

# Connected

London South Bank University  
LSBU Association magazine  
Issue 9 > Autumn 2010

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## University challenge

Win Amazon vouchers

.....

## Building your own future

Nicolas Tye's journey from student to award-winning Architect

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**K2:**

**a new era for LSBU**



LONDON SOUTH BANK  
UNIVERSITY

# Welcome

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## Welcome from the Editor



Welcome to the autumn issue of *Connected*. To celebrate the launch of our brand new K2 building, this issue is themed around architecture and sustainability. The new landmark building at LSBU's Southwark campus reflects the University's ongoing investment in and commitment to providing world-class facilities for our students and staff. You can read more about K2 on page 12.

*Connected* is not just about LSBU's news and achievements, it's about yours too. On page 16, we talk to alumnus Nicolas Tye, now an award-winning architect with his own thriving practice. And on page 18 we gaze into our crystal ball with a look at the work of current architecture students who we predict will be the ones to watch in the future.

This issue also includes a questionnaire. We are always keen to hear from you, so please complete and return in the pre-paid envelope provided. The information will steer the direction of your alumni association and help us to ensure you get the maximum benefit from this 56,000 strong global community of former students.

I hope you enjoy reading *Connected* and I look forward to hearing from you.

**Wendy Graves**

Alumni Marketing Manager

## Welcome from the Vice Chancellor



Welcome to the latest edition of *Connected*. I am delighted to report that the University has continued to make excellent progress in the delivery of our Corporate Plan, *Students First*, over recent months, whilst preparing for the fallout from the current funding crisis in higher education. There is no doubt that UK Universities face immense financial challenges over the next few years and LSBU is not immune. The Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), Dr Vince Cable, who came to LSBU (15th July) to give his first keynote speech on higher education, has warned the sector that this "is going to be a time of difficult change for Universities". At LSBU, we will have to make some tough decisions, but I have no doubt that we will survive and prosper and be in a position to successfully deliver our corporate plan.

I was pleased to see that the 2011 Guardian University Guide, which prides itself on placing greater emphasis on the student experience, ranks LSBU at 25th in the UK on 'value added'. The value added score category is unique to the Guardian and compares students' individual degree results with their entry qualifications. This impressive result highlights the admirable growth and transformation that many of our students experience here at LSBU and our long-standing commitment to creating professional opportunity for all who can benefit.

I am delighted that LSBU is continuing to play a leading role in nursing education. NHS London's Contract Performance Management for Education Commissioning Results for 2009/10 found LSBU to be the best university in London for Adult Nursing. The assessment, which aims to identify higher education institutions that deliver a fit for purpose workforce for the rapidly evolving NHS, also finds that LSBU is second in the capital for Learning Disabilities Nursing.

Recently our students have excelled in a number of areas. I am proud to report that Barbara Sollerova won the *Student Midwife of the Year Award 2010* at the British Journal of Midwifery Awards by helping to identify a serious congenital abnormality in a baby that resulted in timely specialised care to be provided. Dr Ben Francis Selemo, a student in the Faculty of Business, has received the special *Clinical Governance Quality and Excellence in Clinical Innovation* award from the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust. Ben designed a service improvement project which created a reduction in patient referral time. Equally impressive was the achievement of our Masters student, Cristina Catalina, who has received a four out of five star *Critics Choice* rating by Time Out Magazine for her production *Elevator*. *Elevator*, Cristina's first production, had a full three week run at the New Diorama Arts Centre and was judged one of the best five shows in London.

Working for a green future is important to us in many ways, from our research and teaching to the practical steps being taken to protect the environment and rethink the ways in which we invest in our estate. Our efforts have been recognised as LSBU is now the third greenest university in London according to 2010 People and Planet Green league table. The Green League awards universities degree-style classifications based on 11 environmental related criteria that include both policy and performance. LSBU was ranked 20th out of 133 universities in the UK receiving full marks in student and staff engagement and waste reduction.

Finally, you will read in the *news in brief* section about the appointment of our new Pro Vice Chancellor (External), Bev Jullien. Bev has worked in the Pharmaceuticals Industry, in a wide range of commercial and general management roles, for almost 30 years. She has been consistently successful in driving growth for new products and new markets, most recently within AstraZeneca, developing and helping to implement a strategy for emerging markets. I am looking forward to working closely with her to deliver the external relations agenda. The continued support and encouragement of our alumni and partners will be key in this process, and I would like to thank you for your support to date. We look forward to working ever closer with you in the future. In the meantime, my very best wishes to you all.

**Professor Martin J Earwicker**  
Vice Chancellor



# BRINGING learning to life

**Former professor of mathematics and self-described metagrobologist – puzzle expert – David Singmaster taught at LSBU through the 70s and 80s. He was the first person to import the Rubik's Cube into the UK**

'I've always been fascinated by maths and puzzles. In 1978 I was in Helsinki at a maths competition when someone told me about this new toy from Hungary – the Rubik's cube. I managed to find someone who knew Hungarian to get hold of the last one for me. 'That was the start of something big. I wrote an article for the *Observer*, the first piece to be published about the cube outside Hungary. I started getting them sent over, six at a time to start with. Within months I was ordering batches of 1,000 and selling out immediately! People would queue up outside my office to get their hands on one.

'I think the first time I solved the cube it took about two weeks. These days people do it in 12 seconds! We were all obsessed. I remember having dinner with John Conway, who's now professor of mathematics at Princeton, and both of us sitting there with our cubes. Roger Penrose used to walk around with his pockets full of scraps of paper where he'd scribbled down possible solutions.

'In the 1970s, South Bank was a very practical institution. I started out teaching calculus to engineering students, then later on we set up a computer science department. I encouraged a few students to do projects based on puzzles. A good puzzle can be worth a thousand exercises. Nothing focuses the mind like solving a problem, and with puzzles you're engaging the imagination too.

'I think enthusiasm for your subject is the secret to being a good teacher. Since I retired from LSBU in 1994 I've continued to pursue my passion for mathematics and, of course, for puzzles. I've recently given lectures at the Prince's Educational Trust in Bristol and the Science Museum in London. I also spoke to the Oxford University Hungarian Society about maths in Hungary – even after all these years, the Rubik connection is still there!

