



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING AND
PHYSICAL SCIENCES

EPS 
Societies'
Awards 2018

Other icons in the background include: a harp, a glowing cube, the equation $Ax=Bx$, a circuit board, a hand holding a hexagonal molecule, a gear, a beaker, a DNA helix, and a binary code block.

```
100010101  
10100110101  
11101111010 00  
00010110010010  
1001000010001
```

Welcome to the EPS Societies' Awards 2018

I am delighted to welcome you to the fifth annual EPS Societies' Awards where our fantastic student societies and their members are recognised and celebrated.

The College of Engineering and Physical Sciences has a strong tradition of outstanding educational success among its students. We now have an astonishing 29 societies and I am proud of the continued triumphs of their members during this academic year.

All of our societies are at the very heart of the College. These Awards are a reminder of the hard work and dedication of society committees and members alike to make the University a better, more vibrant place to study and play. As we look back on the academic year, it is clear to see that our societies have a vital role within our student body.

From public astronomy events to developing robotics, sustainable engineering to drones, journalism to diversity, our societies do astonishing work not just in academia but also to promote career opportunities, industrial visits, outreach and, of course, social events. This year, we have welcomed four new societies to our community: UB Eco Racing, who are building a car that will run on minimal fuel; Cameroon Catalyst, who will facilitate sustainable development in rural villages; UBeRacing, who are designing a single-seater electric car; and RailSoc, for those with an aspirational or casual interest in railways.

I am very pleased to report there have been 741 nominations received for the EPS Societies' Awards from students, staff, alumni, friends and even local school teachers. I would like to congratulate all those nominated, and especially those shortlisted for these awards. Within this brochure, you will find an overview of all tonight's stars and their achievements.

We would not be able to celebrate such accomplishments without the hard work of those who have made tonight's event possible. Please join me in thanking our judges for selecting tonight's winners, our organising committee for their hard work, our host and our sponsors for their support and interest in our students. I would also like to add my thanks to Grace Surman without whose efforts and dedication much of what we celebrate today would be diminished. Finally, thank you also to everyone who took the time to recognise outstanding achievements by nominating a student or society to let them know that they make a real difference at the University.

I hope you have a wonderful evening.

With best wishes

Professor Andy Schofield

Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College,
Engineering and Physical Sciences



Programme

Welcome address
Outstanding Event Award
Volunteer of the Year
Diversity and Inclusion Award
Outreach Award

Starter

EPS Trophy
Sports Personality of the Year
Sports Team of the Year 2017/18
Member of the Year

Main course

Industrial Award
EPS Community Award
Inspirational Committee Member
Role Model of the Year
Staff Member of the Year

Dessert

Head of College Idea of the Year
Great Achievement in EPS Award
Society of the Year 2017/18

Performance by
Ayrton Jimenez-Aldridge

The EPS Community

Your network for life

Your EPS Community is a network of alumni, students, staff, industrial partners and friends from the seven schools that make up the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences.

Part of
THE EPS COMMUNITY

When you join us as a new student, you automatically become a member of our 75,000+ strong community. We believe the relationship you have with the University should last a lifetime, from the moment you walk through our doors.

Whether you're in your first year with us, getting stuck in with your society, stepping up to lead your committee or due to graduate, you all have and continue to hold a key place in the EPS Community – a community that simply wouldn't exist without you!

In the College, we'll help you build your network by introducing you to alumni and industrial contacts to share their expertise with you to help you and your society grow. We also want your friendships, relationships with staff and affection towards the University to continue long after you've donned your cap and gown.

Get involved

As part of the EPS Community you'll be able to access a whole host of information, including the latest announcements from your College societies, career and volunteering opportunities, and invitations to events across the College such as our Distinguished, Inaugural and Christmas Lectures. We could even help you find a mentor, locate alumni to speak at your events or promote your activities across the University.

It doesn't end when you leave

Wherever you are and whatever you're doing, the EPS Community is here to support you long after you graduate, as well as encourage you to give back to the University in any way you can. We hope you will return to campus to speak about your time here and what you've achieved in your career, volunteer to continue your ambassadorial work on open days, offer your time to a student as a mentor, or share your Birmingham story. You could provide invaluable help to our future students.

