



KEY FACTS

Institutional Highlights



UCLAN GRADUATES ADD ON AVERAGE

**£24
MILLION**



TO THE NORTH WEST ECONOMY
PER ANNUM THROUGH
INCREASED SKILLS AND
PRODUCTIVITY*



THE UNIVERSITY'S FIVE-YEAR £200 MILLION PRESTON CAMPUS MASTERPLAN INCLUDES:

£8 MILLION OF NEW STUDENT SPACES

£32 MILLION STATE-OF-THE-ART ENGINEERING INNOVATION CENTRE

£57 MILLION STUDENT CENTRE AND NEW SQUARE

Over 60% of our students graduate with a **First or 2:1** while 93.9% of our graduates enter employment or further study within six months of graduating.



UCLan contributed more than

£200m

to the North West economy*



One of the largest employers in Preston*



Caroline Watkins, Professor of Stroke Care was awarded a damehood in the 2017 New Year's Honours List while Lubaina Himid MBE, Professor of Contemporary Art, won the prestigious Turner Prize in 2017.

The University now enrolls students from more than 120 countries and has partnerships with 125 international institutions from Argentina to South Africa, to the Arctic Circle.



KEY NUMBERS

180,000 Alumni

250 Honorary Fellows

Over **100** Professors

3,000 Staff

31,000 Students



Over £1 million of University funding has enabled more than 1,000 students to undertake a work placement or study period overseas.

The University of Central Lancashire's roots go back to 1828 when it was founded as the 'Institution for the Diffusion of Knowledge' in Preston.



* In the latest Regeneris report

CONTENTS



FOREWORD
FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

4



INTRODUCTION
FROM PRO-CHANCELLOR
AND CHAIR OF THE
UNIVERSITY BOARD

8



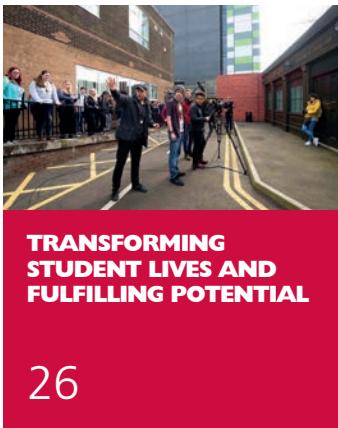
REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

10



**HARNESSING THE
TRANSFORMATIVE
POWER OF RESEARCH**

14



**TRANSFORMING
STUDENT LIVES AND
FULFILLING POTENTIAL**

26



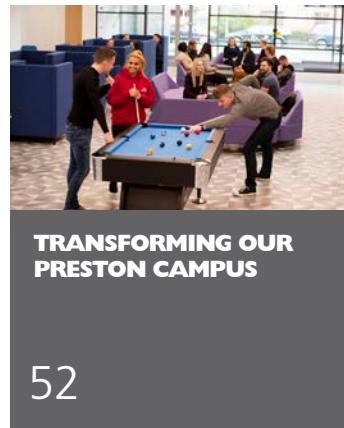
**BUILDING
TRANSFORMATIVE
PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS
THE GLOBE**

36



**COMMITTED TO
TRANSFORMATIVE
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

42



**TRANSFORMING OUR
PRESTON CAMPUS**

52



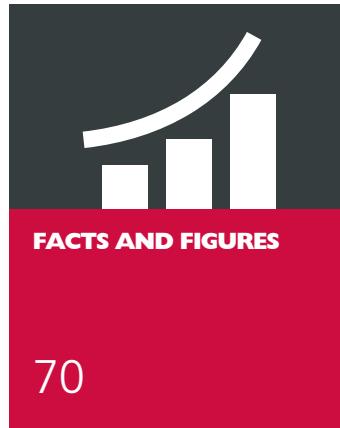
**THE TRANSFORMATIVE
POWER OF INNOVATION,
ENTERPRISE AND
KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE**

56



**GRADUATION AND
HONORARY AWARDS**

64



FACTS AND FIGURES

70



LOOKING AHEAD

75

FOREWORD

from the Vice-Chancellor

I am delighted to introduce the UCLan Review which charts a period of outstanding progress and points the way forward thanks to the efforts of all our staff, students, board, alumni, partners and friends both here in the UK and across the world.

As I write this opening statement, we are looking forward to a summer of celebrations as we mark our 190th anniversary from when our forerunner, the Institution for the Diffusion of Knowledge, was formed in 1828.

Our celebrations will focus on our past, our present and our future, and I am pleased to say that the University has the building blocks, both literally and figuratively, to ensure our continuing development and success for many years to come.

We keep a strong focus on supporting graduate employability through internships, work placements and volunteering opportunities – and this was highlighted in the latest Destination of Leavers Higher Education survey, which revealed 93.9 percent of our first degree full-time graduates were either in jobs or further study six months after leaving the University. It represents the best ever result achieved by the University since the information was first published in 2008/2009.

Meanwhile, The Guardian's University Guide for 2018 named us as one of the UK's most improved universities, having leaped 20 places to 67th position out of 121 universities. The Guardian's report, renowned for focusing on the aspects of the university experience that are deemed to be of greatest importance to

students, ranked eight of our subject areas in the top 20 nationally, compared with four in the previous year.

The University's School of Medicine also goes from strength-to-strength. From opening its doors in 2015 to a small number of self-funded and sponsored international students, 2017 saw it enrol its first cohort of UK students with an additional 15 UK-funded undergraduate medical places secured for September 2018.

We are also working closely with an NHS Trust partner to build a medical education sector and primary care clinic, where our students will experience hands-on learning by working alongside our partner health practitioners.

Providing an excellent student experience remains a core priority for the University and there are many examples of the progress we are making. In the Lancashire School of Business and Enterprise, our economics and accountancy programmes were ranked top in the UK, according to the 2017 National Student Survey, with a

Pictured: Four-year-olds Ursula and Alexander from the UCLan Pre-School with Vice-Chancellor Professor Mike Thomas, at the opening of the new Foster garden.





100 percent satisfaction rating. Within our Faculty of Culture and Creative Industries, new programmes such as our first two-year degree in continuing drama production, is winning industry plaudits – it's providing students with all of the creative and technical skills they need to produce, film, and edit a TV drama that will be broadcast on our local TV channel, That's Lancashire.

Within our Faculty of Science and Technology, the first research of its kind to explore the practical applications of graphene in the UK space industry is producing significant results that could help to shape how the rest of the space industry utilises graphene in the future.

So, the University is continuing on its upward trajectory, in spite of a challenging strategic outlook for the UK higher education sector in general. Paradoxically, this provides us with opportunities to drive new initiatives that deliver positive impact and outcomes.

I am pleased to say that our University community has really delivered in this area over the past 12 months. We've successfully demonstrated our important economic anchor role here in Lancashire, while delivering benefits to individuals, organisations and the community as a whole.

This year's Review reflects on a wide range of initiatives and achievements. But I'd just like to touch on one in particular, which is the outstanding effort made by teams of staff across the University that enabled 700 displaced medical students, from the hurricane-hit American University of the Caribbean (AUC), to continue their education at our University.

This took clear and decisive leadership, and adherence to all five of the UCLan values: common sense, compassion, teamwork, attention to detail and trust. It also required civic engagement with our partners, and real tenacity to make it happen.



Pictured: Doctors of the future, learning in state-of-the-art facilities within the UCLan School of Medicine.

Since AUC has been working with the University, much work has been done to develop the partnership going forward. From 2018/19, pre-clinical student exchanges will take place and we have agreed that we will teach a cohort of AUC students on a franchised basis while conversations are ongoing regarding potential research collaborations between the two institutions.

Indeed, we make it a priority that research outcomes feed into our curriculum development, ensuring students are learning from the very latest developments.

And who better to be learning from than Caroline Watkins, our Professor of Stroke Care who was awarded a damehood in the 2017 New Year's Honours List; and Lubaina Himid MBE, Professor of Contemporary Art, who won the prestigious 2017 Turner Prize. I could name many more but space prevents.

As our 2020 strategy reaches maturity, the time is right for us to consider the next stage of our development. We will engage all University stakeholders within this process to help provide us with a sense of what the future holds.

"So, the University is continuing on its upward trajectory, in spite of a challenging strategic outlook for the UK higher education sector in general. Paradoxically, this provides us with opportunities to drive new initiatives that deliver positive impact and outcomes."

Teaching used to be mainly based in classrooms, lecture rooms and laboratories, but now many students learn in work-based environments – whether real or simulated. Where individuals used to work alone in libraries, it is now common for students to work in teams solving real world problems. We differ from our contemporaries in the sector that we continue to develop and produce knowledge for, because instead of simply providing the knowledge to our students, we work with them to actually apply the knowledge.

Importantly at the University, we will remain fully committed to providing an academic experience that is internationalised for UK students. We will build on our offer of 26 language learning options and students will continue to benefit from our pioneering Travel Bursary Scheme. We will also consolidate the integration of our popular Study Abroad Exchange Programme, which allows international students to study here, and our students to experience life at overseas universities.

Closer to home, the sector changes now give us the opportunity to lobby for a new educational blueprint. We will be pushing for a systematic, radical plan of action covering the whole age spectrum – and one that recognises the changing patterns of work, the changes brought by automation, and the need for healthy work-life balances.

In essence, this means valuing skills input to education right from late primary school into the teenage years, giving people second chances in their 20s, with continuing opportunities to retrain, and develop new career pathways right through their lifespans.

Lifelong learning is all about progression and providing opportunities for our students to transform their lives, nurture their interests, seek out careers and be at the forefront of

shaping and defining the fields they enter as skilled graduates.

This University can and will do it. Our plans are underpinned by employer-engaged learning and teaching, high levels of external accreditation, extensive apprenticeship provision, modular/flexible options and enthusiastic, friendly and skilled colleagues.

We have an exciting future ahead and we have a great story to tell. I hope you enjoy reading about our latest successes and look forward to updating you again in the near future.



Professor Mike Thomas, Vice-Chancellor.



Pictured: American University of the Caribbean students arrive at UCLan.

INTRODUCTION

from Pro-Chancellor and Chair of the University Board



As Chair of the University Board, I am proud to witness so many examples of the University living up to its mission of enabling people, irrespective of their backgrounds, to fulfil their potential.

This year's Review once again gives a flavour of our work and the many ways that the University is influencing and transforming lives locally, nationally and internationally.

I was a Board Member when the institution transformed from being a Polytechnic to a University, and I have been a part of the UCLan family for many years. During that time I have seen it grow to a position within the top 3.3 percent of all universities worldwide. Our £200 million masterplan development aims to accelerate our progress, and by working with several Preston-based



Vision of the future: the new Student Centre and Civic Square.

suppliers we have pledged to keep our investment here in the city where we are now indirectly contributing nearly £300 million per annum to the local economy.

It is my strong belief that the University is entering a pivotal stage in its development. We will only maintain our continued progress if we continue to innovate in all aspects of our work, leading in the quality of education that we provide and the research that we undertake.

So while the landscape of the UK university sector is as tough as ever, I am optimistic that alongside challenges there are also opportunities on which we can capitalise. Our future success will be based on working closely with our old friends, while establishing new friends and new partners.

The University's role at the heart of the region's social and economic infrastructure, in driving forward the Northern Powerhouse, and the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire £430 million City Deal, will continue to accelerate employment opportunities.

Our soon-to-be-completed £32 million Engineering Innovation Centre is an excellent example of the University developing capacity in both teaching and research, in a discipline critical to Lancashire's aerospace and advanced manufacturing sectors.

In Burnley, the University aims to increase the number of students in the town from under 400 to 2,000 by 2021 and to 4,000 by 2025. We are working in collaboration with our strategic partners at Burnley Borough Council, the East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust and the Burnley Bondholders group of influential local business leaders to turn our vision into a reality.

Academic subject areas will reflect regional skills needs and include a range of business and professional disciplines, health and social care, and digital and technical provision as

well as degree apprenticeships blended with traditional degrees at both undergraduate and master's levels.

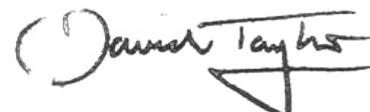
These developments are extremely exciting and there are many more planned. However, the challenge for the University Board is to ensure the University can shape and define its own future to achieve its strategic objectives.

Underpinning everything else is financial sustainability and the means to invest in our staff and students. The University must continue to grow and diversify its sources of income, while also ensuring it has a sustainable financial and academic structure with the capability to respond to whatever challenges are set before it.

What is striking in this year's Review, is that in a changing and challenging external environment, the University can point to so many stories of success both in the UK and internationally.

Today we enrol 4,000 students annually onto UCLan programmes overseas at our numerous partner institutions. This year's Review features our pioneering work in China, where we were the first university in the UK to develop partnerships more than 30 years ago. While at our branch campus in Pyla, Cyprus, we are now teaching more than 1,000 students and producing original academic research across a wide range of disciplines.

Alongside my University Board colleagues, we are extremely proud to play a supportive role in helping the University achieve its current success and we look forward with confidence to even greater levels of achievement in the years ahead.



David Taylor CBE, DL, Pro-Chancellor and Chair of the University Board



Pictured: Members of the University Board and Senior Executive Team pictured within the Academy of Skills and Knowledge facility at BAE Systems.

Front row L-R: Chief Operating Officer Michael Ahern, Students' Union President Sana Iqbal, Board staff member Jo Heaton, Board member Andrea Adams, Vice-Chancellor Professor Mike Thomas, Board member Janice Horrocks, Board member Lesley Lloyd, Pro-Chancellor and Chair of the University Board David Taylor, Board member Maria Darby-Walker, Board member Bill McQueen and Board staff member Dawne Gurbett.

Back Row L-R: University Secretary and Legal Officer Ian Fisher, co-opted Board member Ibrahim Adia, Board member Jim Edney, Board member Jon Hogan, Executive Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor Anne Roberts, Director of Finance Daniel Benham, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Dr Lynne Livesey and Executive Director of Human Resources Ken Lee.

REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

Ranvir Singh welcomed as new Chancellor

Ranvir Singh, the nationally acclaimed journalist and broadcaster, is inaugurated as the new Chancellor of the University at a special ceremony held at Preston Guild Hall. The Prestonian becomes the University's third Chancellor in the process, taking over the helm from Sir Richard Evans. The ceremony also marks the inauguration of Professor Mike Thomas as the University's fourth Vice-Chancellor after he completed his first full year in the role at the University.¹

UCLan joins University Alliance

The University joins University Alliance, becoming the mission group's newest member. It is made up of British universities working together to shape higher education and research policy for the benefit of students, businesses and civic partners. Professor John Latham, Chair of University Alliance, said: "The addition of UCLan, a University with a proud history, strong civic mission and a focus closely aligned to the needs of the economy, will help us as we continue to go from strength-to-strength."²

Services to Education award for careers advisor

Careers and graduate employability advisor, Monira Ahmed, beats off stiff competition to claim the prestigious Services to Education prize at the British Muslim Awards. Monira, who has worked in the sector for 20 years, said: "I was so honoured and very proud to have made the shortlist of 10 alongside some very high profile academics, so I didn't think I'd have a chance of winning it. Being a finalist was such an amazing achievement, so to be named the winner was wonderful."³

UCLan takes on the mannequin challenge

UCLan captures the many stages of student life through a special 'mannequin challenge' video. The viral trend swept around the world and UCLan is quick to pounce on the chance to get involved. The video follows a student's journey from arriving on campus for the first time, to day-to-day lectures and socialising, to stepping up to receive their scroll at graduation. The graduation clip is particularly successful as it attracts almost 80,000 views in less than 24 hours on the University's Facebook page.⁴

International approval for University

UCLan scores 91 percent satisfaction rating in the International Student Barometer survey, which is open to all students from outside the UK studying at participating institutions. The result places UCLan sixth amongst other top universities in the UK. It receives the highest ranking in the country for feedback in areas including 'fair and transparent assessment of work', 'explanation of marking criteria' and 'satisfaction with assignment.' UCLan also scores highly for 'course academic content' and 'quality of its lectures'.⁵

TV awards treble for UCLan

UCLan students collect three of the seven awards up for grabs at the North West Royal Television Society's annual Student Television Awards. Jake Blakeston wins the animation category, Ashley Collier the short feature prize, while the comedy and entertainment category winners are Yousef Thami, Liberty Shaw, Jake River Parker and Heather Davenport. UCLan students are also named as runners-up in three of the categories. The University has more nominated students listed than any other higher education institution in the region.⁶

Apprentice-style victory

Event management student, Joe Oakley, wins a national Apprentice-style competition to secure a job with an international events management company. The 20-year-old says: "It's an incredible feeling to have won and I'm not quite sure it's sunk in yet. It was an intense few days and I initially entered just to gain experience, so to win is amazing and great recognition of the hard work I've put into the last three years." The event is designed to find the best up and coming talent in the industry.⁷

