

# Women at UCL: Presence and Absence International Women's Day 2016



# Introduction

The exhibition 'Women at UCL: Presence and Absence' was created to celebrate and recognise women at UCL who inspire those they work with. There was a fantastic response to the call for nominations, with over 200 submissions, which shows the real impact UCL women have their colleagues.

The exhibition profiled women from across the UCL community. A call went out asking staff and students to nominate a woman at UCL who had influenced them – either by inspiring or encouraging, or helping them to think differently about their work or study. A panel, made up of representatives from UCL's equality groups, had the challenging but enjoyable task of selecting these 24 inspirational women from a pool of excellent nominees. As the response was so overwhelming, the panel considered it important to recognise everyone who had been nominated, so this booklet has been created profiling every nominee.

The exhibition also included artwork exploring the history of women at UCL. Artist Kristina Clackson-Bonnington's produced a series of works titled 'Theirs to Ours', a series of twelve mixed-media works that illuminate the institutional change that has taken place since the founding of UCL in 1826 – from the initial decision to admit women in 1878 to the re-negotiating of spaces and positions that is still taking place today. These artworks are included in this booklet.

The Exhibition was a collaboration between:

- UCL's Equalities and Diversity Team: The Equalities and Diversity Team support both staff and students at UCL. The team supports a range of staff equality networks and advisory groups and coordinates applications and action plans for Athena SWAN, the Race Equality Charter Mark and the Stonewall Equality Index. UCL is currently the only University in the UK to hold both a Silver Athena SWAN award and a Bronze Race Charter award. <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/equalities/index.php>

- The Institute for Women's Health: 'Better lives for women and babies across the world.' The objective of the Institute for Women's Health is to make a difference to the health of women, babies and their families in the UK and internationally by creation of a leading centre of excellence for research, clinical care, education and training. From birth to puberty, motherhood to menopause, maturity to old age, the life course of women around the world is filled with opportunities to improve health and wellbeing. Staff at the Institute believe that health care must be holistic and aim to improve knowledge, practice and education in all aspects of women's and babies' health. <http://www.instituteforwomenshealth.ucl.ac.uk/>

- The Girl at the Door: The Girl at the Door is a public art project exploring 100 years of women and the vote, created by artist Kristina Clackson-Bonnington in partnership with UCL Art Museum. The focal point of the project is an immersive sculptural work – the House of Doors – a private members club open for all to join. Members of the House of Doors (MHDs) consider how society has changed as a result of women's suffrage and propose new laws to improve gender equality. The Girl at the Door will run until 2018 – the centenary year of the first women in the UK to get the right to vote. For more information please see: [www.houseofdoors.org](http://www.houseofdoors.org)

#uclwomensday



**EQUALITIES  
& DIVERSITY**



[www.houseofdoors.org](http://www.houseofdoors.org)



# Women at UCL: Presence and Absence - The Main Exhibition



**Fiona Addison, Volunteering Development Coordinator, UCLU**

“I’ve managed Fiona for almost 8 years and, throughout that time, have been inspired by her dedication, creativity and personable approach to work and to life. I know that many, many students have had their time at UCL transformed by her support.”



**Asma Ashraf, Research Nurse, Institute for Women's Health**

“Asma is the person who most helped me see that I could usefully support the work of female activists through my position and experience at the UCL Institute for Women's Health, even though I certainly do not consider myself an activist – I am but an academic!”

**Jan Atkinson, Emeritus Professor, Division of Psychology and Language Sciences**

“Jan Atkinson is an impressive woman in science who worked her way up to a professorship at a time when women were severely underrepresented in psychology. Such a true scientist is an inspiration to all of us and shows us that research is not just a job but a calling.”



**Sarah-Jayne Blakemore, Professor, Division of Psychology and Language Science**

“Sarah's lab was a revelation. She ran an innovative, inspiring research programme. At the same time she had a clear priority for family Sarah's example drastically changed my perspective. Where once I saw academic 'role models' bragging about inhumane hours, I now saw the opportunities that come with flexibility.”



**Lai Fong Chiu, Principal Research Associate, UCL Energy Institute**

“Lai Fong has been a great mentor who, despite not formally supervising me, has always had an open ear and some encouraging words. Her enthusiastic and always curious nature has been a continuous inspiration to keep questioning the seemingly obvious and look deeper into the relation between the built environment and its occupants.”



**Muna Elmi, Research Associate, Computer Science**

“Through Muna's hard work she has succeeded in her field and has given me confidence that I can achieve more than I have dreamt about (and I dream pretty BIG- Nobel prize BIG). I asked Muna to become my mentor and without hesitation she agreed. As a Somali student she stands as one of the very few Somali women I am able to see as a mirror to my future as a great scientist.”

**Michele Farmer, Disability IT Support Analyst, Information Services Division**

“Michele is a credit to her field. She is the sole point of contact for all staff and students across UCL who use or need assistive technology. I doubt that there is any part of UCL remaining untouched by her support and assistance.”



**Louise Fryer, Teaching Fellow, SELCS**

“Since I met Louise I have always been inspired by her ability to combine her role as an academic and as a professional audio describer for the blind and partially sighted. I always admired the passion with which she approached her work, as well as her dedication to her field of expertise.”



**Clare Gryce, Director,  
Research IT Services**

“I am nominating Clare as one of the few women leaders in research computing in the UK. In a profession which struggles to recruit women Clare’s career is an exemplar for all women wanting to develop their skills and career in informatics.”



**Viv Jones, Reader,  
Department of Geography**

“What I admire most about Viv is the way she is able to combine a strong scientific rigour with an open and supportive approach. When I was younger and people asked me what I wanted to be, I would say “a scientist...but I’m not sure what kind yet...” but now I know “I want to be a scientist like Viv Jones.”



**Jayne Kavanagh, Principal  
Clinical Teaching Fellow, UCL  
Medical School**

“Jayne’s dedication to students, colleagues, and patients is exceptional. Her conscientious, caring, and creative approach has had a huge influence on me personally and professionally. Jayne always makes the extra effort to listen, help people identify what they need, and empower them achieve their goals.”



**Zoe Laughlin, Creative Director,  
Institute of Making**

“Zoe has been a dynamic force developing the Institute of Making from an idea into a living breathing institute. She has consistently gone beyond her job specification to mentor all the staff of the institute, to encourage and inspire our many members, and to take a leadership role by representing the Institute not just within UCL, but nationally and internationally.”

**Maxine Mackintosh, PhD  
Student, Institute of Health  
Informatics**

“Maxine is excellent at networking and pushing the boundaries of what a “normal” 22 year old should be involved in. It is admirable how much she has achieved for her age and more people need to recognise that age or level of study should not restrict someone.”



**Elpida Makrygianni, Engineering  
Education Developer &  
Coordinator, Faculty of  
Engineering**

“Elpida has been a wonderful example through her tireless work to engage students, particularly young women, in order to demonstrate the opportunities an engineering education can offer. She is also a wonderful example of how a positive work/life balance can be achieved when you do something you love.”



**Edna Murphy, Faculty Manager,  
Faculty of Medical Sciences**

“In an environment where we celebrate excellence in academia, it is often easy to forget those who work, quietly, behind the scenes, ensuring these remarkable achievements come to fruition. I’ve continued to be inspired by Edna’s intelligence, wit and knack for diplomacy, where repeatedly being surrounded by men has proven no barrier to her.”



**Priti Parikh, Lecturer, Civil,  
Environmental & Geomatic  
Engineering**

“Dr. Priti Parik is an outstanding person with a great variety of experience in private sector, academia and non-profit organisations. She is an inspirational woman whom I see as a role model. She has set up a new MSc in Engineering for International Development, filling a huge gap in the previous course offering not only at UCL but in the UK.”

**Liz Pellicano, Professor, UCL  
Institute of Education**

“Liz is driven by her desire to help others: those she works alongside, those she mentors and teaches, and those in the autism community who can benefit from her research. Alongside doing cutting-edge research, she runs regular outreach programmes, community events, autism school support networks, and work experience programmes for autistic teenagers.”



**Thao Phan, Undergraduate, UCL  
School of Management**

“I have never met anyone like Thao Phan. She is smart, determined and is destined for greatness. She has succeeded academically in a Faculty dominated by men. She’s entrepreneurial, setting up her own business and constantly setting ambitious goals for herself. Once you are around her for a while you realise the world will soon know her name.”



**Angela Sasse, Professor,  
Department of Computer  
Science**

“Angela is an original, one-of-a kind person and an uncompromising thinker. In this male dominated domain she carried a great presence, stood her ground, and contributed to higher recognition of women in the male dominated field of technology. I think this makes her a positive role model for women.”



**Caroline Selai, Senior Lecturer,  
Institute of Neurology**

“In addition to her full-time academic post, Caroline Selai is currently a Dignity at Work Advisor and Co-director of UCL Cultural Consultation Service (CCS). I am recommending Caroline, because her highly confidential work is largely invisible. I have observed the workload, skills and expertise required to carry out the role successfully – as she does.”



