

Vice-Principal Public Engagement & Student Enterprise's Report to Senate

National Watermark Accreditation

QMUL have been awarded the National Co-ordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE) Watermark, recognising institutional cultures supporting excellence in public engagement. QMUL are the first Higher Education Institution to attain the chartermark-style accreditation, with the level of award to be formally announced later this year.

Funding for PE activity

The Centre for Public Engagement's allocation of the College's Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF) funds for public engagement 2016 have been allocated this month. Over £90K has been awarded to nine projects at the time of writing, running across the Faculties and with the potential for significant impact.

Recognising and Rewarding Excellence

The Engagement and Enterprise Awards 2016 will open next month to recognise excellence in the application of QMUL research and learning through work in public engagement, academic innovation, student enterprise and public relations. Winning entries will be announced at a dinner event on Tuesday 7th February 2017.

Centre for Public Engagement Staff Changes

Following the departure of Charlotte Thorley and Bryony Frost, the Centre for Public Engagement has now been joined by Kimberley Freeman as Executive Officer for Public Engagement and Sarah Barnes as Public Engagement Officer.

Kimberley Freeman joins QMUL from her previous role as Partnership Communications Manager at the Medical Research Council, having previously been Public Engagement Manager at UCL, while Sarah Barnes has previously worked in public engagement roles at the Institute of Physics and University of Surrey.

Award winner's success

One of our Grow It award winners, Jamie Crummie, has experienced great success since launching his app Too Good To Go earlier this year. He's featured on The One Show, in the Evening Standard, the Metro, the Independent, and has even had a BuzzFeed article written about his app. Too Good to Go is a social enterprise with an app that lets restaurants sell their unused food to customers at a reduced price at the end of the day, to avoid it going to landfill. <http://toogoodtogo.co.uk/>

Tier 1 entrepreneur visa

Another of our graduates endorsed with the Tier 1 graduate entrepreneur visa has successfully secured the full Entrepreneur Visa. Chris Verbick is the second of our endorsed graduates to secure the Entrepreneur Visa. For more details of his business visit <http://www.cinterdesign.com/>

Enterprise trials for the QMUL Model

Two of the enterprise programmes run from Careers & Enterprise are being trialled for inclusion in the QMUL model next year; InQUBEate, our 8 week training, mentoring and funding programme, and the East London Social Hack, our bootcamp event that requires students to come up with ideas for social enterprises to solve local problems experienced in Tower Hamlets.