Prisoner study prize

A study that shows gardening is improving mental health, and reducing aggressive behaviour in prisoners, wins a prestigious award. UCLan PhD student Flo Seymour claims the North West Coast Research and Innovation Award for her research. She says: "Early indications show the prisoners are calmer and have improved mental wellbeing; they are more open with each other and with staff; and there is a reduction in aggression. It also leads to qualifications, which helps job prospects when they are released."⁸

MP visit to science facilities

Chris Green MP visits the University as part of the Royal Society Pairing Scheme. The Bolton West MP learns about the scientific research taking place throughout UCLan and meets current physics, maths and computing students. He also has a tour of the University's Alston Observatory. He is paired with Dr Megan Argo and the scheme is intended to increase awareness of the work Parliament does, as well as for Parliament to gain an understanding of the work produced by scientists across the country.⁹



10



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16



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18

UCLan Cyprus signs innovative policing partnership

An innovative new partnership between UCLan Cyprus and the Sovereign Base Areas (SBA) Police Service is created. A Memorandum of Cooperation is signed between the two parties and the landmark agreement provides the framework for future collaboration in education, community and social engagement. There will be a specific focus on the delivery of continuous professional development programmes through specialised modules or seminars, and cooperation in the organisation of community and social engagement activities in Cyprus.¹⁰

Student named best coder in the country

Computer Games Development student, Kyle Hobdey, is named the best final year computer games programmer in the country. He competes against more than 400 coding students and claims the Search for a Star 2017 Code award for his Star Wrangler Arena game. He says: "To go from entering the competition just to gain experience, to then winning it, is just amazing. I surprised myself with this achievement and it will certainly be a memory that will stick with me forever."¹¹

Hollywood actor in town

Big name actor and director, Michael Sheen, and Labour Shadow Chancellor, John McDonnell MP, visit the University to discover more about the 'Preston Model', which is a programme to make Preston and the surrounding areas more self-sufficient. UCLan is a key local partner in the initiative and is working with Preston City Council to drive it forward, along with many others including Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Constabulary Cardinal Newman, Preston's College and Community Gateway.¹²

University is a high riser

UCLan sees a meteoric rise in The Guardian's 2018 University Guide. The University is the fifth highest national riser in the league table, ascending 20 places into 67th out of 121 UK universities. In addition, eight subject areas are named in the top 20, compared with four last year. The subjects are: dentistry; general engineering; social policy and administration; drama and dance; film production and photography; fashion; sports science; and anatomy and physiology.¹³

Blue plaque unveiled for football pioneers

The first blue plaque dedicated to women's football is unveiled in Preston to mark the centenary of the Dick, Kerr Ladies football team. The team went on to become the most successful women's football team in history and grandchildren of former founding players officially unveiled the historic plaque on the former Dick, Kerr & Co – now Alstom – factory building where the team originally formed. UCLan is a long-time supporter of this campaign and is committed to providing some funding for an additional bronze plaque.¹⁴

Legal Education Provider award for University

The Lancashire Law School win a highly commended prize at a prestigious industry awards ceremony. The School beat off stiff competition from a host of UK universities to receive the highly commended trophy for the Solicitors Journal Legal Education Provider of the Year. Jane Anthony, Head of the School, says: "I felt completely delighted, thrilled and incredibly proud when our name was read out. It was a great achievement to make the shortlist of five and so to receive the highly commended award is absolutely wonderful."¹⁵

3D digital model brings prehistoric landscape to life

An archaeologist plays a significant part in uncovering the secrets of Anglesey's past at Bryn Celi Ddu. Lecturer Dr Seren Griffiths is part of the research team that unveils an impressive 3D digital model of the Welsh landscape under archaeological investigation. The team has been digging on the site, known as one of the most evocative archaeological sites in Britain, for the past two years. The monument is constructed to protect, and pay respect to, the remains of ancestors.¹⁶

University celebrates its Turner Prize winner

Professor Lubaina Himid MBE is named the winner of the 2017 Turner Prize. The contemporary art professor is chosen over Hurvin Anderson, Andrea Buttner and Rosalind Nashashibi for the sought after honour, which is considered to be one of the most prestigious international visual arts awards. Judges praise Lubaina's Turner Prize nominated work 'for addressing pertinent questions of personal and political identity'.¹⁷

New hope in fight to rescue antibiotic of last resort

New research published in *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta* confirms a significant leap forward in the global fight against antibiotic resistance. Researchers from UCLan, the University of Nottingham and the Diamond Light Source, discovered that a specific protein, known as VanS, interacts directly with Vancomycin – one of the antibiotics of last resort. The findings offer new insight into the mechanisms involved in activating resistance genes in some of the most difficult to treat and deadly infections.¹⁸



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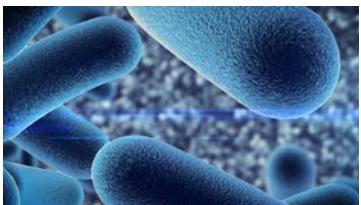
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Lancashire Science Festival wows thousands

The Preston Campus welcomes thousands of school pupils, teachers and members of the public for a free event inspiring youngsters to explore the fun of science, technology, engineering and maths. For its sixth year, the award-winning event showcases a variety of electrifying shows, fantastic workshops, exciting exhibits and fun hands-on activities that aim to inspire young people about the real-world applications of science. The three-day event, along with the 'Lates' and Fringe events, attract 17,000 people.¹⁹

The sky is the limit for observatory

Keen stargazers and local astronomy enthusiasts join UCLan staff to celebrate the grand reopening of the University's Moor Park Observatory on its 90th anniversary. Since closing its doors in 2000, and having undergone a £100,000 renovation, the observatory will allow community groups to discover the sky above Preston city centre. The reopening provides opportunities for students to get involved in future outreach events, and for the wider community to explore the night sky.²⁰

UCLan Cyprus signs landmark memorandum

UCLan Cyprus and the country's Ministry of Defence agree a landmark framework to collaborate on a wide range of exciting education, training and research programmes. A Memorandum of Cooperation is signed and the agreement enables the dissemination of continuous professional development programmes to members of the Cyprus Army and the Ministry, offering specialised modules or seminars to the Army's executives and soldiers.²¹

Nursing honour for lecturers

Nursing lecturers, Georgina Ritchie and Kathryn Smyth, are recognised for their commitment to the highest standards of care, learning and leadership in the profession after receiving the prestigious Queen's Nurse Award. The Queen's Nursing Institute honour is reserved for nurses working in a community setting who have demonstrated a high level of patient care and nursing practice. Georgina and Kathryn also work as community specialist practitioners alongside their teaching commitments.²²

Research review could impact paediatric healthcare

Dr Morris Gordon produces ground-breaking research that could pave the way for the use of probiotics to treat abdominal medical conditions in children. The Reader in Evidence Synthesis and Systematic Review produces a detailed analysis of published literature, and finds certain types of probiotics are effective in not only maintaining normal gut function, but also as a method of treating conditions. Dr Gordon's paper is selected for the World Congress of Gastroenterology Conference's Paediatric award.²³

International bronze medal for sporty scholar

Luigi Lerose claims international sporting glory for Italy as he wins a bronze medal in the sprint discipline of orienteering at the Deaflympics. The lecturer, who hails from Padua, has taught British Sign Language and deaf studies at the Preston Campus for three years. It is his fourth Deaflympics and he says: "I feel extremely happy to have come third as some of the people I was competing against are full-time athletes. It feels really good to see that all my hard work has paid off with a medal."²⁴

UCLan West Cumbrian medical school makes key appointment

UCLan's West Cumberland Medical Education Centre appoints Professor Gershon Davis to teach the next generation of medical students training in the region. As well as teaching a breadth of medical courses, the Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine will also work as a Consultant Cardiologist within the North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust. Gershon will be involved in collaborative research with the Preston Campus in areas of dental infection and heart valve disease.²⁵

Could seaside nostalgia improve our wellbeing?

UCLan researchers investigate the links between memories of the coast and positive emotional states, reflecting on the feeling of nostalgia at a place commonly associated with happy times, often in childhood. Tourism experts Dr David Jarratt and Dr Sean Gammon produce a research paper focusing predominantly on the North West seaside town of Morecambe. Dr Jarratt says: "We discovered that Morecambe, like many other British seaside resorts, attracts people for deeply nostalgic reasons that are tied up with a sense of family."²⁶

New Dean to lead Lancashire School of Business and Enterprise

The University appoints Professor Chris Pyke as Dean of the newly-formed Lancashire School of Business and Enterprise. Professor Pyke is an experienced business academic, with previous senior roles at Manchester Metropolitan University, the University of Chester and Liverpool John Moores University. The professionally qualified accountant is leading a School with more than 100 academics, which has been created by merging the School of Management and the School of Business.²⁷



28



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Exploring the hidden histories of mental healthcare

A thought-provoking day of events to explore the hidden histories of mental healthcare, through the lens of the former Whittingham Asylum, takes place. Heritage and medical humanities experts, mental health survivor groups and artists share their current research and creative responses to the archival heritage of the former mental health hospital, near Preston. Whittingham Lives, a two-year multi-faceted arts and heritage project, aims to provoke critical thinking and public debate about mental health in today's society.²⁸

UCLan receives share of £1.8 million to help reduce hate crime and online harassment

UCLan is awarded a share of £1.8 million from the Higher Education Funding Council England, enabling the University to coordinate a year-long programme in student engagement to better understand the issues relating to hate crime and online harassment. The project, in partnership with the Students' Union and Lancashire Police, will research barriers to increase confidence in reporting incidents, develop an understanding of cyber and digital harassment, and identify opportunities for social cohesion on campus.²⁹

Celebrating 40 years of fine art at UCLan

An exhibition marks the 40th anniversary of the fine art degree at the University. 'Recall' celebrates a selection of UCLan's pioneering fine art graduates and lecturers who were involved at the very beginning, including the first graduating cohort from 1977. In total, 27 of the artists who graduated between 1977 and 1981 show their work, including sculptor Andy Goldsworthy OBE who studied at what was then Preston Polytechnic until 1978. The curators are Theresa Taylor and Judith Trescatheric, who both graduated in the same year as Goldsworthy.³⁰

Formula Ford trophy win

Motorsports engineering students beat off competition from teams from around the world to win the Formula Ford Walter Hayes Trophy. The eight-strong team, who build and prepare the team's cars in their spare time as part of UCLan's motorsports club, defeat 23 teams to win the pre-1993 category prize at Silverstone. The win comes after the UCLan team was crowned the overall winner of the Pre 90 Avon Tyres Northern Formula Ford 1600 Championship.³¹

Covenant shows commitment to the armed forces

The University officially signs an armed services covenant to show commitment to those who have served in the Forces. It is a voluntary pledge that is written and publicised by businesses and charitable organisations who wish to demonstrate their support for the armed forces community. The covenant's twin underlying principles are that members of the armed forces community should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens, and that special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given the most, such as the injured or the bereaved.³²

Preston youngsters get sporty

More than 600 primary school children, from 24 schools around the city, take part in the Preston Primary Sports Hall Athletics competition. It is held in the Sir Tom Finney Sports Centre, and first year students from UCLan's School of Sport and Wellbeing help organise the event. Each school represents a different nation and the youngsters participate in events such as hurdles, javelin throwing and relay racing.³³

Professor aids biopharmaceutical medicines' research

Robert Forbes, Professor of Clinical Pharmaceutics, lends his expertise to a £1 million collaborative research project to improve the development of biopharmaceutical drugs. Funding is awarded by Innovate UK, and will be used to bring together leading organisations in biopharmaceutical manufacturing, science and technology. The three-year project will involve developing a new analytical capability, which will increase knowledge of why molecules in development as medicines or in existing prescription drugs aggregate.³⁴

International validation for architecture course

UCLan's BSc (Hons) Architecture Studies course is awarded full validation from the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). Run at the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education, it is delivered as a collaboration between the Vocational Training Council School for Higher and Professional Education, and UCLan. It is the third course to be recognised by RIBA in Hong Kong and provides a comprehensive overview of design, theory, history and building technology, in addition to conservation, sustainability and environmental issues.³⁵

Secretary of State opens multi-million facilities

The University welcomes Dr Liam Fox, the Secretary of State for International Trade to officially open the University's new £8.15 million Social Spaces.

Developed with the Students' Union, and as a direct result of student feedback, the Social Spaces will improve the campus experience and provide a place for students and staff to come together in a relaxed environment, while incorporating areas for break out activities and informal spaces for socialising.

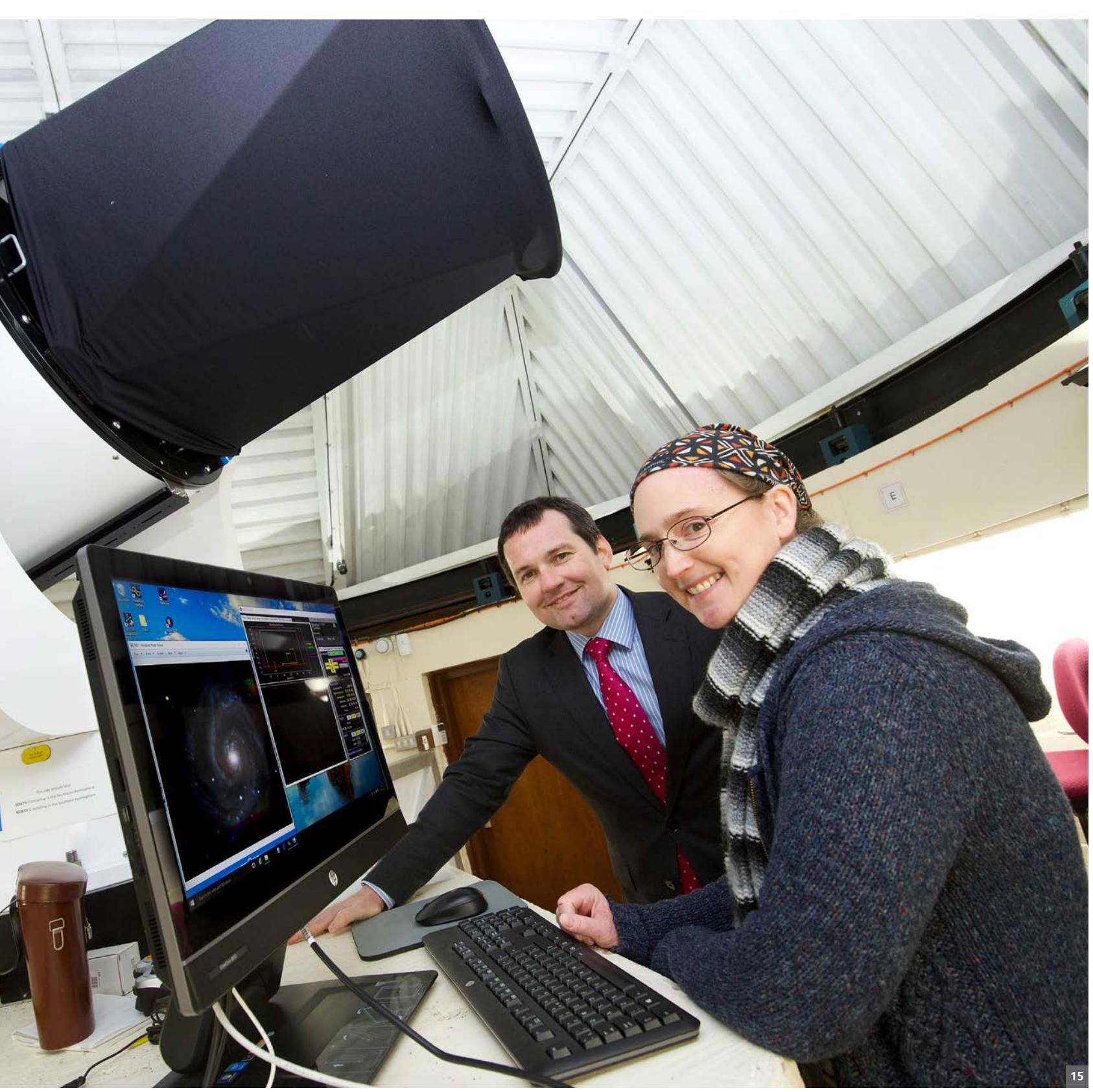
The official opening coincided with the first Board of Trade Exporting's event called the Great Ideas Hack. The Department for International Trade partnered with UCLan and Boost, the Lancashire business growth hub, to deliver the event.³⁶

HARNESSING THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF RESEARCH

Our research culture is ambitious, inclusive, supportive and we are committed to increasing the visibility, use and impact of our work. Above all, we aim to boost the quality, scope and capacity of our research activities: invigorating everything we do with genuine evidence-based claims to be world-class.

