



Senate

Paper Title	Vice-Principals' reports
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to note the Vice-Principal's reports
Points for Senate members to note and further information	N/A
Questions for Senate to consider	N/A
Regulatory/statutory reference points	N/A
Strategy and risk	N/A
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	N/A
Authors	Professor Irene Leigh, Interim Vice-Principal (Health) Professor Matthew Hilton, Vice-Principal (Humanities & Social Sciences) Professor Wen Wang, Vice Principal (Science & Engineering) Professor Stephanie Marshall, Vice-Principal (Education) Dr Philippa Lloyd, Vice-Principal (Policy and Strategic Partnerships) Professor Andrew Livingston (Research and Innovation) Sheila Gupta MBE (People, Culture and Inclusion) Professor Colin Grant, Vice-Principal (International)
Sponsor	N/A

FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY – REPORT TO SENATE DECEMBER 2021

Research Awards

The Faculty's research award income to date for 2021/22 is £54.5m which is significantly up on the same period in 2020/21.

Indicative major awards include:

- Genes and Health, led by Professor David van Heel has had exceptional success in the awarding of £21m commercial consortium investment.
- Professor Kairbaan Hodivala-Dilke, BCI: CRUK, £1,798,615
- Professor Ken Suzuki, BCI: MRC, £538,221
- Dr Susana Alves Godinho, BCI: CRUK, £146,895
- Professor Cos Pitzalis, WHRI: ARUL, £248,726
- Professor Stefan Priebe, WIPH: NIHR, £182,760
- Professor Ruth Dobson, WIPH: NMSS, £225,634

Leadership

At the time of writing, interviews had been held for the substantive Vice Principal (Health) position with a strong field of candidates having applied for the role. The following senior leadership positions are currently or will shortly be out for recruitment:

Director of the Blizard Institute [following the appointment of Professor Jo Martin as Deputy Vice Principal (Health)]

Director of the Institute for Health Sciences Education [Professor Jo Brown is currently the interim Director]

Dean/Director of Digital Education

We also intend to recruit in the near future to a Deputy Dean for Continuing Professional Development and Executive Education to take design and implement a portfolio in this area.

People, Culture and Inclusion

On Monday 29th November, the Faculty gave its first presentation to the EDISG on its work to date to promote equality and inclusivity across the breadth of its activities. The key messages within this presentation were:

- In 2019, only 1 of the Faculty's institute (co-)directors was a woman; in 2021, 50% of the Faculty's institute directors are women. There is insufficient ethnic diversity at this level of leadership, however.
- Changes to our governance structure has seen a significant improvement on boards chaired by women. In 2020, 12 boards were chaired by 9 male staff; in 2021, of the 27 boards in the Faculty, just under half (13) are chaired by women.
- The most 20/21 promotions round saw the highest number of applications from women (21) with a 100% success rate.
- The establishment of the Damiete Harry EQUIP Student Mentoring programme for black students, funded by the Westfield Foundation.
- Responsibility for leading on or contributing to citizenship projects as set out in the Faculty EDI Action Plan has been embedded in *all* new role profiles.
- In October 2021, the Faculty ran its first Women in Science award through the flagship research symposium The William Harvey Research Day. The 2021 winner was Professor Kairbaan Hodivala-Dilke.

- Through a revamped website, the Faculty now has a dedicated area for research on health inequalities which underscores how our cultural values strongly inform the research we undertake. Indicative high impact research includes research on: dementia and disproportionately high death rates in the socio-economically deprived; gender disparities in clinical trial leadership during the Covid pandemic; and the disproportionate health impact of Covid on those from minority ethnic communities.

Humanities and Social Sciences VP report to Senate December 2021

Dr Isabel Waidner, author and Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing/Performance in the School of English and Drama has won the prestigious 2021 Goldsmiths Prize for their novel *Sterling Karat Gold*. Launched in 2013, the Goldsmiths Prize rewards fiction that breaks the mould and extends the possibilities of the novel form.

Professor Phoebe Okowa, Professor of Public International Law in the School of Law has been successfully elected to the UN International Law Commission, following her nomination by the Government of Kenya earlier this year.

The School of Law has launched its new Centre for Climate Crime and Justice to address the role governments and organisations play in deepening the climate crisis. There are numerous pieces of research, events, and activities taking place within HSS Schools in response to this important issue.

Research news

Schools have been allocated £50K to put towards local initiatives to support a return to research after the challenges created by the Covid 19 pandemic. Alongside a relaunch of internal funds disseminated by the Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IHSS) in the form of Large Grant Seed Corn grants, and funds available for impact and knowledge exchange projects, the focus for the coming period is on supporting staff to get back on track with their research priorities.

The IHSS is supporting the recruitment of 25 new strategic lecturers and senior lecturers across the Faculty. The positions are open to all HSS disciplines and are based around these strategically important thematic areas: environment, sustainability and climate; public humanities and public policy; big data and digital humanities; health and well-being; equalities, inequalities and diversity. Successful candidates will become IHSS Fellows to work on interdisciplinary initiatives, particularly over their first three years at Queen Mary.

Interdisciplinary approaches to research continue to be encouraged by working groups being set up by IHSS. In response to the current Net Zero research agenda we are assembling a team from across the Faculty to consider questions regarding the Climate Emergency.

Education news

Learner Engagement Analytics

HSS is working closely with the ITS and Planning teams to develop our engagement practices in line with the new policy and software expansion. The student-facing dashboards will be piloted in two schools in HSS and one programme in S&E.

Research Bursary Scheme

Given the success of the pilot scheme last year, we are running a Student Research Project Bursary scheme again this year. This scheme will give students on HSS taught programmes the opportunity to gain experience of research and scholarship, by carrying out projects to assist academic staff. This has now been expanded to Teaching & Scholarship staff for projects relating to education and scholarship as well as research.

We will be running the scheme in two tranches. The first tranche of 50 projects launched in November 2021, with an expectation that the work will be carried out over the 12 weeks of Semester B, commencing in January. The second tranche of 50 projects will launch in the Spring, with an expectation that the work will be carried out in June/July 2022.

“I would absolutely recommend this to other undergraduates. It offers a great insight into a career in research, whilst providing a number of transferrable skills. I was well-

supported throughout my time with them, so the whole experience was really enjoyable." (HSS UG student, 2021)

HEA Fellowship 'Boot camps'

We continue to commit to ensuring that as many staff as possible are accredited as Fellows of the HEA. Deputy Dean for Education, Elizabeth Gillow, has set up three further 'boot camps' for HSS staff on 20 January, 7 March and 28 April 2022 with consultant Patsy Cullen.

Assessment and Feedback

In response to the NSS results we are focusing on assessment and feedback as an area for prioritisation. We are planning to run an assessment and feedback workshop series in the new year with the QM Academy, looking at how we provide feedback on assessment to students. As an example, the Law School is reviewing their feedback and assessment structures and has been conducting focus groups with their students to understand where they can improve.

New Faculty Posts

We have recruited two student support and engagement roles which will help Schools to review and develop their engagement and support practices. This will help to address areas where there are gaps and ensure our students have the best experience when studying in HSS.

We also have a Faculty Digital Learning Manager joining us in December to lead on the development and delivery of our Faculty digital learning community.

HSS in the news

The Guardian (along with many media outlets) reported on Dr Tamara Atkin's (School of English and Drama) discovery of two rare manuscript fragments hidden away in a 16th-century book in the Bodleian Library in Oxford. Throughout the sixteenth century, unwanted manuscripts and printed books were frequently reused for a variety of purposes as paper and parchment were expensive commodities.

Professor Tim Bale (School of Politics and International Relations) received coverage in *the Guardian* and *The Independent* for his co-authored book 'The British General Election of 2019', the latest edition of what is widely viewed as the definitive academic guide to general elections. Professor Philip Cowley (School of Politics and International Relations), who wrote the chapter on the calling of the election, also contributed an opinion piece to *The Times*.

Dr Eileen Tipoe (School of Economics and Finance) delivered strong coverage for HSS in the *Daily Telegraph* and *Evening Standard* for her research on daily routines during lockdown, and also separately featured in the *Financial Times* – being shortlisted for its 2021 Bracken Bower Prize.

Professor Kate Spencer (School of Geography) was featured in the *Daily Mirror*, which ran an extended piece on landfills and household waste. It also covers Professor Spencer's ongoing work analysing what impact the plastic, asbestos, and toxic batteries from the landfill visited at Tilbury are having on the water.