To get involved visit our website:
www.birmingham.ac.uk/eps-community



Email us: eps-community@contacts.bham.ac.uk



Follow us on Twitter @eps_unibham



or Instagram @myepslife

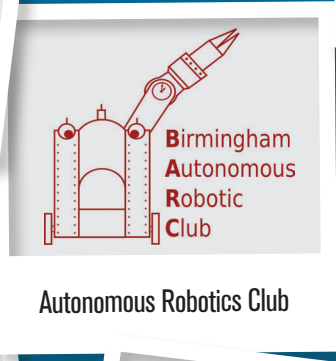
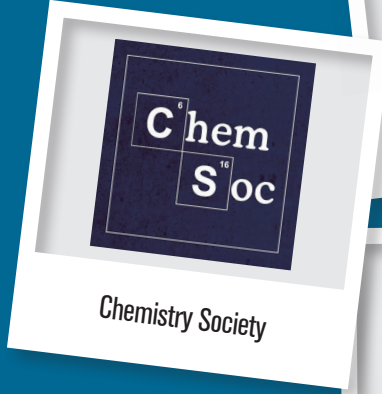
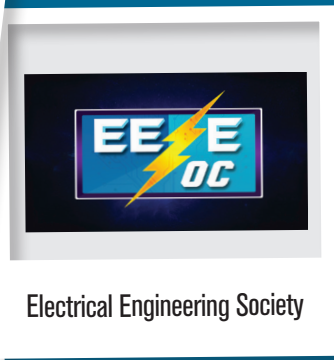


Join us on LinkedIn: www.tinyurl.com/epslinkedin



Our Societies

Our active and successful student societies form an integral part of our community; providing an avenue for students to interact with one another, supplement their studies and engage with alumni and industrial contacts.





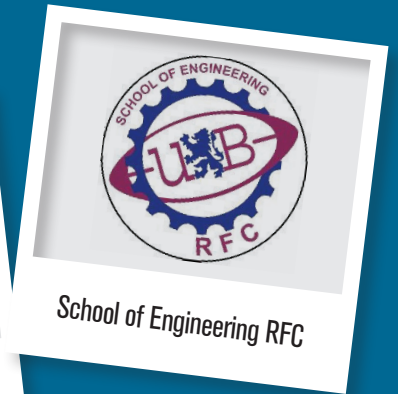
Engineers Without Borders



Engineering Eagles Hockey



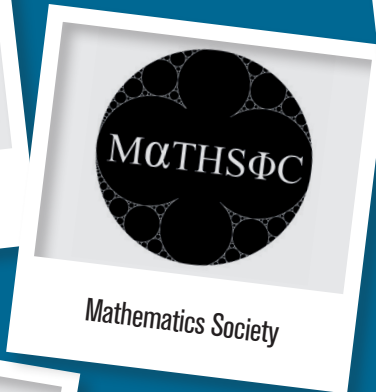
Women in Science and Engineering



School of Engineering RFC



Materials Society



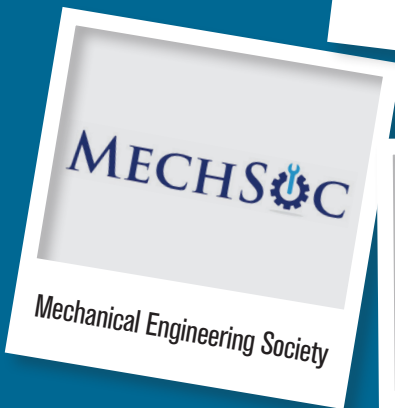
Mathematics Society



Cameroon Catalyst



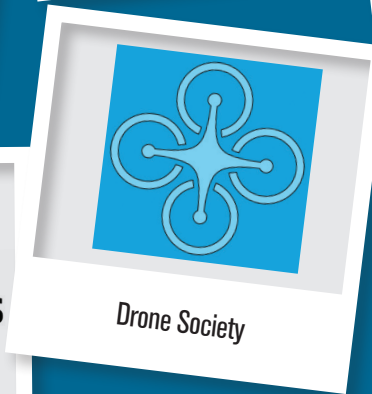
Mixed Netball



Mechanical Engineering Society



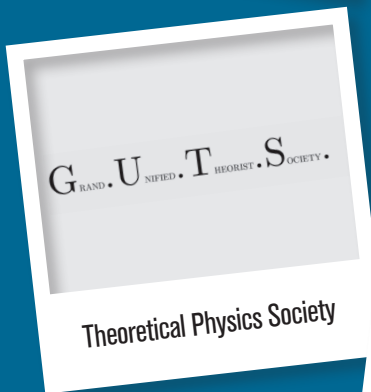
UBRobotics



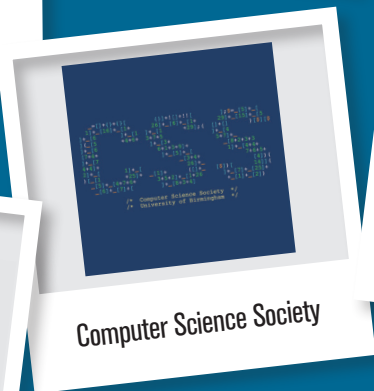
Drone Society



UB Eco Racing



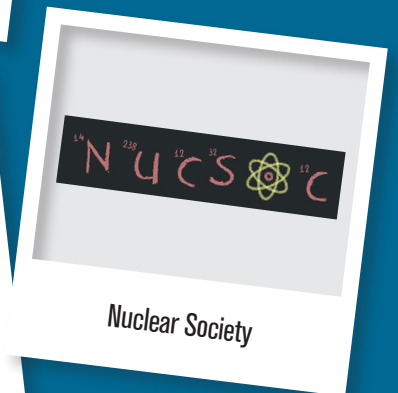
Theoretical Physics Society



Computer Science Society



Civil Engineering Society



Nuclear Society

To find out more about the EPS Societies, read their latest news and to join, please visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/eps-societies

In search of support?

