



Citation for Mr Tres Seippel
Honorary Fellowship
8 September 2023, 10.00am

President and Provost, I beg leave to present Tres Seippel for admission to the UCL Honorary Fellowship.

Tres has been a committed supporter of UCL since graduating in 2012 with an MSc in International Real Estate and Planning. He came to UCL having gained a BSc in Landscape Architecture and Environmental Science at North Carolina State University in 2009. Coming from a small town in North Carolina, Tres was drawn to London and UCL's multicultural diversity, calling his year at UCL a 'life-changing' experience.

While at UCL, Tres also learnt the value of volunteering – giving his time to a planning project in Hackbridge, south-west London, through UCL's Just Space network, as well as participating in a survey of the green credentials of UCL's buildings.

He has been building communities ever since.

Over the past decade, Tres has been exceptionally engaged in a host of activities in support of UCL's strategic priorities.

Since 2013, Tres has actively volunteered with the UCL New York Alumni Club and became its President in 2016. Working closely with UCL Alumni Relations, Tres has spearheaded a significant growth in engagement with UCL's alumni community in the Tri-State Area, extending this across the US during the peak of the Covid-19 pandemic with online events. Having led the committee in planning and organising the group's social and professional development activities, Tres is currently supporting new volunteer leadership and will continue to advise the group.

After his UCL studies Tres went to New York, where he gained a Certificate in Real Estate Finance and Investment from NYU. He began his career at Weitzman Associates, a real estate advisory services firm, becoming Vice-President before moving to Genesis Capital. He was Vice President of Construction Analytics at Genesis and then General Manager, Construction and Bridge Lending, at PeerStreet until last year, when he joined Arbor Realty Trust as Director of Construction Management. Tres received his Member of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors designation in 2016 and Member of the Appraisal Institute designation in 2019.

As a property consultant, Tres loves living in New York and working in the busy, buzzing world of real estate. He has previously served on the Young Leadership Committee of

the Metro New York Chapter of the Appraisal Institute; and has been a Young Leader Committee Member of the Real Estate Pride Council since 2021.

During his career Tres has been involved in some of New York's most important real estate projects. What drives him, he says, is the idea of creating things that last, and that make a change. But he knows it can be hard to make connections with people in such a big city. He has said: "The New York Alumni Club brings seemingly random people together, but we all have one thing in common – UCL – and that gives us plenty to talk about. It's a way to have an instant connection with total strangers."

In 2019, Tres joined the Board of Directors for the UCL Friends & Alumni Association. Working in partnership with UCL Advancement, the UCLFAA is a non-profit organisation which is dedicated to raising awareness and philanthropic support for research, education, and innovation at UCL, and to facilitating scholarship opportunities.

As a board member, Tres spends a lot of time talking to alumni leaders in other cities in the US, sharing how the New York group has grown and how it operates. 'Keeping it fun' seems to be a recurring theme!

A former boss recalls Tres as a 'force of nature', 'super-charged' to chase opportunities, network and build relationships. Indeed, apparently he can't sit still and walks so fast people can't keep up with him; when Tres leads a walking tour of New York, he's so thrilled by the architecture and urban buzz around him you have to be careful not to be left in the dust.

A great celebrant of life, Tres is also committed to ensuring UCL activities are inclusive and representative of our diverse student and alumni population. He is a member of the UCL LGBTQ+ Alumni Network and last year co-organised an event with The Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment on 'Visibility, Inclusivity and Allyship in Built Environment Professions' as part of their Inclusive Spaces series.

Through his service on the UCLFAA Board and as Chair of the UCL New York Alumni Club, Tres has provided valuable advice and support to alumni and students, prospective and current, across the US. Tres is an outstanding UCL champion and his community leadership continues to be a great asset in one of our most important regions.

In recognition of his achievements and in gratitude for his commitment to UCL, President and Provost, it is a pleasure to present Tres Seippel for conferment of Honorary Fellowship of UCL.