

STUDENT LIFE

SPRING

2020
ISSUE



FEATURE ARTICLE
IN PROFILE WITH.. **SARAH MCILROY**

 BPP University
**Students'
Association**
bppstudents.com

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WELCOME

Welcome to the Spring 2020 issue of the BPP Student Life magazine. We are really excited to bring you a range of excellent articles written by BPP students and staff. We hope you enjoy reading this magazine as much as we enjoyed writing it.

The Students Association is here to help you make the most of your student experience and consists of several parts:

- The Student Voice is key to ensuring that your views and opinions are heard across the university. My team and I work closely with the annually elected Student Voice Representatives who act as an independent voice for students on various academic committees and school boards, to ensure a positive experience for everyone, during their time at BPP University.
- The Independent Education and Welfare Advisers are here to help you when things don't go to plan. They provide an impartial, confidential service which is independent from the university and can help with academic and welfare issues such as appeals, complaints, deferrals, housing and wellbeing.
- The Student Engagement Team works closely with student-run clubs and societies across all centres to help offer a number of exciting opportunities for you to socialise, as well as to develop skills that will assist you with life in practice. The team works closely with the Student Centre Representatives to help organise social events at each BPP University study centre.

Make sure you visit bppstudents.com for more information and to join our vibrant student community.

I wish you all the best during your time at BPP University and look forward to meeting you all soon.

SHAHBAN AZIZ



Head of Student Experience and
Library Services,
BPP University &
Managing Director,
BPP Students' Association

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SHAHROZE WARRAICH
PRESIDENT

YOUR STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION TEAM

It is with great pleasure I would like to welcome you to BPP University. Over the course of the coming year the Students' Association has planned a number of initiatives to enhance your academic experience at BPP and we wish to work alongside you to ensure your time with us is fulfilling, rewarding and enjoyable.

The Students' Association at BPP exists to provide an independent voice for our students, and as President and a former student at the University, I would like to assure you that the Students' Association in the form of the Student Voice, Independent Education and Welfare Advice, and Student Engagement teams will be working with you to ensure you gain the most possible value from your time at BPP. In the academic year thus far we have already arranged for a number of events for students, including a Games Night, Bollywood Night, and Welcome Lunches for our new students, as well as more events planned and advertised on www.bppstudents.com.

We are always looking for enthusiastic students to become involved with the Association, so please get in touch if you would be keen to work with us in getting more involved. Finally, I would like to provide personal reassurance of my commitment and dedication to ensuring the needs of BPP University students are represented and put forward to the University. Should you need to contact me for any reason at all, or you would just like to have an informal chat, please do so in person, or via my email, shahrozewarraich@bpp.com and we can arrange a call. Wishing you all the best for the coming academic year, and I look forward to meeting each and every one of you.

Best wishes,

Shahroze Warrach
BPP Students' Association President



Hajra Babariya
Student Voice Manager

As your Student Voice Manager I want to work in partnership with you to evaluate and enhance the student experience within the university. I am here to ensure that your opinions are valued and heard by the university.

I graduated from the University of Manchester with a degree in Computation and have worked in management roles at AXA Insurance and the Co-Operative Group. Whilst at university I also worked as a Student Representative and so I'm passionate about Student Voice and the Student Experience. I am always looking for ways to improve the service provided to the students throughout their academic life.

I believe that you have a vast amount of knowledge and expertise that can bring renewed authenticity and relevance to the classrooms benefiting your student life. Most importantly, we want to put the Student Voice at the heart of the university and I look forward to working with all students across all BPP centres.



Azmat Suleman
Student Engagement Manager

I have been with BPP for over seven years now and previously worked in the Student Advice Team.

I am passionate about improving the student experience here at BPP, by working closely with Centre Presidents & clubs and societies to encourage social events and activities. I have knowledge and experience of managing large scale and small events ranging from guest speaker conferences, cultural events and parties.

I have previously worked in student support roles and have experience in helping both international and home students; I really enjoy working in this field and look forward to providing the best support possible to all BPP Students.



**Iain Kinnear and
Charlotte Dare**
Independent Advice Team

The service that we provide is free and we work independently from the University to support you on resolving issues when things don't go to plan. This can range from offering feedback on Mitigating Circumstances or Academic Appeal applications to advising students on the Complaints procedure. We also offer representation to assist you at any University meetings or hearings such as Academic Misconduct Panels.

We are available to all students studying in the UK and in or partner centres across the globe.

You can get in touch with us via email on independentadvice@bpp.com

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR ROLE AT BPP UNIVERSITY

I am in my 23rd year at BPP having started as an accountancy lecturer in our Shepherd's Bush campus back in 1997. Before that I qualified as an accountant (I even did some of my training at BPP which also makes me an alumni) and worked in the UK and France before giving in to my vocation to become a teacher. I had always known I wanted to be in education so after completing my final accountancy exams, I took a year out to do a PGCE, and then worked for 3 years in a secondary school teaching modern languages and business studies. When the opportunity came up to join BPP and combine my accountancy knowledge and experience with my love of teaching, I jumped at the chance and I have never looked back.

Being Dean of the School of Business and Technology is an incredible privilege as I get to work with so many different people, and I get to meet students from all around the world. My days are never the same and now I am based back in our fantastic Shepherd's Bush campus where I started all those years ago, it's really rewarding to be a part of a great staff and student community. I try to be around as much as I can in the student services area, or you may see me in the courtyard or the corridor as I love speaking to students to keep up with what's going on. Running the school means balancing strategic planning and management with more operational details and making sure that all the staff know what they need to do and have the resources to do it. It also means continuously looking out for ways in which we can improve what we do for our students.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR CAREER PATH AND WHY YOU WORK IN EDUCATION

I don't think it's that common these days to stay with one employer for most of your career, so I often reflect on why this has worked for me. The first reason is that I have actually done a whole range of different roles at BPP, including working part-time for 12 years when my children were young. I found BPP to be a flexible employer and that has been really important to me. There are so many different choices these days in combining work and family, and my experience shows that even if you do take some time out of a typical career path, there are always opportunities further down the line if you want them.

The second reason is that I love what I do – being passionate about your work makes every day ok, even if it's a tough one so I would say try to really think about the type of industry you want to be in, what products or services interest you, and what will motivate you to get up and go into work. Things like the company structure, culture and size will all be important in making you feel like you really fit, so doing research is really important.

IN PROFILE WITH..

WHAT SKILLS DO EMPLOYERS LOOK FOR AND WHAT CAREER ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO STUDENTS?

There are many skills that employers look for and you can easily find these out by talking to your tutors, careers teams and by researching employers. My advice would be to develop resilience so that you can cope with building the career you want. It might be that at the start of your career you have to work through a few roles to find the right one - I wasn't really suited to being a practising accountant (I pretty much knew that in the first week if I am honest) but I also knew I had a great opportunity as a graduate trainee to develop skills and to gain a globally recognised qualification, so I put everything into it and didn't give up. As I now run a large budget, those accounting skills are invaluable, but more importantly, I gained insight into what I was good at, what I wanted to do, and more importantly what wasn't suiting me, and it's at that point that I really started progressing in my career. You spend a lifetime building a career so be realistic and take steps to achieve your goals and keep on looking for learning opportunities.

Preparation for the all-important interview is also really important – when I was applying for accountancy roles I had around 8 unsuccessful interviews before I really worked out what was going wrong – I wasn't preparing enough, I wasn't selling myself and I didn't really feel confident to ask for feedback. There are no excuses for this these days and here at BPP we make sure all our students can get help and guidance to avoid these pitfalls!



SARAH MCILROY

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT RUNNING THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY?

I have an amazing team at the School of Business and Technology, some of whom have been with me for over 10 years and many who have joined more recently. Everyone is proud to be a part of the school and we are proud to reflect the BPP mission of 'Building Careers through Education'. Within our team you will find accountants, finance experts, technology experts, professional managers, coaches, counsellors, lecturers and data analysts and while you might not see all of them, we are all working together to deliver a great student experience. As a student in one of our campuses, you meet all the front facing staff who are there to help you but you don't see the teams behind the scenes who are working hard all year round to make sure everything works for you.

When I think about why we do what we do at BPP, we want to help students to build great careers in the future. Part of doing that means understanding what employers are looking for so that we can best prepare our students. These days, employers have high expectations of graduates. They want great academic results as well as evidence of skills, so it's never too early to start thinking about what you can do alongside your degree programme to build up those skills. At the school we try to make our programmes and assessments as realistic as possible to help with this but looking for opportunities to learn and develop wherever you can is important.

WHO OR WHAT INSPIRES YOU IN YOUR WORK?

I think on balance, I have been lucky in my career path and I was fortunate to benefit from a free University education and employer sponsorship for my accountancy qualification. Things are different now and I am always inspired by the commitment, resilience and attitude of our students when they join us. I look back to myself at the age of 18 or 19 and wonder whether I would have had the confidence to travel across the world to study in a new city in a foreign language or to study for a degree whilst working on an apprenticeship programme. I am proud that so many students and families put their trust BPP and I hope that we can deliver fantastic outcomes and all opportunities for everyone.



**PROFILE
WITH..**

SARAH MCILROY

BPP UNIVERSITY

INDEPENDENT STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

STUDENT FOCUSED & STUDENT LED IN EVERYTHING WE DO



**WHAT WE DO
AND HOW WE DO IT**

WWW.BPPSTUDENTS.COM

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STUDENTS!



