

Alumni News

ALUMNI NUMBER:



Dear

Since I last wrote, UCL's work has continued at a frenetic pace. In this newsletter, you'll find promising developments around the delivery of a potential COVID-19 vaccine, the latest blogs, podcasts and videos, and compelling news stories from around UCL.

The beginning of June also marks Volunteers' Week (1-7 June) in the UK, which coincides with our [reaching the It's All Academic Campaign target of 250,000 volunteer hours](#). UCL President & Provost Professor Michael Arthur [wanted to mark this incredible milestone by thanking you for all that you do](#).

It's also the moment to recognise those who support our mission and reveal the winners of the [2020 UCL Alumni Volunteering Awards](#). Of all the remarkable people who give the gift of time, the contribution of our winners and nominees over the last 12 months has been exceptional.

Best wishes,

James Davis

Deputy Director of Alumni Relations

Celebrating our alumni volunteers



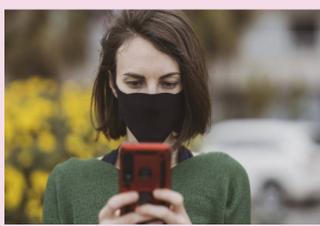
We are delighted to announce the winners of the 2020 UCL Alumni Volunteering Awards are [Ajaz Hussain](#) (Alumni Volunteer of the Year) and the [Recent Graduates Network](#) (Alumni Group/Network of the Year). Congratulations!

Read [profiles of all of our nominees](#), and join Ajaz and our other volunteers on the [Alumni](#)

[Online Community](#). Are you inspired to get involved? It's quick and easy to sign up to [our range of digital volunteering opportunities](#).

In total, alumni volunteers have now given more than 263,000 hours to UCL since 2016. That achievement is entirely down to the generosity of UCL's worldwide community, and [our team took a moment to say thank you in person](#).

UCL's response to COVID-19



UCL is [supporting the delivery of a potential COVID-19 vaccine](#). A team of UCL scientists [based in the Vax-Hub](#) (a collaboration with the Jenner Institute at Oxford University) are contributing to a manufacturing platform that Oxford has adapted and developed into a potential vaccine for COVID-19. Screening for the 'phase III' trial has now begun, with researchers set to vaccinate 500 healthy UCLH staff volunteers.

Across disciplines, coronavirus research at UCL continues to have wide-reaching impact. Professor Dame Anne Johnson (UCL Infectious Disease Epidemiology) has co-authored a report on the [conditions necessary for COVID-19 test and trace programmes to be effective](#). Meanwhile, researchers from the UCL Institute of Education (IOE) have partnered with the Institute for Fiscal Studies on the [heavy price of lockdown for parents](#), especially mothers.

Since its launch two months ago, the [UCL Coronavirus Response Fund](#) is nearing an incredible milestone of 1,000 donors. [More than 100 projects](#) and initiatives to tackle the virus are now underway, thanks to the support of alumni, friends and other funders. Every donation UCL has received is pushing forward vital solutions to the pandemic, at the scale and speed that this unfolding emergency demands.

Standing in solidarity

In light of the death of George Floyd and all that it serves to highlight, many of you - especially UCL's Black alumni, students and staff - will be feeling momentous shock, sadness and anger. This week, UCL President & Provost Professor Michael Arthur reiterated UCL's utmost solidarity with all those experiencing racialised inequality and injustice.

[We see and hear your pain and will always stand with you >>](#)

More UCL alumni news



[Even in crisis, #WeAreUCL](#)

Though our buildings remain closed, the UCL community is as open as ever. The #WeAreUCL campaign celebrates our inclusivity, diversity and togetherness - using the hashtag, share what UCL means to you.

[Read about the campaign >>](#)



[The superpower of scholarships](#)

In February, before lockdown, we were delighted to celebrate UCL scholarship recipients and donors at our annual Scholarships Reception.

[Read about the reception >>](#)



[Cultural highlights to enjoy at home](#)

Missing trips to museums, the opera or dance shows? Alumna Sahava Baranow rounds up her top digital culture recommendations.

[Check out Sahava's blog >>](#)



[Your next volunteering opportunity?](#)

Can you inspire black and minority ethnic (BME) alumni? Join the BME Alumni Network as a committee member.

[Join the committee >>](#)

Globally United

[Jaspreet in Los Angeles: "Escape for a moment in stories"](#)

UCL alumni across the world are adapting to the effects of COVID-19 and sharing recommendations through our [Globally United video series](#). This edition, scientist and actress [Dr Jaspreet Dosanjh](#) shares her appreciation for hugs with her nieces, science, and art as a form of escapism.



If you'd like to share ideas and resources with the UCL community by submitting your own Globally United video, please contact alumni@ucl.ac.uk.

UCL on demand



[Edging closer to a coronavirus cure?](#)

In a special edition of "Coronavirus: The Whole Story", made for the [Cheltenham Science Festival at home](#), UCL academics summarise progress on tackling COVID-19.

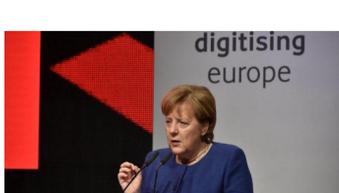
[Listen online >>](#)



[Books based on your Netflix habits](#)

English Language and Literature student, Julie Colonna, recommends quarantine reading based on "motifs in all of your favourite series" - from Peaky Blinders to RuPaul's Drag Race.

[Read more >>](#)



[Verboten: Germany on words of war](#)

Dr Dagmar Paulus (UCL German Studies) explores how politicians talk about coronavirus in Germany where, unlike in other parts of Europe, war metaphors are avoided.

[Read more >>](#)



[Getting athletes back in the game](#)

Dr Flaminia Ronca (UCL Surgery & Interventional Science) discusses the issues UCL health experts will be looking for when helping elite sportspeople return to sport.

[Listen online \(starts at 2:27:30\) >>](#)

While you're here...

We're making exciting changes to our alumni communications and want you to be a part of them. To ensure that you continue to hear about UCL news and events, and receive your new, digital Portico magazine, please make sure you [opt in here](#).

Visit the UCL Alumni website: www.ucl.ac.uk/alumni

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