Faculty Focus - July 2019

Spotlight on....

Andrew Thomson
Andrew Thomson is a NERC Independent Research Fellow and proleptic Lecturer in UCL Earth Sciences. He is also the Chair of the Mineral Physics group of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland and co-chairs his department’s Athena Swan/EDI committee. Read Andrew's full profile.

News, Announcements and Updates

Call for Nominations: UCL Honorary Degrees and Fellowships 2020
It is expected that recipients of UCL Honorary Degrees and Honorary Fellowships will normally have or have had a close association with UCL, although for recipients of Honorary Degrees this requirement may be balanced by scholarly or intellectual excellence that is linked to UCL’s ethos and values. Submit a nomination

Faculty Highlights

UCL academics support Camden’s Citizen Assembly on Climate Change
Professor Simon Lock (UCL Science &
Technology) and Professor Mark Maslin (UCL Geography) are supporting Camden Council to launch its Citizen Assembly on Climate Change. Read more on the faculty site.

Comet Interceptor: ESA selects new mission to an ancient world
The Comet Interceptor space mission led by UCL has been selected as the first €150M mission for the European Space Agency’s new fast-class mission in its Cosmic Vision Programme, intended to launch in 2028 with the UCL-led ARIEL mission. Read more on the faculty site.

New UK and USA ‘space weather’ service using UCL tech
UCL is taking the lead on developing a new instrument for use on space weather monitoring spacecraft to observe the solar wind, in order to protect astronauts, satellites and ground infrastructure. Read more on the faculty site.

Britain’s “ahead of the curve” in quantum computing
Professor John Morton (UCL London Centre for Nanotechnology) says the UK leads the way in Europe in the development of incredibly powerful machines which use miniscule particles called qubits to process information. Read more in the Telegraph.

MAPS in the Media

Why the results of latest Brexit survey may surprise politicians
Regardless of the Brexit outcome, remainers care more about remaining than leavers do about leaving. Professor Christina Pagel (UCL Mathematics) discovered this disparity in a new poll of 1,600 British citizens by the UCL European Institute, YouGov and UK in a Changing Europe

**How to measure the efficiency of a battery system**
In a letter to the editor, Professor David Miller (UCL Physics & Astronomy) explains that to be truly energy efficient, a 50 megawatt battery system must maintain the same amount of constant energy flow when measured in hours and in comparison with other systems.

**Margaret Thatcher’s influence on science**
Professor Jon Agar (UCL Science & Technology Studies) talks about his book ‘Science Policy under Thatcher’ and about the prime minister’s decision to effectively end Britain’s science-based industrial strategy in 1987.

**Events**

**International Conference on the Rohingya Crisis in Comparative Perspective**
4th-5th July
We aim to understand the root causes of the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar, the drivers of Rohingya influx into Bangladesh, Rohingya diaspora and their adaptation strategies in host countries, and the overall implications for security and peace in South Asia. [Full event details](#)

**i-Sense Digital Health Conference**
9th-10th July
[More information](#)

**UCL UG Open Day**
7th September
[More information](#)

**Enterprise**

**2020 MAPS Faculty Industry Showcase**
The MAPS Enterprise team are organising a Faculty-wide event to showcase to industry our applied research capabilities. Please contact your [departmental enterprise representative](#) if you have ideas for cross-disciplinary themes, where UCL
is world leading, and that you think should be represented.

Training and Development

Last chance to apply for global funding opportunities
UCL academics are working with counterparts from across the globe to tackle the biggest challenges facing us today. Go to the UCL funding website for a non-exhaustive list of various funding calls designed to support your efforts.

Submit your news: what would you like to hear about?
If you have any upcoming events that you like to be promoted to MAPS Faculty staff please let us know.

Feedback on the faculty newsletter
Thanks to those who completed the UCL MAPS Internal Communications Survey. We have tried to take your comments on board when putting this newsletter together. We are keen to make sure that this addresses your needs so please let us know how we can continue to improve.

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