**Professor Fintan Culwin joined LSBU as a software engineering specialist in 1988. Now, he is Head of Informatics and an expert in the field of academic misconduct**

'I'm delighted – and a bit surprised – to hear that people think I'm an inspiring teacher. I tend to give my students quite a hard time. I set very high standards, and I won't compromise. I get messages from former students saying, "We thought you were being hard on us for no reason, but now we realise you were just preparing us for the real world."

'Preparing students for the world of work is a big responsibility and I take it very seriously. There's a big overlap with my work on academic misconduct. Students are not only fooling themselves but also their future employers if they claim knowledge and expertise they don't have. This then damages the prospects of every other student graduating from LSBU.

From what you tell us, it seems the lessons you learn at LSBU stay with you for life. A good teacher can have a huge impact on your

confidence and your career prospects, and really help you get the most out of your time at University. We spoke to three teachers described

as 'inspirational' by our alumni to find out more about their LSBU experiences – and the secrets of being a great classroom communicator

'My first job after graduation was working on Rutter's 15,000 hours report which put video cameras into classrooms to try and find out why schools in similar areas and with similar resources were achieving such different results. The findings showed that the single most influential factor was the teacher's perceived enthusiasm for the subject and for the pupils' learning.

'That's a lesson I've taken to heart. I've developed a larger-than-life persona for lecturing. When I was training new lecturers I'd tell them, if you're in front of more than 20 people you're performing. You have to dominate the room, you have to be in control. When I was at school in Leeds we had a physics teacher who was like Animal from *The Muppets*. He'd fire chalk across the room from a little cannon. He was crazy, but he had great leadership qualities too and I still remember the things he taught me today.

'Despite the spread of technology, I still think the role of the lecturer is very important. As a means of transmitting knowledge, the lecture isn't that great. Well-designed electronic resources are a lot more effective. But as a cultural event, one that defines the course, creates an identity for the department, paces the students and gives them a sense of belonging, it's still very powerful.'

**Senior lecturer Mel Godfrey joined LSBU in 1993. She is course director for the MA in Marketing and is also interested in exploring ways in which alumni can maintain links with the University**

'Technology has made a huge difference to our ability to create links between alumni and current students. My research shows that well over half of our former students are happy to come in and give talks, act as mentors or help students with their CVs. Building up networks on Facebook and Linked In is an excellent way of making that happen.

'It can also lead to job opportunities. We've currently got 10 graduates working with one big agency and seven with another, all because of alumni posting opportunities online. We're not acting as a recruitment agency – we're just putting people in touch with each other. Hopefully, it will form a virtuous circle. If current students benefit from a network, they'll be more likely to want to help out once they've graduated. My vision is of a utopian future where none of our students leaves without a job to go to!

'Technology has been a big influence on marketing since I came to LSBU, and that's changed the way we teach. The internet and mobile technology have made marketing messages so much more accessible, and put consumers much more in control. These days, we can see what customers want because they're constantly feeding back. Just look at the influence someone like Stephen Fry can wield! Marketers have to be flexible and they have to be transparent.

'We maintain a strong sense of community on this course. As well as all our online networking, there's a big social element. We have good induction sessions and regular outings. Used right, I think technology can make students more engaged, rather than more isolated. When I access websites or YouTube clips in my lectures, I'm encouraging them to interact. It's not a passive process.

'But for me, the single most effective way of bringing teaching to life is to link it to the real world. I'll create a scenario where I'm the marketing director and students have an hour to brief me before I present to the board. Students have to be prepared for the kind of challenges they're going to face in industry.'

- Did you study with Mel? If you did, why not look for her Facebook page or email her on [godfrem@lsbu.ac.uk](mailto:godfrem@lsbu.ac.uk)



# News in brief

## Going for green



### LSBU is the third greenest university in London according to today's People & Planet Green League table

The Green League awards universities degree-style classifications based on 11 environmental criteria covering both policy and performance. It is organised by People & Planet, a student-led network that campaigns to end world poverty, defend human rights and protect the environment. In this year's table, LSBU ranked twentieth out of 133 universities in the UK, gaining full marks for student and staff engagement and waste reduction. Over the past year, LSBU's Sustainability Development Group has launched a new energy-saving initiative, the Student Switch Off. Students from LSBU's halls of residence have agreed to act as Eco-Power Rangers,

committed to reducing their own energy use and encouraging their friends to do the same. Over 200 students have already signed up and figures show an average 2.9 per cent reduction in electricity usage, equivalent to 29,429 kWh and over 15 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> over three months. Looking ahead, LSBU's brand new teaching facility K2 provides the University with further opportunities to boost sustainability. K2's impressive green credentials include one of the country's largest geothermal energy pile installations, which controls the building's heating and cooling system, solar-powered water heating and an innovative mesh cladding to regulate temperature. See page 12 for more details. Anuj Saush, LSBU's Energy and Environment Manager says: 'A top 20 finish is a significant achievement for LSBU and testament to the hard work of our students, staff and contractors. With their continued support, we can look forward to building on the progress we've already made. Onwards and upwards!'

### How we're going green

- Ensuring 100 per cent of our waste is either recycled or used to generate energy
- Achieving Fairtrade accreditation
- Introducing a sustainable travel plan
- Increasing energy efficiency to reduce our carbon footprint
- Doing all our buying through our sustainable procurement policy
- Embedding sustainability throughout the curriculum and into staff training programmes
- Supporting government, NGOs and businesses through research and consultancy
- Reducing and offsetting resource usage, including paper, water and CDs
- Working with local regeneration projects including in the Elephant and Castle area

## High-profile launch for CEREB

LSBU's Centre for Efficient and Renewable Energy in Buildings (CEREB) was officially opened in June by Boris Johnson, Mayor of London.



Perched on the roof of the LSBU's brand new K2 building, CEREB is a pioneering, multi-million pound teaching, research and demonstration facility for low carbon technologies in the built environment. As the UK's first urban green technology research centre, it is ideally placed to support the development of environmentally sustainable city buildings. 'CEREB will provide a hands-on experience of how low carbon technologies work in real buildings,' explains Centre director Professor Tony Day. 'It has been designed to help a range of different audiences – from school children to

experienced engineers – to see where energy is used in buildings, and which modern solutions work best. CEREB will bring the subject to life.' Speaking at the launch, Mayor Boris Johnson gave the Centre his full support. 'The market for green technology will be worth £3 trillion over the next three decades. I want London to take the lead in developing those technologies. These technologies will help us, in this city, in our goal to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 60 per cent by 2025.' See page 12 for more on K2.