On Monday 10th February 2020 the Students' Association with the support of the new Campus Experience Manager based in the School of Business and Technology held an afternoon tea event at BPP Shepherds Bush called 'FACULTEA'. This was a great opportunity for students and staff from the faculty team to network, and enjoy food and snacks together. We had a number of stands for students including the Careers Team who were promoting their services and the Students' Association had their very own stall with famous Indian sweets, cakes, and merchandise. Hot savoury food was served including chicken, prawn skewers, sandwiches, wraps, samosas, onion bhajis and a mix of fruit and cakes. We were also serving a wide range of Indian confectionary, crisps, chocolate and drinks. Music was playing in the background to create an upbeat, welcoming atmosphere. Balloons and tinsel decorations were placed around the room to create a relaxed party feel.

There were an estimated 250+ students who attended on the day, all of which were very happy to attend, taking photos with BPP staff and mingling with one another. All students were very enthusiastic to be there with huge smiles and excitement in their eyes – they knew this event was just for them and were eager to have fun!

Everyone that attended was served food and the general atmosphere was very positive, with students and staff mingling whilst taking photos with each other. Towards the end of the event, some very famous bhangra music was playing and both students and staff were dancing!

Both students and staff agreed that this event was fun, enjoyable and necessary. BPP University and its staff understand the importance of student engagement through social events, especially a welcome event such as "FACULTEA" to welcome new and returning students to their centres, and we hope to do similar events at other BPP centres around the country.



MICK YUEN

FACULTEA

AZMAT
SULEMAN



MANAGING

LIFE WITH THE LEGAL PRACTICE COURSE



Having studied law at undergraduate and post-graduate level before my commencement on the LPC at BPP I am no stranger to the subject. However, the intensity of the programme, albeit part-time, did evoke some surprise. When adding working full-time as part of a busy in-house legal team, young children and community work into the mix, it does become a challenge. Staff are always on hand to support and tutors bring extensive experience into their teaching which all helps with the general challenge of completing an LPC. If any of my fellow students find themselves questioning their logic behind pursuing a career in law after sitting the BLP exam, I am told it is a perfectly natural sequence. I would also add that the path to legal practice is by no means easy and that anyone advised to the contrary may wish to consider a claim for misrepresentation. Although challenging, The LPC at BPP provides a very practical approach to the law and, depending on one's interests, it can be somewhat enjoyable (subject to one's definition of the term).

USAMAH
HIMDY

LPC STUDENT



In my experience, the key to overcoming the challenges posed by managing various commitments whilst studying the LPC is effective time management. The first step in achieving this is to recognize that, for the duration of the course, a normal schedule is impractical. The reason for this is the need to prioritize commitments and make use of all the time available. For example, using lunch breaks at work to complete SGS preparation or commutes into work/classes to prepare. Every hour of the day needs to be scrutinized in order to effectively manage time. I was told by numerous people who embarked on this very same journey to put my social life on hold for two years. I can honestly say I have not had to do this so far. It is surprising what difference getting up an hour earlier can make, being efficient and making the most of the time available is vital. The second useful approach is planning, as the old saying goes: fail to plan plan to fail.

A general plan should be made outlining specified time for each commitment and every effort should be made to adhere. In the social context, it may mean having to limit outings as this is usually, or at least should be, near the bottom on the order of priority (excuse the pun).

Getting through the LPC is itself a challenge, doing so whilst managing various other high priority commitments is a formidable endeavour. With effective time management and planning it is, however, achievable. To help with some perspective and motivation, I have been on holiday twice, spent a further week abroad as part of an international aid project, cared for my young children and worked full time as a trainee solicitor in the first six months of the LPC. In which time we have been through four assessments including BLP which in my opinion counts as three. A lawyers writing would not be complete without a disclaimer – the results for BLP are not out yet, as such please do not rely on this information.

PALESTINIAN STUDENTS VISIT BPP

The visit of Palestinian students from Al Quds University, Bethlehem University and Al Quds Open University to the UK was an exchange of culture, ideas and education around raising awareness of the experience of university students in Palestine today. The trip was organised by registered charity Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association (CADFA) who also arrange a number of other volunteering opportunities in Palestine including Cookery Visits, Women's Visits, Student Summer Camps as well as General Visits. The aim of this year's visit, entitled 'Palestinian Voices Matter', was to provide students at the three universities with a platform and opportunity to visit their British counterparts, including students at BPP University.



The highlight of the students' engagement with BPP was a human rights and cultural evening at BPP Waterloo on 5 February, attended by over 70 people. The night featured a screening of ABC Australia's 'Stone Cold Justice' documentary, a short lecture by Tareq Shrourou – the director of Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights (LPHR), a presentation and Q&A session by the Palestinian students themselves, and finally a music performance by a Palestinian musician Ziad Sabbubeh.

The event at Waterloo was awakening for BPP students. A GDL student attendee wrote in response to a request for feedback on the event that "Hearing their stories about their struggle was emotional for me. We're so far from the idea of our university being tear-gassed and our students being shot with rubber bullets." This point was poignantly demonstrated by one of the Palestinian students discussing and showing a video of these events unfolding in her university a few months ago. The university students were shot at whilst playing music in an outside space on the university site.

Gaining effective access to education was expectedly a significant theme of this event: British students were eager to hear from Palestinian students about their experiences attending university in Palestine. The story that one of the Palestinians told the audience about was particularly disheartening for many. His friend was purposively prevented by soldiers from accessing his university during the exam season, causing him to have to resit the entire year. From a human rights perspective, taking children from their homes and using abusive interrogation tactics to gain false confessions – as came across in the Australia ABC documentary 'Stone Cold Justice' – is equally as disturbing.



One of the Palestinian student speakers remarked about how she had to walk two hours through discriminatory checkpoints to get to her university, in order to study medicine. Regarding this, a BPP student remarked that she found "their strength and activism... empowering." This was another theme: the audience's admiration for the steadfastness of the Palestinians in their assertion of their rights. As one of the Palestinian students made clear in support of this point when she spoke: 'Existence is resistance'. The audience was moved into offering its applause and vocal support.



“Their strength and activism are empowering.”

“Existence is resistance.”

STUDENTS FROM PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITIES VISITED BPP WATERLOO AND CAMBRIDGE

BPP's head of Student Experience and Library Services, Shahban Aziz, had the following to say on the event: "A particularly emotional moment for me came when I mentioned my visit to the amazing Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem last month. One of the students tearfully told me that he has never been allowed to visit despite living and studying in the same City – and that under current rules he won't be allowed until the age of 55". The event was designed to bring such realisations to life.

Student attendees felt the stark contrast as far as the event's balance between providing informed discussion on one hand; and a brighter image of Palestine's past and future through culture on the other. Indeed, one student remarked that attending had "really broadened my perspective around life in Palestine. It was very touching and informative."

“My perspective was really broadened”

Yes – it was essential to hear from the director of legal charity LPHR, and the students themselves about their daily experience of hardship in navigating an oppressive system of discrimination affecting all facets of their daily life – but it was also key to celebrate Palestinian culture, such as through music and food. Hearing British-Palestinian Ziad Sabbubeh play the oud (a stringed instrument from the Middle East) and guitar uplifted but also humbled the audience as to the timeless nature of Palestinian culture. The atmosphere in the room suggested that Ziad revived for many their belief in the unifying power of music.

Food at the event at BPP Waterloo was special. Delicious and traditional Palestinian falafel (deep-fried chickpea purée and fine herb patties with garlic and sesame extract), chicken maqlooba (chicken with rice and mixed vegetables such as aubergine and cauliflower), and various meat and vegetarian/vegan pastries were all served. It felt essential to the organisers to represent a small element of authentic Palestinian cuisine – not just simply due to its tastiness, but to highlight the culinary delights of Palestine. The food was provided by Hiba Express: a favourite Palestinian restaurant of many visitors to central London.

“When even a country's cuisine is appropriated by the oppressor as its own, culture becomes essential to defend and celebrate.”



Interestingly, one Palestinian student remarked how she was so delighted the organisers had provided Palestinian food, rather than any ordinary fast food. When even a country's cuisine is appropriated by the oppressor as its own, culture becomes essential to defend and celebrate. It was pleasing that the food was so well-received by all attendees, as well as the emergency pizza supplies – obtained when the organisers realised the higher-than-expected turnout to the event!

The event at BPP Waterloo was supplemented by a smaller event at BPP Cambridge on 4 February. The same Palestinian students spoke to students at the BPP centre in Cambridge about their experiences of human rights and law in operation in Palestine in a more informal and discussion-based forum. As well as hearing harrowing stories from the students, thoughts were shared on Palestinian identity and the future of the country. Students at BPP Cambridge enjoyed the opportunity to be able to speak in depth with students from Palestine and exchange ideas.

“Informative and touching”

Taken together, the Palestinian students' visits were both informative and touching. Special thanks is extended to Azmat Suleman of BPP's Students' Association for devoting such effort in assisting with the organisation of the events. As well as the student representative volunteers who helped enormously on the night itself. Gratitude is also offered to everyone who attended, spoke and performed at the event. This article is dedicated to the student visitors to the UK from Palestine: Hamza, Fatima, Ghena, Shirin, Areen, Asil, and Sameh. Their gentle presence and meaningful words filled the hearts of everybody who spoke to them at BPP.



A SUCCESSFUL PANEL SESSION WITH THE NMC



My name is Ellen and my name is James, and we are both finishing our first years as Student Nurse Apprentices studying with BPP.

