

International Student Newsletter

Dear International Student,

In this edition you will find:

- **Interview:** Daniel Marfany the Acting UCL Disability Co-ordinator
- **Careers:** Katie Dallison talks about Summer jobs
- **Culture:** Globe to Globe Festival
- **Immigration:** VISA update by Lina Kamenova
- **Integration:** An update about HOST UK
- **UCL Student Union:** Events and updates

Interview with Daniel Marfany, *the Acting Disability Co-ordinator*



Daniel Marfany

UCL Student Disability Services

You can contact **Alison Angel** anonymously on
00 44 (0)20 7679 0100

You can find information about what additional support may be available to you at examination by visiting the UCL [Student Disability Services website](#)

Q: What do you mean by “disability”?

Disability is defined by the Equality Act 2010 as a substantial physical or mental condition that has lasted for 6 months and is expected to last for a further 6 months or more. Disability under this definition includes impairments such as: blindness, hearing impairment and mobility problems as well as mental health issues, autistic spectrum disorders, specific learning difficulties (i.e. Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, etc.) and long-term medical conditions such as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. The point I would like to make here, is that often students who do not consider themselves disabled may have a condition which entitles them to additional support provided by the UCL [Student Disability Services](#).

Q: What type of support is available at UCL for students who fall within this category?

We take a person centered approach and arrange support on a student by student basis. I would encourage students who feel they may be entitled to support from us to contact our team and discuss the different options available to them.

Q: How many UCL students are registered with your Service and receive additional support?

This academic year we have been supporting 1375 students in total, of them 252 are international. It is likely that there is a large number of students who have an undisclosed disability and as such this figure may not represent the total disabled population of UCL.

Q: Is there any financial support available at UCL for international students with disabilities?

Yes, we commit to covering the additional costs students may incur as a result of a disability. For instance, we wouldn't pay a student's fees or maintenance but we can support them to study effectively by meeting their costs for specialist software and/or a note taker.

The [UCL International Disabled Students Fund](#) which we run aims to match the Disabled students' allowances which are available to UK students through Student Finance England. This is to ensure that international students with disabilities are not at a disadvantage when studying at UCL.

Q: What is your advice to students who may feel that there is some stigma associated with approaching Student Disability Services for help?

If a student feels anxious about contacting Student Disability Services, I would advise them to contact Alison Angel anonymously on 020 7679 0100. Alison will be able to give them an initial advice and if they decide to seek further help, she can put them in touch with the member of our team who is best positioned to help them.

Q: Is the service you provide confidential?

Yes, everything that students discuss with Student Disability Services staff is confidential. In some instances, where other people need to be informed in order for the appropriate support to be put in place, we would always ensure the student has given us their consent to do this.

Q: What support is available to students with disabilities at exams?

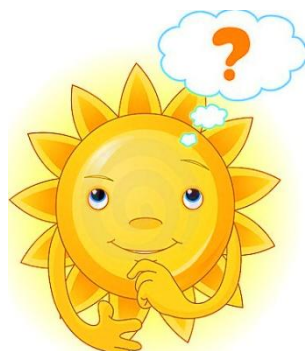
We can help by arranging additional writing time, use of a computer or sitting in a smaller, separate room if necessary. Further information about how to apply for special examination arrangements is available on our [website](#) or by contacting the team and arranging an appointment.

UCL Careers Service

4th Floor ULU Building,
Malet Street, London,
WC1E 7HY

00 44 (0)2078663600

UCL Careers Service
will be open throughout the
summer to help you out
with ideas, do up your CV
or prepare for interviews.



Summer is on the way!

By Katie Dallison Careers Consultant

Summer 2012 is going to see a huge influx of tourists for the **Olympics, Paralympics and the Queen's 60th Jubilee** so not only it will be really exciting to be in London, it will also give you a good chance to add to your CV and your bank balance!

Here are some ideas of how to get started:

- While jobs at the Olympic Park are no longer an option (as all employees needed to be UK Boarder Agency approved by April), extra help within pubs, cafes, restaurants and retail will be needed to handle the

You can check times and see how to book an appointment by visiting the [Careers Service website](#)

crowds. Keep an eye on the [Careers Services Job-online](#) website or visit the [jobs section of the UCL Careers Service website](#) so you don't miss out.

