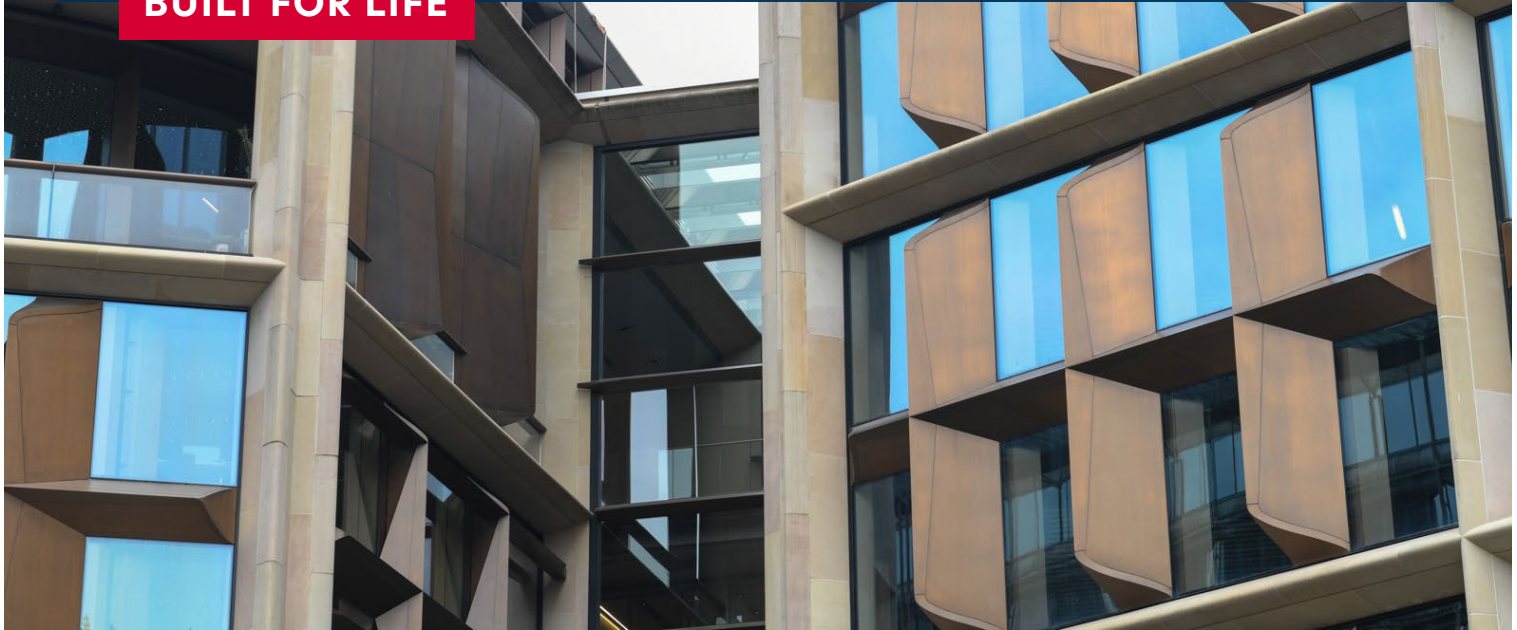


# Honorary Community newsletter

**BUILT FOR LIFE**



Welcome to UCEM's latest update to our Honorary Awards community - UCEM's Honorary and Associate Fellows, Honorary Degree recipients, Property Award winners and current/former Trustees - our community of loyal and supportive friends of UCEM. This edition brings you up to speed on all things UCEM this Summer. As ever, we welcome your feedback and comments so we can continue to evolve the newsletter. Thank you for your ongoing and steadfast support to this great institution! We look forward to seeing you all again in the autumn at the Property Award luncheon!



**Ashley**  
Vice Chancellor  
[a.wheaton@ucem.ac.uk](mailto:a.wheaton@ucem.ac.uk)



**Jane**  
Deputy Vice Chancellor and  
University Secretary  
[j.e.fawkes@ucem.ac.uk](mailto:j.e.fawkes@ucem.ac.uk)

# Highlights in this edition

## UCEM Board of Trustees votes for a new name for the institution



Amanda Clack, Chair of the Board of Trustees, signing the Board Resolution on 11 July 2024