Pictured: Dr Megan Argo, from UCLan's Jeremiah Horrocks Institute for Mathematics, Physics and Astronomy with Chris Green MP, Bolton West at the UCLan observatory in Alston.





Breakthrough discovery for Alzheimer's detection



Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia and affects an estimated 850,000 people in the United Kingdom. It is a progressive condition, which affects multiple brain functions, and sufferers' symptoms develop gradually over time. In an ageing population, its incidence and prevalence is rising.

The symptoms, which include forgetting basic information, confusion, getting lost in familiar places, personality changes, having problems with speech and anxiety, can often reduce the sufferer to a shell of their former self.

Age is a major factor, with the risk of developing this incurable disease affecting an estimated 1 in 14 people over the age of 65, and 1 in every 6 people over the age of 80.

Currently, an Alzheimer's diagnosis involves a careful medical evaluation including a series of brain scans (eg. MRI), physical examinations and memory testing, yet the



Pictured above: Spots of blood serum on a slide prior to analysis using Raman spectroscopy, which generates a biomolecular fingerprint of the specimen. This spectral fingerprint can then be analysed to extract screening/diagnostic features of Alzheimer's disease.

Pictured left: Professor Francis Martin, Biosciences Theme Lead.

only conclusive diagnosis is determined by post-mortem examination. However, in 2017, UCLan researchers devised a novel and non-invasive way via a blood test to help diagnose Alzheimer's disease. Excitingly, this method is also found to discriminate Alzheimer's disease from other neurodegenerative pathologies such as Parkinson's disease and Dementia with Lewy Bodies.

In the largest and most conclusive study of its kind, the academics and collaborating partners analysed blood samples to help diagnose the disease, and to distinguish between the different types of neurodegenerative disorders.

Following this breakthrough discovery, Alzheimer's sufferers may now have an additional test to improve the accuracy of diagnosis in order to tailor the appropriate treatment. The research also offers a valuable opportunity to monitor the disease.

The study, published in the prestigious Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA journal, used sensor-based technology with a diamond core to analyse approximately 550 blood samples. By passing light through the diamond and observing its interactions with the blood plasma, researchers were able to identify specific chemical bonds within the blood. This biochemical data was then used to assess whether the samples were normal or contained any trace of a neurodegenerative disease, and if so, which kind.

This new blood test offers a non-invasive, more accurate and relatively cost-effective method of diagnosis, which will ensure the correct management of the condition.

Professor Francis Martin, Principal Investigator of the study, and Biosciences Theme Lead at the University, said: "We have an ageing population, meaning that the incidence and prevalence of Alzheimer's is increasing, as is

the need for accurate diagnosis. The ability to identify different neurodegenerative diseases through the analysis of blood offers a faster and accurate way of establishing the most effective treatment plan as well as disease monitoring."

This new approach could also offer potential for carrying out tests to identify and monitor early signs of mild cognitive impairment. It means the onset of Alzheimer's and other types of neurodegenerative diseases could be detected early and intervention measures could be put in place earlier to slow the progress of these diseases.

Professor Martin added: "For those suffering with Alzheimer's disease, the damage is already well advanced once conventionally diagnosed, but this new method offers a potentially effective early screening tool when patients are only demonstrating signs of mild cognitive impairment. This is a potentially significant breakthrough for the prevention of different debilitating and chronic neurological diseases."

The ground-breaking scientific investigation was carried out by researchers in Preston, in collaboration with the University of Manchester, Lancaster University and the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil.

"We have an ageing population, meaning that the incidence and prevalence of Alzheimer's is increasing, as is the need for accurate diagnosis."

Professor Francis Martin

Turner Prize spotlight shines on Preston artist

International acclaim for University professor who has pioneered the British black arts movement

The Turner Prize is revered as one of the most prestigious art prizes around the world with many winners going on to receive international acclaim. When UCLan's Professor of Contemporary Art, Lubaina Himid MBE, won in 2017 it brought into the spotlight some of the many issues she has been championing for decades; colonial history, racism and institutional invisibility.

Born in Zanzibar and once described by the Daily Telegraph as "the under-appreciated hero of black British art", Lubaina has worked in Preston and at the University since 1990. She was known as one of the pioneers of the British black arts movement in the 1980s and has spent her 35-year career shining a light on the trade in enslaved people and the contribution made by the people of the Black Diaspora.

The UCLan professor and PhD student supervisor was shortlisted for the award for her solo exhibitions in Oxford, which brought together a wide range of her paintings, sculptures, ceramics from the 1980s to the present day; in Bristol, which highlighted 100 colourful figures of 17th century African slave servants brought to Europe; and for her participation in a group exhibition in Nottingham.



The jury praised these exhibitions for addressing pertinent questions of personal and political identity. Lubaina has consistently foregrounded the contribution of African diaspora to Western culture. Working across painting, installation, drawing and printmaking, and bringing both old and new work together, her work is visually arresting and critical.

"I am a political strategist who uses a visual language to encourage conversation, argument and change," Lubaina said in an interview following her win.

She added: "I'm making a space where other black audiences can feel at home, where they can look at these cut outs and think that looks a bit like my auntie, or that's kind of got the demeanour I've got, or it's like being home and being amongst people you know. It's making a space in an art gallery where you are not the only person of colour.

"I need to do it because there are stories that need to be told, there are stories that aren't being told, there are gaps in history that are not being filled and there are gaps in education that aren't being served by the system we live in. I only know how to paint. So rather than being a politician or a historian, that's what I do."

When Lubaina won the coveted title, she made Turner Prize history by not only becoming the oldest person to ever receive the award, but by also being the first black

"I am a political strategist who uses a visual language to encourage conversation, argument and change."

Professor Lubaina Himid MBE

woman to do so. A rule change in 2016 opened up the Turner Prize to artists over the age of 50, creating a shortlist of contenders able to draw on life experience while acknowledging that artists are never too old to "experience a breakthrough in their work."

Lubaina's work has been well respected by her contemporaries for decades, and on the night she won, the artist thanked the people who gave her sustenance during her "wilderness years" – acknowledging that she was never overlooked by curators or other artists. "Art historians didn't overlook it, the curators didn't overlook it, other artists didn't overlook it, my university didn't overlook it, the press overlooked it" she said.

2017 proved to be a particularly successful year for Lubaina, she was also named Artist of the Year by Apollo Magazine, and her two successful solo exhibitions at Modern Art Oxford and Spike Island in Bristol were well received by critics. She was chosen over Hurvin Anderson, Andrea Buttner and Rosalind Nashashibi for the sought after Turner Prize when the winner was announced in Hull Cathedral in December, following a three-month exhibition at the Ferens Art Gallery in the city.

Winning the prize meant a lot to her. Lubaina added: "It's great to win, especially as so many people in Preston were rooting for me. It will make a huge difference to my profile and give a platform to the issues I want to champion."

The Head of the School of Art, Design and Fashion Maria Murray congratulated Lubaina. She said: "We are incredibly proud of Lubaina's achievement on what is arguably one of the art world's biggest stages. Simply being nominated for this globally recognised award is a tremendous feat but to win it is amazing. Lubaina has worked hard throughout her career to share stories relating to African Diaspora and the slave industry that otherwise may never be told. She is a great inspiration to our students who have followed her Turner Prize journey with excitement, and they benefit immensely from her creativity and experience."

UCLan Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mike Thomas, echoed Maria's sentiments: "Lubaina has really put the University on the art world map," he said. "We've always known that Preston and UCLan has a strong artistic community but this recognition has brought it to a national stage. It is a magnificent achievement."



Pictured (above): Professor Lubaina Himid MBE and (right) art critics view Professor's Himid's Turner Prize exhibition for the first time.

Researchers uncover toxic truth behind Grenfell

London's Grenfell Tower is the stark reminder of the utter devastation fire can cause. When the 24-storey residential tower block was engulfed in flames in June 2017, 71 people lost their lives, more than 70 were injured and hundreds were left without homes or possessions. During the aftermath, two UCLan academics became the national media's fire experts who spoke out about the dangers of toxic materials and gases.

In addition to their numerous broadcast and print appearances, 2017 saw these fire professors present new findings to the British and European Parliaments and release breakthrough research.

Professor Anna Stec unveiled new findings to the European Parliament in October to highlight the major cancer risk for firefighters. At a staggering 60 percent, cancer is the leading cause of death amongst line-of-duty firefighters and Professor Stec hopes her work could lead to the recognition of cancer as an occupational health issue for firefighters.

The Professor of Fire Toxicity joined with MEP Pavel Poc – who has been leading the call for legislative change in this area – for a round table discussion at the European Parliament's Members Against Cancer Group to debate all the issues and explore solutions.

She explained: "Firefighters are exposed during the fire, after the fire, in both the short and long-term. Multiple exposure to different carcinogenic substances and multiple routes of exposure, through inhalation and through skin absorption, are increasing their risk of getting more than one type of cancer."

Professor Stec's study on firefighters and their work environment in the UK, showing dangerous levels of exposure to carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, has recently been published in *Nature Scientific Reports*.

The proportion of cancer deaths in firefighters has been growing steadily from the 1970s to the present day; a rise which has coincided with an increase in synthetics and plastics used in homes and buildings. She added: "Testing and labelling the smoke toxicity of construction products is a first step in having safer, healthier firefighters. The EU needs to admit there is a problem and act to regulate smoke toxicity. I am hopeful that my research, and the research of those feeding into the European Parliament's round table discussions, will be influential in that outcome."

Professor Richard Hull led a project that revealed flame retardants used in domestic furniture increase the amount of toxic chemicals produced when it burns, increasing the likelihood of death following the outbreak of a fire. The research assessed the flammability of furniture manufactured with and without chemical flame retardants. It showed that chemicals, added during the manufacturing process in order to comply with strict UK fire safety regulations, cause smoke to become up to three times more poisonous.

Inhalation of toxic gases in smoke is the primary cause of death from fire in the UK. Bromine, a chemical element often used in flame retardants by furniture manufacturers, increases the amount of the two key toxicants, carbon monoxide and hydrogen cyanide, when furniture burns.

Professor Hull and his collaborative researchers also discovered that flame retardants resulted in only a slight delay to the ignition of furniture, with UK standard furniture blazing within just five to eight minutes. Furniture made specifically to pass UK flammability tests using higher quality materials but without flame retardants took 15 to 20 minutes before the first flames appeared, a noticeably longer delay than when using the chemical retardant.

The UCLan Professor of Chemistry and Fire Science said: "The gases produced when furniture containing flame retardants burn are highly toxic, yet there are currently no requirements to assess the toxicity of smoke from burning furniture. This means there is no incentive for manufacturers to limit the toxicity of the smoke from their furniture.

"We have very strict flammability tests in the UK, but these simply measure the ignitability. What this does is encourage manufacturers to produce furniture with large amounts of flame retardants as the cheapest way of passing the test. This, ultimately, creates the opposite of the desired effect, and actually makes furniture deadlier in the case of a fire."

The study, published in *Chemosphere*, was carried out by the University in collaboration with Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, West Midlands Fire Service, and The University of Canterbury in New Zealand.



Green shoots of zinc research to address hidden hunger

Around the world, an incredible 155 million children are chronically undernourished, despite dramatic improvements in recent decades. Alongside more widespread food shortages caused by war, drought or crop failure, there is another type of world hunger that can be equally as devastating: hidden hunger. Scientifically known as micronutrient deficiencies, it occurs when there is a lack of essential vitamins and minerals in a person's diet.

This condition affects more than two billion people globally, and can contribute to stunted growth, poor cognitive development, increased risk of infections, and complications during pregnancy and childbirth. Examples of these deficiencies include iron, zinc and vitamin

A, which are identified as the three most prevalent micronutrient deficiencies globally.

Last year, UCLan began a two-year collaborative study to tackle zinc deficiency in some of the poorest areas of the world.

According to the World Health Organisation, dietary zinc deficiency is a global problem affecting 17 percent of the world's population, with the greatest burden in developing countries. Working with the University of Nottingham and Khyber



Medical University in Pakistan, UCLan's Professor of Nutritional Studies, Nicola Lowe, is leading a study to investigate whether a newly developed strain of biofortified wheat, produced by HarvestPlus, could increase dietary zinc intake in Pakistan – a country in which more than 40 percent of women and children are zinc deficient.

The study focuses on 50 families in a North West Pakistan rural community who will spend eight weeks eating the new strain of wheat grain grown in zinc rich fertilizer, compared to standard grain, to assess whether it increases zinc content in the body.

Professor Lowe said: "The consequences of zinc deficiency are profound and far reaching. In addition to the physical effects, it also has a negative economic impact on the family, the community and the region.

"Through a collaboration with a Pakistan-based fertilizer company, we are examining the impact of fertilization methods and soil conditions on the wheat zinc content by adding zinc rich fertilizer to the soil and

foliage during the growing season in regions of Pakistan with contrasting soil zinc levels. The grain grown in UCLan's study will be analysed to measure the zinc content, and also the location of the zinc within the individual grains, by plant physiologists at the University of Nottingham.

"Various strategies to overcome zinc deficiency have already been attempted, but it is difficult to achieve when looking at large populations. Dietary zinc supplements are expensive and do not always reach the most vulnerable groups who may live in remote or difficult to reach locations due to poor infrastructure or security problems. In contrast, biofortification of staple foods, essentially breeding crops to increase their nutritional value, has potential as a sustainable means of increasing population dietary zinc intake."

The team, supported by a local non-governmental organisation, the Abaseen Foundation will monitor the participants by testing hair samples and blood plasma, as well as exploring new techniques to evaluate zinc levels – including a device that measures the

recovery of vision when going from daylight to darkness. They will also look at how culturally acceptable biofortification is within Pakistan. The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) has granted the research team £300,000 for the project.

Professor Lowe added: "This is a two-way process by which expertise is shared among the project partners, so that young researchers in Pakistan and in the UK are better equipped to take this important research agenda forward into the future. The findings of this research will be shared with researchers and policy makers worldwide.

"Of course, biofortification is a partial solution, which must go hand-in-hand with efforts to reduce poverty, food insecurity, disease, poor sanitation, social and gender inequality. But it has the potential to contribute to the eradication of hidden hunger, and the UN's aim to end all forms of hunger and malnutrition by 2030."

Pictured: Professor Nicola Lowe (eighth from right), with project colleagues in North West Pakistan.



Stroke study settles debate

Every two seconds, someone in the world has a stroke. The brain attack, which happens when the blood supply to part of the brain is cut off and kills brain cells, is the fourth biggest killer in the United Kingdom.

In recent years, studies had indicated the way the body is positioned after a stroke makes a difference to a patient's recovery, and lying flat may increase blood flow in the main arteries to the brain, but there were fears it may raise the risks of pneumonia.

But in 2017, University academics were involved in the largest global randomised nursing care trial, which revealed that sitting up or lying flat in the first 24 hours after a stroke makes no difference to recovery.

An international team of researchers from the UK, Australia, China, Taiwan, India, Sri Lanka, Chile, Brazil and Colombia carried out the study, while UCLan's Lancashire Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) acted as the UK's regional coordinating centre for the study.

Denise Forshaw, UCLan's CTU's Principal Clinical Trials Manager, and her team were responsible for recruiting, managing and ascertaining the outcomes of more than 4,000 patients across 41 hospital sites in the UK.

The global study, involving more than 11,000 patients from 114 hospitals, was led by The George Institute for Global Health in Australia, and was funded by their National Health Medical Research Council. Patients were either assigned to lie flat or with their head raised at least 30 degrees during the first 24 hours after being admitted to hospital for a stroke. They were then assessed 90 days later.

UCLan's Professor Dame Caroline Watkins, Faculty Director of Research and Innovation, was heavily involved with the research project. Caroline, who collected her damehood from Buckingham Palace in March 2017, said: "It's important that we understand the implications of variations in care so that we can identify and share best practice across the world. This is the biggest study of its kind and proves that this model works, paving the way for future large-scale investigations into nursing care in all areas."

Published in the New England Journal of Medicine, the study set out to discover if the head position of people with the most common form of stroke – acute ischaemic, caused by blockages that cut off the blood supply to parts of the brain – reduced the chances of death or disability.

However, the team found that head position after a stroke does not affect recovery, mortality or how a patient feels over and above nursing care, and there is no significant harm associated with either lying flat or sitting up.

Professor Watkins, who is the only nursing stroke care professor in the UK, added: "We know that the first 24 hours of care post-stroke is crucial to recovery, so it was vital to find out if sitting up or lying down flat could make any difference. Many stroke specialists believe that the way the body is positioned after stroke makes a difference to their

patient's recovery. But there was really no conclusive evidence to back this up."

The study has sparked ideas for further joint research as variations in routine clinical practice across various hospital sites have been discovered. Having worked collaboratively on the Australian-led HeadPost study with specialist centres in India, the team of UCLan researchers have now gained £2 million in external funding.