**Victoria Showunmi, Lecturer,  
UCL Institute of Education**

“I am nominating Dr Victoria Showunmi as a woman of strength, tenacity and inspiration to me and many others working at UCL IOE. I have worked alongside Victoria for many years in her role as Chair of the Race Equality Network. I have found her charitable good nature and her willingness to support others a refreshing asset within UCL.”



**Ijeoma Uchebgu, Professor,  
UCL School of Pharmacy**

“Professor Uchebgu is the only female member of staff in a prominent leadership role at the UCL School of Pharmacy. She is an exceptionally talented and fair individual and supports other female staff in the UCL School of Pharmacy. She is also a fantastic ambassador for UCL.”



**Lidia van Driel-Gesztelyi, Professor,  
Department of Space and Climate  
Physics**

“Lidia is a world-renowned solar physicist. She became the first female editor in her field when she was appointed Editor-in-Chief of *Solar Physics*. She’s an excellent mentor and always offers her full support and encouragement. Lidia is an exceptional teacher and communicator, and is tirelessly championing the people who work alongside her.”



**Angela Young, Information  
Skills Trainer, Library Services**

“Angela strives for innovation in her approach, including leading innovation sharing events for information skills trainers across Library Services. She has inspired me to believe that it is possible to have both a satisfying career and a family life, working flexibly to attain your goals.”



# Arts & Humanities

**Jane Fenoulhet, Professor,  
School of European  
Languages, Culture &  
Society**

“For Jane, being a linguist is about the will to relate to other cultures and other individuals. As Dean, she was tireless in her pursuit not just of inter-departmental collaboration but in fostering a genuine willingness to listen. She leads by example in every facet of her activity.”



**Kerstin Michaels, Department Manager, Department of  
Information Studies**

“I am nominating Kerstin because she is without question the one person who holds our Dept together. She is someone I trust absolutely, and she has shown me what effective people management looks like. She is, quite simply, the hub of DIS. We value her more than I can say here.”

**Melisa Terras, Professor,  
UCL Centre for Digital  
Humanities**

“Melissa has created a space for real collegiality and citizenship, at the same time as building a family and being a first class academic. She encourages, acknowledges and promotes the interests of early and mid career colleagues.”



**Claire Thomson, Senior  
Lecturer, School of European  
Languages, Culture & Society**

“Claire plays many roles in my life: supervisor, mentor, colleague, and friend. During my PhD, she took it upon her to guide me not just intellectually, but professionally as well. What successes I have are a result of Claire’s holistic approach to supervision, and, above all, her trust and conviction in me.”



**Maria Wyke, Professor,  
Department of Greek and Latin**

“Maria Wyke is the first female Professor of Latin. She has combined being a successful researcher (winning a number of grants and leadership positions), an inspiring teacher and a visionary Head of Department with looking after a small child. She has encouraged other women to aim for senior positions.”



# The Bartlett

**Hannah Fry, Lecturer, Centre  
for Advanced Spatial Analysis**

“Hannah’s research applies to a wide range of social problems and questions, from shopping and transport to urban crime, riots and terrorism. She regularly appears on TV and radio in the UK, most recently on BBC2’s Six Degrees and in her own documentary charting the life of Lady Ada Lovelace.”



**Michelle Shipworth, Lecturer,  
UCL Energy Institute**

“As well as being a great lecturer Michelle is an immensely supportive supervisor. She is a great advocate for finding a work life balance and looking after one’s health. Her bravery and integrity really shine through in her work.”



**Catalina Spataru, Senior  
Lecturer, UCL Energy Institute**

“Having an engineering background, I was surrounded mostly by men in work and academia. Catalina was the first woman I met in the academic environment. She taught me how to become a researcher, how to overcome the scare of public speaking and most importantly how to strengthen my presence in a male dominated environment.”





# Brain Sciences



**Zoe Belk, PhD Student, Division of Psychology and Language Sciences**

“Aside from her excellent teaching style, Zoe is a tremendous advocate for female empowerment in the classroom.”



**Nadia Berthouze, Professor, Division of Psychology and Language Sciences**

“Nadia is very much passionate, not only about research, technology advance, and enabling individuals in the society, but also about personal development of her research students.”

**Robyn Carston, Professor, Division of Psychology and Language Sciences**

“Since I arrived at UCL, Robyn has been a constant source of inspiration and learning. She stands as a model of intellectual insight, conceptual clarity and sharp thinking and she had a great impact in my professional and personal development.”



**Maria Chait, Reader, UCL Ear Institute**

“Maria is one of the most intellectually impressive scientists I have ever worked with, and the fact that this is matched by drive and enthusiasm, and an ability to nurture young researchers make her an absolute asset to UCL.”



**Anna Cox, Reader, Division of Psychology and Language Sciences**

“I remember feeling so nervous about starting my PhD – nobody in my family had even been to university! It was tough and there were many times in which I wanted to give up, but I stuck at it because I knew that Anna believed in me.”



**Valerie Curran, Professor, Division of Psychology and Language Sciences**

“In an environment that is naturally competitive she’s managed to create a department where respecting and nurturing others, no matter what position they hold, is key.”

**Sarah Dowling, Project Manager, Division of Psychiatry**

“Sarah was assigned to me as a coach. Her generosity and sound advice made it possible for me to put things into perspective, remind myself of my own strengths, and – in the end – achieve a great deal!”



**Uta Frith, Professor, Division of Psychology and Language Sciences**

“Uta is both spectacularly supportive to individuals and incredibly enthusiastic about improving the UCL community. Uta puts a lot of time and effort into projects like UCL Women, and she deserves to be recognised for that in addition to her support for individuals.”



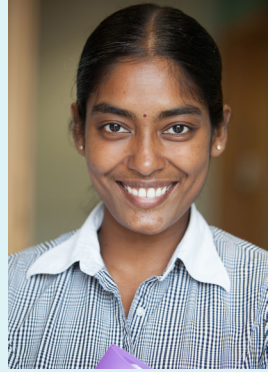
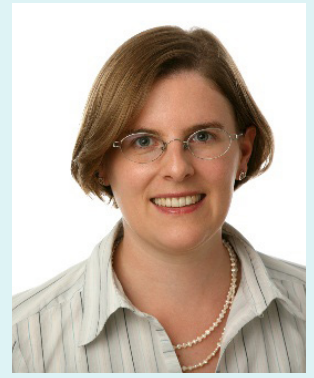
**Clare Futter, Professor,  
Institute of Ophthalmology**

“Clare took on the task of uniting academic and support staff to begin to address the gender imbalance that might be affecting our scientific staff. She managed this through wit, dedication, kindness and humour and we were proud to receive a Silver award, largely, I believe, from her efforts.”



**Antonia Hamilton, Reader,  
Division of Psychology and  
Language Sciences**

“As a mentor, Dr Hamilton provides a perfectly balanced encouraging and challenging environment to her students. As a woman I always feared whether it was possible to be one of the best researchers in your field and have a happy family life at the same time.”



**Anna Kuppuswamy, Research  
Fellow, Institute of Neurology**

“As a result of working with Anna I feel much more confident in trying new avenues of work, and have found a career path that I’m very happy pursuing and feel happy pushing my boundaries.”



**Nilli Lavie, Professor, Division  
of Psychology and Language  
Sciences**

“Nilli is a shining example that it is possible to accomplish impressive academic goals whilst also maintaining a healthy work-life balance and raising her children (as a widowed parent).”

**Mairéad Macsweeney,  
Senior Research Fellow,  
Division of Psychology and  
Language Sciences**

“Mairéad actively mentors her research group of pre-and post-doctoral researchers. Equally importantly, Mairead is also a role model for work-life balance in academia.”



**Stephanie Schorge, Principal  
Research Associate, Institute  
of Neurology**

“Stephanie has always given me solid career advice and has helped me to obtain my own independent fellowship. I feel very fortunate to have someone like Dr Schorge advising and supporting me.”



**Nele Schwartz, Research  
Fellow, Institute of  
Ophthalmology**

“Nele inspires and impresses all those who work with her. As a scientist and colleague with her dedication to fantastic work and her generosity in always making time to help and teach others.”



**Sophie Scott, Professor,  
Division of Psychology and  
Language Sciences**

“Sophie is a Wellcome Trust senior fellow researching the neuroscience of voices, speech, and laughter. One of very few female WTFS in the UK. She is a wonderful advocate for female scientists and an excellent colleague.”

**Sarah Tabrizi, Professor,  
Institute of Neurology**

“Professor Tabrizi is exceptional in being a world-class researcher, a truly caring clinician and an inspirational leader. Her energy and passion astound us all and her determination to fight for her patients and her team, has made her a force to be reckoned with.”



**Essi Viding, Professor,  
Division of Psychology and  
Language Sciences**

“Essi provided me a great role model of how it’s possible to raise a family and have a full-time career. Before my PhD, I had always assumed that I would need to work part-time if I decided to have children. Essi turned that assumption on its head.”