On the 16th January 2020 both of us were invited to BPP London Waterloo to participate in an interview with the Nursing and Midwifery Council regarding our Nursing Apprenticeship.

For clarity, the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) is the regulator for nursing and midwifery professions in the UK.

James and I were just two students out of a larger group that attended the event. The additional nursing students were from other BPP locations around the country. Having a larger group amplified the diversity of the nursing courses to the NMC and therefore highlighted the commitment the students have to both the university and their career. It was also a fantastic opportunity for us to network with other students and their academics to share our experiences with BPP thus far.

Both Ellen and I take an active role in our cohorts as Ellen is our student representative and I am in charge of organising events specifically for our cohort.

During the interview we were asked a variety of questions about our courses and how the university work in collaboration with all students. The other students were able to share their experience relative to their course which included mental health, children and adult nursing.

It was a privilege to be able to share our positive experiences with the NMC and other students thus far. In addition, all students spoke highly of the university, promoting the unconditional support we all receive. Like the other attendees, we both answered honestly and with as much detail as we could.

Overall, the day went extremely well, and there was a general consensus that all answers gave an appropriate insight into the journey of a student with BPP.

Following on from this day we feel we have had a positive impact on the future of the Apprentices with BPP due to the confident atmosphere created by the students and the professionalism and respect we had for one another was truly remarkable.

ELLEN AND JAMES



INSPIRATIONAL

BPP ALUMNI SPEAKERS AT GRADUATION

This winter, BPP celebrated two graduations in new venues - Bridgewater Hall in Manchester and Barbican in London – and both were fantastic successes!

BPP Alumni were delighted to arrange two impressive speakers to address the ceremonies and showcase the great things that former BPP students carry on to achieve.

PETE MILLS

(GDL 2007, LPC 2008)

In Manchester in December, BPP alumnus Pete Mills inspired our graduands with the story of his own unconventional path to success: Pete went from a training contract with prestigious legal firm **Eversheds** to setting up digital consultancy firm **Calls9**.

The company helps businesses build websites, apps, and intranets quickly and easily. They are now operational in over 40 countries worldwide – and count global corporations **Activision** and **Jimmy Choo** among their clients.



You can watch Pete's speech
SCAN THE CODE TO WATCH:

ALEX DI FRANCESCO

(GDL 2007, BVC 2008)

In London in January, BPP alumnus Alex Di Francesco delivered a 'call to arms' as he urged graduands to use what they have learned at BPP in the pursuit of justice. In a stirring moment, he declared: *The enemy of our values is not just at the door; they've broken in and they're trashing the place.*

Alex is a leading criminal junior at renowned chambers **25 Bedford Row** where he defends those accused of a range of serious criminal offences. He is currently involved in the independent public inquiry into the Manchester Arena attack in 2017.



You can watch Alex's speech
SCAN THE CODE TO WATCH:

STAY CONNECTED ON BPP COMMUNITY

If you want to hear more alumni successes, and to keep in touch with BPP students, alumni and staff, make sure to join and engage with BPP Community: <http://community.bpp.com>

This networking platform is like 'LinkedIn for BPP', plus you can book events and find alumni mentors. Launched in July, it's growing quickly and now has over 2,300 alumni, students and staff members.

If you have any questions, contact us at alumni@bpp.com.

Don't try and be someone else. Just be yourself. Know what you are getting into and see if you can find a culture or a leadership group that will see your talents and help you work on the things you are not so good at. Life is too short to be unhappy and we all have choices.

Pete Mills
GDL and LPC Graduate

At BPP I was inspired by those who taught me, many of whom were successful legal practitioners themselves, but also by my peers the majority of whom have gone on to have successful careers at the bar and have remained close friends.

Alex Di Francesco
GDL and BVC [BPTC] Graduate



EMMANUEL LAMPTEY

- BRIEF PROFILE



Emmanuel Lamptey studied MSc Accounting and Finance with ACCA at BPP University and graduated in 2018. While at BPP, he acted as a Student Staff Liaison and was nominated as a student representative to sit on the University Academic Panel. After graduating from BPP, he co-founded a fintech company with an aim to aid financial inclusion in Africa, link borrowers in Africa to lenders across the globe and provide alternative solutions within the micro-lending space in Sub Saharan Africa. He is the Founder of Indigenous House, a lifestyle brand that showcases African culture through fashion and art. Emmanuel is also a consultant who advises businesses about finance and strategy.

WRITTEN BY:

**EMMANUEL
LAMPTEY**

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FINTECH ASCENDS TO THE FUTURE OF BANKING

Imagine waking up one morning and you get an alert from your bank, not via text, not via email, but via your personal assistant - a robot or perhaps a device that is built like alexa or siri. She senses you are awake, greets you 'good morning' and tells you that your bank balance has fallen drastically compared to the previous month. This time it is the 1st day of April so your direct debits had gone through the previous day (31st of March).

Though your assistant tells you your bank balance at the start of every month, you are alarmed this time because she used the word "drastically"; You then remembered you took out a new life insurance policy for which you pay a relatively large premium per month. You stop panicking...it wasn't a fraudulent activity on your account. Immediately, you ask her to make a transfer, of course after security and voice recognition procedures to bring your balance back to its buffer level or previous balance.

You did all this without walking to the bank, you did all this by the help of an unpaid assistant. How efficient! This is how banking will be in less than a decade depending on how fast things move. As you may already be aware, major UK high street bank NatWest is piloting this feature with Google Home smart speakers - this will enable customers to know their balance, pending transactions and latest transactions by asking the smart device.

With the emergence of Artificial Intelligence (AI), robotics and Natural Language Processing (NLP), the internet of things (IoT) has transformed the way we live and the way we go about handling certain routines. Talk about increased efficiency, speed, accuracy and less hassle. PwC has forecasted that 45% of gains by 2030 will come from the increased efficiency due to AI and that AI could add more

than \$10 trillion to the global economy in the next decade.

Today, banking across borders has become even more seamless, thanks to tech legislation such as Open Banking and Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) which is commonly referred to as Blockchain. In simple terms, Blockchain serves as a tool for analysing transactions between banks or accounts and creates a ledger that reconciles them to agree with available balances. It also ensures security and serves as a shield against fraudulent transactions.

Typically, transaction analytics is used in carrying out checks and balances so that any breaches of the bank's control system will result in security alerts being flagged. This process allows appropriate action to be taken - either reverse transactions or correct errors. Therefore, using transaction analytics enables a bank to automate part of its internal audit process and ensure that it is applied continuously and effectively. This method offers a greater advantage over traditional approaches of checking internal controls, in that it can be used to cross-check every single transaction that the system recognises. In the past, manual sampling was used to check that controls were being applied properly, the results from the manual sampling will then be used to make decisions about the effectiveness of the entire system.

The propensity for blockchain to provide an understanding of how cross-border transactions work in real-time is very relevant for financial institutions and regulators. The good old financial crime remedies such as Anti-Money Laundering (AML), Know Your Customer (KYC) and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) would be addressed with regulatory requirements by institutions through the application of distributed ledger technology.

LENDING TAKES A NEW APPROACH

P2P lending which fully stands for peer-to-peer lending is a way of connecting lenders to borrowers on the same online platform. This approach replaces the traditional lending option of physically going to a financial institution such as a bank or micro-lending house to apply for a loan. P2P lending goes back to 2005 when Zoopla, the very first company that specialises in this type of lending was launched in the UK - Growth in the market has been exponential and compounded, though Europe now ranks third after USA and China.

P2P lending is much easier to access considering it is done online. The average consumer will prefer online channels rather than traditional brick and mortar approaches. With P2P lending, one does not need to go to a bank to apply for credit. It also cuts out the traditional and boring paperwork, which is normally required by banks. Although verifications are required, it can all be done seamlessly online and paperless!

Being one of Fintech's most groundbreaking inventions, Blockchain is used to securitize the P2P lending process through a distributed ledger to avoid third party permissions. It gives both parties an additional layer of security to carry out transactions in an efficient manner. Because some people still feel safer with credit verification authorities and other third parties, blockchain does not serve as a solution for them in terms of security verification.

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS OF P2P LENDING?

The most predominant challenge will be the lack of government regulations. No real physical connection between the lender and the borrower. They tend to be more risky for the lender but at the same time gives them higher returns should there be no defaults. Default rates are relatively higher which leads to the collapse of P2P startups.

IS P2P THE FUTURE OF LENDING?

The global P2P lending market is projected to have a capitalization of about \$450bn in 2022. It is only safe to say that the rise in the value of the P2P market is drastic and exponential. The UK government, for example, allocates some millions of pounds to startups and entrepreneurs through P2P platforms; this is how the government supports tech startups. Looking at the advantages of using P2P lending, there is a very slim chance that this approach to lending will die out any time soon. For any reason at all, it will only get better in the future. Life is much easier when the traditional method of lending or borrowing is avoided. Disruptive technology always leads the way!

PRO-VICE CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR CAREER READY EXCELLENCE - WINNER!



MARIA FERNANDA

Performing the role of Investor Analyst at Murano has given me a unique insight into the Asset Management industry as a whole. It's an industry that can seem from the outside quite opaque and difficult to enter, but my experience at the firm has offered me a huge amount of exposure to the global market, allowing me to grow and develop my skills immeasurably.

To put it simply, the core of my role consists of speaking with institutional investors to identify any current mandates or manager searches they have, then connecting them with relevant fund managers where appropriate. Our clients are the asset managers, from Hedge Funds to Private Equity and Real Assets to name a few. The investors span the whole institutional spectrum, from Family Offices to Pension Funds, and Endowments to Sovereign Wealth Funds.