Along with experts from the UK, India and Australia, they will deliver a National Institute for Health-funded, Global Health Research Group for Improving Stroke Care in India at UCLan. This will be a founder project for UCLan's new LIFE institute (Lancashire Research Institute for Global Health and Wellbeing) which will receive almost £1 million in set-up funding over the next three years to promote further world-class, globally relevant research.

"It's important that we understand the implications of variations in care so that we can identify and share best practice across the world."

Professor Dame Caroline Watkins



TRANSFORMING STUDENT LIVES AND FULFILLING POTENTIAL

We are dynamic in our approach to ensuring our courses and qualifications continue to reflect the changing needs of employers and market demands.

"This is an exciting and innovative course that focuses on creating the next generation of producers, directors, sounds engineers, editors, writers and camera operators, giving them the practical skills and training they need to standout in a very competitive industry."

Actor and UCLan Honorary Fellow John Thomson describes UCLan's new BA (Hons) Continuing Drama Production

Live on set. UCLan's new BA (Hons) Continuing Drama Production is designed to tackle skills gaps in television production.

It is the University's first fast-track degree with students studying for 12 months of the year so they complete the course in two years instead of three.





Students hit the high notes

Attending the theatre to be entertained by an engaging and toe-tapping musical is high on the list of many people's favourite pastimes. The popularity of the genre is growing year-on-year with nearly 28 million people stepping through the doors of West End and Broadway theatres in the past year. Performers appear on the stage with aplomb, while the behind the scenes teams are recognised for their relentless dedication to the art.

In November, a selection of these major performers and top-level production crew left the bright lights of London and New York behind to spend a week in Preston with undergraduates to create an amazing Musical in a Week for charity.

Over five days, 40 third-year music theatre and media production students worked with actors, writers and directors to produce an upbeat 45-minute friendship and inclusivity-themed musical, called ExtraOrdinary, for BBC Children in Need.

It attracted national attention when BBC Breakfast broadcast live from the campus; it hit North West screens during the charity's regional coverage; and the final performance was played to a packed-out audience.

With expert help from a team of professional musical theatre creatives, the students developed a script, wrote lyrics, rehearsed and performed – all within the very tight schedule.

"We've been doing at least 12-hour days, but it's been great because we've learned so much and the hints and tips we've picked up throughout the week have really helped with our performance."

Rachel Gerring, a third-year music theatre student, played one of the leading roles. She said: "It's been an incredible experience and one we'll never forget."

Fellow performer James Desmond added: "We've been doing at least 12-hour days, but it's been great because we've learned so much and the hints and tips we've picked up throughout the week have really helped with our performance."

During the week, actress Claire Sweeney, new UCLan Honorary Fellow and Cold Feet star John Thomson, and two-time Olivier Award nominated actor Michael Xavier, offered their advice at specialist masterclasses.

Claire commented: "It's such a pleasure for me to have had the opportunity to answer questions and pass on my experience to the students. The University of Central Lancashire is doing really great things and bringing in great people. When it comes to musical theatre, this University is really at the top of its game."

Michael added: "It's been lovely to have been involved in this project. To have the skills to create this musical in five days is really exciting and the students have looked like industry-level performers."

John Thomson brought many laughs to the theatre as he watched rehearsals and offered suggestions to the performers. He said:

"I received my Honorary Fellowship from the University recently and I was delighted to be able to give something back. If I helped by telling students about my experiences of dealing with nerves and channeling their adrenaline into the performance then I'm happy."

Pip Minnithorpe, currently the Resident Director of Harry Potter and the Cursed Child playing in the West End; Ruth Bratt, co-creator of the Olivier winning Showstopper – The Improvised Musical; and Debbie O'Brien, who has cast numerous productions in the West End, were on hand to offer their advice to the students.

Mark Goggins, Course Leader of Music Theatre added: "It's been a fantastically intense experience and has given them a real insight into the breadth of roles available in the industry. To have worked with such top people is a massive boost for them and can only make them better performers."

The initiative was part of an innovative University partnership with Perfect Pitch, an Arts Council funded organisation that creates contemporary new musicals.

Andy Barnes, Executive Producer of Perfect Pitch, said: "The week was an absolute success. The work put in by everyone to pull not only the show together, but all the elements that go unseen in the background too. From the team at UCLan, the creatives, celebrities, administrators and of course the students, the whole project was the true definition of a partnership."

To help raise funds for Children in Need, the musical will soon be available free of charge to schools and colleges to encourage them to put on their own performance to raise money for the charity.

"The University of Central Lancashire is doing really great things and bringing in great people. When it comes to musical theatre, this University is really at the top of its game."

Claire Sweeney, actress and singer



Pictured: Music theatre and media production students working on their inclusivity-themed musical, called ExtraOrdinary.

Focus on degree apprenticeships gathers pace

The University is at the heart of an educational revolution that redefines educational pathways, supports employer needs and creates work-ready graduates

Over the past decade, automated intelligence, skills shortages, economic uncertainty and the cost of university education have created the perfect environment for degree apprenticeships to thrive.

Launched by the Government in 2015, with a target of three million apprentices in the workplace by 2020, the initiative is widely considered to be a direct career pathway for those entering many sought after professions. The apprenticeship combines studying for a high-quality degree, with the acquisition of key vocational skills, all while earning a salary from day one with tuition fees covered by the employer and Government.

As Lancashire's largest provider of graduate level qualifications, the University has one percent of all the county's residents enrolled on courses at any given time. In 2017 UCLan launched an ambitious strategy to create its own degree apprenticeship blueprint to help realise the Government's national vision.

UCLan's plans build on its experience of offering flexible modes of delivery that integrate off-the-job learning and on-the-job training. Currently there are more than 3,500 UCLan students sponsored by employers, and the University is engaged with all of

these businesses through a dedicated central business development team. This team of experts meet individual clients to assess training needs, identify ways to maximise their use of the apprentice levy and, crucially, create tailored programmes with the right balance of development, on the job experience, practical skills, knowledge, professional accreditation and academic qualifications.

Currently, course provision covers a wide range of areas, including healthcare, digital, policing, construction, engineering, professional services and management. The range of programme options is now expanding rapidly.

Dr Lynne Livesey, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), said: "Universities like ourselves are thinking strategically about how apprentices fit in with traditional student pathways and how staff can evolve their roles to best support this new type of learner, and to engage meaningfully with their employers.

"For instance, exam results are not the only way to judge potential: assessment days, interviews and group exercises can enable institutions offering degree apprenticeships to gain a more holistic and fair perspective on applicants' potential."

Integral to the University's apprenticeship strategy has been the acquisition of Blackburn-based educational charity, Training 2000 Limited, one of the largest Group Training Associations in the UK.

This new strategic alliance will position UCLan as the largest provider of degree apprenticeships in the region and is designed to broaden the University's portfolio and appeal, meet its commitment to widening participation and strengthen its position as the leading provider of the region's skills and employment needs.

Dr Livesey added: "It has always been a crucial part of the University's DNA to create work-ready graduates, and our investment in Training 2000's expertise will accelerate our apprenticeships development programme among a huge range of employers eager to upskill and enhance their workforce – and grow their businesses.

"Degree apprenticeships also offer a route into university education for those who feel that a traditional degree route is unaffordable. Improving social mobility and 'growing our own people' to fill possible post-Brexit skills shortages is a critical part of our access to higher education offering."



Apprenticeships combine the study of a high-quality degree, with the acquisition of key vocational skills.

Partners in crime prevention

Alliance between the University and Lancashire Constabulary enables students to work in an operational forensic science and policing environment

Forensic science plays a crucial role in policing, to ensure justice is done by not only identifying criminals, but also swiftly eliminating people from an enquiry. It's a key service that in recent years has seen its resources restricted across the country's police forces.

In 2017, UCLan teamed up with Lancashire Constabulary to address this national issue in a new and innovative way by creating the Lancashire Forensic Science Academy. It is the first collaboration of its kind within policing and forensic science to be based within a police force.

The Academy is a centre of excellence; combining best practice and experience in academia with that in operational forensic investigation. Students benefit from an enhanced curriculum, excellent facilities, work placement and shadowing opportunities, while allowing the force to improve forensic science services in the county and make significant cost savings at the same time.

As a vehicle for the advancement of education, training, research and improved operational forensic science delivery, the Academy will produce scientists and investigators who are able to meet the demands of the 21st Century and beyond. Its key role is to increase learning and development, enhance research and technology, improve workforce capability and drive business innovation.

The Academy, based at Lancashire Constabulary HQ in Hutton, includes state-of-the-art research laboratories; equipment, teaching and training suites; crime scene houses; accommodation and conferencing.

UCLan benefits from the shared expertise of crime scene investigators and forensic science specialists teaching students everything from fingerprint examination and drug and body fluid analysis, through to professional accreditation and laboratory competence. In return, UCLan is supporting the Academy with new equipment, research expertise and continuing professional development (CPD) to enhance how Lancashire Constabulary detects crime and protects the most vulnerable people of Lancashire.

UCLan Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mike Thomas, said: "The University already has a long and established relationship with Lancashire Constabulary and this collaboration makes it even stronger as we work together to help the county take a lead role in the scientific investigation of crime."

Andy Rhodes, Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary, added: "This is a ground-breaking initiative for Lancashire Constabulary and something we are really excited about.

"During a time when police forces are looking at ways to collaborate with other forces and regionalise forensic science services, we have opted to keep a clear focus on how we can

improve our delivery here in Lancashire, and joining up with UCLan provides us with some fantastic opportunities."

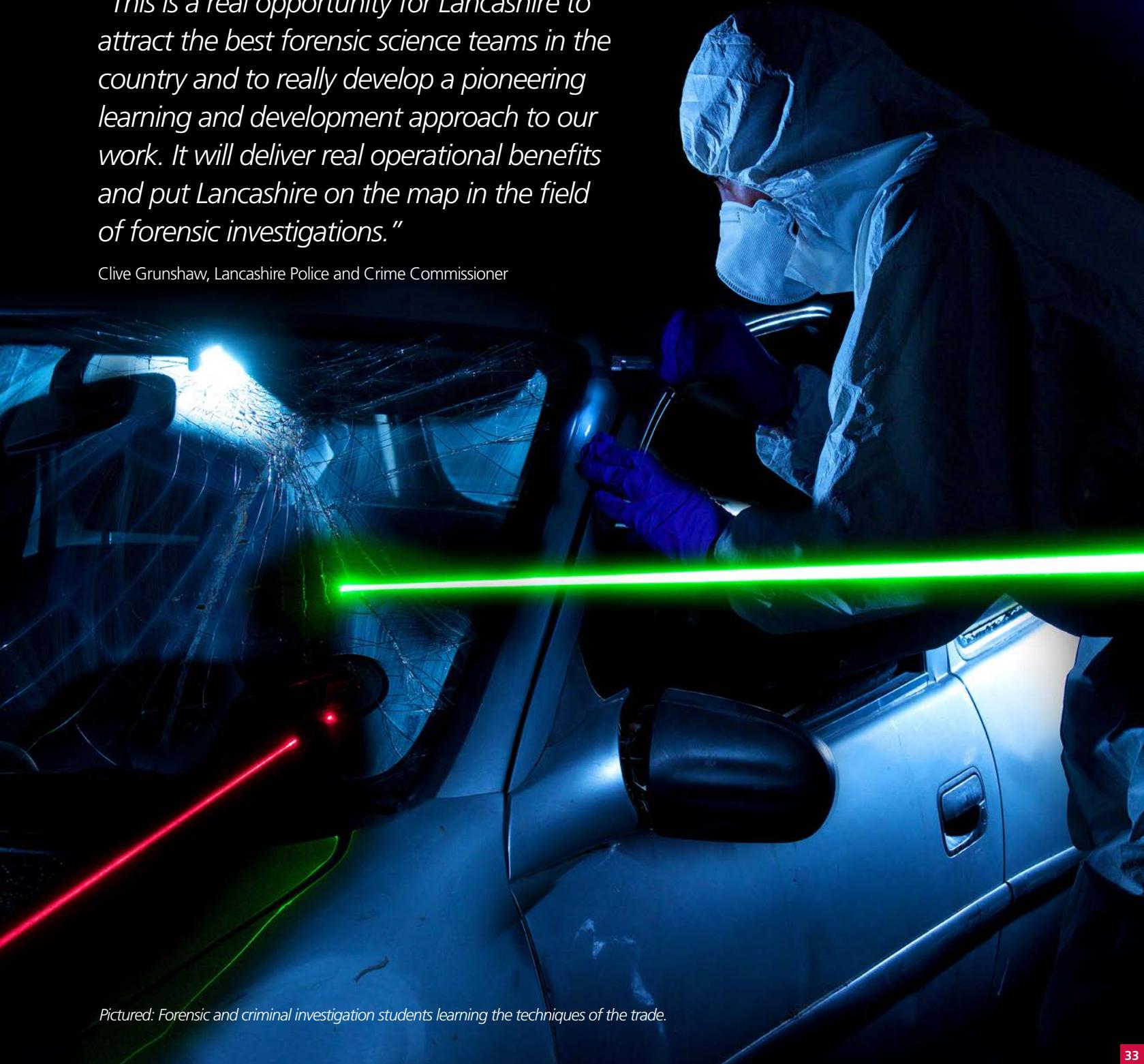
Already, hundreds of students have undertaken one-day CSI shadowing experiences with the Constabulary. Emily Hudson, a forensic science and criminal investigation student, said: "It made me realise just what it will be like once I finish my degree. I really learnt about what CSIs do and how they work. I'd do it again in a heartbeat, I loved it that much."

Tens of students have also undertaken longer CSI and laboratory placements. Kristina Mavangelido undertook her final year project at the Academy. She commented: "Conducting research at the Lancashire Constabulary was one of the best experiences I have ever had. Golden opportunities like these are extremely beneficial as you experience a research environment with the supervision of qualified practitioners who can guide and support while providing useful advice."

The Academy is also attracting international interest for CPD training, and a team of Swedish customs officers has travelled to Preston to undertake specialist training. This included fingerprint enhancement and recovery techniques, fingerprint photography with ultraviolet light, crime scene examination, vehicle examination and enhancement of fingerprints using various chemical treatments.

"This is a real opportunity for Lancashire to attract the best forensic science teams in the country and to really develop a pioneering learning and development approach to our work. It will deliver real operational benefits and put Lancashire on the map in the field of forensic investigations."

Clive Grunshaw, Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner



Pictured: Forensic and criminal investigation students learning the techniques of the trade.

Out of this world role for acting alumna

UCLan graduate lands key role in Doctor Who alongside new Time Lord

When it comes to listing iconic television programmes, you can be certain that Doctor Who is near the top of many people's list. The BBC drama, which is shown across the world, is legendary for its regenerating doctors, famous blue telephone box Tardis and the scary Daleks.

This world of science-fiction entertainment, complete with its hardcore fans, will become the norm for a University of Central Lancashire graduate after she landed a prime role in the upcoming BBC One series.

BA (Hons) Acting graduate, Mandip Gill, will be one of three companions to the new doctor, played by Broadchurch's Jodie Whittaker. She will play a character called Yasmin and will join television presenter and actor Bradley Walsh and former Hollyoaks star Tosin Cole in the 11th series.

The actress, who graduated in 2009, said: "I am over the moon to be joining the Doctor Who family. This is an iconic show with an amazing fanbase and I look forward to everything that brings. Certain roles seem

unattainable and this is one of those, so much so I didn't believe it to be true for the first few weeks. To be working alongside the likes of Jodie, Bradley and my old friend Tosin is thrilling. This show is worlds away from the work I've done previously and that's the part that excites me the most."

After graduating from the University, Mandip starred in a number of theatre productions and in 2012 she got her first major television role when she was cast as Phoebe McQueen in Hollyoaks. She was on the Channel Four

"I am over the moon to be joining the Doctor Who family. This is an iconic show with an amazing fanbase and I look forward to everything that brings."

Mandip Gill, UCLan Alumna

soap for three-and-a-half years before her character met a grisly end when she became one of Lindsay Butterfield's victims in the Gloved Hand Killer storyline.

Since then, Mandip has gone on to appear in the BBC dramas Casualty and Doctors, plus the situation comedy Cuckoo. Earlier in 2017 she featured in the ITV One drama Good Karma Hospital, and BBC One viewers would recognise her after playing a junior registrar in Love, Lies and Records, Kay Mellor's hit which aired just before Christmas.