Shabna Begum (School of Geography) appeared on *BBC News* as part of her research into Bangladeshi squatters from the 1970s, discussing how young Bangladeshis can now gain inspiration from the actions of their elders.

Professor Matthew Hilton
Vice Principal (Humanities and Social Sciences)



Senate

Paper Title	Vice Principal (Science & Engineering) - update
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to note the report.
Points for Senate members to note and further information	This report provides an update on activities relating to key priorities between September 2021 – November 2021, detailing developments in Education, Research and Transnational programmes.
Questions for Senate to consider	N/A
Regulatory/statutory reference points	N/A
Strategy and risk	Relates to all aspects of QMUL strategy and all sections of the Risk Register.
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	For Senate only
Authors	Faculty Deans and Faculty Office Managers
Sponsor	Professor Wen Wang, Vice Principal for Science & Engineering

Summary

Since my last report, Science and Engineering has been working hard to provide an interactive and student-centred MME, with a continued focus to improve student satisfaction. I am pleased that the Faculty has received 20 nominations for this year's Education Excellence Awards/President and Principal's Prizes. We continue to strengthen our research base with a number of prestigious research grants and with a number of industry collaborations. We are making steady progresses in new partnerships in Mexico and China. We restarted the Faculty Inaugural Lecture programme in November, with celebration events taking place from our Head of School of EECS, Professor Steve Uhlig and Head of School of SPCS, Professor Peter Hobson.

Education

S&E continues to deliver its teaching activities in accordance with Queen Mary Education Principles. The majority of on campus classes have been redesigned to be interactive, student-centred classes delivered by MME.

The Dean and Deputy Dean for Education have held a series of meetings with Schools to consider, in detail, the results of the 2021 NSS and PTES. Programme "Organisation and Management", and "Assessment and Feedback" emerged as recurrent themes impacting on student satisfaction. The Schools have been asked to address these issues along with the actions discussed at the 2020/21 Annual Programme Reviews (APR).

NEtP rates vary dramatically between Schools and improving student progression (strategic KPI-6) remains a priority for the Faculty. With the removal of the COVID mitigation measures for 2020/21, the proportions of students who are NEtP has rebounded back to levels seen pre-pandemic across S&E Schools. We have identified that this is a particular challenge for 2020/21 among continuing Year 2, 3 and 4 students. The fact that 2-3% of students in each of these years had a pending result due to alleged assessment offences underscored the importance of adapting assessment design to accommodate online, open book assessments.

To inform the Annual Programme Reviews (APR) and this year's Planning Round, HoS and DoE were issued with "module use sparse matrixes" indicating the numbers of students selecting particular combinations of elective modules at each academic (NQF) level. Although this work is still ongoing, several programmes have already been simplified and some specialist programmes have been removed from the programme portfolio for 2022/23. This has liberated resource within Schools to help deliver oversubscribed modules in other degree programmes and develop new taught programmes with greater market appeal.

I am delighted the Faculty received 20 nominations for this year's Education Excellence Awards/President and Principal's Prizes. These were considered by a Faculty panel with the top 7 nominations (2 team and 5 individual nominations) to be put forward to the final shortlist for the awards event on 14 December. More importantly, these nominations are a strong reflection of innovation and good practice to enhance education and the student experience across the Faculty.

Research

The Faculty continues to be successful in receiving substantial research grants amounting to over £8.5m during this period. This includes six EPSRC grants in EECS, SEMS and SMS, three BBSRC grants in SBBS, four STFC grants in SPCS and three Innovate UK grants. The Faculty have secured industry collaborations with Aston Martin Formula One Team, Sumitomo Corporation, Steinberg Media Technologies, Unilever, Qinetiq and Adobe. Colleagues in the Faculty, together with DERI and SMD, were successful in the BBSRC Collaborative Training Partnership with Exscientia, Merck and Heptares to deliver a new doctoral training programme that will train researchers to apply cutting-edge Artificial Intelligence expertise to the discovery and development of new drugs. The Faculty also received funding from EPSRC of over £2m (provisional) for Doctoral Training Partnership from 2022/23.

We are delighted to see that Professor Lars Chittka was elected to the prestigious German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. The Leopoldina was founded in 1652 and is one of the oldest academies of natural sciences and medicine in the world. Professor Chittka was one of 45 leading academics elected this year and was recognised for his long-standing work on the intelligence of honeybees and bumblebees. Further details can be found here: <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/media/news/2021/se/queen-mary-professor-elected-to-germanysnational-academy-of-sciences.html>

Dr Chris Chen (SPCS) was featured in the BBC 2's Universe: The Sun programme where he discussed the NASA Sun Parker Solar Probe mission, which is first-ever mission to "touch" the Sun. Further details can be found here: <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/spcs/news-and-events/news/items/dr-christopher-chen-was-featured-on-bbc2s-programme-universe-the-sun-.html>

Finally, Professor Michael Pluess was featured in a Guardian article where he discussed sensitivity as a continuum in which extreme sensitivity could be a strength. Further details can be found here: <https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2021/nov/15/visionaries-overemotional-people-happiness-sensitivity-smells-sounds>

International

I am pleased to report that we submitted the new Hainan partnership with BUPT to the Chinese Ministry of Education in November. MoE is currently reviewing our submission and SET members will later be invited to an interview meeting in support of the application.

We are making steady progress with our initiatives in Mexico. On the 30th of November, Queen Mary signed a landmark agreement with the Polytechnic foundation (PF), Mexico, which includes more than 20 initiatives for IPN academics and students. These initiatives will mark a new way to work in Mexico.

Celebration events

On 10th November the Faculty hosted Professor Steve Uhlig's Inaugural lecture. Steve was introduced by our President and Principal, with a large number of colleagues and friends joining the celebration online and in person. Preparations are now underway for Professor Peter Hobson's Inaugural lecture, which will take place on 7th December both in person and online.

EDI

I am delighted at the news that Queen Mary University of London has been ranked as the country's top university for social mobility (by the Institute for Fiscal Studies in partnership with the Sutton Trust and Department for Education). The study looked at which courses at English universities are the best for mobility. I am delighted that Computing and Mathematics programmes in Science & Engineering are ranked the top in the country along with Economics from Queen Mary.

Further details can be found here:

<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/media/news/2021/pr/queen-mary-named-best-university-in-the-country-for-social-mobility.html>



Senate

Paper Title	Vice-Principal (Education) – Update
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to note the report
Points for Senate members to note and further information	This paper provides an update on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education Leadership• Teaching, learning and assessment• Annual Programme Review and Enhanced Programme Review pilots• The National Student Survey• Student Surveys• The Queen Mary Academy• Office for Students and regulatory matters• Student engagement
Questions for Senate to consider	N/A
Regulatory/statutory reference points	N/A
Strategy and risk	Relates to the Education and Student Experience aspects of Strategy 2030, and associated risks
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	For Senate only
Authors	Robert Cashman, Executive Officer (Education)
Sponsor	Professor Stephanie Marshall, Vice-Principal (Education)

Vice-Principal (Education) Update – December 2021

Education Leadership

1. The October Programme Director and Director of Education fora meetings received an update on the Annual Programme Review (APR) process for 2021/22. The November meetings discussed education delivery in Semester B, covering pedagogy, delivery, student support and best practice. A celebration event will be taking place on 13 December to recognise the huge commitment and contribution to education made by Queen Mary's Directors of Education and Programme Directors over the past year.
2. Members of Senate are invited to note that since the last meeting the Vice-Principal (Education):
 - a. Wrote a blog on 'Building Back Better in Higher Education', which has been [published](#) by the Student Futures Commission.
 - b. Was a panellist for a discussion on 'How to create an environment for quality teaching and learning outcomes' at the [Times Higher Education's Teaching Excellence Summit](#).
 - c. Attended the Times Higher Education Campus Live event, including a roundtable on how technology can enhance learning and assessment.
3. Professor Janet De Wilde was an invited speaker at the European Policy Dialogue on Supporting the enhancement of learning and teaching. She presented 'A National Case Study in Leadership in Teaching'.
4. The final [report](#) of the Developing Flexible Ecosystems Project, led by Professor Janet De Wilde and Danielle Thibodeau, has been published by Advance HE. Queen Mary received funding from Advance HE's Collaborative Development Fund to lead the project.
5. A recent [report](#) by the Institute for Fiscal Studies in partnership with the Sutton Trust and Department for Education ranked Queen Mary as the top university in England for social mobility. The report additionally set out the top 20 courses for social mobility, with Computing, Maths and Economics at Queen Mary ranking as first, second and fourth respectively.
6. Nominations for the [Education Excellence Awards and President and Principal's Prizes](#) closed on 12 November. 49 nominations were submitted from across the University and were considered by the selection panels during late November. The Awards and Prizes will be presented at a mixed-mode ceremony on 14 December.
7. An internal panel has taken place to select the University's nominees for National Teaching Fellowship and the Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence in 2022. Those colleagues will now be working with the Queen Mary Academy to develop their applications.
8. The call for contributions for the [2022 Festival of Education](#) has recently closed. The full programme will be published soon. Booking will open in early 2022.
9. [Professor Simon Kemp](#), Professorial Fellow in Education for Sustainable Development within the School of Geography and Environmental Science at the University of Southampton and THE's 2013 Most Innovative Teacher of the Year, has accepted an invitation to give the 2022 [Drapers' Lecture](#). This will take place during the Festival of Education, on the evening of 8 March 2022.