I can appreciate that the exposure granted to me in this role provides a rare opportunity early on in my career to develop skills that elsewhere may have taken much longer to learn. I've explored and researched a lot on business development, including phone training practices, which has significantly improved my communication skills as well as my confidence.

Engaging the head of a Family Office or the CIO at a large US Endowment in a conversation about their portfolio construction, at first seemed like a daunting task, but has now become part of my daily activity and something that I relish. Another big part of my day is staying up to date and in touch with my assigned fund manager clients that I am the key account manager for. Managing these accounts means effectively working as an extension of their own internal team, helping them to grow their business. In order to do this, I must understand what they do and how they fit within the industry, but also build substantial knowledge on the industry and how money flows around the world. Looking back now, I can see how steep the learning curve has been. Eager to learn, I see every client presentation or team meeting as an opportunity to learn from others. The managers that present to the team are experts in their field, and we are given the chance to ask to these inspirational managers direct questions and garner a deeper understanding first hand.

My learning repertoire did not only include financial jargons and the application of statistics to finance, but also the daily practice of empathy. Empathy is essential in order to better understand why a particular fund may fit into an investor's portfolio, as well as the difficulties that allocators face when sourcing new managers. It is also crucial to also look at the industry from the fund managers' viewpoint. They face many challenges in finding the right investors and growing their asset base, while also looking after the interests of their existing clients and running their portfolios.

By being able to appreciate the perspective of both sides and therefore propose a suitable solution to the investment equation, our team at Murano acts as a facilitator. More importantly, none of us could do this alone. It is clear to me that neither the funds nor investors can be served with excellence by one single person. I have learned the importance of working with a knowledgeable and cohesive team, and I look forward to further developing my skills and knowledge base. My goal is that one day I will help to inspire others as I have been inspired.

WELCOMING YOUR NEW DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION OFFICER

A big welcome to our new Diversity and Inclusion Officer Farhia Abukar, who joined BPP in December 2019. Farhia has previously worked for LSE in the Equality team and brings a range of experience, passion and knowledge to BPP. We are very keen to deepen our understanding of student perspectives of Equality and Diversity issues relating to their time at BPP, promoting diversity and creating a more inclusive environment.



FARHIA
ABUKAR

DIVERSITY AND
INCLUSION OFFICER

WHY IS DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Diversity and inclusion is important to me because the value of inclusion is not just because we want to be kind and nice and warm, though those are important things. But inclusion and social belonging leads people to perform to their highest capacity and enable them to accomplish their goals. I am excited to have joined BPP at a crucial time when we will be focussing on improving the Student Experience, retention and achievement in relation to the protected groups.

HOW WILL GETTING INVOLVED BENEFIT STUDENTS?

By getting involved students can join a diversity groups to meet other students, make new friends and network; or students can simply be coming along to one of our many informal events to learn and meet the various external organisations we work with. We want students to share their journey with us to help improve our educational and professional services and promote a culture of inclusivity and openness at BPP.

If you would like to find out more information or get involved please contact: inclusion@bpp.com and follow us on Twitter @bppinclusion and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/bppdiversity/> to keep up to date with latest events and projects.

HOW CAN STUDENTS GET INVOLVED? WHAT PROJECTS AND EVENTS CAN STUDENTS LOOK FORWARD TO?

DIVERSITY AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME:

The first project is the Diversity Ambassadors Programme which involves a reverse mentoring scheme and leading on diversity groups.

Reverse Mentoring between student and staff aims to provide a greater opportunity for cultural awareness between participants and creates more interaction between faculty and students, it also aims to provide a platform for inclusive teaching at BPP University. The second component to this programme is to join a diversity group and lead on activities, events, and contribute to the school wide diversity consultations happening in March. Below are the Diversity Groups we are running:

Ethnic Minority Group
Women's Group
LGBT Group
Mature Student Group
Disability Group

BAME STUDENT EXPERIENCE PROJECT:

We are in the process of conducting a school wide student consultation on BAME student journey and experience, from when they joined BPP and all the way through to securing employment. I will be holding focus groups and one to one interview in March and want to hear from BAME BPP students. Of course the interviews will be confidential but would greatly contribute to our understanding of the BAME student experience. If are interested and would like to participate please get in contact with me.

Students, stay connected on BPP Community.

Check out our student, alumni and staff online network
Go to community.bpp.com to:



Connect

Find and engage with fellow BPP Community members



Expand

Search for a mentor and be introduced to people you should know



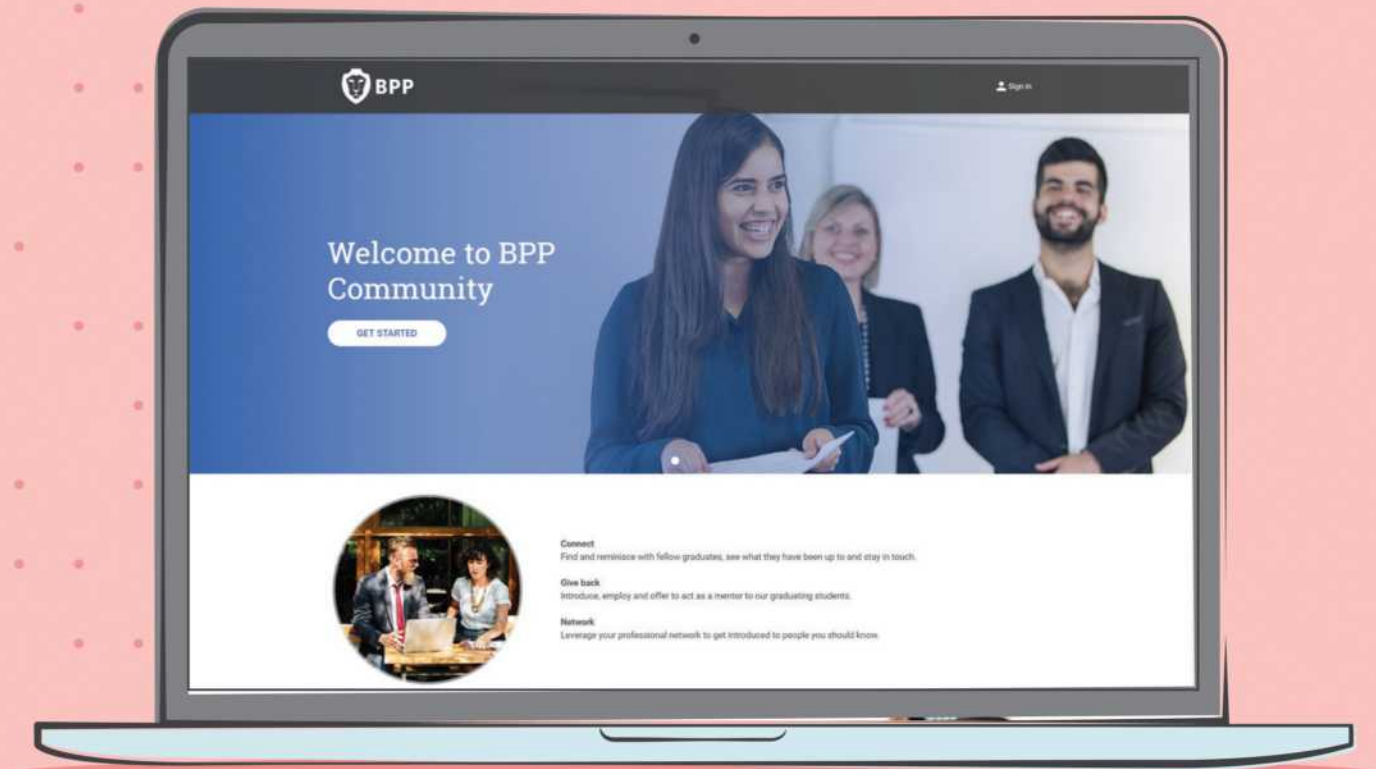
Advance

Get advice from fellow members on how to succeed



Book events

Check our internal and industry events board to be involved and invite others to join you



How you can join BPP Community:

- 1 Go to community.bpp.com
- 2 Sign up using LinkedIn or a personal email address
- 3 Complete your full profile
- 4 Wait for the confirmation email to say you're a member
- 5 Use BPP Community to stay connected



THE SOLICITOR GENERAL

VISITS BPP'S AWARD WINNING PRO BONO CENTRE

On the 27th January, BPP's award winning pro bono centre was fortunate to host a visit from the Solicitor General, the Rt Hon Michael Ellis QC MP. Prior to his election to parliament in 2010, Mr Ellis was a criminal defence barrister representing clients on Legal Aid, having been called to the Bar at Middle Temple in 1993.

Mr Ellis was keen to understand the work carried out by BPP's Legal Advice Clinics, asking questions about the scope of the cases dealt with and the range of clients we see. Clearly impressed, he commented that this should be done in every university.

Generous with his time, Mr Ellis spent longer at BPP than was originally planned and met with a number of student directors from a range of pro bono projects. He asked about the motivations for undertaking pro bono work whilst a student and reflected on his own experience of going into prison to meet prisoners in a far less structured environment whilst studying for the Bar. He commended the students for their dedication and acknowledged the difficulty of joining the legal profession but was very encouraging to the future solicitors and barristers.

