

ACCESS AND WIDENING PARTICIPATION



UCL

2022 UCL Widening Participation **Community of Practice Awards**

Thursday, 8 December 2022



Awards & Nominees

Welcome

Welcome to the first ever Widening Participation Community of Practice Awards.

We have an amazing set of people at UCL who do some fantastic work for our WP agenda, and we would like to take this opportunity to celebrate every one of you who work towards making UCL a place for everyone, no matter your circumstances or background.

This is the first time we have ever hosted something like this, and we hope to make it an annual event in order to reflect and recognise some of the fantastic Widening Participation practice that's been happening at UCL.

We received over 60 nominations and were absolutely delighted that everyone has embraced this event. Thank you to anyone who has supported the awards by nominating a colleague or helped spread the word about the event.

Lauren Gillett
Co-Lead of the Widening Participation
Community of Practice

The Awards

Access Award (p2–5)

An individual, project, or team that has shown outstanding dedication in improving access to UCL for disadvantaged and underrepresented groups.

Student Success Award (p6–7)

An individual, project, or team that has shown outstanding dedication towards enabling all of our students to be successful at UCL, regardless of their background, and to ease transition from school.

School & Community Award (p8–11)

An individual, project or team that has worked towards building strong relationships or links for WP working with schools or the wider community at UCL.

Careers & Progression Award (p12–13)

An individual, project or team that has worked towards helping UCL WP students prepare for their future through improving their employability, progression and/or career outcomes.

Above & Beyond Award (p14–16)

An individual who has shown outstanding dedication to improving widening participation outcomes at UCL through their attitude, conduct and work both as part of their role and beyond.

People's Choice Award

An award chosen and voted for by you, our Community of Practice members.

Access Award

Will Dunn

Department of Physics and Astronomy

For Will's incredible dedication to the ORBYTS programme that has managed to expand to over 25 schools and his infectious passion for Physics that he instils in the young people he works with. The whole first cohort of ORBYTS students went on to study Physics at A-Level.

Ben Lund-Conlon & Rebecca Surin **AccessUCL**

For their brilliant work to enable more students from WP backgrounds to apply to UCL and gain places, broadening the WP criteria, and working tirelessly on assessing individual cases to achieve the largest AccessUCL eligible intake in UCL history.

Ben Lund-Conlon

Access & Widening Participation Office

For Ben's outstanding commitment to Access at UCL over the years, collaboration, and willingness to get stuck in as necessary.

Simona Aimar

Department of Philosophy

For Simona's dedication to their role as a Widening Participation Officer in the Department of Philosophy, especially the hard work constructing a website showcasing testimonials from first-generation philosophers.

Amy Edgington

Department of Earth Sciences

For Amy's commitment and dedication to leading and expanding the GeoBus programme, working with 19,464 students across London and beyond.

MA Digital Media Team

For their outstanding commitment to fostering a strong and inclusive culture and supporting the aims of widening participation by seeking advice from Admissions and finding creative ways to reduce barriers to Higher Education for refugees.

The Bowman Scholarship for Forced Migrants

For their outstanding commitment and devotion to supporting students from displaced and forced migration backgrounds (refugees and asylum seekers) to access higher education in the UK via UCL through the Bowman Scholarship programme – the only scholarship that supports pre-undergraduate level access to HE and supports recipients getting into top universities.

Steven Papachristou

Department of Psychology & Human Development

For Steven's outstanding dedication to widening participation and improving access to UCL for disadvantaged and under-represented groups through running impactful masterclasses for Year 12 students on mental health and his brilliant work on the Psychology with Education Summer School.

Temitayo Lawal

UCL Medical School

For Temi's brilliant coordination of a hugely successful event for 48 black Year 11 and 12 students at UCL and her exceptional dedication to managing Target Medicine's mentor scheme that trains sixth-form students for Medicine degree interviews.

AccessUCL

Access Award (cont.)

Kemi Hassan

The Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment

For tireless dedication to her role as Senior Outreach Officer for The Bartlett and empowering young people to engage with architecture, planning, construction and other design industries through programmes such as Walking the City, Design Unlimited, Discovery Days and The Bartlett Promise Scholarships.

Sam Stamp

The Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment

For Sam's outstanding commitment to the UCL Sustainable Building Design for Climate Change Summer School and improving access for Year 12 students by making students feel more confident about their application portfolios, interviews and personal statements.