10. The first two sessions of the revamped Heads of School and Institute Directors programme have now taken place, with further sessions to take place across the 2021/22 academic year. The programme is led by the Vice-Principal (Education) and Deputy Vice-Principal (Education – Strategic Projects).

Teaching, learning and assessment

11. Discussions are underway at ESAT and SET regarding the future approach to mixed mode education (MME), building on the work which took place over the summer to develop MME for the 2021/22 academic year. This will inform the work of SP111 (Scaling-up blended delivery).
12. An evaluation has been conducted of the [‘Get Ahead’](#) programme, which was launched in August 2021.

Annual Programme Review (APR) and Enhanced Programme Review (EPR) pilots

13. Professor Tony Michael, as Deputy Vice-Principal (Education), has been leading a review of the procedures for programme review as part of SP109. Historically, these procedures have been an annual School/Institute-level review of programmes (Annual Programme Review, or APR), and a broader whole-School/Institute review every six years known as Periodic Review.
14. The review has sought to design more dialogic and agile procedures that are aligned with the 2030 Strategy, and to introduce more streamlined processes that support Faculties, Schools and Institutes in the management of their programme portfolios and developments. At the same time, the processes must meet institutional obligations to measure, maintain and enhance academic quality and standards through compliance with the Office for Students’ conditions of registration and alignment with the measures of good practice outlined in the Quality Assurance Agency’s UK Quality Code for Higher Education.
15. A new Annual Programme Review (APR) is currently being piloted, at School/Institute-level, with reports to the relevant Faculty Dean for Education. The APR is informed by a PowerBI dashboard which sets out the relevant KPIs, as well as analysis of external examiners’ reports, minutes of SSLC meetings and other relevant information. The future timescales for the APR will be aligned with the annual planning process, and the deadline for programme and module amendments.
16. During Semester B, a new process, Enhanced Programme Review (EPR), will also be piloted. The EPR will be conducted less frequently and offer a deeper dive into programmes. It will be overseen by the Vice-Principal (Education) and draw on input from external advisors. EPR replaces many aspects of the previous Periodic Review, but (unlike Periodic Review) focuses solely on academic provision. The Deans for Education will be making recommendations on which Schools/Institutes should participate in the pilot to be conducted in Semester B.
17. A report on the APR and EPR pilots will be brought to EQSB and Senate later in 2021/22.

National Student Survey

18. The Office for Students has recently published the detailed arrangements for the 2022 NSS. This has confirmed that the core questionnaire will not be changing for the 2022 survey, and that there will not be questions on the COVID-19 pandemic. A sample of students will be invited to participate in a pilot of a revised questionnaire, and a

consultation on the NSS will take place in the summer of 2022.

19. The 2022 NSS will be launched at Queen Mary during week commencing 24 January.

Student Surveys

20. The University will be participating in the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey in 2022, with further details to be confirmed in due course.

21. The Office for Students has recently announced its intention to run a pilot survey for postgraduate taught students between April and May 2022. This is further to the testing of a PGT questionnaire which took place in 2019.

22. New core questionnaires for module evaluation, as well as updated policies and guidance for module evaluation and student surveys have been approved by EQSB and [published](#).

23. The Student Voice Taskforce will be holding its first meeting in December.

Queen Mary Academy

24. 21 projects have received funding from the Westfield Fund for Enhancing the Student Experience during the 2021/22 academic year. Full details are available from the Queen Mary Academy [website](#).

25. The Academy has recently published its annual impact report for the 2020/21 academic year. This is available via the [website](#), and was included on the agenda at the last EQSB meeting.

26. The Academy's submission for reaccreditation from Advance HE of the taught programmes and teaching recognition programme has been submitted. As part of the reaccreditation, the Academy is seeking to award Fellowship at Principal Fellow (D4) and to introduce a new dialogic application process as an additional route to Fellowship, involving a professional dialogue. Feedback from Advance HE is expected no later than 25 November 2021.

27. Recruitment will shortly commence for student interns to support the work of the Curriculum Enhancement project. There will additionally be up to six Vice-Principal (Education)'s Student Research Interns, who will support research on students' views of teaching excellence and on developing student confidence.

28. The Academy hosted a workshop on 'Embedding Sustainability in the Curriculum' during Queen Mary's Sustainability Week in October. Educational Sustainability will be highlighted during the Festival of Education.

29. The Academy is developing a 'PhDs Who Teach' programme. Any colleagues who are interested in this training for their School or Institute are invited to get in touch with the Academy. It is also delivering Learner Engagement Analytics workshops across the University. 18 Schools/Institutes will have taken part by the end of November.

Office for Students and regulatory matters

30. The OfS recently published a [report](#) on assessment practices, which examined the policies on spelling, punctuation and grammar in written assessment at a small number of higher education providers. This report was considered at the last EQSB meeting.

31. A consultation on the future of the TEF is expected later this year, alongside a consultation on the B3 Condition of Registration.
32. The OfS is currently consulting on its proposed strategy for 2022-25. A response is being drafted and will be considered by SET.

Senate update: VP (Policy and Strategic Partnerships): October - December 2021

London City Institute of Technology (IoT)

Agreement has been reached with Siemens Mobility, CBRE Investment Management and the Port of London Authority to support the IoT and further develop our Degree Apprenticeship offering as “anchor employers”. The funding and licence agreements with the DfE and GLA have now been agreed and these were finally signed at the beginning of December. The project team have therefore begun detailed design activities for the London City Island building to ensure readiness for September 2022, and the formal announcement of the IoT agreement took place on 8 December.

We are also:

- continuing work with our IoT partner, Newham College, on the joint marketing and PR events for the launch of the IOT;
- liaising with Ocado on the Robotics Automation level 7 Trailblazer group with Cranfield University and the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education
- collating and centralising the QMUL employer database in readiness to undertake bespoke target marketing campaigns;
- developing an IT strategy with Newham College to support the systems and infrastructure requirements to secure growth for the IoT.

Executive Education/CPD/Enterprise Activities

Short Courses & Online Joint Task and Finish Group:

- Following engagement with internal stakeholders, a short, mid and long-term action plan is being developed to help overcome the blockers that are preventing sustainable growth.

Queen Mary Enterprise Zone (QMEZ):

- We have launched two new open recruitment courses:
 - Organisational Culture for Technology Companies
 - Corporate Social Innovation for SMEs
- We have successfully agreed preferential rates for members of the wider QM community to support the 2030 strategy and our commitment to provide accessible lifelong learning. This includes:
 - 20% discount for QM alumni
 - 20% discount for current QMEZ tenants
 - 10% discount to current London Borough of Tower Hamlets residents
 - 10% discount to current QM staff and students
 - Tailored benefits for corporate partners – making our wider offering more attractive and comprehensive
- Save the Date: We will be formally launching the Queen Mary Enterprise Zone/celebrating one year of successful operations through a launch event to be held on 17 March 2021. This is a chance for prospective tenants to find out more about the space and our services and give an opportunity for QMEZ staff and tenants to reflect on the success of the past year and the changing nature of the workplace following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bespoke Training:

- International College of Medicine: We have signed an agreement to provide Anatomy skills training for ICOM, utilising our state-of-the-art Malta Campus

- Global Health Academy: We have signed an MOU and agreed one Surgical skills short course for GHA, based in Bangalore, India. We are currently exploring options for growth in other areas of healthcare and dentistry.
- International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI): we have signed a tripartite MOU with IMLI and University of Malta to jointly deliver an International Maritime Law Academy in 2022.