**Bencie Woll, Professor,  
Division of Psychology  
and Language Sciences**

“Professor Woll leads by example, her generosity of support knows no bounds, she has a unique ability to nurture enthusiasm and the vision to invest in hidden talent and is an inspirational role model to all.”



**Caroline Wood, Senior  
Research Associate,  
Division of Psychology  
and Language Sciences**

“Caroline has demonstrated true integrity showing a unique drive and passion for her work, which has truly inspired me to strive for the same, both within my role, but also to inspire those around me.”

# Engineering



**Mara Balestrini, PhD student, Department of Computer Science**

“Mara Balestrini is an exceptional PhD student. She has developed, and inspired others to adopt, a new strand of research on city sensing and community engagement. She is without question a rising star. She is also incredibly dynamic, vibrant and a wonderful role model for women in engineering.”



**Polina Bayvel, Professor, Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering**

“Sustained academic excellence and academic leadership in science and engineering.”

**Sue Black, Honorary Professor, Department of Computer Science**

“Sue Black has inspired me with her ability to communicate science and engineering ideas to the general public. In particular, she has led several initiatives that have reached out to those would not traditionally think of themselves as software engineers.”



**Kate Bowers, Professor, Department of Security and Crime Science**

“Kate embodies all that is special about academia. She is foremost an enabler of research by her students, and her generosity of spirit and time ensures that early career researchers have access to a mentor to facilitate their career development.”



**Licia Capara, Professor, Department of Computer Science**

“The inspiration Licia provided as a mentor and role model will always be the stepping-stone of my career. She encouraged me to pursue a PhD in Computer Science, and I cannot help but look back on my time at UCL with a heart full of gratitude.”



**Kati Carter, Department Manager, Department of Security and Crime Science**

“Kati inspires all of us here in the department, and no doubt sets an example for her team and for other women (and men!) who aspire to progress at UCL in the professional services arena.”

**Sara Collins, Faculty Manager, Faculty of Engineering**

“I cannot speak highly enough of Sara’s leadership and support. She is always able to strike the balance between knowing when more explicit guidance is needed and when I have the answer myself but just need a ‘sounding board’ to talk through a situation”



**Ellie Cosgrove, Research Associate, Department of Science, Technology, Engineering and Public Policy (STeAPP)**

“Ellie epitomises UCL’s approach to research. She shows passion, drive, and sensitivity in connecting disciplines and in pursuing innovative scientific ideas for high policy impact and positive practice-related outcomes.”



**Dina D' Ayala, Professor,  
Department of Civil,  
Environmental and  
Geomatic Engineering**

“Dina is one of the most knowledgeable and well respected figures of my Department and whenever I imagine my future I always look at her as an inspirational prototype to follow.”



**Sally Day, Senior Lecturer,  
Department of Electronic  
and Electrical Engineering**

“Sally is a role model to female students and postdocs. She is also actively involved with schools' outreach work including Summer Schools, and after school clubs where she is a role model to women from local schools.”



**Vanessa Diaz, Lecturer,  
Department of Mechanical  
Engineering**

“Dr Diaz was a great personal tutor in my first two years and has been extremely supportive in helping me make difficult decisions. Not only this, but I think she remains one of the best lecturers I have had in all 3 years.”



**Zahra Farsijani, Undergraduate  
Student, Department of  
Electronic and Electrical  
Engineering**

“She is one of the STEM Ambassadors and tries to help and engage students in robotic and electronic field in “After School Club” at UCL. Moreover, she was awarded the Ford Prize for Women In STEM, due to her persevere effort in her role.”



**Siobhan Fitzgerald, Senior  
Teaching and Learning  
Administrator, Department  
of Mechanical Engineering**

“Her passion for the work that our team does is infectious and she's shown us that together a team of 4 women really can move mountains and achieve results.”



**Diana Lee, Undergraduate  
Student, Department of  
Computer Science**

“Diana is Client & Public Relations Director for UCLU TechSoc. Diana has done a lot for the Technology Society. She is a workaholic, who gets things done! She also actively develops the curriculum for CodeFirst Girls and is the only She++ Ambassador in the UK.”



**Rebecca Shipley, Lecturer,  
Department of Mechanical  
Engineering**

“Dr Shipley has offered guidance but also allowed me to lead my own research. I feel when I talk to her that I am treated as a peer despite being a student. She has seriously made me consider a career in research if possible.”



**Alexandra Silva, Senior  
Lecturer, Department of  
Computer Science**

“Since I started at UCL, Alexandra was nothing but a constant source of encouragement. Even though she had started at UCL only a couple of months before, once I joined she provided a great deal of support.”



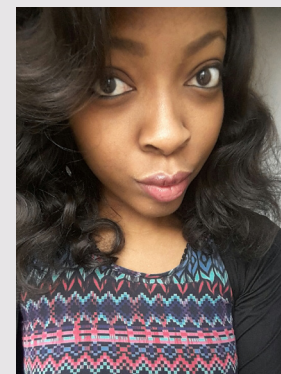
**Anfisa Tukhvatullina, MEng  
Student, Department of Civil,  
Environmental and Geomatic  
Engineering**

“Anfisa is the President of the UCLU Eurasian Business Society. She demonstrates organisational and leadership skills, and is the glue that keeps EBS running efficiently.”

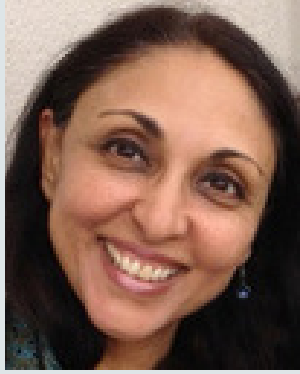


**Sherifat Yesufu, MSc Student,  
Department of Chemical  
Engineering**

“Yesufa is very independent and is a big example for many girls to follow. We have only studied together on a few occasions and I am deeply impressed. The reports from her classmates who are also my friends not only impress me more but also leave me with no better nomination for this event.”



# Institute of Education



**Nazlin Bhimani, Research Support and Special Collections Librarian, Institute of Education Library**

“Nazlin is interested in researcher development and in educational technologies and is a passionate advocate of using emerging technologies to promote historical collections and placing them in the research arena. She is an inspiration to me and many others.”



**Gill Brackenbury, Co-Ordinator of SENJIT, Psychology and Human Development**

“Gill has been a colleague, a mentor and a friend not only to me but to all our students and other members of the SENJIT team. Her humane attitude made everyone in the team feel valued and she managed to create a cohesive and pleasant environment.”

**Praveetha Patalay, Research Associate, Centre for Longitudinal Studies**

“As a colleague Praveetha is open, positive, creative and collaborative. Praveetha was instrumental with her colleagues in setting up a range of groups including Pub Club (to support researchers to publish) and Stats chat (to support discussion of statistical analysis).”



**Vivienne Porritt, Director of School Partnerships, Department of Learning and Leadership**

“Vivienne is a founder member of the WomensEd network which aims to connect aspiring and existing women leaders in education. Her motivation and vision for IOE School Partnerships is an inspiration.”



# Life Sciences



**Afia Ali, Senior Lecturer, School of Pharmacy**

“Positive role models from the minority groups are much needed in higher education to represent our society accurately. Dr Ali has certainly impacted many males and females, she has helped me think about what is achievable as a woman, the challenges I may face and how I may overcome these to be a future leader as a research pharmacist.”

**Nadine Mogford, Programme Administrator, Division of Biosciences**

“When thinking of Nadine, all the following spring to mind - Always has time for everyone – she is so busy but is always willing to listen. Motivating – gives the best of herself and encourages others by example and word to do the same.”



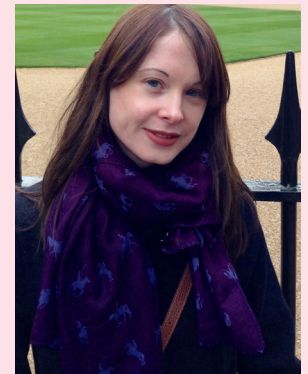
**Paola Oliveri, Senior Lecturer, Division of Biosciences**

“Paola is not only an excellent scientist but also a wonderful mentor. I have always admired her approach to science, her logic and way of finding a solution to every problem. Thanks to her I can see the beauty and fun of science and I wish to become a researcher myself.”



**Rosemary Smyth, School of Pharmacy**

“Dr Rosemary Smyth had a huge impact on my study choices. She inspired me to pursue my PhD in biomarker studies as I am now studying pre-diagnostic biomarkers for type 2 Diabetes. Rosemary continues to be a great help and an inspiration to all her students. Hats off to Rosemary.”



# Mathematical & Physical Sciences

**Nicola Best, Executive Assistant,  
Department of Chemistry**

“UCL set up the Staff Disability Forum and Nicola put herself forward to be Co-Chair and has taken the lead in setting up Enable, a network for staff with disabilities. Nicola’s willingness to give time and effort to these roles has been truly inspirational. Nicola is clearly a very skilful organiser and both organisations have made great strides through her leadership.”



