everything really counts.”

Completing his degrees at City allowed Lanre to reinforce his abilities to be organised, disciplined and focused when taking on new challenges and achieving results. He also feels that having a degree will help him when he retires from football. Talking about his ambitions he says: “I aspire to play at the highest level possible and become the best footballer that I can be.”

Jason Anastasinis
MSc Management, 2009

After graduating from Cass Business School in 2009, Jason faced a challenging decision: whether to join a major company and fight his way up the corporate ladder or channel his energies and passion into building his own company. He chose the latter.

In April 2012, after a couple of years of researching the travel market and using his educational experience, he launched his online company: TravelStaytion. The company is a letting and holiday rental website that attracts visitors from over 2,000 properties across Europe. In the early days Jason benefited from using the incubation facilities offered by the Cass Entrepreneurship Fund. With this support, he was able to start operating his company in London and employ seven members of staff, three based in London and four in Greece.

Jason’s favourite part of his job is to travel around the world, getting to know new cultures. That way, his company can offer the best service for holiday makers looking for accommodation, as well as attracting suitable property owners. “Every day feels like a trip for me and for the team. They provide the local feel for each destination we cover around the world.”
Fifty years ago, the Robbins Report asserted that university degrees ‘should be available to all who are qualified by ability and attainment to pursue them and who wish to do so.’ The Report’s recommendations heralded an era of expansion of higher education, but today, concerns remain that a student’s background can still affect his or her decision to attend university. Joanna McGarry asks what it means to widen participation in 2014.

In a darkened seminar room in the College Building, 15 captivated faces are glued to the projector screen as a thrilling car chase plays on screen and Metallica booms across the audio system. When the clip comes to an end, Dr Diana Salazar, Lecturer in Music at City, composer and sound artist, restarts it, but the music has now changed to a jaunty polka, giving the car chase an almost comical feel. Some of the students giggle, but the example has perfectly demonstrated the importance of synergy between music and visuals. The clips provoke an animated discussion of film composition and the way that music can contribute to the emotion and direction of cinematography.

The film composition workshop is one of a series of events organised as part of a Music Taster Week at City for 14 and 15 year olds and it offers just a snapshot of five days in the life of one of the hardest working teams at City. Danielle Russo, Head of Widening Participation, explains more: “We run events for students at primary and secondary schools in London. One day, we might have a group of Year six students (ages 10 to 11) visiting the University and the next might involve a Law Masterclass for Year 12 students (ages 16 to 17), led by City academics and students.” The ultimate goal of the Widening Participation team is to ensure that bright and capable students who face barriers to higher education have the resources and support they need to make an informed decisions about their future.

The students that Danielle and her team meet confront a variety of challenges. Typically, their parents or siblings might not have attended university and they will study at a school where few students progress to higher education. These issues might be compounded by economic factors: students may come from neighbourhoods with low average incomes and they may be entitled to free school meals. ‘Looked-after’ students – those leaving the care of local authorities at the age of 18 – also benefit from Widening Participation.
Participation support, as do students with disabilities.

In equipping these students with information about higher education, Danielle emphasises the importance of a joined-up approach. “Building a big part of what we do. City student ambassadors visit schools each week to support individuals or small groups of students in their learning. “The success of the tutoring scheme in raising academic standards is manifest: at the heart of Lord Robbins’ landmark ‘Higher Education Report’ in 1963, when he began his research in 1961, one of the main recommendations was to extend higher education to all students who are capable of attending university, but they should not be the deciding factor.” For students from low income backgrounds, organisations like SEO London and university-based teams like Danielle’s play a critical role in helping students balance their financial concerns with an awareness of the benefits of higher education and recognition of their own capacity to succeed.

Supply and demand

Of course, Widening Participation initiatives can only be effective if places are available for all students who are capable of attending university and wish to do so. This issue was at the heart of Lord Robbins’ landmark “Higher Education Report” in 1963. When he began his research in 1961, just four per cent of school leavers entered university, despite the fact that increased secondary school provision in the post-war period meant that more students than ever before were “qualified by ability and attainment.” The report emphasised the impact of educational, familial and economic backgrounds in determining which students progressed to university, roundly rejecting the argument that it was possible to “universalise an intelligence factor unaffected by education or background.”

