



Recruitment Pack

Head of School

School of
Computing and
Engineering

September 2022



Message from the Vice-Chancellor

Since its inception in 1860 as the Lady Byron School, the University of West London has amassed a long and distinguished history of extending the reach of education to those who have been excluded from it. Built on a mission of enablement and enrichment, the University continues to evolve driven by the pursuit of three fundamental and transformative rights: inclusion, enhancement and participation.

By staying true to these founding ideals, we are now one of the leading widening participation institutions in the country where we inspire students of all ages, ethnicities and backgrounds, to become smart professionals connected to exciting and rewarding careers.

To realise this mission, our courses and curriculum combine the highest standards of academic rigour supplemented by continuous input from external professionals and industry leaders. This sits alongside a guaranteed work placement for every student which forms part of a value-for-money contract between our students, stakeholders, and external partners. It is where an outstanding learning experience meets with impactful research, relevant scholarship, and the fundamentals of professional practice.

As a result, our often courageous students join a caring and supportive educative community upheld by a fully integrated Students' Union rooted in high quality state of the art physical and digital resources.



Driven by the values of accessibility, affordability, diversity, transparency and accountability, we continue to provide life-changing opportunities to each and every student regardless of their age or background. This in turn shapes and transforms the lives of their families and those around them. It is this assemblage together with a vibrant mix of students from more than 120 different nationalities that makes the University distinctively meritocratic.

With a number of accolades that highlight our achievements towards these ends, the University's vision continues to be compelling: to be an inspiring, inclusive and impactful institution that is committed to making our country more prosperous, open and just.

Professor Peter John CBE
Vice-Chancellor



Highlights and Achievements

The academic year 2021-22 saw a number of achievements as we continue to realise the vision and outcomes of our strategic plan: *Achievement 2023*. Improvement continued even during the pandemic, demonstrating our ability to pivot quickly between in person and online education while continuing our excellent delivery. Of particular significance was the growth in income and surplus as well as continued external recognition.

Rankings



- No 1 in the UK for Student Satisfaction^{*}
- No 1 in the UK for Academic Support^{**}
- No 1 in the UK for Student Voice

^{*}Average of all questions
^{**}Excluding specialists

THE  TIMES
THE SUNDAY TIMES

40th University in the UK
Top 10 London university



The
Guardian

University Guide 2022

35th University
in the UK

5th modern¹
university in the UK

1st in England
for Teaching Satisfaction

REF2021 Research
Excellence
Framework

Top 100 universities in the UK
for overall quality of our research.

Sustainable Campus

£5m

award from Public Sector Decarbonisation
Scheme for investment in green energy



¹ A modern university is a university created in or after 1992.



Highlights and Achievements

Highlights include:

- An excellent financial out-turn with income of £146m.
- Enterprise income reaching over £42m.
- Substantial assurance across the board from our internal auditors, KPMG.
- Reaching 35th in The Guardian University Guide 2022. We were ranked 1st in England for teaching satisfaction, 4th in the UK for student feedback, and 11th for academic quality.
- We are proud to be the University of the Year for both student experience and teaching quality in The Times/Sunday Times Good University 2023.
- We are the no 1 University in the UK for Student Satisfaction¹, Academic Support² and for Student Voice in the National Student Survey 2022.
- There has been a 48% increase in UWL undergraduate provision and a 36% increase for Postgraduate (including our subcontracted partners).
- International recruitment is up by 8%.
- UWL is ranked in the top 100 universities in the UK for the overall quality of our research, almost 80% of our research is rated as world leading (4*) or internationally excellent (3*) according to the Research Excellence Framework 2021.
- Winner of the Times Higher Education outstanding financial performance and the Business School of the year awards in 2019. Also nominated for the Outstanding Estates Strategy, the Knowledge Exchange/Transfer Initiative of the Year and the Outstanding Contribution to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.
- Excellent staff diversity including one of the highest proportions of BAME and Black professors in the country.
- Opening a £5m sports centre and being part of the new Gunnersbury Sports Complex alliance while also completing Rami Ranger House (part funded by Lord Ranger) to improve facilities for students.
- Awarded the AGCAS membership quality standard, a nationally recognised accreditation and quality mark for the delivery of careers and employability within higher education.
- Successful response to Covid-19 including UWLFlex.
- Drama Studio London and Ruskin College in Oxford join the UWL Group.
- Outstanding results in the Research Excellence Framework - for the first time ever, we are in the **top 100** universities in the UK for overall quality of our research. Almost **80 percent** of our research work has been rated as world-leading (4*) or internationally excellent (3*) and we have secured the **biggest percentage increase** of any university in the UK for research awarded the two highest ratings.