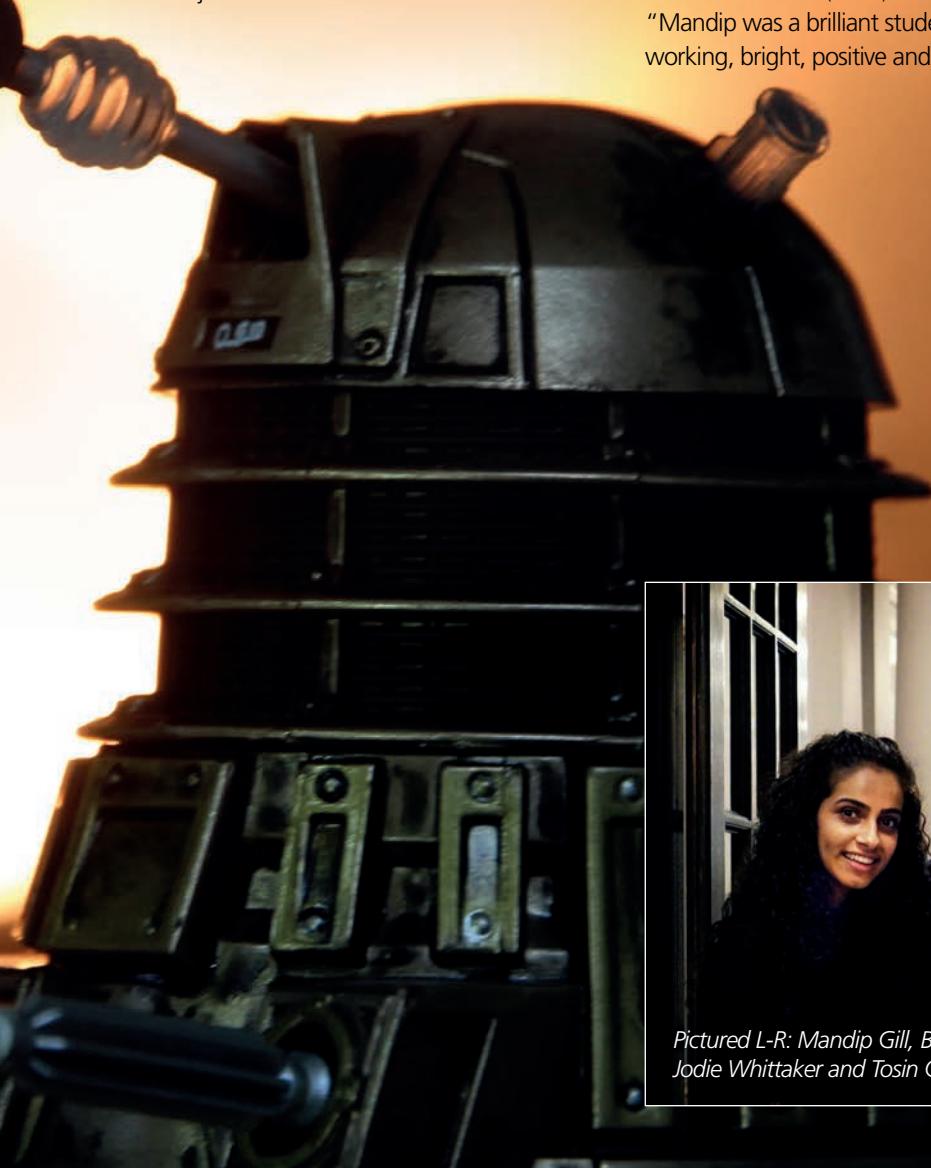
Mandip said: "I thoroughly enjoyed my time training at the University of Central Lancashire. The BA (Hons) Acting course was informative, exciting and challenging; setting me up perfectly for the industry. The lecturers were supportive throughout my training and even helped me kick-start my career by introducing me to agents and industry professionals. Thanks to my training I have been able to work in the business for some years."

Terence Chapman, Senior Lecturer and Course Leader on the BA (Hons) Acting degree said: "Mandip was a brilliant student. Really hard working, bright, positive and always very

respectful. It was clear in her acting for screen classes that she had real potential so it's no surprise to see she has done so well in TV. Hollyoaks, Doctors, Good Karma Hospital and now Dr Who.

"There has been so much in the press in recent years about the lack of diversity in the industry and in actor training. For 12 years now we have been trying to address that issue. As a young British/Asian woman from a working class background, Mandip is a great ambassador for what we are trying to achieve here at UCLan."

The new series will consist of 10 episodes and will air in autumn 2018.



Pictured L-R: Mandip Gill, Bradley Walsh, Jodie Whittaker and Tosin Cole.

BUILDING TRANSFORMATIVE PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS THE GLOBE

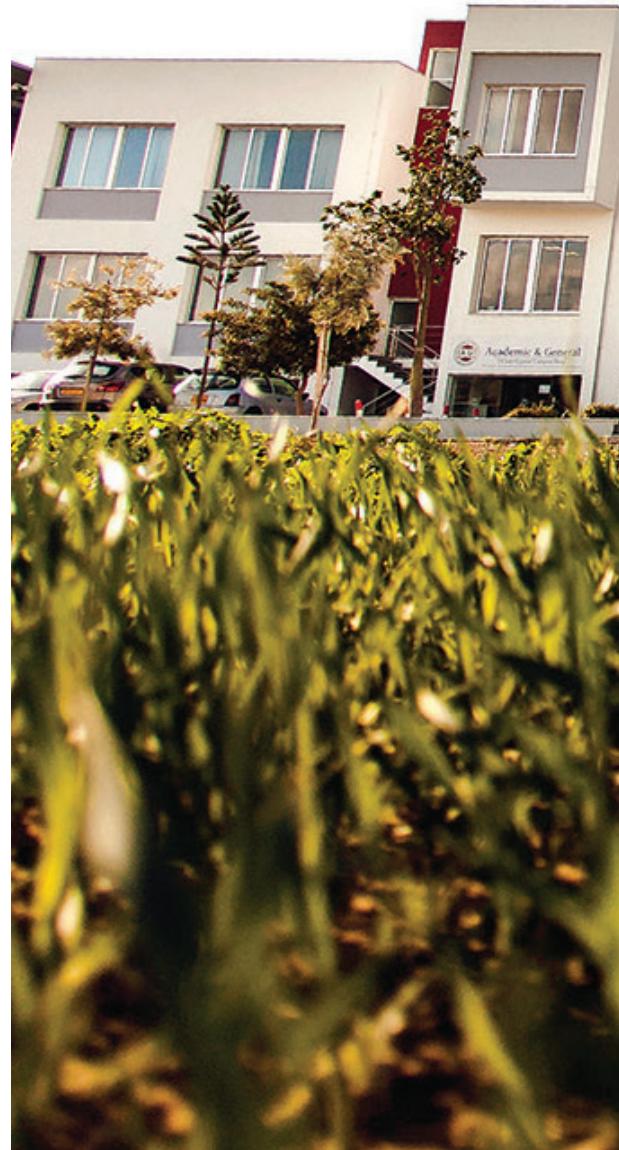
The University continues to invest in the development of international partnerships and collaborations at both an individual and institutional level.

"Thanks to UCLan this Preston boy is writing to you from his new home in China. Thank you for changing my life."

Dale Fox, BA (Hons) Journalism 2016

When the University first opened the doors of the UCLan Cyprus Campus back in 2012, it became a beacon of progress for both the University's international strategy and the Mediterranean island's higher education provision.

Located in Pyla, Larnaka, UCLan Cyprus is the only university in the country that can offer students the advantage of an honours or postgraduate degree recognised both in the UK and in Cyprus; truly international qualifications to enhance employability at home and overseas.





University of Central Lancashire
CYPRUS



30 years in China: UCLan's Journey to the East

It is more than 30 years since UCLan started out on its journey with China, leading the British Higher Education sector in delivering UK degrees in partnership. As China has developed, so too has UCLan's offering, becoming more diverse and innovative – reflecting UCLan's strategic approach to China.

UCLan's journey began in the late 1980s with Shenzhen University, when the locality amounted to nothing more than a small fishing village. Shenzhen is now one of the most successful and largest cities in China. Further partnerships followed with Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, which has seen more than 1,500 students graduate over recent years, Beijing Institute of Technology, and Shanghai University of Business and Economics.

The outstanding academic staff, based both with UCLan's Chinese partners and in the UK, have established a strong reputation and provide students with an outstanding learning experience – teaching a curriculum that has employability, internationalisation

and entrepreneurship all embedded within it. Therefore, producing highly employable graduates, equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to enter the global employment market.

Liz Bromley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, said: "The landscape has changed considerably. This requires institutions to adopt an holistic approach to partnerships and an offering that is innovative and diverse, which impacts on the market, as UCLan has done successfully over its 30-year history."

Such developments would not be possible without UCLan's dedicated China Office teams in Shenzhen and Shanghai. They support the University's work and its students, as well as helping drive and develop UCLan's

"Our success within China has been built on trust, mutual understanding and our ability to be innovative in positioning and differentiating UCLan as a leading international University. We continue to look at new ways to provide opportunities for students, academics, researchers and industry from both countries to collaborate as we develop the next generation of courses, research and delivery modes for one of the most dynamic education markets in the world."

Liz Bromley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor

strategy within China. They keep UCLan ahead of its competitors and seek out great opportunities to work closely with the Chinese and British Governments.

The University has to ensure that its relationship with China works to mutual advantage. It's not just about Chinese students coming to the UK, it is also about UK students enriching their education by having the opportunity to visit China. Through the introduction of the University's travel bursary scheme, UCLan's China Director has developed a unique programme called 'Journey to the East', which brings together students from both countries. The success of the programme has attracted both Government and industry funding and sponsorship; it has also been shortlisted for the UK Trade & Investment Greater China Awards and has received praise from the Chinese Ministry of Education.

Other key milestones in the University's 30-year history include the exciting development of a research and innovation company in Shenzhen, which originally focused on nanotechnologies relevant to medicine and engineering. This company has evolved with the support of the Shenzhen Municipal Government and is now called UCLan Technology (Shenzhen) Limited. The company works with both UK and Chinese start-up firms who are looking to establish a presence

in China and the UK; it provides support to secure investment funding and also offers advice to protect intellectual property. It is proposed that in the near future, incubator facilities in both Shenzhen and the North West will be established to further build on the work of the company.

UCLan is also actively creating cultural ties between the UK and China, and one key development has been to establish the UCLan Confucius Institute with Chinese partner, Beijing International Studies University. This has helped to promote Chinese culture, not only within UCLan but regionally and nationally, so that more and more people are benefiting from relevant China-related opportunities.

As China moves forward with its 2030 Health Strategy, and as UCLan moves forward with its One Health Strategy, UCLan's School of Midwifery has been working in collaboration with Hangzhou Normal University on a British Council funded research project. The

initiative has been focused on midwifery training and the findings will help to influence the further development of policy and practice within China. This is yet another example of UCLan working effectively and with impact in partnership.

The future of the University's relationship with China looks promising, as UCLan seeks to work closely with the Chinese government to support its 13th Five-Year Plan, as well as the One Belt One Road initiative. It will continue to provide opportunities for Chinese students to undertake a full British degree within China, in-line with the strategy of the Chinese Ministry of Education – as well as enabling students to undertake part of their studies in the UK if they so wish. These developments assist UCLan's commitment to increasing the number of UK students who have the chance to go to China as part of their studies. Also supporting this growth is the successful establishment of a non-independent joint school for 800 students, the HBU-UCLan School of Media, Communications and

Creative Industries. More recently, UCLan also received approval from the Ministry of Education for a sports and physical education programme for 480 students at Hunan Normal University.

Liz added: "Our success within China has been built on trust, mutual understanding and our ability to be innovative in positioning and differentiating UCLan as a leading international University. We continue to look at new ways to provide opportunities for students, academics, researchers and industry from both countries to collaborate as we develop the next generation of courses, research and delivery modes for one of the most dynamic education markets in the world."

"This can already be seen as UCLan is now moving forward with Hebei University to develop a research presence within the Xiong An region, which is soon to become China's biggest free economic zone surpassing Shenzhen where UCLan started its journey over 30 years ago."



Pictured: Journey to the East students from UCLan visiting Fujian Normal University pick leaf tea and learn about Fujian tea culture.

Drone technology to save lives

Across the world, an estimated 110 million landmines are hidden in the ground. Many of these have been buried for decades after being one of the main weapons of choice in numerous global conflicts. More than two decades ago, the late Princess Diana brought the problem to the attention of the western world but 20 years on, the issue is still affecting the lives of millions on a daily basis. Every day, more than 70 people are killed or injured by landmines. One of the worst affected countries is Cambodia, but thanks to the University of Central Lancashire, drone technology is being used to help save lives.

In 2017, UCLan's Dr Darren Ansell travelled to south east Asia to train the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) to use high street drones for mine clearance and peace keeping operations in Cambodia – and during United Nations missions around the world.

This was the first time the RCAF had been provided with this technology to help with Cambodia's significant problem. The Cambodian Mine Action Centre estimates there could be as many as six million mines and other pieces of unexploded ordinance in the country.

According to the Mines Advisory Group, the most commonly used method of mine detection across the world is manual detection and disarmament, which is often slow, expensive and dangerous. Using these drones, the RCAF will now be able to map out terrain that could potentially contain mines and identify suspicious items or roadside devices, without putting lives at risk by having to physically enter those spaces.

Both practical and classroom-based training for the quadcopter drones was provided by researchers from UCLan, the Furniture for Education Worldwide charity and UNITE the Union. Over three days, the RCAF students were taught about practical flying, air law, how to conduct flights safely, understanding the weather and practical drone maintenance.

Dr Ansell, UCLan's Space and Aerospace Lead, was one of the leading trainers involved in the project. He said: "It's surprising that the use of drones to support mine clearance operations is not more common now that the technology is readily available, particularly in countries like Cambodia, which is one of the most heavily mined areas in the world."

"This is one of the very first uses by the RCAF of off-the-shelf high street drones for this type of operation. It's a simple tool, but it will go a long way towards increasing the safety of Cambodia's armed forces when they're surveying dangerous spaces or suspicious objects, and will ultimately save lives."

Lieutenant General Ken Sosavoeun, Deputy General Director of the RCAF's National Centre for Peacekeeping Force Mine and Explosive Remnants of War Clearance, added: "Darren's team did a fantastic job to train

the RCAF on landmine and unexploded ordinance clearance by using drones.

"Mines are still a very large problem, not just in Cambodia, but around the world, and this technology will help us to address the problem while minimising risk to the teams involved. Two drones are already flying regularly to produce maps and conduct air surveillance around the barracks and along roads in the Central Africa Republic as part of a United Nations mission."

Closer to home, Dr Ansell and UCLan fire professors, Richard Hull and Anna Stec, have been working with the emergency services to develop a possible life-saving drone that can help firefighters identify toxic gases in emergency situations. The aim of the device is to fly it into smoke clouds to collect air samples and alert officers to the presence of harmful and poisonous gases.

Dr Ansell said: "This drone can fly straight into a smoke cloud, measure for 12 specific gases in the air, and then within 40 seconds of the drone being back on the ground the fire commander will have accurate data at their fingertips to explain what gases they are facing in that specific incident."

"It's surprising that the use of drones to support mine clearance operations is not more common now that the technology is readily available." Dr Ansell, UCLan's Space and Aerospace Lead

Pictured: Cambodian landmine war victims playing music to collect money for their families.



COMMITTED TO TRANSFORMATIVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The University continues to build on its role as a social and economic anchor at the heart of the community.

"It just shows how much the University cares about the community. Organising such a large and free event for people of all ages is amazing."

Visitor comments on the 2017 Lancashire Science Festival

Pictured: Pupils from Bolton St Catherine's Academy enjoy the 2017 Lancashire Science Festival.





New horizons in healthcare

When it officially launches in 2018, the University's radical 'One Health' strategy will transform the landscape of health and social care across the North West.

Improving the lives of local people and driving positive change in wider society is central to the University's mission. 'One Health' is a major project that will see UCLan assuming a lead role in tackling serious issues affecting the nation's health. Its launch coincides with the 70th anniversary of the National Health Service.

The timing is critical. Britain's health and social care systems are in crisis. Advancements in medicine have seen life expectancy climb, but now a growing proportion of our population are senior citizens with complex health and social care needs. We are facing challenges that cannot simply be overcome by throwing money at them, or persisting with the same services in greater quantities. 'One Health' reflects the realisation that we cannot go on like this.

Janice Horrocks, Health Consultant at UCLan, believes that it will be a game-changer: "With 'One Health' we are integrating our health and social care disciplines under a single strategy and leadership so that all our expertise and resources are focused towards the same regional agenda. This will lead to real benefits for patients and service users. It also enables the University to consolidate its influence and expertise in teaching, research and collaboration with businesses and communities."

As the largest provider of health and social care education in Lancashire and Cumbria, UCLan is responsible for supplying the sector with high calibre graduates. This vital frontline training is equipping the next generation of graduates to solve the chronic skills shortages and long-standing recruitment and retention issues that have plagued the North West.