Your Wellbeing Officers offer a bespoke and confidential advice and support service to suit your needs.

Come in and see us today in Gisbert Kapp N111 or contact your Wellbeing Officer via their email address to find out more including their drop in hours or to book an appointment.



MIA WRIGHT

Schools of Chemistry
and Computer Science

cswelfare@contacts.bham.ac.uk
chemwelfare@contacts.bham.ac.uk



AMINUR RAHMAN

Schools of Chemical Engineering
and Metallurgy and Materials

metmatwellbeing@contacts.bham.ac.uk
chemengwellbeing@contacts.bham.ac.uk



NATALIE JORDAN

Schools of Mathematics
and Physics and Astronomy

mathswelfare@contacts.bham.ac.uk
physicswelfare@contacts.bham.ac.uk



JACK CARTER

School of Engineering

engineeringwelfare@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Need cash to develop your idea?

Bid for up to £2,000 from funds donated by UoB graduates and make your idea a reality!

'Hands Up funding laid the building blocks for the EPS Trophy, the first multidisciplinary sports competition for our College and our societies. The funding was invaluable to launch the new tournament and provided essential support for facilities, awards and a spectator experience on the day. Alumni funding has helped us launch a great new phenomenon for the College, which is now set to become a tradition for years to come. Thank you!'

EPS TROPHY TEAM, Hands Up recipient 2017



Returning September 2018

'UBRobotics and Hands Up have had a strong relationship since the Club's founding 4 years ago. Over that time the Fund has made countless projects possible, enhancing student experiences within the Club, bringing ideas to life and allowing us to represent the University on an international stage.'

'As a biology student UBRobotics, thanks to Hands Up funding, has allowed me to learn coding and experience a range of different platforms; something I wouldn't have been able to do on my course alone. Being able to code has helped me in my studies and opened me up to a new hobby!'

JAKE

It has been incredibly exciting seeing what our members have learned, experimented and discovered over the course of this year and we hope this becomes something we can continue to offer in the future.'

UBROBOTICS, Hands Up recipients 2015, 2016 and 2017



@birminghamalum

www.birmingham.ac.uk/handsup

Our Host

JANE SIMPSON

Head of Capital Delivery for Treatment Works, Severn Trent Water
University of Birmingham alumna: MPhil Electronic and Electrical Engineering, 1995

Jane was appointed Head of Capital Delivery for treatment works infrastructure at Severn Trent Water in July 2016. She leads the £1.5 billion major infrastructure capital works programme, which consists of major civil, electrical, mechanical, hydrology, system and control engineering projects for waste and treated water, as well as energy harvesting.

Prior to joining Severn Trent Water, Jane was Chief Engineer at Network Rail. Jane joined British Rail as a graduate entrant in 1996, the year of its privatisation. After joining one of the infrastructure maintenance companies and becoming the first female Overhead Line Engineer, she then worked at Marconi

Communications before returning to Network Rail in 2004. In 2011, she was appointed Engineering Director for London North Western Route with responsibility for 200+ engineering specialists; accountable for over 550 stations and 4,500 miles of railway infrastructure on the West Coast Main Line, the route's five-year strategic business plan and a budget in excess of £5 billion.

Jane left school at 16 as an apprentice and graduated with a first-class honours degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Coventry University in 1993. She studied an MPhil in Electronic and Electrical Engineering at the University of Birmingham, graduating



in 1995, and held a postgraduate placement at the University of Cambridge.

Jane's passion lies in supporting others to realise their potential and she strives to increase the number of women within engineering. In May 2016, Jane was nominated into the top 20 inspirational women in rail, followed in July 2016 by her inclusion in the Daily Telegraph's top 50 women in engineering and in 2017 was in the Financial Times' and Cranwell's 100 women to watch.