- Often smaller business advertise their roles by posting notices in their window so keep your eyes peeled as you're walking around your local neighbourhood. Getting a local part-time job keeps your travel costs down, and also gets you really involved in your local community.
- The most common type of summer work is within the hospitality industry; agency's such as [fest staff](#) or [Hospitalitystaff.co.uk](#) recruit for a whole range of roles from checking tickets to serving food and security across loads of different festivals and events.
- Individual venues also take on extra staff over the busy summer period; for example the [Royal Albert Hall](#) which hosts the [Proms](#) between July and September and who is currently looking for stewards to help out.
- If you're more interested in an experience and less worried about the money, why not try volunteering; [UCL Volunteering](#) is right here on campus to help out and organisations like the [Volunteer England](#) have special sections on [volunteering for the Olympics](#).
- Many of the museums, galleries and concert halls will be looking for volunteers over summer; for example the [Royal Festival Hall on the Southbank](#) who are looking for extra volunteers for their [Festival of the World](#).



All the world's a stage

All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women
merely players;
They have their exits and their
entrances,
And one man in his time plays
many parts,
His acts being seven ages. At
first, the infant,
Mewling and puking in the
nurse's arms.
Then the whining schoolboy,
with his satchel
And shining morning face,
creeping like snail
Unwillingly to school. And

The Globe to Globe Festival – 37 Shakespeare Plays in 37 Languages

The '[Globe to Globe Festival](#)' opened on the 21st April at [Shakespeare's Globe Theatre](#). His unprecedented programme of multi-lingual Shakespeare productions are part of the once-in-a-lifetime celebration for the [London 2012 Festival](#).

It is a carnival of stories performed by **37 international companies** who will present every one of Shakespeare's plays in a different language over a six weeks period. Languages include: Albanian, Arabic, Armenian, Belarusian, Brazilian Portuguese, British Sign Language, Cantonese, Dari Persian, English, French, Georgian, German, Greek, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian, Macedonian, Mandarin, Maori, Polish, Russian, Serbian, Shona, Spanish, Swahili, Turkish, Urdu and Yoruba.

There are inspirational stories – companies who work underground and in war zones like the **Belarus Free Theatre** who hold their rehearsals and performances secretly due to the risk of persecution, or **Roy-e-Sabs from Afghanistan** who are performing *The Comedy of Errors* in Dari Persian despite having their rehearsal space attacked in Kabul. There are momentous stories – the first ever visit to these shores of some of the world's most prestigious national theatres, like **the National Theatre of China** performing Shakespeare's horror show of power and paranoia, *Richard III*. The company has not visited the UK before and its trailblazing productions represent the new face of Chinese theatre. There are returning stories

then the lover,
 Sighing like furnace, with a
 woeful ballad
 Made to his mistress'
 eyebrow. Then a soldier,
 Full of strange oaths and
 bearded like the pard,
 Jealous in honor, sudden and
 quick in quarrel,
 Seeking the bubble reputation
 Even in the cannon's mouth.
 And then the justice,
 In fair round belly with good
 capon lined,
 With eyes severe and beard of
 formal cut,
 Full of wise saws and modern
 instances;
 And so he plays his part. The
 sixth age shifts
 Into the lean and slippered
 pantaloon,
 With spectacles on nose and
 pouch on side;
 His youthful hose, well saved,
 a world too wide
 For his shrunk shank, and his
 big manly voice,
 Turning again toward childish
 treble, pipes
 And whistles in his sound.
 Last scene of all,
 That ends this strange
 eventful history,
 Is second childishness and
 mere oblivion,
 Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans
 taste, sans everything.

William Shakespeare, 1599

– groups which have already wowed audiences at the Globe, in the Barbican and in the West End, coming back for more, like **The Isango Ensemble from South Africa** who are well known to UK audiences following their acclaimed productions *The Mysteries – Yiimimangaliso* and *The Magic Flute*. They will perform a stage adaptation of *Venus and Adonis* as part of an opening weekend of celebrations.