## Lifetime achievement award for marketing guru

Professor Andrew Ehrenberg, founder of LSBU's Ehrenberg Centre for Research in Marketing, has won the Advertising Research Foundation Great Mind Lifetime Achievement Award



Professor Ehrenberg has spent most of his distinguished 50-year career studying consumers' repeat-buying behaviour, exploding some long-held beliefs about customer loyalty and how advertising works in the process. He has written 19 papers for the *Journal of Advertising Research*, published by the ARF, a US forum of more than 400 advertisers, agencies, research firms and media companies. The award reflects Professor Ehrenberg's contribution both to the advertising industry and to the work of the ARF. Now 84, and recently retired from LSBU, Professor Ehrenberg's influence continues to be felt through the two eponymous research units on either side of the globe dedicated to continuing his work and circulating his ideas.

## Leading the world in social science research

LSBU's new Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), a flagship research institute for the social sciences, opened its doors on 21 June

The ISSR has been set up in the wake of the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, which saw 95 per cent of LSBU's social policy research rated as 'internationally recognised' and 15 per cent as 'world leading'. The Institute comprises four separate research centres: the Centre for Education Research; the Centre for Media and Culture Research; the Centre for Psychology Research; and the Weeks Centre for Social and Policy Research, named after Professor Jeffrey Weeks whose work led to our excellent RAE rating.

Commenting on the opening of the Institute its director, Professor Ian Albery, said: 'LSBU has a strong tradition in the humanities, particularly through the pioneering work of Professor Weeks. With this new Institute we are confident that we can ensure LSBU continues to be at the cutting edge of research in social sciences.'



Plaudits for Faculty of

# Health



A new report by NHS London has rated LSBU the capital’s top university for adult nursing

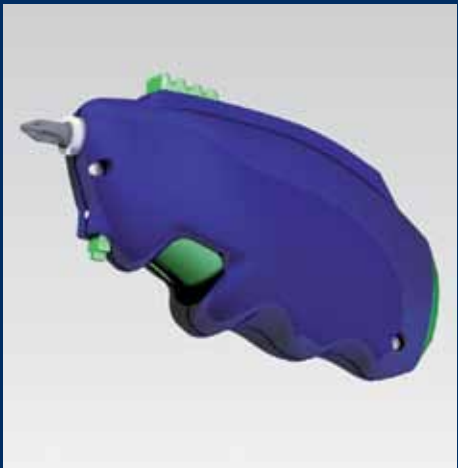
NHS London’s Contract Performance Management for Education Commissioning survey is focused on fitness for purpose, recognising those institutions that are equipping healthcare professionals to meet the fast-changing needs of the NHS. The report also shows that LSBU is second in the capital for learning disabilities nursing. LSBU’s Faculty of Health and Social Care trains one in five of London’s future nurses and offers the widest range of continuing personal and professional development courses in London. A commitment to partnership working has led to collaborations with over 70 health service organisations; collaborations that offer students direct pathways into trusts

including University College Hospital and Kings College Hospital. ‘Over the past few years we’ve worked hard to improve the support we offer our students and build strong partnerships with NHS trusts,’ says Anne Garvey, the faculty’s deputy dean. ‘That way we can ensure that students are fit for purpose and well prepared to work in a modern health service. These results help strengthen the faculty’s reputation as a world-class learning and teaching institute in health and social care.’

New institute gives trusts an efficiency boost

A new Institute of Vocational Learning for Health and Social Care has been launched to help healthcare trusts make efficiency savings by improving the effectiveness of training programmes and, ultimately, raising standards of patient care. A team of researchers and consultants will provide support and guidance on training and learning pathways, evaluating the impact of training, assessing the effectiveness of new roles and disseminating good practice. ‘Healthcare service providers are facing huge financial and service challenges,’ says Institute director Lesley Buckland. ‘It is critical that the higher education sector applies its expertise and works in partnership to find innovative solutions to these difficulties.’

# Student Success stories



The humble screwdriver gets a makeover

Second-year Mechanical Engineering student Ross Warrell is the only UK entrant to reach the finals of this year’s international design and engineering competition Extreme Redesign. The brief was simple: to take an everyday object and make it better, using an innovative design and 3D printing process called Fused Deposition modelling that allows users to print ‘real’ products from robust materials in order to test and develop their ideas. Ross’s design, ‘The Squirrel’, is a compact multi-bit screwdriver that can be changed with one hand. He is one of nine finalists chosen by a panel of experts from the world of design and

engineering. The winning entries in each of the three categories will receive scholarships worth \$2,500 while the remaining finalists will each get scholarships worth \$1,000. Tony Roberts, Unit Lecturer and Course Director says: ‘In the Department of Engineering and Design we are always striving to ensure that our students aim to produce real engineering solutions that combine practicality with a high degree of functionality. This competition was an ideal opportunity for our students to combine their analytical knowledge with their design and CAD skills whilst developing working prototypes.’

LSBU production picked as Time Out’s Critics’ Choice

Students on the Theatre Practice: Creative Producing course have been busy putting on performances in the last few weeks as part of their final projects, with one student’s production gaining a four-star review from *Time Out* magazine. Both second and third year students have been producing some remarkable work, which has been performed by professional casts at venues across London.

Perhaps most exciting of all this year is the University’s first ever masters-level Theatre Practice project. Cristina Catalina’s production, *Elevator*, was listed as *Time Out* Critics’ Choice, which is an extraordinary achievement for a first production. *Elevator* had a full three week run at the New Diorama Arts Centre. The Theatre Practice: Creative Producing course is unique and quite unlike any other course

in the UK. The degree is about creating and producing theatre from the first seed of an idea – a concept, a script, a work for adaptation – through to its final inception on stage. For more information about the course, contact Jonathan Banatvala on 020 7815 5703 or email [banatvj@lsbu.ac.uk](mailto:banatvj@lsbu.ac.uk)

LSBU welcomes a new Pro Vice Chancellor (External)

LSBU welcomes the arrival of Bev Jullien as the new Pro Vice Chancellor (External). Her areas of responsibility include development, research, marketing and recruitment. Bev was previously Director of Corporate Strategy at the British Olympic Association, where she was on secondment from pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca. For almost thirty years she has held commercial and general management roles in the pharmaceutical industry.

