

# Salford Successes

A round-up of our achievements throughout the past semester.







# New state of the art Megalab unveiled

Students from the School of Environment and Life Sciences (ELS) stepped into the new, state of the art, multi-purpose Cockcroft Megalab for the first time this September.

The University has invested £3m in the worldclass teaching facility equipped with the latest technologies, which has been specially designed to promote an excellent student teaching experience.

The bright, modern space has been designed with interconnecting walls which can be easily configured into two, three or four separate laboratories, for maximum flexibility and occupancy. Investments have been made in new high-specification equipment for the site, including an AV system that allows lecturers to be linked with some or all of the interconnected labs. A network of suspended HD televisions will enable each student to see and hear the lecturer clearly from wherever they are, creating a better learning environment for our students.

A broad range of ELS subjects will be taught in the Megalab, from Medicinal Chemistry through to Zoology. The flexible design will enable academics to teach larger classes, allowing the opportunity to further develop our modules and programmes.

The opening of this new laboratory follows the School's impressive NSS results earlier this year which saw overall student satisfaction climb 9 percentage points to 87%. This was reflected across individual programmes – Biology scored 100% student satisfaction whilst a range of other courses scored between 90-95%, including Geography, Biomedical Science and Wildlife.

Professor Judith Smith, Dean of School for ELS said: "The significant investment demonstrates the University's commitment to providing the best possible experience for our students by developing outstanding facilities with cutting edge technical equipment."

Find out more about the School at: www.salford.ac.uk/environment-life-sciences



### Nursing Student wins 'Student of the Year' award

BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing student, Lisa White, has won the Student of the Year Award at the Bolton NHS Foundation Trust's 'Trust Staff Awards 2015'. Lisa delivered an extra special something to her placement with the NHS in Bolton, and the University is delighted that her hard work has been recognised.

Following a placement with the respiratory nurse specialists Lisa's mentors saw fit to nominate her for the award.

A spokesperson for the Trust Staff Awards 2015 said: "Lisa performed at a level above and beyond her student role and voluntarily became involved in the setting up of a new system of working with home oxygen patients".

When asked how she felt about winning Lisa said, "I'm so honoured to have won, although it's still a bit of a shock!" Following her placement Lisa was described as showing dedication, enthusiasm and commitment from the outset

Congratulations Lisa!

# Footage of 'wonder-goal' shot by Salford students used by BBC Sport

FA Cup footage shot by students from the BSc (Hons) Professional Sound and Video Technology (PSVT) course has been featured on the BBC Sports website, after Salford City FC scored a 'wonder-goal' in a recent game.

Students have been filming all of Salford City FC's matches, coordinated by PSVT graduate, Ryan Dean, who is working as Film Project Officer for the University's collaboration with the Class of '92 Partnership.

A number of PSVT students are also working on a freelance basis for ADI TV, who provide in-ground live coverage for around half of the country's Premiership and Championship football clubs. Programme Leader Dave Eustace says, "This has been a fantastic motivator for our students. The industry is very competitive so it's vital that students have real world

experience on their CVs and this is a perfect example of that. I really notice the buzz from the students after a match day, and of course, the Class of '92 partnership adds an extra dimension to their experience."

Final year student, Kaspars Jansins, whose footage was used by the BBC, says of the experience: "Before we started with Salford City FC, I didn't really know what sort of shots I needed to get for football. I started to pay attention when I watched it on TV and put this into practice when filming games. Since filming the wonder-goal, I've had the chance to film more football, bowls, ice hockey and rugby league, all which have been broadcast live. Students need to get out there and film and edit anything they are interested in; I'm confident I will get a job after graduation thanks to the experience I've already gained."

# university galled.

### SoBE Academic is shortlisted for THE Award for second time

Congratulations to Paul Tracey from the School of the Built Environment (SoBE), who was shortlisted for the 2015 Times Higher Education 'Most Innovative Teacher' Award.