On 11 July 2024, UCEM's Board of Trustees passed a milestone Resolution for the evolution of this institution. The Board resolved to apply to the Office for Students to change its name to **University of the Built Environment (UBE)** and the application to do so was duly submitted to the OfS shortly afterwards. A public consultation will take place later this year. The Board has discussed this name for some time and undertook detailed research to test it with key stakeholders to inform the decision. This new name fulfils our Charitable Objectives, aligns with our vision to become the *Centre of Excellence for Built Environment Education*, and provides far greater clarity externally on our purpose and remit. Whilst we recognise that change is not always universally popular, UCEM is committed to delivering its vision. The depth and breadth of our programme offering is being increased as a core component of realising this vision. The portfolio is expanding, and we are offering new courses in building control, architectural design technology, urban planning and sustainability. Other new programmes are in development in architecture, civil engineering, environmental management and fire safety - this will create a portfolio that is broad and covers all areas of the built environment. The subject-based name is

appropriate given UCEM's online delivery model and global reach. At a time where there is a real skills shortage within property and construction, UCEM wants to fulfil its vision and work with employers, students and professional bodies to reduce the shortfall. We are confident this new name will allow us to do so over the next century of our evolution into the Centre of Excellence. UCEM is very proud of its legacy, reputation and history. Throughout the change process we will work closely with our key stakeholders to ensure the excellent reputation and the quality of our provision is maintained and developed further. We would like to thank everyone for their support to date in this milestone moment for the institution.



The Resolution was voted for unanimously by the Board of Trustees

# Highlights in this edition

## His Majesty King Charles III renews Patronage of UCEM



His Majesty King Charles III visit to UCEM in 2019

In early May we were thrilled to be informed that, following the extensive review of Royal Patronages, His Majesty King Charles III was delighted to retain the Patronage of The University College of Estate Management. Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was the first Patron of UCEM from 1977-1998 and His Majesty King Charles III (then HRH The Prince of Wales) became Patron in 1998 following ten years as President of the then CEM from 1988. He has championed the institution over the last twenty-six years whilst also collaborating on a number of built environment-related projects. UCEM works alongside several of His Majesty's charities, including The King's Foundation, and supports the goal of fostering community-led development through his work.

UCEM deeply appreciates His Majesty's engagement in our efforts to provide education for students across the world and to help create a sustainable built environment.

This incredible honour for UCEM was celebrated by everyone in and around UCEM and we are delighted to share a few of the positive comments we received in from our supporters:

- “ I'm very aware of the many months of waiting, wondering what is about to happen, that you've all been through - warm congratulations, that's excellent news!**  
Craig Bennett
- “ A real accolade for the University and a testament to everyone's hard work that His Majesty is retaining this Patronage.**  
Becky Powley
- “ What absolutely fantastic news and a real accolade to UCEM staff, students and trustees and all who have been involved over the years!**  
Delva Patman
- “ Wonderful news! Although this honour is undoubtedly well deserved, it was far from a foregone conclusion so very well done to everyone at UCEM.**  
Barry Woodman
- “ This is very good news indeed and congratulations to all involved. A privilege and honour of which UCEM can be justifiably very proud.**  
Nicholas Brooke

We continue to progress at pace through 2024 and as ever there is plenty of other activity to report on from across UCEM.

# UCEM update



The King's Foundation Inaugural Awards recipients with His Majesty King Charles III (UCEM's Aled Williams stands 6th from the left)

## External influence and recognition

One of our most significant and special achievements this year was to be named **Partnership of the Year** at The King's Foundation inaugural awards in June. Attended by His Majesty The King, the awards will become a regular opportunity to recognise and celebrate the work of The King's Foundation. The ceremony took place at St James's Palace in London and was attended by 250 guests. UCEM was represented by Aled Williams, Executive Director Innovation and Partnerships. Aled was presented with the award by Alan Titchmarsh, an ambassador for The King's Foundation. UCEM was recognised for going above and beyond to partner with The King's Foundation. Our work with The King's Foundation includes partnering on research, developing the Poundbury Series and entering a Knowledge Transfer Partnership to evolve and extend the Building a Legacy work. UCEM is incredibly proud of this award and is pleased to play a part in helping The King's Foundation to realise its vision and contribute to creating a more sustainable world.