Bev’s passion for learning and personal development resulted in her gaining masters degrees in Modern Languages from Cambridge University and Practicing Management from McGill University in Canada. She is also a Chartered Director and Fellow of the Institute of Directors. Bev has been impressed by what she has already heard of the achievements of LSBU alumni – she sees alumni as being of critical importance to the University, and looks forward to meeting many of you at events in her new role.



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**Looking for work? Fancy a change of direction?  
Think your CV could be working harder for you?  
With a wealth of experience in helping graduates find  
their feet in the world of work, LSBU's Employability  
and Careers Service could have the answer**

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# Work it out

Finding work isn't easy, especially in the current climate, but there's no need to struggle alone. All alumni can access the on-line resources and materials in the Careers Room at LSBU, while recent graduates can benefit from 'face-to-face' services for up to two years after they leave LSBU. 'They come to us for as much support as they need within that two-year period,' says Careers Adviser Eimer Bourke.

## Be resourceful

The team maintains a range of careers resources. 'Once they've joined the LSBU Association, alumni can come in and watch DVDs, read books and use our computers,' Eimer explains. The Employability and Careers Service site includes FAQs, concise guides and self-assessment exercises designed to help jobseekers analyse their skills and understand

what employers are looking for. The team also points graduates to the Prospects website ([www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)) which contains a wealth of information and advice. Cards entitling users to print out and keep information are available from the Learning Resource Centre.

## First impressions count

Recent graduates can book a 45 minute one-to-one session with a careers adviser, or sign up for a 15-minute 'quick query' slot. The team includes careers advisers linked to each of the University's faculties, who can offer in-depth knowledge of both the subject area and the labour market. 'We run drop-in sessions a couple of times a week,' says Eimer. 'The list goes up 15 minutes before the session starts so that people can put their names down. Often, it's all that's needed to set someone on the

right track. If not, we'll encourage them to book in for a more in-depth chat.'

Probably the most popular request is for help with CVs, covering letters and – increasingly – online applications. 'We're happy to go through CVs, letters and forms with people in detail,' says Eimer. 'If they've spotted an interesting job we'll get them to bring the job ad or person spec in with them so we can help them put together an application that matches the employer's needs.' Following a CV check, graduates can register for the LSBU Careers Service database and access an up to date list of vacancies. One-to-one online careers advice is available through the site.

The team also offers help with interview technique and runs mock interviews. 'We research the job beforehand so we can ask the right questions and make the experience as

realistic as possible,' says Eimer. 'At the end we give practical feedback on how to perform better.' Three times a year, the team runs a week-long series of careers workshops. 'We look at things like using social networking sites, the hidden jobs market, and how to make best use of your existing contacts,' says Eimer. 'It's about encouraging people to think laterally, get out there and make themselves as employable as possible.'

## Find out more

To find out more about the Employability and Careers Service or to book a session, go to [www.lsbu.ac.uk/learningsupport/jobshopandcareers](http://www.lsbu.ac.uk/learningsupport/jobshopandcareers) or <https://alumni.lsbu.ac.uk/benefits/careers.aspx> or call 020 7815 6710/6431.

## Get networking

LSBU's alumni team runs regular events for all graduates. 'It doesn't matter how long ago you left the University, everyone's welcome to come along,' says organiser Wendy Graves. Every two months, expert public speaker Bob Ferguson runs sessions on vital workplace skills like public speaking and office communication. Other events run throughout the year and offer opportunities to hear from industry leaders and network with other alumni.

Visit [alumni.lsbu.ac.uk](http://alumni.lsbu.ac.uk) or send an e-mail to [alumni@lsbu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@lsbu.ac.uk) to sign up for regular email alerts.

## Roberta Dutra graduated from LSBU in summer 2010 with a Masters in International Business. She explains how the Careers Service helped her take the first steps on to the career ladder

'I started looking for jobs as soon as the taught part of my course ended in June last year. In my first one-to-one session with the Careers Service, we looked at how to put together a CV that would stand out from the crowd. Rather than worrying about my lack of experience, the team advised me to focus on my course, highlighting my achievements and transferable skills like communication and team working. In my second session, we looked at covering letters and online application forms and I went along to a workshop too. It was really helpful, with loads of practical tips.

'Since then, I've got in touch with the Careers Service whenever I've seen an interesting vacancy. They've been through my letters and applications with me and I've done mock interviews, too. It's difficult to know how best to prepare for interviews – how much to read, what kind of information you should have – and I found it really useful to have a practice run. They give you feedback, too, to help you perform better when it comes to the real thing.

'I've been working as an intern at SAP, a large business software provider. A friend of mine was working there and sent my CV to the HR team. They were really impressed, so the effort I'd put in to getting it right obviously

paid off! As a recruitment assistant, I'm on the other side, looking at people's CVs and doing interviews. I've learned so much.

'At the same time I've been applying for permanent jobs. I've just had an offer from Identify ERP which does IT recruitment. It's a great opportunity. I really think the internship helped boost my prospects. The JobShop team told me, "The one thing you must do is get some experience!" and they were right. Before SAP I'd had one interview in three months; since starting there I've had three. It's given me experience to draw on and real-life examples of how I've used my knowledge and skills.

'Looking for work is never easy, and it's particularly tough at the moment. But my experience shows that there are still opportunities. My advice would be to get out there – it's not enough to sit at home sending out CVs. Tell everyone you know that you're looking for work, go to graduate fairs, work for nothing if you have to. What I gained at SAP was worth so much more than three months' salary. It's a stepping stone to my future career.'