Our Charity

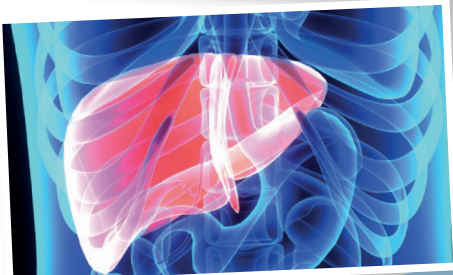
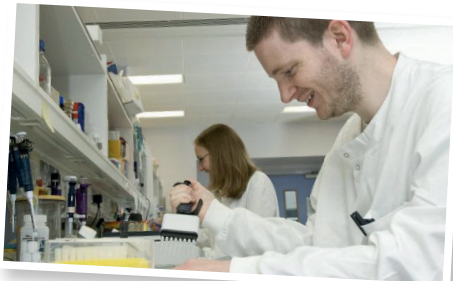
Each year, we support one of the University's life-changing medical research projects through a raffle held on Awards night. We see this as our way of giving back and hopefully making a positive difference to someone's life. To date, we have raised £3,500 for these worthy causes. This year we are supporting Transplant Research.

With 7,000 people currently on the UK transplant list but only 4,000 donations per year, raising awareness of transplant science has never been more important.

As the largest solid organ transplant centre in Europe, with a long history of excellence, and internationally renowned liver, renal, cardiac, lung and bone-marrow transplant teams, Birmingham is uniquely placed to address these challenges at an unrivalled scale and pace.

Your support will help bring together academics and clinical partners to raise awareness of this research and develop new treatments. By enabling this increasingly multidisciplinary collaborative approach, this group will help answer the key questions in transplantation research.

While it remains true that 1,300 people per year will either become too sick to receive a transplant or die due to the shortage of available organs, there are 50,000 people alive in the UK because of advances in transplantation in the last 30 years. Your support could break down barriers, allowing countless more to lead full, illness-free lives.



'It is wonderful that our own students are taking such an active interest in this area. It is thanks to the passionate support of people just like you that Birmingham continues to be at the forefront of advances in transplantation research. Our research allows us to save the lives of patients not only in Birmingham but throughout the world as our innovations are taken up by others. Thank you to all who will generously support Transplant Research at the University of Birmingham through tonight's raffle.'

PROFESSOR DAVID ADAMS
Professor of Hepatology,
Dean of Medicine and Pro-Vice-Chancellor
College of Medical and Dental Sciences

Our staff Thank you!

Many of our societies' activities would not be possible without the unending support of members of staff across the College. Their enthusiasm, organisation and dedication are set deep into the hearts of our student groups and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for everything they have done throughout the year. From all of the EPS society members, thank you!

While there are many staff across the College who work closely with our student groups, the societies themselves would like to give particular thanks to:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Simon Goodwin | Lee Gauntlett |
| Jon Preece | Ellie Mestel |
| Paul Flavell | Luke Rochford |
| Mark Laver | Andy Ingram |
| Jose Herreros | Thanos Tsolakis |
| Phil Robbins | Alison Davenport |
| Nadine Taylor | Amaury Triaud |
| Duncan Shepherd | Zoe Pikramenou |
| Paul Norman | Peter Gardner |
| David Leppinen | Tzany Kokalova-Wheldon |
| Andrew Howes | Philip Atkins |
| Jack Garrod | Neil Rowson |
| Shakria Begum | Peter Thornton |
| Christopher Berry | Ray Jones |
| Felix Scmitt | Clive Roberts |
| Dirk Hermans | Mark Read |
| Mark Sterling | Stephen Kukureka |



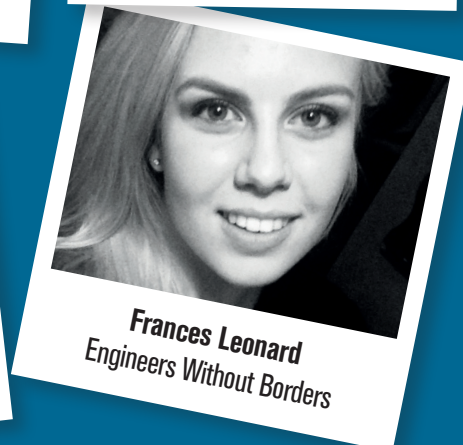
Staff Member of the Year

New for 2018, this Award recognises the member of staff who has gone above and beyond in their commitment to one or more society, making an outstanding contribution to the committee and its members throughout the year. Congratulations to our first Staff Member of the Year nominees:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Sally Schofield | Richard Hood |
| Steve Quigley | Martin Freer |
| Sophie Cox | Jenny Illingsworth |
| Alessandro Mottura | Grace Surman |
| Peggy Vazoura | Mark Lee |
| Rob Smith | Karl Dearn |
| Mark Wager | Sharon Jones |
| Pietro Tricoli | |

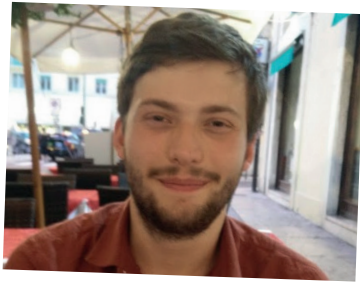
Our Members of the Year

We know every society has members outside of their organising committees who go above and beyond to help. This Award thanks and recognises those whose ongoing commitment throughout the academic year has been outstanding and has most definitely not gone unnoticed by their committee. With a positive attitude throughout, they have participated in many, if not all, gatherings and activities. Their proactivity and willingness to get stuck in cannot be faulted. This year we invited our committees to celebrate their most enthusiastic members and officially name them 'Member of the Year'.