Peter Wijeratne

Department of Computer Science

For Peter's tireless dedication and efforts to leading, designing and co-delivering the A-COMPS programme and supporting A-level pupils from East and South London from under-represented communities with applying and getting into top UK universities.

Michael Sulu

Department of Biochemical Engineering

For Mike's inspirational commitment to WP as Inclusion Lead, Co-chair of Race Equality Steering Group and Race Equality Implementation Group and his tireless efforts on various outreach programmes with the Royal Academy of Engineering, Leading Routes Future Scholars for Year 12 and 13 students, and BADU Community's Proud To Be programme, and supporting Year 13 students with UCAS applications and entrance exams.

Mark Fuller

Department of Physics & Astronomy

For Mark's tireless commitment to Widening Participation and Access at UCL, securing funding, organising and delivering projects to promote Physics and Astrophysics, and his work on UCL Summer Schools, coding clubs, in-school sessions and co-leading the WP CoP.

John Mitchell

UCL Faculty of Engineering Sciences

For John's long-term commitment to improving access at UCL. John has invested time and energy to develop the Engineering Foundation Year, an inclusive opportunity for those who aspire to become an engineer but do not meet the standard entry requirements that will undoubtedly improve access when it launches in 2023 at UCL East.

Student Success Award

Jon Chandler & Writing History Plus Team Department of History

For Jon and the Writing History Plus Team's transformative work on the Writing History Plus programme, which offers targeted academic support to history students, especially those who identify as BME, to improve attainment in their first year of undergraduate study, forming a key part of UCL's Departmental Awarding Gap Strategy.

Student Welcome and Induction Team

For the Student Welcome and Induction team's consistent contributions and support for UCL students on navigating UCL systems, spaces and student life, and the organisation of multiple well-received sessions, events, and programmes within UCL, including UCL101, the support services fair, the autism online welcome event and the Transition Programme.

Tamara Alhilfi Department of Chemistry

For Tamara's wonderful and tireless work as an ambassador for Widening Participation by contributing to numerous committees, the MAPS WP working group and significant dedication to closing the BAME awarding gap across all MAPS departments at UCL.

Sophia MacBlain Faculty of Mathematical and Physical Sciences

For Sophia's above and beyond work as student experience officer, and demonstrating personal dedication to student success, alongside balancing a related master's degree.

Manjula Patrick Deafness, Cognition and Language (DCAL) Centre

For Manjula's tireless contribution to EDI- Widening Participation Strategy in the Faculty of Engineering, to support better inclusion for a range of student groups, perhaps most notably disabled students.

Richard Harrison Student Psychological and Counselling Services

For Richard's heading of the Widening Participation project for Student Psychological and Counselling, which ensures that WP students have access to medium term therapy and student support services to increase chances of student success while studying at UCL.

Barbara Strong Institute of Education

For Barbara's hard work and dedication towards supporting students with settling into UCL both in the department of Psychology and Human Development and the Social Research Institute, enabling student success regardless of background by providing support and building bridges among students, personal tutors, teaching staff and SSW.

Niloufar Abourashchi Department of Statistical Science

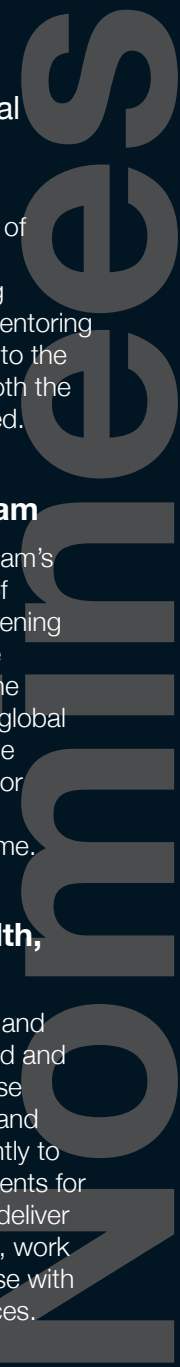
For Niloufar's wide reaching, phenomenal work with some of UCL's first-year cohort on the Windsor fellowship mentoring programme and an A-level mentoring scheme, which have worked to the betterment and support of both the mentees and mentors involved.

