

STUDENT LIFE

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YOUR STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION



Hajra Babariya
She/Her
Group Head of Student Affairs



Kurt Satney
He/Him
Head of the Students' Association



Casey Joseph
He/Him
Student President



Sabiya Mahmood
She/Her
Student Voice Manager - London



Jessica Hill
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Independent Education
and Welfare Advisor



Falak Ali
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Student Communications Officer



Ellie Ansher
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Events and Engagment Manager



Dan Odebode
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Events and Engagment Officer



Tasnim Ali
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Independent Education and
Welfare Advisor



Attaullah Shah
He/Him
Student Voice manager – Manchester



Iysha Begym
They/Them
Events and Engagement Officer



Rosie Felt
She/Her
Student Communications Manager

IN PROFILE WITH TAMMY GOLDFELD HEAD OF CAREERS



Can you tell us a bit about yourself?

I am passionate about helping people to find the right job and further their career because we all spend a lot of time in work and should enjoy it! Before coming to BPP, I was the Head of Careers at The University of Manchester and King's College London. I am originally from the United States and have studied in different countries and so I know what it feels like to be an international student. It's great to be part of BPP which has centres all over the UK and so many international students and staff.

What advice would you give to a new student starting at BPP?

It's never too early to start working on your career. My number one piece of advice is... use your Careers service! (Of course I would say that, wouldn't I?) Through our platform, BPP Futures, you have 24/7 access to a wide range of online resources to help you with all aspects of the job search, as well as hundreds of opportunities, including graduate jobs, vacation schemes and internships.

You can send us a draft application form or a CV through using the "Ask a question" function, as well as book a one-to-one appointment with a Careers Consultant for expert feedback and advice on how best to prepare for assessment days or interviews. Through BPP Futures, you can sign up to attend careers fairs, presentations and panel events to meet employers who want to recruit BPP students, as well as find information about BPP's flagship Professional Development Award. Gaining the Award will help to boost your confidence and look great on your CV.

We provide resources on the key 'Career Skills' which employers want and can help you to create a plan on how best to develop them. We even help students even after they graduate: you may access all of our services for up to 18 months post-graduation.



I also recommend to everyone to use your personal and professional network for help. You will know many people such as former

colleagues, as well as family and friends. While they may not be able to give you a job, they may be able to help you in some way with good advice and information, or by introducing you to someone else. In this way, you will broaden your network. One day in the future, you will help others with their job search!

It's important to try to stay positive and be resilient. Most of us will face difficulties and setbacks on our career journey. I know how it feels to apply for a job and not be successful. It can be very disappointing especially given how much effort it takes to write a good job application and prepare for an interview. What I try to do in these situations is get feedback from the employer after the interview, learn lessons from each experience, pick myself up and keep on trying. If you experience a setback, this would also be a really good time to speak to your Careers Consultant here at BPP, who will help you with working through that disappointment and with planning your next steps. I highly recommend creating a strong profile on LinkedIn and updating it regularly. Try Googling your name to see what appears. It is important to have a good digital presence as employers do look up applicants online. Finally, I would advise you to not be afraid to take some risks. For example, you might be very entrepreneurial and want to set up a business. Again, Careers can help you explore your options.

Who inspires you?

My son is a constant inspiration. I love his passion for the environment and admire his adventurous spirit. During the pandemic, his studies were interrupted so he travelled around the USA visiting national parks and doing a lot of hiking and rock climbing. He is much braver than I am!

What is your greatest weakness and how do you make this into a strength?

I am spending too much time checking social media and mindlessly surfing websites. To combat this, I am reading a really good book called "Digital Minimalism: Choosing a Focused Life in a Noisy World" for hints and tips on how to improve. So far, I've deleted several time-wasting apps from my phone!

What is your greatest achievement?

During Covid, I led a team of over 50 staff entirely remotely, working for a university which I was not able to visit because of the travel restrictions. It was really challenging not to be able to get the team together physically in a room; I think that you can be so much more creative and get to know people better when it is in-person. Nonetheless, we achieved a lot during this time and I made some life-long friends.

Outside work, what hobbies do you have?

Music is a big part of my life. I sing in a choir which has performed all over the world, and I love going to concerts and hearing live music. I am also in a book club and go regularly to the cinema. While the pandemic was difficult because I could not travel abroad to see my family or meet large groups of friends, I discovered how much I enjoy cooking and taking long walks in nature.



SAFEGUARDING AND PREVENT

Hello from your safeguarding team

We just wanted to speak to you all about Prevent and what this involves.

The Prevent Duty is a government strategy and was introduced to safeguard communities against the threat of extremism, radicalisation, and terrorism and for the promotion of British Values.

At BPP we treat Prevent under the safeguarding umbrella. If it is a Prevent concern it is also a safeguarding concern, as we are worried about that individual and want to keep them safe.

BPP has a duty of care to all students as well as statutory requirements to comply with.

So, this is not about preventing students from having political and religious views or concerns but supporting them to use or act on their views and concerns in a non-extremist way.

Prevent is the strategy adopted by the Government to stop individuals being radicalised. The intention behind the Prevent duty is to stop the real threat of terrorism.

Radicalisation is the process by which a person may come to support terrorism or extremist ideologies and beliefs which may be a threat to life or national security.

It is important that British Values are always upheld so everyone is treated with respect and tolerance, whilst maintaining individual liberty. The rules of law must be adhered to and that we all work within a democratic society.

Though radicalisation has no single route, there are behaviours to watch out for that are often presented if someone is being drawn into extremism such as :

For more information on the Prevent Duty, or if you are worried about someone in your own life, perhaps a friend or family member and want to seek advice on how to help them, please reach out to us in Safeguarding at prevent@bpp.com. We will listen without judgement, support you and offer guidance on what to do.

You can find out more information on the below:
<https://actearly.uk/>

Please remember this is everyone's responsibility and don't ever think I can't contact someone to discuss this.

Though radicalisation has no single route, there are behaviours to watch out for that are often presented if someone is being drawn into extremism such as:

Evidence of sharing or accessing extremist materials online and on social media

Expressions of or incitement to harm to groups, and use of derogatory language.

Changes to a family situation or family tensions

Being influenced or controlled by group

Becoming intolerant to anyone not sharing their views, and being unwilling to listen to others

A change in behaviour, or changes in friendship groups- perhaps becoming more secretive

Evidence of homophobic, religious, or racist bullying

Changes in appearance

RECOGNISING OUR OWN EXPERIENCE

Recognising our own achievements!

Why is it important to recognise our own achievements? Self-esteem is important for psychological wellbeing, with higher self-esteem being related to greater wellbeing, and higher levels of subjective happiness, and is also important for physical health. We wanted to spend time this month for our Safeguarding Topic, exploring why recognising and highlighting our own achievements can be a really positive thing, not only for our self-esteem, but subsequently our mental, and physical health.



Here are some of our top activities for building self-esteem, and recognising our achievements:

Build Gratitude:

Struggling with negative thoughts surrounding our self can affect self-esteem, but focusing on a thing we are grateful for can elevate mood and boost our wellbeing, counteracting negative thoughts. You could try starting a gratitude journal and writing down or taking a picture of one thing you are grateful for each day.

Practice self-care and compassion:

Being kind to yourself can increase resilience and self-esteem. Self-care can include improving your physical health, like

exercising regularly and eating nutritious food. You could try writing a 'thank you' letter to yourself, complimenting yourself on the qualities you are happy to have, and the achievements you are proud of. You could write an achievement journal of all the 'wins' you feel you have had so far. This doesn't have to just be academic but could be times you were kind and helpful to others, overcoming challenges big and small.

Practice Mindfulness:

Paying more attention to the present and building mindful practices into your everyday can help to improve wellbeing. This involves reminding yourself to take notice of your thoughts, feelings and body sensations. You could try doing a mindfulness eating activity, taking note of the flavours, textures, and smells to be more 'in the moment' when eating. You could try a mindfulness exercise activity, like doing yoga or a 20-minute body scan to feel yourself in the present.

Positive Reflection:

Take time to reflect on your positive achievements, in your own life, at work, or in any other capacity. Findings show that positive reflection is associated with reduced stress and improved health.



Try this mindful waking activity in the mornings:

When you wake, sit somewhere that feels comfortable, closing your eyes and connecting with the sensations you feel in your body

Take three long, deep breaths, in through your nose and out through your mouth, paying attention to feelings in your body as you breathe.

Ask yourself, 'what is my intention for today?' This could be 'How might I take care of myself today?' Or 'during difficult moments, how might I be more compassionate to myself and others?' and set yourself an intention.

Throughout the day, check in with yourself, pausing and taking a deep breath to revisit your intention. This can help the quality of your communications, relationships, and mood.