Elliott Upton
CSS



David Berrisford
UBRobotics



Liam Skop
Games Development Society



Joseph Chamberlain
MechSoc



Joshua Swanbrow
NucSoc



Roshni Patel
EESE Soc



Sam Holdsworth
BUMS: Birmingham University
Materials Society



Cosmo Graham
CivSoc



Jonathan Wise
SATNAV: Science and Technology
News and Views



Rachel Oboh
WISE: Women in Science
and Engineering



Daniel Rhymer
BUCES: Birmingham University
Chemical Engineering Society



Cetengfei 'Arthur' Zhang
UBRacing



Robert Taylor
School of Engineering RFC

Outstanding Event Award

This Award recognises those individuals or societies who have shown creativity, initiative and innovation to deliver an exceptional new event or trip for their members.



1Up Jam: Games Development Society

The Games Development Society hosted a 48-Hour Charity Game Jam over 9–11 June 2017. A game jam is a challenge where participants have a limited amount of time to make a videogame based on a given theme. Game jams give participants an opportunity for creative problem-solving rarely found in University modules, due to the vast array of possibilities, as well as having something to show at the end of it. 1Up Jam was a true game making marathon with both members and non-members, undergraduates and postgraduates from all years of study taking part to build games on the theme 'Not Human'. Participants were encouraged to obtain sponsorship for undertaking the challenge and as a result, the Jam raised more than £500 for

Cancer Research UK. Not only was the event a massive success for the Society, with at least 25 attendees working in teams to produce four games, it paved the way for multiple smaller game jams throughout the academic year. These were attended by a smaller but even more diverse crowd, attracting students from across the College and not just from their home School of Computer Science. Bringing together students from across year boundaries, benefiting their skills and employability whilst at the same time raising hundreds of pounds for charity and leading to even more inclusive game jams in the future, all made 1Up Jam 2017 a truly amazing event!



British Science Week: Exploration and Discovery in Space: AstroSoc

In March, AstroSoc designed a brand-new workshop as part of British Science Week. Over 120 11- to 13-year-olds from local schools Bordesley Green Girls, Saint Paul's School for Girls, Foxford and The Royal School Wolverhampton participated in an afternoon of astronomical exploration and discovery. Workshops included 'Telescopes: A Window to the Cosmos', a brief introduction to telescopes and astronomy; the strange behaviour of our neighbouring planets in 'A Tour of the Solar System'; controlling a Mars rover in 'Exploration Mars: Choose Your Own Adventure'; and learnt about 'The Sun: Our Closest Star'. Also included in the programme was the Society's new modern constellations, which were designed before Christmas and had just gained the attention of news outlets throughout the country. AstroSoc made sure all pupils had a lasting memory

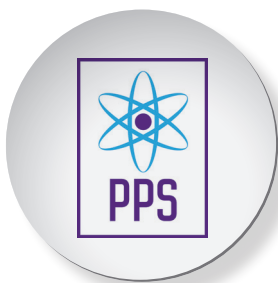
of the day by designing certificates and stickers as souvenirs from each workshop. Each of their committee and volunteers put great effort into the event, despite fighting busy end of term schedules, deadlines, dissertations and the flu. They successfully prepared talks, created timetables, designed materials and liaised with the Guild regarding risk assessment and training procedures. Feedback from pupils and teachers alike has been overwhelmingly positive, with many asking for resources to take back to their schools to share with other classes. This will no doubt become a regular feature in AstroSoc's calendar, with teachers already asking when they can book again! It proved an incredible opportunity for AstroSoc members to inspire a new generation to take an interest in astronomy.



The EPS Trophy: EPS Trophy Team

In February, for the first time, all 29 EPS societies had the chance to face off in a one-day, multidisciplinary sports tournament celebrating our College's student sporting best. The EPS Trophy was the first event of its kind, seeing teams from 12 societies compete for sporting glory. More than 200 participants and spectators took part and the day was highly successful in bringing students in the College together in the name of sport and friendly competition. The tournament featured a full day of football and netball, as well as activities for spectators and charitable competitions, including a wheelbarrow race, which raised more than £100 for worthy causes. The organising team, led by Zak Viney and Belinda Rich, formed in April 2017 and saw members from BUMS, MathSoc, PPS and many more successfully collaborate to design this

groundbreaking competition. They planned meticulously for almost a year, successfully bid for money from the alumni Hands Up fund and even doubled their application amount by winning a public vote for their video campaign, which went viral on campus! They also received support from Unilever Careers and had a careers aspect to the day. Organising such a large and successful event takes serious commitment and time. From writing funding applications to on-the-day volunteer organisation, the whole team dedicated a huge amount of time to ensure the event was enjoyed by everyone involved. Many even commented that it was the 'best organised and executed [event] they had been part of during their time at university'!