Degree Apprenticeships

The central apprenticeships team are busy working with other parts of Professional Services and Schools and Faculties to put the arrangements for and oversight of our apprenticeships on a sounder footing. We know that we will be subject at some stage to an Ofsted inspection and, separately, an audit by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, and we need to be ready for those. Their activities over the past month include:

- Reviewing the Marketing literature for the degree apprenticeships and to redesign the course information sheets.
- Working with the Marketing team to update and redevelop the website and publicity material.
- Setting up a task and finish group to work on the degree apprenticeship processes and systems.
- Working closely with the Student administration team to resolve internal SITS issues impacting on the individualised learner return (ILR) return and fixing the ILR mismatches and data funding issues.
- Cleansing the ILR data records to resolve legacy funding issues.
- Chasing up outstanding employer payments.
- Recruiting a Compliance Manager.

Public engagement and civic responsibility

Queen Mary has been awarded the first ever Platinum Engage Watermark in the UK by the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement, in recognition of the sustained excellence in support for public engagement both within the Centre for Public Engagement and across the university.

Linked to this, the Centre for Public Engagement will launch a new Public Engagement Action Plan in 2022 with five guiding principles:

1. Remove barriers to public engagement
2. Recognise & celebrate good practice
3. Embed good practice across the university
4. Build equitable partnerships
5. Champion the value of engaged universities

Other key activities from the Centre for Public Engagement over the past two months include:

- Working with the NHS Confederation and Civic University Network to [launch a new report](#): *Reimagining the relationship between universities and the NHS*
- Raising the profile of Queen Mary's public and civic engagement as speakers at the NCCPE Engage Unconference, [London HE Week](#), and London Higher's Civic Map launch
- Presenting Queen Mary's approach to civic and public engagement to Queen Mary Council

- Celebrating Living Wage Week via an event hosted by the Mile End Institute exploring the [history of the real Living Wage](#)
- Launching the CPE's internal funding opportunities for the new academic year, enabling staff and students to apply for monthly small grants of up to £1,000 and annual large grants of up to £10,000
- Managing Queen Mary's largest [Being Human Festival programme](#) ever submitted

The Centre for Public Engagement is continuing to develop Queen Mary's Civic University Agreement. Key activities include:

- Sharing our progress to date and the potential shape of the agreement with key external stakeholders across east London and civic engagement nationally to gain feedback.
- Hosting a Civic University Network London Forum breakfast meeting to discuss civic engagement with attendees from UKRI, Goldsmiths, Brunel, UCL, Imperial, King's College London, Sheffield Hallam, and the Institute for Community Studies.
- Hosting a workshop with the Institute of Community Studies and Queen Mary's Senior Executive Team in November to explore the research gathered and final CUA options. SET's workshop provided a very helpful steer to drafting the final agreement, including:
 - The agreement will be based around tangible areas of work defined by feedback gathered from east London stakeholders, students and staff
 - Queen Mary should advance its role as a leader of civic engagement
 - The agreement should build on Queen Mary's mission of opening the doors of opportunity
 - The agreement should acknowledge our place in east London and our impact globally

We have supported the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to submit an NIHR HDRC funding proposal to build a research collaboration system around health determinants and inequalities, in partnership with the University of East London and London Metropolitan University.

Sustainability

We have continued to take forward initiatives that support the delivery of our environmental objectives and our strategic commitment to embed good environmental practices across our operations. Examples include:

- We achieved EcoCampus Environmental Management System (EMS) Gold on 8 July 2021 after an external environmental audit, and our ISO 14001:2015 and EcoCampus Platinum environmental management system (EMS) certification audit has been scheduled for April 2022. The external certification will cover all operations across our UK and Malta campuses. In preparation for this audit, we have commissioned three pre-certification audits to be conducted across our Mile End, Whitechapel and Charterhouse Square campuses.
- We have also recently (between 5 and 22 November 2021) delivered the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Foundation Certificate in Environmental Management (FCEM) to 11 professional services staff (two of these colleagues are based in Malta). These staff will be actively involved in our ISO 14001:2015 EMS certification processes as well as in the operational delivery of our environmental objectives.
- We held our inaugural Sustainability Week in October ahead of COP26 and are analysing the feedback as well as reflecting on lessons learned.

- We are currently running a campaign tagged “Climate Crisis: Let Us Stop Wasting Energy”. The purpose of this campaign is to encourage staff and students to become more proactive in eliminating energy wastage. As part of this campaign; messages promoting good energy practices will be shared on staff payslips, in the monthly residential newsletter and via a suite of different platforms.
- We have commissioned a consultant (Hysopt) to develop our heat decarbonisation and net zero strategy. This project is funded from the recent grant of £124,399 that we received from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).
- We have continued to use operational installations across our campuses to enhance the experiences of our students. Recently our Sustainability and Energy Manager coordinated a tour of energy installations across our Mile End campus for a group of MSc students from the School of Engineering and Material Science (SEMS). This is aligned with our long-term aspiration to make our campuses into living laboratories.

Mexico initiatives

A wide-ranging strategic partnership with the National Polytechnic Institute of Mexico (IPN) has been agreed and work to take this forward is being led by Teresa Alonso, me and Sharon Ellis. We are also now starting to receive students from the Mexican institutions of CIMAV and UABC to undertake a research Masters with us.

Vice- Principal (Research and Innovation) Update- December 2021

Research Highways

We have some exceptional areas of research excellence at Queen Mary, but for external audiences and partners it can be tricky to identify where these are. In an effort to showcase our strengths more effectively, the Research and Innovation Board have been working on identifying a small number of Research Highways. These highways are interdisciplinary, drawing together areas of shared-focus and expertise across the faculties to provide both depth and quality.

The Research Highways are:

- Sustainability, energy and environment
- Digital, information and data
- Life-long health and wellbeing
- Performance, communication and creative industries
- Accelerating innovation and invention

Running through the highways will be the values of Queen Mary's Strategy 2030, particularly our ambition to open the doors of opportunity to become the most inclusive university of our kind anywhere. This will include questions exploring equality/inequality, inclusion and diversity which Queen Mary is ideally placed to answer and which set our research apart.

Work will now begin to take this forward. Working with each School/Institute, we will conduct a heat-mapping exercise to show how our research aligns with each highway. We will also make some changes to our website to show case our existing work in each area and to communicate this to external audiences. Finally, the Impact Team working with Business Development will begin a series of exercises and sandpits to promote internal connection and collaboration. Further details of these will be announced soon.

University Research Institutes

Following discussions at the Researcher's Forum, Research and Innovation Board, SET and at the Heads of School meeting, we have now confirmed the operating model for university research institutes (URIs) and identified the next two we will develop. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to these enjoyable and productive discussions.

1. Purpose and rationale for URIs

The URI purpose remains to drive new, high quality and value, interdisciplinary, multi-faculty research through large (> £1M value) grants and contracts, to increase Queen Mary's engagement with industry and sponsors, and to provide world class research environments. These key operating arrangements will cover the already-established Digital Environment Research Institute (DERI), and further URIs that are developed. The target is for two new URIs to be established by October 2022.

URIs should provide:

- Multidisciplinary – carry out research across disciplines and faculties
- New areas of enquiry / address new research questions
- Relentless and undistracted focus on research
- Vibrant, energised research environment
- Provide depth of expertise
- Act as a beacon for talent
- Take on game changing projects that are too big for any one current school/institute

- Strengthen branding and reputation
- Research-led teaching URIs can be the seeds of new schools and institutes

URIs should do the following:

- Be win-win for schools and institutes
- Collaborate, convene, coalesce - but NOT COMPETE with schools and institutes
- Do new research not already going on in schools and institutes
- Enable new and further research in schools and institutes
- They should not take resources away; they should grow income in schools and institutes
- Create and maintain facilities and platforms that we don't have elsewhere
- Create new external partnerships and relationships
- Have an end point plan in 5 years (continue; close down; create school/institute for transfer to faculty)

2. Finance and Support Arrangements

Each URI will be set up as its own cost centre, with a new dock in point to finance established. The new cost centre and URI Professional Service staff will have access to Worktribe to manage grant activity, and a clear line of support on post award in JRMO for each URI will be identified.

Where there is a faculty-based PI or Co-I applying for funding with a URI based PI or Co-I, the funding will flow in the normal way back to the URI, School or Institute, based on the proportional budgets agreed in Worktribe.

