

SBM News

School of Business and Management



Queen Mary
University of London

Issue 2: October / November 2011

www.busman.qmul.ac.uk



Events

News

Research

Staff

Students



Welcome to a new academic year 2011/12 with the School of Business and Management.

This year the School welcomes a number of new academic and administrative support staff including our new Head of School, Professor Martin Laffin who joins us from Durham Business School on 1st November and look forward to improving the success of the School.

It also gives me pleasure to welcome all new and returning students on our undergraduate programmes, the students enrolled on our thriving postgraduate taught programmes, the PhD researchers and those who are visiting us this semester on the study abroad and Erasmus programmes. We also welcome new students from Xiamen University, our partner university in China.

This year, the first cohort of the MSc in Global Business joined the School and we hope that they enjoy studying this new programme. The School has also worked in partnership with the School of Economics and Finance to launch a new programme, MSc in Accounting and Finance. This is further evidence of the School's collaborative work within the College to produce multi-disciplinary degree programmes that complement one another. The School is also commencing work on the development of new programmes, to offer students an increased range of degree programmes that are current and relevant to today's business needs.

With regards to the administrative team, we have been working hard to develop and enhance effective administrative procedures, which will improve the service both students and academics receive, with the aim to increase satisfaction. As a reminder, the Student Support Reception (Francis Bancroft Building, fourth floor) is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm and continues to be an open and friendly service for students, staff and visitors to the School.

Last year the School was successful in receiving a Graduate Attributes award from the College and secured funding to set up a new Media Suite facility for students. Some of you will use this new facility that has been integrated into the delivery of your modules which will enhance your learning experience and improve your IT skills.

I hope that you enjoy your studies at the School and gain valuable knowledge that you will be able to apply long after your studies and in your chosen careers.

Elizabeth Goldsmith
Head of Administration



New Head of School

The School is pleased to announce that the next Head of the School is Professor Martin Laffin, currently Deputy Dean (Research) and Professor of Public Policy and Management at Durham Business School, University of Durham. Professor Laffin has previously taught at the University of Sydney and the University of Glamorgan, and was Head of the Department of Management in Durham from 2001-2010. He is currently a member of the Business and Management REF 2014 Sub-Panel and previously served as member of the RAE 2008 Business and Management Sub-panel. He is also Chair of the Joint University Council Public Administration Committee, the learned association for public administration in the UK. Professor Laffin replaces Professor Gerard Hanlon who completed a successful term as Head of School on 31 August 2011. Professor Laffin will take up his post on 1st November 2011.

Opportunities for studying and working abroad

For undergraduate students

The Erasmus programme allows students to study in another EU country as part of their degree. As an undergraduate you can spend one or two semesters in one of our Erasmus partner universities in France (Euromed Management - École de Management in Marseille), Italy (Ca' Foscari University in Venice or Bocconi University in Milan), Portugal (Católica Lisbon School of Business and Economics in Lisbon), Spain (Complutense University in Madrid), Sweden (Stockholm University School of Business in Stockholm), or Turkey (Istanbul Bilgi University in Istanbul). This means that you can study subjects with comparable credits at any one of these universities and receive a small bursary from the EU to assist you during your time there. Knowledge of other languages is highly recommended but not essential as most partner universities offer some modules that are taught in English. However, you do need curiosity, motivation, and good marks! Applications will open in January/February 2012 for exchange in academic year 2012/13 but if you are interested, act soon by visiting the 'Erasmus Student Mobility for SBM students' webpage at <http://www.busman.qmul.ac.uk/undergraduate/erasmusoutgoing/index.html>. Use the links to the partner universities' websites to look up the subjects on offer, think about what you are interested in and build a study plan. Once you have an idea of where you would like to go and why, write a letter explaining it and then make an appointment to see the School's Erasmus Coordinator, Dr Ariana Bove a.bove@qmul.ac.uk (office hours: Fridays 3pm - 5pm).

For researchers

PhD students can spend one to six months in Sweden (Stockholm University School of Business), Turkey (Istanbul Bilgi University), or Poland (University of Warsaw).

For staff

As part of the Erasmus staff mobility programme, academics can spend a period of one to six weeks teaching in Turkey (Istanbul Bilgi University), Italy (Ca' Foscari University), Spain (Complutense University), Poland (University of Warsaw), Sweden (Stockholm University School of Business), and Switzerland (University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland).



