Faculty Focus - May 2020

Spotlight on...

Sophia MacBlain - Faculty Student Experience Officer

Sophia joined the MAPS faculty early in 2020 from her previous role at Queen Mary's Student Union, and is looking forward to using her knowledge and experience to work with departments and student representatives to improve the student experience at UCL together. Sophia is from Tunbridge Wells, and is a fan of Marvel comics.

Read in full on the MAPS Website

News, Announcements and Updates

Recovery from COVID-19: A new UCL Grand Challenges initiative

For more than a decade, UCL Grand Challenges has excelled at bringing together the diverse expertise across the university and beyond to address significant societal problems. Now, we've launched an initiative rallying
UCL’s collective expertise over the next four months to address the urgent issues posed by COVID-19.

Read more on the UCL website

---

**IT and your research at UCL**

Research IT Services want to understand more about the use of IT tools and services throughout the research lifecycle. Your feedback could play a crucial role in highlighting which areas are most in need of improvement; plus, there's a chance to win a £50 voucher.

Complete the survey here

---

**ACO support scheme for academics**

The Academic Careers Office has launched 'Academics Need to Talk (ANT)', a new global networking initiative to help academics and researchers at this difficult time. The network can be used to build collaborative working relationships, and to share ideas for collaboration.

Find out more on the ACO website

---

**UCL partners with the Met Office on**
weather and climate science

UCL has joined the Met Office Academic Partnership, with the University of Bristol, to work collaboratively on transforming data sciences to secure the UK’s world-leading position in weather forecasting and climate prediction.

Read the full story on the MAPS Website

Tributes to trailblazing astronomer Professor Margaret Burbidge

Academics have paid tribute to Professor Margaret Burbidge, UCL alumna and former UCL Observatory staff member following her death at the age of 100.

Read the full story on the MAPS Website

Covid-19: UCL provides vital resources to frontline NHS

UCL is manufacturing crucial alcohol hand sanitiser and has donated of thousands of pieces of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as part of our efforts to support the NHS during the national Covid-19 pandemic.

Read the full story on the MAPS Website

Professor Jennifer Thomas awarded Royal Society Professorship

Six world-class scientists, including a Professor of Physics at UCL, have been awarded Royal Society Research
Professorships, the Royal Society’s premier research awards.

Read the full story on the MAPS Website

Research and Funding

AAAS Awards for Public Engagement with Science now open

AAAS awards are given to individuals for excellence in public engagement with science activities, such as public outreach or science communication activities. Nominations for the AAAS Early Career Award for Public Engagement with Science and the AAAS Mani L Bhaumik Award for Public Engagement with Science are open now - deadline for submissions is 30 June 2020. Find more information on the Grant Finder Website.

L’Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science (FWIS) International Awards Open for Nomination

Nominees are sought from the fields of physical sciences, mathematics and computer sciences. There are five awards of €100,000. A nominee must be recognised for her personal scientific excellence by the international scientific community within the specified field(s), and actively involved in scientific research. Read more on the Grant Finder website.
**MAPS in the Media**

**Why are people attacking mobile phone masts?**

Dr Jack Stilgoe (UCL Science & Technology Studies) comments on the history of fears surrounding mobile phones, networks and microwaves in relation to recent attacks on mobile phone masts.

Listen to the BBC World Service’s ‘The Inquiry’ (from 5 mins 50 secs)

**Seabed fossils show the ocean is undergoing a change not seen for 10,000 years**

Dr Peter Spooner (UCL Earth Sciences) shares what his team’s study of deep-sea fossils reveals about the changes in ocean circulation, and how that has affected ecosystems in the Atlantic Ocean.

Read on The Conversation

**Covid-19 not the only potential issue to society**

While Covid-19 is the priority, we also need to prepare for events such as heatwaves, floods & power cuts, which all occurred last Summer, to ensure our “emergency services are not bogged
"Down" says Dr Gianluca Pescaroli (UCL Institute of Risk & Disaster Reduction).

Read on the Huffington Post

Events

UCL Undergraduate Open Days

The previously planned Open Days in June have now been replaced with an online Open Week, taking place from Monday 29 June to Saturday 4 July. Departments will run a series of subject talks and live Q&A sessions, alongside general talks on accommodation, fees and the like.

For more information, visit the UCL Undergraduate Open Days website.

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Wellbeing

Mental Health Awareness Week

MHA Week takes place from 18-24 May, and this year focuses on the theme of Kindness. UCL Workplace Wellbeing will be posting helpful tips and pictures on their Twitter and Instagram, and the Remote, not Distant virtual wall. To take part, send your pictures to ohw-wellbeing@ucl.ac.uk or read this month's Wellbeing newsletter for more information.

Online Yoga classes available.

Michelle Richardson leads lunchtime yoga through an online (donation-based) class via Zoom. Classes are suitable for everyone: from complete beginners to more experienced practitioners. Modifications are offered to suit individual differences, with classes taking place every Thursday from 11.45am-12.45pm.
Enterprise

Make your Covid-19 technology available using UCLB’s secure licensing platform.

As Covid-19 related technologies become available, UCL wants to support disseminating them as widely as possible. If you are a researcher with a Covid-19 pertinent, ready to release technology that you wish to make rapidly available to others for free, we strongly recommend you make use of UCLB’s secure licensing platform, which is being used for the UCL-Ventura breathing aid (CPAP).

The non-commercial UCL-branded site covid19research.uclb.com has been customised specifically for the controlled dissemination of technologies related to the fight against Covid-19. Technologies could include modelling tools, software, datasets, materials, device designs, etc.

If this is of interest, find out more here: https://www.uclb.com/for-researchers/have-you-developed-a-technology-that-could-help-with-the-fight-against-covid-19/.

UCL collaborators seek new projects

Precision manufacturing company Lipco, recent collaborators on the UCL-Ventura CPAP project, are seeking new projects in
order to help fill their excess manufacturing capacity. For additional information about Lipco and the work they do, visit their website or contact candice.keane.09@ucl.ac.uk

Training and Development

UCL LinkedIn Learning
A huge range of video tutorials supporting learning in software, creative and business skills – all free to UCL staff and currently enrolled students. UCL has now migrated Lynda.com content to the LinkedIn Learning platform. You can find out more on the Digital Education blog.

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.
www.ucl.ac.uk/mathematical-physical-sciences

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