In other accolades for the institution, we were delighted to take part and secure re-accreditation in our fourth **Responsible Futures** sustainability audit back in June. We were joined by seven UCEM students and alumni to the two-day audit of our sustainability work. The students undertook training from SOS-UK, reviewed evidence and interviewed

staff from across the institution. We have held this accreditation since 2018, when we were the first online education provider to achieve it, and it has been renewed every 2 years since, as a core part of reaffirming UCEM's sustainability commitment and aspirations. We were also successfully reaccredited to the **Matrix Standard** across our student services in June. The accreditation assures our prospective and current students, partner organisations and the public that our information, advice and guidance services are of high-quality and meet a rigorous and comprehensive quality framework. We are justifiably proud of our student-facing teams for the diligence, quality and commitment they bring to continually improving our student experience.

On 10 July 2024, the **National Student Survey** results were released and UCEM demonstrated excellent progress. This survey, conducted by the Office for Students, collates the opinions of students on the quality of the courses they study and their educational experience. UCEM's overall positivity measure stands at 81.9%. In the themes of assessment and feedback, organisation and management, student voice and mental wellbeing services, UCEM exceeded the overall 2024 percentage score for the sector. For mental wellbeing UCEM's score of 91% far exceeded the benchmark (78.9%) and overall sector score (78.6%) and is an incredible accolade for the UCEM team who work so hard to support all our students. UCEM's

# UCEM update

positivity scores increased in several other areas compared to 2023 and, overall, this reflects UCEM's continued commitment to providing an excellent student experience. The results were reviewed in detail by Times Higher Education to determine the most satisfied students in England and for the first time ever UCEM was published in their rankings at 58 out of 149 Higher Education providers. This is fantastic recognition of the quality and excellence of our provision as a university that offers teaching, learning and support via wholly online provision. We will be further analysing the feedback to continue to inform and improve for the future.

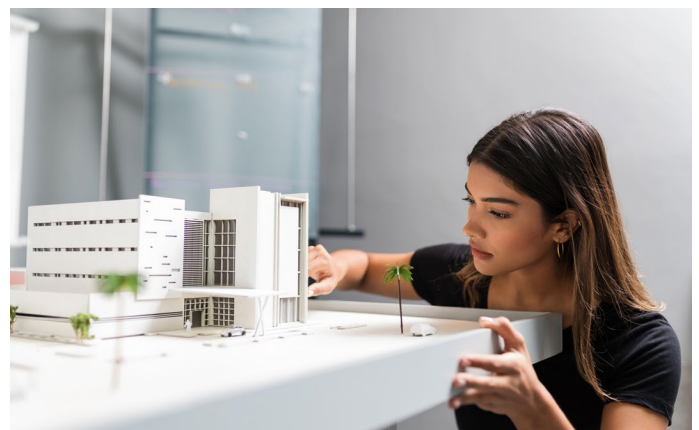
We are also proud to announce an important new accreditation for some of UCEM newest programmes. UCEM became an approved university partner of the **Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)** in July. This is a professional body for over 22,000 people working in the environment and sustainability worldwide. The accreditation is awarded to UCEM's MSc Innovation in Sustainable Built Environments and the new Level 7 Sustainability Business Specialist Apprenticeship, reflecting their strength and legitimacy in the market.

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## Institutional Update

Work to deliver our CX9 targets for the year has completed and new targets for 2024-25 have been established. We have maintained or enhanced our student module success rate improvements, successfully recruited and retained more students than plan and our financial performance has also exceeded plan - it has been an exceptional year overall, given the context of sector-wide challenges for many higher education institutions.

Our drive for **greater programme breadth and depth** has continued with eight different apprenticeship standards now being offered at UCEM. New undergraduate apprenticeship programmes were validated for delivery from September 2024 in Level 4 Construction Quantity Surveying, Level 4 Construction Design and Build Technician and Level 6 Construction Quantity Surveyor. Alongside this, five existing undergraduate apprenticeship programmes were revalidated for a further five years of delivery and UCEM has bid for Degree Apprenticeship Funding from the Office for Students to support further apprenticeship programme development.



# Sustainability

In sustainability news, UCEM held its inaugural Student Sustainability Committee meeting in July and its Climate and Social Action Week in late April, which featured an All Staff presentation by Maya's Refillables sustainable shopping solution and a National Trust talk amongst other activities developed by our Staff Sustainability Champions. We launched a UCEM Sustainability Learning Pathway for UCEM staff with our partner the Supply

Chain Sustainability School and we started our new **BE Sustainable podcast** – a series that seeks to bridge the knowledge gap between the concept and the application of sustainability with insightful discussions led by industry experts, navigating the critical and topical challenges within the Built Environment as part of realising our strategic aims and ambitions to be the world's most sustainable university.