Robbins recommended that higher education should be dramatically expanded to redress the imbalance between demand and supply and to open doors to university for students regardless of background. More places were made available at established universities and Colleges of Advanced Technology and Education, and the Robbins Committee granted the power to award degrees. Though Robbins foresaw the increase in student numbers that this shift would cause, it is doubtful that even he could have envisioned the steady rise in student numbers that continues to this day. The commitment to access for all transcends political party lines. In 1999, Tony Blair committed his government to a target of 50 per cent of young adults in higher education and in 2013, the current government plans to lift all student number controls, leaving universities free for the first time to accept as many qualified students as they choose.

The future

The economic, social and political debates that have shaped access to higher education for the past fifty years are absent from the Music Taster Week, where, after a trip to City’s Department of Music and lunch with student ambassadors, participants depart for a guided tour of the O2 arena in Greenwich. But Robbins would surely approve of the system: bright, capable students learning, experimenting and testing the waters of higher education for the first time.

For universities today, the commitment to supporting students does not end when they reach their goals and secure a place at university. City’s commitment to education for business and the professions dates back to the University’s earliest days as the Northampton Institute, when it was founded to train young men and women from Clerkenwell in key skills required by the industries of the borough, from horticulture to domestic economy.

As City’s neighbour has evolved since 1894, so has its professional educational provision: with Tech City, the City of London and Gray’s Inn on our doorstep, our courses encompass business and law, computing, languages and translation. Part-time and evening students also benefit from the University’s expertise in the creative industries, with short courses in event management, film making and writing.

City’s suite of over 120 short courses is designed with busy professionals in mind. Courses begin each term and mostly consist of ten two-hour classes, held once a week in the evening. Some courses include a weekend component and others take place entirely at weekends. Many subjects, including languages and computing, are offered at several levels, allowing students to progress over several terms.

Continuing Professional Development and Executive Education

Through City’s Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and Executive Education provision, those working in the legal, healthcare, business and translation sectors can develop and broaden their professional skills, benefiting from the expertise of academic staff at the University. Students may undertake modules on a stand-alone basis, or accumulate credit towards an undergraduate or postgraduate qualification. In the School of Health Sciences, short CPD courses and workshops cover a broad range of topics in the fields of nursing, radiography, midwifery, optometry, health management and leadership and speech, language and communication.

The City Law School offers a broad range of courses and skills workshops and it also regularly develops bespoke in-house training for companies and organisations. Cass Executive Education employs a variety of innovative learning methods in its provision of research and professional education in business, finance, and management.

For more information about short courses, please visit www.cityshortcourses.com.

For Information about Continuing Professional Development courses in Law, Health and Translation, visit www.city.ac.uk/courses/cpd.

To find out more about Cass Executive Education, visit www.cass.city.ac.uk.

Continuing your journey at City

City has a long-standing reputation for excellence in part-time evening and weekend courses and in 2013/14, over 4,000 people joined us to learn new professional skills and further their careers.
Learning to lead

In the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, leaders and leadership in the business world came under greater scrutiny than ever before. Jeremy Hazlehurst explores how innovative approaches to education at Cass Business School are equipping today’s leaders for a dramatically different landscape.

Arguably the most extraordinary moment in the whole of the financial crisis that exploded five years ago came in the House of Commons Select Committee of 10th February 2009. MPs asked Sir Tom McKillip and Fred Goodwin, the former chairman and CEO of the Royal Bank of Scotland, and the leaders of HBOS, Andy Hornby and Lord Stevenson, whether they — the men who had presided over the collapses of both banks — had any formal banking qualifications. Between them, they did not have a single such qualification. Given their seniority, the revelation prompted incredulity among politicians and the wider public. This moment, perhaps more than any other, cemented the idea that the crisis was caused by a failure of leadership.