It is the second time that Paul has been nominated – having also reached the shortlist in 2012 – which makes this a particularly significant achievement.

After 25 years in the construction industry as a Chartered Quantity Surveyor, Paul joined the University in 2010 and has scooped numerous awards, including the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award. Paul is a lecturer in Construction Law for SoBE, which was recently ranked fourth in the UK and 39<sup>th</sup> in the world by the prestigious QS World Rankings.

At the ceremony on  $26^{\text{th}}$  November, Paul was highly commended and awarded the coveted runner up position.

Melanie Stephens, from the School of Nursing, Midwifery, Social Work & Social Sciences, reached the THE Most Innovative Teacher of the Year award shortlist last year, making it 'two in a row' for the University.













# Student wins Wildlife Photograph of the Year

Salford graduate Barrie Williams scooped the British Wildlife Photography Award for 2015 with his stunning image of seabirds in Scotland.

Barrie's shot 'On the Edge' of gannets in Shetland is a representation of a body of work which began as a dissertation project for his MA Wildlife Documentary Production course.

For his project, 'Life on the Edge', Barrie shot a short film about the breeding season of seabirds, which involved research, pitching, budgeting, scripting, risk assessment, filming, editing and sound production. The MA Wildlife Documentary Production course is jointly run by the School of Arts & Media and the School of Environment & Life Sciences and aims to develop skills in video production applied to wildlife, alongside a scientific understanding of animal behaviour, biodiversity and ecology. Since graduating from Salford, Barrie has become a researcher at BBC Scotland – working on a weekly magazine show covering rural, agricultural and conservation issues.

Barrie's website - barriewilliams.com - features some more stunning images of birds, insects, mammals, landscapes and more.



### University is headline sponsor at Asian Media Awards

The University of Salford was a premier sponsor at this year's Asian Media Awards, which honoured the UK's foremost journalists, broadcasters and media professionals during a star-studded ceremony. The event was hosted by Sky News presenter Jannat Jalil, recognising media professionals from across the UK who excel in the Asian and mainstream media.

The University sponsored the Outstanding Young Journalist Award which was won by Siraj Datoo, Political Reporter with the website Buzzfeed. Salford Academics were on the judging panel for the 'Best TV Show' Award and also judged the 'Best Young Journalist' category.

On the evening, the University hosted guests from Manchester Islamic High School for Girls, Al-Islah High School and Hopwood Hall College. The University is developing a programme of engagement activities with these institutions in order to introduce secondary school students to careers in the Arts and Media industries.

Working closely with the awards also gave our students access to a range of opportunities as part of the partnership. Gorana Jelovina and Tom Percival, both on the MA Journalism course, were appointed official reporters for the Awards and had the chance to interview some of the biggest names from the world of television, film and radio. The two students were heavily involved, covering the shortlist

announcement at ITV Studios in London where they spoke to award-winning, former BBC Sport Editor Mihir Bose, and broadcaster, writer, journalist and documentary maker Sarfraz Mansoor.

Allan Walker, Dean of the School of Arts and Media said: "Within the School of Arts and Media we are seeking to balance our



Siraj Datoo, winner of Outstanding Young Journalist Award



international outlook with the needs of our local communities. With the Asian Media Awards, the University is developing widening participation programmes and increasing contacts with local communities and Schools to encourage the next generation of British Asian talent."

"There is a real need for more young people to follow careers in the wide array of media professions and we are honoured to be partnering with the University of Salford on a series of projects throughout the year."

- Umbreen Ali, Media Manager

# Record number of placement students funded by Salford charity Kidscan

A record number of undergraduate placement studentships have been funded this year by the children's cancer research charity Kidscan, which runs from the University.

Through the charity, five undergraduate students from the School of Environment & Life Sciences have been given the opportunity to pursue research into pioneering areas of new childhood cancer treatments.