Many of the world's greatest directors, over six hundred actors from all nations and audiences from every corner of London's polyglot community will assemble to celebrate the stories, the characters and the relationships which are etched into all of us. Shakespeare is the language which brings us together better than any other. And above all there are the plays themselves, plays which have travelled far and wide and which on their travels have initiated new theatre cultures, spread light and laughter and helped nations, new and old, to define themselves. A Globe beside the Thames is where many of these plays began their extraordinary journey. Another Globe beside the Thames is delighted to be bringing these plays, dressed in the clothes of many peoples, back home ...

There are three special offers available to the UCL community:

- **Best Seats for only £10 (usually worth £35)** - Call the Box Office on **020 7401 9919** and quote '**UCL best seats in the house for £10**', or enter the online code '**PCD10BEST**'. These are subject to availability, so please encourage people to book early if they want to get them!
- **2 for 1 on standing tickets (2 for £5!)** - Call the Box Office on **020 7401 9919** and quote '**UCL 2 for 1 standing deal**', or enter the online code '**PCDYARD241**'. These are selling fast, so do encourage people to take advantage of that offer quickly!
- **Meet the Cast and Crew after the Matinee** - There will be an opportunity to meet the cast and crew after the matinee performances of each production. Please email kerri.h@shakespearesglobe.com if you are interested in a place. This offer is subject to availability.

Globe to Globe Festival Flyer

Immigration workshops – Working in the UK after your studies

The International Support
 team together with
[UCLU Rights and Advice](#)
 has developed
 2 immigration workshops
 to inform you and help
 enhance your understanding

Information for Students on Tier 4 Visas

By Lina Kamenova UCL International Students' Welfare Adviser

Immigration changes in effect from 6 April 2012

On 13th February 2012 the Government issued a [Statement of Intent](#) about its plans to make changes to Tier 4 Students and Tier 1 Post-study work routes of the points-based system. **These changes came into effect on 6th April 2012.**

Five year cap on study at degree level and above for Tier 4 students

From 6th April 2012 if you are making an application to renew your Tier 4 student

of the different immigration routes available to you if you wish to work in the UK after your studies.

These workshops are scheduled to take place on Wednesday 9th & Wednesday 16th May 2012. You will receive an email inviting you to register your attendance online shortly. Attendance is by registration only.

visa, the grant of leave you are applying for should not result in you spending more than five years as a student at degree level or above in the UK. Time spent as a student in the UK will include all previous time spent studying at degree level or above in the UK as a Tier 4 (General) student and/or as a student under the pre-Tier 4 rules.

Some programmes are exempted from these immigration changes, including Architecture and Medicine. Please refer to the [UK Border Agency Immigration Rules](#) point 245ZXV (ga) and the [Tier 4 Policy Guidance](#) paragraph 87, version 04/2012 for the full list of exempt programmes.

The five year limit will be extended to six years if you are studying on a Master's level programme after having completed a degree programme in the UK that was at least four academic years long. This extension will also apply if you have completed a year in industry/placement that was integrated into your programme of study or if you have undertaken a study abroad year.

However, this exception will not apply to you if you need to extend your leave to repeat parts of your programme or re-sit exams. The UK Border Agency will only look into granting you further leave exceeding the time limit in "*compelling and compassionate circumstances*" such as serious injury and disability.

If you find that you are affected by these immigration changes and do not have enough leave to complete your programme, please contact [UCLU Rights and Advice](#) for further guidance.

PhD students

If you are a PhD student, you are exempt from the time limit during the period of your studies. However, once you have completed your PhD, you will not be granted any further leave under Tier 4 if this further leave would result in you spending more than eight years in the UK as a Tier 4 (General) student. Time spent as a student under the pre-Tier 4 rules will not be counted.

Further information, including the current fees for applying to extend your Tier 4 visa in the UK and the maintenance requirements can be found on the UCL's [Renewing your visa webpage](#).

Working in the UK after your studies

The [Tier 1 \(Post-study work\)](#) route closed to all new applicants at 5pm on 5 April 2012. If you have a pending application submitted before that time it will be considered under the UK Border Agency's rules and guidance in place at the time of submission.

