

# ALUMNI

**MAGAZINE**

2019 **ISSUE 01**

**RICHMOND,  
THE AMERICAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
UNIVERSITY IN  
LONDON**



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THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL  
UNIVERSITY IN LONDON**

[www.richmond.ac.uk](http://www.richmond.ac.uk)

"We're incredibly proud of our alumni at Richmond, who have been instrumental in developing a strong and cohesive sense of community through our 'Unity in Diversity' as we aspire to celebrate and harness our true potential." – Professor Lawrence Abeln, Vice-Chancellor and President



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### Follow us on our social media accounts



Richmond, The American International University in London



@richmondalumni



@raiulalumni



Richmond University London Alumni



## WELCOME MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT LAWRENCE ABELN



**Since joining the University in August 2018, Professor Lawrence Abeln has focused on continuing Richmond's reputation for academic excellence and ensuring our brand appeals to higher education students in the UK and internationally.**

I have had the privilege to serve as President for almost a year and I would like to take the opportunity to briefly update you on progress and activities so far.

As alumni, you are an important part of the Richmond experience and represent our identity and values to the world! Your success is our success! We would like to have more interaction with our 15,000 professional alumni global network.

We will host an Annual Reunion on 22 June 2019 for alumni at the Richmond campus in London. This will be the first time in several years we have welcomed back alumni to

a formal reunion event which we hope to be an annual tradition leading to the celebration of our 50th Anniversary in 2022.

Our faculty, staff and Board members care greatly about Richmond. Some have been associated with us as long as 40 years. Others joined us in the last year. The strong loyalty to the university is a demonstration of the high academic standards experienced by our students and alumni at Richmond.

Our National Student Survey (NSS) satisfaction rating is 85 per cent and employability is 96 per cent, and student

feedback about the academic experience is strong for both undergraduates and postgraduates. To diversify socio-economic backgrounds of students – opening access to the Richmond experience, we are offering 25 new full and partial postgraduate scholarships this year.

In 2018-2019, Richmond enrolled approximately 900 degree students in Richmond, Kensington and Leeds and, nearly 500 visiting and study abroad students in our study centres in Rome and Florence.

Richmond operates within a high regulatory framework subject to new requirements of the Office of Students in the UK and accreditation standards of Middle States Association in the US. With new Taught Degree Awarding Powers, we now can award British + American accredited degrees which will better position ourselves in the international market. Richmond is the only university in the UK that offers both a UK and US degree.

This year in 2019 our application numbers are strong—up 22 per cent from the previous year. We continue to work together with members of our Richmond faculty and staff, our Board of Trustees, and our strategic partners including the AIFS, and the Cyril Taylor Charitable Foundation to engage and progress our strategic direction.

### ALUMNI EVENTS

The Richmond Alumni Office held alumni events in London, Lebanon, Cyprus, Egypt, Turkey, India, Dubai, and several cities in the USA. We have alumni events scheduled in Beirut in April, Washington DC in May and New York in October. I was able to meet with groups of alumni in Dubai and Beirut. With ongoing alumni reunions and events, we wish to continue to support the ongoing campaign for Richmond's 50th anniversary in 2022, which will culminate in celebration that year for all alumni and supporters.

### NEW PROGRAMMES

We have introduced new degree programmes including the MSc Conversion programme in Psychology, BA Film and Photography and, two new MBA specialisations. In December 2018 we received a very positive outcome from the UK QAA (Quality and Assurance Agency) visit.

### ALUMNI PARTNERSHIPS

The International Team continues to establish new partnerships with other universities for exchange and visiting student opportunities. We are working with the University of Southern California and Southern Methodist University where students study with us for their first year at Richmond and recently signed a similar agreement with Northeastern University (Boston).

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Richmond community as your President and I look forward to seeing you soon at an alumni event or the annual London reunion!

Best wishes,

Professor Lawrence Abeln  
Vice Chancellor and President





# 2019 UNIVERSITY NEWS AND UPDATES

## TAUGHT DEGREE AWARDING POWERS (TDAP)

One of the biggest highlights in the last year was being granted our own Taught Degree Awarding Powers in the UK. As the University also holds US degree-granting authority, it means all of our students can study one programme and gain two degrees, providing a uniquely international education. We also have a range of short courses and summer programmes for those wishing to enhance their skills. Having studied at Richmond, you will have experienced the breadth of learning and induction in a range of disciplines offered by a liberal arts education. We are the only UK University where all undergraduate degrees can be studied within this framework.



## ACADEMIC PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

We are constantly reviewing our portfolio of programmes at Richmond, to ensure we provide students with the most interesting, innovative and career-enhancing degrees. We would like to share with you some of our new initiatives across our Schools planned for 2019.