The underwriting funding for URI posts is via the Strategic Fund for the first 3 years. The URI academics will be expected to be recovering their salary costs before year 4 of the URI's existence. This can be through grants they have brought with them on joining the URI or new grants won.

3. Financial Benefit of URIs to Institutes and Faculties

- Grants won by URI Academics with Faculty colleagues will be divided based on the FTE effort between URI and Faculties → URIs will **measurably increase** research income to faculties.
- **URI academics can be PI or Co-I** on grant applications with faculty PIs and CoIs.
- Grant income will flow through to the relevant Faculties just as multi school/institute grants do, and as agreed on Worktribe at the time of application following the budget division between the parties.
- **Example** – URI academic leads a £4M grant with 3 faculty Co-Is, one each from HSS, S&E, SMD. The Worktribe budget in all 4 is equal. If grant is awarded, revenue is credited as £1M URI, £1M HSS, £1M S&E, £1M SMD.

4. URI Staff

URI based academics will report to the URI Director, who in turn reports to the Vice Principal Research & Innovation. There will be an agreement on an amount of any teaching provided by the URI academic into the relevant school/institute agreed between the URI Director and relevant Head of School/Institute, with the ultimate decision maker being the URI Director.

ECRs that are recruited by URIs will be given deliberately balanced workloads to ensure that research is favoured in the first 3 years.

5. Other Operational Arrangements

- The branding of the URIs will be as Queen Mary University Research Institutes
- The URIs will feed into the planning round for resourcing and assessment of progress
- The URIs will have access to RCIF funding
- PGRs will be able to enrol directly in the Institute

6. Who should be appointed to the URIs?

- Roles will be advertised and open to external and internal candidates.
- Professors who join should already come with a substantial fraction of their directly incurred salary cost covered by existing grant income. They should be willing to bring some of their existing research group if appointed, to ensure continuity of excellence in research and capacity to build the URI.
- Readers or senior lecturers can have smaller amounts of DI costs covered and we need to show flexibility based on the general availability of research funding, i.e. the EPSRC portfolio is 10x larger than AHRCs. Benchmark data will be updated so we have income per FTE comparison with other Russell group Institutions.
- Professors role profiles will make clear their responsibilities to collaborate with Faculties on large grant proposals, the need to build partnerships to enhance Queen Mary's reputation and to support faculty academics and ECRs when winning large grants
- Each Director would have funding to appoint an Institute Manager plus a Business Development or Research Manager, and access to prioritised resources in pre and post award, finance and HR to support the Institute Manager

7. How do we attract people to URIs?

- Clearly articulating our Research Highways and research ambitions.
- Identify leaders and court them
- Providing a compelling package including research space. Where space is freed up for the URI, carry out light touch renovation and refurbishment, so there are lab and office facilities ready for people to move to. Undertake subsequent detailed fit out where required for those with wet lab requirements.
- Market opportunities for investment in supporting infrastructure through RCIF and the Strategic Fund. For example, in DERI the RCIF funds have been used to enhance High Performance Computing (HPC).

8. Next University Research Institutes

We are pleased to confirm the two next URIs we will develop. The first is the **Queen Mary University Research Institute in Precision Healthcare**. Within this URI, there will be three new centres: 1) Centre for MedTech and Devices, 2) Centre for Therapeutic Innovation, and 3) Centre for Omics and Single Cell Analyses.

This URI builds on our existing research excellence in genomics and in life sciences, our trusted partnership with Barts NHS Trust, and the innovation eco system we are establishing in Whitechapel. Together, these factors provide a powerful set of tools to foster collaboration between Queen Mary, the NHS and industry to deliver patient benefits locally and globally, in strong support of the UK Government's Life Science Vision.

Recruitment will begin early in 2022 and a temporary home for the URI will be created within our existing campus. Its permanent home will be in the new Queen Mary Life Sciences building (to be built on Whitechapel Plot C), part of the Barts Life Science Campus, in Whitechapel.

The second is the **Queen Mary University Research Institute in Sustainable World**. This URI will unite our cross-faculty expertise, to provide a holistic response to the challenges

posed by the climate emergency. In January, we will begin to bring together groups of Queen Mary researchers to help us develop out the themes and centres within this URI.

Recent successes

There have been many successes over the past year, and I would like to record my thanks and appreciation to Senate, our researchers and our PS colleagues who have worked so hard to deliver these. I would like to recognise briefly four successes that we have been notified of since Senate last met:

- Professor David van Heel (Blizard Institute) has won a contract of £21m as part of the East London Genes and Health Project. This exciting award is one of the largest in Queen Mary's history, and is made up of contributions from industrial partners including GSK, Merck and Takeda. East London Genes and Health is a long-term study of 100,000 people of Bangladeshi and Pakistani origin, linking genes to health records to study disease and treatments. The study is led by Queen Mary, partnering with Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.
- Professor Greg Slabaugh (Digital Environment Research Institute) and colleagues from SMD and S&E have secured a BBSRC Collaborative Training Partnership in AI and drug discovery. This partnership has brought £2m+ funding to train the next generation of AI native biological scientists, partnering with Exscientia, Sosei Heptares and Merck to deliver industry relevant skills.
- Professors William Alazawi (Blizard), Márta Korbonits (WHRI) and Edel O'Toole (Blizard) who have secured £11.6m in funding from Wellcome, The Medical College of Saint Bartholomew's Hospital Trust, Barts Charity, City, University of London, Barts Health NHS Trust and East London NHS towards The Health Advances in Underrepresented Populations and Diseases (HARP) PhD Programme. HARP will train 32 healthcare PhDs over 8 years, working with City University of London. The programme focuses research toward people and diseases that have been traditionally underrepresented in healthcare studies.
- Professor Matthew Hilton (History) has received a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship. This was incredibly competitive, with only 30 Fellowships awarded out of 195 applications.

Congratulations to all involved!

Research Capital Investment Fund Projects Update

A number of the projects funded through RCIF are now – or will very shortly be – installed on campus and available for research. These represent a total investment of £2.9m in research facilities at Queen Mary:

- The **High-Performance Computer** for the Digital Environment Research Institute (DERI) is now online and operational. Andrena, as the computer has been called, is available to researchers affiliated with DERI.
- In January, a new **Transmission Electron Microscope** will be installed in Science and Engineering. A second unit will be installed in February.
- A new **Cell DIVE Imager** will be installed in the Blizard Institute in January. This will be the first imager of its kind in the UK and will bring state-of-the-art capability to our imaging suite.
- The first element of a **Spatial Transcriptomics and Proteomics Platform** will be installed in the Blizard Institute in January.

Improving our research infrastructure at Queen Mary will remain a priority for the Research and Innovation Board in 2022, and we look forward to keeping you updated about the progress of the projects funded through RCIF through the next year. We would like to recognise the hard work of Ricardo Saryoan-James (SDO) who has been instrumental to the delivery of these facilities in 2021.

Vice-Principal (People, Culture and Inclusion) – Senate Update December 2021

Athena Swan Institutional Silver Submission for Re-accreditation

1. The University recently submitted its submission for re-accreditation of its Institutional Athena Swan Silver award, which it gained in 2016. This work was led initially by the Gender Equality Self-Assessment Team (GESAT), which more recently broadened its remit to become the Gender Equality Action Group (GEAG), denoting that its work encompassed issues beyond the Charter, that are also important in progressing gender equality.

2. I should first like to extend my immense thanks to GESAT and GEAG, its working groups, and to colleagues and students from across the whole Queen Mary community, for their invaluable contribution to the work that has been advanced to progress gender equality at the University. The institutional submission necessarily builds on the excellent work done at School and Institute level, without which an institutional level submission would not be possible. It is also important to state that the University's commitment to promoting gender equality is founded upon our desire to achieve enduring culture change, it is not driven by the ambition to attain the kite mark, though the external recognition that it confers is positive endorsement for the University.

3. The application draws upon an extensive array of quantitative and qualitative staff data and feedback, including the 2019 Staff Survey, the 2021 Athena Swan Survey, the 2021 Parents and Carers Survey, and 2021 Carers' focus groups. The narrative was drafted by the EDI Manager (Gender), in consultation with GEAG working groups and their chairs, colleagues in Human Resources, Queen Mary Academy and Strategic Planning, and academic and professional services staff with significant experience of leading School Athena Swan applications from across all Faculties.

