



GRADUATION CEREMONIES 2022



THIS INSCRIPTION IS PLACED HERE TO PERPETUATE THE MEMORY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE AND OF THE MEDICAL SCHOOL WHO DIED IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY DURING THE YEARS 1914-1918

Contents

- 03 Foreword from the UCL
President & Provost,
Dr Michael Spence
- 05 Order of ceremony
- 06 A history of graduation
and academic dress
- 10 #LoveUCL – your highlight
of life at UCL
- 13 Stories: At UCL we were...
- 16 UCL Alumni
- 20 UCL Careers:
Find your future
- 22 Mementos and gifts
- 23 A message
of congratulations

A welcome from the Provost



Dr Michael Spence
UCL President & Provost

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you today to celebrate your graduation and everything you have achieved during your time at UCL.

The whole UCL community is enormously proud of your accomplishments, especially given the challenges you have faced over the past few years with the global pandemic. Each of you has shown remarkable determination and commitment to complete your studies and graduate with us today. Graduation is the culmination of years of hard work: a special day where you can come together with your friends, family and teachers to celebrate your achievements and mark the beginning of the next chapter in your future.

As a UCL graduate you are now part of our long history of academic excellence, going back 195 years. You are also a part of our future and we hope that UCL will remain a part of yours. You join more than 350,000 alumni who, like you, carry our values with them: to think differently, challenge convention and break boundaries.

Now you take these values with you into the world. As you go on to do extraordinary things and change the world for the better, as I know you will, I hope you will keep in touch with UCL and our global community of alumni. I encourage you to make the most of the opportunities to learn from other graduates and benefit from their experiences, advice and insights – as well as sharing your own wisdom in turn with the next generation of students.

I am proud to count each of you as part of this global community and, on behalf of the whole of UCL, I wish you congratulations on all you have achieved during your studies.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Spence', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Michael Spence

UCL President & Provost

Order of ceremony

Guests are invited
to take their seats
in the auditorium

Ceremony begins

**Academic procession
with fanfare**

Opening address

Provost's address

**Presentation
of graduands**

Alumni message

**Presentation
of graduands**

Closing address

Academic recession

Drinks reception

A history of graduation and academic dress



Academic dress

Academic dress developed from the everyday dress of men and women in the Middle Ages. It generally consisted of a tunic (toga) and cloak, with a hood worn over the tunic or cloak to protect the head and shoulders.

In the second half of the 15th century outer clothing was worn open, sleeves increased in size and it became fashionable for coloured linings of silk or fur to be seen at the front of garments or sleeves. The hoods started to be replaced by caps and these changes were reflected in academic dress.



Headwear

The 'mortarboard' worn by graduates is thought to have developed from similar hats worn by clergy. It comprises a horizontal square board fixed on a skull-cap, with a tassel attached to the centre.

The tassels of the caps are worn on the left side by those who already possess a Bachelor's degree – undergraduates only move them to the left once they have officially graduated. Academics holding a Doctoral degree generally wear a soft round velvet 'Tudor Bonnet' with a cord encircling the hat and a hanging tassel.



Gown

The Bachelor's gown is simple, with long pointed sleeves. Academics with higher degrees and officers of universities generally wear more elaborate gowns.

The hood retains its symbolic function, and the colours of its silk lining represent the institution granting the degree. This is why the academic procession is so colourful – the hoods worn by staff represent the institution at which they earned their highest degree.

Ceremonial mace and kneeling stool

The UCL Ceremonial Mace was forged in 2006 by Tom Lomax, a tutor at the Slade School of Fine Art, and a specialist in sculpture.



The Mace symbolises the Provost's power and their independence from outside influence, as well as invoking the social radicalism at the heart of UCL's ethos.

The sweeping lines on the handle echo a lily and symbolise purity and beauty. Three orbs represent the Faculties of Arts, Laws and Science. Embellished across all three is an intricate design of the geometric male and female that signify the bringing together of male and female intellects at UCL.

