



STUDENT VOICE NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

WELCOME

Welcome to the Spring/Summer Newsletter. What a year it has been, I can hardly believe we are heading into term three, assignments and soon enough the summer break. For some of you this will be a time to reflect on the past year and relax before starting your next year, for others this will mean graduating and heading into the world of work. For Nela and I this means retiring from our positions as Students' Union President and Vice-President. It has been a wonderful, busy but fun packed two years, and there have been many highs and some lows as we traversed our first year through Covid and worked through our second year transitioning back to working face-to-face once again.

As Nela and I step down we will be slowly introducing the new President and Vice-President to many of you and getting them orientated with the roles, so please do come and say hi, introduce yourself and have a chat about what you hope to see them do in the next year.

In September I will be stepping into a part-time role working alongside Jen Roberts, your Student Voice Co-ordinator. Together, we'll be working to make sure your voice is heard and the feedback loop is closed. Which brings me neatly to the new City Campus Manchester and how excited we all are to welcome students onto the campus, and see it being brought to life. I was fortunate enough to visit before Christmas and was suitably impressed with how it looked and equally with how it felt, I could imagine it buzzing with life in the classrooms, corridors, and library.

This year we saw the first Students' Union led Believe in You: Student Conference where we hosted guest speakers, workshops, student performances and an expo of the non-performance areas to a host of The Manchester College and UCEN Manchester students.

During this last term we will be celebrating the staff who have worked so very hard during this academic year. We are taking over the UCEN Manchester and The Manchester College social media pages for a day to thank staff that you have nominated and share the reason you nominated them. They will receive a coffee and cake voucher courtesy of LTE Group.



STUDENT CONFERENCE

On February 28th and March 1st, the Students' Union hosted the very first Believe in You: Student Conference. The event was attended by 200 The Manchester College and UCEN Manchester students as well as members of staff and Principalship. The first day was opened by Michael Walsh our Dean of UCEN Manchester. This was followed by a host of guest speakers and workshops, with attendees enjoying the free breakfast and lunch. Day two attendees were once again treated to a free breakfast and lunch, alongside performances from The Manchester College's performing arts students and the UCEN Manchester Arden students. Attendees were able to interact with departments from across The Manchester College and UCEN Manchester including Computing, Media Make-up and a Students' Union stall. The stalls were a chance for students to showcase their work and passion for their subject, as well as providing an opportunity for attending students to ask questions and find out more about the courses. Thanks to everyone who was involved.



CAREERS CORNER: DEVELOP YOUR ONLINE PRESENCE WITH LINKEDIN

By Suzanne Leech
Careers and Welfare Coordinator

LinkedIn is the social media channel designed especially for professional networking and job searching. It has over 700 million users worldwide.

No matter what your profession, there are advantages to joining including:

- Learning from other members' profiles about what is involved in different job roles and what kinds of skills and experience you need to get these jobs
- Making connections with people who may be able to give you information or advice relevant to your career aspirations



- Finding relevant job vacancies to apply for or even being approached by recruiters about your interest in particular jobs

Some sectors rely heavily on LinkedIn recruitment including IT and marketing. Business owners and freelancers can also find work opportunities.

Start by creating a headline and summary about yourself and add details about work and education, similar to those in your CV, and you can also add examples of your work and recommendations.

Here's an example
of a student
profile to give you
some ideas:



TOP TIPS TO GET THE MOST OUT OF LINKEDIN:

- ▶ Make sure your profile is fully completed, including keywords about your skills, experience and the types of jobs you're targeting
- ▶ Include a professional-looking headshot
- ▶ Follow individuals and companies from your targeted job sector that you like, share and comment on their posts
- ▶ Post content of your own relevant to your sector of employment

Scan the QR code to find out more about using LinkedIn and other social media for developing your career in this article:



WHAT IS IT LIKE TO BE A STUDENT AT UCEN MANCHESTER?

As part of our commitment and work around understanding the experiences of students from underrepresented groups, UCEN Manchester will be holding student consultations with students.

The ideas and feedback will help us understand any challenges faced and ways to improve the experiences of the following groups:

- Students who grew up in a low socioeconomic background.
- Students from a Black Asian or Ethnic Minority (BAME) group.

If you are interested in taking part and sharing your views

Contact mletham@ucenmanchester.ac.uk

OR the SU@ucenmanchester.ac.uk

Join us to talk about
your experiences at
UCEN Manchester and
how we can implement
strategies to support
students
through their
student journey



NUS TOTUM CARD

Don't forget to get your Totum Card!

Totum offers over 200 UK discounts to use at home and abroad, instore, and online. There's also an app to download too. Currently Totum are running a deal for the price of 2 years you can get a 3-year card! A bonus for final year students is you will get 2 years of student discount after you have finished your course!

