Senate Update: Public Engagement and Student Enterprise

Engagement and Enterprise Awards – Nominations are due to open for the next annual Engagement and Enterprise Awards, with the awards ceremony due to take place in early 2018. The awards seek to recognise excellence across public engagement, media relations, enterprise and student enterprise.

CPE Large Grants Scheme – The Centre for Public Engagement (CPE) recently re-launched its successful large grants scheme, with updated criteria, to better support engagement activities across QMUL. The scheme aims to support public engagement projects across QMUL which can be delivered over the next year. This year the scheme received 19 applications.

CPE Training update – The Centre for Public Engagement (CPE) has recently expanded its training provision for QMUL staff and students with the launch of new courses and a new timetable. New courses include "Introduction to evaluating public engagement and Impact", and "Applying for public engagement funding", and the popular "Introduction to public engagement" course is now due to run more often over the year. This means there will be a total of 25 core sessions per year (in addition to bespoke sessions delivered for individual departments or teams), which is a substantial increase from the previous academic year where only 10 sessions were available.

Student Enterprise - The Enterprise team has secured a new funding deal with Santander that will fund a new full time Enterprise Programme Coordinator post in the team for the next 3 years to help with the adaptation of InQUBEate (QMUL's start up incubator programme) from an extracurricular to in curricular module.

Santander Universities Entrepreneurship Awards - Ariel Kamara, 2014 Design Engineering graduate and winner of a £5000 qEnterprise Grow It award, won the semi-finals in the 'post-revenue' category of the Santander Universities Entrepreneurship Awards for his business 'Kam Alive', a raw chocolate company he set up with his sister that creates confectionary that is wheat-free, dairy-free and sugar-free. He is now down to the final 6 of 2000 entries and is pitching in the finals on 5th October for a chance to win £25,000.

UnLtd Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award - Jamie Crummie, 2016 Law graduate and winner of a £5000 qEnterprise Grow It award won the 'UnLtd Social Entrepreneur of the Year' award in June for his social enterprise 'Too Good To Go' that prevents food waste from restaurants going to landfill. This is the second time a QMUL student has been awarded the prestigious title.

UnLtd HEI Recognition Awards - QMUL received 'Highly Commended' in the UnLtd HEI Recognition Awards in the category 'Innovation in Partnership & Ecosystem Development'. This was in recognition of the Social Enterprise Festival that qEnterprise had hosted in collaboration with City University.