The Mace is used during UCL's graduation ceremonies, where it is carried by the Ceremonial Beadle. It is also used when bestowing honorary degrees on individuals.

The 'Hooding Ceremony' is a special recognition ceremony for doctoral degree candidates. During the ceremony, the candidate kneels on a velvet and wooden kneeling stool. A senior member of UCL then places the doctoral hood over the head of the graduate, signifying their accomplishment in being awarded the doctorate.

#LoveUCL

Featured here are some of our favourite entries for the #LoveUCL Instagram photography competition – where our students capture highlights of UCL life.

[#LoveUCL](#)

Follow [@UCL](#) on [Instagram](#)



Tessia in front of
a busy Portico
[@tess.zach](#)



Portico at night
[@meteor_gao](#)



BT Tower from
UCL Student Centre
[@photos.by.ptt](#)

#LoveUCL

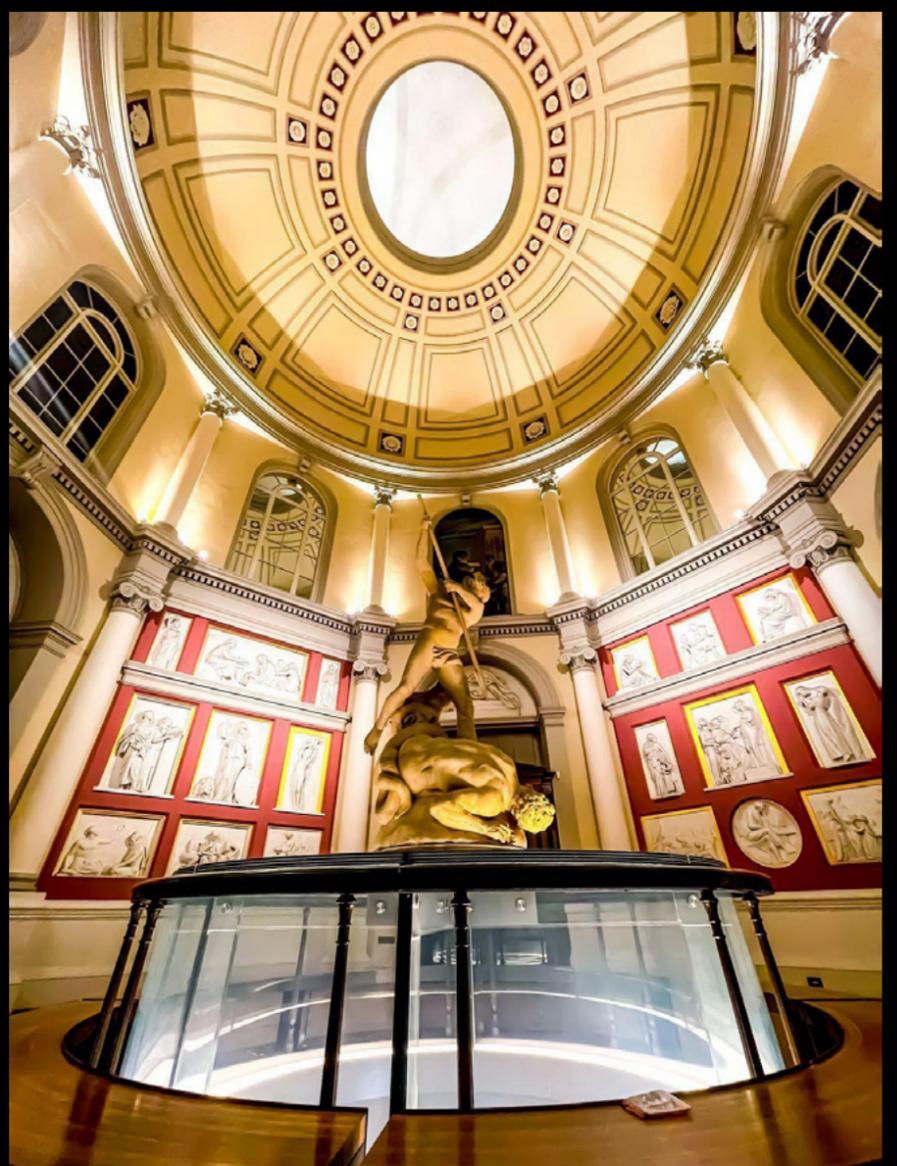


Silhouetted study in UCL Student Centre
@champagne.problems.z



Amitoj's evening
self-portrait on the Portico
@este_viajero

Flaxman Gallery