# Board of Trustees

Finally, we have seen a high period of turnover and change on our Board of Trustees. We were very sad to say goodbye to Professor Kenny Miller in April after an incredible 9 years on our Board and Misa von Tunzelman who completed her 6-year term in July. Both have been incredible Trustees and advocates for UCEM in all it has achieved in recent years and will be sorely missed. We will continue to see further change through the remainder of the year, but the first two new appointments made were announced in June with Peter McCrea OBE and Nick Hughes appointed to the Board as Independent Trustees.



(Left to right) Professor Kenny Miller and Misa von Tunzelman leaving the UCEM Board of Trustees

We look forward to working with them through the next exciting chapter for UCEM.

# UCEM Sustainability Research Prize



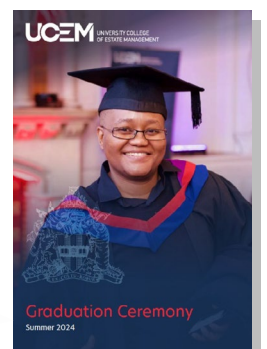
Ann Heywood, past Principal and UCEM Honorary Fellow, meeting Elaine York, Sustainability Research Prize winner, at Graduation summer 2024.

We would like to thank some of our Honorary Fellows, including Ann Heywood, Andreea Plant and Rolcor Property, for their generous contributions to our new UCEM Sustainability Research Prize.

By supporting our Sustainability Research Prize, sponsors have played a pivotal role in fostering a culture of sustainability, influencing not only our students but also the future of the built environment.

**Our dedicated JustGiving page**

Featured in the official UCEM graduation brochure



This summer we launched our new UCEM Sustainability Research Prize, which aims to recognise outstanding and collegiate contributions to sustainability research through our students' final-year projects and collaboration during their studies. The inaugural prizes were presented to Sophie Ollerton, Daniel Rowe, James Wheeler, and Elaine York at UCEM's July graduation.

# Meet the UCEM team



**Meryl Bonser**

Director of Business Development



Meryl heads up the Business Development Team at UCEM which is responsible for recruiting new students and apprentices to study with us. These students are from commercial firms, Government Departments and Agencies, housing associations and local authorities. The Business Development Team provides the information, advice and guidance that these clients require to ensure that their employees are on the correct programme, offering them the best chance of success. The Team also then maintains a close working relationship with their clients, ensuring that they receive the best possible experience of working with UCEM.

## What is your role for UCEM?

I am Director of Business Development at UCEM and lead all business-to-business interactions. My Team manages all of our accounts, from the multinationals to the small surveying firms. We act as the trusted intermediary between our clients and UCEM and are thus very well networked across the institution. We provide information, advice and guidance to employers that sponsor students and apprentices.

## How long have you worked for UCEM?

I have worked for UCEM for eleven years and have seen some major changes. When I started, we were on the Whiteknights Campus of the University of Reading, TDAP had just been achieved and we were starting the journey to full university status. We are now based in Reading and will soon have full University title.

## How did you come to be in this role and why did you join UCEM?

Having previously worked for Real Estate & Planning and Construction Management at The University of Reading, I knew of the College of Estate Management. It had a great reputation, and I knew a number of the Tutors as many worked closely with Reading faculty. I joined as Head of Marketing and moved to Business Development when the new role was created.

## What is your favourite part of your job and what motivates you every day?

The best part of my job is getting out and meeting people, existing clients and potential clients. I meet people from all types of firms, multinational real estate, government departments and agencies, investors, developers and thoroughly enjoy being able to assist them with their workforce planning. I love seeing students and apprentices from the start to the

# Meet the team



finish line. Hearing that someone I have helped has achieved their goal of becoming MRICS is wonderful.

What motivates me every day? Knowing that I can and do make a real difference to a young person's life.

**What is your greatest professional achievement at UCEM so far?**

The amazing success of the Business Development Team. We now deliver well over 60% of all new students, and the data proves that sponsored students and apprentices are UCEM's top achievers. We are central to UCEM's financial resilience and play a large part in increasing our influence in the market.

**What do you find challenging about your work?**

Every day is a challenge! Constantly changing funding rules for apprentices, employers who don't fully understand that an apprenticeship is not a degree with a bolt-on for APC, people who think we can find them an

apprenticeship! The list goes on. But if each day wasn't a challenge in some way, life would be very boring!

**What's one thing that has surprised you about working for UCEM?**

The incredible level of support given by colleagues when times are tough.