Kurt Satney, a BPTC student who is the Student Director for both Streetlaw and the London Legal Advice Clinic, said:

"The Solicitor General shared insights into his own experiences as a student volunteer and this in many ways mirrored mine, which is very inspiring. I continue to be very proud to be a part of such a dedicated team of volunteers and will continue volunteering throughout my legal career. For Alethea Redfern, a BPTC student and editor of the BPP Human Rights Blog. The visit "was a valuable reminder of the importance of the work we do, and a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the projects other students are undertaking at BPP".

Frankie Hall, a Part-Time LPC student, commented: "Meeting the Solicitor General was a great opportunity to advocate for Pro Bono. He was genuinely interested in our work and in the impact Pro Bono can have in meeting unmet legal needs. Volunteering with Pro Bono is its own reward, but it was great to have the hard work of the Pro Bono Centre recognised by a government minister."

Mr Ellis identified the role of pro bono in demystifying the law and legal jargon, something which is invaluable for clients, and noted the significance in participation in pro bono in inspiring students for their future legal careers. Pro bono, he noted, benefitted both students and the public. The pro bono centre was something that BPP should be very proud of and he thanked BPP for its support.

Tony MARTIN

HEAD OF CLINICS, BPP PRO BONO CENTRE



HOW TO GET INTO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW



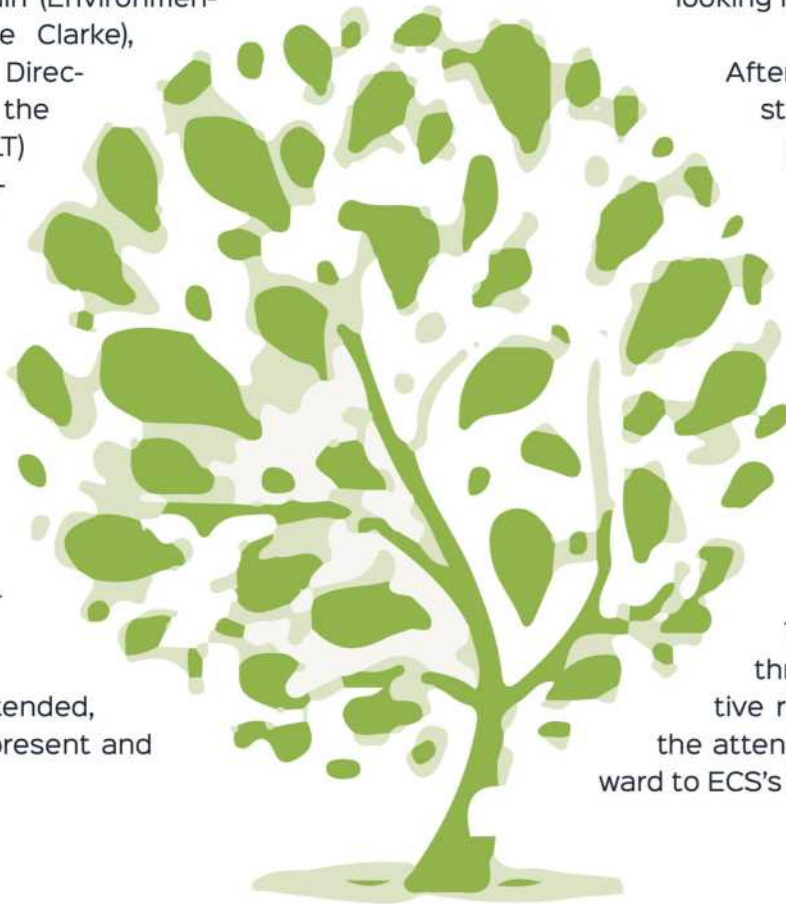
On 19th November 2019, BPP Bristol's Environmental Conscious Society (ECS) welcomed three experts in the field of environmental law to a panel discussion. The speakers were able to give students an introduction to the field, as well as valuable insight into their respective practices. ECS were very privileged to host Matthew Germain (Environmental Partner at Osborne Clarke), Fergus Charlton (Legal Director and Associate in the planning group at TLT) and Nina Pindham (Planning and Environmental Law Barrister at No 5 Chambers). The panel had a diverse range of practices and were able to shed light on areas of work available, such as: planning; environmental litigation; regulation and compliance; and international law.

The event was well attended, with over 30 students present and participating.

Those in attendance were enlightened to the broad scope of work available to an "environmental lawyer", and the panel were keen to reiterate how quickly, and continually, the field is evolving. As a result of this, the panel suggested that environmental law is a field that should be entered into by those looking for an academic challenge.

After each guest had spoken students were given the opportunity to pose questions to the panel. Questions ranged from what to include in a training contract or pupillage interview, to how recent social, political and economic changes are likely to impact on environmental legislation in the United Kingdom.

The committee were thrilled to receive very positive reviews of the event from the attendees, and are looking forward to ECS's upcoming event in term 2.



As professional people, we all have our motivations.

Whether you come here to drive innovation, administer a cure, campaign for justice or balance the books, chances are you want to use your career to bring change and progress to the world.

As Health, Safety and Environmental Officer here at BPP, I have been incredibly fortunate to work with the Students' Association to work out how we can bring sustainability visions right to the very heart of how we operate. Here are some quick ways in which you can get involved...

1. Bring your own bottle or re-usable travel mug

Across the University, we've set targets to cut our use of single use plastic cups by 75%. We have begun removing plastic cups from water coolers, so that we can focus on sustainable alternatives. If we all work together, this is an easy way to make a huge difference.

2. Look out for recycling points at your centre

We all need to recycle more. We're planning to introduce better recycling facilities that will allow us to dodge contamination and collectively make a positive difference.

3. Pack a lunchbox

Call "it's a wrap" on packaging. Swap monstrous polystyrene boxes, landfill-destined forks, and ugly plastic bags for an easy-on-the-eye bamboo lunchbox... and save yourself a small fortune in the process!

4. Join the discussion

I'll be teaming up with the Students' Association to hold more focus groups in the future, and would love your involvement. Get in touch, share your ideas and help us to accomplish our greenest of goals. My email address is below.

5. Be mindful of how your everyday decisions impact the environment

Whether it's cutting back on printed materials or saying no to plastic straws, take a moment to consider how your actions can make a positive difference.

Yours sustainably,
Amelia Cavinder – Health, Safety and Environmental Officer
environmental@bpp.com

Overseas EXAMS

All BPP students (including distance learning) are automatically registered to sit their assessments in the UK. If due to visa restrictions or personal reasons you are unable to attend your exams in the UK, we can arrange for you to take these overseas.

STEPS YOU NEED TO FOLLOW:

- Check the list of approved venues, which is available on our VLE page, as well as the application deadline for your course.
- Please note that the deadlines are around 1-2 months prior to the exams, thus please ensure you send your application within the deadline.
- Please fill out and send a complete application form to 'overseasexams@bpp.com'.
- Once you submit your application, we will process it and once your exam arrangements are confirmed, we will send you the 'Exam schedule' that includes the exam timetable and the overseas venue contact details.
- You will then need to contact the venue directly in order to arrange a payment directly to them.

FEES:

- As the overseas exams are held in independent venues, each venue has its own charging structure which covers the cost of administration, invigilation, room hire and postage of materials per exam. Fees may be higher if the venue has to open outside normal office hours or during local public holidays (if the venue agrees to host exams on these days). If you wish to know the fees your preferred venue will charge, you will need to contact the venue directly.
- If you are re-sitting your exams overseas, you will also have to pay £75 per written exam, as if you are re-sitting exams in the UK.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Only written and computer-based exams can be arranged overseas – coursework/take-home option can be submitted online, while oral assessments need to be taken in the UK.
- Although you previously sat your assessments overseas, you need to submit an application for every subsequent assessment round. You will not be automatically added to sit your exams overseas, even if you sat them overseas previously.
- It is not possible to change the exam date or time. Before completing the Overseas Application form, please download the Global Bank Holiday calendar to ensure your exams are not during a bank holiday. If they are, contact your approved venue of choice, who will need to confirm whether they can host the exam.

If you require any further information on sitting your assessments overseas or for submitting an application, please contact overseasexams@bpp.com.

BPP INVESTS IN DEFIBRILLATORS

I am delighted to share with you some incredibly valuable news, concerning our First Aid arrangements:

BPP has recently invested in a defibrillator for each of our UK centres.

AEDs are to be used once a cardiac arrest strikes, when every minute without defibrillation decreases a patient's chances of survival by 10%.

Our defibrillators are housed in or near reception areas. If you are unsure as to where one is at your centre, please ask at reception.

British Heart Foundation receives 100% of the profit from the sale of these defibrillators, meaning our investment not only progresses first aid arrangements at BPP, it also funds research to prevent, diagnose, treat and cure conditions like heart diseases, stroke and vascular dementia.



Amelia Cavinder is the Health, Safety and Environmental Officer at BPP. If you have any questions about first aid, or any other EHS issue, please contact her at healthandsafety@bpp.com





Amelia Cavinder is the Health, Safety and Environmental Officer at BPP, and a zealous flat white aficionado. If you have any questions about the new vending machines or BPP's sustainability performance, please contact her at environmental@bpp.com.