**Claire Carmalt, Professor,  
Department of Chemistry**

“An inspirational lecturer, Claire took maternity leave when I was an undergrad (something I didn’t know you could do if you chose academia when I was 19; I found this very encouraging). Claire continues to be an inspiration to me, she has encouraged me, supported me and insisted that I never stop working hard to achieve my goals – just as she does.”



**Joanna Faure Walker, Lecturer,  
Institute for Risk and Disaster  
Reduction**

“Joanna is a great inspiration as I have always found her honest, fair, helpful, compassionate, supportive, diligent and sincere in her work, towards her colleagues and students. She is not only making difference in her own life, she is contributing to the success of many others! Well done, Joey! Salutes!”



**Helen Fielding, Professor,  
Department of Chemistry**

“Helen is an inspiration to women at different levels in the Chemistry Department. Helen has been the leading force in the Department’s Athena SWAN applications. She has helped improve the work-life balance within the department, increase the number of women visiting seminar speakers, and a mentoring scheme.”

**Helen Higgins, Department  
Manager, Department of  
Mathematics**

“Helen is a true feminist who is fiercely supportive of the female staff in her department. She also holds the department to its promises on opportunities for female students (such as committing a summer studentship post to be open only to female students) and keeps us honest.”



**Katherine Holt, Reader,  
Department of Chemistry**

“Dr. Holt is a very inspiring lecturer. Her lectures are always very stimulating and exciting. As a result of her great teaching, I’m considering of undertaking a physical research project for my masters next year. She is always willing to help and her passion for physical chemistry is amazing.”



**Caroline Knapp, Research  
Fellow, Department of  
Chemistry**

“Caroline will go out of her way to help people whenever she can and always with a smile. I strongly believe we need more women in science; and that they should be encouraged to have the faith in their own ability. The world would be a better place with more people like Caroline.”



**Rachel McKendry,  
Professor,  
London Centre for  
Nanotechnology**

“It is a pleasure to work with Rachel, I have witnessed Rachel exhibit both a strong research vision and strong and effective management. In my experience, it is rare to see both in a single individual.”



**Alexandra Olaya-Castro, Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy**

“Quantum biology is an emergent interdisciplinary research area that aims to understand whether quantum mechanical phenomena are important for the function of biomolecules. Alexandra’s contributions to this field have been widely acknowledged by the international community.”



**Elizabeth Read, Department manager, Department of Chemistry**

“Since I started at UCL a year ago, Liz has offered me endless support and guidance and has such incredible patience, that she has grown to become I truly respect and admire. She truly embodies the collaborative culture that UCL is so well known for.”



**Lidunka Vočadlo, Professor, Department of Earth Sciences**

“Professor Lidunka Vočadlo has taken an active role in making female colleague aware of the activities of UCL Women. Furthermore, she has been instrumental in encouraging more department collegiality through organising ‘get to know the staff’ events.”



# Medical Sciences

**Helen Birch, Professor, Division of Surgery and Interventional Science**

“Helen is a highly committed scientist and teacher. She was the first female Professor in the Division. Helen’s ability to relate to her peers, support staff and anybody in the department is always professional, friendly and understanding.”



**Rachel Chambers, Professor, Division of Medicine**

“Prof Chambers is a source of inspiration to younger female academics including PhD and undergraduate students in the Division exemplifying how to succeed as a basic scientist in a male and clinical dominated environment without losing your integrity and your sense of humour!”



**Susan Cunningham, Professor, Eastman Dental Institute**

“Susan Cunningham is an inspiration to all students that she teaches. She is a remarkable individual who, by virtue of her organisation, patience and commitment has ensured that her students have received a clinical educational experience that equips them with the skills to be exceptional clinicians.”



**Jane Dacre, Professor, UCL Medical School**

“A mentor, a sponsor, a critical friend, a wise guide friend. Someone who would always push me to do things just beyond my comfort zone and make it safe to try. I have made it to professor myself now – I would not have done it without her unfailing confidence in me – even when I wobbled.”



**Deborah Gill, Professor, UCL Medical School**

“To see her, in what has been a very short period, transform both the medical school and the Division, change the culture so very slightly and enhance the science of learning has been both magnificent to watch and humbling to witness.”



**Elsbeth Latimer, Divisional Research Administrator, Division of Infection and Immunity**

“Elsbeth is a joy to work with. She is thorough, kind and gets things done as well as appreciating the effort of others. An absolute inspiration. Elsbeth reminds me that a cheerful demeanour, without being a pushover, usually leads to great success in any role.”



**Marilena Loizidou, Professor, Division of Surgery and Interventional Science**

“As a researcher and academic, Marilena has made fantastic efforts to take forward UCL’s missions in teaching and research both at the Royal Free Campus and elsewhere across the medical school. She has shown great leadership qualities since becoming Head of Campus.”



**Caroline Moore, Senior Clinical Researcher, Division of Surgery and Interventional Science**

“Caroline is juggling cutting edge research with raising a family and collaborating with many researchers including myself. She has been an inspirational person to discuss ideas with on both a personal and professional level.”



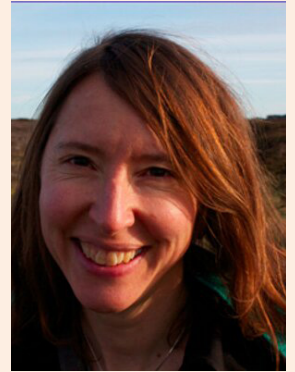
**Emma Morris, Professor,  
Division of Infection and  
Immunity**

“Professor Emma Morris has shown remarkable skills, motivation, and leadership in the current preparation of the application for the new UCL BRC application. In addition, she has shown fairness and honesty in the choice of the topics to be included in the proposal.”



**Jenny Rohn, Principal  
Research Associate, Division  
of Medicine**

“Through her blog, Jenny Rohn gives a candid account of the pressures and successes of a career as a researcher who is also interested in the world outside the lab. She reminds those of us at earlier stages of our career that while the picture isn't always rosy - there are still positives to celebrate.”



**Patricia Woo, Emeritus  
Professor, Division of Infection  
and Immunity**

“Pat Woo is a clinician scientist who has trained and encouraged generations of basic researchers and clinicians. She started Paediatric Rheumatology European Society (PRES), a society which has grown to become a major force supporting training, research and clinical care in paediatric rheumatology.”



**Anne Young, Professor,  
Eastman Dental Institute**

“Anne is a highly industrious and inspiring academic. Anne has become a leader in a field that often rarely attracts female academics. Her wish to better the lives of female academics is reflected in her voluntary leadership of our Self Assessment Team for Athena SWAN.”



# Population Health

**Phillippa Cumberland, Senior Research Associate, Institute of Child Health**



“Phillippa has been a colleague, statistical advisor, mentor and a friend. She has inspired me to prioritise quality and ethics in making choices that matter to the lives of patients/individuals we study, to be collegiate and loyal, and to foster mutual support at work place over ‘box ticking’ up the professional ladder.”

**Anna David, Reader, Institute for Women’s Health**



“Anna has been a constant source of inspiration, encouragement, and support throughout my time at UCL. Although her academic and professional achievements are hugely impressive, it is her approach to work and to her colleagues that I find most inspiring. Anna has been an amazing role model for me, and I’m sure for many others.”

**Sarah Hawkes, Reader, Institute for Global Health**



“Sarah works very hard at promoting the issue of gender equity within our department and through her research. She is a role model to junior members of staff and I have found her mentorship over the last year to be valuable in my work at UCL.”

**Anja Heilmann, Lecturer, Institute of Epidemiology & Health Care**



“Anja is the main reason why I decide to stay at UCL and study a PhD. She is an excellent supervisor and an inspiring person. She is a lovely lecturer, her classes are simple, even when the topics can be very complex. She is extremely generous, and an inspiring woman.”

**Therese Hesketh, Professor, Institute for Global Health**



“Therese is passionate about global health, and takes great pride in inspiring medical students to the area of global health in China. I feel I can rely on her as she has always demonstrated her willingness to share her knowledge and experience. I always feel lucky to have her as the supervisor of my project.”

**Gwyneth Lewis, Professor, Institute for Women’s Health**



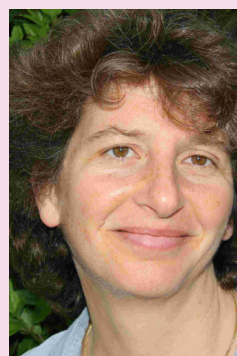
“Professor Gwyneth Lewis is without any doubt one of the main contributors to the improvement of global women health over the last 20 years. Her novel approach has changed the world of maternities contributing to a significant reduction in maternal mortality and has influenced the practice of countless midwives and obstetricians.”