4. Some of the headline findings evidenced through the data include:

Positive impacts from the changes introduced to the academic promotions process in 2020:

- Increase in eligible women applying for Senior Lecturer (19.9% in 2020 to 25.2% in 2021)
- Increased success rate for women applying for Senior Lecturer (increased from 62.1% in 2020 to 84.2% in 2021) and for Professor (increased from 45.5% in 2020 to 78.6% in 2021)

Reducing our Pay Gaps

- A marked reduction of our median gender Bonus Pay Gap ¹ to 0% in 2020 (from 50% in 2017/18), and progress to close wider Pay Gaps, due to reforms to the Staff Bonus Schemes.

Reducing the overrepresentation of women on FTCs

- A reduction in the use of Fixed Term Contracts (FTCs) for Teaching-only staff due to increased University level scrutiny, reduced from 62.1% in 2017/18 to 53.0% in 2020/21.

Increasing our representation of women at board level

- A steady increase in representation of women at board level (across SET, Senate and Council):
 - SET 20.0%F 2016/17 and 41.7%F in 2020/21

¹ Including Clinical Excellence Awards

- Senate 22.2%F 2016/17 and 27.8%F in 2020/21
- Council 45.0%F 2016/17 and 55.0%F in 2020/21

Increased data transparency and visibility

- The introduction of internal Staff Profile Dashboard details four years' workforce data to help inform trends and local decision making (e.g., gender, ethnicity, seniority/job profile splits, School, Institute and Directorate level data)

5. Our Gender Impact Plan sets out our detailed actions for the next five years designed to deliver Strategy 2030. Within the plan, we have identified five flagship actions in accordance with the charter, as we are required to identify a small number of high priority areas. These are summarised below:

- Designing innovative gender equality initiatives as part of our People, Culture and Inclusion Enabling Plan
- Enhancing academic promotions processes to improve application and success rates for women and BAME staff, to increase representation at senior levels
- Addressing the gender and ethnicity pay gap
- Transforming recruitment processes to address the underrepresentation of women, men and BAME staff at different levels of the university
- Promulgating inclusive leadership programmes to improve the representation of women and BAME staff at middle and senior levels of leadership

6. There are three possible outcomes of the Athena panel process: 1) award granted, 2) minor revisions, and 3) major revisions. With both minor and major revisions, the expectation is that if the panel request is fulfilled, the application would then meet the award criteria and qualify for Silver.

The outcome of the process is likely to be known at the end of April or shortly thereafter.

Visit by Minnesota HE Delegation to the UK

7. The University was delighted to host a visit by a delegation of HE representatives from the State of Minnesota. The President and Principal, Professor Colin Bailey, welcomed the guest delegation, which was led by the First Lady, Gwen Walz, and comprised other senior HE leaders from a number of institutions from across the State. The delegation was particularly interested to learn about our work in promoting inclusion and social mobility in enhancing the student experience.

8. During my presentation, I made reference to the breadth of activity and innovative initiatives that are being co-created by students and faculty at school level; and by the Queen Mary Academy (QMA) centrally, working with faculty and students. Examples of the initiatives that I presented included the Student Engagement Project, with specific reference to the design of the Academic Advisor role and related workshops, tutorials and advice that are now available as a central resource. I also explained how the use of learner engagement analytics was helping to inform decision-making, for example, identifying students early who could benefit from extra academic support, pastoral care or mental health support.

9. The delegation were particularly interested to learn about how our student interns were playing a key role in curriculum enhancement in relation to assessment and feedback; reviewing and refreshing graduate attributes; and establishing a set of principles for developing an inclusive curriculum.

10. The ambition to improve the talent pipeline to encourage more diverse students into post graduate study was seen as a shared challenge. I discussed the work being led by the Doctoral College in collaboration with industry partners, such as IBM, to support students navigate the PGR application process; provide hands on experience of research projects; offer a skills enhancement programme; and provide mentoring and career modelling to show the range of career opportunities that are accessible to our students.

11. The University's approach to working in close collaboration with the Student Union, to ensure that the student voice is reflected in our governance and strategic projects through membership of key University committees, also generated a high degree of interest.

International Work - Gender Advancement for Transforming Institutions

12. In February, Queen Mary, and five other UK universities (including UCL and KCL), were selected through a competitive process to take part in the Gender Advancement for Transforming Institutions (GATI) project being run by the British Council and the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, to introduce a gender equality framework across the HE sector in India, drawing upon the Athena Swan model.

13. Under the initiative, each UK institution is partnered with up to six Indian Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Queen Mary has been partnered with:

- Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Central Drug Research Institute
- Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research
- Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
- All India Institute of Medical Science, Bhopal
- Jamia Millia Islamia

14. A Queen Mary project group has been established comprising academic and professional services staff with representatives from each of the Faculties and has hosted one

introductory workshop with four others planned for the first half of 2022. The workshops are designed around the aims, aspirations and needs of our partner institutions. The intention is that institutions will share experiences, approaches and good practice with each other, as well as draw on the experience of their UK counterparts. A GATI project administrator, who is a Queen Mary postgraduate student with an academic interest in the field of EDI, joined the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion team in November 2021, to support the smooth running of the project. The start of the project was delayed by several months due to Covid-19 and will now run from September 2021 to September 2022.

Vice-Principal (International) Report to Senate

External Risk

There remain a number of external risks which we are factoring into the activities being undertaken, both locally and across our regional offices to achieve our global objectives, some of which are summarised below:

Geopolitical challenges

An ongoing indicator of geopolitical tension impacting the mobility of students to the UK to undertake study is in the number of **ATAS**¹ (Academic Technology Approval Scheme) refusals we have seen for our PhD offer holders from China for autumn '21 entry. We are working with sector level colleagues to lobby on the escalation which has seen over fifteen refusals to date (in a normal year we would expect to see no more than five ATAS refusals). Queen Mary is particularly exposed to this given the number of PhD applications we receive from BUPT and NPU, both of which appear on the government's 7+1 list².

Omicron variant

The emergence of the new variant has cast some doubt on our January '22 intake, with the possibility that some students will look to defer their studies if Omicron is particularly transmissible and carries high risk of hospitalisation. At the point of writing this remains an unknown. A planned trip to Dubai and Pakistan in February to engage with Rotary International colleagues around potential funding opportunities and outbound travel in the spring semester by Global Engagement Office staff are all being put on hold whilst we learn more about the Omicron variant.

Re-emerging markets

Australia has recently announced a reopening of its borders to International Students in time for its spring intake of students. Australian institutions have been hit hard by the strict 'no entry' policy the government had adopted to control the spread of Covid in country. We can expect the Australian HE sector to be recruiting hard over the next couple of years to try and recover some of their losses and this will undoubtedly impact on UKHE market share in India, China and South East Asia.

The USA has also seen a significant uptick in enrolments since President Biden took office and the country's rhetoric towards East and South Asian and Middle Eastern countries softened somewhat from the previous administration.

Student Recruitment

Enrolments (September 2021)

Overall, the OS target for September has been exceeded by 208 students (= £5m).

The September 2021/22 intake has seen significant Overseas PGT growth and a strong performance against target at UG level.

¹ The Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) applies to all international students and researchers (apart from exempt nationalities) who are subject to UK immigration control and are intending to study or research at postgraduate level in certain sensitive subjects

² 1. NPU (Northwestern Polytechnical University); 2. Beijing Institute of Technology; 3. Beihang University; 4. Harbin Institute of Technology; 5. Harbin Engineering University; 6. Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics; 7. Nanjing University of Science and Technology; 8. BUPT (Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications).

A number of Schools exceeded their international targets at UG level (SEF, Law, SBBS, SEMS, EECS) with some missing target (SED, GEOG, SMS and SPCS). We have had a strong Foundation intake across all fee statuses with the introduction of the subject specific pathways in HSS supporting growth in the OS market and leading to the highest intake within the Faculty since 17/18. S&E also achieved its highest OS Foundation intake since 18/19.

All faculties met their Overseas PGT target with some Schools significantly over target (most notably SBM & EECS).

Overseas fee-paying enrolments from the EU were down against target.