At undergraduate level, we're introducing BA Film and Photography, which will provide students with career-boosting, practical skills in both industries, as well as an understanding of the development and key trends in film and photography.

Richmond Business School is extending its suite of buildings with a contemporary facility on Kensington High Street, providing a great space for students and faculty alike, with study areas, classrooms and an open-plan seating area. The new facility is less than five minutes' walk from our other Kensington campus buildings, home to our library, IT labs and dining hall.

The Business School's portfolio of programmes is also expanding with two new MBA specialisations on offer for

2019, in Human Resource Management and Marketing. All of our MBA students follow the same programme initially, then have the option to take these MBA specialisations with modules such as Leading, Mentoring, Coaching and, Marketing and Ethics, enhancing their employability.

There is also a new MSc in Psychology, a Conversion programme for those students who aspire to have a career in psychology, providing an opportunity to gain the highly prestigious Chartered Membership of the British Psychological Society (BPS).

The University is committed to supporting undergraduate and postgraduate students in developing their English language skills to succeed in their courses. So we're delighted to now offer the Pathway Postgraduate Programmes with English for those students who do not meet our standard English language entry requirements for postgraduate study. These programmes will help bridge the gap in English language skill and academic preparation such as research methods and communication, preparing students for all Masters programmes offered at Richmond.



## OUR SOCIAL MISSION

We are very proud at Richmond of our liberal arts tradition which helps students develop a strong sense of personal and social responsibility, enhancing self-understanding and preparing them to deal with complexity, diversity, and change. This tradition was also treasured by the founder of Richmond and chairman of the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS), Sir Cyril Taylor, whose vision was that Richmond would be a community with 'a scholarly yet social purpose'. Sir Cyril aspired for all students to have access to international learning opportunities, regardless of any differences in ethnicity, religion, nationality, gender or economic status.

In his book, 'My Life as a Social Entrepreneur', Sir Cyril describes how this vision would become his legacy, saying, "The philosophy at Richmond is the same as that which inspired us to establish AIFS in 1964 and which I hope continues to inspire our thousands of alumni across the world."

It's a vision that's as strong today as ever.

All our undergraduates continue with some form of volunteer work or service learning in a structured way as part of their degree programme.

A survey conducted among our students showed that service learning had a life-changing impact on them, with all of those questioned saying that their volunteering had a positive impact on others.

Not only that, but 86 per cent said they plan to continue volunteering at the same or a different organization and 90 per cent said that doing work in the community provided them with transferrable employability skills.

It's not just the students who have benefitted from working in the community. In the last academic year, Richmond students worked with 140 voluntary organisations in Greater London, completing approximately 1,800 hours of voluntary work. The organisations have been diverse, from Great Ormond Street Hospital to Oxfam, with projects including working with refugees and the homeless.

Here's what one of our students did. Leah Wood volunteered to help the Wandle Trust, an environmental charity which aims to deliver healthy river ecosystems across the south east of England. Leah worked in a team helping to clean the River Thames, and she also helped Richmond's 'Great British Bake-off Club', providing cakes for the volunteers.

Leah said, "Being a part of the Wandle Trust was an honour. We left the site knowing we made a difference, leaving the park and river cleaner and safer for people to enjoy."





## PROFESSORS WITHOUT BORDERS

Another good example of our social mission in action is through our association with Professors Without Borders, a social enterprise which, by providing university lecturers and professors, aims to make first class education available for students in developing countries without the need to go abroad.

Since the inception of Professors Without Borders by Tessy de Nassau, one of our alumna who graduated in 2014, the University has had a strong association with the organisation, supplying academic staff and students to work either overseas or in the UK on various projects.



## OUTSTANDING STUDENT AFFAIRS TEAM

Our Student Affairs team at Richmond was shortlisted for a prestigious 2018 Times Higher Education Award, in the category of Outstanding Contribution to Leadership Development. This Award recognised the role played by our Richmond Leadership Academy (RLA), which encompasses all aspects of the student experience at Richmond, with a particular focus on employability and personal development. The Student Affairs team are also the 2017 winners of the Independent Higher Education 'Best International Student Experience 2017' Awards.





## COLLABORATION WITH ALUMNI

Our Richmond Alumni from all over the world have been immensely supportive by liaising with the University to help organise events, gain more contacts and aid networking in their regions.

## ALUMNI MASTERS SCHOLARSHIP

We have various opportunities for Richmond and AIFS Alumni to benefit from financial aid and discounts to continue their studies at Richmond.

All Richmond and AIFS alumni are eligible for an Alumni Masters Scholarship, with a 20 per cent reduction in tuition fees on Richmond MA and MBA programmes (MA Luxury Brand Management is excluded).