Almost all business disasters can be traced to a leadership problem. When BP spilled billions of gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico, Chief Executive Tony Heyward got the blame, and the sack. When it transpired that Enron was crooked, CEO Jeff Skilling and founder Kenneth Lay were found to be responsible. Windows’ recent poor performance has been blamed on boss Steve Ballmer and over at Apple all eyes are on CEO Tim Cook. Can he fill Steve Jobs’ shoes?

When things go wrong people rarely blame a firm’s culture, or the shareholders’ unreasonable expectations. They blame the leader. And when things go right, they put the credit squarely on the shoulder of the leader.

Leadership matters and it’s no surprise that it is central to research and education at Cass Business School and other institutions around the world. But how have the lessons of the 2008 crisis affected leadership education?
How can businesses do their bit to make sure this generation of leaders avoids the disasters of the past? First, they become part of the solution and not part of the problem (see inset box).

Values and culture

The first way to look at these questions is to look at the type of leadership that is taught. According to Professor Cliff Oswick, Head of the Faculty of Management and Deputy Dean of Cass Business School, leadership education has changed in two main ways. “First, there is more value-based leadership, which is about authentic leadership—understanding what’s right and wrong and doing the right thing,” he says. Oswick adds that this “has a strong ethical strand to it and aims to set strong codes of conduct that the leader adheres to those values.”

The second change is that people are thinking more deeply about the notion of leadership and how it should be undertaken. There is a move away from dominant business culture tends to ignore the complex things like a firm’s philosophy, its management structure, the demands of shareholders or even whether its products are any good. Instead, there is a tendency to simply attribute credit or blame to the figurehead at the top, no matter what the truth.

Leaders are less important than the cultures they work in, go this line of enquiry and many of the failed leaders who were involved during the crisis were at the head of macho organisations with a leadership style that was both autocratic and hands-off, meaning they would tell people what to do, then pay little attention to what they subsequently did.

All of this means that some business schools were not good at educating managers, but rather people who can use models. There is a need to ensure that leaders understand the ethical dimension of their jobs, which is one reason why Baberjee and others were asked to set up the ETHOS Centre for Responsible Enterprise at Cass, whose aim is to encourage “responsibility, sustainability and good governance” among business leaders.

Delivering innovation

The second way to address the question of how leadership education has changed is to ask how the courses are actually being delivered. It is increasingly being delivered in a “blended” way, with a mix of face-to-face, on-site courses, and remote, technology-enhanced learning. This allows busy professionals who might not be able to spend time thoughtfully working their way through a long course to still dip into business education when they need to, allowing them to stay up to date with best practice and new thinking.

“How can business schools do their bit to make sure this generation of leaders avoids the disasters of the past?”

City’s Professional Mentoring Scheme is one of the University’s outstanding success stories: in the 2013/14 academic year, over 325 students benefitted from relationships with mentors united by their commitment to support, encourage and inspire. Here, we talk to Professional Mentoring Leader Thalia Anagnostopoulou and overview, we meet four of the Scheme’s stars.

Ask a group of mentors why they give so much of their time to the City Professional Mentoring Scheme, now in its 12th year, and you should be prepared to receive an array of answers. For some, the deciding factors might be a desire to help students facing a highly competitive employment market, in which professional skills and knowledge are increasingly important. For others, the chance to share the lessons they have learnt about the course of their career might be what appeals: many emphasise the difference they feel a mentor would have made to their own employee brand of ownership. Others still might emphasise how much they learn and gain from the mentoring process and from the students with whom they are paired.

There are, then, probably as many answers as there are mentors. What is apparent, however, is that the degree of enthusiasm mentors feel towards the Scheme and the belief they have in its capacity to develop and empower students is not of greater indication of this than the fact that so many mentors return, year after year. Of the 122 mentors in 2013/14, 54 per cent have been involved in previous years. As Thalia explains, many mentors have described the commitment they make to their mentee:

“I think mentors feel quite a connection to the University and to each cohort of students, not just their own mentors. We see mentors interacting through our social media channels, attending our networking events and often employing students from the Scheme: their involvement makes a huge difference to its success.”