UCL Study Abroad Team

For the UCL Study Aboard team's strategic focus and delivery of several new and exciting Widening Participation initiatives to give underrepresented students the transformative experience of global mobility, through launching the Study Aboard WP ambassador programme and the funding programme, the Turing Scheme.

Disability, Mental Health, and Wellbeing Team

For the team's tireless efforts and hard work supporting disabled and neurodivergent students, those with mental health concerns and more. The team works diligently to organise SoRAs, screen students for specific learning differences, deliver specialist study skills support, work with students of concern, liaise with GPs and other support services.



Schools & Community Award

Alexander Watson & Elinor Jones Department of Statistical Science

For their brilliant commitment to the ongoing 'Data Detectives' programme aimed at Year 12 students taking Mathematics A-Level from non-selective schools to increase interest and aspiration in degrees in statistical science.

Sarah Sterlini Institute for Global Health

For Sarah's tireless commitment to championing Widening Participation in IGH by setting up a Widening Participation working group and recruiting passionate members. Sarah has also nurtured a brilliant relationship with Aim Higher through which she leads the organisation and delivery of taster days for boys from under-represented and underprivileged backgrounds.

Sarah Jeal Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction

For Sarah's wholehearted commitment to WP despite her other full-time roles. Sarah has worked extremely hard to establish connections with schools and organised talks and interactive events with many to get people understanding the non-traditional subject of IRDR. Sarah deserves a morale boost for all her efforts and encouragement.

Ramona Gonczol & Yordanka Velkova SSEES

For their devotion of time and expertise working with a school in North Wales who have a high number of Romanian and Bulgarian heritage speakers – languages not currently offered at GCSE or A-Level. Ramona and Dani created bespoke assessments and certifications for the students, giving them an official recognition of their language skills that will help them in academic and employment futures.

Natalie Fitzpatrick (and Summer School Team) Institute of Health Informatics

For their voluntary organisation of a three-day summer school experience for UK schools, in collaboration with In2Science with university level teaching, and the chance to network with experts and professionals. In 2022, they hosted around 60 students across a range of scientific activities and found around 20 voluntary speakers from across the IHI, UCL and the science industry.

COPE-Well Study Team Institute of Education

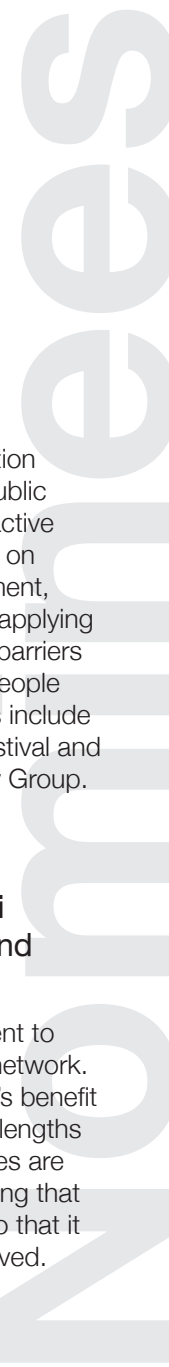
For an amazing project called The COPE-Well Study, a collaboration between UCL and London-based Jamal Edwards Delve charity involving mental health and life-skills support to young people from the Black, Asian, Minority, Ethnic (BAME) community. Young WP students participating were inspired from different staff at UCL and were encouraged to aim high. It also built bridges between UCL staff, students and the WP community.

Ofran Almossawi Institute for Child Health

For Ofran's time, effort, preparation and enthusiasm for delivering public engagement events using interactive demonstrations and workshops on data, research and the environment, enabling other researchers and applying innovative ways to break down barriers to communicating with young people and the public. Notable projects include 'Breathe' at the Bloomsbury Festival and GOSH Young Person's Advisory Group.

Amy Unsworth, Jasvir Bhamrah & Ali Mozaffari Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences

For their outstanding commitment to creating a schools partnership network. The network is not only for UCL's benefit but the team has gone to great lengths to ensure that the schools' voices are heard and form part of the offering that the partnered schools receive so that it is of direct benefit to those involved.



Schools & Community Award (cont.)

Lea Collet, Sandra Smith & Becky Loweth

The Slade School of Fine Art (Widening Participation Team)

For their commitment to delivering a significant number of exciting and inventive initiatives for learners who are under-represented in higher education within the Slade School of Fine Art. The team have created an inclusive approach aimed at widening participation to create a pathway of support that could improve the diversity of students. Activities have included a WP Summer School, Saturday Club, and the creation of a website and an online practical introduction to fine art practice.