Most of our Masters programmes start in Fall or Spring and are offered either full-time for a year or part-time over two years. You will be able to study one programme and gain two degrees, as the University awards a UK and US qualification at Master's degree level, offering opportunities on both sides of the Atlantic and internationally.

Please visit: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/postgraduate-tuition-fees-2018/us-postgrad-student-finance/> for more information.



## RICHMOND'S RECRUITMENT TEAM GOING AROUND THE GLOBE

With the world's student population more mobile than ever before, Richmond operates in a truly global market, attracting students from around the world. Our international, culturally diverse experience is illustrated by the diversity of our student body, with 32 per cent of students from the EU, 29 per cent from the UK, 24 per cent from the US and 15 per cent from the rest of the world. Our unique academic environment ensures students learn from an international perspective, in preparation for a global career.

So how do we connect with potential students throughout the world? It's all thanks to Richmond's Recruitment team, who attend a combination of university recruitment events and conferences, visiting schools and colleges in the UK and internationally, reaching out to hundreds of potential students every year, sharing details of all the programmes on offer and the exceptional benefits of studying at Richmond.

This all means a full timetable of events for the Recruitment team. In 2018, they visited over 20 countries, including the UK, India, U.A.E, Lebanon, Egypt, Morocco, Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Italy, Germany, France, Spain, and Sweden.

This year, the team will be revisiting most of these countries and, to promote Richmond even more internationally, will be going to Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia for the first time to attend recruitment events and conferences, visiting dozens of higher education institutions.

Our US team in Boston have an equally packed schedule planned for 2019. They are registered for over 65 recruitment events, coast-to-coast, which are a combination of national and regional initiatives, incorporating visits to 21 states, plus Costa Rica and Panama. In addition, the team is planning to hold a number of 'An Evening with Richmond' events in key US cities and will have Richmond alumni in attendance. Events are planned for:

- o Houston, TX
- o Chicago, IL
- o Boston, MA
- o New York, NY
- o Miami, FL
- o San Francisco, CA
- o Los Angeles, CA

The team will also be attending additional events in a similar number of states later in the year and hoping to include alumni at major, national recruitment events.

If you are interested in assisting Richmond at an event in your country or city, then please let us know at [enquiries@richmond.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@richmond.ac.uk) (if you live in the UK or internationally), [usadmissions@richmond.ac.uk](mailto:usadmissions@richmond.ac.uk) (if you are in the US).



## MUSEUM OF RICHMOND – QUEEN'S ROAD EXHIBITION

The Museum of Richmond has an exciting special exhibitions programme with two exhibitions each year and an active events programme to accompany them.

The major exhibition for 2020 will be of particular interest to Alumni of the university as it will tell the story of nine houses on Queen's Road, near where the campus is based.

'Victoria to Elizabeth Social Change in the Queen's Road 1850 – 1950' will highlight the architectural significance of some of the finest Victorian town houses in Richmond alongside the social history, telling the story of how these buildings were used and who occupied them.

If you have not visited the Museum since leaving the University, or if you have not visited before, we would very much like to welcome you to this special exhibition. See the website for visit information and sign up for the newsletter to keep up to date with what's on.

The Museum is currently seeking support toward creating the Queen's Road exhibition. Please get in touch for more information about how you can contribute.

Website: [www.museumofrichmond.com](http://www.museumofrichmond.com)

Email: [info@museumofrichmond.com](mailto:info@museumofrichmond.com)



**MUSEUM of  
RICHMOND**



## ALUMNI EVENTS AND REUNIONS

We held wonderful alumni reunions and events in several locations including Lebanon, Cyprus, London, New York, Philadelphia, Cairo, Istanbul, Dubai, Atlanta, Mumbai and Washington. Alumni have been able to reconnect with old friends, some which they haven't seen or spoken to since graduating! We are glad that this has been made possible and look forward to more events in the future.



### RAY GOES ROVING!

Alumni from the 1980's and early 90's will no doubt remember Ray Hilditch. Ray is now (semi!) retired after 40 years in international education and has accepted the President's invitation to become a kind of roving ambassador for Richmond.

"It's been such a pleasure these last two years to re-engage with alums from all over the world. I've hosted reunions in Dubai, Turkey, Cyprus, Lebanon, Greece, Egypt, India and several other European destinations as well as being involved in the memorable big London event in August 2016. We were a small, close-knit community in the 80's and I count people from these times as some of my closest friends, having watched them become successful professionals and equally successful parents (and soon-to-be grandparents?). I'm proud of their achievements, even if they didn't win the famous Business Game we played with Mark Schaefer and Raja Assili".

Ray has over 2000 friends on Facebook, almost all alumni. He would love to hear from you with suggestions for future alumni reunions and for a catch-up when you are in London.