MY EXPERIENCE AS A STUDENT AT BPP UNIVERSITY

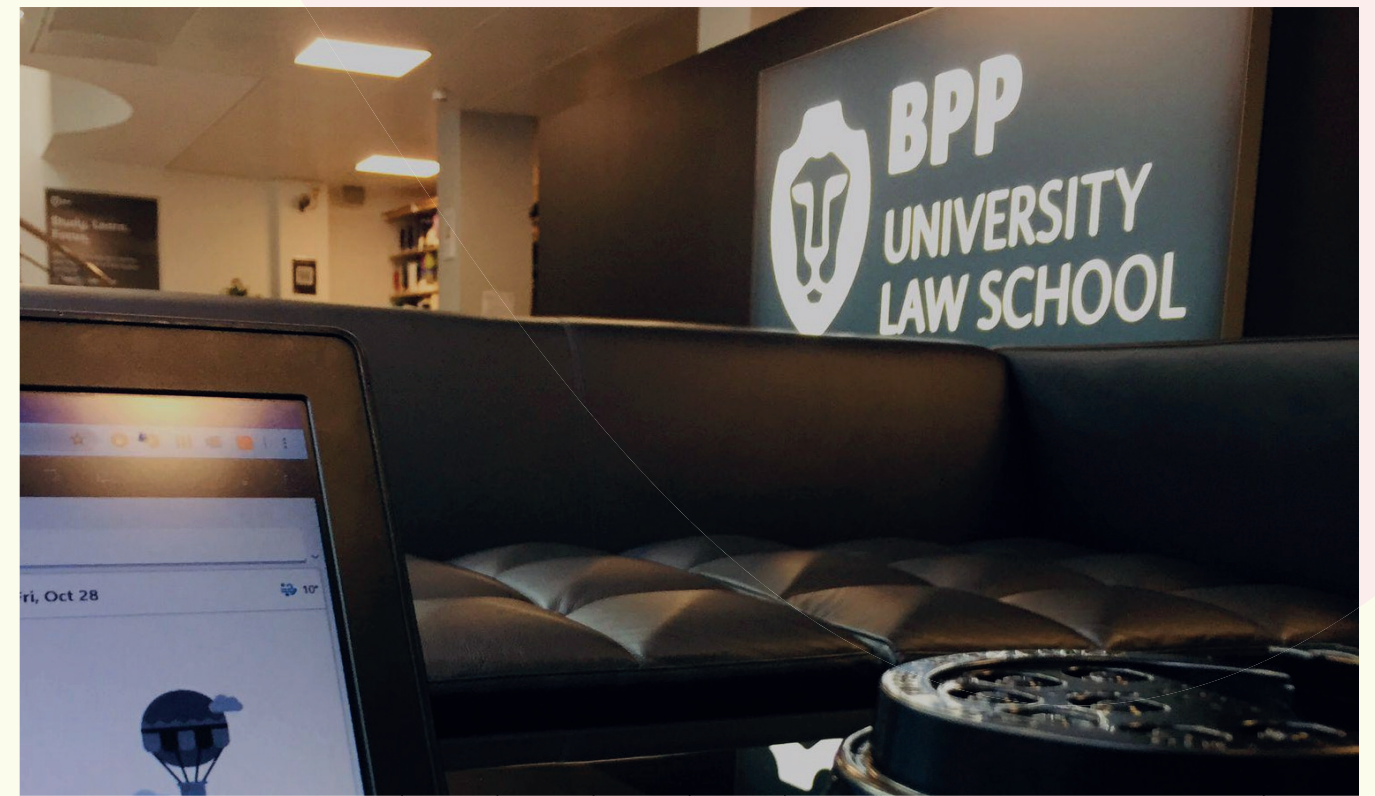
FEROZ KHAN
BTC WITH PROFESSIONAL LEGAL



My experience at BPP University in Holborn, London has been incredibly positive. The campus is located in the heart of the city, which provides easy access to all that London has to offer. The university's central location is perfect for students who want to take advantage of all the opportunities that London has to offer, whether it's visiting museums, attending concerts, or exploring different neighbourhoods.

One of the things that I appreciate most about BPP University is the diversity of the student body. I have had the opportunity to meet and learn from students from all over the world, and it has been a truly enriching experience. The university strives to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for students of all backgrounds, cultures, and identities.

One of the ways that BPP University promotes diversity and inclusion is through its student clubs and organizations. These groups provide opportunities for students to connect with others who share their interests and passions, and to learn from one another in a supportive and inclusive environment. For example, BPP University has a student-led Diversity and Inclusion Club and a Student body namely, BPP Student Association, which hosts events and activities that promote understanding and acceptance of different cultures, identities, and perspectives. I am also part of the BPP student's Association as a Student Representative and Event Coordinator at Holborn campus. Another way that BPP University supports



diversity and inclusion is through its commitment to providing an accessible and welcoming campus environment. The university has a range of services and resources available for students with disabilities, including assistive technology, study skills support, and accommodations for exams and assessments. Additionally, BPP University provides support for students from under-represented groups, such as those from low-income backgrounds, first-generation college students, and students from ethnic minorities.

BPP University is also committed to providing an inclusive curriculum that reflects the diversity of the student body. The university encourages its faculty to incorporate diverse perspectives and voices into their teaching and research, and many courses include discussions and assignments that explore issues related to diversity and inclusion.

BPP University is committed to promoting diversity and inclusion in all aspects of student life. The university's clubs, organizations, services, and curriculum all contribute to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for students of all backgrounds, cultures, and identities.

The professors at BPP University are also top-notch. They are experts in their fields and are passionate about teaching. They are always willing to help students with any questions or concerns they may have. They are also very approachable and make themselves available for office hours, which is great for students who need extra help or guidance.

The curriculum at BPP University is also very well-designed. The courses are challenging and interesting, and they have helped me to develop the skills and knowledge that I need to succeed in my chosen field. I have also been able to take advantage of the university's internship and work placement opportunities, which have provided me with valuable hands-on experience.

Overall, my experience at BPP University in Holborn, London has been fantastic. The university's central location, diverse student body, dedicated professors, and challenging curriculum have all contributed to making my time at BPP University a truly memorable and valuable experience.

WE QUIT

WE QUIT: WHAT CAN YOU DO?

AMELIA CAVINDER

HEALTH & SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER

“WE QUIT” announced Extinction Rebellion in the last hours of 2022. Tired of what it identified as a ‘financial system prioritising profits over life, a media failing to inform the public and hold power to account, and a reckless government entrenched in corruption and suppressing the right to protest injustice’, the global environmental movement made its ‘controversial resolution to temporarily shift away from public disruption as a primary tactic’.

As 2023 enters full swing, we are unlikely to see - or indeed join - members of Extinction Rebellion as they block key roads and runways. Meanwhile, those of you who prize our right to protest will be watching closely as the hotly contended Public Order Bill pushes its way through the Houses of Lords. If the bill becomes a law, it will grant the Government more power to maintain public order. This could result in the creation of new offences, wider stop and search powers, greater police functions, and serious disruption prevention orders. The Police will be able to shut down protests as they happen. The Secretary of State may be able to shut them down before they’ve begun.

In short, rebellion itself has been threatened with extinction, and while some key activists

may be looking to change their focus, other charitable and activist organisations are sounding the alarm on what is deemed to be an erosion of an essential human right.

In a joint letter to Peers, signed by representatives from 38 organisations including Friends of the Earth, Oxfam GB, The Woodland Trust, Greenpeace UK and WWF, highly-respected critics of the Bill highlighted how “over many decades we have witnessed the vital importance of peaceful protest in raising the alarm about the urgent threat of climate catastrophe and the decline of nature, and pressing decision makers from the global to the local level to act to protect people and the planet”.

Whether you believe that direct action is the best vehicle for climate accountability, or would prefer to pivot towards relationship building, commercially-centred sustainability drives or information dissemination, here are some ways that you can make a difference:



TELL
THE
TRUTH

STAY IN THE KNOW

Follow Liberty Human Rights - this advocacy group and membership organisation is committed to challenging injustice, defending freedom and making sure everyone in the UK is treated fairly. Expect many updates on the progress of the Public Order Bill.

SIGN UP FOR ‘THE BIG ONE’

Happening in Westminster over 100 days from 21 April 2023, Extinction Rebellion’s next grand event “has been designed with inclusion at its heart - with ‘attendance over arrest’ and central element, and ‘relationships over roadblocks’ in its spirit.”

READ UP ON UN SUSTAINABILITY GOAL 13

Find out how you can best direct your individual efforts. Every one of us can help limit global warming and take care of our planet.
<https://www.un.org/en/actnow>

CHALLENGE YOUR EMPLOYER

Does your employer promote its ESG commitments on its website? If so, find a way that you can contribute to their targets, or introduce a new drive; if not, contact the person in charge of sustainability to discuss the commercial benefits of sustainable performance.

WRITE TO YOUR MP

You know what the biggest issues are in your constituency, and your MP is best-positioned to address them. Is air pollution an issue where you live or work, according to <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/?> Do green spaces in your neighbourhood do little to promote biodiversity? What’s the state of cycle lanes?

WHY I CHOSE AN APPRENTICESHIP

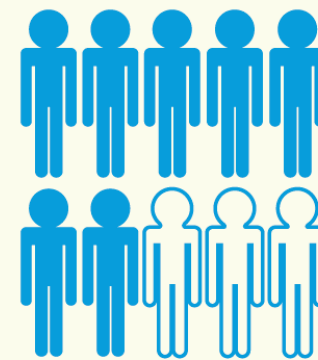


When seeking careers advice, there was a lot of bias towards university being the preferred option over apprenticeships and the pressures of writing lengthy personal statements, even if in my mind I wasn't going to university. Well, not university in the typical sense! I also felt that the traditional route for Indian families was sending their children off to study medical based subjects at university. However, I didn't feel this was the right option for me so attended as many "Higher" and "Degree" apprenticeship talks as I could, one of those being with Severn Trent Water (STW). I wanted to earn and learn simultaneously to gain valuable on-the-job experience after leaving sixth form. After going through the application process, I received the great news that I was one of two successful candidates for STW's four-year IT degree apprenticeship scheme despite offers and rejections from other employers. My immediate family were very supportive of me diverting from the norm and undertaking a degree apprenticeship. During the scheme, I received training from STW and academic education from BPP University. The education at BPP University was virtual for my Digital Technology Solutions BSc course. This consisted of twice weekly webinars (one for each module) and associated work which I would complete during my 20% study time. I could then continuously apply my learnings to my apprenticeship rotations.



Hi, I'm Jazz and I chose to undertake a Degree Apprenticeship as opposed to the traditional university route. An apprenticeship is a paid job where the employee learns and gains valuable experiences (www.apprenticeships.gov.uk, n.d.). Apprentices undertake on-the-job training with their employer by engaging with experienced staff and 20% of the working hours are spent for off-the-job training at college or university to work towards a nationally recognised qualification.

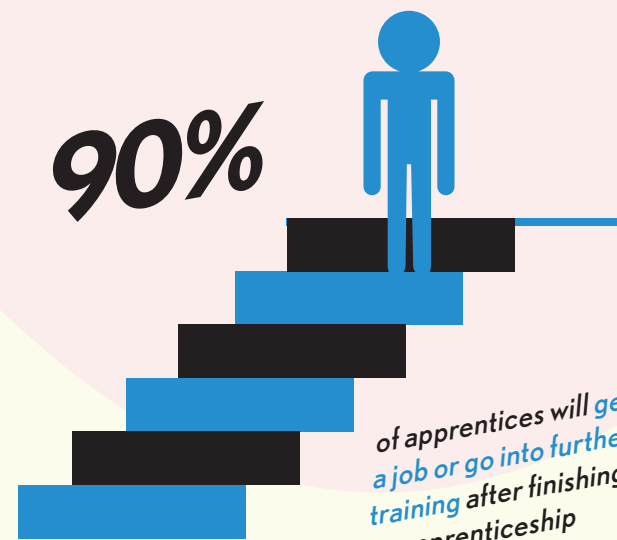
To start at the beginning of my journey, I didn't initially think I would pursue a career in IT when considering my career options. Not only did I lack confidence (I remember my mum having a conversation with my GCSE IT teacher to see if IT was the right fit for me, all because I loathed spreadsheets!), but I was also told IT was a male dominated industry – I guess I had a reason to believe this as there were only two female students including myself in my sixth form IT class, and I was the only female IT technician at the school which I did alongside my A-Level studies. But, I did not let this deter me!