¹A modern university, is a university created in, or after 1992.

²Average of all questions

³Excluding specialists



Location and academic schools

Our location and academic schools

The University is based in the heart of one of the UK's most successful business regions (west London) and operates out of two main sites: St Mary's Road in Ealing and Paragon House in Brentford. We also offer Nursing and Midwifery education from our Berkshire Institute of Health in Reading.

We are growing our reach with the acquisition of the Drama Studio London and more recently Ruskin College. Ruskin College has a similar mission and a matching set of values to the University, and by bringing it into our purview we intend to continue its long history of providing education to those who have traditionally been marginalised.

Working with local chambers of commerce and local employers (including the NHS), the University aims to capitalise on these powerful connections with key industries and its wealth of experience in a number of mainly vocational disciplines by delivering a demanded curriculum. To enable this, the University is structured into the following nine academic

Schools and Colleges which bring together cognate subject areas and are responsible for ensuring that they deliver an appropriate curriculum and develop new areas in response to student, societal and industry requirements:

- The Claude Littner Business School
- College of Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare
- London College of Music
- London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism
- London School of Film, Media and Design
- School of Biomedical Sciences
- School of Computing and Engineering
- School of Human and Social Sciences
- School of Law

Staff diversity

Our commitment to equality and diversity is particularly evident in our staff community. In terms of gender equality:

- The University employs a higher number of female to male, at a ratio of 56:44, this now places UWL above the sector average.
- 52 % of UWL's top earners are female which is well above the sector average

The University also has an ethnically diverse workforce, with 34 % of staff from black and minority ethnic backgrounds which compares favourably with the higher education sector average of 13 % . 29 % of academic staff are from BAME backgrounds in contrast to 17 % across the HE sector. Staff from BAME backgrounds are able to succeed at all levels of the University: 30 % of our professoriate are from BAME backgrounds compared with 10 % in the sector and 8 % are from Black backgrounds in comparison to 0.7 % in the sector.



Staff from BAME backgrounds are able to succeed at all levels of the University



The School of Computing and Engineering

The School of Computing and Engineering delivers a portfolio of education, research and enterprise activity across Mathematics and Statistics, Built Environment, Computing and Engineering. We continuously adapt our curriculum to ensure our graduates have the most sought-after skills.

We offer a wide range of industry-focused, innovative courses. Our civil engineering courses are ranked 7th in the UK and our computer science courses are 12th in the UK overall (Guardian University Guide, 2020). Our BSc (Hons) degrees in Computer Science, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, and Applied Sound Engineering have received accreditation from the prestigious Institution of Engineering and Technology.

Offering a high-quality student experience is of paramount importance to us and we have an excellent reputation for student-centred education. In the 2021 NSS we were rated first in London for overall satisfaction in education.

We are the top modern university in the UK for Civil Engineering subjects, the top university in the UK for “satisfaction with teaching” for Civil Engineering subjects and the top university in London for “satisfaction with the course” and “satisfaction with the teaching” for Computer Science subjects, in the Guardian’s University Guide 2021.

The School of Computing and Engineering is highly engaged in research, through the Faringdon Centre for Non-Destructive Testing, the Criminology and Cyber Security Centre, and other active research groups. Our fantastic facilities comprise seven labs and studios:

- The Concrete Testing lab
- The Soil and Geotechnics lab
- Two electronics labs
- An architecture studio
- Dedicated computing labs.



The reward package at the University of West London

We offer a range of benefits to recognise and reward the essential contribution our staff make to our success and growth.

Finance

- Competitive salaries and cost of living increases
- Interest free season ticket loan
- Give as you earn scheme

Health, Well-being and Fitness

- Cycle to work scheme
- Employee assistance programme available 24/7
- Eye care vouchers
- Reduced gym membership

Pensions

- Generous, transferable occupational pension schemes, with employer contributions in excess of individual contributions
- Life cover

Personal and Professional Development

- Award winning professional services departments
- A fee waiver scheme for staff undertaking relevant University courses*
- Access to a suite of online development courses
- Regular staff development opportunities
- Study leave

Work-life Balance

The University of West London aims to be an employer of choice. Recognising the need for work-life balance, the majority of staff work a 35 hour working week. Other work-life balance benefits include:

- Generous maternity, paternity and adoption leave*
- Generous annual leave
- Flexible working opportunities *

Additional Benefits

- Access to a range of musical performances and performance opportunities
- Product industry discounts for a variety of recitals, concerts and conferences
- Student union discount card*
- Accommodation support: Contribution to the deposit and free accidental damage cover for UWL employees through Dexters Estate Agency’s no deposit option
- Staff bus between campuses.

*Subject to application and completion of probationary period.



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