You can email Ray at: [ray.hilditch@richmond.ac.uk](mailto:ray.hilditch@richmond.ac.uk)







## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS & NOTABLE STORIES



### **Vedica Podar, India**

Vedica Podar graduated from Richmond in 2015 with a BA in Business Administration (International Business) & a minor in Psychology with Summa Cum Laude Honours. She is from India, currently based in Mumbai.

Vedica is an active advocate and speaker on issues relating to mental health, education & human empowerment; and is currently involved with running educational institutions in rural India. She is also a Millennial Life Coach and conducts several workshops for young minds on topics like women empowerment, leadership & entrepreneurship. "I am proud that with my work I am able to make a difference in people's lives and empower people irrespective of their ability, gender, age or ethnicity. My experience at Richmond both within the classroom and outside it along with the rapport with the members of the Richmond community helped me to broaden my horizons and enhanced my world view. I will always be grateful for learning stems from the very motto of the University, Unity in Diversity - something crucial for all of us as we try to make a stride in the world and be good global citizens!"

### **Chai Chaiyawan, Thailand**

Chai Chaiyawan is from Thailand and graduated from Richmond in 1981 studying BA Business Administration. Chai is currently running his family business, Thai Life Insurance, which is one of the largest conglomerate businesses in Thailand in insurance, banking, hospitality and alcoholic beverages. His greatest achievements include winning the 2011 Executive of the Year by Stevie Awards USA, 2017 Entrepreneur of the Year by Enterprise Asia and, 2018 Entrepreneur of the Year by Stevie Awards. "Richmond has given me an experience of cross-cultural awareness apart from academic knowledge, which is useful for working and running business successfully".



### **Elizabeth Ezzelle, USA & UK**

Elizabeth Ezzelle is from the USA and graduated from Richmond in December 2018 with a BA in Art History and Visual Culture and a minor in Film Studies. In May 2019, she will depart for Mongolia to serve in the United States Peace Corps for two and a half years.

She will be living and serving in Mongolia as an English Education Teacher and as a Community Development Volunteer. Eventually, she would like to pursue work as an Academic or Professor in Art History or work in the museum field. "I can thank my experiences at Richmond for aiding me and my path to the Peace Corps. My Coordinator position in the Peer Mentor programme was a huge strength in my Peace Corps application, especially since the peer mentors uphold a strong relationship with both the academic and student life aspects of the university, a balance which the Peace Corps also appreciate. Additionally, the university's emphasis on the benefits of volunteering and service definitely motivated me to look into further service opportunities past graduation. The international environment of Richmond, which fostered such a valuable experience, propelled my desire to continue my global experiences."



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS & NOTABLE STORIES

### Daniel Wagner, USA

Daniel is from the USA, attended Richmond from 1981-1983, and received his BA in Political Science. "Richmond set me on a journey through the world in my chosen profession of Risk Management". Daniel earned two Masters degrees and then had a career in political risk insurance for 20 years that took him to London, Singapore, Manila, and a number of cities in the USA. Today he runs the US-based consultancy Country Risk Solutions, and has become a well-known author in current affairs and risk management, with six books and over 600 articles to his credit. He thanks Richmond for introducing him to the rest of the world.



### Elena Koycheva (CFA, CAIA, CIPM), Bulgaria

Elena is originally from Bulgaria and graduated in 2008 with a BA Honours in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and a minor in Economics.

Elena is currently a Senior RFP Writer within Global Business Development at BlueBay Asset Management. "I am most proud of my successful career within leading global investment organisations while simultaneously achieving highly recognised investment qualifications such as the CFA and CAIA Charter". Elena was also a finalist for the Women in Investment 2018 Unsung Hero Award and believes more can be done to bring women into the investment business.

"Richmond was instrumental for my progression and helped me identify my talent and ambition for finance and investments. In addition, it was there that I recognised the value of diversity and leadership in the context of a multinational environment. The skills and drive that I developed during my studies have been instrumental for my international success".

### Omar M. El Naggar, Egypt

Omar is from Egypt and graduated from Richmond in 2018 with a BA in International Business. He is also an Alumni Ambassador for Richmond in Egypt. Omar is currently the International Relations Manager of Interaction Businesses, which is a family owned Egyptian company which specialises in business development, consultancy, land reclamation and urban development. Working under the auspices of his family has helped him a great deal in becoming exposed to diversified industries in the Egyptian and Middle Eastern market. He is seeking to broaden his career path by exploring opportunities in multinational corporations that specialise in international business, which was the main focus of his studies at Richmond.



Omar said "it's a great honour to be the alumni ambassador of Richmond in Egypt, there is no doubt that all of this would have not been possible without Richmond's influence that has helped shaped me into becoming goal oriented with strong ambitions. I had the pleasure of being on board and launching a Cairo Alumni Reunion in October 2018 that helped alums reminisce about the good old days, funny enough I met parents of my own friends there!"