A major objective will involve strengthening the University's already fruitful partnerships with NHS trusts, local authorities, commissioning bodies and others. UCLan's teaching staff are well connected into local organisations and national bodies, directing their expertise to lead, advise and shape the sector. Many staff undertake clinical practice to continually refine their skills and knowledge. The University is also engaged in transformative, world-leading research. The Lancashire Clinical Trials Unit, for example, was established at UCLan to support complex trials in population and public health, cancer, mental health, midwifery, musculoskeletal health and stroke.

Recently, two new cross-disciplinary institutes have been developed to further strengthen the University's research activity. The Lancashire Institute For Global Health and Wellbeing (LIFE) brings together researchers from the faculties of Health and Wellbeing, and Clinical and Biomedical Sciences, to enhance and enable globally relevant health and wellbeing research. The Lancashire Research Institute of Citizenship, Society and Change will produce high quality research to address urgent questions for people and society, within new political and global contexts.

At the heart of the 'One Health' ethos is the conviction that early intervention is far more effective and cost-efficient than curing or fixing health issues further down the line. Janice explains: "Our 'Making Every Contact Count' initiative is aiming to prevent individuals from becoming 'patients'. Keeping people out of hospital is better for them and takes up fewer resources than treatment inside hospital. This will require a seismic shift within the sector, from a focus on illness to prevention. To achieve this, the University will continue to engage with local communities to deliver education, advice and guidance about lifestyle choices, exercise and nutrition. This has life-changing potential."

The University will become recognised as leading the transformation of primary care and community services, and alliances with national bodies are being developed to support this. The Mackenzie Institute of Clinical Research, recently established at the UCLan Burnley Campus, will facilitate research in this area.

"Above all, 'One Health' is about innovation," concluded Janice. "We will identify health issues that matter to local communities through meaningful engagement, and then harness our academic expertise to develop effective solutions to real-world problems. We can experiment with new ways of working and then make the vision a reality. We are driving improvements across the sector, which could potentially benefit the lives of everyone in the region."

Pictured: Medical students learning in state-of-the-art facilities.



Local aid through global connections

When Hurricane Irma struck the United States of America and the Caribbean, little did the University of Central Lancashire know it would have a major hands-on role in helping the aid effort.

One of the devastated islands was Sint Maarten. It is home to the American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine (AUC), but had no power, no running water and major damage to the infrastructure. The AUC desperately needed a temporary home to allow its students to commence and continue their first two years of pre-clinical medical school studies. Thanks to a mutual partner in East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, UCLan contacted the AUC and an extraordinary and unique effort saw nearly 700 students and staff arrive in Preston only nine days after the storm had wreaked havoc.

The AUC utilised the University's state-of-the-art academic facilities for teaching. Students continued on their regular curriculum, but classes were scheduled over evenings and weekends, ensuring the existing UCLan students' timetables were unaffected. The students had access to a range of UCLan facilities including the library, computing and pastoral care, and they also became associate members of the Students' Union. Accommodation was found in numerous

halls of residence and houses within the local area, while office space was created in a mothballed building. The clinical skills training took place at associated NHS trust sites in East Lancashire.

UCLan Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mike Thomas, said: "What happened to their island and the whole of the Caribbean was utterly devastating. We pride ourselves on being a University that is always willing to help our community, be it local, regional, national or international. This situation was our chance to offer help to people whose lives have been turned upside down through a natural disaster."

Rico Barronon, President of the AUC Student Governors' Association, said: "We were all incredibly grateful to UCLan for welcoming us to Preston. The intention to move an entire medical school across the Atlantic in a matter of weeks was incredible and showed the resilience of AUC students who had been through a very traumatic time. We looked at our time at UCLan as a new adventure."

The students were welcomed into the campus community through various events. A welcome meal, a Thanksgiving dinner, a medical school ceilidh, and a traditional Christmas lunch for more than 300 students on Christmas Day were among the organised social activities.

The influx of Caribbean students made a big impact, not only on the Preston Campus but in the city too. A special civic reception was held in the Guild Hall and was hosted by The Right Worshipful Mayor of Preston, Councillor Brian Rollo. He was joined by a variety of invited guests including Lew Lukens, the Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy in London, and Preston MP Sir Mark Hendrick.

Mr Lukens said: "I want to thank the city of Preston and the University of Central Lancashire, on behalf of the American people, for the hospitality extended to these students affected by Hurricane Irma. It is often said that we are cousins and I have to say you have indeed welcomed these students into your community like family. Thank you."

"What happened to their island and the whole of the Caribbean was utterly devastating. We pride ourselves on being a University that is always willing to help our community, be it local, regional, national or international."

UCLan Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mike Thomas

The people of Preston and the UCLan community wanted to do more for the people affected back on the Dutch-French island whose homes and schools were destroyed. They showed their generosity for those Sint Maarten children by collecting vital school supplies for youngsters aged between 5 and 12. The AUC students wanted to get together and say thank you to the University and Preston for the support, so volunteered at a range of city centre projects. Their work included painting, clearing rubbish, sculpting and developing a community greenspace.

AUC Executive Dean, Dr Heidi Chumley, commented: "It's clear that we found a truly special place in Preston. We have all been touched by the extraordinary hospitality and compassion that both Preston and UCLan have shown to AUC. This community has rallied to donate generously to our students, their families and the people of Sint Maarten, and UCLan students have mobilised to support and encourage our students."

Pictured clockwise: Students' Union President Sana Iqbal welcomes AUC students to the University. AUC students arrive in Preston. Devastation on Sint Maarten.







Pictured: Medical students from the American University of the Caribbean meet The Right Worshipful Mayor of Preston, Councillor Brian Rollo at a specially arranged civic reception held at Preston Guild Hall.

Royal seal of approval

Prince learns about community sports initiatives working to aid social development and inclusion

The University is no stranger to Royal visits, with The Queen opening UCLan's Burnley Campus in 2012, and HRH The Princess Royal unveiling UCLan Sports Arena 12 years earlier in 2000. Last year, UCLan once again welcomed a member of the Royal Family when hundreds of excited locals, young and old, braved driving rain to welcome HRH Prince Harry to the multi-million pound Sports Arena.

As part of his Lancashire tour, the Prince visited UCLan to learn more about local community sports initiatives helping with social development and inclusion. Excited players from the Sir Tom Finney Preston Soccer Development Centre lined up to meet Prince Harry, alongside members of the Lancashire Bombers Wheelchair Basketball Club, a community Wheelchair Sports Club based at West View Leisure Centre in Preston.

The University works with the Soccer Development Centre, alongside the Students' Union, to provide football coaching for all spectrums of the community.

The initiative is the brainchild of chair Peter Mason and his wife Kath, whose vision was to open up football to young people from all communities in Preston regardless of their ability, disability, sex, colour, race or religious belief. Peter, who originally set up the Sir Tom



Finney Preston Soccer Development Centre in 1999, teamed up with UCLan and the Lancashire County Football Association in 2013 to pilot the FA community Hub Club development scheme at UCLan Sports Arena.

Peter commented: "The project has gone from strength-to-strength. We now have a large and vibrant adult disability group, a new but very well attended refugee and asylum seeker group, a 4 to 16-year-old disability group, and a thriving soccer centre for able-bodied 4 to 16-year-olds. In addition, since 2014, we now have The Sir Tom Finney FC with 27 competitive teams, including two open age ladies teams, an under-18 ladies team and two open age male teams. The UCLan students are heavily involved in coaching all aspects of football, and assist us greatly in providing footballing opportunities to a very wide community."

Over the last 12 months, the Hub Club, led by USA Duty Supervisor Sarah Berry, has seen 69 UCLan student volunteers engaged in football and 36 UCLan coaches, both male and female, develop valuable football coaching experience. In addition, 23 new and experienced male and female referees have gained qualifications and experience in officiating.

Cian McEvoy, UCLan Football Development Officer, works with the Students' Union, UCLan Sports Arena, Lancashire Football Association (FA) and the Sir Tom Finney Preston Soccer Development Centre, to benefit the University and local community through football.

After meeting Prince Harry he said: "It was very nice to meet my first Royal. It's important that people like him see these facilities, meet participants and see the difference the Hub Club is making to the community.

"I am proud to be part of such an inclusive and forward-thinking project that provides opportunities in football for all. Since the partnership began, it is evident the positive impact this has had, both on our students and in the community, and I am confident this will continue to change people's lives for the better."

UCLan Pro-Chancellor and Chair of the University Board, David Taylor, also met the Prince on his visit. He said: "The University of Central Lancashire is a civic anchor in the local community and the UCLan Sports Arena plays a huge role in this. Not only do our staff and students benefit from our fantastic sports facilities, but many different local sports clubs also use it on a regular basis – and it's great to be able to share these success stories with Prince Harry."



Pictured: HRH Prince Harry meets players and officials from the Sir Tom Finney Soccer Centre.

TRANSFORMING OUR PRESTON CAMPUS

Creating an attractive and inviting world-class campus that integrates seamlessly with the city – and benefits current and future generations of students, staff, visitors and the wider community.

"The new social spaces are ideal places to relax and meet friends after a hard day's study."

Rob Gill, 3rd year BA (Hons) Sports Journalism

Pictured: UCLan students inside the newly opened Harrington Social Space.





World-class campus Masterplan development gathers pace

In 2015, the University announced its intention to create historic and transformational change at its Preston Campus through a £200 million Masterplan development. It's undoubtedly a transformational project for the University that's already starting to take shape – much has been achieved within three years.

The construction of two new £8.15 million social spaces has already been completed, enabling staff and students to come together

in a relaxed environment. The new spaces, officially opened in early 2018 by Dr Liam Fox, Secretary of State for International Trade, were designed by award-winning architecture practice AHR – and were developed in conjunction with the Students' Union.

The University has also seen the recent completion of a new £1 million Multi-Faith centre called Oasis. The purpose-built centre, designed in consultation with the Students' Union, has been created to provide a space

for religious and non-religious groups and individuals to come together in a spirit of community, wellbeing and faith.

Construction of the University's £32 million Engineering Innovation Centre (EIC), is continuing apace too. The state-of-the-art facility will further establish the University as a leader in engineering innovation. Opening in 2019, the EIC will help produce hundreds of additional locally trained graduates per year in areas including aerospace, mechanical and energy technologies and engineering.



It has also been identified as a signature project within Lancashire's Strategic Economic Plan, and has secured £10.5 million via the Lancashire Enterprise Partnerships' Growth Deal with the Government. The new facility has also received £5.8 million from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and £5 million from HEFCE's STEM Capital Fund.

Michael Ahern, Chief Operating Officer at UCLan, said: "It's exciting to see the building taking shape before our very eyes. The EIC will be a real asset to the University and the region, bringing enormous educational and economic benefits now and for generations to come. As an organisation dedicated to driving improvements to the community as well as our students, we are committed to delivering a first-class facility of which Preston can be proud."

While building work continues at speed, the Masterplan's heart – the £57 million Student Centre and Civic Square – has received planning approval and will see one of the largest civic spaces developed in England in the last 100 years. The project, designed by HawkinsBrown following an international RIBA competition, is also integral to drawing the University closer to the City.

This was a fundamental aspect of the Masterplan, that it creates a better connection to the City while also sparking a major focus on regeneration and business investment in the University quarter – reinforcing UCLan's ties to the local community and creating wider benefits for Preston and beyond.

David Taylor, Pro-Chancellor and Chair of the University Board, explained: "The Student Centre really will give us a focus. We'll look at how it links back to St Peter's Church and the Adelphi area and we'll align the changes in levels between the square, the EIC and adjoining buildings. The public spaces between will all be beautifully landscaped, cleverly lit and fully accessible for all. It's going to give us a real sense of place."

In addition to creating a stimulating new campus, it is worth remembering that the Masterplan is funded by the University and that £200 million investment is being kept in Preston. David added: "The expenditure in these difficult times is quite a brave thing to do but it will be a gamechanger – not just for us but for the City too."

The Masterplan is seen by many in the region as an exclusive opportunity to bring together several elements in Preston that have long been disconnected.

David concluded: "Preston is a compact and interesting place but while it's got lots of building blocks, nobody has ever really put them together. It's only in the last two or three years, with the advent of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP), and CityDeal, that a lot of fantastic initiatives have happened in the City and are leading it to a promising future. The advantage that our City has compared to say a Manchester or a Liverpool is that they're vast city centres, whereas Preston is a compact place so it's easier to enhance. Preston will have a new campus at one end and the core of the city centre at the other, and they're both going to come together to reinvigorate the economy and boost social cohesion.

"It's our vision that the Masterplan will benefit everyone."



THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF INNOVATION, ENTERPRISE AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

Cultivating a dynamic and supportive entrepreneurial environment among students, graduates and staff, and maximising the resulting economic and social impact.

UCLan is ranked as the leading UK university for incubated start-up businesses still active after three years of trading.* Many of these businesses are based within the Media Factory.

* Higher Education Business and Community Interaction Survey 2016/17







Pictured: Students from UCLan discuss their entrepreneurial ideas with Secretary of State for International Trade Dr Liam Fox MP during the 'Great Ideas Hack'. This was the first Board of Trade exporting event which took place at the official opening of the University's new £8.15 million Social Spaces development.

Sowing the seeds of business growth

How the University is nurturing the entrepreneurs of the future and cultivating key skills development to meet the post-Brexit challenge

As the UK prepares to leave the EU, the role of the country's universities to develop as innovative wealth generators has never been more important. Meeting this challenge, the University of Central Lancashire is rapidly evolving itself into a cradle for business development – nurturing start-ups and entrepreneurs, encouraging innovation and research, and supporting growth by providing and creating jobs.

Innovation is part of the University's culture and its large business team has well established links with local, regional, national and international businesses, sharing and exchanging expertise and research to help give organisations that competitive edge.

UCLan also has a dedicated Innovation Clinic, which supports businesses to innovate and grow through the development of new-to-market products. The team brings together extensive industry and academic expertise, state-of-the-art facilities and technology, together with tailored support. In addition to this, UCLan provides investment vouchers enabling businesses to access up to £20,000 of support so they can collaborate with its experts to turn ideas into realities.

UCLan's entrepreneurial approach has enabled it to become a national leader, helping more than 1,000 students and graduates start a business or become self-employed in the last five years. With around 5.7 million SMEs

in the UK making up over 99 percent of all businesses, the University is committed to supporting this vital sector of the economy.

More than 1,400 regional commercial organisations have been assisted through the University's last round of business support projects, with 950 reporting business improvements and more than 400 jobs created or safeguarded. Boosting the region further are UCLan graduates who currently add £24 million to the North West economy per annum through increased skills and productivity.

And as demand for high level skills increases across a wide range of sectors, having access to a skilled workforce is increasingly important to the growth and resilience of local economies. As Lancashire's largest provider of graduate level qualifications, UCLan has already identified a number of sectors where these skills will be in great demand – such as in construction, engineering, aerospace, healthcare, IT, technology and digital.

The University's skills strategy was boosted in 2017 through the award of nearly £200,000 from HEFCE's Catalyst fund to help it deliver its Additive Manufacturing Education Programme (AMEP).

This project is responding to a shortage of skilled people in Lancashire, specifically in the area of Additive Manufacturing (3D printing technologies) in relation to engineering and manufacturing.

Part of the funding will also be used to build on work being done through UCLan's DigitME project – to meet with local businesses and assess potential opportunities for skills development to implement 3D printing technologies for prototyping, tooling or manufacturing purposes.

Dr John Lonsdale, Director of Innovation and Enterprise at UCLan, said: "Additive Manufacturing is an exciting component of advanced manufacturing with huge potential to accelerate innovation and productivity across many sectors in the UK.

"The rapid rise and disruptive nature of additive technologies has left a skills gap, which requires a significant shift in engineering education in order to support the future of this new method of manufacture.

"The HEFCE Catalyst Fund means we will be able to accelerate and expand the delivery of teaching and learning activities to address the skills gap, and develop and sustain AMEP long-term.

"Of the 1.8 million jobs growth forecast to 2024, 70 percent are expected to be at graduate level. So, the building blocks we're laying now in support of the Government's Industrial Strategy will mean students, the workforce and employers, from key industrial sectors across the region, will be the ultimate long-term beneficiaries."

Taking graphene to new heights

Graphene has the potential to radically change our world. From industry to medicine to electronics, there is virtually no aspect of modern civilisation that it won't transform.

During 2017, in the first experiment of its kind, researchers at the University explored the practical applications of graphene in the UK space industry by launching specially designed graphene-enhanced carbon fibre material into near space using high altitude balloons.

Part-funded by the UK Space Agency's National Space Technology Programme, the unique investigation saw the balloons reaching heights of 136,000ft – four times the height reached by an average aeroplane.

The team of scientists from the University's Engineering Innovation Centre believe that graphene, in combination with other materials, could allow satellites to be lighter and stronger, reducing the costs of launching them into space and making them more robust against the impacts of space debris.