@giancarlo_sm



#LoveUCL



Malet Place archway and its reflection
@pineleeapple



Portico at dawn
@jfm.apri



A UCL graduate in the Main Quad
@yoppymoto

#LoveUCL Follow @UCL on Instagram

At UCL we were...

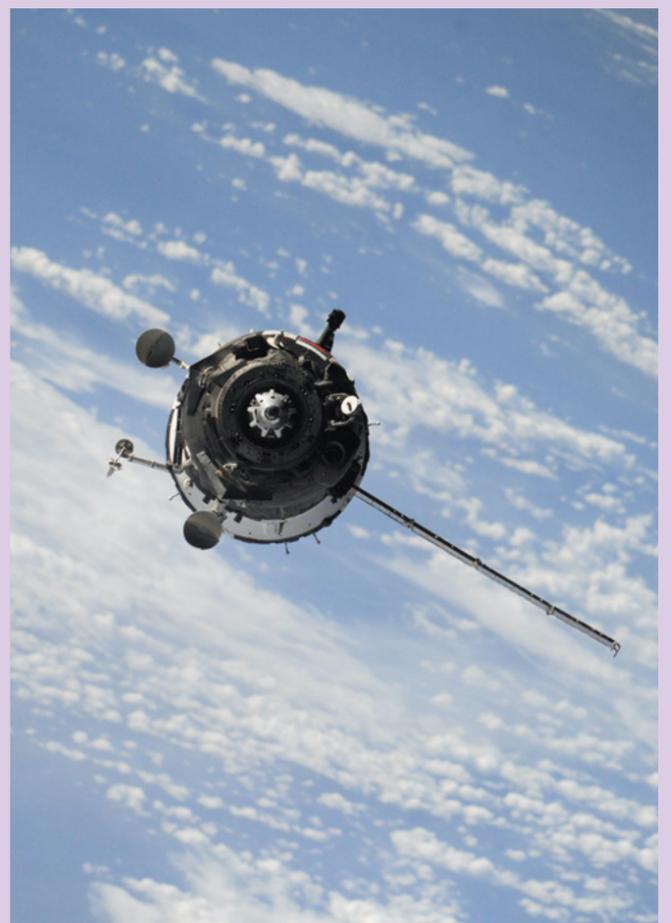
Mapping carbon content of forests



How do you measure the amount of CO₂ stored in a tree without cutting it down? UCL researchers have devised a way to use lasers to capture the 3D shape of trees, allowing us to find out the amount of CO₂ absorbed. These new insights enable us to understand how forests can help to mitigate climate change.

Discovering 'habitable' planets

For decades, scientists and astronomers have scoured the skies for planets capable of supporting life. In a world first, UCL researchers detected water vapour in the atmosphere of a super-Earth with habitable temperatures. This exciting discovery contributes to our knowledge of planets that might have the capability to support life, expanding our understanding on worlds beyond our Solar System.