In 2013/14, over 60 per cent of mentors were City graduates, but the role of City’s Alumni Network does not end there. Indeed, the expansion of the Professional Mentoring Scheme— which has seen the number of pairs grow from just 20 in 2002 to a projected 500 in 2014/15— would have been impossible without the financial support of donors to City’s Future Fund. “In 2012, we were able to bring Taryn Ferris on board thanks to the support of City’s Future Fund,” says Thalia. “This year, we pilots a graduate strand, in which mentors will be paired with students with whom they are paired.”

For more information about the City Future Fund, which provides funding for the Mentoring Scheme, please turn to page 14.

Anagnostopoulou, Mentoring Leader.

Mentoring Leader.

Mentoring Leader.

Mentoring Leader.
Professional Mentoring

Steven Adams
BSc (Hons) Mechanical Engineering, 1978

Steven is a consultant who advises organisations on subjects including business strategy, process re-engineering and quality planning. Until 2011, he worked at the Ford Motor Company in a variety of executive roles around the world. Steven’s relationship with Ford began at City, when he gained industry experience there as part of his ‘sandwich’ degree.

“When I left Ford after nearly 35 years, I looked around for projects that I had previously not had time to do. An email from the City Alumni Relations team inviting people to join the Mentoring Scheme came at just the right time: I replied asking whether I might be of use and within minutes a response of ‘yes!’ landed in my inbox.”

“I have mentored four engineering students in the last three years and I’m now proud to consider each of them as friends. I’ve watched them develop in different ways and I am so pleased to have played a small part in that process.”

“Today’s graduates are entering a competitive marketplace and the engineering sector is no exception. Participating in the Mentoring Scheme allows students to develop the attributes that will help them stand out in a crowd and have the confidence to aim high.”

Kerina Richards
BSc (Hons) Psychology, 2009

Kerina is a Financial Adjudicator at the Financial Ombudsman Service. At present, she is responsible for resolving financial complaints relating to the mis-selling of payment protection insurance (PPI). During her time at City, Kerina was part of an early cohort of mentees in the Mentoring Scheme. In 2014 she became a mentor for the first time.

“When I started at City I wanted to become a clinical psychologist, but as time went on, I found that I was more drawn to the business world. Participating in the Mentor Scheme as someone who was transformative, my mentor helped me clarify my interests, she gave me the courage to change direction and she emphasised the importance of networking.”

“I graduated from City when the economy was weak and many companies weren’t hiring recent graduates. Initially I worked in sales, ultimately managing a team of 20 people, before starting my current job in 2013. I have picked up a lot since I graduated, that was part of the reason I felt I could give something back to the Mentoring Scheme and current students.”

“When I returned to City as a mentor I was amazed at how much the Scheme had grown. I think that the Scheme works really well in bridging the gap between university and professional life and helping students stand out as they enter the employment market.”

Alla Lapidus
BSc (Hons) Business Computing Systems, 1986

Alla is a Director of Moonlight Media, a public relations agency that specialises in financial trading and technology. After graduating from City, Alla worked in the development of trading room applications before moving into technology product management, marketing and public relations. She joined Moonlight Media in 1999.

“My degree at City was quite technical, but at an early stage in my career, I realised that I enjoyed working with people. My company is immersed in the world of financial technology, so my grounding in that sector is important, but my day-to-day job is all about people and relationships.”

“I have mentored five students, all of whom have been very different. I’ve noticed that they often don’t realise how much they have achieved already and what they are capable of achieving. A big part of the mentoring role as I see it is building confidence.”

“One of the reasons I became a mentor is because I think graduates today face real challenges: when I was a student, good grades were often enough to secure a graduate job, but now students have to juggle their studies and home life with the pressures of getting internships and preparing multiple applications. Whether it is helping them to build their professional networks or polishing a cover letter, I hope that I can help them deal with some of these stresses.”

Laurence Jones
MA Property Valuation and Law, 2005

Laurence completed his MA at Cass Business School part-time while working for niche retail agency practice Dalgleish. He has subsequently worked for a number of leading global property advisors including CBRE, CBRE Global Investors, ING REIM and Picton Capital Limited where he is a Senior Asset Manager.