The launch of the landmark K2 building marks the start of a new era for LSBU. The Grimshaw-designed structure, located on Keyworth Street at the heart of the Southwark campus, provides a new home for the Faculty of Health and Social Care and the Department for Education and parts of the Department for Sport and Exercise Science

‘The market for green technology is worth an estimated £3 trillion over the next 30 years. I want London to take the lead in developing these technologies and I want us to achieve our goal of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 60 per cent by 2025. That’s why I’m delighted to support the work going on here at LSBU.’ *Mayor of London Boris Johnson, speaking at the opening of CEREB*



## a new era for LSBU

For students and staff, K2 offers state-of-the-art facilities. New skills labs for nursing and allied health professionals are helping to bring learning to life, while more modern, spacious teacher education facilities offer high quality, flexible accommodation for the school teachers of the future. New multi-purpose lecture theatres, mezzanine areas and coffee shops provide spaces where students can come together. K2’s impressive sustainability credentials set a benchmark for future developments. Ground source heat pumps meet 100 per cent of the building’s heating and cooling needs,

while 171 energy piles form one of the largest installations of its kind to date in a public building in the UK. Solar collectors provide around half of K2’s domestic hot water demands. Up at the top of K2, the Centre for Efficient and Renewable Energy in Buildings (CEREB) epitomises that commitment to minimising environmental impact and encouraging sustainable development. The UK’s first inner-city centre for research into green technologies, CEREB provides a unique resource for teaching, researching and

showing how low carbon technologies can be used to create environmentally friendly urban buildings. As a hub for teaching and learning, as a showcase for green building technologies and as a centre for community activities, K2 is making a major contribution to the life of the University, the local area and the city as a whole. Turn over for more pictures and an insight into a day in the life of K2.





# A day in the life of K2



**8:30**  
The Facilities Manager checks the status of the four ground source heat pumps and seven air handling units that meet 100 per cent of K2's heating and cooling needs. A building management system monitors constantly, turning pumps on and off as needed. The system will be checked regularly throughout the day to ensure optimum performance.

**9:00**  
Trainee primary school teachers prepare for a seminar in a room converted to look like a primary science classroom. 'As well as equipping our teachers to teach, we're preparing them to work in diverse and often challenging urban environments,' says Head of Education Peter D'Sena. 'At K2, we've brought together a group of students that truly reflects the cosmopolitan nature of the city we're in.'



**10:00**  
A group of energy managers from large corporations in London meet at CEREB to discuss practical ways of reducing their companies' impact on the environment. Professor Tony Day explains how the Centre is supporting education and training and demonstrates K2's online and interactive energy monitoring application.



**10:45**  
In the critical care lab, a team of clinical assistant practitioner students is being briefed. In today's scenario, a patient is admitted to A&E with chest pain. Using the Sim Man simulator, they carry out a full patient assessment, measuring and monitoring vital signs, administering oxygen therapy and performing an ECG.



**12:30**  
A City worker – and keen amateur triathlete – arrives at the Human Performance Centre for a Perform Well session. Pat Fox of the Academy of Sport puts him through his paces on the rowing machine, bike and treadmill. 'We're measuring his lactate profile, hydration, lung capacity, haemoglobin levels and percentages of fat and muscle,' Pat explains, 'so we can devise a bespoke training programme.'

**14:15**  
In the Gait Lab, Dave Cook works with a runner from LSBU's athletics team. 'The floor is covered in force plates which are linked to motion capture cameras,' Dave explains. 'By analysing every element of this athlete's gait, we can develop a strategy for improving their performance and helping them stay injury-free.'



**13:30**  
Senior lecturer Matt Lester's foundation year nursing students are in the adult and paediatric bays of the skills lab, preparing for a practical exam in aseptic techniques. They use lifelike mannequins to practice their wound care techniques. 'Working in such a realistic environment makes a big difference to the students,' says Matt. 'It really does bring their learning to life.'

**15:30**  
Two Building Services Engineering MSc students come to CEREB to discuss their final projects. One will study the photo-voltaic cells on the Centre's roof, accessing all the information he needs about the cells' performance online. The other plans to look at how phase change materials can cool air – technology that is already being used in K2.

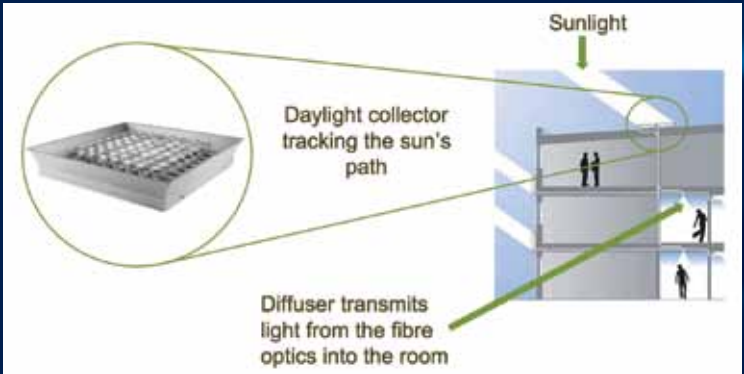
Air handling units are deliberately visible to aid teaching and learning



**16:00**  
Guests including local MP Simon Hughes and the former Mayor of Southwark join local schoolchildren and teachers for a screening to mark the culmination of the Charles Dickens project. Primary teaching trainees worked with senior lecturer Dr Alan Parkinson to devise and deliver the project, which spanned history, design, music, dance and art.

**17:30**  
Digital interactive screens show K2's current actual energy consumption and carbon emissions. 'It's a great tool for improving efficiency,' says Energy and Environment Manager Anuj Saush. 'We can use this information to make everyone using the building more aware of energy and environmental issues.'

Solar Fibre Optics enables natural light to be transmitted into buildings





# Building your own future

A self-confessed 'hopeless' student, LSBU graduate Nicolas Tye is now an award-winning architect with his own thriving practice. He talked to *Connected* about his journey to success



'I never had a big plan to become an architect,' admits Nicolas. 'In fact, I never really had a plan at all.' It's hard to imagine signing up for such a challenging and rigorous course without having a pretty clear vision but Nicolas insists that he spent the main part of his student years at LSBU doing little better than muddling through.

'At that time – the early 90s – the course was run by David Gloster, who's now head of education at RIBA. I'm sure he'd say I was one of the worst students he'd ever had! It wasn't until I was studying for my Part 3 exams that I started to get an inkling that I might have an aptitude for design.'