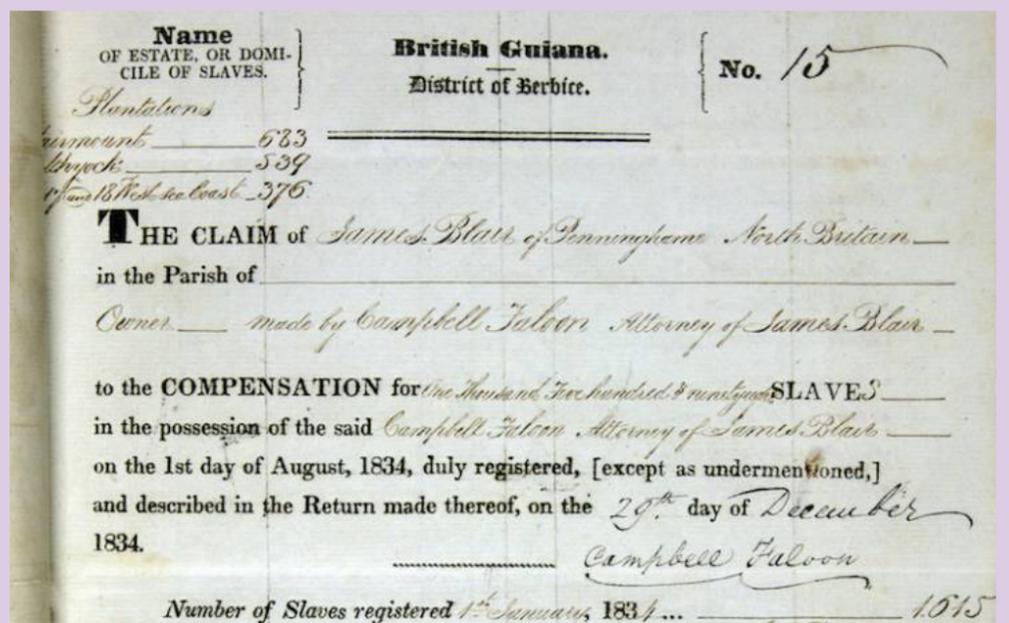


Developing life-saving breathing aids



During the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, breathing aids were in short supply. UCL engineers and clinicians reverse engineered a device that could be manufactured rapidly and deployed in NHS hospitals. The breathing aid helped patients with serious respiratory problems and helped to save lives by ensuring that ventilators, a limited resource, were only used for the most severely ill. The device is now helping save lives in over 30 countries.

Debating the legacies of British Slavery



When slavery was abolished in Britain in 1834, the Government compensated slave owners the equivalent of £17 billion but slaves received nothing. UCL has led the national debate around the long-term impact of colonial slavery and British slave-ownership – finding that it was of far greater significance to metropolitan Britain's economy, society, polity and culture than has previously been recognised.

Volunteering in the community



Students' Union UCL Volunteering Service

In 2019/20, 2,046 UCL students volunteered through the Students' Union UCL Volunteering Service, including:

- 173 leaders of student-led projects
- 916 volunteers on student-led projects
- 378 volunteers at one-off community events
- 755 volunteers with community organisations

Together they, dedicated 55,700 hours to community projects across London – helping them increase the impact that they have upon their beneficiaries, and building relationships between UCL and London's voluntary and community sector.

Opening the Student Centre

The Student Centre opened its doors in February 2019. With 1,000 new study spaces creating different types of individual study and group collaboration settings, the building quickly became a focal point for university study and events, as well as the new home of Jeremy Bentham.



The Student Centre at UCL has won a prestigious Prix Versailles world architecture award for its design and achieved a BREEAM 'Outstanding' rating reflecting exceptional environmental, social and economic sustainability performance.

UCL Alumni



Fellow alumni,

Congratulations on graduating from UCL and joining the 350,000-strong global community of alumni. We celebrate with you – your achievement is all the more notable for the challenges you faced as students during the Covid pandemic.

I am honoured to be one of three Recent Graduates Network leads for the UK network – one of eight Recent Graduates Networks around the world. Run by recent graduates and for recent graduates, we hold professional and personal networking events and activities. I strongly encourage you to make the most of what our excellent alumni networks can offer.