Staff update

Academic Promotions

Professor Sushanta Mallick
Reader to Professor

Dr Hazel Conley
Senior Lecturer to Reader

Dr Ahu Tatli
Lecturer to Senior Lecturer

New Academic Staff

Dr Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay
Lecturer in Economics

Dr Elena Baglioni
Lecturer in Global Supply Chain Management

Dr Tessa Wright
Senior Lecturer in Human Resource Management

Professor Frances Bowen
Chair in Innovation Studies

Dr Owolabi Bakre
Senior Lecturer in Accounting

Dr Suki Sian
Senior Lecturer in Accounting

New Admin Staff

Ms Lorna Ireland
Masters Programme Administrator

Mr Aktar Hussain
Undergraduate Programme Administrator

Mr Richard Makin
PhD and Research Administrator

Retirements

Dr Roger Johnston
Senior Lecturer

Professor Simon Mohun
Professor in Political Economy

Undergraduate prizes

The following students were awarded prizes for academic excellence in 2010/2011.

John Mather
Draper's Company Prize - Excellent academic performance by a third year student

Sita Shah
Draper's Company Prize - Excellent academic performance by a second year student

Asad Ahmad Sheikh
Gamble Prize - Excellent overall academic performance

Natalia Swieca
Draper's Company Prize - Excellent overall academic performance

Magdalena Wilkicka
Principal's Prize - Excellent overall academic performance

Enrica Bhatia
Principal's Prize - Excellent overall academic performance

Hira Tahir
Draper's Company Prize - Excellent overall academic performance

Julie Danielle Bonstadtter
Draper's Company Prize - Excellent overall academic performance

Robert James Hepburn
Principal's Prize - Excellent overall academic performance

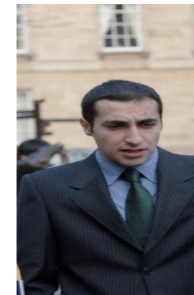
Richardo Javier-Felix
Vahibi Garg Memorial Prize - Excellent academic performance in strategy

Chandni Bhatt
The Lesley & Francoise Hill Prize - Excellent academic performance in innovation and entrepreneurship

Neil Solanki
The Lesley & Francoise Hill Prize - Excellent academic performance in innovation and entrepreneurship

New PhD students for 2011/2012

The School welcomes the following doctoral candidates:



Mr Ramin Nassehi

Supervisors: Dr Giuliano Maielli & Prof Sean McCartney
Project: "The political economy of Industrial policy in Iran before and after the Revolution"



Mr Jorge Marques

Supervisors: Dr Martha Prevezer & Dr Giuliano Maielli
Project: "Relationship between Dynamic Capabilities and Firm Performance in Brazilian and Chinese Firms"



Miss Marissa Joseph

Supervisors: Prof Mick Rowlinson & Prof Sean McCartney
Project: "From outsiders to gatekeepers: The development of the literary agent in the nineteenth century British publishing industry"



Miss Maria Obonaga (joint student with the School of Law)

Supervisors: Prof Geraldine Healy & Prof Valsamis Mitsilegas
Project: "Are Latin American high skilled migrants using their skills in the UK labour market or are they becoming deskilled? A case study of Brazilians, Columbians and Ecuadorians"



Mr Jian Li

Supervisors: Dr Pietro Panzarasa & Dr Martha Prevezer
Project: "Network position, absorptive capacity and innovation performance within alliance firms"

Ms Nadia Ahmed

Supervisors: Dr Hazel Conley & Prof Mike Noon
Project: "Disability equality discrimination: The gap between disabled employees and the workplace, in the UK"

Mr Dennis de Widt

Supervisor: Prof Martin Laffin
Project: "Institutional aspects of fiscally indebted municipalities: a comparison of four European intergovernmental systems"

Mr Steffen Fischer

(joint student with the School of Geography)
Supervisors: Prof Adrian Smith & Mr Liam Campling
Project: "Where do all the workers go? How do labour markets in the context of violent conflict affect export production and regional economic development in Liberia?"



Congratulations

Cathrine Seierstad, Tessa Wright & Matteo Pasquinelli successfully defended their thesis in 2011.

Take part in the Student Barometer survey and win prizes

Queen Mary invites all students to take part in the Student Barometer survey.