What I truly aspire to see some day is the establishment of a Richmond Alumni Business Association that would use the power, knowledge, and experience of the alumni in the business world and in diversified industries in order to create a business network that would help complement one another's businesses, advising each another and, help drive more businesses, as well as to open career paths and opportunities to RAIUL alumni. Diversity is what makes this family strong, 'Unity in Diversity'.





### **Michelle Gale, USA**

Michelle Gale is from the USA and has lived in Brazil, Germany and the UK. She studied BA International Relations and Political Science at Richmond, and graduated in 2010. Afterwards, she went on to complete her MA in Law from SOAS.

Michelle currently consults and speaks around the world on sustainability, business strategy, and non-profit development. She is Co-founder and Executive Director of the International Neighborhood Bureau, a Director of the Green Economics Institute, and Head of GaleForce, a political campaign firm. "Richmond taught me about the interconnectedness of all of our paths and careers, and how you should always assume the person next to you is a great connection to make, as well as quite possibly a friend. I love keeping up with my Richmond friends and talk to some every day, others every few months or less, but I know that anywhere I go in the world, I'll find fellow alums with incredible Richmond memories and amazing post-Richmond stories to share with me. Richmond means home-away-from-home, the choice of a global future, and limitless career options."

### **Mwiya Musokotwane, Zambia**

Mwiya Musokotwane is from Zambia and graduated from Richmond in 2010 with a BA in Business Administration, Finance & Economics. Mwiya has been named as one of Forbes Africa 30 under 30, a list profiling young African entrepreneurs across business, technology and creative arts. He started his entrepreneurial journey at Richmond. As he was graduating, he and three other Richmond alums founded a tech start up. Unfortunately, the venture did not succeed though it had a promising start. Despite the disappointment, it fuelled his passion for future entrepreneurship. Mwiya co-founded Thebe Investment Management in Zambia and is responsible for planning, encompassing marketing, financial management, investment operations, civil works and the creation of its innovative payment plan models.



### **Taz Hampton, USA**

Taz Hampton is from the USA, born and raised in Hampton, Virginia. Taz was a study abroad student with the AIFS programme in 2011 and studied Communications specializing in Media Studies at Richmond. Taz graduated Cum Laude with a BA in Telecommunications Management from Howard University in 2012.

Taz is a recording artist, entrepreneur, mental health advocate, and owner of the C.A.S. Agency. She is currently touring and performing her new album Mentally iLL and conducting mental health awareness presentations. "I'm most proud of how my album Mentally iLL has helped so many people struggling with mental health conditions and given them hope to continue moving forward". Richmond influenced her journey because the experience enhanced her perspective and boosted her confidence in exploring new territory. "This has translated into my fearless approach of curating art and education events worldwide. I'm grateful for learning that education can be your passport to travel the world and uniting all walks of life together".

## HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT RICHMOND

To keep our motto, 'Unity in Diversity' alive, Richmond strives to celebrate uniqueness from all walks of life in our community. We value the support of those who have walked through the doors of Richmond so future students can benefit from all we have to offer. There are many ways you can contribute to Richmond. Donations allow us to invest in and improve the student experience. The following are some of the areas where we would really appreciate your support.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Richmond has been 'United in Diversity' for over 40 years and our recruitment efforts stretch all over the world because we are dedicated to ensuring students from all walks of life benefit from an education in a diverse environment. Scholarships are available to students from the UK/EU, the US and internationally. Scholarship recipients truly appreciate the contribution this has played in their lives and future educational, career and personal development.



**Gonzalo - Madrid, Spain**

BA Economics with a minor in Accounting & Finance

The best thing about being a Richmond student is the level of support given by professors and other members of staff. Classes are relatively small so you get the chance to be heard. Another great thing are the different roles that students can take part in on campus like being a peer mentor, peer tutor etc. I believe that giving support to the scholarship programme at Richmond is an amazing opportunity as it's a way to reward students that excel in their degree & need some extra support to finance their studies.



**Elise - Bermuda & UK**

BA Communications, Marketing & PR

I came to Richmond for the opportunities that living in London can bring, as well as attending an overseas university that accepted my transfer credits that most British university wouldn't usually accept. Receiving a scholarship was one of the biggest factors in my choice to come to Richmond. I'm part of the Peer Mentorship programme which gives me a chance to contribute to the university, as well as having the chance to work with my friends and help my fellow peers. One of the best things about Richmond is the community. Because we are a small university, it is much easier for students and faculty to get to know one another. Everyone is helpful and are so caring towards each other that I never feel left out or forgotten about. I always feel included and enjoying being involved. With my scholarship I feel I am valued for my abilities and potential rather than how much money my family and I could give. Coming from a country where chances are nearly impossible to pursue a higher education at this level, I can honestly say without the scholarship, I could not be here right now.