Final enrolment figures are as follows (performance against target):

	UG	PGT	PGR	Foundation	Total
Overseas	1,072 (+40)	3,352 (+280)	144 (-15)	154 (+13)	4,722 (+318)
EU	175 (-13)	137 (-81)	17 (-19)	14 (+3)	343 (-110)

January 2022

Applications for the majority of January postgraduate programmes have now closed with EECS and SBM closing in October due to high numbers of applications and their large September intakes. Current deposit data suggests that we will enrol between **370 - 450** Overseas PGT students in January although the emergence of the Omicron Covid variant could lead to deferral requests. Based on the current application data we would expect around 170 enrolments in SBM, 90 in SEF, 90 in CCLS and 40 in EECS. The majority of deposit payments are from India (53%) and China (22%) with just over a quarter from 40+ other countries.

Applications remain open for our January start Foundation and Pre-Masters programmes. Although applications are slightly down YoY the overall picture for our pathway programmes remains healthy when combined with September enrolments. Applications for MSc Management with Integrated Pre-Masters also remain open and have increased significantly in comparison to last year.

Overseas & EU UG (September 2022)

Application data at UG level is positive with applications (+31%), accepts (+57%) and firms (+3%) all up YoY. Applications have increased from all of our major overseas markets with notable growth from India, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia and Overseas students based in the UK.

Foundation applications have dipped slightly (-7% YoY) but it's pleasing to see substantially more accepts and firms than at this stage last year. There has been notable growth from Kuwait this year (+92% YoY for foundation study) as a result of the Kuwait Cultural Office no longer sending students to private foundation providers.

Kaplan's autumn intake has now closed with 111 enrolments on to the Queen Mary pathway. They expect to achieve over 150 enrolments in total for the academic year including the spring intake, with approx. 115 expected to progress to Queen Mary in 2022/23. Kaplan are revising up the original targets that had been agreed when the contracts were signed in February 2020.

We are treating the UG application data with a degree of caution and await a more detailed breakdown from UCAS on our performance against competitors and the sector. We will have

a better idea of our position after the main UCAS application deadline passes on the 26 January 2022.

Overseas & EU PGT (September 2022)

The picture at PGT level is mixed with new applications in line with our autumn 2020 position amidst some mixed market performances. We have seen a 12% fall in applications from China (a picture shared across the sector) combined with fewer applications from other large markets such as Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. There are some positives to draw from our current position: applications from India, our second largest PGT market, are up by 47% and applications from Thailand, an important market for CCLS, are up 10% including a 31% increase for LLM programmes.

At School level, the big international recruiters have all seen a fall in applications. SBM are down 8%, CCLS by 9%, SEF by 4% and EECS by 6%. There has been moderate application growth in some of the smaller PG Schools, including the IOD (+12%), SEMS (+3%), History (+43%), SPCS (+50%), WHRI (+13%).

TNE/International Partnerships

Virtual Partner visits

Over the past 5 weeks, the International Partnerships Team held 20 meetings with partner universities and delivered more than 30 presentations to students to promote study opportunities at Queen Mary in London for September 2022 and beyond.

TNE Partnership with Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia

As part of the diversification of our TNE portfolio, Queen Mary and USM (ranked 2nd in Malaysia) have agreed to take forward a range of double degree programmes at Undergraduate level which include SBM, EECS and SEMS. Curricula has been shared and both institutions are now working on the mapping of these programmes.

SMD colleagues will meet with colleagues from USM's Dental School in early December to discuss PGT collaborations.

Africa Network

The QMGPI is working to further the activities of the cross-University Africa Network, with the eventual goal of setting up an Africa Centre. In December 2021 it has been decided that QMUL staff will work to convene seminars in the interim within the existing Africa Network. In 2022, there are plans to convene a summer school and identify potential areas of research and collaboration as the network grows.

Migration collaboration with Cornell University

Several positive meetings have taken place with Cornell leadership and migration experts. Collaboration plans include seminars, joint PhDs and QMGPI-convened policy round-tables.

PGT recruitment from China TNE partners

September 2021 saw the largest intake of *Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications (BUPT)* JP students, with 47 students continuing their Postgraduate studies here in London and generating over £1 million in tuition fee revenue. While EECS remains the most popular school for BUPT students, interest in HSS programmes is growing, with six students enrolled in programmes across SBM and SEF.

Student Mobility

Incoming mobility

Study abroad and exchange programme participation has increased significantly post Covid with the Global Opportunities team once again welcoming significant numbers of students to Queen Mary. The autumn 2021 intake saw 334 students enrolling for the autumn semester or full academic year, 183 fee paying and 151 exchange. It is anticipated that there will be a total enrolment of 457 students (firm accepts) for the spring 2022 semester, (282 full-time fee-paying Associates & 28 part time, along with 147 no-fee exchange). Numbers are lower than we would typically expect for the autumn 2021 semester due to many partners extending travel bans into the autumn 2021 semester.

Summer School

The summer school has been resurrected after its two-year hiatus due to Covid-19 and work is ongoing with Queen Mary schools to run courses. There are 12 summer school courses confirmed already to run in summer 2022 across the three Faculties.

Outgoing mobility

There are *237 confirmed mobilities for participation in study and work exchanges during 2021/22. Many students have had to withdraw from the exchange due to ongoing travel disruption or partner cancellations. 35 students have deferred and are now going abroad in 2022/23.

**Some students do two exchanges, 'mobilities' are counted rather than the number of students.*

Participation in exchanges is increasing year on year; the Global Opportunities team are supporting 403 current year two students who are forecasted to participate in a student exchange in 2022/23.

658 students enrolled on year abroad degrees through UCAS in 2021. (This includes programmes with a year abroad in the School of Law and our Modern Languages students) and is the largest intake to date. These students are due to go abroad on exchanges in 2023/24, though not all students would progress to the year abroad due to not meeting the academic progression requirements or because of withdrawing for other reasons.

Turing Scheme Funding

Queen Mary was awarded a total of £680,545 through the Turing Scheme to support students on placements abroad during the 2021/22 academic year. It is expected that a total of 102 students will be benefitting from the funding, of which 61 students are from widening participation backgrounds. The Global Opportunities team have so far distributed over £251,000 of funds to eligible students.

On 27 October, the UK Government confirmed a financial commitment for another three years of Turing Scheme funding. The confirmed funding for 2022/23 is £110 million (the same as 2021/22). No amounts are yet confirmed for 2023/24 or 2024/25. The sector is currently awaiting information about the 2022 Call. The Global Opportunities team will work with Faculties to agree priorities over the coming years as further information and guidance becomes available.

Partnerships

The renewal of new Student Exchange Agreements are ongoing with 73 European partners to enable the exchange of students outside of Erasmus+. These new agreements will start from 2022/23.

A new student exchange agreement has been signed with Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China.

Minnesota HE Delegation

On 16 November 2021, Queen Mary welcomed a delegation from the US state of Minnesota, led by Governor Tim Walz, and First Lady Gwen Walz. Queen Mary was chosen for the visit because of current links and a longstanding partnership with the University of Minnesota, managed by the Global Opportunities team.

The visit strengthened the current links Queen Mary has with the University of Minnesota, and the Global Opportunities team is initiating new Study Abroad partnerships with the other institutions who attended, including Concordia University and St Cloud State University.

Queen Mary Global Policy Institute

The Queen Mary Global Policy Institute (QMGPI) serves to support research translation, impact and engagement with international policymakers, and contributes to institution-wide efforts to affect a step change in the visibility, profile and reputation of Queen Mary globally.

QMGPI Projects

A range of new QMGPI projects launched in 2021, supported with funding from the Research England QR Strategic Priorities Fund (with a particular focus on policy relevance). QMGPI projects bring outstanding Queen Mary research to the attention of global policymakers and civil society organisations, and most have now completed their work.

- 5th Oct – Published a [supporting story](#) to reinforce the lessons from the earlier workshop ‘[The Debt Burden: How to Create a Better Debt Management Framework](#)’ held in February 2021.
- 14th Oct - A joint [event](#) with the [Global Federation of Competitive Councils](#) and the [Japan Science and Technology Agency](#) on [the role of resilience in critical infrastructure](#).
- 5th Nov - The QMGPI [published a series of policy briefs](#) on COP and climate change, covering the history of the international community’s response to climate change and the global evolution of the climate change regime.
- 12th Nov - A [blog post](#) by QMGPI Senior Policy Fellow Prof Farida Fortune, arguing that the Global North should look to their history, and the Global South for climate solutions.
- 17th Nov - A second joint event with the Global Federation of Competitive Councils and the Japan Science and Technology Agency on [cybersecurity and resilience](#).
- 8th Dec - An [event on AI and Human Rights](#) to be held on 8 December in partnership with [SCL](#) (The Society for Computers and Law), the [International Bar Association](#), the [The Alan Turing Institute](#), Queen Mary's [Digital Environment Research Institute](#) (DERI) and the [Centre for Commercial Law Studies](#), Queen Mary University of London.