71%



Nearly *three quarters* of apprentices agreed that their chances of earning a higher wage in future had increased



90%

of apprentices will get a job or go into further training after finishing an apprenticeship

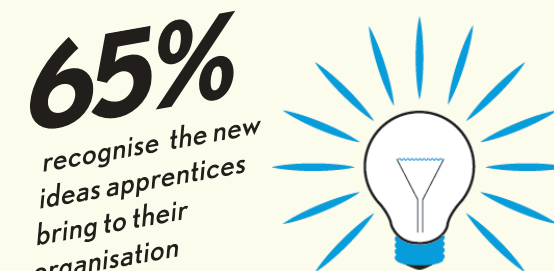


80%

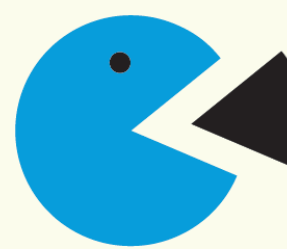
of apprentices agreed that their chances of progressing to a higher level of training had also *increased*.

With 72% finding sustained employment

	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		X	X	X	X		
	X	X	X	X	X		
	X	X	X	X	X		
	X	X	X	X	X		
	X	X					

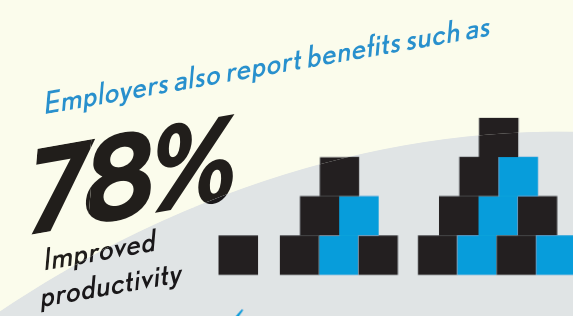


65% recognise the new ideas apprentices bring to their organisation



83%

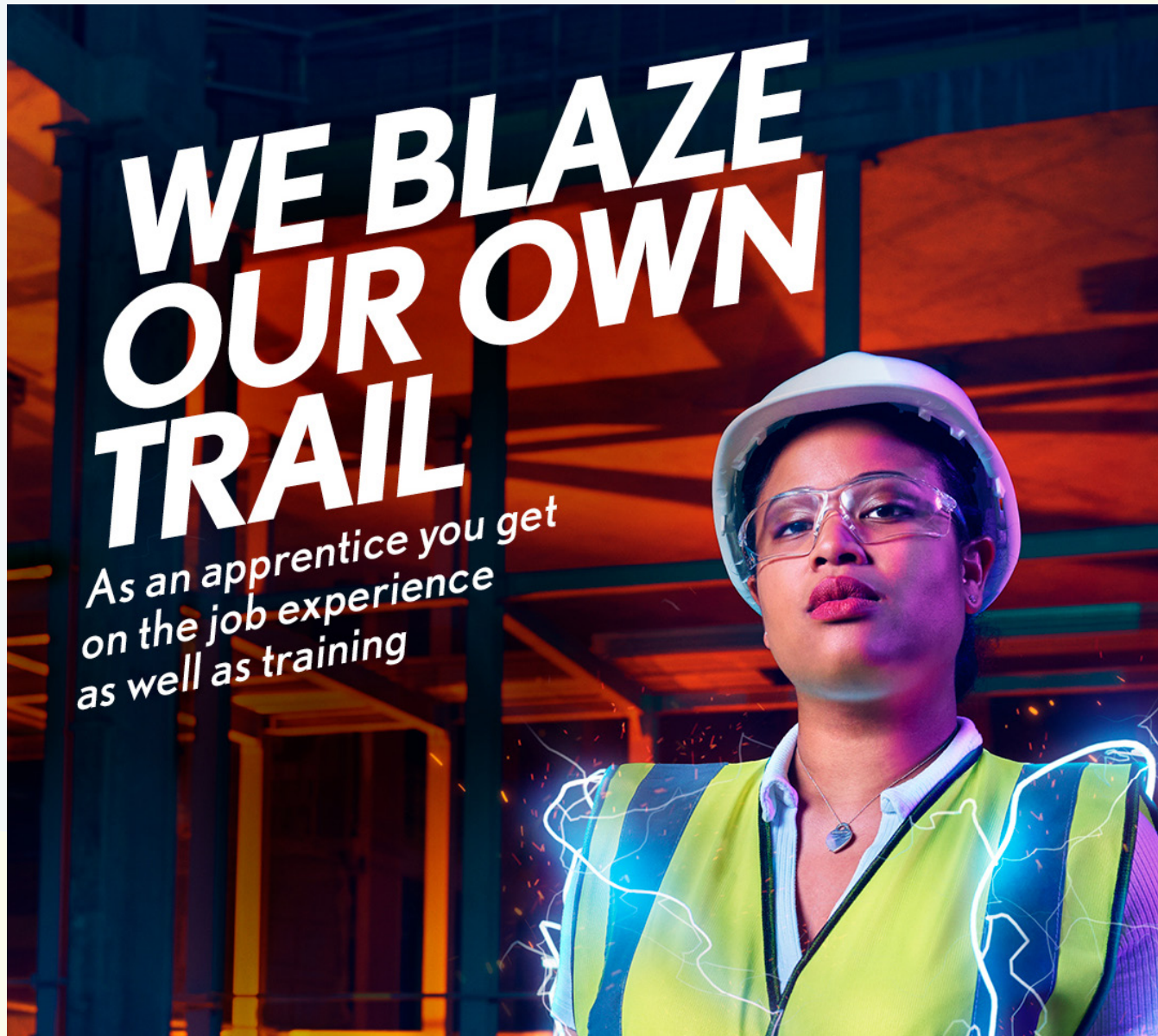
would also recommend apprentices to other businesses.



78% Improved productivity



74% improved product or service quality



WE BLAZE OUR OWN TRAIL

As an apprentice you get on the job experience as well as training

For my workplace training, I experienced five rotations. My first rotation as a Project Manager (PM) gave me the opportunity to lead on a company-wide meeting room booking system project under mentorship of an experienced PM. This project was on our CEO's top 10 priorities in 2018 and involved a major system version upgrade as the main business benefit here was saving the annual costs and reducing the use of and therefore cost off external meeting facilities. Here was where I realised I had a flair for Project Management. I also did a technical placement as a Cloud Engineer where STW was migrating their on-premises systems onto the Microsoft Azure cloud and I had to engineer virtual machines.

Here, I missed the sense of achievement associated with projects so was a Scrum

Master (IT Project Lead) for my final rotation. A senior colleague told me there are two IT career pathways for progression: the more technical pathway consisting of system architecture and coding, or the technical leadership pathway. I realised that IT didn't have to solely be about the technical nitty gritty as the latter pathway appealed more to me and my personal strengths. Therefore after four years of hard work and experience gathered during my rotations, I secured my full-time Scrum Master role at STW formally ending my apprenticeship.

Whilst being on the apprenticeship scheme, I have had so many amazing opportunities. One of my highlights was being shortlisted for the BAME (Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic) Apprenticeship Awards in 2020 - I received "Highly Commended" under the

"Digital & Technology" category. This was not just a memorable achievement for me, but I also felt proud representing STW, the apprenticeship community, young females in STEM and the underrepresented BAME community. I had been invited to the House of Commons alongside the company CEO to represent the digital apprenticeship scheme in March 2018, spoken about my experiences as an apprentice to Justine Greening MP (co-founder of the Social Mobility Pledge STW committed to), became an Apprentice Champion to support our new apprentice cohort throughout their apprenticeship journeys and visited local schools and the NEC to speak about my apprenticeship journey.



During the Covid pandemic, I felt demotivated with many things including studying, especially during my final year of university given the lockdown. Luckily, my BPP Apprenticeship Coach kept me motivated with regular check-ins and supported me with creating a study plan revolving around my work and personal commitments. I also had a mentor at STW who was really encouraging and giving me that "final push" - after all, it was only the last few months! Once studying was complete, I remembered receiving my Degree results - I was patiently waiting and refreshing my emails in anticipation, then saw the email pop up. I was very emotional in front of my mentor and family when I read that I had received a First Class BSc Degree which was one of the best achievements in my life! This wouldn't have been possible without the support I had from the amazing people who were on my journey. The cherry on the cake for me was attending my

graduation ceremony at Bridgewater Hall, Manchester in March 2022 with my family - it was great to put names to faces of my virtual cohort and felt like I could close that chapter of my life looking back at it with positive memories. I was satisfied with breaking barriers associated with apprenticeships over university - I could be just as successful as those who went to university, but without the university debt and with securing a role immediately in my desired field!

I would definitely recommend apprenticeships and new research shows that in August 2021, 56% of 17-19 year olds who received their grades have considered an apprenticeship as opposed to a traditional degree course (UCAS, 2021). It's a no-brainer when you can earn and learn at the same time and gain valuable on-the-job experience in a professional environment. I found I was able to apply my learnings from university directly to my job role, learn which roles I liked or disliked, participate in many activities which raised my and my employer's profile and meet some amazing supportive people. I hope I have convinced you to consider apprenticeships as an option, if you're ever in doubt, don't think just do it!

Jaspreet Kaur Panesar,
Scrum Master at Severn Trent Water



Supporting References:
www.apprenticeships.gov.uk. [n.d.]. What is an apprenticeship? [online] Available at: <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/influencers/what-is-an-apprenticeship> [Accessed 26 Jan. 2023].
UCAS (2021). New UCAS Research Shows Strong Demand for Apprenticeships from Students Keen to Keep Learning in the Autumn. [online] UCAS. Available at: <https://www.ucas.com/corporate/news-and-key-documents/news/new-ucas-research-shows-strong-demand-apprenticeships-students-keen-keep-learning-autumn> [Accessed 26 Jan. 2023].

PRO BONO VOLUNTEERING 2023

helps volunteers to do just this, by training them to deliver interactive online workshops and presentations to real-life clients on issues ranging from human rights to the criminal justice system.

After learning how to deliver an interactive workshop using Microsoft Teams, Streetlaw volunteer M. Summerhill (LPC alumnus) told us that "...While I had never delivered an online presentation before, I now also feel more confident with the use of online platforms to deliver workshops."