## The power of design

Nevertheless, in many ways a career in architecture was always on the cards. 'My father was an architect who worked with Arne Jacobsen and James Stirling. He designed the house I lived in as a child. It was an amazing place – people used to drive for miles to see it. So I guess I always had an awareness of the importance of good design and its power to shape the way we live.'

After graduating, Nicolas spent a year working in his father's practice. 'No one else would give me a job! It was a bit painful at the time but looking back I can see that it was hugely valuable and taught me a lot about design.' From there, he moved to what he describes as his first 'proper' job with ORMS Architects where he worked on a range of projects including the Millennium Dome. 'For the first time, I could really see the link between the drawings and the finished product. And being on site at 3am with Richard Rogers is a pretty exciting opportunity for a young architect.'

## Keeping it simple

At the same time, Nicolas was working on a project of his own. While still a student at LSBU, he'd bought what he describes as a 'concrete box' in Clerkenwell to use as a studio. 'It really was a shell. The area was so cheap then, and I kitted the whole place out myself on a shoestring. At the time, my resources were very limited so I had no choice. But that way of working – finding ways of doing things as simply and economically as possible – still forms the basis of what I do today.'

Fast forward a few years, and Nicolas is now the head of his own successful practice, working out of an award-winning building in the Bedfordshire countryside. But just as in his student days, he insists that there's never been a grand plan. 'I wanted more space and couldn't find it in London. Then this barn conversion came up. I had no money to kit it out so I quit my job at ORMS to spend a year doing it myself,' he explains. 'The project attracted so much attention that I started to think I might be able to pitch for work in my own right. A year later I had one employee; another year later I had four. Eighteen months ago, we decided to build the studio.'

The new studio proved the perfect opportunity for Nicolas to put all his ideas about architecture into practice. 'The planners wanted us to create a replica of the barn,' he says, 'but we set out to show that we could create something that was visually harmonious and appropriate to the rural setting without resorting to pastiche.' With its natural materials and big windows, the studio already looks like part of the landscape. What's more, the planners love it. 'The studio is a showcase for what we do,' says Nicolas, 'and it's already helped us to secure new contracts.'

## A long-term view

So what does the future hold? 'The studio signals our long term commitment to this place, and this way of working,' says Nicolas. 'I don't want us to get too big. I've definitely got a bit of a hippy ethos. When my father was in Denmark with Arne Jacobsen they worked out of a beach hut. I don't see why we can't bring a bit of that magic to a field in Bedfordshire. We've got a vegetable garden here – we've even got a mini-golf range! I want this to be a stimulating environment, a place that's about creativity rather than the bottom line.'

Nicolas is also keen to learn more about how buildings can promote physical health as well as encouraging creativity. 'For me the next step for architecture is finding ways to create healthy environments. In the studio, we've got filters to give us wonderful air quality and we've used non-toxic paints that allow the building to breathe. It really is about taking a long-term view. And in the long term, I want to make buildings that are healthy in every way – spiritually, environmentally and physically.'

## An award-winning workplace

The Long Barn Studio won the 2009 *Design Week* award for workplace design. 'The Studio...pushes the boundaries of a work environment,' commented judges. 'The philosophy centres on design that is generated by the needs of people and the environment.' The Studio also won a 2009 RIBA award and was shortlisted for the Stephen Lawrence Prize. 'We were delighted to be nominated,' says Nicolas. 'For our first commercial building, it's a real achievement.'



Building the future: LSBU's new architecture

stars



Internal shot: Structural support system used on site in Iraq.



Rear Elevation: Hotel scheme over looking historical graveyard.

'We have an obligation to put our skills to good use'

For RIBA Silver Medal winner Selvei Al-Assadi, becoming a successful architect is an opportunity to give something back to the community

It's fitting, then, that Selvei's award-winning final year project should focus on engaging people and giving them a voice. Selvei conceived Media City: Vertical Discovery as a critique of our celebrity-obsessed media and a means of reclaiming London's West End for the public, transforming busy hubs such as Leicester Square into a centre for discussion and debate by providing hi-tech facilities where people can generate their own news and views.

Learning experience

'The project is still very close to my heart,' she says. 'Being recognised by the RIBA judges was a bonus but for me the most important thing was being able to work on something so intensely and to have the support of my amazing tutors, in particular my mentor Lilly Kudic. It was that experience that inspired me to return to LSBU after finishing my postgraduate diploma and spend time tutoring other students. I wanted to help give them the kind of learning experience I'd had myself. In the process I've learned a huge amount too.'

Selvei has spent the summer in her home town of Erbil in Kurdistan, braving the 50°-plus heat to help her father, a civil engineer, who is currently developing a hotel and shopping centre. 'It's been very interesting to see how differently architects work in Kurdistan,' she says. 'They don't make as much use of technology, nor do they build models during the design process. It can be difficult for people to travel so there's a lack of awareness of what's going on in the world of architecture.'

Positive energy

Nevertheless, change has been slow but steady since Selvei's last visit to Kurdistan. 'A few years ago, there was no development,' she says. 'Now I think people are feeling more optimistic. Liebeskind is planning to build a museum here in Erbil, which is a very ancient city, and there's a huge amount of positive energy.' So, is the time right for Selvei to make the move back to Kurdistan and develop her career there?

'I'm very proud of Kurdistan,' she says. 'And I feel I owe my country of birth a debt of gratitude. Those of us who've had the privilege of studying abroad have an obligation to take back the skills we've learned and put them to good use.' At the same time, she enjoys the freedom and independence London offers and believes that her greatest strength may lie in her ability to bridge the two cultures. 'To develop sustainably, in a way that enables people to build their lives, to work and learn, Kurdistan needs an international perspective,' she explains. 'That's something I feel I can bring. Perhaps in future there'll be links between LSBU and a university in Iraq. Why not? We have so much to learn from each other.'

Ones to watch

**Rolland Velho graduated from LSBU's class of 2010 with flying colours, gaining a distinction and the prize for best project from the South London Society of Architects**

**Tell us about your prize-winning project...**

'It was part of the Polyark II project which was originally set up in the 1970s by Cedric Price to encourage architecture students to work together. We swapped briefs with a team from Liverpool University. The project was to redevelop a backland at Edgehill on the main railway line into Liverpool. As a railway fanatic I thought it would be great to create a model railway club that would draw on the history of the site and provide a place of solace for train enthusiasts. They could even use it as a base for trainspotting, although I wouldn't go that far myself!