**What's next for you at UCEM?**

Onwards and upwards - new programmes that will offer new opportunities and new markets are essential and the Team will be expanded to harness the new opportunities available.

For me personally, I am in the final furlong of my career so I will be working hard to ensure that I have a robust succession plan in place that allows UCEM to continue to flourish in an increasingly difficult HE space.

**What three words sum up UCEM for you?**

Professional, supportive and trusted.

**Tell us a surprising or fun fact about you!**

I was on holiday from school in Nigeria when Paul McCartney and Wings were recording Band on the Run. Not only did I hear them recording, but I met Paul and Linda McCartney and have their autographs in my autograph book! Shows how old I am!



# UCEM Online

Catch up on these key stories and events if you missed them

Don't forget to visit the [Honorary Community webpage](#)



## Honorary Community Luncheon - 2 May 2024

We were delighted to see so many of you at the annual Honorary Community luncheon held at Ironmongers Hall in London on 2 May 2024. As ever, there was a vibrant mix of old and new members enjoying each other's company over fabulous food and drink, in a wonderful setting. Congratulations again to James Doyle, Andreea Plant and Rebecca Humphrey who were presented with their Associate Fellowship certificates and welcomed formally into our community. We hope you enjoyed it as much as us and look forward to seeing you all at the next occasion.



## INSPIRE event:

### Collaborative Futures: Competence, Capability & Capacity

UCEM held its fourth INSPIRE series conference on 17 July 2024 in London. This event brought together experts and leaders from across the built environment sector including the Construction Industry Council, the Construction Leadership Council, Technical Apprenticeships Consortium, Supply Chain Sustainability School and the Edge to share innovative strategies and best practices for educating and upskilling the sector's workforce to ensure competence, increase capacity and enhance capability. With these events, UCEM is establishing itself right at the heart of the important topics of debate and influence with a multitude of key stakeholders across the built environment, [find out more](#).



## Nominating for Honorary/Associate Fellowships

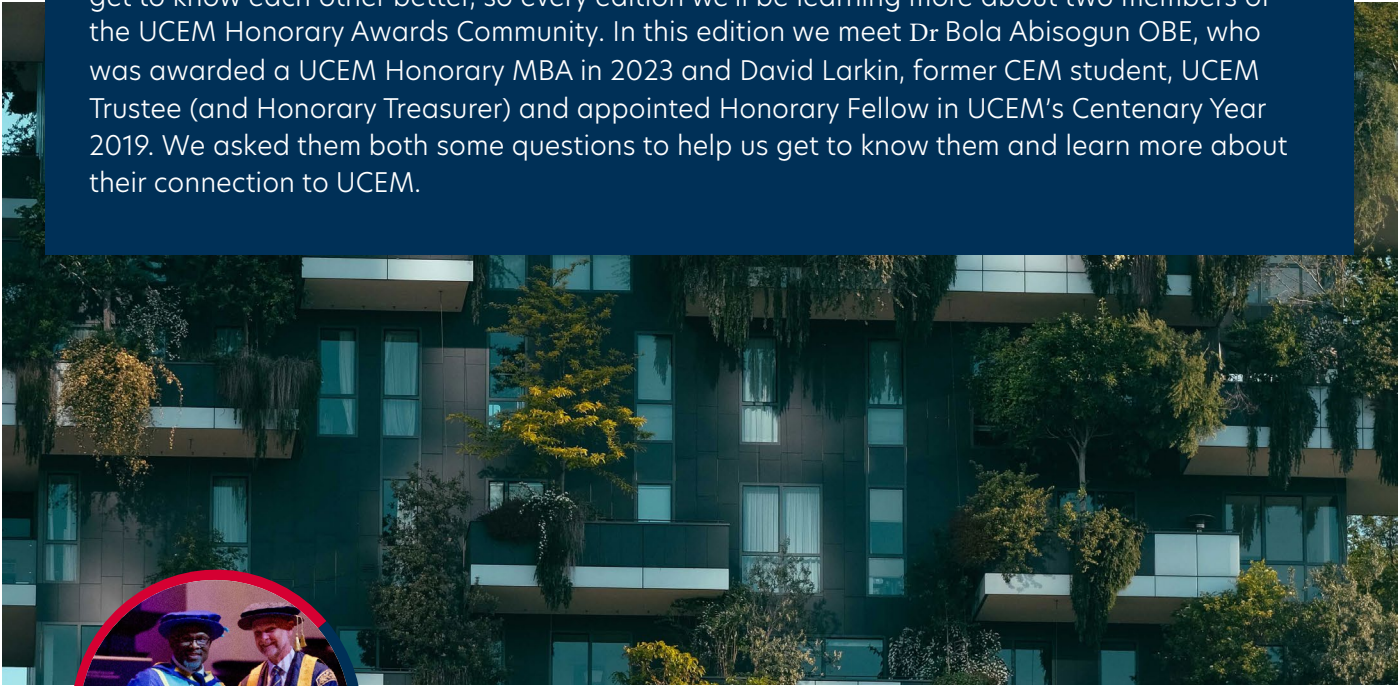
The annual nominations window for 2024 for Honorary or Associate Fellows is open from 15 July to **Friday 6 September 2024**. You are invited to nominate anyone who meets the criteria using the information and [form available](#). Please send your completed forms to [nominations@ucem.ac.uk](mailto:nominations@ucem.ac.uk) Nominations received will be considered by the UCEM Nominations and Governance Committee in October 2024 and confirmed by the Board in late 2024.