By comparing a graphene-enhanced carbon fibre case to a standard carbon fibre casing, the team was able to test its research hypothesis and see how both reacted to extreme conditions high above the Earth.

"We're at the beginning of something truly exciting, and this raw data could help to shape how the rest of the space industry utilises graphene in the future."

Dr Darren Ansell, the University's Space and Aerospace Engineering Lead

The results were significant. Not only was the graphene-enhanced version 16 percent lighter, there were also enhanced thermal properties – a highly relevant feature at the -60°C temperature this miniature satellite experienced. Indeed, both thermal and electrical conductivity were increased dramatically with the addition of the small amounts of graphene.

The University has already explored numerous applications of graphene in the aerospace industry. This experiment followed the launch of Prospero, a three-metre wide unmanned aircraft, at the 2016 Farnborough Air Show.

Elizabeth Seaman, Head of Major Projects and Technology Development at the UK Space Agency commented: "This latest project has taken graphene to new heights and has shown us what the material could do for the UK's growing space sector. Science and research are at the heart of the government's Industrial Strategy, and the UK Space Agency is committed to driving economic growth by supporting new space technologies and helping to develop skills that will bring benefits to people across the UK."

Dr Darren Ansell, the University's Space and Aerospace Engineering Lead, added: "We wanted to go one step further following the launch of Prospero and explore how graphene could potentially form an integral component of future satellites and space vehicles.

"We're at the beginning of something truly exciting, and this raw data could help to shape how the rest of the space industry utilises graphene in the future."

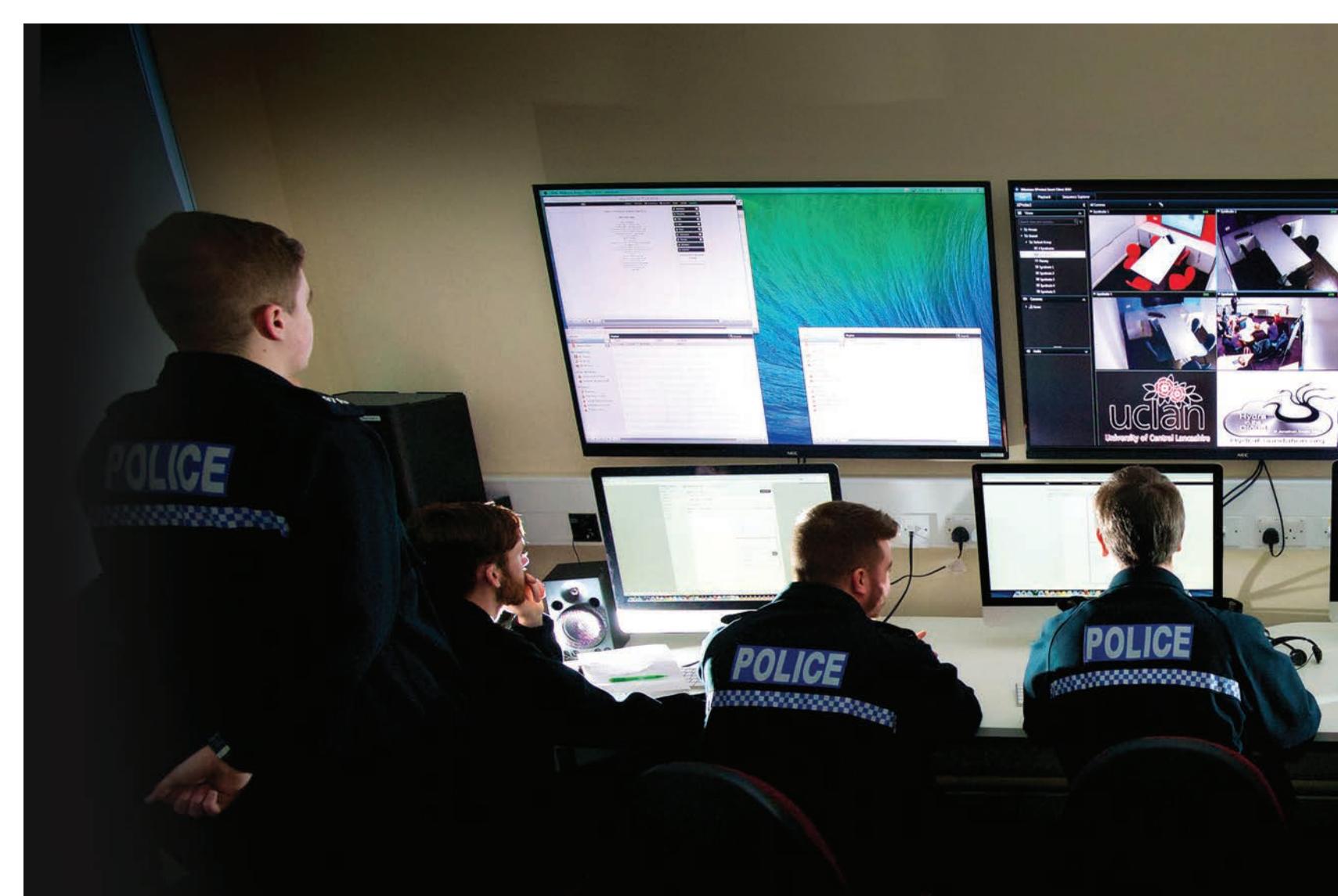
The first Farnborough Air Show flight demonstration of Prospero in 2016 provided the momentum for the UK's Aerospace Technology Institute to ask Manchester University's National Graphene Institute (NGI) and UCLan to produce their strategy for the aerospace development and application of graphene. UCLan has since been working closely with NGI and its industrial partners, which include Airbus, Rolls-Royce and Lockheed Martin.

At the Farnborough International Air Show 2018, the University research team intend to take their vision for graphene to the next level when an entirely new aircraft will take to the sky. This time the graphene enhancement will be incorporated over the entire airframe, not just the wing.

UCLan's Engineering Innovation Manager, Billy Beggs, has overseen the development of Prospero and summarised: "This is still the only graphene flyer. Lots of people have all the bits, but don't yet know how to make the pie, but we are certainly on the way to developing a compelling recipe."

Pictured: A graphene-enhanced carbon fibre case is tested to see how it reacts to extreme conditions high above the Earth.





Making the world a safer place

New centre to help public prepare for hidden threats

Pictured: UCLan's Hydra-Minerva suite, a specialist 'major incident' training simulator.

Threats to modern society are now coming from a range of sources including terrorist attacks such as those in Manchester and London; the use of chemical agents as seen in Salisbury; and hidden attacks like the global WannaCry ransomware attack, which, as a result, left five NHS A&E departments unable to treat patients.

Organisations need to be prepared to face a crisis and deal with it. From terror attacks to cybercrime, the threat is real. And while a business can never predict every possible scenario, it can put strong plans in place around how it will respond in the event of a crisis.

Last year, UCLan launched a range of specialist crisis and emergency management programmes to help organisations improve emergency preparedness and become more resilient.

UCLan PROTECT (Place for Resilient Organisations and Total Emergency Capability Training) was officially launched at the Emergency Services Show. The programme provides a holistic approach to crisis and emergency management, offering bespoke short courses and consultancy services, including independent reviews, mentoring and expertise in relation to business continuity, cybercrime and counter terrorism.

Courses range from emergency plan preparation, incident and decision logging, and responding to emergencies at strategic, tactical and operational levels in addition to incident command training.

This development is a natural progression for the University, and builds on its reputation of providing high quality courses in cyber security, counter terrorism, fire investigation, paramedic practice, forensic science, policing and criminal investigation. The team's expertise comes from a wide range of backgrounds including the emergency

services, local authorities, health authorities, the nuclear industry and the military, port and aviation authorities.

UCLan PROTECT has already been working with Tata Steel, Europe's second largest producer of steel, supporting the company in developing capabilities and improving skills in emergency and crisis management.

Scott McKinnon, Head of Health, Safety and Environment at Tata Steel, said: "We chose UCLan PROTECT to be our emergency management training provider and, to date, 200 people have benefitted from the training. The sustainability aspect of UCLan's offer is key for us and the expertise is invaluable.

"Since partnering with UCLan our emergency resilience has improved, we have gained vital knowledge about our own processes and made a number of changes as a result."

UCLan PROTECT is also attracting interest from many large international companies such as Qatar Petrochemical Company (QAPCO), Bahrain Petroleum Company (BAPCO), Emirates National Oil Company (ENOC) and Star Energy as well as those closer to home such as EDF Energy and Valero Energy.

The consultancy services arm of the initiative includes incident command training provided by subject matter experts. The University is able to offer exercise simulations

using its own state-of-the-art Hydra Minerva suite. This £360,000 investment means UCLan is one of the very few UK universities to mirror the specification and complexity of the most advanced systems used by police forces and other emergency services across the UK and abroad.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr Lynne Livesey (Academic) said: "UCLan has a strong reputation for providing accredited degree programmes in the UK and internationally – aimed at the police, fire and rescue and ambulance services – and been at the forefront of developing qualifications in this area. UCLan PROTECT has built on these foundations to offer a new, holistic approach to crisis and emergency management."

Patrick Cunningham, Principal Consultant at UCLan PROTECT, added: "We feel that the link between police, fire and rescue services and industrial concerns should be a lot stronger. By combining academic excellence with real practitioner experience and expertise, we can not only enrich the learning process but ultimately help to make the world a safer place."

The work of UCLan PROTECT is always growing, and the University will be offering MScs in Organisational Resilience and Emergency Management in High Hazard Industries from September 2018.

"We feel that the link between police, fire and rescue services and industrial concerns should be a lot stronger. By combining academic excellence with real practitioner experience and expertise, we can not only enrich the learning process but ultimately help to make the world a safer place."

Patrick Cunningham, Principal Consultant, UCLan PROTECT

GRADUATION AND HONORARY AWARDS: THE CULMINATION OF A TRANSFORMATIONAL EXPERIENCE

The University's Degree and Award Ceremonies are the culmination of the academic calendar. Every year more than 5,500 graduates attend Preston's Guild Hall to celebrate their educational success and receive well-deserved recognition for all their hard work from the University, family and friends.

"Graduating feels like such an achievement and my family are all very proud. I'm so grateful to UCLan for giving me the opportunity for this career change."

Simon Jones, graduate class of 2017





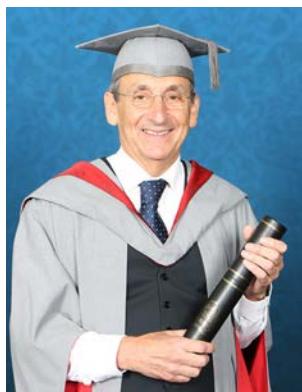
During the graduation ceremonies, the University confers honorary awards on distinguished people who have made significant contributions to their field or who have strong links with the region. In 2017, 11 Honorary Fellowships were conferred to the following individuals:



Graham Massey



John Thomson



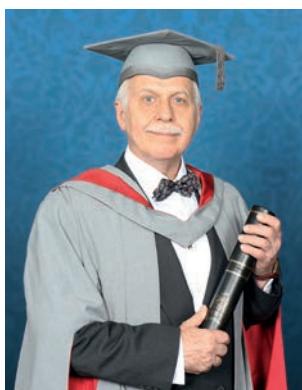
Mark Crabtree OBE



Barry Purves



David Roche



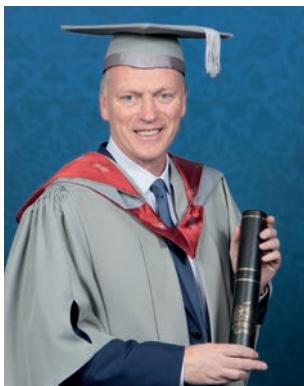
Gennady Bognadov



Gerison Lansdown



Michael Wignall



David Moyes



Jane Johnson



Kris Radlinski



Graham Massey was acknowledged for the significant contribution he has made to the music industry, as a composer, multi-instrumentalist and producer. Graham was a founding member of pioneering electronic music group, 808 State. Despite continuing to create ground-breaking music with his band 'Toolshed', Graham has offered much support to UCLan through student collaboration, performing at the University's Degree Show and being a key contributor to the International Future Sound Music Conference.

John Thomson was recognised for the significant contribution he has made to the performance industry, as a talented actor. John, who grew up in Preston, has worked as an actor, writer and comedian for 30 years. He is known to millions as Pete Gifford, one of the main characters in ITV's Cold Feet, and he has worked on huge shows including The Fast Show and Coronation Street. In addition to his award-winning theatre work, he has voiced a character in the box office hit Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit.

Mark Crabtree OBE was honoured for the significant contribution he has made to the audio engineering industry. Mark, founder of Burnley-based audio engineering company AMS Neve, counts some of the world's most prestigious film and recording studios as customers. He has won Academy Awards, an Emmy and a Grammy and year-upon-year Oscar nominees have had their soundtracks mixed and/or music recorded on his company's equipment. Mark welcomes UCLan students to his studio and has employed a number of graduates.

Barry Purves was acknowledged for the significant contribution he has made to the animation industry. Barry is an Oscar and BAFTA nominated director whose work has predominantly focused on animation. He has worked on films, including King Kong, and various television programmes including childhood favourites Rainbow, The Wind in the Willows and the Twirlywoos. His own films have won more than 60 awards and Barry has also worked extensively in theatre. He is a regular visiting lecturer at the University.

David Roche was recognised for the significant contribution he has made to the British Book Trade. David's distinguished career has seen him hold senior positions at Waterstones, HarperCollins and Borders. He has been a key factor in the significant growth of the British book trade and has been integral in developing new channels to ensure greater access to books. He is now chairman of the London Book Fair and is a huge advocate of the University's MA Publishing course, having acted as a consultant since its inception.

Gennady Bognadov was honoured for the significant contribution he has made to theatrical biomechanics. Gennady is one of the last living direct links to Meyerhold's theatrical biomechanics, a unique actor training system. The performer has taught the movement-based

approach to acting around the world. He founded and managed the International School of Biomechanics and since 2000 he has trained and worked with the University's acting degree course leader. For the last nine years, he has directly trained UCLan students.

Gerison Lansdown was acknowledged for the significant contribution she has made as a consultant and advocate for international children's rights. Gerison has been a representative for children and young people for the past 20 years. The international children's rights consultant is the chair of Child to Child, the former Vice Chair of UNICEF-UK, and has been asked to write for the United Nations Committee. She has also given her support to the University's Centre for Children and Young People's Participation.

Michael Wignall was recognised for the significant contribution he has made to the catering industry, as one of the most successful and respected chefs in the country. Michael, who was born and educated in Preston, has won Michelin stars in every kitchen he has headed. He is currently Executive Head Chef at Gidleigh Park in Devon, and holds two Michelin stars and five AA-red star rosettes. Michael has also appeared on television cooking shows including MasterChef, the Great British Menu and Saturday Kitchen.

David Moyes was honoured for the significant contribution he has made as a football manager and player. He made more than 500 appearances during his playing career. He played for six clubs, including Celtic and Preston North End, and was given his first manager's job while at Preston. David, who has lived locally for 24 years, took the club from the lower region of the old Division Two to the old Division One play-off final. He has since managed Everton, Manchester United, Real Sociedad, Sunderland and West Ham United.

Jane Johnson was acknowledged for the significant contribution she has made to the publishing industry. She was an editor at George Allen & Unwin Publishers and was responsible for publishing JRR Tolkien's work. She worked as publishing director for HarperCollins and helped bring 'The Lord of the Rings' to life when she commissioned an artist to illustrate the novel. Jane counts publishing George RR Martin's 'A Game of Thrones' as a career highlight. Recently, she has written a novel that has been published by UCLan.

Kris Radlinski MBE was recognised for the significant contribution he has made to rugby league in Great Britain and the support he has provided to the University. The fullback made 322 appearances and scored 183 tries for Wigan Warriors during 13 years. Kris was the first player to score a hat-trick in a Premiership Final. He won 10 caps for England, 20 for Great Britain and played in the 1995 World Cup Final. He is now Wigan Rugby's General Manager and is very supportive of UCLan's long-standing links to the club.



Graduate tales of inspiration and determination

The path to success is very rarely straightforward and education is no exception. Family life, financial considerations and life experience can all play a part in making the decision to study at university. Year after year, we welcome students who are determined to reach their goals no matter what.

None come more determined than former soldier, Simon Jones, who swapped the front line of the British Army for a First Class degree in social work from UCLan. After 26 years in the army, the former infantryman was inspired to become a social worker by some of the people he met during his career. Despite being initially rejected by 13 universities because he lacked certain qualifications, the determined dad was then offered a lifeline by UCLan through a foundation entry qualification at UCLan's partner Runshaw College that then allowed him to progress onto the social work degree.

"It was frustrating," Simon admitted. "I'd started to apply to universities before I was discharged from the army, but I was worried I'd have no career to go to, and I'm someone who has worked consistently since I was 16.