**What are you working on now?**

'I'm working for a practice called TPS, based in Croydon. We're working on two international airport projects in Rwanda – one is an expansion of the existing passenger terminal in Kigali, and the other is a completely new airport complex at Bugesera. Rwanda is an amazing country. The people are working so hard to forget the past and focus on the future.

**What's your biggest influence as an architect?**

'History. I love the way cities and places bear the marks of different eras, different ideas. Look at somewhere like Elephant and Castle – once, it must have been such an elegant part of London. But even the buildings we think of as ugly now are a representation of the way people once thought. For me, good design should draw on that legacy as well as looking to the future.'



A cross-section through the Edgehill club, a haven for railway enthusiasts

**2010 graduate Sonia Walley wants to reshape the urban landscape – and the more challenges that stand in her way, the happier she'll be**

**Tell us about your post-grad project...**

'I designed a Civil Registry for Births, Marriages and Deaths in Berlin as a series of interlocking pavilions. The idea was to bring together all those records for the first time, capturing vital information about people's lives in a place where they could also come to sit and reflect

and enjoy the building and the surrounding landscape.

**What kind of projects would you like to work on in future?**

'I like challenging urban sites and I'm particularly interested in interstitial spaces – that is, leftover land and the gaps between other buildings. I love having to work with so many restrictions – the lack of light, the proximity of neighbours, the shape of the site. I find it stimulates

my creativity more than having a blank canvas.

**How would you like people to react to your buildings?**

'I believe that architects have a huge responsibility. The design of the spaces we occupy has a profound effect on the quality of our lives. I would like the people that occupy my spaces to be happy, and to take pleasure in using them. Buildings should be functional, but they should also stimulate and inspire.'



Sonia Walley's design for a Civil Registry in Berlin provides a focal point for the city



# University challenge


London South Bank University has a rich and diverse history spanning over a century. See how much you know about your University and you could be one of four lucky readers to win a £25 Amazon vouchers. Answers must be sent to the LSBU Association by 30 September 2010.

1. In which year did the Borough Polytechnic Institute, which went on to become London South Bank University, first open?
2. Which famous fashion designer employed LSBU's Bakery School to recreate some of their iconic designs in bread?

a. Jean Paul Gaultier

b. Stella McCartney

c. Vivienne Westwood
3. What is the name of the building shown in the picture below, dressed to celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in June 1953?


4. LSBU teaches:

a. One in five nurses in London

b. Two in ten architects in London

c. One in ten engineers in London
5. Price Waterhouse Coopers has estimated the economic impact of LSBU's knowledge exchange activity on the Greater London economy at:

a. Over £42 million per year

b. Over £20 million per year

c. Over £75 million per year
6. LSBU's Dr David Cook helped design which innovative footwear?

a. 100% recycled shoes

b. 'No more blister' socks

c. Fitflops
7. Who is the current Vice Chancellor of LSBU?

8. How many students, to the nearest 500, are currently studying at LSBU?

a. 24,500

b. 10,000

c. 29,500
9. How many members belong to the LSBU Association?
10. Is LSBU London's third, fourth or sixth greenest university according to the People & Planet Green League table?

Send your answers to LSBU Association, London South Bank University, 103 Borough Road, London SE1 0AA or e-mail them to [alumni@lsbu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@lsbu.ac.uk).

Make sure you include your name and contact details, so we can send you your prize if you are one of the lucky winners.

## Major projects comes to

# fruition

The last twelve months have seen two major campus projects come to fruition. Both have benefited from substantial external financial support. The K2 building opened having been granted £6m by the NHS and a further £1.3 million from major trusts and foundations, including the Guy's and St Thomas' Charity and The Wolfson Foundation. The Centre for Efficient and Renewable Energy in Buildings was opened in June by Mayor of London Boris Johnson having received support of over £2.7 million from the London Development Agency and the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

In addition to major grants such as these, this year the University has again received over 1000 donations from our generous alumni. These valuable gifts have supported our students by contributing to scholarships and additional library facilities. The warmth and support these gifts demonstrate has also helped us attract funding from other donors.

Our donors will shortly be receiving their copies of our donor publication, With Our Thanks, which features articles about the projects they have funded and the Honour Roll of the names of all our donors. On behalf of our students, we are deeply grateful to them all.

Information about these funded projects and a copy of the LSBU 2009/10 Honour Roll are also available on the LSBU website.

### Could you spare £2 a month to support a talented student?

September sees the beginning of our 2010/11 student telephone calling programme. This year we will be asking alumni to make a small monthly gift by Direct Debit. Making a regular gift, however small, enables the University to use your donation in the most effective way. For example, it means we can offer scholarships and other support to students when it is really needed knowing that the funding will be available.

Monthly Direct Debits reduce the costs we incur when reminding those that have pledged but not yet made their gift. Setting up a Direct Debit also means that we do not need to call you again in the following years.

Direct Debits can be set up easily over the telephone simply by providing your bank details. Not only is this the most efficient way of making your gift, it is also one of the most secure. The Direct Debit Scheme is backed by the Direct Debit Guarantee which is offered by all banks and building societies that take part in the scheme. If an error is made by them or the University you are guaranteed a full and immediate refund from your bank; and you can cancel a Direct Debit easily and at anytime. If you have any questions about the Direct Debit Scheme, please ask our student callers when they call.

### Final call for matching funds

To encourage and reward donors for their generosity, the government offers two ways to maximise the value of your donation to the University. Gift Aid allows you and us to reclaim the income tax paid on your donation. The Gift Matching scheme awards the University an extra 50p for every £1 donated. Best of all, Gift Aid and Gift Matching used together can double or even treble the value of your gift.

Under the Gift Matching Scheme, LSBU can claim £1.35m between August 2008 and July 2011. Thanks to your support the University has already claimed matches worth nearly £550,000. With less than a year to go we have £800,000 left to claim. Please help us to make the most of this great opportunity. For more information about Gift Aid or the Gift Matching Scheme please contact Ullysses Tucker Jr. on 020 7815 6073 or [tuckeru@lsbu.ac.uk](mailto:tuckeru@lsbu.ac.uk).