**Jenny Mindell, Reader, Institute of Epidemiology & Health Care**



“Dr Mindell has supported students at all levels. She hosted a series of In2Science and Social Mobility Foundation A-level students who come from families without experience of university. Jenny is collegiate and fun. I respect her deeply and look forward to working with her for many years to come.”

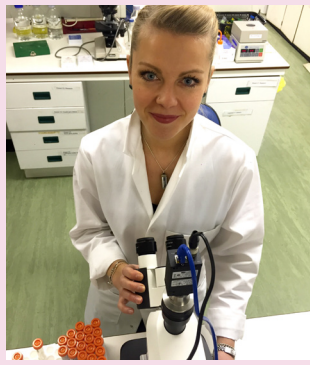
**Elizabeth Murray, Professor, Institute of Epidemiology & Health Care**



“Elizabeth established the eHealth Unit at UCL in 2003 to explore the use of new information and communication technologies to improve health and health care. It is now one of the foremost eHealth units internationally. Elizabeth has always been fully supportive of the careers of her staff members. Their progression is her absolute priority.”

**Helen O'Neill, Teaching Fellow, Institute for Women's Health**

"Helen has been my personal mentor and I am always looking forward to seeing her and appreciate her honest and open feedback on any concerns or questions I may have. She is an asset to the institution."



**Joanne Palmer, Trial Operations Manager, Institute of Epidemiology & Health Care**

"Joanne has been a constant inspiration and example to me. Her leadership skills are excellent and has moved Priment Clinical Trial Unit forward into a fully functioning CTU and has led the team with her. Joanne is an excellent line manager. I try to emulate her management style."



**Sarah Pett, Senior Lecturer, Institute of Epidemiology & Health Care**

"Dr Pett is an inspiring leader, always happy to help and motivate our team members, and support individuals to follow their ideas and career path. She is great role model for women in research. I have never learned so much or felt so empowered from anybody else during my long research career."



**Audrey Prost, Senior Lecture, Institute for Global Health**

"Audrey has inspired several PhD students who I have worked with, and they really learned and grew under her leadership. Without her commitment and research excellence our research may not have been able to achieve the impact that it did, through a WHO recommendation for participatory women's groups to improve newborn and maternal health."

**Caroline Sabin, Professor, Institute of Epidemiology & Health Care**

"Caroline has been a highly positive role model for me. As I look upwards at the women in the top positions and wonder if I can ever emulate them, and I am now vastly more aware of trying to project similar positive traits to my (female) PhD students, so that they realise that the route to success is not dependent on a one size fits all model."



**Jolene Skordis-Worrall, Senior Lecturer, Institute for Global Health**

"Jolene has had a profound impact on all the students and staff that she has taught or worked with. She is passionate about improving people's well-being and thinking of innovative research ideas to do so. She is enthusiastic about her colleagues' research, offers constructive feedback and support. I find her nothing short of inspirational."



**Pam Sonnenberg, Reader, Institute of Epidemiology & Health Care**

"Pam inspires me because she ingenious, incredibly thorough, scientifically brilliant, and most importantly, has a deep humanity and kindness, which make her an awesome role model and remarkable colleague, friend and all round superb UCL woman."



**Philippa Talmud, Emeritus Professor, Institute for Cardiovascular Science**

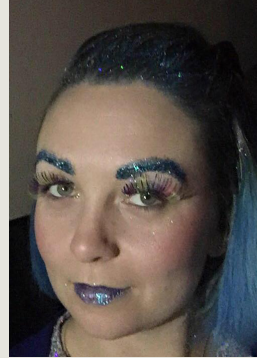
"Philippa is an exceptional scientist and an amazing person. She has always been there for me, making sure everything is clear and being supportive with my choices; not only in science, but also in real life."

# Professional Services



**Wendy Appleby, Registrar and Head of Student & Registry Services.**

“Wendy has acted as my mentor and has been an invaluable source of advice and encouragement. She has encouraged me to pursue my ambitions without feeling guilty about also wanting time with my children and has helped me to negotiate what is still largely a white-men-in-suits dominated working environment.”



**Vicki Baars, Representation and Campaigns Coordinator (Liberation), UCLU**

“Vicki Baars has been a valued member to our team in the Students’ Union, within the staff LGBT group, UCL Unison and across UCL as a whole. Vicki is a passionate feminist who is committed to social justice. Since becoming a mother last year, I am even more inspired by her. I hope my daughter can be as confident, self-assured and caring.”

**Lori Houlihan, Executive Director of Development & Alumni Relations**

“Lori’s approach to creating an environment that is flexible and family-friendly has been inspirational and life-changing for me and many others in our department. She genuinely values your contribution and the experiences you gain from being a parent, rather than seeing it as nuisance.”



**Joanna Marshall-Cook, Energy Manager, UCL Estates**

“Joanna’s role is daunting in its scope. In the face of this large challenge, Joanna’s infectious commitment to improving UCL’s environmental impact, and her patience in tackling the large challenges that the institution faces, is inspiring. In spite of her large responsibilities, Joanna remains perpetually good-humoured, patient and approachable – no mean feat!”



**Lesley May, Head of Facilities & Workshop Services, UCL Estates**

“Lesley is widely known to be an exceptional role model, manager, communicator and strategist. She encourages the best in other people by openly supporting and encouraging their ideas and helping staff develop by delegation and empowerment. Lesley is an innovative leader who has made significant and substantial improvements to the Department.”



**Briony McArdle, Senior Alumni Relations Manager, Development & Alumni Relations**

“Briony has been an excellent manager and support during my time at DARO. She has been an excellent role model and deserves to be commended for her approach to work, her managerial skills, and her ability to collaborate effectively across a big office.”

**Sian Minett, Director of Estates Portfolio & Business Support, UCL Estates**

“Sian’s ambition, intelligence, and accomplishments in UCL Estates make her highly deserving of the honour of recognition. Estates historically has been a male dominated industry sector and Sian has been an ambassador encouraging all women to believe in their own ability and strive to be the best.”



**Rachel Nelligan, Head of Issue Desk (Main Library), Library Services**

“Rachel is not only a great manager but she is also a pleasure to work with. She exhibits real care for her staff and she is not afraid to stand up for them when need be. Rachel never fails to be encouraging and supportive, both towards me, our team and library colleagues in general.”

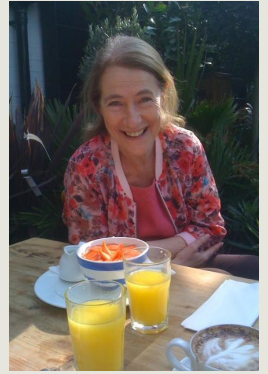


**Helen Notter, Student Records Manager, Student & Registry Services**

“I know I am not alone in my debt to her, as several of my Graduate Tutor colleagues and supervisors, when faced with questions or worries about how to cope with doctoral student issues, say ‘Let’s call Helen Notter’ – this is virtually a catch-phrase for us now. She’s a godsend.”

**Sonja Van Praag, Web Content and Service Officer, Information Services Division**

“Sonja has been an informal mentor to me since I first started at UCL. She has been inspiring because she has actively sought to encourage me to think about career development and professional training. She has also put me in touch with other colleagues early in their careers so that I can begin to grow a network of valuable support and dialogue.”



**Breege Whiten, Head of Issue Desk Services, Library Services**

“I am nominating Breege because she is one of the most supportive managers I have ever worked with. She is inspirational and a brilliant role model, always striving to better the services under her charge and encouraging her staff to develop their skills and career.”

# Social & Historical Sciences

**Leah Acheson Roberts, PhD Student, Institute of Archaeology**

“Leah is an inspiration to students and professors alike. She is wonderfully approachable inside and outside of class. I aspire to her level of academic excellence and kindness. All those who interact with Leah find themselves to be more confident and better informed. Leah is the kind of person and academic I want to be.”



**Beverley Butler, Reader, Institute of Archaeology**

“Beverley has introduced anthropology, feminism and postcolonial theory, seeing cultural heritage not as a finite product that needs to be preserved, but as a space of constant change and enquiry. In a department dominated by males, she has been inspirational for students in academic fields which are professionally dominated by women.”



**Claire Dwyer, Reader, Department of Geography**

“Claire’s energy, dedication and compassion towards her colleagues and her commitment to making the lives of women better is evidenced in her research into the religious lives of migrant women, her work as part of the Gender and Feminist Geographies Group, and her supportive, empathetic mentorship of researchers and PhD students.”



**Elizabeth Graham, Professor, Institute of Archaeology**

“I believe Elizabeth upholds the ethos of UCL, as a research university that supports their students and includes their students in this research community. As a woman she exudes confidence and therefore instils confidence and self-worth to all around her.”



**Jennifer Hudson, Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Science**

“She has been the backbone of the Dept. of Political Science. Ex-students always rave about her teaching and attribute their success to it. I’m in constant awe of how she consistently manages to give her time and energy to colleagues; utterly equally whether senior or junior, Professor, Professional Services staff, or PhD.”