For other news articles from UCEM see [whats-happening/news](#)

For other interesting and thought provoking articles on built environment themes, such as smart buildings and biophilic architecture, see our [content corner](#).

# The Honorary Awards Community

It is important to UCEM to grow the community of Honorary Award recipients and help you get to know each other better, so every edition we'll be learning more about two members of the UCEM Honorary Awards Community. In this edition we meet Dr Bola Abisogun OBE, who was awarded a UCEM Honorary MBA in 2023 and David Larkin, former CEM student, UCEM Trustee (and Honorary Treasurer) and appointed Honorary Fellow in UCEM's Centenary Year 2019. We asked them both some questions to help us get to know them and learn more about their connection to UCEM.



## Dr Bola Abisogun OBE

### How were you connected to UCEM?

For many years I was a simple admirer of UCEM, very early on in my career, during the mid-1990's, choosing to make good use of the CEM-CPD products, which during my APC preparation, were issued and returned via post! In many ways I became a fan of the CEM, as presented within and across the Surveying profession. Naturally, and through my work at DiverseCity Surveyors, I built up an amazing network of significant individuals and by association was invited then to join the UCEM Widening Participation Group,

chaired by Jane Fawkes. That effort introduced me to a former member of UCEM staff and fellow Surveyor, Nicola Bulteel MRICS, who in turn inspired me to proffer up the idea for a DCS Mentoring Initiative, which is currently led by Board Member and fellow UCEM alumni, Karen Ching MRICS. Now in our third year, the initiative aims to support the 'non-traditional' talent pool to engage with culturally competent mentors drawn from across the Surveying profession. God willing, 2024 will be the first year that establishes our reach into Sub-Saharan Africa. **[UCEM mentoring scheme](#)** and **['UCEM and DCS join forces with appointment of new Board Member'](#)**. I was awarded an Honorary MBA of UCEM in 2023.

### What are you doing now?

I graduated in July 1994 and qualified as a Chartered Quantity Surveyor in December 1999, starting my own small practice in November 2000. I

became disillusioned by the lack of technology in the QS profession and moved into Construction Management in 2003 where I blended my PQS and CM knowledge for over 15years, delivering projects across the public sector. Shortly after the Grenfell Tower tragedy in 2017, my small business was 'completely wiped out' after Carillion went bust in January 2018, at which point I turned my back on contracting and focused on my passion for using technology in the construction process. That journey led me to an invitation from the Executive Team at the Centre for Digital Built Britain [a joint venture between the University of Cambridge and Government department BEIS (now the Department for Business and Trade). With a focus on the Grenfell Tower tragedy, I spent 32months at CDBBB, developing my 'use-case' for digital twins in Social Housing, concluding my work in March 2022. Today, I have a new 'global' ambition, delivered through

# The Honorary Awards Community

my 'not-for-profit' Digital Twin Skills Academy (DTSA); to upskill the sector, disrupt existing business models and workflows, and ensure that we avoid any possibility of another Grenfell disaster, by delivering the 'Golden Thread' of Information Management using digital twins.

