Faculty Focus - March 2019

Spotlight on...

Professor Professor Paul Upchurch
Professor Paul Upchurch is UCL Earth Sciences' new head of department. Read his spotlight to find out more.

Read Paul's full profile.

News, Announcements and Updates

Maths Fourth Floor
The MAPS Faculty is delighted to announce the expansion of UCL Mathematics into the 4th floor of its present location of 25 Gordon Street. Building work will start just after Easter and we expect the project to be completed in late summer.

#MadeAtUCL
UK universities are at the forefront of some of the most exciting discoveries and pioneering changes of the last century but many people think that all they do is teach. Contribute to 100+ stories
highlighting how UCL’s work has made a difference to people. Find out more about MadeAtUCL.

Mullard Space Science Laboratory Fellow selected as Young Scientist Participant
Dr Ziri Younsi (a Leverhulme Trust Early Career fellow at MSSL) has been selected as the UCL young scientist participant at the 69th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting in 2019.

Community/university knowledge exchange opportunity
UCL Culture has funding available to support events and activities that bring together UCL staff/ students and communities in east London. This is an opportunity to create time for those who are interested in exploring areas of mutual interest or future projects with community organisations or individuals.

Faculty Highlights

Sensor brings optical navigation closer to reality
An optical sensor which detects displacements smaller than the size of a single atom has successfully completed the first-stage of outdoor field-tests performed by UCL physicists and the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl). Read more on the faculty news pages.
Gravitational waves will settle cosmic conundrum
Measurements of gravitational waves from ~50 binary neutron stars over the next decade will definitively resolve an intense debate over how fast our universe is expanding, find a team including UCL cosmologists. Read more on the faculty news page.

LCN Professor Awarded Honorary Doctorate by Uppsala University
Professor Steven T. Bramwell (LCN and UCL Department of Physics & Astronomy) has been awarded an honorary doctorate (FDhc) at Uppsala University, Sweden. Read more on the faculty news page.

Moving graphite particles in liquid using magnetism
A way of transporting tiny particles of graphite in liquid using magnetic fields has been developed by UCL physicists. Read more on the faculty news page.

UCL backs inquiry into diversity in STEM
A UCL-backed proposal calling for a Science and Technology Select Committee inquiry into diversity in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects has been successful. Read more on the faculty news page.
Celebrating UCL research during ESA Space Weather Days
Scientists across the UK are celebrating Space Weather Days to highlight the hazards that solar activity can pose to satellites in orbit, to infrastructure on the ground. Read more on the faculty news page.

MAPS in the Media

Investigating chemists’ dirty secrets
In the first of a two-part series, Professor Andrea Sella (UCL Chemistry) investigates the role that chemists have played in the development of chemical weapons, on BBC World Service’s ‘Discovery’

Are we heading for a flip of the magnetic poles?
Dr Robert Wicks (UCL Space & Climate Physics) describes the shifting of the Earth’s magnetic field and the implications of geomagnetic reversal for our compasses and GPS satellites. Listen on BBC Radio 4’s ‘Inside Science’ (from 18 mins 5 secs)

'Time bomb' warning on mining dam disasters
Dr Stephen Edwards (UCL Earth Sciences) has warned that further dam disasters in Brazil and other parts of the world are “inevitable”, telling the BBC “we are sitting on a time bomb.”

Events

IRDR Centre for Gender and Disaster First Anniversary Event
6th March, 6pm-8pm
Gender balance or gender balancing act?
Questioning the engendering of the disaster risk reduction agenda with a panel of experts in the field of Gender and Disaster. Join us for presentations and discussions with experts in the field of gender and disaster. Find out more info on the event page.

Lunch Hour Lecture: Disaster: It’s Not
Like a Hollywood Movie
7th March, 1:15pm - 2pm
Each year around the world there are more than 600 disasters. Hollywood movies have propagated a popular culture viewpoint that is very different from the real disasters that victims and survivors experience. This lecture will explore the gap between perception and reality in order to draw a more objective picture of the phenomenon. Register on eventbrite.

Women in Enterprise Network Launch
7th March 6pm-9pm
More information

Knowledge exchange funding advice - drop-in session
20th March 1pm-3pm
More information

Enterprise

Lunchtime Seminar: Tips for successful Innovate UK applications
26th March, 12pm-1:30pm
Join us to learn how to make your Innovate UK grant application stand out from the crowd and successfully access innovation grants. Delivered by Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN) assessor Richard Foggie. Register on eventbrite.

Innovation Canvas Workshop
3rd April, 9:30am-12pm
Whether you’re applying for an innovation grant or looking to commercialise your research, you’ll need to develop a sound business case. This workshop will help you identify strengths and weaknesses of your innovation idea and work on aspects key for success. Register on eventbrite.
**What can Quantum Technology do for a data hungry society?**

2nd April, 6pm-9pm

Leaders in the fields of Quantum technology and Communications Systems will come together to discuss the impact of quantum technologies on communications applications. This will be an evening of discussion and debate with time for questions. See [the event](#) for more info.

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**London Venture Crawl**

20th March, 9am-8:30pm

Hop on the Venture Crawl bus to connect with real-world businesses, be inspired by industry leaders, build connections with 400 entrepreneurial students, and gain self-confidence, creative thinking and [leadership](#). [Register on eventbrite](#).

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**Public Policy**

**Policy Placement at the Royal Society - Emerging Technologies**

The Royal Society is looking for an early career researcher to complete a placement of up to six months who will work on and support policy projects within the emerging technologies team. Find out more on the and apply on the [public policy website](#).

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**Rapid Response Advisory Grants**

Up to £5k for the development/delivery of urgent short-term policy work in response to policy demand. The scheme awards engagement grants to enable the development/delivery of urgent short-term policy work in response to policy demand. [Visit the scheme’s website](#).
Training and Development

UCL Connect: Being yourself in the workplace (LGBTQ+ and friends)
19th March, 6pm-9pm
This professional development event is focused on supporting UCL people to be themselves at work, in respect to sexual orientation and/or gender identity. This is a great opportunity to speak with alumni and students from UCL’s LGBTQ+ community over drinks and nibbles. Book tickets here.

Arena Events for March
Check out the full list of Arena events in March, which include accredited professional development for staff who teach or support teaching, workshops and seminars to share best practice, and celebrations of UCL education through conferences and awards.

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.
Want to change how you receive these emails? You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).