DID YOU KNOW...not only do you save money when purchasing a card, but you are also adding to the Students' Union income for student benefits. If you haven't already, get one now by visiting www.totum.com



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

- Join a Students' Union society (or create your own!)
- Become a writer for the SU Bee Blog or submit stories for this quarterly newsletter
- Volunteer at SU events
- Campaign for change across campus
- Become an SU Officer
- Get your National Union of Students TOTUM card at www.totum.com for access to lots of student discounts. There is also the free version, TOTUM Lite, with selected discounts. Download the app on the App Store or Google Play.

Follow our social media channels for updates, news, events, and campaigns happening on your campus:

 [Stu Tmc](#) |  [@tmcsu](#) |  [@tmcsu](#)

FUTURE U

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICE

WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT STUDENTS IN ANY WAY WE CAN.

Students can also access a Hardship fund that is based on financial need. To apply go to ucenmanchester.ac.uk/support/fees-and-finance/he, complete the application and send to careers&welfare@ucenmanchester.ac.uk.

1 Careers

The Careers & Welfare team is available to offer group tutorials and one-to-one appointments, designed to help students make informed choices about their intended career path. Some of the support we offer includes progression and employability tutorials, mock interviews and CV writing skills, as well as exploring labour market information.

Students can request appointments, which can be conducted via telephone and Microsoft Teams. You can request appointments by getting in touch with one of the team or emailing at careers&welfare@ucenmanchester.ac.uk.

2 Libraries

Visit our libraries and chat to our team during opening hours.

Student can also download the 'Lounge to Library' Study Skills Guide here: <https://library.tmc.ac.uk/refreshers>.

As part of Safer Internet Day, you can visit the 'Safer Internet' libguide on the library website. To view it, click on the link on the library home page or click here: <https://library.tmc.ac.uk/safer-internet/home>.

Don't forget the Library has a wide range of eBooks which you can access from home. Explore our wide range of eBooks available at home.

3 Study Skills

We have been hosting a series of informative sessions to help you with your studies. Sessions are self-directed and come with worksheets to help you apply your learnings. We recommend the Spring Term sessions, focused on reflection, allowing you to critically analyse your study habits to support you going forward. Access all sessions here [University Study Skills | UCEN Manchester](#).

STUDENTS UNION CORNER

PHOTOGRAPHY SOCIETY

This is a Teams group where students can share their passion for picture taking, and get advice from their fellow peers. There is a monthly competition that is themed differently each month. Students are able to enter and be in with a chance to win a prize!



CREATIVE NETWORKING SOCIETY

This is a Facebook and Teams group for students from varied courses across UCEN Manchester who wish to share their work and projects, as well as being a space where they can collaborate with different departments. For example our Media Make-up students recently needed models for their assignments and reached out to their peers with great success.

TECH SOCIETY

This group aims to share knowledge on all things tech! They have weekly meetings where they learn from their peers, prepare for careers, and arrange talks from industry experts. The group meet face-to-face but also have a Teams group to allow members to bounce ideas off of each other and the staff that support the society.

THE FITNESS SOCIETY

This club is a large community of staff and students from across UCEN Manchester who have come together to encourage each other to be healthy both mentally and physically. To take on challenges together or as individuals, and to encourage each other. No matter how small an activity this group celebrates all achievements.



Welcome to our new part-time Sports and Activities officer, Ahmed Eldars.

Starting with us in February this year Ahmed has previously worked with the SU as Sports and Activities officer in a voluntary capacity.

Hello, my name is Ahmed, and I am studying Sport Science and Human Performance. I'm the new SU Sport and Activities Officer and I'm excited to start my new role supporting the Student Union to create and encourage a healthy, active lifestyle for all students and to deliver positive energy.

It's a great opportunity for you to become involved in a variety of activities and I want to ensure that there are fun options to suit you all year-round.

My aim is to create events which encourage improved mental health and wellbeing of the student body. I want to introduce different sports teams for The Manchester College and UCEN Manchester students, so everyone can join in and maybe even take us to a competitive level for the BUCS leagues next year.

Finally, I would like to encourage all students to become involved in the SU's societies and roles. It is such a rewarding experience and a great way to learn new skills.

You will see me around campus, so please if you have any ideas or questions you want to discuss, come and talk to me or contact me at AEldars@ucenmanchester.ac.uk.

I encourage anyone interested in any of the societies to get in touch and you can be added to the groups! Also let us know if you'd like to start a society yourself, if you have an idea we would be willing to help you find like-minded people!

Email us: SU@ucenmanchester.ac.uk

Follow our social media channels for updates, news, events, and campaigns happening on your campus:

[Stu Tmc](#) | [@tmcsu](#) | [@tmcsu](#)

BELIEVE IN DIFFERENT

See more online

 ucenmanchester.ac.uk

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