Beilei Gou with Emanuela Tilley, Elpida Makrygianni and Rae Harbird

Faculty of Engineering Sciences

For Beilei's and the team's work supporting Year 10 students at Elutec Academy with a mixed ability class, to increase their digital literacy and confidence using computers and the internet. Beilei was instrumental in making this widening participation engagement project come to life and it has been a real success for Elutec and their students.

Peter Wijeratne

Department of Computer Science

For his tireless dedication and efforts to leading, designing and co-delivering the A-COMPS programme and supporting A-level pupils from East and South London from under-represented communities with applying and getting into top UK universities.

BA Media Team in partnership with East London Arts and Music Institute of Education

For their brilliant contribution to embedding UCL East campus in Saturday School activities to support young people in east London to develop practical and technical skills, discover the processes of filmmaking and games design, and promote opportunities across the creative industries for their futures.

Chloe Richardson

Access and Widening Participation Office

For the significant impact Chloe has made through UCL's school engagement programme which has reached hundreds of students from across the UK. Chloe has devoted time and effort to establishing a series of campus and school visits through planning, organising and delivering these by herself. She has also expertly managed the student ambassador scheme, providing training, support and work opportunities for current student workers over the past 18 months.

Rokia Ballo

Department of Science and Technology Studies

For Rokia's outstanding work leading an engaging, 'eye-opening' and highly praised Black History Month Widening Participation event in a non-selective, high proportion free school meals and special needs school as part of STS's 'Change the Narrative' project. The event focused on celebrating Black innovations in the history of science and challenging present-day exclusion.

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Careers & Progression Award

Rebecca Lindner & Cassandra Hugill In2Research Project Team

For their outstanding dedication and exceptional delivery of the pre-doctoral In2Research programme at UCL, securing £790,000 of funding to enhance access to postgraduate research for marginalised groups from low-income backgrounds.

The programme involved the planning, organisation and delivery of workshops, professional development awaydays, mentoring, networking, and paid research experience placements at participating universities. The programme also requires that colleagues who mentor or supervise participants engage in cultural and race literacy training delivered by our partners, Leading Routes and UPSIGN, as a practical intervention to shift institutional cultures to be more inclusive and increase participants' sense of belonging.

Last year, 50 STEM participants (mostly UGs) completed the programme and we have just launched the OfS/RE-funded project with over 90 participants, 33% of whom are studying/have studied at non-research-intensive universities. Together with Students' Union UCL, they will launch an In2research alumni programme this year to offer continued support and networking for participants.

Penny Longman UCL Careers Extra

For Penny's impactful commitment to running the Careers Extra programme for WP students over the years. Penny's ambition for and dedication to Careers Extra has pushed this move for UCL to fund Penny full time. Penny is an excellent advocate for WP students who are struggling at UCL and does everything she can to make sure students succeed. Penny's name frequently comes up from students with access and widening participation backgrounds who cannot sing her praises enough for the exceptionally supportive and dedicated service Penny provides them in terms of their careers and progression.

nominees

Above & Beyond Award

Sarah Sterlini

Institute for Global Health

For Sarah's tireless commitment to championing Widening Participation in IGH by setting up a Widening Participation working group and recruiting passionate members. Sarah has also nurtured a brilliant relationship with Aim Higher through which she leads the organisation and delivery of taster days for boys from under-represented and underprivileged backgrounds.

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Sarah Jeal

Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction

For Sarah's wholehearted commitment to WP despite her other full-time roles. Sarah has worked extremely hard to establish connections with schools and organised talks and interactive events with many to get people understanding the non-traditional subject of IRDR. Sarah deserves a morale boost for all her efforts and encouragement.

Naz Siddique

Institute of Education & The Bartlett

For demonstrating brilliant dedication to helping and advising on equality, diversity and other related matters through Naz's impactful roles as Dignity Advisory, and in the IOE Athena SWAN group and Kaleidoscope group.

Joe Tilley

Department of Philosophy

For Joe's outstanding commitment to the SoRA Working Group and impactful contributions to the framework of SoRAs. Joe has demonstrated outstanding dedication to anticipating the needs of students in Philosophy who may require extra support.

