Faculty Focus - October 2020

Spotlight on...

Giuseppe La Rosa - Science and Technology Studies

Giuseppe is the Departmental Manager of the Department of Science and Technology Studies, and joined the department in April 2020, in the midst of Covid-19.

Read in full on the MAPS Website.

News, Announcements and Updates

MAPS Alumni wins Nobel Prize

Sir Roger Penrose (UCL Mathematics 1952) is one of three scientists awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for their work on Black Holes.

Read the full story on the MAPS Faculty website.

BEAMS HSE Network Call for
Postgraduate & Postdoctoral Representatives

The Heritage Science and Engineering Network is currently accepting applications for one Postgraduate Student Representative and one Postdoctoral Research Associate to serve for the academic year 2020/21 on the HSE Network Executive Committee.

Find full details on the UCL HSE website

Call for speakers - UCL HSE and UCL Space Domain

In addition, both the Heritage Science and Engineering Network and UCL Space Domain have released a call for speakers for their upcoming events.

Find more details on the UCL HSE website and Space Domain submission form.

UCL Research on cover of Advanced Theory and Simulations

The work of Professor Jochen Blumberger's group - on the formation of 'flickering' polarons from the electrons of organic semiconductors - has appeared on the cover of the highly regarded journal 'Advanced Theory and Simulations'

Read the full paper on wiley.com

UCL Particle Physicist awarded STFC
**Fellowship**

Dr Matteo Agostini (UCL Physics & Astronomy) has been awarded an Ernest Rutherford Fellowship from the Science and Technology Council.

Read the full story on the MAPS Faculty website.

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**Chemistry PhD wins RSA Best Poster Prize at international catalysis event**

Chemistry PhD students Siyu Zhao and Yiyun Liu both won RSC Applied Catalysis sponsored awards at the 27th CSCST-SCI Annual Conference.

Find more details on the CSCST-SCI Conference website.

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**Research and Funding**

**Paper published in Nature Materials**

A team led by Andrew Beale (UCL Chemistry) published their paper on "Insight into the effects of confined hydrocarbon species on the lifetime of methanol conversion catalysts" in Nature Materials this September.

Read the full paper on the Nature website.

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**Beacon Bursaries now live**

UCL Culture's Beacon Bursaries are worth up to £2k per application, and are open to
UCL academic, professional services and postgraduate research students for public and community engagement funding.

Deadline is 12 noon on Mon 19 October.

For more information visit UCL Culture.

Trellis: EPSRC Community Partnership Building events

UCL Culture is looking for EPSRC funded staff/students/research groups interested in partnerships with individuals or local organisations in East London, with potential catalyst grants of up to £2000.

Fill out the Expression of Interest form, or email engagement-east@ucl.ac.uk

MAPS in the Media

London’s most powerful telescope will hunt oxygen far beyond our solar system

Professor Giorgio Savini (UCL Physics & Astronomy) comments on the new £40,000 spectrometer at the UCL observatory and shares concerns that images may be affected by light pollution and streaks from satellites

Read the full story in The Evening Standard.

Global coronavirus deaths pass one million with no sign rate is slowing

Following indications that the death toll from Covid-19 worldwide has surpassed one million, experts debate the true mortality figures, with Dr Gianluca Baio (UCL)
Statistical Science) saying, “To some extent the quest for the true number of Covid-19 deaths is impossible.”

Read on The Guardian website.

**Which Covid-19 restrictions are having an effect?**

Professor Christina Pagel (UCL Mathematics) answers questions about the latest Office of National Statistics figures and explains that the rise in cases amongst younger people may be a sign that the ban on mixing within households is working.

Watch on the BBC Website (from 26 minutes)

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**Events**

**Beyond Boundaries Conference**

19 -29 October

UCL are hosting “Beyond Boundaries: Realising the UN Sustainable Development Goals”, a two-week virtual conference bringing together speakers from all over the world to discuss how we can achieve the UN SDGs.

Find out more on [the Eventbrite page](#).

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**The Dark Energy Survey Book Launch**

Tue 13 Oct 2020 15:00

Edited by Professor Ofer Lahav (UCL P&A), "The Dark Energy Survey: The Story of a Cosmological Experiment" features over 80 co-authors, and will launch next Tuesday with special guest Lord Martin Rees, Astronomer Royal

Some free chapters are available on the [World Scientific website](https://www.worldscientific.com/). For more information and to register for the event, visit [the event website](#).
Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

Sunflower lanyards - the invisible disability scheme.

The Invisible Disabilities Sunflower lanyard scheme is an initiative designed to act as a discreet sign that somebody has an invisible disability and requires additional assistance while out in public.

For more information, visit the UCL Estates website.

Black Doctoral Student Network - First Virtual Meeting

The newly-created and student-led Black Doctoral Student Network is holding their first meeting on October 15th. To register, fill out the form at https://forms.gle/78eRurer8ZuZUB3B9

Find out more on Twitter at @UCLBlackDocNet
Enterprise

Entrepreneurship training available

UCL Enterprise have a series of new training sessions available, including Entrepreneurial Skills for Students, SPERO training for doctoral students, and a range of guidance for staff.

Read more on the UCL Enterprise Website.

Training, Development and Wellbeing

UCL Bike Buddy scheme

As staff begin to return to campus, UCL has created a Bike Buddy scheme to assist staff with feeling safe on their route to work.

For more information, and to sign up, visit the UCL Sustainability Page.

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.