“I am not sentimental by nature, but the mentees I have worked with have, without exception, been superb, dedicated, ambitious, gracious and hard-working.”

“There is no fixed formula for success and every mentor/mentee relationship is different. Some mentees have a very clear set of tangible objectives. Others simply want a sounding board and some direction on where their future may lie.”

“Time, encouragement and honest feedback can have profound results. All of the mentees have worked hard, grown in self belief and achieved the things they set out to do. There is no better reward for helping them along the way.”

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The old adage maintains that “a picture paints a thousand words”, but for Professor of Visualization Jason Dykes, part of the challenge for the emerging discipline of information visualisation is showing just how powerful an image can be. “When we are trying to make sense of data, we are more accustomed to dealing with numbers. However, a visual representation of data can often be much more successful than a set of numbers in helping us recognise patterns, place data into a wider context of time and space and solve problems.” In a world where humanity now produces as much raw data in 48 hours as it managed to accumulate in its entire history to 2003, visualisation represents a powerful tool for governments, companies and individuals alike.

A collaborative approach

A recent partnership with E.ON, one of the UK’s leading energy providers, provides an example of how the giCentre’s techniques help businesses establish what they can do with their data. The UK Government has committed to installing smart meters, which give real-time feedback on energy usage to users and suppliers, in every home by 2020. For suppliers, the real-time readings generated by smart meter technology will provide more data than ever before about energy consumption. The giCentre worked with E.ON’s energy analysts to develop four visualisation prototypes (using sample data from a group of 100 homes) that would show peaks and troughs in daily demand, compare modelled to optimised solutions (to demonstrate, for example, the impact of energy-saving technologies), group consumption by appliance and identify trends and anomalies. The visualisations offered E.ON a snapshot of how it might harness the power of its data in the smart home era.

The E.ON project is a case study in the collaborative approach that characterises the giCentre and is crucial to its success. As a student from above, finding giCentre academics were involved in designing and developing the prototypes along with PhD-students lain Dillingham and Alex Kachkaev (pictured), while Sarah Goodwin, who is also studying for a PhD in visualization, was involved in design workshops and design specification and coordinated much of the activity. They worked closely with colleagues from elsewhere at City: Dr Sara Jones, together with PhD-student Graham Dove and Research Fellow Allison Duffy from the Centre for Creativity in Professional Practice coordinated creativity and evaluation workshops through which design needs and possibilities were established; while the energy consumption modelling generated by Dr Veselin Rakocevic characterises the giCentre and is crucial in the collaborative approach that the giCentre stable is an indication of the applicability of visualisation techniques across the breadth of human activity. Some of the giCentre’s best known work uses Transport for London’s data on the Cycle Hire Scheme to map travel patterns in the capital, while other projects have explored voter bias in London local elections and interacted working with the Ministry of Defence to help the military understand local populations.

Global reach

As befits a group of academics whose backgrounds are predominantly in the field of geography, the giCentre is embedded within a global network of visualisation experts. The E.ON project was undertaken in partnership with the IMEDEA Energy Institute in Spain and the giCentre regularly collaborates with other leading data visualisation groups in countries including France, Germany, Japan, the United States and Australia. In March 2014, the giCentre was awarded €500,000 of EU funding to explore the potential for the use of visualisation in criminal intelligence analysis, part of a wider €13 million VALCRI project involving 13 other European partners. That the VALCRI project – which will involve mapping data of different types and from different sources to help intelligence analysts develop hypotheses and establish narratives – alongside the E.ON project in the giCentre stable is an indication of the applicability of visualisation techniques across the breadth of human activity. As befits a group of academics whose backgrounds are predominantly in the field of geography, the giCentre is embedded within a global network of visualisation experts. The E.ON project was undertaken in partnership with the IMEDEA Energy Institute in Spain and the giCentre regularly collaborates with other leading data visualisation groups in countries including France, Germany, Japan, the United States and Australia. In March 2014, the giCentre was awarded €500,000 of EU funding to explore the potential for the use of visualisation in criminal intelligence analysis, part of a wider €13 million VALCRI project involving 13 other European partners. That the VALCRI project – which will involve mapping data of different types and from different sources to help intelligence analysts develop hypotheses and establish narratives – alongside the E.ON project in the giCentre stable is an indication of the applicability of visualisation techniques across the breadth of human activity. Some of the giCentre’s best known work uses Transport for London’s data on the Cycle Hire Scheme to map travel patterns in the capital, while other projects have explored voter bias in London local elections and interacted working with the Ministry of Defence to help the military understand local populations.