**Valérie Lechene, Reader, Department of Economics**

“Valerie is both an inspiration to me as a female economist in a male-orientated profession, and also on a personal level. Valerie makes a point of coming to see me and the 3 ladies I work with in order to empower us on a regular basis. An example was feedback following a Lunch Hour Lecture by a female speaker that she had attended and had inspired her.”







**Louise Martin, Reader, Institute of Archaeology**

“What I appreciate most about Louise is her warm empathy. She works closely alongside me in solving problems with my thesis, understanding the difficulties and finding a practical way through them. Louise remains a warm, funny and approachable person, an inspiring and refreshing example to students both female and male.”



**Judy Medrington, Academic Administrator, Institute of Archaeology**

“Judy always makes time to deal with any problem large or small and she is solidly in the student’s corner. Personally, she provided a positive role model and encouragement from when I arrived as a mature student with a young family through. She is at least partially responsible for giving me the confidence to continue into Post-Doctoral research projects.”

**Ulrike Sommer, Senior Lecturer, Institute of Archaeology**

“Ulrike is a very intelligent, communicative and passionate lecturer, as well as a very kind and caring person, and to me she is a great example of how a woman can be a role model in academia in a very non-antagonistic, non-competitive way. She gave me a lot!”



# Women at UCL: Presence and Absence - The Main Exhibition

## About the Artist

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington is a multidisciplinary artist based in London. Central to her practice is the examination of socio-spatial control expressed through architectural design and the built environment. From mischievous spatial interventions to exquisite drawings, Clackson-Bonnington's work consistently repositions images and ideas to help elucidate connections and illuminate shifting social values. More recent works look deeper into historical collections, exploring hierarchies of power and anthropocentricity in the presentation of material presented for public consumption. Clackson-Bonnington questions: whose knowledge for whom, in whose interests and to whose exclusion?

## Background

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington studied Architecture and Spatial Arts at Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London and The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL. She was awarded the John Lyon Scholarship at UCL and was one of five students selected to represent Central Saint Martins in an innovative exhibition exploring Women and/in Art. Since graduating in 2004, Clackson-Bonnington's work has been included in numerous shows including 'Art Projects' at London Art Fair (2013) and 'Art Makes People Powerful' – a group show led by Bob and Roberta Smith. Clackson-Bonnington has been awarded several public residencies and commissions and her work is held in multiple private collections. Most recently, Clackson-Bonnington has been invited to work with UCL Art Museum to develop the public art project 'The Girl at the Door'. For more information please see [www.bonclacksonton.co.uk](http://www.bonclacksonton.co.uk) and [www.houseofdoors.org](http://www.houseofdoors.org)

## 'Theirs to Ours'

Artist Clackson-Bonnington produced a series of works titled 'Theirs to Ours', a series of twelve mixed-media works that illuminate the institutional change that has taken place since the founding of UCL in 1826 – from the initial decision to admit women in 1878 to the re-negotiating of spaces and positions that is still taking place today.

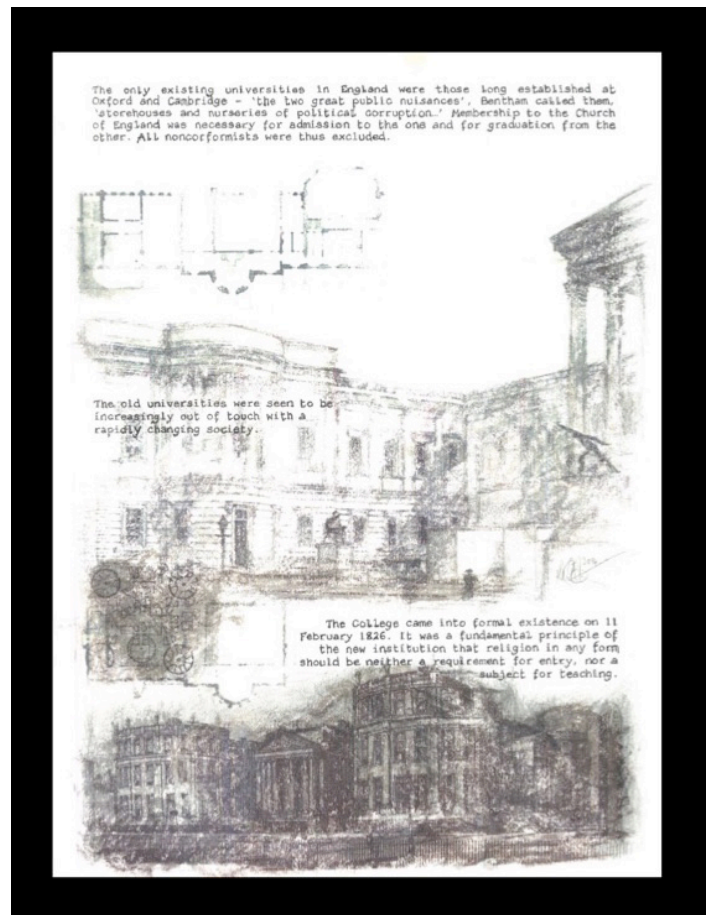
## No Gods Here

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Images: A selection of architectural drawings of UCL's Quad, including the North Wing shortly before its completion as illustrated in Building News in 1880 (top centre)

Transcript of text: The only existing universities in England were those long established at Oxford and Cambridge – 'the two great public nuisances', Bentham called them, 'storehouses and nurseries of political corruption...' Membership to the Church of England was necessary for admission to the one and for graduation from the other. All nonconformists were thus excluded. The old universities were seen to be increasingly out of touch with a rapidly changing society. The College came into formal existence on 11 February 1826. It was a fundamental principle of the new institution that religion in any form should be neither a requirement for entry, nor a subject for teaching.

Source: Professor Deborah Gill's personal archive | 'The World of UCL: 1828-2004' Negley Harte and John North | UCL Art Museum



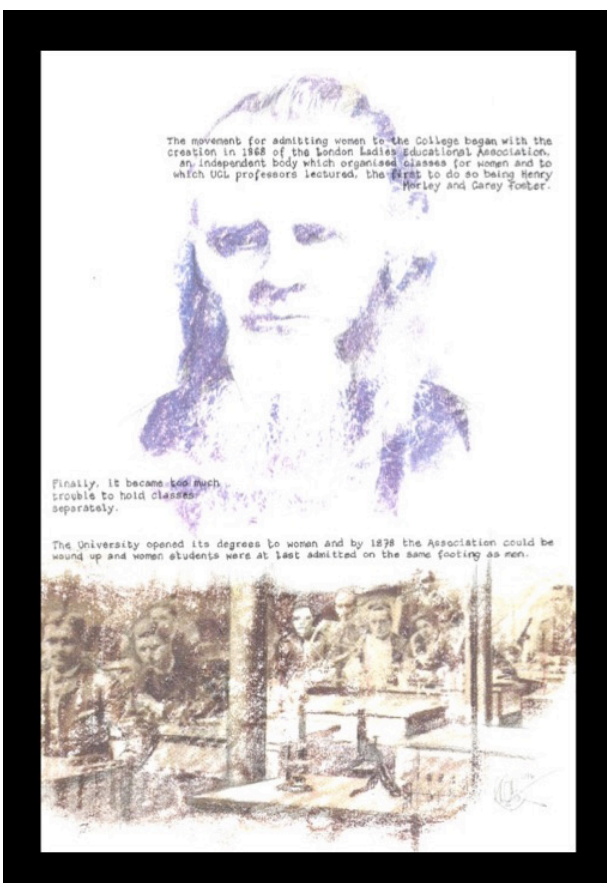
## UCL's First Ladies

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Images: Henry Morley, Professor of English 1865-89 (top), students attending a zoology lecture in 1887 (bottom)

Transcript of text: The movement for admitting women to the College began with the creation in 1868 of the London Ladies Educational Association, an independent body which organised classes for women and to which UCL professors lectured, the first to do so being Henry Morley and Carey Foster. Finally, it became too much trouble to hold classes separately. The University opened its degrees to women and by 1878 the Association could be wound up and women students were at last admitted on the same footing as men.