## SERVICES CENTRES FOR STUDENTS

**With the right services and support, students can do amazing things. We are very proud of the foundation of support we offer all of our students. With alumni support, we could do even more!**

### THE CENTRE FOR CAREERS & LEADERSHIP

Richmond's Centre for Careers & Leadership comprises a team of staff and faculty dedicated to ensuring that students have access to the right opportunities to develop their personal, transferrable skills and prepare for life after graduating. With opportunities to take part in student leadership activities such as local volunteering, on campus engagement, internships, work experience and faculty-led research, the centre provides a comprehensive and diverse approach to employability.

We have developed an extensive online resource for students, the Careers Portal, where students can take part in online courses, reflect on their activities and programmes and document their steps toward enhancing their employability. We know that the job market is constantly changing, and we try to stay abreast by working cooperatively with employers and faculty to make sure our graduates prepare themselves for positions of leadership.



### THE STUDENT HUB

Richmond's 'one stop shop' for student support offers front-facing advice and guidance to all students from the beginning to the end of their studies. With a focus on individualised care, students can expect friendly, attentive staff with expertise in immigration, accommodation, health care, transport, finances/banking and more. The staff in the Student Hub assist students in achieving their goals both inside and outside the classroom. Our main objectives are providing services that support and encourage student welfare, safety and development. As our student needs change, training and staffing become particularly important because it is the first port of call for any and all student queries. By supporting the Student Hub, you can help us ensure that all Richmond students have the tools they need to make important decisions about their futures.

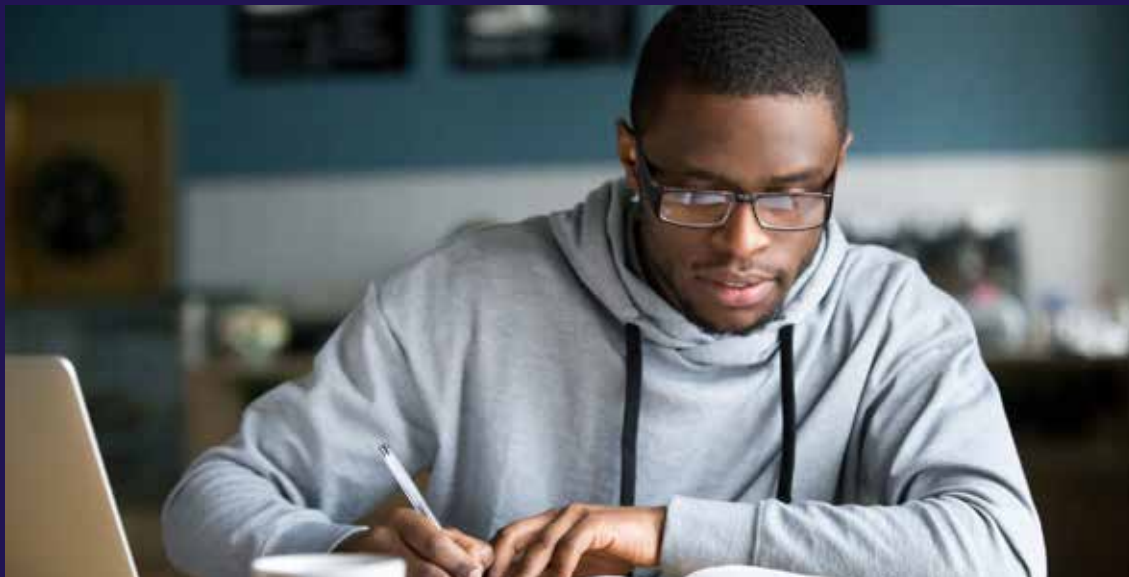


## ACADEMIC SCHOOLS

Richmond's Liberal Arts curriculum allows students to study in a broad range of areas before delving into a major course of study in their chosen area of interest. Of the more than 30 degree courses offered at Richmond, there are three main schools in which students can take classes.

### THE SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

Richmond's core curriculum has liberal arts at its heart and as part of a liberal arts environment, academic ties are strong with other departments and programmes, including Communications, Economics and Psychology. Increasingly, the acquisition of inter-disciplinary skills is becoming an important component of education and a crucial skill in the workplace.



### THE SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATIONS, ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Our aim as faculty is to ensure that, by the time our students graduate, they have a solid theoretical and methodological grounding in their chosen course of study, ending with a substantial piece of individual research. Our success here is one of the main reasons why Richmond's alumni have gained entry to leading graduate schools all over the world. Your contributions to the School of Communications Arts & Social Sciences can help take students from the theoretical to real world application. With London and Europe as our classroom, we can bring academic subjects to life from art and design to history and politics.

the only Chartered professional body in the UK dedicated to promoting the highest standards in management and leadership excellence. Your support can also help us generate incubator funds for business start-ups and other creative projects.