Internship Fair: PPS: Poynting Physical Society

PPS this year designed an Internship Fair with the aim of matching physics students with placements and opportunities specific to their skills sets. Most importantly, it was organised by students, for students. The Fair was held at the start of the second semester, just as summer internship applications were opening, and consisted of a series of short talks, followed by a large networking session in the Physics West Library. There were invited speakers from SURE, Daresbury laboratory, the Ogden Trust and Teach First, as well as third- and fourth-year students sharing their own experiences of placements at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, NHS and Maple TA, and how they had gone about preparing for the application process and interviews. The range of opportunities on show made

sure those who wanted to go into education, government, industry, teaching or academia had a chance to find an internship, and it was a great networking opportunity to talk to representatives of these companies. Aiming to connect students and potential employers was a new challenge for the society and proved hugely successful thanks to the organisational talents of Lucy Millington and Ellen Butler. The event was informative and inspiring to students of all years looking to find direction for their future careers, and the businesses involved were impressed with the enthusiasm of those they spoke to. Feedback from attendees has been fantastic, and PPS is proud to say a good number of placements were secured as a result of the event.

Volunteer of the Year

This Award recognises those society members who have volunteered their time and expertise to help others, and have had a positive impact on their local community, society, school or University.



Alexandra Munro-Clark: Outreach Officer, WISE: Women in Science and Engineering

Alex first volunteered for WISE on their 'Girls in STEM' outreach scheme last year, and found it so rewarding she successfully ran as the Society's 2017/18 Outreach Officer. Her success was so great that she was recently elected as President! Her enthusiasm and passion for communicating science is infectious, and her ability to inspire the girls involved in the scheme makes her a fantastic and relatable role model. She has worked tirelessly to design new activities, train volunteers and build an extensive support network. To further support her initiatives, she has established links with the local STEMNET Hub and encouraged WISE members to attend networking sessions for women in science. She seeks outside expertise to inspire volunteers as much as possible, and organised

a College-wide outreach session featuring Dr Emily Grossman, a professional science communicator, who will now become a regular WISE speaker. When speaking about Alex's after-school clubs, one of the teachers she works with said: *'The environment in the room is always infectious and the girls always looked forward to their next session. Standing in a room with 30 expectant pairs of eyes on you can be scary, but Alex thrived and brought science to life each and every week. We already miss her very much but look forward to her and the rest of the WISE society joining us again next year. It is hard to convey just how much of an impact these sessions have on our students'*. She is a great representative of the University and a selfless volunteer.



Dáire Archbold: Charity Rep, BUCES: Birmingham University Chemical Engineering Society

Dáire puts her heart and soul into everything she does for BUCES. This year alone she has encouraged the society to raise over £3,500 for worthwhile causes; this is a record for BUCES and they are very proud of her efforts. She has gone above and beyond in organising creative events such as the Selly Oak Races and a sell-out pub quiz to raise money for Acorns Children's Hospice. Dáire also put together a team for the Birmingham Half Marathon. Despite being a self-confessed running novice she threw herself into training, determined to take part herself. The team saw lecturers, students and alumni running alongside each other for UK mental health charity Mind in memory of Mark, a chemical engineering alumnus who sadly

passed away last year. In addition to the time she dedicates to organising fundraising events, Dáire volunteers to show prospective students around the School of Chemical Engineering. She has also assisted outreach fellow Jon Wood in putting on a show at 'The Big Bang Fair', inspiring secondary school students to pursue careers in STEM. Dáire can, without fail, always be found in the Garner Learning Suite, with a warm and welcoming smile on her face; she would go out of her way to help anyone. Several of the BUCES team have said that she is one of the loveliest people they know, regularly helps her classmates when they're stuck with tutorials and is one of the most active and dedicated BUCES members.



Edward Berwick: Head of Chassis, UBRacing

Ed is a very hard working, intelligent and approachable student who has put in a remarkable amount of work this year to manufacture UBRacing's new monocoque. The process has involved several long days of travelling to EPM, the team's sponsor, who kindly allow us to use many of their services for our carbon fibre parts. He worked tirelessly to provide the team with a finished product before the exam season started, reducing the pressure on an already busy period. Ed has also spent a lot of time sharing his skills with newer UBRacing members to transfer a lot of the knowledge he has attained over his three years with

the team in order for us to prosper in future years. With Ed going on a placement for the next 12 months, he has still offered to travel back to the UBRacing lab and help his protégée when working on the next monocoque. He is always willing to get new members learning and stuck in with everything that needs to be done. Alongside all this, he can usually be found on Open Days offering a helping hand to set up and show prospective students around. As a funny, reputable and hardworking man, he is a great person to have in the UBRacing team!