Elettra Carbone (with Joana Jacob Ramalho and Christine Sas)

School of European Languages, Culture and Society

For Elettra's wholehearted dedication to widening participation by developing and leading the Languages and Cultures Year 12 Summer School, organising 'Routes into Languages' programmes for Year 10 students, and creating multilingual, animated videos for primary school students. Special mention should also be given to Elettra's colleagues, Joana and Christine who also worked very hard to sustain WP activity during Elettra's research sabbatical.

Penny Longman

UCL Careers Extra

For the significant impact Penny has made in offering an exceptional service and incredible support to WP students in their careers and progression.

Johanna Novales

Faculty of Engineering Sciences

For Johanna's passionate dedication to developing an inclusive environment through staff and student training to ensure that all members of the UCL community can be successful regardless of their background.

Mark Fuller

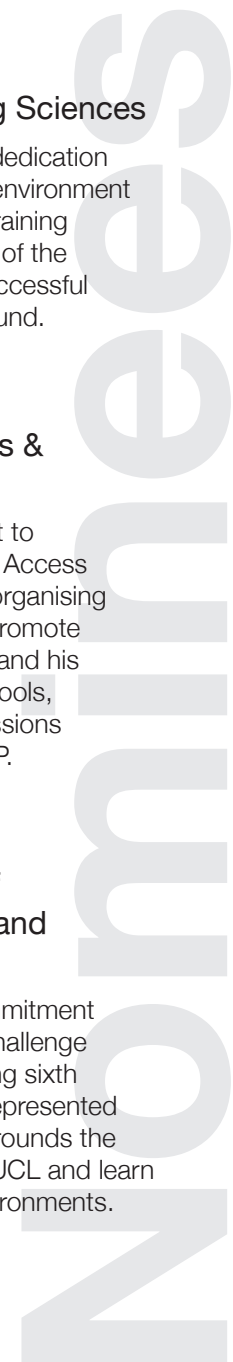
Department of Physics & Astronomy

For his tireless commitment to Widening Participation and Access at UCL, securing funding, organising and delivering projects to promote Physics and Astrophysics, and his work on UCL Summer Schools, coding clubs, in-school sessions and co-leading the WP CoP.

Nick Hughes

The Bartlett School of Environment, Energy and Resources

For his dedication and commitment to coordinating Summer Challenge events for BSEER and giving sixth form students from underrepresented and underprivileged backgrounds the opportunity to experience UCL and learn about sustainable built environments.



Above and Beyond Award (cont.)

Michael Sulu

Department of Biochemical Engineering

For his inspirational commitment to WP as Inclusion Lead, Co-chair of Race Equality Steering Group and Race Equality Implementation Group and his tireless efforts on various outreach programmes with the Royal Academy of Engineering, Leading Routes Future Scholars for Year 12 and 13 students, and BADU Community's Proud To Be programme, and supporting Year 13 students with UCAS applications and entrance exams.

Raphaela Armbruster

The Bowman Scholarship

For her tireless work and devotion to open up the doors of UCL for students from displaced and forced migration backgrounds through the Bowman Scholarships. The Bowman Scholarship would simply not exist without Raphaela, her convictions, and her unique ability to gather everyone around a common purpose.

Will Dunn

Department of Physics and Astronomy

For Will's incredible dedication to the ORBYTS programme that has managed to expand to over 25 schools and his infectious passion for Physics that he instils in the young people he works with. The whole first cohort of ORBYTS students went on to study Physics at A-Level.

Finally, a special thanks to...

Widening Participation CoP Awards Committee

Lauren Gillett, Co-Lead

Elise Polley

Caroline Fionda Dedman, Co-Lead

Irina Lazar

Mark Fuller, Co-Lead

Katie Singer

Anne Preston

Rebecca Kelly

Esra Celik

Sarah Sterlini

Carter Howard

Sonal Bharadva

Chloe Richardson

And...

- Ruth Brooks for designing the certificates and programme.
- Therese Johns and Gia Lulic for helping to celebrate and promote the event.
- Sannah Gulamani for advising us on how to make this a more inclusive event.
- Our wonderful judges and CoP Sponsors, Lucie March and Paulette Williams for doing the impossible task of choosing the award winners.
- Organisational Development and AWPO for providing funding so we can have a proper award ceremony.
- The WP CoP Awards Committee for their hard work over the past few months in making these awards happen.

Thanks

UCL Access and Widening Participation

 **ucl.ac.uk/wp**