2. Grow your professional network

By volunteering, you can gain professional connections without having to take part in endless networking sessions or spending hours scrolling through LinkedIn! Indeed, many of the Pro Bono Centre's alumni have gone on to secure roles with organisations after first being exposed to them through our Pro Bono Centre.

Ellie Broughton (Leeds alumnus) had the opportunity to connect with lawyers at nationally renowned firm, Addleshaw Goddard, when the Pro Bono Centre collaborated with the firm to deliver a series of legal experiences to sixth form students through its former Law

Ambassador Programme (now rebranded as BPP's Experience Project). One such experience involved the students delivering a presentation to a panel of judges, who gave constructive feedback on the students' presenting skills. Ellie co-chaired the panel with staff from Addleshaw Goddard. We were delighted to receive this message from Ellie as she approached the end of her course at BPP:

"I thought I'd let you know (now my contract is signed!) that I've secured a training contract commencing in 2021 at Addleshaws! Thank you for all your help and support in getting [me] there!"



3. Strengthen your CV

For many of our students, the end goal of your hard work in 2023 may well be to land a role in industry.

Employers are not only looking for a strong academic performance from prospective candidates, but also that they possess the practical skills and insight that will allow them to prosper in their chosen career path. Our clinic volunteers acquire and develop a wide range of skills and qualities that can help boost employability. One of the Student Advisers in our Family Law Clinic (part of the BPP Legal Advice Clinic) clearly benefitted from the practical, hands-on experience offered by clinic work: *"I have been able to enhance my legal research, writing and communication skills by developing my*

writing for different audiences and being more flexible when interviewing clients." A volunteer with our Pro Bono in Practice project also had a similar experience: *"I think I speak on everyone's behalf in saying that the shadowing calls we have attended have been very useful in providing practical experience to refine our legal toolkit - from writing up attendance notes to drafting a letter of advice to a client - as well as connecting us with current trainees."*



4. Connect with local communities

Pro bono volunteering also offers the opportunity to provide vital support to individuals and local communities. This is especially important in light of continued cuts to Legal Aid funding and the ongoing cost of living crisis.

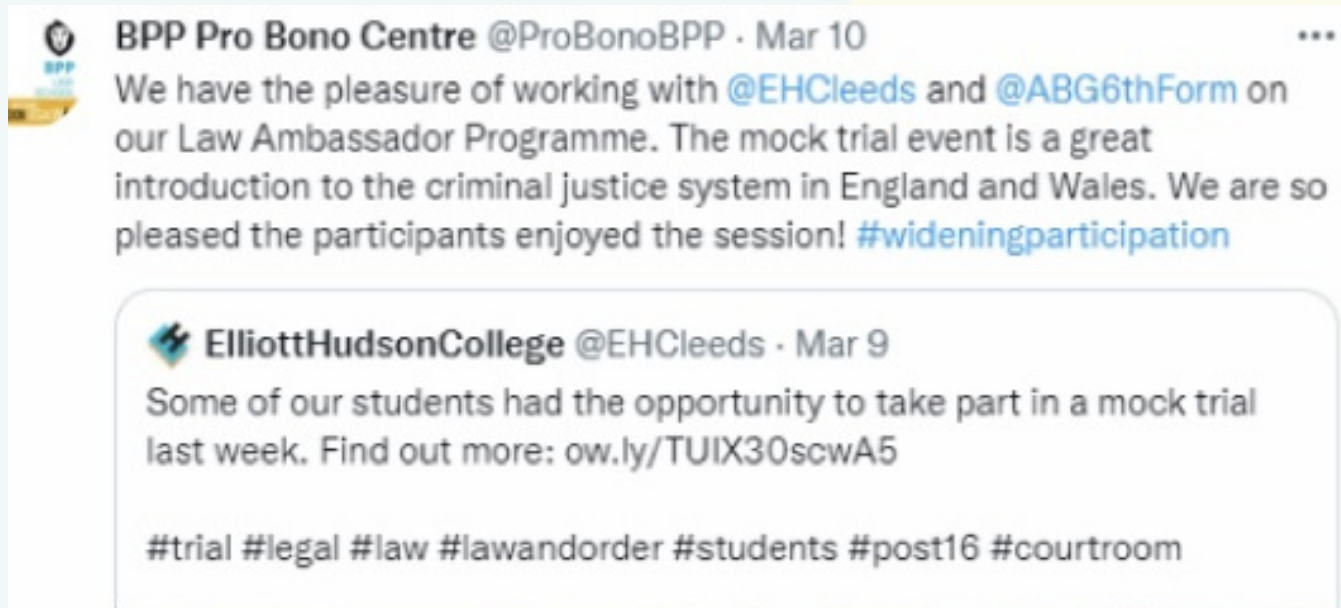
Our Legal Translation Service is a great way for student volunteers to provide direct assistance to community centres, charities and individuals seeking urgent translation or interpretation services. Hannah Phung-zhang, a current Student Director for the project, has found the experience particularly eye-opening: *"I feel that as the bridge between the clients and volunteers, you get to view the world with a new set of perspectives. Being part of the Pro Bono team, or even just embarking on a Pro Bono project is something I would highly recommend to everyone. It is true - every single contribution will help!"*

As we settle in to 2023, we understand that many of you may be feeling nervous about exams, daunted by workloads and uncertain about what the year ahead might look like. A good way to navigate through the year is by setting some personal goals. These could be career-focused, skills-based or simply related to your personal interests. Volunteering with the BPP Pro Bono Centre may help you reach these goals, no matter how big or small!

Are any of your 2023 goals to...

1. Build your confidence

Volunteering is a great way to build confidence in your own abilities, by giving you a chance to practice a variety of skills in a safe, supervised environment. For example, as many of you prepare to enter the professional world, you might be looking to develop your public speaking and communication skills. Our Streetlaw project



5. Develop interests outside of your studies

Many of our projects help volunteers explore interests outside of their BPP courses. For some students, this could open up new career paths; for others, it could provide them with a new perspective on current events. The Human Rights Unit is a project that aims to raise awareness about human rights in the UK amongst BPP students, through various events, networking sessions and a podcast series. Students also write for the national Human Rights Unit Blog on any area of human rights that they are interested in, from environmental law to refugees' rights to labour exploitation. This is a great opportunity to undertake research and develop your knowledge on a specific area of law important to you!

How to find out more about our Pro Bono projects

Visit BPP Futures: The best way to stay up-to-date with the BPP Pro Bono Centre is to visit our page on BPP Futures. Scan the QR code opposite to find out more about our projects and register for any opportunities of interest.

Email us: Please feel free to contact us at probono@bpp.com if you have any queries.

Meet us in person: Say hello to a member of the Pro Bono team at your local BPP Centre!



THE LIBRARY UPDATE



LGBTQ+ Month

February marks LGBTQ+ Month and we invite everyone to 'Learn Proud Live Proud'. At BPP Holborn Library we have created a Reading Rainbow area complete with titles from our Great Reads collection, displays and information about the campaign and what it means to us at BPP. We welcome any feedback: whether it be suggestions about our service, book recommendations and anything else! Come check it out (pardon the pun).

Single Sign On

The library team is pleased to announce that e-books and electronic databases are going to be much easier for us all to access using a single sign on (SSO). This authenticates users without them having to remember a username and password.

Until now, anyone wanting to view resources like Westlaw, a legal database, or Medline, for nursing journals and more, would find them on the library website and then enter a username and password as supplied by the library. Now, all you will need is your BPP email address.

We recommend that you access databases from the library website to ensure they're recognised as part of BPP and can see our complete range of resources: <https://bpp.libguides.com/az.php>.

You can search for e-books and other electronic resources from the library web pages and enjoy full access without any interruption: <https://bpp.libguides.com/Home/Home>

We welcome all feedback and queries - please get in touch with library@bpp.com.



WHO IS THE UCA TEAM?

UNIVERSITY CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION



Who Is UCA

The University Central Administration department comprises three separate teams that play a fundamental role throughout every student's time at BPP, from the day of your registration to the day of your graduation.

Student Administration

The Student Administration team keeps your record up to date and provides you with several services, including, but not limited to:

- Change of Personal Details, including name and address
- Official letter requests, such as status, bank and council tax letters
- ID cards
- Oyster cards
- Any updates to your record, such as change of programme, mode and location, interruption of studies, etc.

We also have a specialist team within the department that deals with Student Loans Company (SLC) Funding. This team are responsible for releasing students' funding, processing any changes with SLC and responding to queries. For assistance, please contact via the Hub query form or email slcqueries@bpp.com.

Assessments

The Assessments team deals with all matters relating to assessments and results for all the University's schools and students. Our services include:

- Assessments, including Inopera exams
- Results queries
- Issuing transcripts (4-6 weeks after course completion)
- General information on extenuating circumstances, academic appeals and misconduct.



Graduation and Awards

The Graduation & Awards team oversees the final stage of your studies. Our services include:

- Issuance and distribution of certificates
- References & verifications
- Graduation ceremonies



Staying online

During your studies you will only be contacted through your BPP email. Please ensure you set up your account as soon as you receive the instruction email with your login details. Included in the instruction email you will also find guidance on how to access your online student portal, also known as the Hub.

The Hub is a vital part of your studies and gives you access to your course materials and information, the Announcements page and the Query Form (which you use to contact several BPP departments including UCA).

Check out our pages

For more information about our services please visit the UCA pages on the Students' Association website, under 'University Services'.

Check out our newsletter

UCA produces a newsletter every month, which can be accessed through the Students' Association website in the 'Latest News' section, the Weekly Digest and the Virtual Campus. This includes important information and updates we think relevant to that month.

Keep up to date

As a BPP University student, you are required to regularly update UCA with any changes to your personal information and circumstances. This includes changes of address, surname, contact number, etc.

ID cards

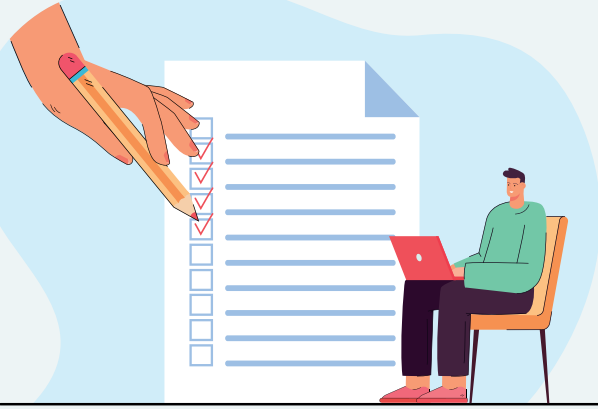
Your ID card will be made available to you shortly after your course start date. As a BPP student, it is essential that you follow the security and safety guidance when attending a BPP study centre. This includes wearing your lanyard and having your BPP ID card on you at all times.