### RICHMOND BUSINESS SCHOOL

We aim to deliver an innovative higher education experience dedicated to teaching excellence and the highest quality student learning experience. Our graduates are highly valued by employers with recent alumni now working for a range of leading organisations including Apple Inc, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs and KPMG. The School aims to maintain close links with industry and commerce and has an active Business Advisory Council that brings together leading representatives from the commercial sector to advise the Business School in relation to such issues as graduate employability and curriculum development. The Business School is an accredited Higher Education Partner of the Chartered Management Institute (CMI). The CMI is





## STUDY CENTRES

Beyond Richmond's academic curriculum, there are also opportunities for students to get involved in research and study that is relevant and meaningful to their coursework and career plans. With internationalism at the heart of everything we do, Richmond is keen to support diversity as it relates to culture, language, politics and more.



### CENTRE FOR MODERN LANGUAGES

The Centre for Modern Languages is a new unit in Richmond through which the University aims to reinstate modern language teaching and to enhance its profile as an international university. Language is the key to understanding another culture and also forms an essential part of intercultural competence that is increasingly vital in the present multicultural and multilingual world. The Centre plans to introduce courses in a number of global modern languages over the next few years, Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, and possibly Spanish, just to name a few. As an interface between the University and its neighbouring communities, the Centre will also provide language and related courses as well as occasional public lectures to the community. Your support can help us bring cultural competencies to the forefront of further and higher education.



### CENTRE FOR STATE, POWER AND GLOBALISATION

The Research Centre for the Study of the State, Power and Globalisation seeks to promote the study of the most predominant political questions of our time. The cluster seeks to organise and form links between researchers across Richmond engaged in the analysis of the historical and ongoing transformation of political agents and structures at the level of the state and of international politics. This will reflect the scholarly and pedagogical aims of the University's taught degree programmes in Political Science, International Relations, International and Development Economics, Communications, and History. In particular, the cluster's research area reflects the aims of the MA International Relations. This will function as a platform to connect and form links between research across disciplines in areas as contemporary political theory, ideology, social movements; global conflict and governance; and global political economy and development. Your support can help us generate research and promote global understanding.



### CENTRE FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP & SERVICE LEARNING

The Centre for Global Citizenship & Service Learning offers students the opportunity to engage with the community around them by volunteering and taking part in civic engagement activities. These activities enrich the student experience, encourage commitment to the values the University hopes to engender in all of its students, and help students gain the skills and experience they need to start their careers and become global citizens. The Centre offers a course on International Service Learning. Service Learning placements aim to provide students with experience in the community of their study, so that they develop as a global active citizen. The course will enable students to understand their own strengths and weaknesses in the community, work with people from other cultures, and to give them confidence that they can make the step from classroom to community comfortably. Help us create leaders of the future.

## SUPPORT STUDENT LIFE ON CAMPUS

The Richmond community is centred around campus life – both in the sense that it offers a vibrant academic community and a comfortable social atmosphere for students, staff and faculty. Both of our London campuses are located in prestigious areas of the city where students can study, take part in activities and events and live as part of our residential community. You can help our uniquely diverse and supportive campus communities flourish.



### BUILDINGS

The memories students take away with them from their years at Richmond last a life time. Your investment in campus life can play a pivotal role in creating these memories for the future. From residence halls to classrooms, from study spaces to performance areas, maintaining and upgrading these buildings is a priority for our Estates team. With the right facilities, we can attract and retain students from around the world. With inadequate facilities we will, undoubtedly, lose students.

Your property investment can help the University make a better offer to students and ensure that your legacy is appreciated and enjoyed.



### CLASSROOMS AND STUDY AREAS

We all have our favourite places to visit, whether they are restaurants, libraries, galleries or an outdoor spot with the perfect view. They make you feel comfortable, inspired, or maybe even nostalgic. With your investment into student life, you could create a favourite place for one (or many) of our students! Our study spaces, libraries, classrooms and performance areas need to change with the times and with student needs. By refurbishing or redesigning a space, you can help us keep up with our changing student population and offer top notch facilities to support all of the needs of our unique educational community.



### CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMMES

Our students often comment that studying in London has 'brought the world alive' for them. At Richmond we believe that learning takes place in the classroom, but also outside when students make the connections between the theoretical and the practical. Your contribution can help us bring history, art, language, culture and politics outside of the classroom and into the community. With trips to Stonehenge, Brussels, Milan, Berlin and more, Richmond students not only read and discuss ideas and theories, they can see them put into practice outside of the classroom as well.



