

MATHEMATICAL & PHYSICAL SCIENCES



Faculty Focus - April 2017

Spotlight on...



Natural Sciences team

The UCL Natural Sciences programme addresses several questions about UK science education. If we need a highly STEM-skilled work force to drive sustainable economic growth then what shape might it take? Are committed deep specialists the only type of scientist required? If we need some number of interdisciplinary scientists to catalyse developments on the interfaces of sciences how should UCL educate them? Who is trainable for interdisciplinary scientific work, can we identify them, recruit them and develop them within a coherent academic programme?

[Read more...](#)

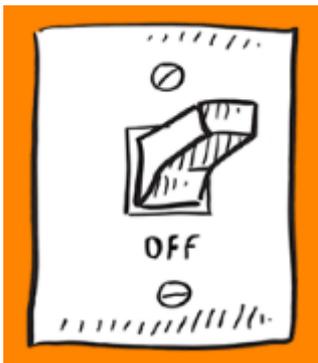
(Image L-R: David Tovee, Natural Sciences Academic Coordinator; Charlotte Pearce, Natural Sciences Programme Manager; Geraint Jones, Natural Sciences Programme Director; Ali Mozaffari, Natural Sciences Teaching Fellow; Steven Metcalfe, Natural Sciences Deputy Director)

News, Announcements and Updates



BEAMS Professional Services Awards

Thank you to everyone that submitted nominations for the BEAMS Professional Services Awards. Over 100 nominations were received. The judges will be meeting at the end of March to make their final decisions and the winners announced in early April along with details of the awards ceremony.



UCL Easter Switch Off

Last year UCL spent £26,400 just on Easter Sunday through electrical equipment being left on during the holidays. Please support the Easter Switch Off this year by turning off [your lights, desk lamps, unplugging chargers, heaters, computers etc.](#)

[Pledge to Switch Off](#)



UCL Careers

Based in the old University of London Union (opposite Waterstones) on the 4th Floor on Malet Street, UCL Careers is here to help your students (and staff) find a good career path. They run events, workshops and offer specialist support.

[Find out more...](#)



UCL Grand Challenges Doctoral Students' Small Grants Scheme 2017-18

Up to £2,000 is available to support cross-disciplinary partnerships between two UCL doctoral students from different faculties. All UCL registered doctoral students (full or part time) are eligible to apply. Closing date: 9am 3 May 2017.

[More info...](#)

Next EPSRC CDT call

EPSRC

Engineering and Physical Sciences
Research Council

The next EPSRC call for CDTs will go out in September 2017, with submission being in December 2017. A couple of “town hall” style pitch opportunities have been arranged for academics to pitch their ideas to their Deans. These sessions are scheduled for **10th May** and **18th May**. Interested parties are encouraged to register on the [BEAMS Research Facilitation Team website](#)

UCL: Researchers X Estates

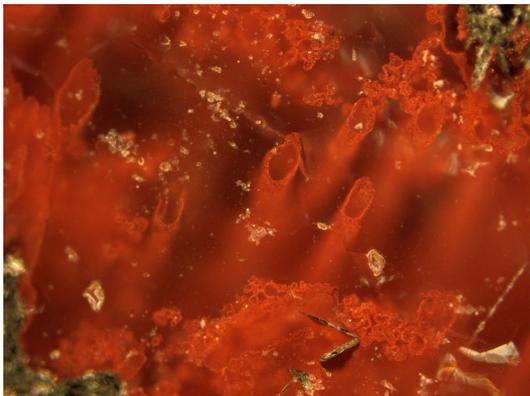
TRANSFORMING
UCL

UCL Researchers x Estates call-out

UCL Estates is looking to link up the pioneering academic research being undertaken at UCL with the challenges encountered across the university campus. They are looking for PhD students, researchers and lecturers who are interested in conducting ‘walk-arounds’ to talk about their research in relation to what they see, whether that be new construction projects, historic sites, interiors and more.