A SHOT OF SUSTAINABILITY



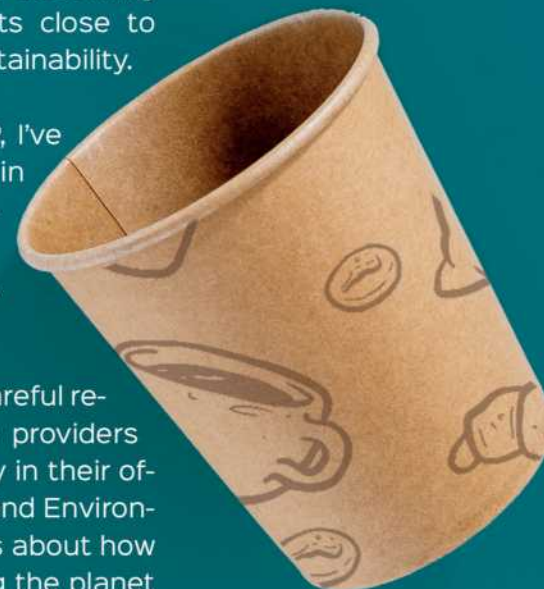
NEW VENDING MACHINE PROVIDER GETS THE SEAL OF APPROVAL FROM THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Get those reusable coffee cups at the ready – we're replacing our vending machines!

On Wednesday 15th January, we brought together some of the Students Association's most discerning representatives to discuss three subjects close to most of our hearts: coffee, snacks and sustainability.

As part of the facilities team here at BPP, I've spent a good chunk of the last few months in a frightfully caffeinated state, interrogating our current provisions for vending machine snacks and hot drinks and asking, "How can we do better".

It's been a long process. After a period of careful research, we filtered the vending machine providers down to five companies that varied greatly in their offering and ethos. I'm BPP's Health, Safety and Environmental Officer, so I had plenty of questions about how we can provide a better cuppa, while doing the planet some good.



By mid-January, we were close to making a final decision. We had an idea of who we wanted to invite into our community, but two key questions remained:

- Did we have the approval of the student body?
- Did the coffee taste good?

Over to you...

"I love that they are in paper cups", was one of the first observations from Student Rep Lily, a coffee connoisseur who was impressed not just by the taste of her hot beverage, but also how it was delivered in an environmentally aware way. Where sustainability is concerned, our new vending machine provider performed astonishingly well against our 17-point checklist. Like us, they hold ISO14001:2015 certification, proving that they operate a successful environmental management system.

They also:

- minimise their carbon footprint through route optimisation
- offer machines with an A+ energy rating
- offer a discount to those using reusable cups
- use recyclable cups
- sell rainforest alliance products

The new provision will be more sustainable, without compromising on practicality and convenience. Business School Rep Farheen cited that the machines' ability to accept contactless, Apple Pay and Google Pay was a "great addition", that responded well to historic student feedback. For Connor (BPTC student) the machine's standard white coffee made for the perfect caffeine top up after a long commute. But even by 11am, with his train journey a memory, Connor was unrestrained in his feedback for the Mokador bean. "I like it. No, actually... I love it".

Senior Independent Education and Welfare Advisor / self-confessed "coffee obsessive" Charlotte Dare was quick to note how the machine's varied settings gave more control to the espresso experts amongst us.

Farheen sampled a latte and a choco-milk and announced that the creamy hot chocolate was the clear winner. Between offering a number of practical suggestions as to how we could use the new contract as an opportunity to promote healthier snacks and more sustainable drinking vessels, Farheen praised the upcoming changes: "I definitely do think the new coffee machines and the new vending machines will have a positive impact and would definitely improve student experience." She added that she was "looking forward to the new machines being rolled out soon".

Thank you to all the student reps who volunteered their time, and to the local students who joined our Holborn Law School event for an impromptu cappuccino. We've passed your feedback on to the winning service provider and will bring your considerations forward as we introduce the machines on site.

BPP ACCOMMODATION GUIDE

VIEWING PROPERTIES & SECURING THEM

If you are still looking to secure a property, we have some useful guidance on what you need to consider when moving in:

QUESTIONS TO ASK AT THE VIEWING

If you have found somewhere that you are interested in viewing, it is always worthwhile viewing the property in person if you can as photographs can often be old or not show the property in its current form.

- **What is the length of the contract? Is there a break clause?**

A break clause gives you more flexibility – for example, if you sign up to a 12 month contract with a 6 month break clause, you will be able to move on after 6 months providing you give the required length of notice. Generally, 12 month contracts are normal.

- **What deposit is required?**

The standard amount is between 4-6 weeks rent, as well as the first month's rent upfront.

- **What affects the deposit being returned?**

If it relates to breakages, or a clear deterioration in condition, please ensure you given a full and accurate inventory document (see below) when you move in, and take photographs to show the full condition of the property. This should be completed and returned to your landlord or agent as soon as possible so they can view your highlighted areas of issue with the property.

- **Who manages the property?**

It is important to know from the outset if you will be paying rent and reporting repairs to the landlord or to the Letting Agent.

- **How secure is the property?**

Check the windows and window locks

- **Are the facilities sufficient for the number of people sharing?**

For example, is there enough kitchen space for everyone to keep their belongings?

- **Who is responsible for maintenance?**

If there is a garden, are you expected to mow the lawn etc?

- **Are you comfortable with the area?**

Is it too quiet or too loud? Would you feel comfortable coming back late at night. Are the transport options sufficient?

DEPOSITS

If you go ahead, you will normally need to put a holding deposit. This indicates to the landlord or letting agent that you are serious about wanting the property and are intending to proceed with an agreement. If you do provide them with a holding deposit, **you must get a receipt for any money that you pay.**

If the landlord rejects your offer, this should be returned in full. It is important to make sure you are really interested in the property **before** providing a deposit, because if you do decide to change your mind, you may not receive your holding deposit back.

Deposits must be secured under a Tenancy Deposit Scheme. Your landlord or letting agency should do this within 30 days of you arriving in the property and you should receive confirmation from the Deposit Scheme. This provides you with protection when you vacate your property. For further information on this, please visit Shelter's website.

SCAN THE CODE TO VISIT WEBSITE:



INVENTORY

An Inventory is a written document that details the condition of the property when you move in. Therefore, it would also be a good idea to take any pictures of the property when you move in. If you have any disagreements then it would be helpful to address these to your landlord and/or letting agent prior to you signing off the inventory.

If you are moving into the accommodation, in most instances, you will be required to set up accounts with utilities and service companies. The utilities should already be switched on however, you may need to transfer the account into your name to ensure the bill is sent to you in all future correspondence.

All landlords must provide you with a copy of the Gas Safety Certificate when you move in. This will demonstrate that any gas appliances in the accommodation have had an annual safety check by a registered engineer.

It is really important to take meter readings as soon as you move in – this will make sure you only pay for what you use. Some properties have pre-paid meters, which means that you need to keep them topped up, usually by paying at a local newsagent or convenience store. Not all properties have water meters; if you don't then your water will be charged at a standard rate.

Your landlord should be able to tell you which companies supply your address. You may be allowed to move companies for your gas and electricity supply, if this is possible, there are many comparison websites on the internet you can use to find the best deal. Do check your tenancy agreement or speak with your landlord to ensure you are free to do so.

If you are not sure who supplies your gas, contact the Meter Point Administration Service. www.ukpower.co.uk/mpas

If you are not sure who supplies your electricity, contact your local distribution company. A list of who's who is available at: www.uswitch.com/gas-electricity/who-supplies-my-electricity-and-gas



When contacting the companies to set up your account, you usually need:

- Your move in date
- Your bank details, especially if you will be setting up a direct debit (companies tend to offer better deals if you pay this way).
- The meter readings from when you moved in

WHEN THINGS GO WRONG

There can be times when there are issues with your accommodation. Luckily, BPP University has an Independent Advice Team who can support you through any difficulties.

You can contact them on independentadvice@bpp.com

USEFUL LINKS

BPP University Students' Association: www.bbpstudents.com

Shelter: <http://england.shelter.org.uk>

Citizens Advice Bureau: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk>



OUR NURSING STUDENTS TAKE A TRIP TO BODY WORLDS EXHIBITION

Testimonials from Nursing Students who with the help of the Students' Association on the 15th January 2020 went on a trip to Body Worlds London:



I found it educational to see different parts of the body exposed, the spinal cord for example. And how different illnesses and lifestyles effect the organs, smoking was a big factor in realising how it effects the whole body.

HAYLEY



I found it interesting to see the body in real size, sounds stupid but you just don't think how it all fits inside. Also, interesting to see the difference from a real brain and a brain affected by dementia.

MICHELLE



Amazing exhibition for people who are fascinated to know about the human body. very informative, brilliant experience to see all of the different things close up.

MADA



I found it very interesting to see all the different function and how different things affect them, very educational trip well worth doing.