Source: 'Bluestockings: The Remarkable Story of the First Women to Fight for an Education' Jane Robinson | 'The World of UCL: 1828-2004' Negley Harte and John North



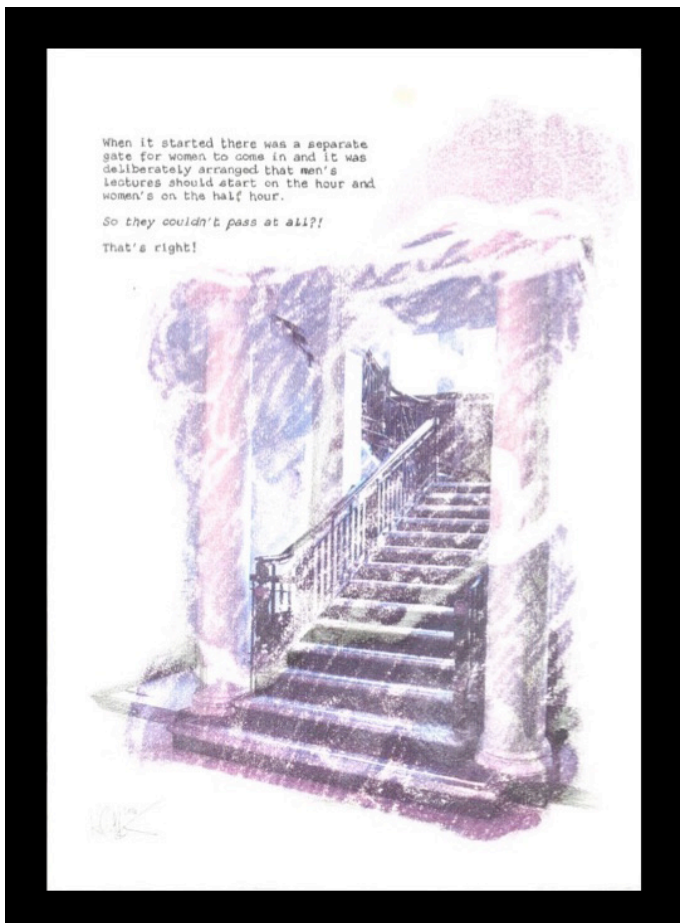
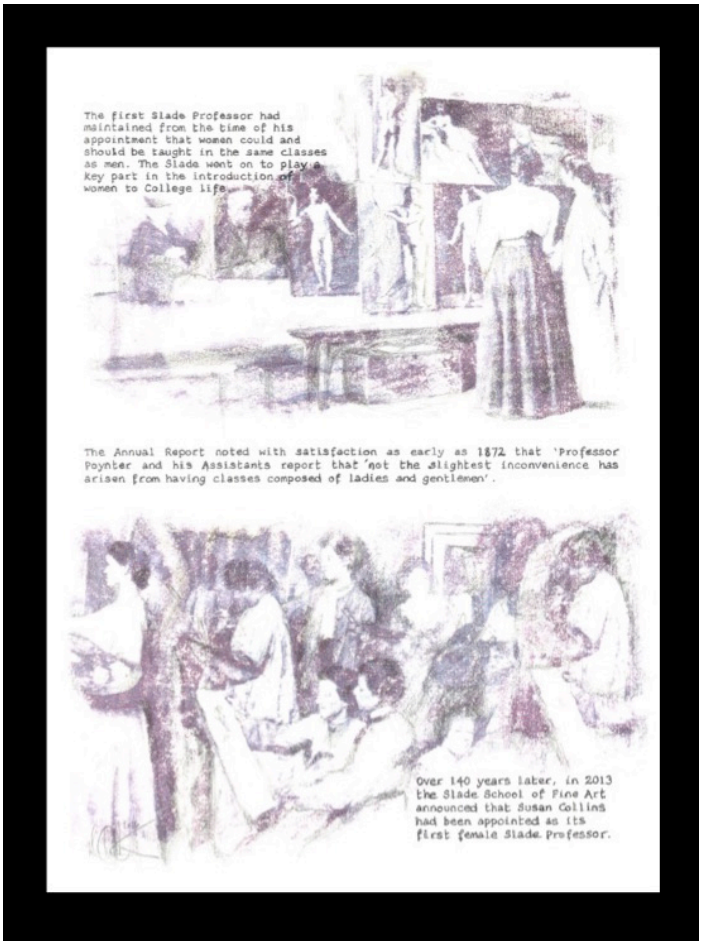
## ***Not the slightest inconvenience!***

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Images: A display of life paintings in the Slade, c.1906 (top), Slade students painting in the early years of the twentieth century (bottom)

Transcript of text: The first Slade Professor had maintained from the time of his appointment that women could and should be taught in the same classes as men. The Slade went on to play a key part in the introduction of women to College life. The Annual Report noted with satisfaction as early as 1872 that 'Professor Poynter and his Assistants report that not the slightest inconvenience has arisen from having classes composed of ladies and gentlemen'. Over 140 years later, in 2013 the Slade School of Fine Art announced that Susan Collins had been appointed as its first female Slade Professor.

Source: Interviews with Slade staff | 'The World of UCL: 1828-2004' Negley Harte and John North



## ***Clocks and Gates***

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Images: The central staircase in the Kathleen Lonsdale Building – the only building on UCL's campus to be named after a woman

Transcript of text:

When it started there was a separate gate for women to come in and it was deliberately arranged that men's lectures should start on the hour and women's on the half hour.

So they couldn't pass at all?!

That's right!

Source: A visit to the Kathleen Lonsdale Building and an afternoon with Professor Alwyn Davies

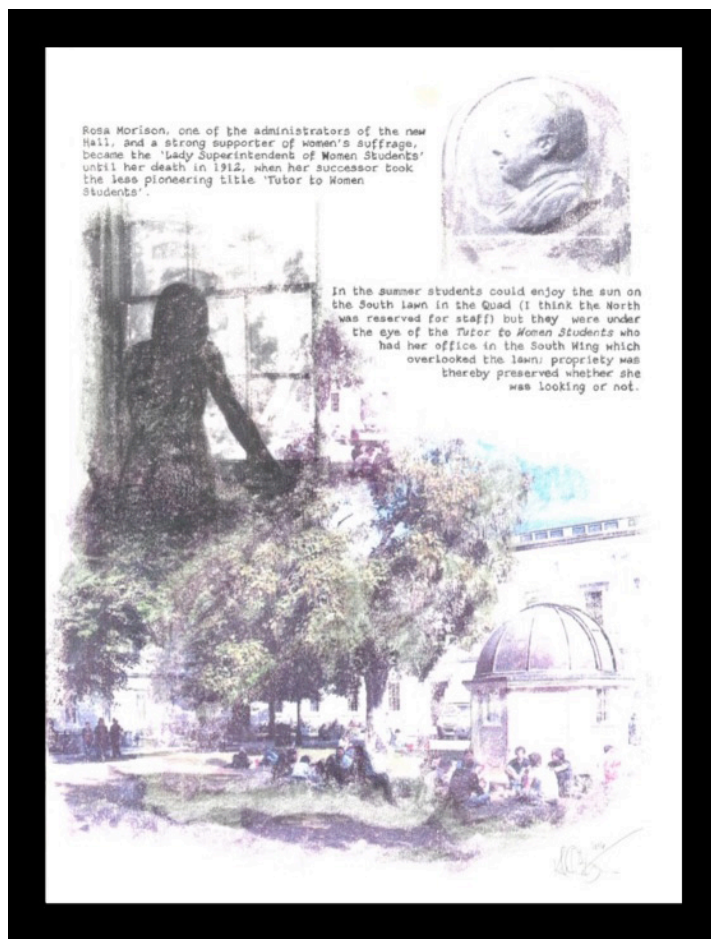
## No Touching

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Images: The last committee of the Women's Union Society, prior to its amalgamation with the all-make Union Society to form 'The Union' in 1946 (top left), Charlie – UCL's Top Hat Beadle (top right), the North Cloisters (bottom left), the great age of rags (bottom right)

Transcript of text: I mentioned the Union - it was for men only and the women had their own Women's Union Society, the WUS, in the South Wing. Segregation of the sexes extended to the prohibition of personal contact in the Cloisters and one of the duties of the Beadles was to police this. However, there was a mixed lounge with a bar somewhere in the middle of the College; it was small and often very crowded.

Source: A Letter from Douglas Ambrose, a student in the Chemistry Department between 1936 to 1939



## Conditions of Entry

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Images: The plaque executed in 1915 to commemorate Rosa Morison (top right), looking out over UCL's Quad – summer 2014 (bottom)

Transcript of text: Rosa Morison, one of the administrators of the new Hall, and a strong supporter of women's suffrage, became the 'Lady Superintendent of Women Students' until her death in 1912, when her successor took the less pioneering title 'Tutor to Women Students'. In the summer students could enjoy the sun on the South lawn in the Quad (I think the North was reserved for staff) but they were under the eye of the Tutor to Women Students who had her office in the South Wing which overlooked the lawn; propriety was thereby preserved whether she was looking or not.

Source: A Letter from Douglas Ambrose, a student in the Chemistry Department between 1936 to 1939 | 'The World of UCL: 1828-2004' Negley Harte and John North

## Lab Partners

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Image: A portrait of Professor Alwyn Davies

Transcript of text: I remember when I came here in 1944 we did Chemistry and Physics subsidiary. Both departments had been evacuated and came back and weren't really ready for students. In Physics we did Physics in pairs. There was a girl - Brenda - in my class. She was quite bright and we got on well and we had to work in pairs so she said 'how about you and me' and I said 'good idea - we'll do the work together'... So we went to Physics and they said 'no, you can't do that - we can't have men and women' (laughs) - so we got separated! She was bright and she got the first class degree - I got paired up with a bloke who had a girlfriend in the Slade, he wasn't there half the time (laughs) - so I did badly out of the deal!

