



University of Luton
Education that works

eLife

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A very English summer...

A NEW and exciting style of Summer School will open this August at the University. Aimed at students who wish to improve their general understanding of the UK, it focuses on English Language and British Culture.

Students will attend English language classes in the mornings, and in the afternoons there will be a number of guest lectures on aspects of British Culture. There will also be some evening activities and weekend excursions.

Students who wish to attend should already be at university, either in their own country or another country, and have an English Language ability equivalent to at least IELTS 5.

The price, which includes tuition fees, accommodation and excursions, is GBP 1100 for three weeks. But it does not include

food – the accommodation is self catering – so come along and give a taste of your country to other students. Already there has been considerable interest from Russia, Turkey, Thailand and Japan.

To find out more go to:
www.luton.ac.uk/summerschool



Strengthening our links

THE University of Luton's links with Russia took a further step forward following the recent visit of Olga Lipatova, from St Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance.

The Regional Director for Russia, Geoff Notcutt, explained: "We have now set up a number of links in Moscow that enable students to transfer from universities in Moscow to Luton. The next step was to extend this to St Petersburg, and following a visit there in December, we now have four more universities interested in such links.

"We were delighted to have Olga here for a week, when she was able to learn more about Luton and work towards setting up new opportunities for her students to study here and for ours to study there.

"Our Summer School is also attracting considerable interest in Russia."



● Olga Lipatova.

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Call for top papers

GRADUATES in the computing field are being given a chance to shine in the University of Luton's first research papers competition.

A top cash prize is being offered to the winner for the most inspiring contemporary academic research paper which comes out of Pakistan.

The competition, called 'Paper Call – University of Luton' is aimed at computer graduates and people working in the computer field.

Graduates in Pakistan are invited to submit research papers on topics in applied computing ranging from software engineering techniques to computer graphics and animation.

A panel of professionals in Pakistan will vet the papers and the best 20 will be sent

to the University of Luton where the top professors will select the best ten papers. The ten writers will be called in for a live question and answer session.

thought-provoking

They will be looking for original, inspirational or thought-provoking content which is of high quality and has solid, practical or research merit and makes a good



contribution to its field.

Regional Director in the University's International Office, Steve Stephens, said: "The aim is to help researchers at all levels – from professors to students who are seeking publishing opportunities."

The competition, organised between the University of Luton and its representative in Pakistan, was launched at two major educational fairs across several cities.

Aiming high!



KHALED Al Mazrooei's dream is to work in the international stock market of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

It is not surprising that the 22-year-old (pictured) has high ambitions. He is the son of Mohammed Salim Al Mazrooei, the Secretary General of the Federal National Council (FNC) – one of the most prominent figures in UAE politics who is responsible for organizing and leading parliament, and is the authority on laws and constitutional reform.

Kahled, from Dubai in UAE, is half way through his BA (Hons) course in Business and Accounting at the University of Luton. He joined after completing a Diploma in Accounting at a Higher College of Technology in Abu Dhabi. He said: "I did very well in my subjects and this allowed me to enter my degree course in the second year when I came to Luton. I am enjoying my course as it provides a blend of individual study and group-work and is giving me the skills required to get into the financial sector."

After completing his course, Khaled would like to stay on to study a Master's in Finance and Business Management to help fulfil his dream.

Scholarship to success

TARIQ Al Marzouqi from Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) can usually be found working hard at the Federal National Council.

But currently he is on paid sabbatical leave from his job as Head of Public Relations and is studying an MBA at the University of Luton, having won a scholarship.

The 26-year-old chose Luton because of its excellent reputation and closeness to London. He said: "The combination of my work experience and the MBA will really help me to achieve my ambition to be a PR manager. The course is very strong on leadership skills – vital for success."



A 'cool place'

SVETLANA Oglobina, comes from Irkutsk in Siberia so her recent trip to Kenya to represent the University's International Office at two exhibitions was a real eye opener. Here are her first impressions: "Kenya! My first visit – and my image of Africa as a muggy and humid jungle was completely wrong. My arrival in Nairobi should have told me – because 'Nairobi' in Swahili means 'cool place'. It was true – sunny days with a pleasant cooling wind. And no jungle!

During the exhibition we met many students, their parents and teachers. Private school students arrived wearing smart uniforms, others wearing traditional fashions. A real mix of Europe and Africa.

Moses, our representative in Nairobi, made sure that we saw the beautiful city sights, despite our heavy schedule at the exhibitions and British Council events, including a reception with the High Commissioner.

● Svetlana Oglobina and one of her pictures of Kenya.



Not to go on safari would have been a tragedy. Fortunately, just outside the city is Nairobi National Park, which we visited just after dawn. This is the best time, when the animals are waking up and looking for food and the soft light of the early morning sun picks out the delicate colours of the African bush.

My original view of Africa has changed completely. It is a continent I now want to explore. And to any Kenyan students passing my office? 'Jambo' and 'Karibu'.

Making dreams come true

ARADHANA Sobti always dreamed of working with General Electric, one of the world's top companies.

After graduating with an MSc

in Human Resource Management from the University of Luton, Aradhana is now an HR Executive (Recruitments)

at GE. Before doing her Masters, Aradhana graduated with her first degree in Law in India in 2001. Aradhana said: "My degree from Luton has been absolutely invaluable – the subjects I studied have helped me in my role. Also, it's an internationally recognised qualification, which is attractive to multi-national companies."



Best-selling writer

ABDUL Ahad has become a bit of a local celebrity after his book made the best-seller list on the Amazon.com website.

The book, *First Ark to Alpha Centauri*, is about world governments building a giant ship in a desperate bid to safeguard the survival of the planet.

The Bangladeshi-born writer, who studied at the University of Luton and graduated with an HND in Business and Finance with distinction, is now working on his follow-up book 'The True Price of Immortality'.

He said: "I remember stargazing as a youngster through my telescope and being fascinated by the planets and the stars. This interest developed into a



hobby and the information I learned over the years helped me to form the concept for my book.

"My book is very science-led and I focused a great deal on the ship's specification and how it worked."

Of his time at the University Abdul said: "The course was fantastic – it was just the sort of thing I was looking to do.

I was working in manufacturing at the time, and my course helped me to climb the corporate ladder and get me into management and accounts."

Fantastic partnership

A DELEGATION from the Beijing Municipal Government and China's main media organisations visited the University of Luton and progressed the next stage of its media training partnership for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

The Master's (MA) in Media Management programme has been specially designed by the University of Luton to train Beijing journalists and senior media managers for the next Olympic Games.

The delegation reviewed the project and also looked at ways to develop the relationship further – especially between the School of Media, Art and Design and the media sector in Beijing and China.

Everyone involved in the project agreed to continue their co-operation and seek further opportunities to

work together leading up to 2012 Olympic Games in London.

graduating

So far, 64 journalists and senior media managers have been awarded the MA Media Management, with another 17 graduating this year. The fifth group arriving in Luton in September 2006 will bring the number to over 100.



● Vice Chancellor, Professor Les Ebdon, (left) celebrating the successful partnership with members of the Beijing Municipal Government.