The survey forms part of a wider study and is independently administered for the University by the International Graduate Insight Group (<http://www.i-graduate.org>), an independent marketing and research service. Feedback from Queen Mary students will be combined with that of students at other participating institutions. All names and email addresses are removed so responses are anonymous.

As a thank-you for completing the questionnaire, i-Graduate is offering all participants the opportunity to win £1,000 cash prize. In addition, all Queen Mary participants will be entered into a prize draw for an iPad.

The survey is available until 9th December 2011 and can be accessed at: <http://survey.euro.confirmat.com/wix3/p786364365.aspx>

IT update

New Media Suite

The School has successfully received Queen Mary's Graduate Attributes fund to set up a Media Suite. Located on the third floor of the Francis Bancroft Building, the Media Suite boasts eleven 27-inch Mac computers with a 52-inch touchscreen for teaching. The computers are equipped with the latest version of industry standard software such as Final Cut Pro and Photoshop. Besides for teaching purposes, students can use the facility for project work. As a result, students will be able to develop and improve their competence in integrating multimedia into their presentations and increase their employability skills.



Use of iPads in Lectures

The School is piloting the use of iPads in this academic year. Students may have already noticed that some of the academics are using iPads to present their lectures. This new initiative appears to be well received so far as it simplifies connection to different multimedia equipment and improves the legibility of the presentation slides. The School hopes that the introduction of new technology and innovative ways of teaching will enhance the learning experience of the students.

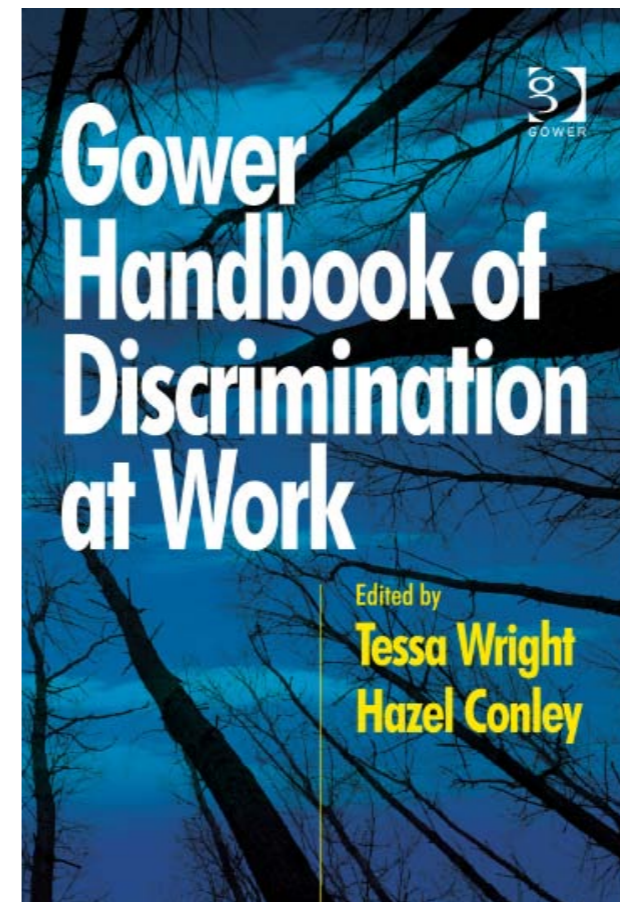
The Marketing and Management collection

Academics at the School can now have full access to a source of teaching materials called 'The Marketing and Management Collection' produced by Henry Stewart Talks. The Collection includes over 550 specially prepared audio-visual lectures, organised into 51 comprehensive series and delivered by a) principals, managers and advisors from the business world and b) leading academics. Selecting and 'attending' on-line lectures encourages students to be self-motivated learners. It makes available a wide range of detailed, practical knowledge on subjects as diverse as Business Continuity and Risk Management, Data Mining, Branding and Product Specialisation in Hotels, Retail Marketing, Sport Marketing, Practical Pricing and Revenue Management, Pharmaceutical Marketing, Supply Chain Management and Export Marketing to name just a few series. The collection is growing all the time.

Each talk has been prepared by an academic expert in the relevant field, and consists of PowerPoint Slides synchronized with narration. The whole collection consists of various series, each of which comprises 8-15 talks of 15-60 minute duration. There are 51 series (550+ talks) in total. These talks have been successfully integrated into many MBA Programmes across the globe (recommendations including award-winning courses available).