As you move forward with the next stage of your life and career, the Recent Graduates Network members look forward to providing you with support and opportunities to continue learning, developing and challenging yourself.

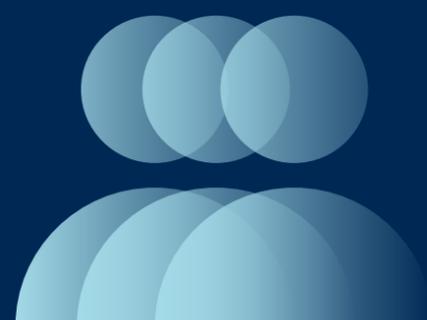
In turn, we hope to learn from you and your experiences in education, work and life. When we, as alumni, share our own experiences and expertise with other alumni, students or those who are still just thinking about whether UCL is the place for them, we play a part in building the alumni network of tomorrow and strengthening the wider UCL community.

Please do contact your local Recent Graduates Network group, attend an event, or suggest a new event or activity.

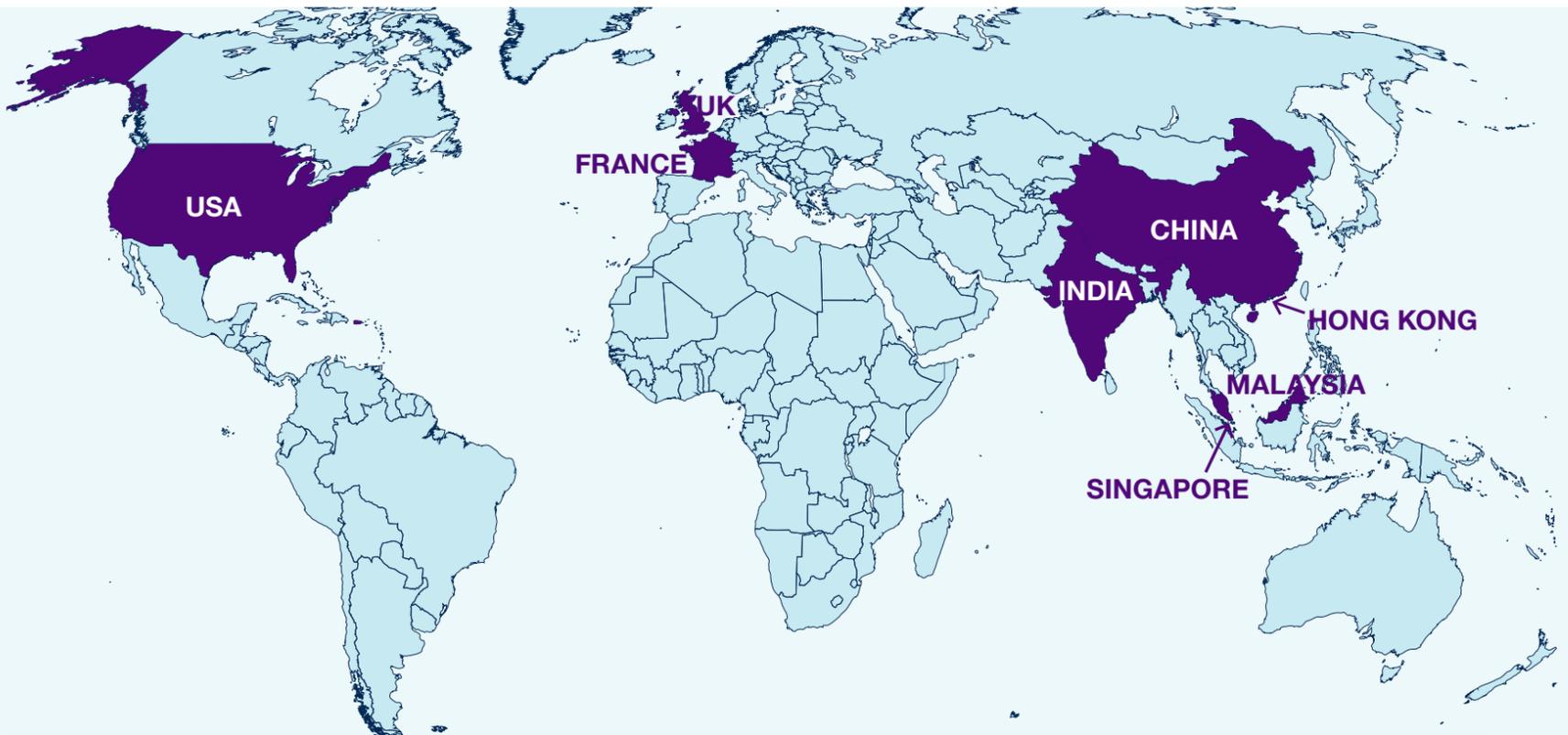
With warm wishes,

Ohie Mayenin (Physics MSc 2019)
Recent Graduates Network, UK Lead

Find out more about the
Recent Graduates Network
ucl.ac.uk/alumni/RGN



UCL Alumni



A vibrant, international community of alumni, the **UCL Recent Graduates Network** has network leads in different locations across the world to support former students on the ground.