## SPONSOR A LECTURESHIP

Making education relevant to students means finding ways to make connections to the world around us. By sponsoring a lectureship on a current event, major industry change or public interest topic you can help us bring the world to the classroom and drive intellectual curiosity on campus. Our research centres have a number of suggestions, we have listed a few of them here.



### NGO MANAGEMENT: CHANGE & SUSTAINABILITY

Protecting human rights, advocating for sustainable agriculture, promoting education and health care worldwide are all important goals of the NGO sector, but how are their roles changing in our globalised civil society? What is the role of private funding and how are investors sourced and vetted? What tools and approaches are NGO directors taking to ensure their internal objectives are met and their stakeholders are satisfied?

How does the mantra of sustainability fit into NGOs' missions and visions in 2019?

### SELF-LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

What is the difference between leadership and management? What characteristics does an accomplished leader need in order to inspire and influence others? Leading a high-performing team requires a tool box of diverse skills – what are they?

How can a skilled leader resolve internal and external conflict? What roles do flexibility, adaptability and resilience play in effective leadership?

### BREXIT: EFFECTS & CHALLENGES

The UK's decision to leave the European Union has had effects on business, education, tourism, culture and more, but what does it really mean? How will it affect Europeans in the UK or UK citizens in Europe? What does it mean for international education and educational partnerships? How will things change in the future and where does this leave London as an international city?



## SUPPORT AN ENDOWED CHAIR

Inspiring success is an important part of nurturing students in higher education. With the right mentoring, a student can see a world of possibilities before them. Your support of an endowed chair can aid the University in offering research opportunities, promoting career development and inspiring students to see the wealth of opportunities ahead of them. Through engaging with professionals in the field, students can learn from experience.



### THE PROFESSOR RAY HILDITCH ENDOWED CHAIR OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Professor Ray Hilditch was a faculty member within Richmond's School of Business in the 1980s. He became a Professor Emeritus in 2013 and returned to Richmond to offer support in recruitment and with alumni affairs. Ray is a seasoned business lecturer having taught at Hult Business School amongst other London-based institutions. He has extensive experience and expertise in Turkey, the Balkans, the Former Soviet Union, Asia and in the Middle East, so offers an international perspective on the nuances of international business practices and relationships. By supporting the Professor Ray Hilditch Chair for International Business, you can help ensure Richmond stays true to its international roots and offers a global perspective on commerce, trade and social enterprise.



### THE TESSY DE NASSAU ENDOWED CHAIR OF NGO MANAGEMENT

Tessy de Nassau is a Social Entrepreneur, Business Woman, Philanthropist, UNAids Ambassador, Public Speaker, Activist and Mother. Tessy is a Richmond alumna of 2014 and studied BA International Relations. Tessy is Founder and Partner of the global consultancy 'Finding Butterflies'. Some of her client's projects include the global partnership with the Montessori St. Nicholas Group in the UK and Vodafone global. Tessy is also the newly appointed associate at LSEideas at the London School of Economics.

Her commitments to education can also be seen in her Foundation, Professors Without Borders – that brings top-level educators and global experts to the doorsteps of students worldwide, in order to develop talent. Moreover, Tessy is an ambassador for UNAids, where she is a Global Advocate for young women and adolescent girls and is the patron to UNA-UK. In the past, she spent five years in the Luxembourg military, during which she was deployed in Kosovo as a peacekeeper and the only woman of her draft.

Tessy actively promotes a number of issues, including global health and women's rights. She is passionate about pushing her different agendas to benefit the Sustainable Development Goals and has committed her time and energy to furthering the work of organisations she believes in. Moreover, she is actively committed to strengthening basic human rights for all and empowering young women and adolescent girls around the world. She received the Woman of the Decade award from the Women Economic Forum in January 2017, the Humanities Medal for spreading humanistic ideas worldwide and the Global Empowerment Award for her work in Africa. By supporting the Tessy de Nassau Chair for NGO Management, you can help connect students to people and opportunities that truly could change the world.

## HOW TO DONATE

To make a donation, please contact: [alumni@richmond.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@richmond.ac.uk) where the team can guide you on how to make donation payments to specific causes for the University or, to the general Alumni Fund. We are deeply appreciative of any donations you are able to support us with.







**A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR, ABI OYETADE  
ALUMNI RELATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT MANAGER**

We are continuously developing the Richmond experience for students, staff, alumni and supporters alike and would like to take this opportunity to thank all who contributed to the inaugural Richmond Alumni magazine. We welcome any feedback and contributions for the next edition of the magazine for the year 2019-2020. We also want to hear from you regarding ideas and suggestions for any other aspects of activity from the Alumni Office.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at: [alumni@richmond.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@richmond.ac.uk)





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