## What's the biggest challenge you faced in your career?

If I'm honest, the biggest challenge that I have faced as a Black professional, is being penalised, by some of my peers for 'striving for excellence' and being exceptional in what I do. In many ways, I found out after many years of trying, that being good is simply not enough, and in the absence of much of that 'social capital' I had to go and find my feet, on my own, mostly learning from my peers across the Atlantic in North America. In fact, the ease upon which it was to become a 'Black' success story in North America, became wholly apparent, following my very first 'business trip' to Atlanta, Georgia during August 2000 - where I was introduced to their 'affirmative action' procurement policy.

## What is your greatest professional achievement so far?

There have so many moments in my career, from securing a Double First Class, with Honours in 1994, to getting professionally qualified in December 1999, to being invited to chair so many government led initiatives during 2000-2018, to receiving my OBE in December 2018, and just last year being the first Black man to receive an Honorary Doctor of the University (DUniv) from London South Bank University and then receiving, just two (2) weeks later, an Honorary MBA from UCEM! However, even with all

of that public accolade and personal achievement, the most humbling and significant 'professional' achievement was listening to the testimonies from a group of ten (10) young Black men, all living in Hackney, East London and hailing from the same neighbourhood that I grew up in - on the back of a 6-day all expenses paid trip to Atlanta, GA that I had commissioned back in March 2016. My intention was to show them all that 'the world was bigger than Hackney' and I wanted them to retrace the 'documented' steps that I had taken, early on in my own career as an aspiring Entrepreneur during the year 2000 and introduce them to some of the influential connection that I had made over a period of a quarter of a century.

## What is your best memory of UCEM?

Well, this one is easy, saying a few words, on the day of my Graduation, which took place on the 1st December 2023.

## What three words sum up UCEM for you?

Pride, Prestige and Innovative. **Pride** because that is how I felt on receiving my framed Certificate, with UCEM emblazoned across it. **Prestige** because that is what the UCEM brand oozes and commands. **Innovative**, because the natural business model of UCEM, regarding their online offer, has since become the norm in a post-COVID environ. Long may the quest for innovation continue, more so as we move into an AI-infused learning environment.

## If you could have done any other job for just one day what would it have been?

An F1 Racing Driver, I absolute love fast cars and have always been something of a petrol head!

## If you could meet anyone in the world, dead or alive who would it be and why?

My three-times great Grandfather Mohammed Shitta-Bey, who was a hugely successful trader, and Entrepreneur. He was a prominent Nigerian Muslim businessman, aristocrat and philanthropist who was involved in commerce across Lagos and the Niger-Delta region. Prior to his death in July 1895, he was known to be one of the founding fathers of legitimate commerce in precolonial Nigeria; and the most prominent and wealthiest Muslim trader in West Africa. I would love to talk to him about my career and digital twins in construction!

## What is the first thing you would buy if you won the lottery?

Well, assuming I won the jackpot and a few million, I would look to buy a plot of land and establish my very first Digital Twin Skills Academy on the continent of Africa; gifting the entire development to my Mother!

# The Honorary Awards Community



**David Larkin**



## How are you connected to UCEM?

This is potentially a long story – the short answer is that I went from school to be a student at the College when it was located in St Alban's Grove London W8.

The long answer goes back to my school days and when I was looking for a career. I was interested in architecture but concluded my artistic talents were limited (definitely correct) and thought (probably wrongly) that my weakness in mathematics would be a problem. Just at this time Professor Colin Buchanan published *Traffic in Towns* which enthused me to think of a career in town planning. That led to the realisation that this was quite a small profession at that time and perhaps being a Chartered Surveyor with a specialisation in planning might be a better solution. From that I looked at potential places to study as I concluded that a period of studying which achieved a professional qualification at its end was better than working and taking a correspondence course in my spare time! From there it was a short step to obtaining a place at CEM in September 1966 and the delights of living in South Kensington as a student on a generous grant from the State.

In my later career I had considerable exposure to CEM as my firm established a Travelling Scholarship awarded each year in a joint exercise with CEM and I had the privilege of working with the Principal at the time, which was initially Peter Huntsman and then Peter Goodacre. When I retired I was honoured to be invited to be a Trustee and served for some 12 years, finally concluding as Honorary Treasurer.

## What are you doing now?

The flippant answer is not much! I enjoy travelling and seeing places outside of the business world I saw so much of in previous years. The pursuit of good food and wine is on that agenda but most of all I like to meet the people and try to understand the dynamics and issues of where we visit. I enjoy being able to use my professional skills and sit on the RNLI's Property Committee helping the team with the complicated issues of running some 500 assets including 238 Lifeboat Stations, factories warehouses, shops and more. I also sit on the Local Management Group of the Station where I live in North Norfolk.