Know your Assessment timetable

Assessment timetables are provided by the programme team and can be accessed via the Hub/VLE at the start of your programme. If you are unsure on how to find your timetable, please visit the Assessment information page on the Students' Association website.





Address survey

1-4 month
By email, to confirm your up to date mailing address

Electronic award certificate

2-5 months
By email, an invitation to 'eModule' where you can view and share your certificate

Hard copy award certificate

2-5 months
By post

Graduation information and invitation

1-12 months
By email

Upcoming Spring 2023 Graduations:

Students who received their results between January 2022 and January 2023 are being invited to BPP's next graduations:

25 April, 26 April - 4 ceremonies at stunning Central Hall Westminster, London

17 May - 1 ceremony at iconic concert venue Bridgewater Hall, Manchester

We look forward to welcoming our new graduates!

How To Contact Us:

The best way to contact the UCA department is via the Student Query Form on your Hub/VLE. Before you raise a query, please check out our pages on the Students' Association website.



Get ready for Assessments

Please ensure you are familiar with the platform your assessments are held on – this is shown on the Hub/VLE, in your module section.

We advise you to download and install the correct version of the software required, as well as to test your system prior to your exams. Please ensure you read any emails you receive from us relating to your assessments, as they contain important information on how to prepare for these. If your exams are held online (e.g., Inspira) or face to face, please don't forget to bring your laptop.

If you need any special provisions for your assessments, please contact learningsupport@bpp.com well in advance.

Results time

On the day that your results are due to be released, you will receive an email to your BPP email address containing a link where you can access results, as well as instructions on how to do so.

For more information on assessments and results, please access the Assessments Information section on the Student's Association page.

After Your Final Results:

You will receive the following, timed from the day of your final results release:

Transcript

4-6 weeks By email
By email



STUDENT LED STAFF AWARDS 2022

The Student Led Staff Awards is an annual initiative run by the Students' Association, where students and learners can nominate teaching and support staff for a range of awards. This year's ceremony took place on the 27th February and we're excited to announce that the following staff won in their respective categories.



NATASHA SALEH

LECTURER OF THE YEAR

Law School

Natasha is an international corporate lawyer who has trained in and practiced Banking and Finance Law in the City of London at Dentons, the world's largest law firm. She has over 13 years of university lecturing experience and is the Training Manager for the Holborn campus, alongside being the Tutor Lead for Business Law and Practice on the SQE and Legal Apprentices courses at BPP.

She has two degrees (First Class Honours) and a Masters in International Corporate and Commercial Law (Distinction) from the University of York. She has written articles and spoken and chaired panel discussions at the LSE (London School of Economics) which have focussed on inspiring young people, especially young women, to work in Corporate Law and Finance in the City.

A few words from Natasha...

'I would like to thank every single one of my students for taking the time to nominate me, this really does mean the world to me. I think it is a privilege teaching and I really look forward to it everyday. I will treasure this award forever. Thank you very much again.'



RICHARD BASKEYFIELD

COACH OF THE YEAR

Business School

Richard is a tutor for the Business School who has been working here for the past six years, teaching and module leading on the ADAF and MSc Accounting and Finance Programme.

A few words from Richard...

'I just wanted to say thanks to all of the students who voted for me, its been an amazing feeling knowing that I have been making a difference to the students experience while studying at BPP. I would also like to thank all of the people I have worked with, every tutor and support staff in Manchester that have helped me over the years, I am very lucky to work with a team of highly skilled tutors who set the benchmark for teaching quality.'



NAZRENE MEHABOOB

INCLUSIVE PRACTICE AWARD

Nursing School

Nazrene joined BPP in October 2021. Her background is in Respiratory and High Dependency unit nursing, where she has over 15 years' experience in bedside nursing. Her efforts to deliver the best possible bedside nursing was appreciated by the House of Commons in 2016. She is passionate about teaching and helping as many future nurses as possible.

Being the parent of a child with a learning disability has made her extra keen in supporting all students especially those who struggle because of their learning or divergence disabilities.

She is also a proud migrant of the UK, with her personal experiences having shaped her understanding of how it feels to be different from others. With an understanding of how it feels to be different, she believes in supporting and acknowledging those who are different in order to make them feel empowered and not see their differences as a hindrance. She believes every learner matters and should be supported fully to bring out their best in life and career in future.

A few words from Nazrene...

'I appreciate all the help and support I have received from the BPP School of Nursing and the wider team. I thank all my students for their feedback that is enabling me to do the best for them.'



VISHAL SHAH

STUDENTS AND LEARNERS AS PARTNERS AWARD

Business School

Vishal is a tutor in the Business School. He is an Engineering graduate of Imperial College and in the first part of his career, worked in Sustainable Energy Infrastructure and Technology Startups before training to teach at UCL Institute of Education. After seven years of teaching and an MBA, he is currently a Newton Scholar on the Newton Venture Program (JV between London Business School and LocalGlobe VC) to pursue his interest in Venture Capital for Edtech and Cleantech.

He is passionate about providing amazing learning experiences that help people to reach their potential and have a positive impact on the world.

A few words from Vishal...

'I am humbled and honoured by those who voted for me. I have to acknowledge the many mentors and trainers that have developed not only my teaching skills but also my emotional intelligence. Solving problems and making improvements to provide the best possible service for students is a collaboration between many parts of the Business School Team including facilities, student support, resourcing, faculty and the Students' Association as well as the students themselves. So thank you to all who have made BPP a great place to work!'



ESME HOWDEN

STUDENTS SUPPORT SERVICES AWARD
Safeguarding Team

Esme has been working in the Safeguarding team for about six years and absolutely loves her role. She believes her team is phenomenal and she is forever grateful to be working with such dedicated and passionate people. They work every day to support BPP students with anything that life throws at them. They talk to them, listen without judgement, signpost to internal and external resources and services and offer them emotional support along the way.

With the kind of work that Safeguarding engage in, it is essential that the team support each other as much as they support their students and that is the foundation of their small (but every grow growing!) team's success.

A few words from Esme...
'I am very humbled to receive this award for the second year in a row and am accepting it on behalf of the Safeguarding Team.'



JOANA SUTA

PROVIDING EXCELLENT FEEDBACK AWARD
Business School (Psychology)

Joana is a psychologist and a business coaching psychologist. She joined BPP in January 2021 and currently works as a lecturer for the Psychology department. She studied abroad and has lived in various countries, because of this she feels she understands the difficulties and great opportunities of being a student abroad. She believes the role of a tutor is to be a facilitator in the learning process.

A few words from Joana...
'I want to thank the managers I have had in my journey here at BPP. Their support has always been enormous. The students I have met so far in my journey as a teacher have helped me always improve and grow as a person and as a teacher. I also would like to thank 'Students Association' for their enormous work.'



VIVIAN CAMERON

PERSONAL TUTOR HERO AWARD
Nursing School

Vivian has worked in the Acute Mental Health nursing industry for over twenty one years. Where she has developed her knowledge and skills surrounding personality disorders and training in CBT, DBT therapies. She was the LEM (Learning Environment Manager) for over nine years at this role. She enjoys supporting students in developing their knowledge and skills and so took the next step in joining BPP university in September 2021, where she currently works as a Nurse Lecturer.

A few words from Vivian...
'I work alongside some fantastic nurse lecturers who have the same goals as me in ensuring that we provide an excellent experience for students and helping them achieve their goal of becoming registered nurses.'



CLAIRE ROBEY

EXTRA MILE AWARD
Law School

Claire is a barrister (non-practicing) who specialises in Commercial and Civil law. She works as a tutor for the Law School and has taught the BTC at BPP Bristol and London since 2017, mainly focussing on Submission Advocacy and Written Skills.

A few words from Claire...
'Being nominated was lovely but reading the comments from students was the best part. I've always tried to make the BTC student experience as good as it can be, so that we have a generation of well equipped, ethically minded barristers entering the profession.'

THE PDP'S TEAM TALENT POOL



Zahra Munir

Last year, the PDP team launched an exciting new idea!

At BPP, we have multiple job opportunities available across all our different schools including the Business School, Law, Nursing and Technology. Not only do we have BPP job opportunities; we also have thousands of excellent students and graduates eager to enter the work force and begin their professional careers. We want to utilise this talent and provide our students with these fantastic opportunities to kick start their career and thrive within BPP itself! This is where the idea of the BPP Talent Pool was born.

The talent pool that will allow graduates exclusive access to paid opportunities within BPP once you complete your studies. So far, multiple departments have got on board – we currently have opportunities within Marketing, Client Services, Data, Project Management, Finance and many more! There are several requirements for students that want to apply for a BPP position to ensure that we are only attracting the top talent from our student population. These include:

- Successful application to the Graduate Route (Post Study Work Visa)
 - Completion of your programme with an overall classification of a merit or above
 - Minimum overall attendance of 75%
 - Evidence of professional development (such as part time work, PDP workshops, virtual work experience, LinkedIn learning etc)
 - Recommendation from a BPP member of staff (Faculty, PDP Tutor, Personal Tutor etc)
- Since launching 6 months ago, we have already been able to successfully support over 10 students and graduates in to secure employment.



BPP

Zahra Munir, a former MSc Management and PDP student, was one of our first Talent Pool successes. Zahra is now a Client Services Executive, in a full time permanent position based in our London Portsoken campus. We spoke to Zahra regarding her Talent Pool experience.

How did you hear about BPP Talent Pool?

“First, I received an email from the BPP Placements team informing me of the opportunity to apply for BPP job vacancies after completing my programme. Secondly, I attended the Stonegate Recruitment Event hosted by BPP University, where I met Holly Bowen, a placement officer, who was friendly and explained the full process of the Talent Pool to me and later assisted me with my application.”

What was the application process like?

“The application process has a few requirements that students must meet, such as a minimum attendance requirement of 75%, a recommendation from a BPP Member, which I have from my PDP Tutor, and a PSW visa. After that, there was a very straightforward online application form that we needed to complete and submit online. The interview took place on teams and was professionally designed and conducted by two BPP members. It was a professional interview that lasted about an hour and included numerous workplace-related questions.”

