

Students' Union Employability Project

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Following **consultation with students**, the Students' Union has identified **employability** as one of the key strategic themes for our work with students. Funding from the Westfield Fund has enabled the Students' Union to offer **three employability initiatives** to students in the academic year 2017/2018.

The employability initiatives aimed to enable students to:

- identify and strengthen their **employability skills**
- feel more **confident** about selling their skills to employers
- identify their **skills development needs**
- identify **development opportunities** on campus
- increase their **network**
- make more informed **career choices**

An Evening With

An Evening With was a series of careers panel event with recent graduates. The panel debates were followed by networking sessions.

Four events were held from October 2017 to March 2018. Each of the events focused on a specific industry:

- Charities
- Government and Politics
- Advertising and Marketing
- Media

Recent QMUL graduates were invited to tell about their journey from graduation to employment. Across the four events, 51 students took part.



Opportunities Page

The Opportunities Page was an employability project that aimed to create a **webpage** with all the different employability-related opportunities that are available to students. Opportunities included **part-time jobs, internships, funding schemes and events**.

During the academic year 2017/2018, the Opportunities Page was viewed more than 7500 times by **more than 3500 unique users**.

QM Skills Award

QM Skills Award is an **employability programme** for students that are involved in the Students' Union (e.g. course representatives and society committee roles). The Skills Award participants get access to an exclusive range of **transferable skills training** and **reflection sessions**.



To receive the Award, students must complete three training sessions and a reflection session.

In 2017/2018:

- **216 students** took part in Skills Award
- **71 students completed** the requirements and received the Award
- Participants could choose between **23 transferable skills training sessions**

Feedback from students has been positive:

- **93.75%** of survey respondents found the training to be **'good' or 'great'**
- **88.64%** of survey respondents found that the training had **reinforced their skills**
- **93.75%** of survey respondents found that the training was going to be **'useful' or 'very useful' for their future career**
- **68.42%** of survey respondents felt that Skills Award had made them feel **more confident** about their future career
- **30.77%** of survey respondents felt that Skills Award had helped them **identify and market skills to employers**
- **69.23%** of survey respondents felt that the Skills Award training sessions **strengthened their skills**