From left, Professor Jo Wood, Alex Kachkaev, Professor Jason Dykes and Dr Aidan Slingsby

The Demand

The Demand prototype pictured here shows daily consumption of energy by device through a dynamic interface. Daily patterns can be compared and the effects of possible energy savings on overall demand, due to behavioural change or more efficient devices, can be explored.

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Mumbai calling

The Department of Culture & Creative Industries has been educating in the field of cultural and arts management for 40 years. Alumna Shireen Gandhy (MA Arts Administration, 1987) talks to Professor Andy Pratt of the Department about her time at City and her work as Director of Gallery Chemould Prescott Road in Mumbai.

CONTRIBUTOR:

Professor Andy Pratt is an internationally-renowned scholar in the field and a policy advisor to UNESCO. He joined the Department of Culture & Creative Industries at City in 2015.

Gallery Chemould was founded in 1963 by Kekoo and Khorshed Gandhy and over the course of its fifty-year history, it has represented major artists in India’s modernist and contemporary art movements. In 1988, following her year at City, Shireen Gandhy joined her parents at the Gallery. Under her leadership, Gallery Chemould has focused particularly on showcasing the work of young emerging artists with experimental and interdisciplinary approaches. In 2007, the Gallery moved to the expansive space shown in these images.

What is your unique quality as a gallery?

We promote art and artists, rather like agents promote writers, but more so, as galleries act as an indicator of value. It’s important to stress how we place our artists more and more in significant collections: not just private but also public collections, which have the status of being purchased for the state. At the end of the day this is what counts most. “What museum collects a gallery’s artists?” or “what museum exhibitions has a gallery’s artist had?”

As an owner/director of a private gallery what does your job entail?

“Finding” the right artist that fits your gallery programme is the first step. Then comes the relationship between artist and gallery, which is almost as binding as a marriage contract – not just in terms of an actual paper contract, but in terms of the give-and-take that a gallery and an artist have with each other. Each artist plays a part in the development of a gallery programme. Exhibition planning, which involves a curatorial, advisory role can take a long time to develop, and then comes the actual exhibition planning – reaching out to the press, designing the brochure, designing the exhibition and finally setting up and presenting the exhibition.

On the other side you then have the “marketing” of the show: just in the way you develop and build artists and develop and work with collectors. If artists have fragile egos that need to be looked after, so do collectors. The gallery becomes a mediator between the two. Developing and communicating with a fantastic database is of essence when running a gallery – it becomes the spinal cord of the business in many ways. Apart from that, keeping the gallery global also means keeping the website active, contemporary and accessible: that is a very important part of the gallery activity.

What were some of the highlights of your year at City and how did the MA help you?

When I was a postgraduate student, one of the advantages was the student community: there were people who were interested in dance, music, theatre. It exposed us at the start of our careers to each other, so that we are able to draw more audiences and create an atmosphere that nurtures and draws more people and even after 25 years I still maintain those contacts.

What are some of the challenges of running an art gallery in Mumbai? Is your work changing with growing wealth and an expanding middle class?

Our audience, regardless of social class, has not grown up in a museum-going environment; the large (and growing) middle class are not necessarily eager consumers of any form of art. The population is massive but the audience is extremely niche, extremely select and despairingly small!

That said, in a city like Mumbai, the private gallery scene is really vibrant. There are at least 11 very serious galleries that follow a programme of their own, have an identity and could exist on par with many other galleries in the world. This helps in the general cultural climate of the city: on a given Saturday afternoon an art enthusiast has several options of where to go and most of them are concentrated within a certain district.