Each students' supervisor has been awarded funding by Kidscan to cover chemical and lab consumable costs, and the students will all receive support from senior members of the University's Biomedical Science Research Centre.

Dr David Pye, Scientific Director at Kidscan, said: "We have been extremely impressed by the innovative areas of research that this year's placement students are now able to pursue.



It's exciting to be able to provide these talented students with a way to grow and develop their skills, whilst also exploring important new areas of research into childhood cancer treatments."

The charity, which is based at the University, works to develop childhood cancer treatments that are just as effective as adult counterparts, but gentler on growing children. Through ground-breaking research, Kidscan is striving to give every child with cancer the treatment they need to survive – more information on their work is available at kidscan.org.uk



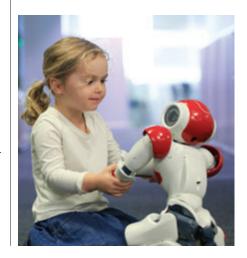
The University of Salford at MediaCityUK mutated into a massive, open doors science experiment during October half term; bringing together demos, debates, art/science premieres and Oculus Rift virtual reality experiences for Manchester Science Festival 2015.

The festival, run by the Museum of Science and Industry, is supported by Siemens and the University of Salford as lead educational sponsor. A range of exciting activities took place, with the majority of events happening at 'Salford Science Jam' on the weekend of the 24th-25th October.

Salford Science Team – made up of current students – were heavily involved in the festival, providing interactive activities for visitors both at MediaCityUK and the Museum of Science and Industry. Key events included 'Kinetic Flux', a new commission exploring human kinetic energy and how this can be harnessed for our future power needs; our 'Alienated Life?' exhibition was also a big hit with visitors who had the opportunity to explore life in a Chernobyl wilderness via Oculus Rift technology.

We were also lucky enough to have the Royal Photographic Society International Images for Science 2015 exhibition displayed at our MediaCityUK campus which were so popular that the exhibition was extended until the end of the year.

The University will once again be lead educational sponsor for Manchester Science Festival in 2016 when Manchester will be the European City of Science. There will be lots of events happening around the city to celebrate this in 2016 so keep your eyes peeled for more information.



### University hosts Creative Entrepreneur event

Salford Business School hosted its second successful Creative Entrepreneur event at MediaCityUK in November. The aim of the event was to pull together the different business centres of Digital, Social and Sports to educate and entertain the next generation of global entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs.

Nearly 500 people attended the free event including industry professionals, students and staff, all ready to be educated, informed and entertained. The event showcased masterclasses, panel sessions and installations from 40 local and international industry experts inspiring many individuals.



### School of Health Sciences becomes member of ASPHER

The School of Health Sciences has been accepted as an Institutional Member of ASPHER – the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region.

ASPHER is 'the key independent European organisation dedicated to strengthening the role of public health by improving education and training of public health professionals for both practice and research.' The organisation represents the scientific and academic components of the public health workforce education and advanced training.

Dr Margaret Coffey and Dr Anna Cooper presented the case for membership at ASPHER's General Assembly.

Becoming a member of ASPHER will enable the School to further develop its educational programmes to the highest standards, through drawing on and sharing innovation and good practice, which will enable the development of the public health workforce.



"We are extremely excited about this new partnership, particularly as we are only one of a handful of universities in the UK to currently hold this prestigious membership. It will enable the School to benefit from ASPHER's programme of 'information exchange, knowledge sharing and capacity building."

- Dr Margaret Coffey

## Salford helps Dyson make quieter appliances

The University is helping Dyson's pioneering engineers to 'listen' to products before they have even made them.

The Acoustics Research Group have focused their unique expertise on the next generation of quiet appliances being developed by the world-famous British company. Led by Professor Andy Moorhouse, the group recently won funding from the UK government agency, Innovate UK to work with the technology firm.