Tier 2 (General) route

From 6th April 2012, if you are a recent graduate with a Bachelor's or Master's degree, PhD, or a PGCE or PGDE, you may be able to apply under the new provision of the [Tier 2 \(General\)](#) route. In order to qualify you need to be in the UK with a current student visa and have a job offer from an employer who holds a [Tier 2 Sponsor License](#) with a salary of at least £20,000, or the minimum appropriate rate set out in the relevant [Code of Practice](#), whichever is the higher.

If you are a PhD student you can switch into this route from Tier 4 if you have completed at least 12 months of study. All other students must have completed their studies and have been awarded their qualification in order to qualify.

Tier 1 (Graduate entrepreneur) route

UCL has applied to UK Border Agency to be a sponsor of this new Tier 1 route and if successful, expect to sponsor **up to 10 students a year**. As soon as UCL receive confirmation of this, further information will be given. Below is a brief outline of the [Tier 1 \(Graduate Entrepreneur\)](#) route.

If you have completed a degree programme at UCL and wish to stay in the UK to develop ideas by setting up a business here, you may be able to apply under the [Tier 1 \(Graduate Entrepreneur\)](#) route. In order to qualify you will need to be sponsored by UCL and be in the UK.

If your application is successful, you will be granted an initial leave of 12 months which then can be extended to a total of 24 months if UCL is satisfied with your progress. You will be allowed to take employment for up to 20 hours a week in addition to the time spent developing your business. At the end of the second year you will need to have funds of £50,000 if you wish to switch to [Tier 1 \(Entrepreneur\)](#) category.

Further advice

Full information about the immigration routes available to you at the end of your studies can be found on the [Working in the UK](#) section of the UK Border Agency website, which also outlines the requirements that will need to be met.

Guidance is also available on the UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA) [Working in the UK after your studies website](#).

Support available to you during your studies at UCL

The International Support Team makes every effort to keep you informed about [immigration updates](#) and [support services](#) available to you via the UCL website. You can also find us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#). However, if you cannot find the answer to some of your questions on our website, please email our team at internationalsupport@ucl.ac.uk and we will try to help you. You can also use this email to request an appointment if you prefer to ask questions in person.



An update about HOST UK

UCL is subscribed to HOST UK, an organisation that arranges for you to stay with British families for a day or a weekend.

It is a great chance for you to experience the real life in the UK, to change your perceptions and to meet with a wide range of British people. Summer applications are now open so why not try something different?

Check out HOST UK on [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#), also accessible from [HOST UK Press page](#)

Visit the [HOST website](#) now to find out more.

One student who has just returned from a HOST visit said:

'Definitely great experience to have in UK. It enriches my horizon. It helped me to know how British life is. It also let me aware that beyond academic life, there are many other things happening in the world.' Lei, from UCL

HOST visits **are safe and they are free** – given to you by the kindness of the hosts. You pay for your travel. There is a fee which goes towards the costs of administering the programme but UCL will pay the fee for your first application.

HOST is also offering Marketing and Administration Internships (next recruitment will be in July). Visit their [website](#) to find out more.

UCL Union: Events and updates

Hello! from UCLU Welfare & International Officer 2012/13

Thanks very much for those of you who voted in the elections, UCLU is delighted with the record turnout we had this year and it's a credit to everyone who campaigned. Especially thank you to everyone who voted for me as your Welfare & International Officer 2012/13!

I'm a final year Human Sciences BSc student and as I'm graduating this summer I'll be able to devote all my attention to my job when I start in July without worrying about what I've got to go back to afterwards. A huge part of this is working with the International Student Support staff and *Mehran*, your newly elected International Students Officer, and I hope to continue the great work current Officer, Rachel Eyre has been doing this year.

I look forward to meeting many of you next year!
Candy Ashmore-Harris (Welfare & International Officer elect)

Housing Talk

Date: Friday 27th April 2012, **Time:** 17.00-18.00,

Venue: Conference Room, 2nd Floor, UCL Bloomsbury Building

This talk is designed to provide you with useful guidance if you are thinking about moving into private accommodation. You will find out what your rights are, what your tenancy agreement needs to include, the differences between the different types of deposit and what the TDS is. **No prior registration is required.**

Please email questions, comments and recommendations related to this newsletter to the [International Support Team](#).

Good luck with exams and enjoy the summer!

The International Students Support Team



Candy Ashmore-Harris

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