Matthew Teller: Co-Founder and President, RailSoc

Matthew was only a few days into his degree when he and a group of new-found friends founded RailSoc after quickly learning the University didn't have a society for those with an aspirational, academic or casual interest in railways. He co-ordinated the group quickly to ensure they had a presence at the EPS Societies Fair less than a week later and the rest is history! Since then he has voluntarily provided event invitations and reports for the society's College website, telling prospective members what the new society has been up to. Just a few short months later he was invited to get involved in a series of society promotional films that a member of the Marketing Team was creating. Matthew was one of the first

society reps to respond to the email and on behalf of RailSoc he enthusiastically embraced the opportunity with both hands. Filming was planned for a few weeks later but Matthew proactively suggested that as they were visiting the Cross Country offices just a couple of days later, he could use his own camera equipment to make sure they didn't miss out on recording their trip. He came back twice more to borrow filming equipment from Creative Media (most societies only used the camera once!) and captured some really interesting footage from RailSoc trips and events that made for a great video that will hopefully encourage more students to join the Society in future years.



Sam Davies: Volunteering Officer, MathSoc

Sam has worked hard to significantly expand MathSoc's volunteering schemes. His biggest achievement has been tripling the already successful MathSoc Tutoring Scheme, with now more than 80 volunteers working with local GCSE students. To ensure the Scheme is continually improving he has used his own experience as a tutor, and seeks feedback from teachers and pupils. For example, he made sure worksheets and detailed solutions were available for all volunteers so that they could feel confident in their tutoring. He has also helped PPS and ChemSoc start their own tutoring schemes for their respective subjects. Sam also took on the tough task of organising MathSoc's Family Scheme, making it bigger than ever with over 200 students being guided through their first year of university by those

from higher years. Families held events throughout the year to ease the transition from sixth form to university, including campus tours, quizzes and a trip to the German Christmas Market. He is now starting the exciting challenge of starting Family Schemes in other departmental societies. In terms of charitable activity, Sam collaborated with PsychoSoc to make the MathSoc Big Charity Pub Quiz bigger than ever and raised over £250. Despite the Coventry Half Marathon and a planned bucket shake being cancelled thanks to the 'Beast from the East', Sam was able to mobilise MathSoc to raise over £1,200 for Student Minds. He later organised a replacement fundraising run at the Birmingham 10k; a great example of how determined he is to see a job through.

Diversity and Inclusion Award

This Award recognises individuals or societies who reach out to every member of the University community, putting in extra effort to make sure that everyone is involved and represented.



CivSoc

Civil Engineering at Birmingham attracts a diverse range of students and this year CivSoc wanted to reach out to their international students to help them make the most of their time at university and embrace all the opportunities available to them. They did this by creating a new committee role of International Rep, who is responsible for reaching out to the Department's international community. The aim is to advertise CivSoc events to encourage participation, as well as finding out what international members were interested in doing and ensuring they feel part of the CivSoc family. This resulted in an increased level of turnout from the Department's international community to events such as the Rush trampoline park social,

Christmas dinner, Ghetto Golf and lots more. CivSoc is very proud to have created and appointed to this new position. Having seen its success, they were lucky enough to have several students apply for the position for next year's committee and are looking forward to growing the diverse range of opportunities available to their members, as well as making international connections. CivSoc always aims to improve the experience of civil engineering students. This is especially important to those who are new to the UK and it is testament to CivSoc's efforts that this new role has received such a positive response.



School of Engineering RFC

The Rugby Club pride themselves on their inclusive ethos and efforts to reduce barriers for those who wish to play rugby at university. They believe inclusion comes in many shapes and sizes, and they recognise that finances can prove a very real barrier for students wanting to participate in sport. They have ensured their subscription fees are considerably lower than other teams on campus (approximately 45% cheaper than that charged by UBSport) and in the surrounding area, and offer a two payment system so members can spread the cost of their hobby. Despite having 'Engineering' in their title, they welcome players from all academic departments and don't discriminate on ability. Their players range from those who represent their country, to many who have never played before;

approximately 10% of this year's intake were complete beginners. What makes this even more impressive is having 50 people turning up to training with these differing abilities, the Club has successfully been able to adapt their training programme to satisfy everyone. Finally, they do not discriminate by language. When a student comes to the University from another country it can be daunting for them to start socialising. However, if they play rugby the ice is already broken, the team welcome them with open arms and their language is no longer a limiting factor to them gaining friends. This year a Canadian, two French exchange students and another from Hong Kong joined their line-up – proof the team see rugby as a universal language!