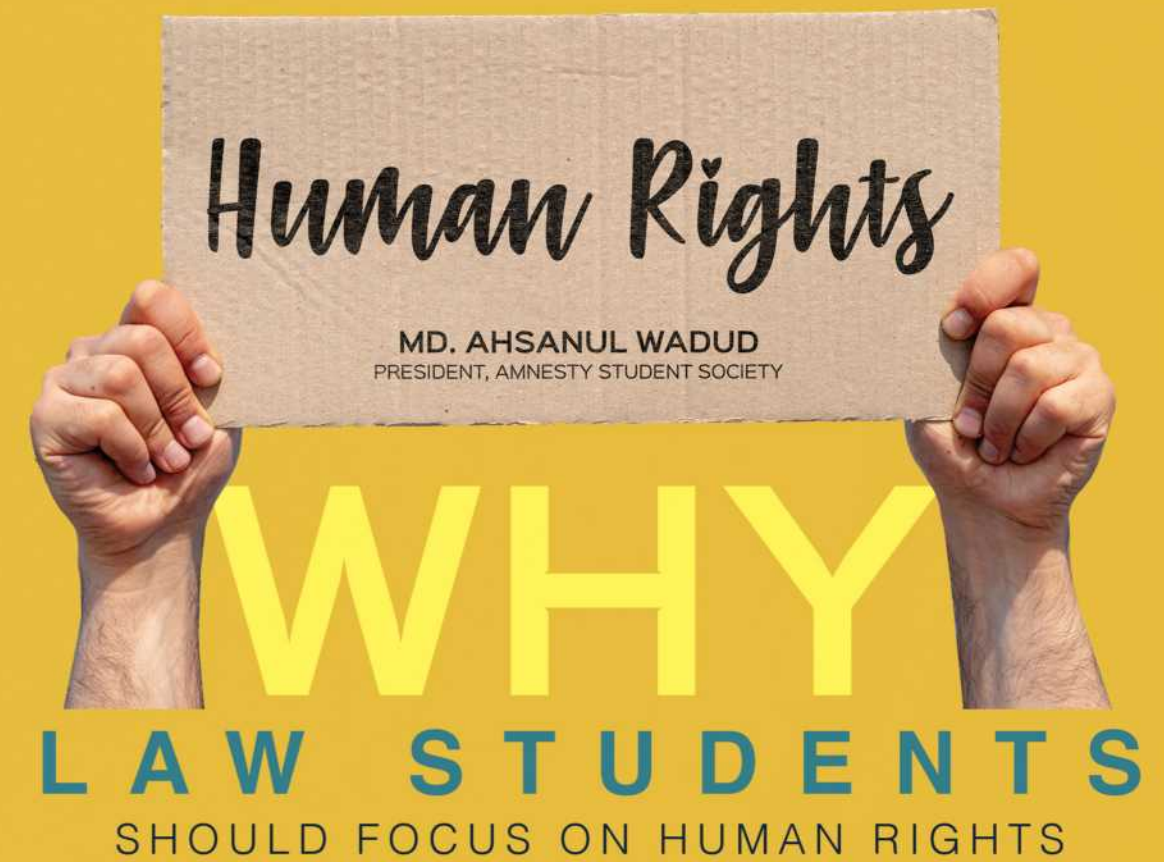
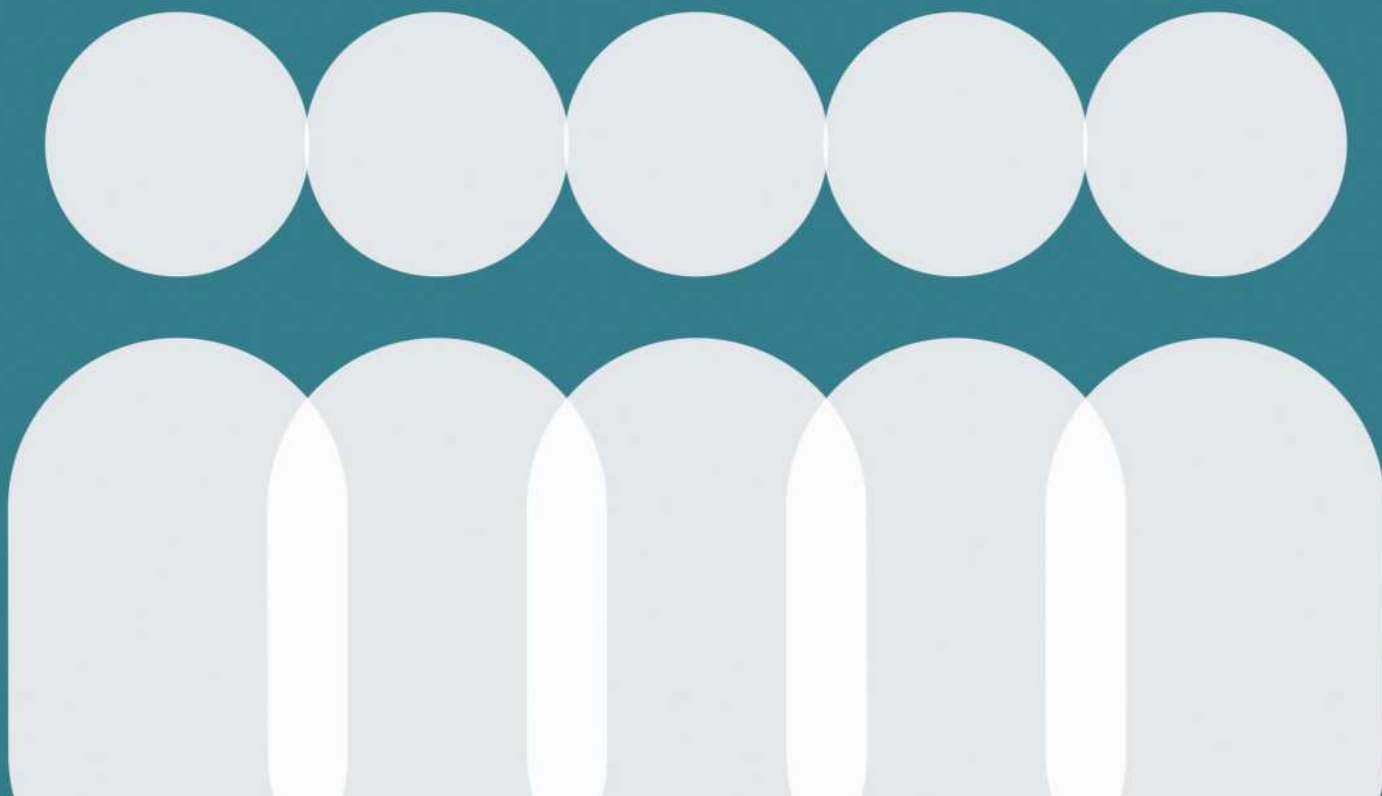
NIKKI



I found this trip to be very interesting and educational. Helped to me look at and understand the human body in. a very different way. I especially found interesting how big our vital organs are, and how our body actually holds all the parts making it seem so compact. I will definitely be recommending this place to other people who have an interest in the human anatomy system.

NERALIE

— BPP CLUBS & SOCIETIES



One of the main aims of the law is to protect people's rights. This is where human rights came from. These very basic rights are there to be enjoyed by every human being irrespective of any classification such as gender, age, race, religion, etc. Sadly a vast majority of the world population is deprived of human rights. In extreme cases, people are even deprived of basic human rights. Their suffering goes beyond any word could describe. Who we are fortunate enough to have the privilege of human rights should strive for the rights of underprivileged one. However, often it is harder for us to realise how privileged we are. American sociologist, Prof Michael Kimmel said in this regards "Privilege is invisible to those who have it."

The privilege that we enjoy makes us morally responsible to stand up for the underprivileged one. If we do not speak up for their rights in our good time then there may come a time when our own rights will be violated and there will be none to stand for us. It is important to remind ourselves that we all are living on the same planet and the sufferings of any part of the inhabitants of this planet will eventually have an impact on all of us. For instance, when a war happens it not merely affect the people who live in the war zone but also brings devastating consequences to the global climate.

The law and human rights are inextricably linked with each other. This is why; law students should have a special focus on human rights. Being aware and work on human rights issues are not only a means to give a little back to our community but also it can be beneficial for a career in any practice of area of law. This is for the reason that elements of human rights are expanded in every area of law. Every court and public authorities must align any decision they made with the freedom laid out in the European Convention on Human Rights. Even sovereign parliamentary acts cannot be incompatible with a convention right.

Regardless of your intended area of future legal practice, human rights law is relevant to every law student as it is applicable in our court and law. Effective application of these human rights ensures the minimum standard of justice whether it can be the idea of a fair trial, the right of family life or freedom of expression.

There are plenty of opportunities for law students to work on human rights projects. All you need is your willingness and commitment to take part in one of these human rights projects. Your knowledge and privilege can make a real difference to establish social justice. Your participation in one of these projects will not only serves the benefits of our society alone but also boosts your soft skills. This can be a great way to improve your CV and will give you a starting point to talk in your interview. You can find these opportunities without many hurdles via Pro Bono Centre at BPP, Law Works or even by joining the student societies such as Amnesty.

CALLING

ALL HUMAN RIGHTS ENTHUSIASTS!



LUCASTA, RYAN AND ALETHEA
HUMAN RIGHTS EDITORIAL TEAM



The BPP Human Rights Blog has recently been revamped, and has already received some excellent submissions on topics ranging from human rights reform in Uzbekistan to changing attitudes to hate speech and free speech in democratic societies.

After such promising starts, the editorial team are keen to receive more of your writing! All BPP students are encouraged to contribute, including part-time or distance-learning students, whether from Abingdon, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool or London. Submissions may be of any style - case summaries, opinion pieces, round-ups and commentaries are all welcome.

The blog's theme this year is a look back on the developments made in the last decade in human rights law, as well as a look forward to the progress - and challenges - the new decade may bring. However, submissions on any human rights-related topic are welcome, and submissions are accepted on a rolling basis.

Full editorial guidance has been sent to anyone subscribed to the Human Rights Unit mailing list, and will shortly be made available on the blog as well. However, if you have any questions, or wish to submit an article, please don't hesitate to contact the editors at humanrights@my.bpp.com. For some inspiration, why not check out the blog itself at **SCAN THE CODE:**



We look forward to receiving your submissions!