Those who wish to have continued access to this collection, please make a request (preferable with a comment) via this link: www.hstalks.com/r/tmmc/continue.

Successful launch of the 'Gower Handbook of Discrimination at Work'



The Gower Handbook of Discrimination at Work, edited by Dr Tessa Wright and Dr Hazel Conley, academics at the School and members of the Centre for Research in Equality and Diversity (CRED), was launched on 14 July 2011. Sarah Veale, Head of the Equality and Employment Rights Department at the TUC (Trade Union Congress), spoke of the value of the 22-chapter Handbook in providing support for trade unionists seeking to pursue equality and diversity in the workplace, together with providing evidence of the continued discrimination facing many groups of workers. The well-attended launch at the Women's Library in Aldgate attracted academics, representatives from ACAS (Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service) and the Equality and Human Rights Commission, an HR officer from Parliament, as well as employers and trade unionists.

The event was supported by CRED, and its Director Professor Geraldine Healy also praised the Handbook for its critical analysis of the legal and policy interventions to address workplace inequality and disadvantage. The chapters offer insights into existing international developments and make suggestions for the ways in which positive change can be realised. For example, it contains chapters on women's independent business networks; gender quotas for Norwegian company boards; union equality representatives; and using public sector procurement to meet equality objectives. The Handbook includes contributions from several CRED members. The timing of the book also means that it is one of the first critical commentaries on the Equality Act 2010, the biggest change to UK equality legislation for 40 years.

Dr Amit Rai co-edits special issues of 'South Asian Popular Culture'

Dr Amit Rai (Senior Lecturer in New Media and Communication) has recently co-edited the following issues of South Asian Popular Culture.

Intermedia in South Asia: The Fourth Screen
Rajinder Dudrah, Sangita Gopal, Anustu Basu and Dr Amit Rai
To be published by Routledge as a book 2012

Intensive Bollywood: Nonlinear Histories in South Asian Media
Priva Jha, Amit Rai
Publication date: Autumn 2011



The Undergraduate Programme Director



As Director of the Undergraduate Programme, my role is to oversee the academic progress and development of the BSc Business Management and the School's involvement in the undergraduate Joint Programmes, liaising with other departments within the College where necessary, to ensure that students have a smooth and positive higher education experience. I am assisted by three Year Tutors (Dr Elena Baglioni, Dr Ahu Tatli and Dr Amit Rai) and one Senior Tutor (Dr Dorota Bourne). By now, each undergraduate student will have been assigned an Academic Advisor. Students can approach their Academic Advisors for advice and guidance on academic matters such as option choice and examination requirements.

The Year 1 curriculum includes various modules which are designed to provide students with a common foundation. From Year 2 onwards, students have the opportunity to choose the specialist pathway that they wish to follow. It is my responsibility to make sure that the choices available are optimum. The specialist pathways that students may choose from include: (1) Accounting, Economics & Finance, or (2) General Management, or (3) Human Resource Management or (4) Marketing. I hope that the School of Business and Management will provide a welcoming and inspiring environment to all students, both academically and socially.

Sushanta Mallick
Professor in International Finance

Tessa Wright, Senior Lecturer in Human Resource Management

What is your background?

After a short career in IT I worked as a researcher, writer and editor for the trade union movement for several years before entering academia. I was a researcher at the Working Lives Research Institute at London Metropolitan University before coming to work at Queen Mary.



What attracted you to Queen Mary?

Having studied for my PhD at Queen Mary I was aware of the work of the Centre for Research in Equality and Diversity (CRED) in the School of Business and Management and was keen to remain part of this Centre which undertakes challenging and policy relevant research.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

Variety - teaching means keeping up to date with broad developments across the subject area while research enables a development of in-depth knowledge of particular areas.

Tell us a little bit more about your research area(s).

My research in the area of equality and discrimination at work has covered the experience of women, ethnic minorities, migrant workers and lesbians, gay men and bisexuals, and I am particularly interested in trade union action to address inequality at work, recently focusing on the role of union equality representatives.

What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?

I enjoy cycling and sometimes combine this with an interest in architecture through taking part in (and occasionally organising) architectural bike tours of London.