How has the Talent Pool helped you?

“My Placement Officer Holly Bowen at Talent Pool assisted me with my cover letter and resume in addition to helping me land this exciting employment. She was mentor for me throughout the procedure.

I feel incredibly fortunate to have BPP as the beginning of my professional career. I see this as a chance to gain a better understanding of the workplace, as well as more maturity, independence, and self-assurance. I wholeheartedly endorse the talent pool since it will aid students in reaching their future objectives and play a crucial part in their success in the workforce. They will develop professional skills that they can use in any career choice.”

Zahra is a prime example of what we would like to achieve through our Talent Pool and we are delighted to see her thriving in her new role here at BPP. She has a bright career ahead of her! We are excited to see what other opportunities can be provided to our students, so we would encourage anyone who is interested in our Talent Pool to strive to meet the entry requirements and apply via our online form on BPP Futures. We would love to support you too with your getting your professional career started.

If you have any questions regarding the talent pool, please contact us at placements@bpp.com.

BPP'S SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY'S FIRST VIRTUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

On 15th February 2023, BPP's School of Technology hosted its first ever Virtual Research Conference. It proved to be the biggest event the school has ever hosted and broke all records for attendance.

We heard from 10 learners who have all completed either their undergraduate or postgraduate studies with us.

Our Keynote speaker, Dr Artemis Parvizi, head of knowledge at Dyad, spoke about the field of Knowledge Engineering. Artemis specialises in knowledge engineering and semantic web and has multiple publications in the field. Following several research fellowships she joined the global languages team at Oxford University Press where she restructured dictionaries. After which she has been a knowledge engineer at a few start-ups in AgriTech and supply chain AI. Her talk inspired a new generation of budding knowledge engineers.

Thomas Bennet, a self-described accountant turned data scientist, who recently completed his Masters in Applied Data Science with BPP, started the student

presentations with this talk titled "Anomaly Detection in Audit" which generated a lot of interest from the audience, bringing in questions from both current students and industry partners.

The day went from strength to strength as we heard presentations on how data analytics and digital technology can contribute to fraud prevention, quality assurances and customer retention, with evidence from these learner-led projects. The presenters absolutely amazed everyone with their research, work and implementation of these projects in their work environments, drawing comments from the audience that the School of Technology students are solving the kinds of problems we are facing in the university, and we should learn from our own learners. Simren Samra and Sarah Ibrahim looked at different perspectives of criminal activity in the financial sector, from a technology platform and analytics angles. Freya's paper on automation showed us how powerful automation can be, and really drove home the power of quantitative analysis in business processes.

Omone Odiase finished our morning session by bringing us back to where we started, discussing knowledge as she took us through a very insightful piece "How knowledge management can improve incident management and organization" with some tricky audience questions!

The lunchtime panel session took on the topic that is taking the tech and academic worlds



by storm, ChatGPT. Our panellist from the Schools of Tech, Learning and Teaching, and Law explored the capabilities and implications of the large language model. We discussed ChatGPT and its role in education and industry and we did not avoid the tough topics. The interim Dean of Learning and Teaching, Pete Alston answering the question everyone wanted to know "Is it cheating" and Jo-Anne Pugh Dean of the BPP Law School, tackling the tricky "Is it stealing" question. To find out the answer you can watch the recorded session which we will post on the Virtual Campus.

The conversation carried on right the way through the lunch break, after which Nicole Bodgers demonstrated the impact reporting can have the on the bottom line, before we made a return to machine learning in industry with Tom Moore's presentation on insurance renewals. Lottie Moore proved the value of analytics in quality assurance by sharing the process she designed which can pick out even the smallest errors in equity trading data. Finally, Aditya Sharma and Louise Ball ended the student presentations with their case studies on enhancing record retention and recommendation systems in B2B respectively.

Not to be left out the BPP staff joined in on the last hour of the day with presentations from Dr Sam Penrice, Rajeev Ratan of BPP's data assembly both exploring the potential uses of technology tools in teaching and learning. Asim Majeed continued with the theme of innovation, and Mohamed Warsame

presented a regression analysis of feedback scores of his own lectures to measure whether a change in his teaching methods benefited his students.

The day ended with a prizegiving session, led by conference host Waqas Bhatti, Head of Student Experience.

The award for the audience vote for best contribution to technology education, was a draw between Sam and Mohamed. Vicky Duxbury, a Masters student on the L7 Advanced Data Analytics, won the best question award, for asking "Can we use ChatGPT to come up with the question?" - as it was both excellent comedic timing, and raised a valid point about ownership, a fundamental debate about ChatGPT. The best paper award went to Thomas Bennett for his work on fraud detection in audit with machine learning. Simren Samra won the award for best presentation for her talk on big data solutions and fraud.

Congratulations to all the winners especially Sarah Ibrahim of KPMG who received the 'Dean's award for innovation' from our dean Cassandra Macdonald, for her paper "Applying Analytics in Sanction Screening in Banking".

Student and Staff alike agreed the day was a huge success, far exceeding our expectations for the first event of this type in the university. We look forward to welcoming more student presentations at our next virtual research conference in November 2023.



USE THE SIDE DOOR

WRITTEN BY HELEN RIVERA
ACADEMIC SUPPORT TUTOR



So...

When you think of and start applying to organisations for a job it's a bit like going through the front door of the main building. This is fairly obvious and easy to start doing and it's what everyone tells you, however - it's where most people go - so it's a pretty big crowd trying to get in and often at the same time. You can increase your job chances significantly by finding another door - a side door or back door (or even tunnel in from across the street). Seriously - a different strategy can make all the difference to your success. This is what I am going to share with you. I, and many friends and my students, have succeeded using this method.

The Problem with the big obvious firms

If you want to be an accountant - then the big 4 is an appealing target (KPMG, PwC, Ernst and Young, Deloitte) - maybe even a few more firms almost as well known. But these firms get thousands of applications, including from students who did a history degree and have only just thought of business this month. They also, let's be honest, get applications from a lot of truly excellent students from the best universities in the UK (Cambridge, London, Bath etc). The same is true of the top law firms (the magic circle in London and other prestigious firms). You can also apply the principle to businesses - look for a medium sized business with a low national profile.



How to get a job when there are lots of good graduates out there?

Don't go through the front door - sneak in at the side door!

Why listen to me?

I have been a consultant for one of the best global firms advising on recruitment and performance of people (the Haygroup), also a programme director on management development with a leading European business school (Cranfield) and 10 years as an HR academic understanding how organisations use their people and what the best ones do.



So this is a big race with a lot of excellent runners. Their application process is often long, with long application forms and many stages. In short, you may have a lot to offer but still not get chosen. You are also very unlikely to get any useful feedback (the numbers are just too big).

So what can you do... Smarter strategy – 2nd or 3rd tier firms.

These are the smaller firms in the industry. They are good but don't have the same profile of the big ones. They have needs for part qualified graduates. They often have some kind of training or development plan for their employees en route to full qualification. They are well organised but have a different, more pragmatic, less formal, approach to recruitment.

Good examples would be Kingston Smith (accounting) regional law firms in a regional city such as Bristol, Manchester in the UK (whitehead Monckton – good medium sized firm in Kent). A medium sized successful business would be Office (the shoe retailer or Warburtons the medium sized baker).



Their recruitment set up

These firms will often have a head of HR and a small HR team that organises recruitment (they may use an agency for the first stages). Often there will be a senior acct /lawyer/ manager involved in design and operation of the recruitment process. All this means that you get an earlier chance to show your strengths in front of a real person. These firms know they are not expecting first class graduates from Cambridge but what they are looking for is a serious candidate who will give effort in exchange for development and

strong informal family feel to them and have less conventional hiring criteria. Owner / manager businesses, entrepreneurs and family businesses often have a different attitude to hiring and a culture different from the big firms. They are often more willing to take students with second class degrees and more interested in you as a person. They are keen for someone to fit the culture of their firm. Often this means being willing to do a wide range of work and be enthusiastic and flexible.

Another positive is that you are likely to get involved in smaller companies/clients but a wider range of work. You will get more experience of how your professional knowledge interacts with the needs of a business. This particularly enhances your value (future salary) as an accountant or lawyer.



The positives are that they are more approachable. You can literally write to them or call them up and get a response. I have worked with Warburtons – they have a



support. Your degree classification matters less – your individual personality, motivation and skills are more crucial. They will be impressed that you have sought them out – and are actively interested.

What you need to do to be successful

You need to work harder to find them. Do some research – online - try to find which ones might match your own personality/ style. Use the internet (trade publications) but also try any contacts you know (your tutors may have contacts)

Understand yourself – what are you good at (and weak at) – focus on your strengths. Your skills – interpersonal, information, technical. Do a SWOT analysis. Aspects of your personality – are you extrovert? Do you

always try to get a good result? Are you good at talking with people, are you good at finding information? Are you good with details? (most self help books will be useful – see the BPP library).

Go to a few professional/business meetings/ conferences – local ones (ask your tutors).

You are trying to find a match between you, your skills and personality, and a firm that has a culture which will welcome people like you. With smaller firms you can show yourself clearly and early. All firms want to hire an appropriate human being who will succeed in their environment - not a perfect CV.

Helen Rivera (helenrivera@bpp.com)

REFLECTIONS FROM A NEWLY QUALIFIED NURSE

**Charlene Warrington, Cohort 2018
Adult Nursing Degree BSc Apprenticeship**

As I begin my new chapter as palliative newly qualified nurse (NQN), I am left reflecting on what a journey as a student nurse has meant to me and how far I have come, both as a student and as a person. Over these past 4 years I have definitely changed – in so many ways, I am more confident, more professional. This has confirmed for me that nursing has always been in my blood and now I could not imagine doing anything else with my life.

From my first day I have carried a passion, nerves and excitement about this journey that laid ahead, that even through there was many highs and lows, I have never lost my determination. I have experienced such a wide variety of placements, staff and patients' co-morbidities and my knowledge has expanded beyond what I could of imagined. I have a vested interest now in our healthcare system as a whole that I have never experienced before. My love for my job, my patients and my NHS can dominate conversations in my personal life now as well as my professional life and I feel that I am part of an amazing institution.

I have to say I have really enjoyed being a student and though I am looking forward to what lies ahead as NQN, I think it's safe to say I'm going to miss this time. Making friends that will last a lifetime and new experiences and opportunities have been a joy to explore. I have really enjoyed immersing myself in university life, I have gained skill and confidence as each year has passed, taking on more responsibility, harder work and greater challenges. All of this has definitely helped shape my work ethic, my professionalism and aspects of my personality already there.