The following QMGPI events are under development for launch in 2022:

- QMGPI will host 2 roundtables on Human Security and Security and Climate Resilience at the NEXTEUK International Conference - "*Global Order and the future of EU-UK relations*" on 13-14 January 2022 at the University of London in Paris, Rue Constantine.
- *Climate Resilience*: In the first quarter of 2022 the QMGPI will launch a report on Climate Change and Adaptation in Africa. During the launch event a panel will convene officials from the Governments of Eswatini and Malawi.
- "*In defense of public debt*" – with Prof Paola Subacchi & Prof Rodrigo Olivares-Caminal from Queen Mary plus Schwan Badirou Gafari (Secretary General of the Paris Club), Laurence Boone (Chief Economist, OECD), Stephane Charbit (Managing Director - Sovereign Advisory, Rothschild), Amir H. Jahanguiri (Partner,

Willkie Farr & Gallagher). To be held in Paris in the New Year, date and venue to be confirmed.

Resilient Futures India Initiative (RFII)

In September, an RFII Meeting was held where the different organisations identified potential projects to pursue together. Currently, Dr Fernando Barrio is leading the engagement and developing a proposal for a project that covers the thematic areas of climate change, mental health and migration. It has been proposed that partners work towards a bid for the [Rotary Programs of Scale Grant](#) in 2022. The Programs of Scale Grant is a \$2 Million US Dollar grant from The Rotary Foundation distributed over a three- to five-year period.

Resilient Futures Pakistan Initiative (RFPI)

A proposal worth £2m was submitted in November 2021 for consideration by Rotary Pakistan. If approved, funding would be released for UG, PGT and PGR scholarships across Rotary priority areas, including health, sustainability and the environment. Key partners in country include UNICEF Pakistan and WHO Pakistan.

UKRI Funding

As part of the UKRI Strategic Priorities QR funding allocation, Queen Mary has received £681,000 in policy-focused research for the year 2021-22. QMGPI is convening and coordinating several bids and strongly encourages participation. Details of the allocation process will be confirmed shortly.

Climate Resilience Policy Briefs

The QMGPI published 4 policy briefs that give audiences an introduction to Climate change and the UNFCCC process. This is the first series of publications on Climate Change and will be updated as the QMGPI develops its research and work on climate change.

[Policy Brief 1](#); [Policy Brief 2](#); [Policy Brief 3](#); [Policy Brief 4](#)

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 26th Conference of the Parties (UNFCCC COP26)

Queen Mary sent a strong representation at the UNFCCC COP26, which included different faculties and schools led by Dr Fernando Barrio. The representation at COP26 included Professor Paul Heritage, Dr Heather McMullen and Dr Fernando Barrio. Planned activities include:

- Siddhart Chakravarty, an SBM PhD student- participated in a panel related to workers and peoples' movements from South East Asia.
- Dr Heather McMullen participated in the panel "Advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights for climate change adaptation and resilience" and on "Integrating SRHR in Health System Strengthening and National Climate Policies: Crucial for Climate Resilience."
- Prof Chris Griffiths held meetings concerning the Climate Change impact on people's health.
- Dr Fernando Barrio participated in the daily coordinating meeting of the Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organizations (RINGO) as part of the COP26 Universities Network. RINGOs are one of nine NGO constituencies recognised by the UNFCCC and represent the second-largest constituency, comprising 25% of 2000 admitted NGOs. Please note that Queen Mary is one of the Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organizations.

Punjab Reform Management Program (PRMP)

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the Punjab Reform Management Program has been sent to the Government of Punjab for review before the final signing. PRMP are currently approving the budget and will reach out with final clarifications before moving forward with the project to provide training to policy makers under the auspices of QMGPI.

Institute for Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, Kuala Lumpur (see also below)

Discussions have reached an advanced stage with the DG of the IDFR with a view to recruiting senior Malaysian policymakers to our public policy programmes in SPIR.

Global Alumni Engagement

Alumni Engagement event in Paris

We will be hosting a festive face-to-face alumni engagement event in Paris as on the 15th December as part of the 'Queen Mary's France Alumni Chapter – Paris'. The event will be led by Sonal Hathi, Global Alumni Manager and Chapter Leader, Julie Audoux, LLM 2011. We are delighted that the event will be attended by Professor Ioannis Kokkoris. The event will be a chance for all alumni to network, encouraged to get involved with volunteer opportunities and learn more about the new chapter ahead of its official face-to-face launch in 2022.

Alumni podcast

In celebration of Black History Month, the alumni team released the second instalment of the Alumni Angles podcast, featuring Deanna Lyncook (English and History BA, 2018), Oral History and Leysion Mission, and Founder and Host of 'The History Hotline' podcast, and Ama Badu (English BA, 2018), Assistant Editor/FAB Website Editor at Faber Children's and the voice of Shudu, the world's first virtual model.

In this special episode, Deanna and Ama discuss the importance of representation within literature and popular culture, some of their personal experiences, and wider issues affecting Black communities both now and throughout history. They also share their hopes and thoughts around how we, as individuals and as a collective, can bring about change for a more positive future. **You can listen to this and the inaugural episode on Spotify now:**

<https://bit.ly/AlumniAnglesPodcast>

Engagement with notable global alumni

- Meeting with Hitesh Anadkat, SEF alumnus and Chairman of First Capital Bank, Malawi on 28th October regarding potential philanthropic contributions
- Discussions ongoing with Dr Shazelina Abidin, Law and Politics alumna and Director General, Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia regarding an educational partnership

Alumni Career Journeys event series

Following on from the successful series of four 'Summer Engagement events', the Alumni Engagement team organised and co-hosted three virtual alumni panel events in collaboration with Andy Durban, Deputy Head of International Student Recruitment, as part of the series of 'Autumn Engagement' events for January 2022 starters. The sessions each showcased alumni from three separate academic schools, the School of Business and Management, the Centre for Commercial Law Studies and the School of Economics and Finance, who shared their experiences of moving to London, their postgraduate study at Queen Mary, advice on extra-curricular activities such as engagement with careers programmes and Student Union Societies and lastly how this has helped propel them into

their current career, whether they returned to their home country or indeed chose to stay in the UK – details of the sessions can be found below:

13 October 2021 – Alumni Career Journeys: CCLS ([click here to access recording](#)):

- Agis Karzis-Anastasiou (Greece (now in London))
Commercial and Corporate Law LLM, 2016
Legal Counsel at Axis Exchange
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/agis-karzis/>
- Aimen Taimur (Pakistan)
Human Rights Law LLM, 2019
Judicial Law Clerk at Supreme Court of Pakistan
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/aimen-taimur-66355485/>
- Akanksha Apte (India)
Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law LLM, 2020
Associate Consultant at EY
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/akanksha-apte-19030/>
- Amel Makhoulouf (France)
Banking and Finance Law LLM, 2008
Attorney at Law at Barreau de Paris (Ordre des avocats de Paris) <https://www.linkedin.com/company/barreau-de-paris/>

18 October 2021 – Alumni Career Journeys: SEF ([click here to access recording](#)):

- Bilal Jaffery (Pakistan)
Finance MSc, 2018
Finance Lead, Digital Transformation at Unilever
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/bilal-jaffery-a4804963/>
- Mercy Muttai (Kenya)
Finance and Econometrics MSc, 2019
Consultant, Poverty and Statistics at The World Bank
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/mercy-muttai-4b641a5a/>
- Ali Jamal Abu Baker (United Arab Emirates)
Corporate Finance MSc, 2019
Consultant at PwC Middle East
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/alijamalabubaker/>

10 November 2021 – Alumni Career Journeys: SBM ([click here to access recording](#)):

- Mohammad (Abdullah) Tariq (Pakistan)
Founder & CEO at Colish
Marketing MSc, 2017
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/abdullah-tariq-5a850ab0/>
- Rena Suleymanova (Berlin (Originally from Kazakhstan))
Senior Influencer Marketing Manager at PlusDental
Marketing MSc, 2015
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/suleymanova/>
- Shatabdi Das (India)
Assistant Manager - Global Marketing and Communications at Synechron

Marketing MSc, 2018
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/satabdi/>

Staffing

Rachel Miles Executive Officer- International, joined the team in November 2021.