

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

Recognising and Rewarding Excellence - The QMUL Engagement and Enterprise Awards 2017 ceremony took place on 7th February. The event recognised excellence in public engagement, innovation, enterprise and public relations linked to QMUL research and learning. Finalists included co-produced film projects, museum exhibitions, performance-led social action, business spin-outs and media campaigns. Details of all winning and highly commended projects from across all three QMUL faculties are available on the Centre for Public Engagement webpages: <http://www.qmul.ac.uk/publicengagement/prizes/>

We are launching the first Community Celebration Awards in 2017, which will recognise the impacts QMUL staff, students and community partners are having on the social wellbeing of local communities and wider society and recognise how local, national and international communities shape QMUL's work. The deadline for nominations is Tuesday 28th March 2017: www.qmul.ac.uk/festival

Winning entries will be announced at the Community Celebration event being held on Wednesday 17th May which will also launch the Festival of Communities 2017.

Festival of Communities - The second Tower Hamlets Festival of Communities will be taking place on Saturday 20th May and Sunday 21st May 2017. The Centre for Public Engagement are looking for QMUL academics, support staff and students to run interactive activities and demonstrations as part of the programming.

Social Enterprise Festival Collaboration with City University – from 17th – 24th February 2017 qEnterprise collaborated with City University to put on the first collaborative Social Enterprise Festival. Events hosted by QMUL included an 'East London Social Hack' Bootcamp, free legal and financial advice clinics run by qLegal and qNomics, and a social enterprise focussed 'Start Up Stand Up' event featuring successful student alumni businesses Too Good To Go and Motus Innovations.

<http://socialenterprisefestival.london/schedule/>

East London Social Hack Bootcamp - 50 students were tasked with setting up social enterprises in just 3 days to address local community problems. Following the popularity of the inaugural event in March 2016 the bootcamp was expanded this year with the support of an £18,500 grant from the UPP Foundation. This allowed the bootcamp to be expanded from 2 to 3 days, and enabled the winning teams to receive a package of workspace and mentoring for 3 months in co-work space Launch 22, along with £500 of funding to market test their ideas.

The three winning teams were UP-grade – an enterprise putting on extra-curricular workshops in schools to raise grades; Wooland – an enterprise promoting social cohesion in East London through musical events, and Fiscal Fitness – a financial education service for secondary school students.