My family and friends comment on the difference in me and hearing of their pride and happiness for me brings a lightness to my heart. I can be proud of the career I have, be certain that I will always be needed in work. This course has definitely given me some difficult times to cope with, but this is counteracted by some truly beautiful and privileged times. The memories of being a student are those that I will take with me into the future, and I hope I never forget them.

Completing all of my academic work and passing all of my exams and assignments is not only a huge relief due to having dyslexia and dyscalculia as I have never felt that academia wasn't my strongest and I am proud to say I finish this course with a first-degree honour. I cannot begin to express how this feels as I remember starting this course and thinking that the end felt so far away. All the hard work, hours and tears put into this course has been worth every second to have achieved so much. Getting to my final sign off placement was the final hurdle before qualifying and I dedicate as much energy and passion to this placement as I have with every other. I intend to enjoy every second of being a student while I still had the opportunity.

Good luck to all of those I have worked and studied along side over these last 4 years and to every other nursing student that will come through these doors. As long as you dedicate yourself and remember why you wanted to be a nurse, you are sure to go far. It has been an amazing journey and one I will never forget. Thank you so much to my family and BPP university, from lecturers and learning support team, you have been wonderful to work with over the years.

NHS

 Apprenticeships

YOU COULD BE AN *Apprentice* WITH THE NHS

APPRENTICE AMBULANCE PRACTITIONER

As a trainee technician you are a member of the emergency ambulance crew, responding to 999 calls. Once qualified, you will work alongside an emergency care assistant or a paramedic providing patients with potentially life-saving care and getting patients to hospital as fast as possible.

NURSING DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

Nursing is a fulfilling and inspiring career. The opportunity to pursue this through a Degree Apprenticeship would mean you could qualify debt free and with essential clinical experience.

DIETITIAN

Have you got a passion for cooking and healthy living? Dietitians help people make the best food choices for their lifestyles and health needs. You could inspire people to use new recipes and food combinations to improve their health.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

As an Occupational Therapist, you will be aiding people of all ages with both physical and mental conditions to live a more fulfilled life. You will help patients recover and improve the skills they need for daily life.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

You will learn a range of administrative tasks gain essential to work in a business environment. You will have the opportunity to gain qualifications and apply for permanent roles within the trust upon successful completion of the apprenticeship.

PROSTHETICS AND ORTHOTICS

Help patients who have lost limbs or have lost mobility to walk again. This is an exciting and dynamic career that is continuously developing with new technologies to keep you on your toes.

Apprenticeships offered by organisations providing NHS healthcare are suitable for work in other industries too, with learners going on to careers in construction, facilities, business administration, logistics and management, and many other sectors.

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National
Apprenticeship
Service

To find an apprenticeship visit [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)
and search for apprenticeships

MY NURSING HERO

WRITTEN BY HARRY COWDERY
ADULT NURSING DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP



Hello, my name is Harry Cowdrey and I'm a stage 1 Nursing Apprentice here at BPP, I'm currently studying at the Charlottes Place campus in Southampton. I started my nursing career way back in 2020 during the first national lockdown and what a time to join! I have learnt a lot about myself and the National Health Service in that time and more importantly I was able to achieve a lifelong dream of training to be a nurse!

Which leads me to you today, as I'm here to talk to you about my nursing hero Alison Bunce.

So who is Alison Bunce? Well let me tell you! Alison Bunce is a community palliative nurse. For those of you who don't know, Palliative Nurses deal mainly with patients who are coming to the end of their lives or are suffering from a life-limiting (terminal) illness. Palliative nurses help patients in many ways and can achieve amazing things for patients who are coming to the end of their

life, be it helping them home to die peacefully or making sure certain medication is given so their patients are comfortable.

Alison Bunce is also the winner of RCN (Royal College of Nursing) Nurse of the year 2022 and the creator of the community initiative Compassionate Inverclyde. This initiative led her to winning said award.

Compassionate Inverclyde was set up by Alison Bunce to tap into her local community's kindness. She leads a team of volunteers from all walks of life, including different faith groups, businesses, and other healthcare professions to support people in a crisis. Compassionate Inverclyde's activities vary massively and are all tailored with kindness and respect to meet individual's need and requirements. Services offered by Compassionate Inverclyde include companionship to anyone who would otherwise be left alone in their final hours of life; advice on breastfeeding for new mothers and organising the collection of all sorts of good from toiletries to new night clothes for those admitted to hospital in an emergency. The team even collect items for patients being discharged from hospital - called a 'Back Home Box'. These boxes are filled with all sorts of goods to help a patient who is living alone get by for the first few days. The box includes tea, milk biscuits, tinned food and even sometimes a blanket or two!

With next to no budget Alison Bunce established Compassionate Inverclyde in 2017. She put together a board of key stakeholders from a range of sectors including care, education and even the police. Over the course of 1 year she held public meetings and gathered ideas from the community within Inverclyde on how she and



Nurse Alison Bunce

her volunteers could support people at the end of their life

Compassionate Inverclyde was also able to tap into the hearts and minds of children. Local school children have been making their own "back home boxes". The children learn that kindness and compassion can go along away in life.

Words cannot describe how truly inspired I am by this woman. Alison literally created a social and compassionate nursing movement within her own community from nothing. She engaged with members of the public and discussed with leaders at all levels to develop a shared purpose and set of values. To this day the Compassionate Inverclyde name is strong. Over 4400 "back home boxes" have been delivered. Nursing is at the heart of any community, and it goes to show with some hard work and dedication to a cause you believe in, you can achieve anything, I hope Alison Bunce story inspires you as it does me. I hope one day I can be a nurse with the drive and passion she has to service the community in which I live.



Volunteer packing a "back home box"

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



The BPP Environmental Law Society is currently recruiting committee members! Please email us at bpp.environmental.lawsoc@gmail.com if you would like to be on the team. We have positions available including Vice President, Event Organiser, Diversity and Inclusion Officer, and Content Creator.

Follow our Instagram (username: [bpp.els](https://www.instagram.com/bpp.els)) to keep up to date with our latest events, competitions, and termly newsletter. If you would like our newsletter and latest events emailed straight to your BPP inbox, then please fill out the membership form on our Instagram bio (it only takes a couple of seconds!)



The BPP ISOC is a society for Muslims to connect over their faith. Allah says in the Quran, 'Hold fast to the rope of Allah, All of you together, and be not disunited'.



We are a community of LGBTQ+ friends and allies at BPP University! We welcome all students at all campuses, of all genders and all sexualities. The Society will be running events and socials throughout term, so follow us on Instagram and Facebook to find out what's on. We are also recruiting committee members – please get in touch via our social media if you are interested in being our Social Secretary, Social Media Officer, or Secretary!

Instagram: [@bpp.lgbtq.society](https://www.instagram.com/bpp.lgbtq.society)
Facebook: BPP LGBTQ Society

You should join the BPP ISOC if you are looking to learn more about Islam and connect with your fellow Muslims.

Often it is hard for Muslims to fit into places where there is alcohol, music, free mixing and we often lack a sense of belonging. The BPP ISOC wants to create a safe space away from this so that Muslims do not feel alienated by their faith.

The ISOC is looking to hold many events over the year to strengthen not only your faith, but your relationships with your brothers and sisters. Are you interested in Islamic lectures, games nights, charity events and more? Then BPP ISOC is the place for you!



I am Yavnisha. I am from Mauritius and joined BPP university back in Sept 2020 on the MSc Accounting and Finance ADAF Route. Apart from my passion for education, coming to UK was so exciting for me, knowing that I will meet new people from all over the world.

Shortly after I arrived, I met my good friends Abhi and Shubham. I did not know that by meeting them I was going to embark on one of the most exciting and fun chapters of my student life at BPP.

At BPP, there are countless clubs and societies where you can develop skills and meet people from around the world. Student life is never boring if you join these societies. At that time, Abhi was the President of many societies at BPP including Enactus BPP which really caught my eye. I decided to join him as a team member. After some months, he came to me and asked whether I would like to be the new president of Enactus BPP since he was graduating soon. I said 'why not!? Let's do this!'. I only took the responsibility after he promised me that he would always have my back through my presidency. I can confirm he's still keeping his promise.



A few months went by and most of the members who were in the society graduated and I found myself left with my dearest classmate Saba Zareem, the forever life

saver! With each other's help, Enactus BPP revived this year with an influx of new determined students from all over the globe with different perspectives. We started Enactus BPP up again as 2 students and now we have reached over 70 team members across different campuses.



At Enactus BPP, we help the less fortunate, bringing them new opportunities and connecting the society and entrepreneurship in a unique way. As a team we came up with a startup to raise funds for our work as a society. It has been a journey which has required both skill, emotional growth and intelligence. This was a major milestone for us to achieve.

Students usually join Enactus to receive fast tracked applications from our partners such as EY, HSBC, Amazon and many more..., to learn and experience working with people from different backgrounds, to grow personally and professionally and of course to make amazing friends!

As a big family, we represented BPP at the National Expo 2022, The Regionals Feedback summit at the Enterprise Rent A Car Headquarters, The Leadership summit at the



Unilever House and Dirt Is Good project by Future Foundations at Alfred Salters School. Soon we will compete against Enactus Teams across UK for the National Expo in April 2023 at the Excel Centre London.

For a more vibrant and unique experience for our members and other dear students, we organised some interesting and fun events in collaboration with the Students' Association. These have included the Paintball Event, Bake sale, Diwali Heatwave and more to come soon. The Students' Association has always been our 'go to team' at BPP. In the Students' Association I met the most wonderful and smiley team at BPP and worked very closely with namely Rosie, Sabiya, Ellie, Kurt, Casey, Millie, and Hajra. They always have our back whenever we went to represent BPP at different headquarters, in organising events and in every way we could imagine.

During my whole experience at Enactus BPP, there are 2 things which I enjoyed the most:

First was my passion towards our project in collaboration with Colgate Palmolive for dental hygiene. We worked with kids from low-income families aged 5-9, aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals such as Goal 3 Good health and wellbeing. We raised awareness on oral hygiene in schools and



provided students with free oral products and goodies. We also participated in the Colgate Palmolive 'Know your OQ challenge' and drum roll... We were named the champions and won funding from Colgate to support our project.