### Get your gift to work right now by making it online

If you'd rather not wait for our call in the autumn, why not get your gift to work right now by making it online. You can make a gift at our secure online website by visiting: <https://payonline.lsbu.ac.uk/donations/>



# Class notes

We're always keen to find out what you've been up to since you graduated. Whether you've just started a new job, been promoted, got married, set up your own business or embarked on your travels, get in touch and let us know. Email your news and pictures to [alumni@lsbu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@lsbu.ac.uk) Thanks to everyone who's already sent in their news. Sorry we can't fit you all into this issue!

## 2000

**Juan Stoppa – MSc Business Information Technology, 2007**

I graduated in 2007 and started working for a small IT company. I changed jobs in 2008 to work for CIBER, an international system integration consultancy company.

## 1980

**Mariette Essex – BA (Hons) Modern Languages with International Studies, 1988**

I married another South Bank student, we graduated in 1988 got married and then had five daughters. Ages now are 19, 18, 12, 10 and 8...not a lot of spare time!

**Trevor Lane – Business Studies, 1984**

After graduating, I set off to travel the world with a fellow graduate (went through Africa for 10 months then on to Australia – all before sat nav and it being trendy to visit Africa!). Eventually landed a graduate job in 1986 with Scottish and Newcastle Breweries and stayed in the beer business until 2001. Then moved from selling booze to selling bikinis for Speedo International where I ended up running the European sales team. Feeling unfulfilled and keen to run my own business I left Speedo in September 2006 to set up my own sales training business. This was going great until early 2009 when no one wanted sales training anymore! Determined to stay independent I decided to investigate an idea I had to launch a unique product. This brings us up-to-date and the launch in May 2010 of the world's first Peelable P! Watch this space...

## 1970

**Graham Leonard – BA Architecture, 1978**

After graduating I spent several years moving around various architects' offices before setting up my own company in 1983 specialising in bar, restaurant and hotel new-build and refurbishment projects. In 1986 I took on a partner and we grew the company, Graham Leonard Associates Ltd, into a fairly large practice of 25 people with clients including most of the major players in the leisure industry. My partner retired in 2003 and I'm looking forward to the day when I can do the same although I've got a few years to go yet. I'm trying to get rid of the stress these days and have liquidated my company and now operate as a sole trader working for a small number of clients. That means I can work as and when I want, and not be at the beck and call of demanding clients.

**Charles Peter Marriott – Estate Management, 1978**

I am looking forward to retirement now. Is there anyone from my year out there?

**Jeanne Samuel – HND Applied Biology, 1976**

I have worked in many jobs since I returned home to Sri Lanka, including with UNHCR, Save the Children, Plan International and the Danish International Development Agency. I have gone on to do post-graduate studies in conflict resolution.

**Peter Jeffrey Ayre – Certificate in Municipal Administration, 1974**

I retired from Essex County Council in September 2008. I have established myself as an HR Consultant.

**John Martin Hussey – HNC Endorsement Ilium Engineering, 1974**

After qualifying as a lighting design engineer, I worked on several major London buildings before moving to Zambia where I worked as a project engineer preceding my return to UK in 1985. I started my own business as a financial adviser.

**Sarah Omulabake Shodeinde – HND Business Admin and Foreign Languages, 1974**

I joined the Nigerian Foreign Service in 1976. I travelled and served in Dakar and Paris before joining the United Nations in New York.

## 1960

**David Arthur Fox – Diploma, National College of Heating, Ventilating, Refrigeration and Fan Engineering, 1965**

I had an apprenticeship with Brightside then moved to another group and stayed until early retirement in 2003. I am now a share-holder in a small new startup company.

## 1950

**Terence John Wyatt – Diploma, National College of Heating, Ventilating, Refrigeration and Fan Engineering, 1955**

I'd very much like to hear from anyone who was also at the National College between 1950 and 1955.

## 1940

**George Anthony Walter Starling – HNC Intensive, 1942**

After leaving the college, I started as an engineering apprentice with London Transport.

# Good news

## for Association members

Did you know the LSBU Association has over 56,000 members, from all over the world? As a member of this community, you can enjoy a wide range of benefits

## News and views

Keep up-to-date with what's going on in the University and the LSBU Association with **Connected** and our regular e-newsletter.

## Employability and Careers Service

LSBU's Employability and Careers Service offers a full range of services designed to help you find the job you want, take your career to the next level or even start your own business. Find out more at [alumni.lsbu.ac.uk/benefits/careers.aspx](http://alumni.lsbu.ac.uk/benefits/careers.aspx) or [alumni.lsbu.ac.uk/benefits/business.aspx](http://alumni.lsbu.ac.uk/benefits/business.aspx)

## Start saving

You could make big savings, including £25 off membership of the LSBU Sports Centre, discounted rates on courses at The Language Learning Centre and savings on completing your European Computer Driving License. You could also take advantage of special offers on services ranging from car hire to hotels. Visit [alumni.lsbu.ac.uk/benefits/offers.aspx](http://alumni.lsbu.ac.uk/benefits/offers.aspx) to view all our current special offers.

## Keep in touch

There are lots of ways to stay in touch with the University and other alumni. You can browse the Classnotes pages on the website or in **Connected** or register for our online 'Find a Friend' service. This allows you to search our extensive database of alumni. To make sure your peers can get back in contact with you, you must mark your profile as 'searchable'. All messages are sent securely, and your contact details will not be made public. Find out more and register at <http://alumni.lsbu.ac.uk>

## Events and reunions

Each year, the LSBU Association organises a busy programme of events for alumni, ranging from reunions and networking events to focused opportunities for continuing professional development. The LSBU Association website includes an up to date list of events (see page 24). We can also help you organise your own reunion.

## Access all areas

Registering for an Access Card means you can use a broad range of services and University facilities, including the University's Library and Learning Resource Centre. Applying for a card is simple:

1. Register for online services at <http://alumni.lsbu.ac.uk>.
2. Once you've been accepted you will be sent a password
3. Log on to [alumni.lsbu.ac.uk](http://alumni.lsbu.ac.uk), using your e-mail address and password
4. Click "Apply for an Access Card"

As a LSBU Associate, you get special offers from a number of companies including:







and  
er 2010,



1970



1980



1990



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