Town Hall meeting,
1 March 2019

Inquiry into eugenics at UCL – past, present & future
Overview

Welcome and housekeeping notices

15:15 – History and task of the Commission of Inquiry (Phase 1)
15:25 – Explanation of current phase (Phase 2), introduction of Commissioners and three questions for discussion
15:35 – Subhadra Das – What is eugenics?
15:55 – Three questions for discussion
16:55 – Thanks and next steps (surveys, focus groups, second Town Hall Meeting, final report)
Commissioners

Prof. Iyiola Solanke (Chair)
Prof. Tamar Garb
Prof. Peter Fonagy
Samira Abdalla
Prof. Ann Phoenix
Dr Caroline Bressey
Prof. Tom Fearn
Prof. Ijeoma Uchegbu
Prof. Joe Cain
Abeni Olayinka Adeyemi
Ash Talwar
Marcia Jacks
Prof. Mark Thomas
Subhadra Das
Fiona McClement
A Definition

“Eugenics is the science which deals with all influences which improve the inborn qualities of a race; also with those which develop them to the utmost advantage.”

Sir Francis Galton, 1904

(https://wellcomelibrary.org/collections/digital-collections/makers-of-modern-genetics/digitised-archives/eugenics-society/)
Q1: how does information on the history of eugenics at UCL change your perception of UCL?
Q2: What’s in a name? 16:15–16:35

Q2: What is the significance of the names of prizes, spaces and endowed professorships on campus, especially those named after persons who founded and zealously promoted eugenics?

e.g. The Galton Society (formerly the Eugenics Society); The Galton Chair (formerly the Chair of Eugenics); The Galton Lecture Theatre; The Pearson Building; The Petrie Museum
Q3: how do you think UCL should approach its historical role in the teaching and research of eugenics in the future?
Thank you for attending