Secondly, I have made the best friends through Enactus. They are also committee board members namely Saba, Uzair, Nishi, Ahad, Frasad, Taha, Zohaib, Prajwal, Namrata, Waqar, Aksa, Labib, and Yahya. Some of them have been a part of the society from the very beginning and others have found their way just in time. We are different people from all over the world and yet we all fit so well in our so-called 'Nottingham family'! You might be thinking why do we call ourselves the 'Nottingham Family?' It's because we usually travel to the Enactus Headquarters for our projects in Nottingham and come back with crazy and lovely memories made over night.

Also, without forgetting the lovely Students' Association Team and our favourite University Advisor Adisha who has supported us since Day 1. I will always be grateful to Enactus BPP for bringing such wonderful people in to my life. They literally painted my blank canvas with their wonderful colours.



That was my lovely journey as the president of Enactus BPP. Working together for our common future full of fun. We are always growing and encourage driven students from any degree to join us.

Email us at Enactusbpp@gmail.com

AN APPRENTICE FIRST FOR ALLEN AND OVERY

Written by Arina Stelmokaite
Solicitor Apprentice



I am a first-year solicitor apprentice at Allen & Overy, and I am also part of the firm's first cohort of solicitor apprentices worldwide.

Being a trailblazer in a global elite law firm means that I receive impeccable legal training from first-class lawyers, but I also get ample opportunities to pursue work for causes that are very close to my heart.

My goals are all centred around diversity, equity and inclusion. The legal industry has many hot topics surrounding profitability, efficiency, and technology (just to name a few), but I believe that making the industry as inclusive as possible is just as important. Collaboration works best when a diverse team are able to embrace their

differences and learn from each other; this can only happen if law firm recruitment promotes diversity, and the “system” is inclusive. Everyone deserves to follow their dreams... and this notion has pushed me to be different and go against the status quo.

My journey into law is atypical: I didn't sit my GCSEs; I took IB instead of A-Levels; my IB exams were adjusted due to COVID-19, and I am now an apprentice. This means I never really understood the memes made by aspiring lawyers because my route into law was always that little bit different.

On top of that, I have faced adversity. I am a first-generation immigrant from a socially mobile background. I am a member of the LGBTQIA+ community and have always struggled with my identity and sexuality. I just about made it through 2022, as I ended up in counselling for my mental health issues. My experiences have set me back, but they are also the reason why I do what I do, and they encourage me to support others who might find themselves in my shoes.

So what do I actually do?

- When applying for solicitor apprenticeships, I was a mentee through GROW Mentoring, and I had the most amazing mentor helping me navigate my way through assessment centres (which are incredibly daunting). I attended events with the charity, and fell in love with the cause, so now I mentor other aspiring lawyers as a GROW Mentor.

- I became very aware that networking is hard if you do not have a familiar face present in



the room or even on LinkedIn, and as much as I love to mentor, there is not enough time in the day to support every single young person that might need a little bit of guidance. So... I set up a TikTok account @mmesriri, where I teach young people about the basics of legal practice and commercial awareness. I hope that if I put myself out there enough, one of these young people might see me at an event, and will feel far more at ease as they have a friendly face there! Not to mention the fact they can learn about life in a law firm in a more engaging way.

- I am an ambassador for Not Going to Uni, because guess what? I didn't go to university, and that's completely okay! No, I didn't fail my exams, and no, I didn't take my Cambridge rejection personally. I just didn't want to go. I still qualify as a solicitor in six years like everyone else on the “traditional” route; I just did the competitive application process a little bit earlier.

- When applying for apprenticeships, I also navigated the dreaded UCAS application (duh duh duh!). From my personal experience, I have found there to be that “us versus them” mentality between aspiring solicitors who go to university and aspiring solicitors who pursued the apprenticeship route. I want to bring people together, and uplift everyone in every path they choose. I still help with university applications, because I have been there and received offers from amazing universities!

- Most importantly, I speak out! I am definitely not shy about holding people accountable. If I see an opportunity to make an event more inclusive, to make a process more diverse, or just to promote equity within a group dynamic – I will do so. Speaking out is sometimes seen as a negative thing, but I use it as a way to empower young people and be the voice of change.

And there is still so much more I want to do, see and achieve. I am definitely a “yes man”, because not only do I want to be an amazing commercial lawyer for clients, but I also want to be a spokesperson for aspiring lawyers from all walks of life.



APPRENTICE PROFILES



Amy Marren Solicitor Apprentice

My name is Amy and I am currently in-house at BPP as a Solicitor Apprentice as part of a 6 year scheme in which I work and study full-time. I am in the fifth year of my Apprenticeship, and I am working towards qualifying as a Solicitor in 2024.

I am also very recently a retired double Paralympian, having won a bronze medal in Rio 2016. I am also 4X World 2X European Champion and 14X International medallist as well as a patron for various charities and organisations.

Jake Saville Solicitor Apprentice

Stephenson Harwood LLP

My name is Jake Saville, I am a Solicitor Apprentice at Stephenson Harwood LLP, an international law firm headquartered in London. I'm also an advocate for apprenticeships and do work in the social mobility space.

I work with originations and charities in the hope to promote apprenticeships to reach students who might otherwise be unaware of the incredible benefits and opportunities apprenticeships can provide. I am proud to be an ambassador for apprenticeships in the legal sector; breaking down the barriers of entry in a profession like mine is important not only to ensure that people from all backgrounds have the same opportunity to work in the law, but also holds special importance that the legal sector has a diverse workforce that reflects the diverse clients who we represent.

I can thank my experiences doing mock court trials in high school for initially sparking my interest in having a career in the law, but I owe my interest in pursuing an apprenticeship to outreach charities. When I found out about the Solicitor Apprenticeship it seemed like it was too good to be true; you get to start your career at age 18, get salaried while having your law degree paid for, and get the unique benefit of learning the law from experts in their field. I would have happily gone to university, but I decided to pursue an



apprenticeship because quite simply, it was the better option.

I am now a second-year apprentice, having spent my first year in the corporate practice group, I now work in the international trade practice at the firm, working on shipping and commodity matters. Being an apprentice has provided me with insane opportunities; meeting and working with some of the most important and influential people in the profession stands out as a key one- being able to say that I sat down for lunch with the president of the law society is pretty cool.

I also take up a leading role in the BPP Legal Apprentice Society for London, working with the society to develop a legal apprentice community in the city.

APPRENTICE PROFILES



Izzabella Mudriczki Digital Technology Solutions

L6 - Degree Apprentice specialising in Data & Analytics: KPMG

What is the most important skillset you have learned through your experience on an apprenticeship that has benefited you the most?

I have learnt to be able to project manage effectively and this is a skill which my team have recognised, and use to their advantage, by allowing me to pursue this skill within my role.

I think the strengthening of my people skills and confidence has supported me with this skill. Overall, being able to apply skills which I have learnt at university at work has been very beneficial such as cloud computing, and data analytics.

Sophie Clayton-Spinola Digital Technology Solutions

L6 - Degree Apprentice specialising in Data & Analytics: KPMG

What's your background/why did they choose to do an apprenticeship?

I did Maths, Chemistry and Biology at A-Level with the idea that I wanted to go on to do a degree in Dentistry, at this point I didn't know much about apprenticeships or that degree apprenticeships even existed. I applied to university, passed all of the relevant exams but then when I went to the taster days I soon realised that traditional university wasn't going to suit me. It was my mum who then said that if I didn't want to go to university, why didn't I look into a degree apprenticeship. After doing my research I knew this was more my sort of thing as I really wanted to start earning a wage and be in a professional working environment whilst still getting a valuable degree



APPRENTICE PROFILES



Scott Young Chief Operating Officer in Finance for Nat West

Digital Technology Solutions - L6 - Degree Apprentice

What is the most important skillset you have learned through your experience on programme that has benefited you the most?

I've applied lots of what I've learnt in the workplace but something I've used a lot is the principle of focusing on value that came through in both Agile and Service Management (modules) – using value in discussions around priorities has taken a lot of the potential heat out of those discussions and really focused the discussions around what's important.

Martin Ball Specialist Paramedic

Digital Technology Solutions - L6 - Degree Apprentice

The reason I chose this degree is that it aligns with my previous experience and will allow me to develop personally within Mitie and help the team that I work in achieve our strategic objectives. Long term this degree apprenticeship will help me change my career.

The most important skill, so far, is the ability to be flexible with my time to fulfil the needs of the business and the apprenticeship, the support from my manager has been paramount to this and is definitely something that I will be taking away and implementing in my own business in the near future when I will look to employ apprentices.



THE 22/23 STUDENT WRITTEN SUBMISSION AWAY DAY

Written by Kurt Satney
Head of the Students' Association



The Students' Association continued with its tradition of hosting a Students Written Submission (SWS) Away Day in advance of writing and publishing its annual SWS. This event was held on 22 February 2023 and returned to Wembley Stadium in London where it was held in the two years preceding the pandemic.

Preparations for the Away Day commenced in early January 2023 and by all accounts the event was professionally executed. In attendance were twenty-three Student Voice Representatives, who represented most of the programmes in the Law, Business and Nursing Schools. Although the School of Technology was not physically represented, these learners provided feedback via email which featured in the final Student Written Submission.

The Group Head of Student Affairs, Hajra Babariya, the Head of BPP Students' Association, Kurt Satney, the Student President, Casey Joseph and the two Student Voice Managers, Sabiya Mahmood and Attaullah Shah, facilitated the event and ensured that the day went to plan. The day began with a networking session over refreshments in order for the SVR's to get to know each other as it was the first time they all met face to face in the same place. It was then onto the day's proceedings which included two closed feedback sessions which were ran by Casey during which, the students were placed in groups and presented on the student experience covering various topics.

Fortuitously, we were graced with the presence of members of the University Senior Leadership Team (SLT), namely, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Tim Stewart, the Associate Dean – Education Services, Jessica Austen and the Director of University Central Administration, Laila Barbe. The SLT joined the event during the lunch time period and shared with the SVRs about their journeys into their present roles and how their roles directly impact on the student experience. They also took questions from the SVR's and had lunch with us during which they spoke more informally and one to one with the students.

The day ended with a tour of the Stadium which the students really enjoyed and appreciated. Overall, the SVR's thoroughly enjoyed the day and were unanimously of the opinion that the day was extremely productive and fun. The SVRs and the Students' Association through the Student President, Casey, are looking forward to publishing the 2022/23 SWS and to continue the tradition of ensuring that BPP University action their recommendations and quick wins.



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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