Recent graduates learn the secrets of entrepreneurial success at Hong Kong Weekend Brunch Club

In December 2021, the UCL Recent Graduates Network Hong Kong brought together a group of recent UCL graduates to learn from successful entrepreneurs and UCL alumni, Victor Yip (MSc Business Analytics 2016) and Warren Luk (BSc Economics & Statistics 2010).

Victor runs financial technology company Pecutus which launched ReadyFX- a platform for people to exchange international currency directly with each other. Warren is CEO of Good Lab, a start-up offering innovation training and consultancy in the social and public sectors.

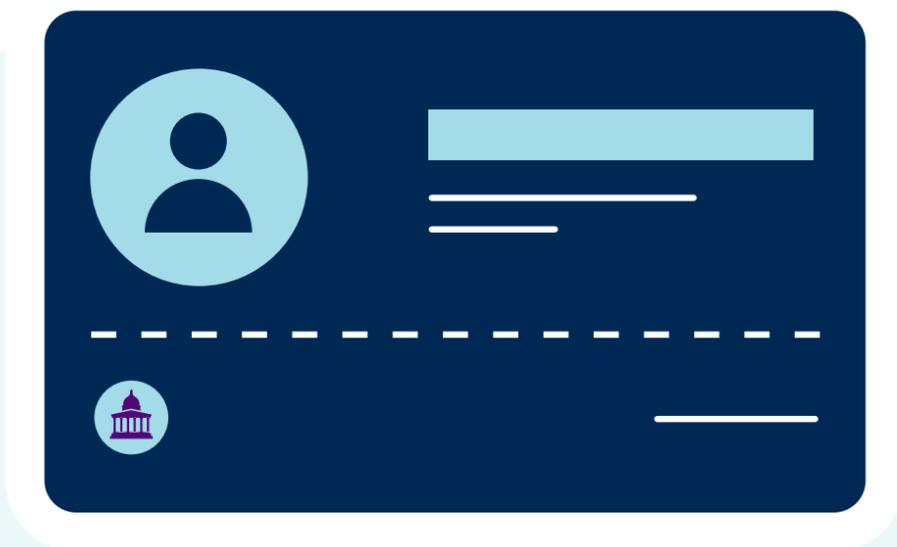
The two entrepreneurs shared their inspiring career journeys as entrepreneurs in Hong Kong



and divulged the secrets of their success to their fellow alumni in a relaxed Q&A session. A networking opportunity for all attendees was provided over brunch.

Hong Kong network lead Natalie Kwok (BSc Societies 2015) said: “The Recent Graduates Network is a great community for relationship building, your career or any idea exchange.”