Source: An afternoon with Professor Alwyn Davies

## Female Firsts

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Images: Professor Kathleen Lonsdale (top left), the Kathleen Lonsdale building (top right), the Chemistry Department in 1899, one of the earliest departmental photographs (bottom)

Transcript of text: In 1949, Kathleen Lonsdale became the first female Professor at UCL, she was also the first woman to be elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. She did think of giving up scientific research on marriage and settling down to become a good wife and mother, but Thomas would have none of it; he had not married, he said, to get a free housekeeper. "For a woman, and especially a married woman with children, to become a first class scientist she must first of all choose, or have chosen, the right husband. He must recognize her problems and be willing to share them." - Kathleen, 1955

Source: Coffee with Nick Booth | Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of the Royal Society, Vol. 21 (Nov., 1975), pp. 447-484



## Coffee sit-ins

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Images: The Housman Room (top left), Professor David Colquhoun (top right and bottom left), UCL's all-male senior team in 1986 (bottom right)

Transcript of text: I was astonished when I arrived at UCL to discover that the Housman room was male only. I'd just come from Edinburgh which still had separate men's and women's student unions and some men-only bars. But Edinburgh also had a wonderful staff club, open to all. It's true that UCL had also a women-only common room and a mixed common room, the Haldane room (which is where I went usually). But the biggest and most impressive room, the Housman room, was for men only. I found this very odd in the 1960s, the age of sexual liberation. Direct action was called for (I was in CND at the time). So we'd go into the Housman room with a woman and join the queue for coffee. In 1967 we proposed a motion at the Housman AGM to desegregate all common rooms. It was defeated. The next year we did it again, and were defeated again. But at the third attempt, in 1969, we succeeded. I was very happy to have had a small role in upholding UCL's liberal traditions. Nevertheless, in the mid-1960s, women were very far from being regarded as equal, even at UCL. At the time, segregation was more common than people now remember.

Source: Coffee and chat in the Housman Room with Professor David Colquhoun | DC's IMPROBABLE SCIENCE: UCL's senior common room and the Boston marathon: emancipation in the 1960s, and now

## Alice

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Images: Dr Alice Stevenson (top left), Egyptologist Margaret Murray at the Pyramids (top right), Dr Alice Stevenson's grandparents on their wedding day (bottom)

Transcript of text: My Gran had to inform Gordon Childes (Director of the Institute of Archaeology) that she'd got engaged. Subsequently, Gordon didn't speak to her for months. When he eventually did he said 'well, I suppose you'll be useful to Robert (my Grandad), you can draw!' Gran attended our wedding in 2008. By this time my own archaeological career was well underway, having been awarded my PhD the year before. I like to think she was proud and she stood by my decision not to change my surname or assume the title 'Mrs' (unlike other members of my family). My professional identity as an archaeologist is hugely important to me.

Source: Dr Alice Stevenson, Curator of the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology



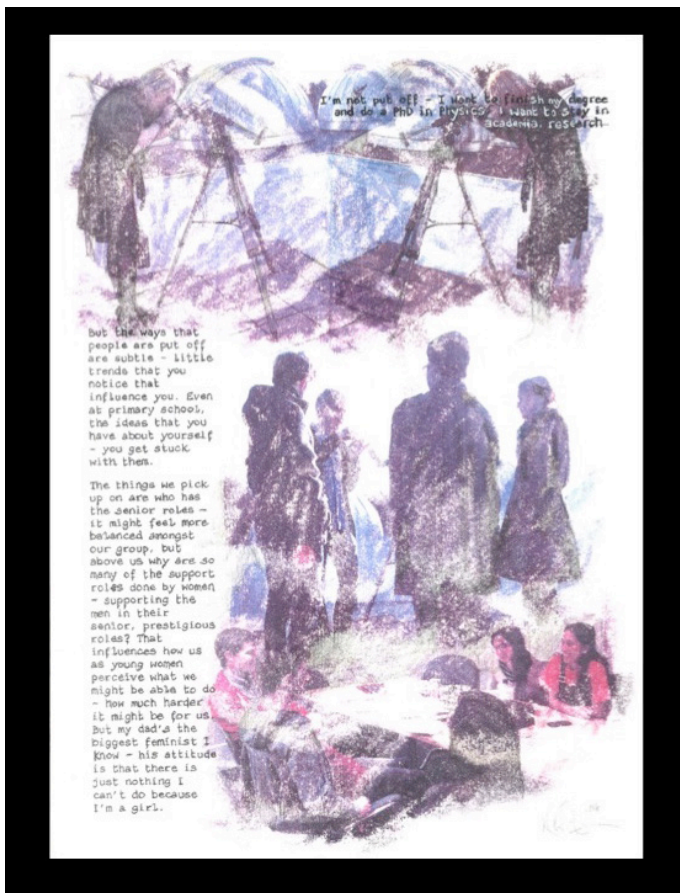
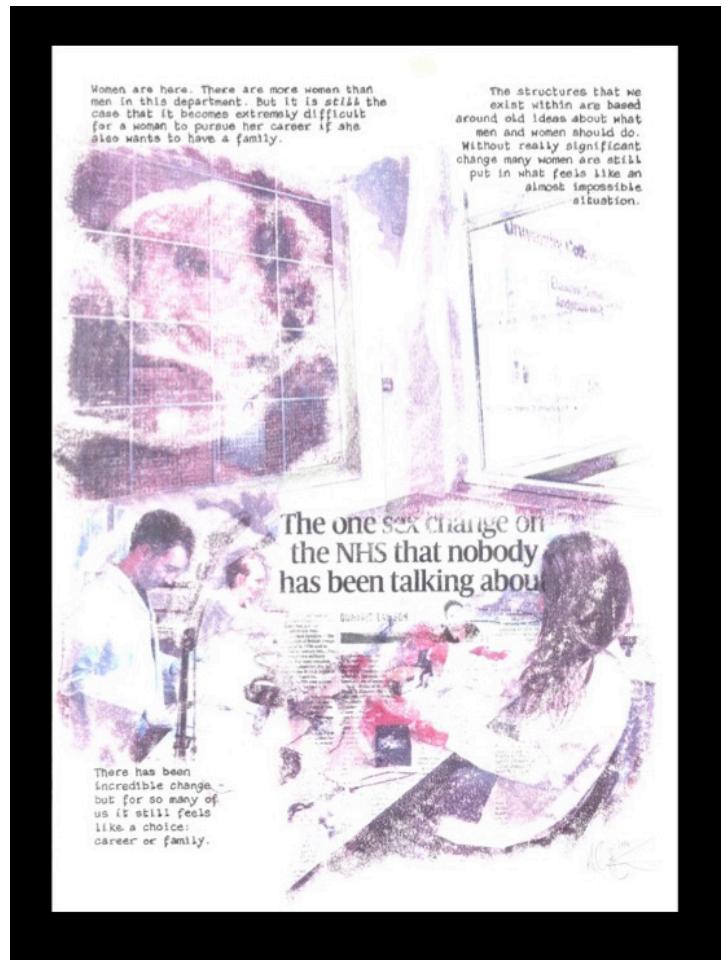
## Ambition

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media

Images: Entrance to the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Wing (top), students working at The Institute for Women's Health (bottom left and right), news piece: Dominic Lawson's article that was published in The Sunday Times this January – a widely criticised piece that led to the hashtag #likealadydoc

Transcript of text: Women are here. There are more women than men in this department. But it is still the case that it becomes extremely difficult for a woman to pursue her career if she also wants to start a family. The structures that we exist within are based around old ideas about what men and women should do. Without really significant change many women are still put in what feels like an almost impossible situation. There has been incredible change – but for so many of us it still feels like a choice: career or family.

Source: A day in the labs | Interviews with UCL medical students



## Dad's the biggest feminist I know

Kristina Clackson-Bonnington, 2016, mixed-media  
Images: Dr Sarah Hutton sun-gazing at the UCL Observatory (top), Physics and Astrophysics students on the Observatory roof (middle), students taking a well-earned break (bottom)

Transcript of text: I'm not put off – I want to finish my degree and do a PhD in Physics. I want to stay in academia, research... But the ways that people are put off are subtle – little trends that you notice that influence you. Even at primary school, the ideas that you have about yourself – you get stuck with them. The things we pick up on are who has the senior roles – it might feel more balanced amongst our group, but above us why are so many of the support roles done by women – supporting the men in their senior, prestigious roles? That influences how us as young women perceive what we might be able to do – how much harder it might be for us. But my dad's the biggest feminist I know – his attitude is that there is just nothing I can't do because I'm a girl.

Source: An afternoon at UCL's Observatory | Interviews with undergraduate Physics and Astrophysics students



## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank everyone who has been involved in this exhibition:

- Photographer David Bishop
- The 206 people who submitted a nomination
- The panel, who had the very difficult task of identifying the 24 women from so many wonderful nominations
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