[Find out more...](#)

Faculty Highlights



World's oldest fossil unearthed

Remains of microorganisms at least 3,770 million years old have been discovered by an international team led by UCL scientists, providing direct evidence of one of the oldest life forms on Earth.

[Find out more...](#)

New project to run satellites nearer to Earth

A €5.7m project to develop technologies that will allow satellites to survive and operate at orbits closer to Earth than ever



before – considerably lower than the international space station – has recently been launched.

[Find out more...](#)



Ancient stardust sheds light on the first stars

A huge mass of glowing stardust in a galaxy seen shortly after the Universe's formation has been detected by a UCL-led team of astronomers, providing new insights into the birth and explosive deaths of the very first stars.

[Find out more...](#)



An ultimate speed limit for cooling

How cold can it get? That depends how long you are willing to wait. The third law of thermodynamics, conjectured in 1912 by the Nobel laureate Walter Nernst, states that it takes an infinite time to cool a system to absolute zero – the coldest temperature possible.

[Find out more...](#)



UCL students take their research to parliament

Eight early-career research scientists from around UCL have presented their research to a panel of expert judges and over 100 MPs at this year's STEM for Britain competition.

[Find out more...](#)

New Christopher Ingold Building windows: a more energy-efficient home for UCL Chemistry



January saw the completion of the first major Strategic Maintenance Project of 2017, the replacement of approximately 600 windows in the Christopher Ingold Building.

[Find out more...](#)

Events



STS UCL JBS Haldane Lecture 2017 – Prof. Trevor Pinch: Sound Studies and STS

Monday 22nd May at 6pm, UCL STS host their second JBS Haldane Lecture of 2017, with Prof. Trevor Pinch of Cornell University discussing the history of the culture-defining Moog Synthesizer.

[Find out more...](#)

MAPS Faculty Research Festival

12 April 2017 2:00-5:30pm

The MAPS Faculty Research Festival this year has the theme of Global Challenges. The Festival has been established as a forum for showcasing the faculty's research and to provide an opportunity for colleagues to network.

All MAPS Faculty staff and post graduates are welcome to attend.

[More info...](#)

Data Galore: Getting access and ethics right

10 April 2017

[More info...](#)

Cloud & High Performance Computing in Biomedicine

27 April 2017

[More info...](#)

Your Health, Your Evidence 2017: EBM+ School Volunteering Programme Conference

3 May 2017

[More info...](#)

Enterprise

Summer AdVenture Programme Accelerator

The AdVenture pre accelerator programme will be running this summer, giving UCL student, staff and alumni the support to enter the market, and the chance to pitch for a £10,000 George



Farha New Venture Award.

[See more...](#)



Short courses in Entrepreneurship

UCL Innovation and Enterprise offer a range of short courses to graduate students and staff. These courses provide participants with the opportunity to enhance their knowledge and expertise of business and entrepreneurship through interactive and intensive workshops.

[See more...](#)



Science & Innovation 2017

[Key discussions will include an introduction to the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund](#), as well as investment and collaboration prospects to enhance research and commercialisation to ensure the UK remains a world leader within research, innovation and industry.

[Register...](#)

Training and Development



Early Career Researcher Workshop: Engaging Policymakers and the Media

Drawing on [the International Longevity Centre \(ILC\)](#) experience of briefing Ministers, working with policymakers and explaining our findings to broadcast and print journalists, this workshop will prepare early career researchers to communicate the significance of their research to these stakeholders.

[See more...](#)



Early Career Researcher Workshop: Research Impact

This workshop will introduce the concept of impact, highlighting UCL services which support impactful activities through small grants and funding opportunities, and will share tools to help Early Career Researchers plan for, enable and evidence the change their research can deliver.

[See more...](#)



Introduction to Research Support @ UCL

A new regular training course is running to introduce PhD students to research support available during the course of their studies. The course is co-organised by the Doctoral School, Office of the Vice Provost (Research) and Library Services.

[See more...](#)

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

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