## What's the biggest challenge you faced in your career?

I have been fortunate to have had a very varied career focusing on many different aspects of being a general practice surveyor including estate agency, asset management, valuation and investment – but not much on my initial interest in planning! I was also involved in the management of my firm, sitting on the Finance Committee, Chairman of the firm's pension fund Trustee Company and deeply involved in the firm's global professional indemnity insurance programme. I also was involved with the RICS at a branch level and sat on General Council as well as Chairman of LionHeart, the RICS Benevolent Fund.

## What is your greatest professional achievement so far?

Some might say it was never being sued for negligence! Although that is true, I look back on the relationships, and indeed genuine friendships, established with many of the industry's leading players – including developers, investors owners and advisors – and the trust that was earned and respect achieved from the contribution made. Yes, there

# The Honorary Awards Community



were some really memorable big tasks and deals and the solving of some very tricky problems but most of the time it was the involvement of a truly competent team which I had the good fortune to lead. My motto was no-one is perfect but a team might just be.

## What is your best memory of UCEM?

When I was first a CEM student we thought of ourselves as being part of London University. When the College moved to Reading the students similarly thought of themselves as being part of Reading University [UoR]. Whilst this in part is right, the real core of these relationships was that the University concerned had the principle responsibility of awarding the degree we all strived for. This is the prelude to my best memories.

When the time came for UCEM and UoR to separate a new home for UCEM was required and I was deeply involved in the search and acquisition and then the works of improvement to create the new home to UCEM. I like to think I had a pivotal role in choosing the name of the new building - at a Trustee meeting the results of an internal competition were tabled and discussed: one was Horizons House and I suggested

simplifying this to Horizons which I am delighted found universal accord.

Of much more importance was that the works were completed on an incredibly tight timetable and on budget enabling the move to be undertaken by the date required. Well done everyone!

## What three words sum up UCEM for you?

This is another challenge as the scope is so wide. I venture to suggest the following:

**RESPECT** - I regard UCEM as the best provider of real estate education on a global scale - particularly in the area of distance learning.

**LEADERSHIP** - I believe UCEM has been the learning ground for many of the real estate industry's experts and leaders and sets the standards others abide by.

**CAMERADERIE** - The friends and relationships I have with the past and present staff and other students across many years are a core part of my working life.

## If you could have done any other job for just one day what would it have been?

I have always had the good fortune to enjoy my job and been more than happy to get up and go to work! Many of my suggestions are just an experience - like driving a vintage Bentley at Le Mans or driving the Flying Scotsman train from London to Edinburgh or crewing a winning British yacht in the Americas Cup. I think having a 'job' requires delivering a result or an achievement and a day is never long enough! However I could be tempted to be in a position where I could make a lasting change for the better.....

## If you could meet anyone in the world, dead or alive who would it be and why?

Another difficult question - is it someone I completely respect and admire, a hero on the world stage or is it someone in the humblest of positions like the most junior groundsman at Lords?

My thoughts range from William the Conqueror to Winston Churchill to Tim Peake and even Richard Branson, but my final answer is my maternal grandfather who sadly died just before I was born. He was an eminent doctor in his day and made a major contribution to the empowerment of nurses, and to areas of public health in the inter-war period. He loved fast cars but above all was, by all accounts, a really loved person right across society of all ages.

## What is the first thing you would buy if you won the lottery?

I suspect this would not be a purchase but a gift - perhaps a lifeboat for the RNLI? I would also be keen to help charities and educational institutions connected with real estate and particularly help those from less fortunate backgrounds find a career in the real estate world I have enjoyed so much.

Obviously, I would help my children and grandchildren and then perhaps get to own that vintage Bentley!

# Forthcoming occasions and events



## Property Award 2024

Thursday 10 October 2024

Institute of Directors in Central London

Formal invitations were issued to you all in June – please RSVP to [chair@ucem.ac.uk](mailto:chair@ucem.ac.uk).



## Graduation

30 and 31 January 2025

Town Hall Reading



Save the date

## Honorary Community Luncheon 2025

8 May 2025

Ironmongers Hall, London

save the date now, invites to follow in January!

Follow UCEM @studyUCEM

If you have any suggestions for the UCEM Honorary Community newsletter, or would like to contribute please email Lyndsay Hughes at [l.hughes@ucem.ac.uk](mailto:l.hughes@ucem.ac.uk).