UCL Alumni



Your UCL alumni card

Your free alumni card is a great way to access a wealth of services and benefits and stay connected to UCL.

Grow your business

- Get your business idea off the ground by accessing workshops and support from **UCL Innovation & Enterprise**
- Receive discounts and rewards when renting office space

Access lifestyle and leisure benefits

- Travel and hotel discounts
- Membership discounts at **Bloomsbury Fitness**, the Students' Union UCL gym and fitness centre

Nurture your career development

- Access our exclusive **UCL Connect** professional development programme
- Lifelong learning with discounts on UCL's short courses

Extend your UCL experience

- Apply for access to **UCL Libraries**, including study spaces and resources
- Entry to **Students' Union UCL** bars and cafes

... and so much more! Register for your UCL alumni card today:
ucl.ac.uk/alumni/cards



UCL Alumni



Being part of UCL will help you build your career and thrive in your chosen field. Access support from a fellow alum, or as a recent graduate, from UCL Careers and UCL Innovation & Enterprise.

Multi-million pound afro haircare business built by UCL entrepreneurs

Afrocenchix was co-founded by UCL alumna Rachael Twumasi-Corson to create natural and safe afro haircare products.

Rachael grew up using harsh chemicals to straighten and ‘tame’ her natural afro hair and wondered if there might be a natural alternative that celebrated afro hairstyles. With just £100 she bought some ingredients, started experimenting with natural formulations and established Afrocenchix in 2010, selling products through word of mouth.

To grow the business further, Rachael entered the UCL Bright Ideas competition in 2015

(now Build your own business 3: Launch your business) and won. She then joined BaseKX, UCL’s entrepreneurship hub, managed by UCL Innovation & Enterprise, where she received free, tailored support and dedicated office space.

“We’d built up this community and this tribe and that meant that in 2017 we were able to launch our first proper website and could hire our first employees,” says Rachael.

Afrocenchix has now been backed by Google in the latest \$1.2 million seed round and is valued at over £12 million with annual sales of around £650,000 in 27 countries. UK stockists include Superdrug, and the company is now aiming to target the US and African markets.

UCL has a thriving entrepreneurship community. Since 2010, the university has helped create over 200 UCL graduate startups which have created more than 4,000 jobs and collectively raised over £149 million.

Grow your business

ucl.ac.uk/enterprise/students

[/entrepreneurship-support-alumni](https://ucl.ac.uk/enterprise/students/entrepreneurship-support-alumni)



UCL CAREERS



UCL

FIND *your* FUTURE

UCL Careers

is here to
help you
Find *your*
Future.



Sign-up to receive the
latest career news, events,
and opportunities

[ucl.ac.uk/careers/
about/news](https://ucl.ac.uk/careers/about/news)

FIND *your* FUTURE

Secured your dream job or are you still not sure what you would like to do? No matter what stage you're at in your career planning, our team are still here to support you as a graduate of UCL.

You will continue to have access to:

- CV and application checking
- Practice interviews and assessment centres
- Employer events
- Exclusive job and internship opportunities

You can also book guidance sessions where you can discuss:

- Deciding on what to do after graduation
- Planning to get to where you want to be
- Getting work experience and internships
- Marketing yourself to employers
- Developing skills during a gap year or further study

Book and browse all this and more on your dedicated careers platform, **myUCLCareers**

ucl.ac.uk/careers

Follow us on social @UCLCareers

Did you know?

You can access career support for up to three years after you graduate

Mementos and gifts



Looking for the perfect way to keep your certificate safe and crease free?

Visit the UCL Shop and find the perfect gift or memento from your time at UCL.

shop.ucl.ac.uk



Congratulations

We're all incredibly proud of you and your achievements and wish you the very best for your future.

You now belong to a global alumni community of extraordinary UCL graduates whose bold, brilliant and inquisitive minds go on to discover and achieve remarkable things across the globe.

Congratulations to all our graduates.

www.ucl.ac.uk/alumni