The University of Salford team are using a technique called auralisation - the simulation of sounds – making it possible to 'hear' what noise sources will sounds like in varying conditions. The 'hybrid virtual acoustic prototype' that they have developed will first be applied to Dyson's range of desktop fans. "It enables us to 'listen' to the design of products which don't yet exist, said Professor Moorhouse. "The technique has never before been achieved for an appliance of this type and size."



Hugh Hopper, Project Manager at Dyson said: "The direct and obvious benefit of working towards 'zero prototyping' is that it will reduce the cost and time associated with building and testing the physical prototypes.

Professor Moorhouse and the University Salford team have a long history in noise control engineering and specifically virtual acoustic prototyping. They also have a lot of involvement with industry, with the kind of practical, hands-on approach that matches really well with Dyson."





"Fantastic place. I've had a great time at the village so far and would definitely recommend others!"









"Great place, highly recommend and definitely join the V Plus Programme - packed full of events and a great way to make new friends!"



Our £81m student residences were officially opened in October 2015. The University of Salford is extremely proud of its new accommodation, which is at the heart of our campus rejuvenation.

Professor Helen Marshall, Vice-Chancellor, declared the building open during a plaque unveiling ceremony alongside consortium partners Equitix, Kier Project Investments, Graham and Campus Living Villages.

The accommodation comprises of nine buildings which offer a range of options, including accessible en-suites and superior deluxe rooms.

Floor-to-ceiling windows provide a bright, stimulating study environment and many bedrooms offer a view over the historic Peel Park.

There are currently 1,367 students in the new accommodation, enjoying two 30-seater cinemas, communal social spaces with pool tables, study areas and a free on-site gym. Student safety is a priority, with staff on-site 24 hours a day, gated security and underground parking for over 300 cars and bikes.

Professor Marshall said: "These are some of the best student residences you will see anywhere in the UK. They quadruple the number of students living on campus at Salford, adding hugely to its vibrancy and providing a boost to the local Salford economy."

Robert Moyle, Director of Salford Village Limited, explained: "Peel Park Quarter is the future of student accommodation in the UK – a home from home which combines luxury facilities with high-quality construction, innovative design solutions, the latest technology and first-rate customer service. It's a safe and inviting haven in the heart of Salford, where students enjoy all the benefits of being on campus without having to compromise their living standards."

Marina Hristova, President of the Student's Union at the University of Salford, added: "The new accommodation looks fantastic. It accommodates every modern student's needs and more with its state-of-the art facilities and its on-campus location, and this will only further enhance the student experience for those who study here."

Seven of the new accommodation blocks are named after local figures including the artist LS Lowry, women's rights campaigner Emmeline Pankhurst and war heroes Billy Unsworth and Alfred Daber.

More information on the new accommodation can be found at:

www.salfordstudentvillage.com

"A friendly, caring happy village with lots to do."

# Salford Stories

In September 2015 two final year BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy students, **Carrie Sant** and **Charlie Phipps** tell us about their visit to Brazil for two weeks after receiving an International Travel Bursary from Santander.

The bursary allowed us to experience Occupational Therapy (OT) in a country and culture completely different to our own. We began our trip by visiting a hospital for infectious disease in Belem, in the north of Brazil, where we observed occupational therapists in the ICU and surgical wards. We also visited a project at the State University which provides free assessment and equipment to children with disabilities, and carries out research into the development of low cost assistive aids and equipment, as well as new treatment techniques.

In Rio de Janeiro, we spent time in the community with a leisure project for people with mental health issues, attended a tour and presentation on cultural accessibility projects for people with disabilities in Brazil and visited a Quilembola community, where OTs and students were developing a social project. In both cities we also presented to OTs and students about teaching and practice here in the UK and we all shared ideas, knowledge and thoughts around OT.

As a result of the bursary we have been able to have the opportunity to experience not just an alternative approach to OT practice, but also a completely different way of life. Our experiences in Brazil were both challenging and rewarding.