"Thankfully, UCLan offered me the opportunity to complete a foundation entry course in science at Runshaw College and then progress to social work. I still needed to get my GCSEs, so in my first year I was attending night school as well as studying for my degree and being a dad."

As part of his degree, Simon, who is originally from Birmingham, took up a statutory work placement in a child protection role, which is what led to his securing a full-time position.

"Graduating feels like such an achievement and my family are all very proud. I'm so grateful

to UCLan for giving me the opportunity for this career change," he added.

Another mature student also went the extra mile to achieve a First Class degree. Caroline Kasiemeka, 43, was an experienced senior technician at a key oil distribution centre in her native Kenya, but made the 7,000 miles move to Preston to boost her career and study for a degree in mechanical maintenance engineering.

Originally classified as a student with a 2:2 potential, Caroline seized every opportunity to enhance her learning through the University's study skills support group WISER, and graduated with First Class honours.

The mother-of-three, who was the only female on the mechanical maintenance engineering course, returned to UCLan in September to begin a research Master's degree.

She said: "I have learnt so much that I now possess skills and knowledge that even my bosses in Kenya don't have. I don't think I am the same person as when I started my degree, and there are lots more opportunities available to me now."

"I feel that now I can stand out even more and I want to build on that through the master's programme."

Another student who strived to stand out amongst her peers was graphic design student, Harriet Richardson, who won three

industry-recognised awards and secured her dream job all before finishing her degree.

The budding designer took the Design and Art Direction (D&AD) New Blood awards by storm, picking up three prestigious 'coloured pencils' at the event considered to showcase the very best in student design and advertising.

Harriet said: "All my pieces had to have really strong ideas that would be able to make it from the original idea stage to final designs. Winning three D&AD awards was obviously a massive surprise. I would have been so over the moon with one but to have won three is just insane."

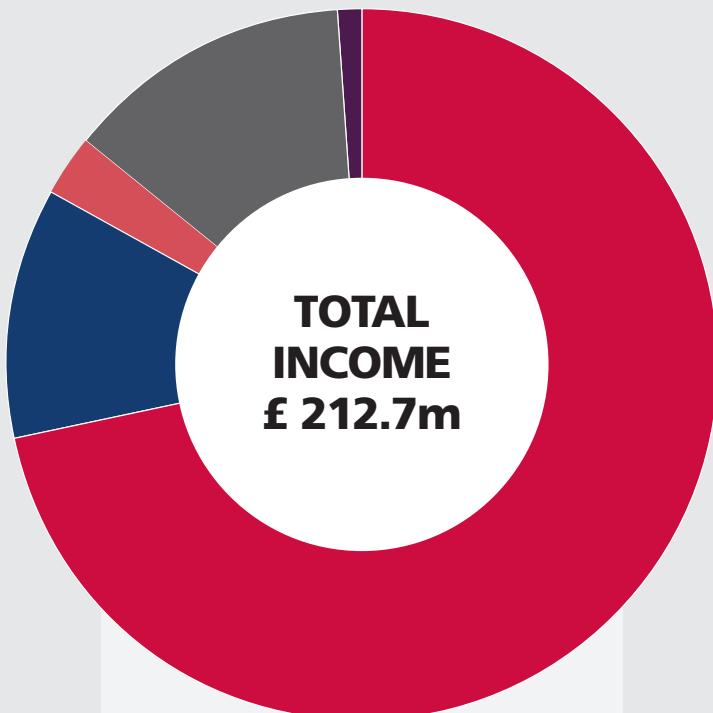
And the celebrations didn't stop there for Harriet, who spent a year out in industry in London during her degree. She secured her first graduate position at graphic design agency Turner Duckworth, who create visual identities and packaging for consumer brands.

She added: "The graphic design course at UCLan really prepares you so that you're ready to tackle anything and I can't praise the tutors enough for all their help. All my hard work has been building up to this moment; can't believe it's all done."

Pictured: Each year UCLan Alumna and University Chancellor Ranvir Singh attends graduation ceremonies where she is an inspiring role model for our graduates.

FACTS AND FIGURES:

Financial results 2016/17

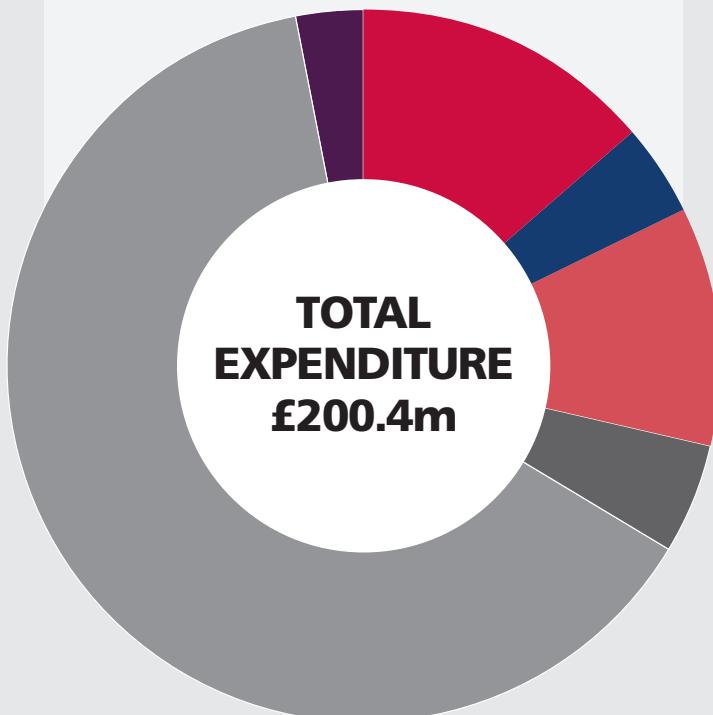


Breakdown of Income 2016/17

TUITION FEES & EDUCATION CONTRACTS; £152.8m
FUNDING BODY GRANTS; £23.5m
RESEARCH GRANTS; £6.2m
OTHER INCOME; £28.4m
INVESTMENTS; £1.8m

Breakdown of Expenditure 2016/17

SUPPORT SERVICES; £27.6m
OTHER EXPENDITURE; £7.6m***PREMISES COSTS;** £21.8m**
ACCOMMODATION & COMMERCIAL SERVICES; £9.6m
CORE ACADEMIC EXPENDITURE; £127.7m
RESEARCH EXPENDITURE; £5.9m



*includes income generating activities and other external activities

**includes infrastructure costs such as depreciation, maintenance, utilities and rates

NET INCOME

£212.7m

**TOTAL
EXPENDITURE**

£200.4m

**SURPLUS
FOR YEAR**

£12.3m

WHY DOES THE UNIVERSITY MAKE AN OPERATING SURPLUS?



TO ENSURE THAT THE UNIVERSITY'S ACTIVITIES REMAIN FINANCIALLY SUSTAINABLE IN THE LONG TERM.



TO ALLOW INVESTMENT SUCH AS FOR ADDITIONAL STAFF, FACILITIES AND SERVICES.



TO ENSURE THAT THE UNIVERSITY HAS SUFFICIENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO REPLACE, IMPROVE AND INVEST IN ITS PHYSICAL ASSETS IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE ITS ACADEMIC STRATEGY.



TO MITIGATE AGAINST UNFORESEEN EVENTS THAT MIGHT JEOPARDISE THE FINANCIAL HEALTH OF THE UNIVERSITY IN THE SHORT TERM.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

5.8%

**OPERATING
SURPLUS AS % OF
TOTAL INCOME**

TARGET: 5% \pm 10%

0.5%

**ANNUAL DEBT SERVICING
COSTS AS %
OF TURNOVER**

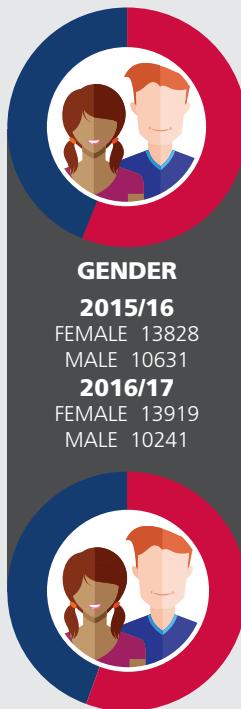
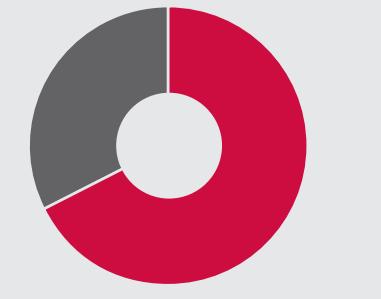
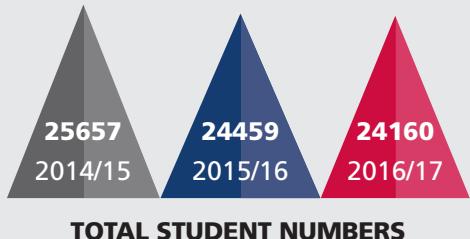
MAXIMUM: 4%

60%

**STAFF COSTS AS %
OF TOTAL
EXPENDITURE**

MAXIMUM: $\leq 60\%$

Students and study 2016/17



PARTICIPATION

Under-represented groups in higher education
Percent of young full-time students from state schools or colleges - 2016/17

First Degree Entrants

UCLan	98.4%	Total UK	90%
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Other Undergraduate Entrants

UCLan	99%	Total UK	96.7%
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All Undergraduate Entrants

UCLan	98.5%	Total UK	90.2%
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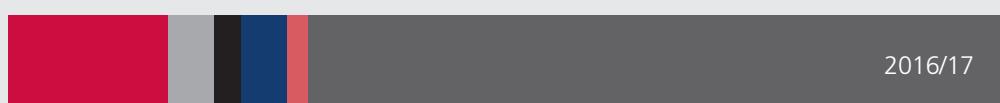
STUDENT AGE AT 1ST SEPT 2016



ETHNIC GROUP



2015/16



	2015/16	2016/17
Asian	3684	3893
Black	1046	1136
Mixed	604	645
Not Known	1292	1128
Other Ethnic	500	507
White	17333	16851

LEVEL OF STUDY

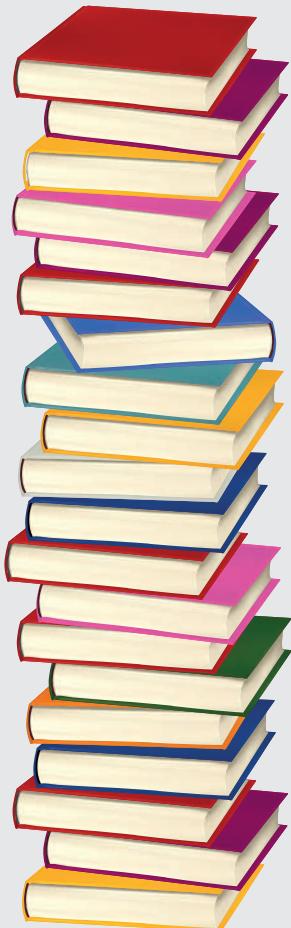
Postgraduate

2015/16 4279
2016/17 4710



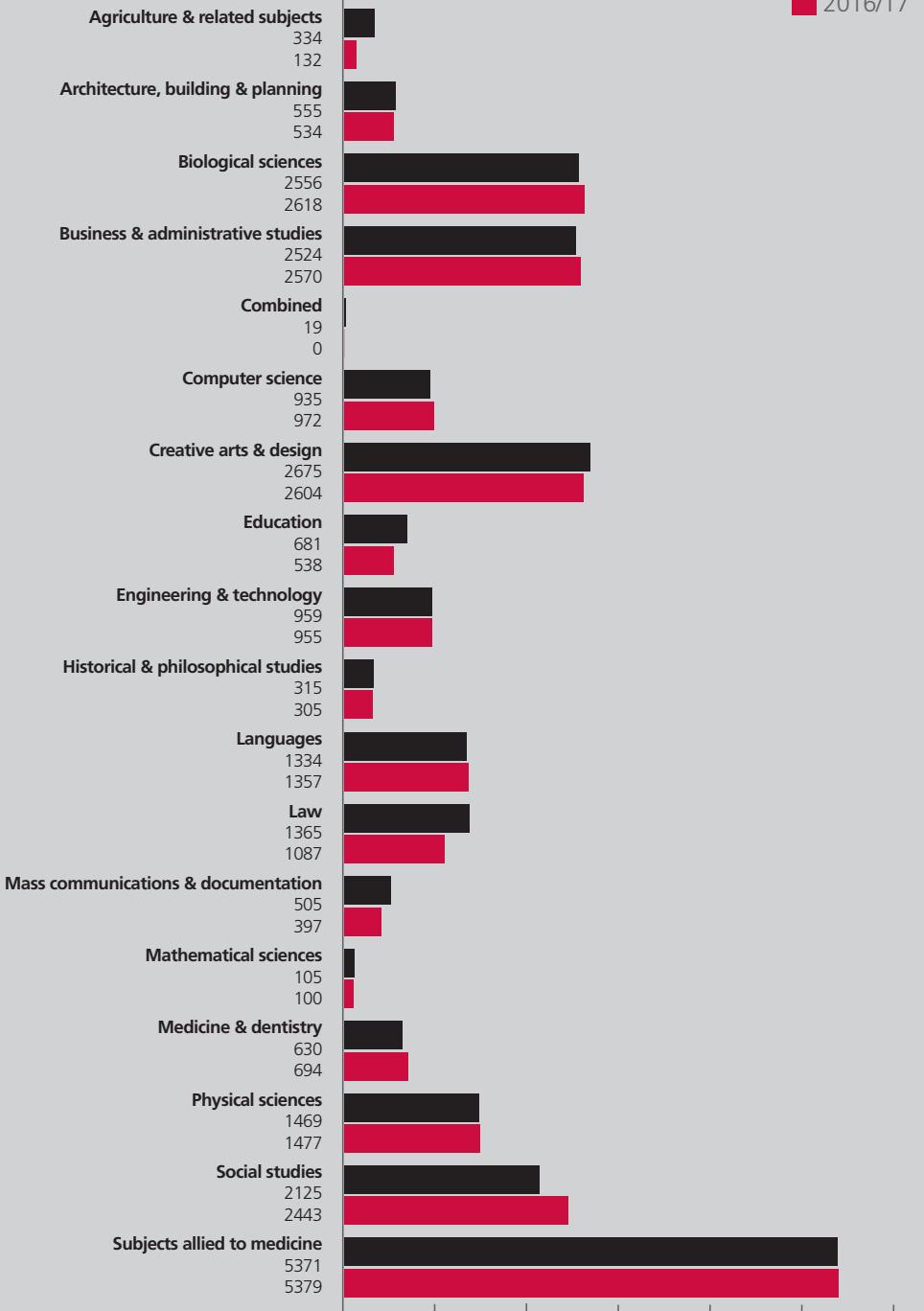
Undergraduate

2015/16 20180
2016/17 19450



SUBJECT OF STUDY

2015/16
2016/17

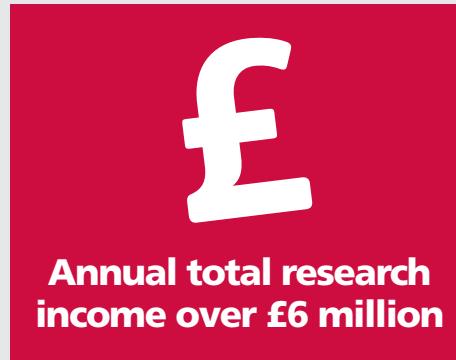


Staff profile

Source: HESA Staff Record 2016/17

Gender	Academic Professional	Managers and Support Staff	Total
Female	693	831	1524
Male	713	441	1154
Total	1406	1272	2678

Quality research, transdisciplinary impact and global reach





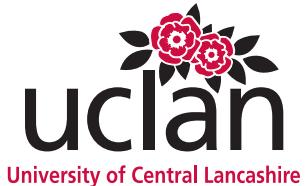
Looking ahead

The University is currently celebrating its 190th anniversary through a year of festivals and events.

In January, staff and students joined together to mark the beginning of the celebrations when they were photographed in the shape of a giant '190'.

The festivities have something for everyone, from thought-provoking public lectures to heritage activities and social events.

Find out more at our special 190th anniversary website: <https://190.uclan.ac.uk/>



University of Central Lancashire
Preston PR1 2HE
Tel: +44 (0) 1772 201201
Email: cenquiries@uclan.ac.uk
uclan.ac.uk

Designed and produced by Communications and Engagement, University of Central Lancashire:

Editor - Chris Theobald

Writers - Rachel Atkinson, Lyndsey Boardman

Contributors - Jess Millington, Dan Mills, Chris Coughlin, Hollie Donnelly, Alex Lee and Daniel Walker

Design - Clare Fogg

Photography - Karl Hopkinson, Image Group

