

Senate Update: Public Engagement and Student Enterprise

Engagement and Enterprise Awards – Nominations are open for the annual Engagement and Enterprise Awards, the deadline is 8th December. The awards ceremony is scheduled for 27th February 2018. The awards seek to recognise excellence across public engagement, media relations, enterprise and student enterprise.

CPE Large Grants Scheme – This year the Centre for Public Engagement (CPE) Large Grants Scheme, received 19 applications. 7 excellent projects were funded (3 from Science and Engineering, 2 from Humanities and Social Sciences and 2 from Medicine and Dentistry).

Being Human – A Festival of the Humanities – QMUL was represented across 7 projects in the Being Human 2017 programme (between 17th and 25th November 2017). These projects were supported by the CPE team, who coordinated a joint funding bid to secure funds for the festival activities. Being Human is a national programme of events, led by the School of Advanced Study, University of London in partnership with the Arts & Humanities Research Council and the British Academy.

Public Engagement Officer – The CPE team recently recruited for the Public Engagement Officer role, and are delighted to welcome Katherine McAlpine to the team. An experienced museum professional and events programmer with a background in learning, cultural events and science communication. Katherine previously led public programmes at the National Maritime Museum, and is a Museums Association representative for London. She previously worked for the Royal Institution and Natural History Museum.

QMUL and Community Meet-up – On 29th November 2017 the CPE and Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service (THCVS) are hosting an opportunity for voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations and QMUL staff and students to meet each other and to explore working together more closely and what this could look like, including how to build links between research and VCS work.

NCCPE Engage conference – On 6th and 7th December 2017 The CPE team will be presenting a session at the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE) Engage conference on QMUL's Festival of Communities. The session aims to highlight the work QMUL is leading on in community and public engagement.

Nacue's Varsity Pitch - QMUL's InQUBEate alumni 'Motus Innovations' came first in the national Varsity Pitch competition on Monday 13th November, winning £10,000 for their stroke rehabilitation business.

Launch of GradVenture – a cross UoL pitch competition - An annual entrepreneur pitch competition 'GradVenture' was launched during Global Entrepreneurship Week, managed by a cross college group chaired by QMUL. The competition brings together the most entrepreneurial students across the University of London, and in this launch year we had 7 different universities involved including Kings, UCL, SOAS, Goldsmiths, St Marys, City and QMUL. 7 finalists pitched for a share of £5000 prize money. QMUL's current InQUBEate business 'Hexad' won second place for their customised microbrewing business, while the top prize of £4000 was won by Twipes from City University.

QMUL host to Enterprise Nation's 'Start Up 2018' event in January - On January 13th QMUL is hosting Enterprise Nation's annual 'Start Up' event; a day of workshops and seminars that helps 2000 people to start up companies. qEnterprise is managing a student zone of the event which will have our student and alumni entrepreneurs running workshops, and will have a 'Makers Market' displaying and selling products from our entrepreneurs.