The trip provoked difficult emotions when we saw the conditions in which the patients received treatment and the therapists sometimes had to work; having to have delicate conversations in corridors, running therapy groups from buildings without windows, doors or electricity, or not always being able to provide essential equipment to a patient in need.

However, it was also inspiring to see how they still strived to maintain a high standard of care for their patients and their families, and used their creativity and skills as an OT to identify alternative ways of meeting patient needs that were low cost. The OTs we worked with were passionate about their role and their work and this translated into their practice.

Our visit highlighted key assumptions that we hold about what is essential to healthcare practice, in particular the resources we have access to and the environment in which we work. We feel much more appreciative of the standards and resources of the healthcare system in the UK, and hope our experiences will make us more reflective and resourceful practitioners in the future as we challenge ourselves to put our unique skills and knowledge as an occupational therapist to use in the same way as those we were lucky to work alongside in Brazil.







reputation in training nurses. The calibre of staff in the faculty and their passion for innovation and research were miles in front of the other universities that I looked at." - David Ledsham

### Second year BSc (Hons) Mental Health **Nursing student** David Ledsham tells us about his journey to the University of Salford from an Access to HE course.

Choosing my course was easy – I wanted to be a nurse and Salford has an outstanding reputation in training nurses. The calibre of staff in the faculty and their passion for innovation and research were miles in front of the other universities that I looked at.

Prior to re-entering education, I was employed in the Customer Service sector for over 10 years. It was from this career that I gained many of the valuable transferable skills that I would bring to my Nursing degree, not to mention a wealth of experience to share.

My Access course reintegrated me back in to the rigours of studying again; I found it a fast paced and challenging pathway to higher education. The level of pressure and the volume of work enabled me to hone vital skills such as time-management, organisation and academic writing techniques. Having these skills helped me to feel less overwhelmed when I first started university and allowed me to focus on the course content from the word go.

I remember my first two weeks of university as a bit of a blur, learning where to go for my classes and meeting a lot of new people! I found it relatively easy to make friends, as I like to be in the thick of the action, however for anyone for whom this isn't the case, there are so many different student societies to join, giving each person an opportunity to make friends with like-minded individuals.

I think the hardest thing to adjust to at university is the level of freedom you are given in regards to your own learning. There are no teachers to keep reminding you what to read and when, and as such I had to learn to be disciplined quite early on to make sure I could keep up with the course content in lectures. This for me was challenging but something I adapted to by the second semester.

For me, it has been both my Personal Tutor and my friends that I have turned to for support along the way. The University offers a wealth of support services including a dedicated health and wellbeing team; however it turned out to be my new friends that were going through similar struggles, who were my first port of call for support.

Thankfully we don't have to organise our own placements, which are an integral part of all Nursing courses. Due to the size of the school we are fortunate to have a dedicated team who organise placements for every single student. We get a mixture of both acute and community settings to ensure we get the best possible learning experience.

Prior to undertaking a placement, each student engages in clinical simulation classes that teach things such as Basic Lifesaving Skills (BLS), Moving and Handling, and Infection Control. In addition to this there are mandatory e-learning modules to be completed and an induction with the NHS Trust that you will be working with. Once you get on to placement, you are

allocated your own mentor who will guide you through the placement and assist you in meeting the competencies required to meet the assessment criteria for the placement. I have always found there to be an abundance of support available, and Nursing is so varied that every day is both exciting and different.