The galleries also work closely with each other, so that we are able to draw more audiences and create an atmosphere that nurtures and enhances the prospects of art in the city. We work together in creating larger exhibitions by sending joint invitations. We take on initiatives which invite scholars and speakers to educate our collectors.

Visit Chemould Prescott Road’s website at www.gallerychemould.com. Find out more about City’s Department of Culture & Creative Industries at www.city.ac.uk/cci.
While the first January might be the time for champagne and resolutions, at City, the new year begins in September, when corridors, cafes and lecture theatres come to life after the long summer break. Here, a current student and member of staff share thoughts on their years at City.

Daniel Cox, Senior Admissions Officer

I work within a team that handles applications for undergraduate courses: we are the referees in the enormous context of over 20,000 applicants vying for just under 2,000 places. Between September and January of each year we receive the majority of undergraduate applications. Just as most people are starting to wind down for Christmas, everyone in our office is getting busier! Between January and March, I work through prospective students’ applications and assess whether they have met or are likely to meet the University’s entry requirements. Working with academic colleagues, I look at grades or predicted grades, but I also consider personal statements, work or voluntary experience and references. After Easter, I’m often out of the office, supporting colleagues in Undergraduate Marketing and Recruitment as they attend fairs and conferences for prospective students. We sometimes have to field strange questions: two of my all-time favourites were: “Is City University London in Newcastle?” and “Do midwives get tips after a baby is born?”

In August of each year, we receive the exam results for all students holding a Conditional Offer from City. Over a period of three days, we go through each set of results to see which students have met their offers. Then, on the day that students receive their A Level results, Clearing begins. This is when we can recruit qualified students to fill any remaining undergraduate places. We convert a floor on campus into a call centre and (with the help of student ambassadors and a lot of coffee) field over 30,000 calls from students hoping to secure a place at City.

By the end of August, Clearing is over and I begin to prepare for the arrival and registration of new students. Just as Welcome Week winds down, the first batch of new UCAS forms arrive and the cycle starts again.

Anna Summersall, MSc Speech and Language Therapy

My first year at City as a postgraduate student has involved juggling a full timetable of lectures and tutorials, clinical placements, Widening Participation work and volunteering. The nerves I felt as I moved from Newcastle to London in September were quickly forgotten as I embarked on a three week intensive biomedical science course. Though it was a baptism of fire, the course was also a good opportunity to meet my fellow students: when Welcome Week finally arrived at the end of September, I had already made some friends and we attended some of the Students’ Union events together. I’ve also got to know London with them, with trips to museums, nights out to pop-up cinemas and foodie excursions to Borough Market.

Once Welcome Week was out of the way, we settled into our weekly timetables. Four days a week, we have lectures, tutorials and masterclasses run by academic staff and therapists and on the remaining day, we attend our clinical placements. Attending placement from the very start of the course has been really helpful: the integration between theory and practice also means that I find myself applying material from my lectures to my work in the clinical setting. Though my degree is intense, I wanted to continue with some of the extra-curricular activity I was involved in as an undergraduate. So at the start of the year, I applied to become a Widening Participation ambassador. Since then, I’ve been involved in welcoming primary and secondary school students visiting City and helping out with group discussions and activities. I really enjoy it and the experience of working with young people is useful for me as a therapist. I’m also a volunteer with the Stroke Association and the Giving Voice campaign.

After the Easter holidays, the focus shifted from lectures and placements to preparing for exams, which take place in May and June. This is definitely the most challenging part of the year: thoughts of the summer are keeping me going through long days in the library!

Over to you

We would love to hear your thoughts on this year’s City Magazine, your memories of life at City and news of your life since graduation. We are also always keen to hear from alumni willing to share their experiences with current and prospective students or interested in acting as alumni group coordinators.

Please contact us using the postal address, email address or telephone number detailed below. If you would like to provide feedback on the Magazine and help us to plan future editions, please complete our short survey by visiting www.city.ac.uk/2014citymagazine/feedback.

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