BPP Human Rights Blog

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

The BPP Human Rights Blog is calling for submissions on any human rights related topic of interest to you.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION
MODERN SLAVERY
DISCRIMINATION
POVERTY
CONFLICT ZONES
CLIMATE CHANGE
THE RISE OF POPULISM

Please email blog articles and any questions or requests for further information to humanrights@mybpp.com!





KARATE CLASSES

EVERY WEDNESDAY
FRIDAY 5:30PM - 8PM

Sensei Catarina

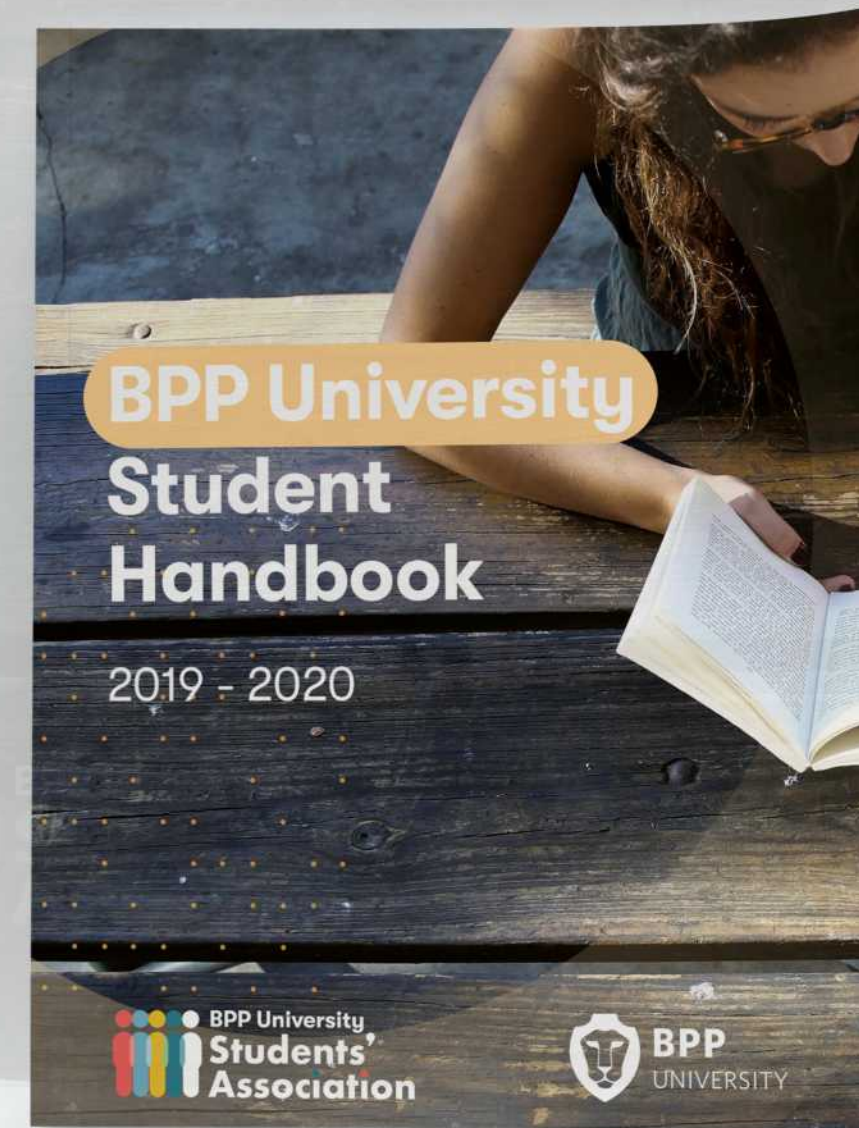
90 Mycenae Rd, London SE3 7SE
Number: 07925482666
EMAIL: catarina.dasilva@hotmail.co.uk



THE NEW 2019 – 2020 BPP UNIVERSITY STUDENT HANDBOOK

IS NOW AVAILABLE

At all centres and on bppstudents.com



GET INVOLVED WITH OUR COMMERCIAL LAW BLOG!

Dear students, my name is Kahill Sarronwala. I am pleased to announce that an exciting new opportunity has arisen. BPP will be running its very own Commercial Law Blog. This will provide a unique opportunity for students to publish articles of a commercial nature through a recognised institution. Whether you're a veteran of publishing or you simply have some interesting ideas which you would like to experiment with, the journal will be encouraging submissions from all BPP students. I strongly encourage you to contribute to this blog, as you will develop useful research, writing, and critical-thinking skills, while additionally bolstering your CV and enhancing your employability.

The blog will rely on students to make it work. As of today, I am looking for several student volunteers to form the team which will run the blog. Specifically, I am looking for two student directors who will run the blog alongside me, one blog manager who will be responsible for designing and maintaining the blog itself, as well as a dedicated team of student editors who will be responsible for collaborating with authors in order to prepare their articles for publication.



COMMERCIAL AWARENESS SOCIETY

Welcome to the Commercial Awareness Society where we aim to demystify one of the most used buzz words in the legal world today! This skill is extremely important for not only aspiring lawyers, but anyone who wishes to pursue a career related to the commercial world. Our Society will help you improve your commercial awareness by:

- Releasing monthly newsletters on the hot topics (you can find a copy of our newsletter in all communal areas!)
- Firm led workshops
- Student led workshops
- Networking opportunities

Past events of the year

Meet and Greet

Secrets to securing a TC – a panel of future trainees sharing their secrets to success! –

The Decline of the High Street – Howard Kennedy LLP discusses causes and effects of current problems with the high street –

and want to know more or want to write an article for our newsletter, please email f.ali18@my.bpp.com

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED





WE ARE RECRUITING!

The Women and Non-Binary People in Law Society is currently recruiting the following positions:

> Secretary

> Treasurer

> Events & Fundraising Officer

The deadline for applications is **Thursday the 13th of February at 10am**, but please apply as soon as possible.

Applications should be sent to:
wbnplawsociety@gmail.com

The society is in the process of being revamped so it's a very exciting time to join. The **Women and Non-Binary People in Law Society** celebrates and welcomes persons identifying as gender nonconforming, non-binary and women who are Trans & Cis.



LEEDS MEN A 5 SIDE FOOTBALL

We finished our first season just before Christmas and are pleased to share that we finished top of the league, finishing with a superb record of 12 wins and 2 losses.



THE NEW SEASON SHALL BE KICKING OFF SOON AND WE HOPE TO CONTINUE OUR STRONG PERFORMANCES.

THE EASIEST WAY TO CONTACT US IS VIA THE WHATSAPP GROUP HERE:



SCAN THE CODE:

BPP MEN'S FOOTBALL



Players displayed great levels of talent and finesse at the BPP Men's Football Team trials last year. Here we played a 5-A-side match at Power-league against a local team.

Now that January exams are over, look out for updates regarding our first session of the new year. BPP Men's Football is open to all BPP campus members across London so sign up today or drop us an email!

O.ADEBAJO@MY.BPP.COM

BPP BIRMINGHAM LAW SOCIETY

Sign up link

<https://forms.gle/eJcXR6L5y8peffAx>

Who are we?

The Birmingham Law Society is a new society at the Birmingham BPP site. We are a team comprising of a mixture of LPC and BPTC students. We decided to form the society as we felt there was a need to create a social network amongst students at BPP and to create social and professional events for students by students.



The Law Fair and upcoming events

As a new society the Law Fair was important for us in establishing our brand on campus. This was such a great opportunity as it allowed us to meet students and better understand the kinds of social events students are interested in. We are currently planning an after exam social and recruiting for a netball team.

Aspiring Solicitors' CV and Applications Workshop

On the 3rd of December 2019 the BPP Law Society Birmingham hosted the first ever CV & Applications workshop in conjunction with Aspiring Solicitors. We had Arjun Patel the Aspiring Solicitors Student Manager give us a thorough run through on what makes a good application.

The one-hour session started with an introduction of what exactly Aspiring Solicitors as an organisation is and how they could provide the necessary support to BPP students in advancing their legal careers. Subsequently he went through the main essentials of what is needed to make a good application and some key points to note are stick to deadlines, be clear and concise, and ensure that there are no mistakes in any application you make. Further details of the points discussed during the workshop can be found in a short guide that was sent to the student body.

Sufi Cultural SOCIETY

The newly formed Sufi Cultural Society is open to everyone who is interested in the Spiritual and Mystical aspect of Islam, anyone can join regardless of faith, religion, background etc. and we intend to bring you this through performances from artists, musicians and speakers from a variety of backgrounds!

In December at our first ever event, the narration of the Birth of the Prophet of Islam was told by an immersive storyteller and mesmerising musicians! We had a great turnout from people of diverse backgrounds and it was an evening of celebration and joy with music, food and plenty of stories.

The Mawlid (annual celebration of the birthday & life of the Prophet) is one of the highlights of the year for those following the Spiritual Path of Islam and we encouraged everyone to join us in these celebrations with this event.

The history of this celebration goes back to the early days of Islam when Muslims held gatherings in which poetry and songs were composed and recited to honour the Prophet and sung to the crowds. The Ottomans declared it an official holiday in 1588 and most Islamic countries hold it as a national day of celebration.

The full video of the celebration can be found on the BPP Students' Association Facebook Page!

If you would like to join the society or want to know more please get in touch with us at engage@bpp.com



Interested in setting up a Club or Society?

We will help you every step of the way

Email us at
engage@bpp.com



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[@BPPSTUDENTSASSOCIATION](https://www.facebook.com/BPPSTUDENTSASSOCIATION)