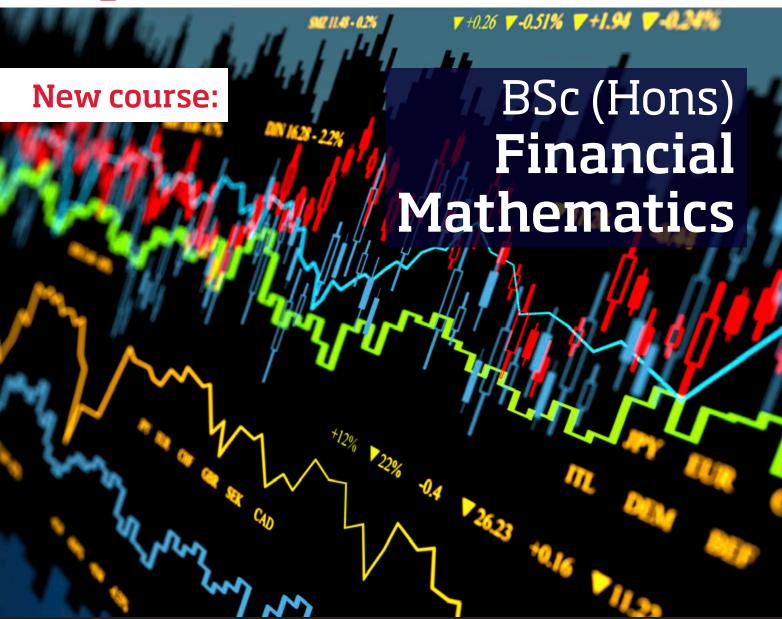
"Salford has an outstanding

I was fortunate to have an outstanding team of tutors during my Access course, they were open and honest with us as to the expectations and actual workload presented at university, and it was their encouragement, reassurance and dedication to my success that helped me get to where I am today.

If I had to give prospective students one piece of advice it would be to always keep the end goal in sight as the journey through HE is both enjoyable and tough. There will be days when you will cry and want to quit, however lean on your peers and let them lean on you, together you will make it.



# Academic Updates



Based in the School of Computing, Science and Engineering, our innovative new course was launched in September 2015 and is taught in conjunction with Salford Business School. Different from other maths courses as it practically applies mathematical theory to real-world problems, students are taught by a unique blend of experienced mathematicians and finance staff. There is significant employer engagement throughout the degree, and students learn how to simulate and provide results for a broad range of financial activities, such as the stock market, and understand the context in which they can be successfully applied.

Unlike traditional maths courses, all students on Financial Mathematics engage in group projects and also look at career planning and professional development. Making full use of the Business School's links with industry, students on the course will be encouraged to take a placement year as part of their degree.

The course is suitable for strong maths students who enjoy looking at applied maths, statistics and probability – rather than wanting to focus on theoretical maths – and have an interest in Business/Finance/Economics. Whilst A-Levels in these subjects are useful, they are not necessary entry requirements.

Visit www.salford.ac.uk/ug-courses/financial-mathematics for more information on the course and entry criteria.



# BA (Hons) Fashion Design is awarded Creative Skillset Tick

The University's Fashion Degree has been accredited with the Creative Skillset Tick, a highly influential and employer-led quality mark for education and training.

The Tick, awarded by industry professionals to courses that provide excellent preparation for a career in the Creative Industries, was presented to the University in early December. This came as part of a special event, held at Channel 4's headquarters in London, which marked the inaugural Anne Tyrell Student Design Awards.

This accreditation is only given to courses that have the strongest links with industry and the highest standard of teaching facilities, judged by a rigorous assessment process conducted by creative industry experts.

For potential learners, the accreditation proves that courses connect with industry and teach professional skills that ensure graduates are work-ready, whereas for employers, the Tick signposts them to highly-skilled graduates and apprentices from creative courses.



Speaking after the event, Bashir Aswat, Programme Leader for Fashion Design, said: "We are extremely pleased and proud to have been awarded the Skillset Tick. The accreditation clearly demonstrates to potential students that our programme is current, relevant and will best prepare them for a career in the fashion industry."

Information on our Fashion course is available at salford.ac.uk/ug-courses/fashion-design and you can find out about Creative Skillset by visiting creativeskillset.org

# University introduces new intakes for Nursing courses

From September 2016, the University of Salford will be introducing new intakes for the Adult and Mental Health routes of the BSc (Hons) Nursing/RN course.

There will now be four intakes across the academic year – September, January, April and June – leading to increased choice and flexibility for applicants.

Children and Young People's Nursing will continue to have two intakes (September and April), and students will continue to apply in the normal UCAS cycle, even if they are considering one of the later intakes.

# Proposed changes to funding of NHS courses

Following the Government's spending review announced on 25<sup>th</sup> November, the Council of Deans of Health has posted important information with regard to the funding of key NHS Higher Education

Their aim is to help current and prospective students understand the proposed changes to Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professions pre-registration education (which includes Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Podiatry, Radiography and Prosthetics & Orthotics).

The proposed changes would represent a dramatic change to the way that students on these courses would be funded, with new students taking out maintenance and tuition loans like other students, rather than getting an NHS grant. Please note that these changes would affect students applying to courses for entry in September 2017 and onwards only.

Further information is available via councilofdeans.org.uk and updates will be posted on the University's website as soon as the changes are confirmed.





# Work with US

The Recruitment and Outreach team work in partnership with schools, colleges and careers advisers, raising awareness of higher education and the University of Salford. Our focus is to ensure that students and their key influencers are aware of the range of choice that is available and that students are recruited onto the right courses for them.

### **Visiting your School or** | **Applicant Visit Days** College

We are happy to organise a visit to your school or college and offer a range of HE related presentations.

Providing timely information and advice can be hugely beneficial to Year 12 and Year 13 students as they make important decisions about their future. We have created our range of talks to inform and encourage students, aiding the transition to university.

Popular topics include:

- Choosing Courses and Universities
- The UCAS Process
- Personal Statements
- Student Finance and Budgeting
- What can Salford Offer You?

We can also offer student-led sessions and are happy to deliver talks to staff and parents.

Running between February and April these events are exclusive to applicants who have been made an offer with us and offer an opportunity for a sneak peek into life at the University of Salford.

Even if students have attended an Open Day, we would strongly advise them to attend an Applicant Visit Day as they are more focused on providing invaluable insight to what it will be like to study and socialise at Salford, and of course parents/guardians are welcome.

If you have students that have received an offer from Salford, please encourage them to check their emails and attend a Visit Day.

### **Undergraduate Open** Days

Our next university-wide Open Days will be held on Friday 8th and Saturday 9th July - we are always happy to accommodate school/ college groups on these days. If you would be interested in bringing a group of students please contact us for more information on how

Recruitment and Outreach Team: workwithus@ salford.ac.uk







We will be attending the following UCAS fairs throughout March and April, if you would like a representative from Salford to visit your school/college whilst we are in the region, please contact the Recruitment Team.

Date	Location	Venue
02-03 March	Manchester	Manchester Central
09-10 March	Hampshire and Isle of Wight	University of Portsmouth
09-10 March	Northern Ireland	Eikon Complex, BELFAST
14-15 March	Bristol	University of the West of England, Exhibition Conference Centre
14-15 March	Surrey	University of Surrey, Manor Park Campus
16-17 March	West London	Brunel University London
17 March	Hereford and Worcester	University of Worcester
18 March	Hertfordshire	Wodson Park
21 March	North East Wales	Glyndwr University, Wrexham Campus
21-22 March	Sussex	University of Chichester, Bishop Otter Campus, Chichester
22 March	West Wales	University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Carmarthen Campus
23 March	Cardiff	Cardiff Metropolitan University, National Indoor Athletics Centre
23 March	Dorset	Bournemouth University, Talbot Campus
11 April	Cornwall	University of Exeter, Penryn Campus
12-13 April	Exeter	WestPoint Arena
13 April	Lincolnshire	University of Lincoln, Brayford Campus
18-19 April	London	ExCel London
20-21 April	East Midlands	University of Derby, Derby Campus
26 April	Norfolk	University of East Anglia
27 April	Tees Valley	Teesside University, Middlesbrough Campus
28 April	Tyneside	Northumbria University, City Campus