oSTEM: Out in STEM

oSTEM operates to ensure the University is accessible and inclusive for LGBTQIA+ students and act as a voice for under-represented students. They work tirelessly to provide a safe space for LGBTQIA+ students across the sciences, bringing together people from all backgrounds, years and subjects with a common interest in STEM. Their weekly coffee socials are an opportunity to meet like-minded people in a friendly, supportive environment, and termly Speaking Out events showcase the achievements of STEM LGBTQIA+ professionals as role models and potential inspiration for future careers. An ongoing collaboration with WISE continued their partnering of 'Women In' events and sparked a new outreach programme with oSTEM members volunteering in local schools to inspire young people, highlighting their commitment to outreach and inclusion not just at the University but also in the local community.

Their continued work to increase the campus' gender neutral toilets gained momentum with the introduction of a Twitter campaign raising awareness of the need for accessible, safe facilities for all. They have also been invited to advise on suitable facilities for the new CTL and the support processes available to transgender students during their transition. In November they even travelled to Chicago as the first European oSTEM chapter to attend the annual conference and were invited to share their successes. oSTEM has had a significant positive impact on university life for its members, offering a place to be themselves without persecution, which for some is the first place they can be LGBTQIA+ and feel safe, supported and loved. As their members say 'oSTEM is like a home rather than a society. It means family. No one gets left behind.'



Simon Bernard and Will Leney: Social Secretaries, BUMS: Birmingham University Materials Society

Simon and Will have spent the year creating social events with everyone in mind and go out of their way to make sure everyone is involved. They have organised a huge range of events, to make sure there is something for everyone, bringing the entirety of Metallurgy and Materials together. The duo played an important role in introducing new students to the society and getting them involved. They led the brand-new Family Scheme in September, which made 'parents' of returning students to welcome the new first years and encourage them to get involved with the Society. Plus, they were sure to include direct entry students arriving from across the world and welcome them to the Materials community. Not only have they boosted enthusiasm within the School, they

organised a whole host of sober and non-sober events for BUMS members, including bowling, board games socials and the infamous BUMS vs NucSoc big quiz. A firm favourite was the first-ever BUMS Open Mic evening at Indie Lounge, which encouraged artistic society members to express themselves in a relaxed, friendly environment, no matter their skill or ability! The pair have also been prominent members of BUMS Sport, using their role as Social Secretaries to encourage participation under the notion that sport brings people together. They have clearly strengthened ties across the Materials community, showed the committee in a very positive light and succeeded in bringing together a diverse set of students into one amazing society.



WISE: Women in Science and Engineering

WISE works hard to build sponsorship relationships and secure funding so that membership and every event is completely free, thus allowing staff and non-STEM students, as well as everyone across the College, to get involved. The huge number of sponsors they've gained all have diversity and inclusion as a key priority. Their events range from intimate discussions to huge conferences, all championing diversity by celebrating incredible role models who are minorities in their fields. WISE highlight gender differences in STEM and promote change by hosting inspirational speakers from academia and industry. They have established strong collaborations with societies across the University in order for their events to appeal to as many students as possible. They teamed up with CSS and oSTEM for the return of the Women in Technology Conference,

and celebrated International Women's Day with EESE Soc, oSTEM, professional engineers and members of the Department of Education for the first Women in Engineering Conference. The committee's enthusiasm is reflected in the Society's diverse membership, which comprises students across all subjects in the University's science and engineering Colleges, from first years to post-doctoral researchers. WISE is a strong supporter of involving the local community in the causes they support, as demonstrated by their extensive and highly successful Outreach Scheme aiming to inspire young girls in need of positive female role models, to achieve their highest potential in STEM subjects. All of this gives the society a genuine community feel, where every member is treated as an individual and has the opportunity to empower others.

Outreach Award

This Award recognises the dedication of those who work with the University to deliver outreach activities to local schools or the general public, and see it as part of their role as a student to inspire the next generation of young scientists and engineers.



Alexandra Munro-Clark: Outreach Officer, WISE: Women in Science and Engineering

Alex has truly made the role of Outreach Officer her own. Following WISE's success with the Girls in STEM Scheme last year, she has grown the programme further still, involved more schools, and established two new science clubs in local underperforming girls' senior schools. Her professionalism is outstanding with excellent communication and meticulous planning of activities, always accommodating pupil and teacher requirements, and ensuring health and safety requirements are met. Alex demonstrates a clear passion for science and this is evident in the way she approached each activity, ensuring pupils understood the science involved and encouraging everyone to discuss what they were learning. Each club or workshop provided a fun and stimulating learning environment with each activity perfectly balanced for full participation

regardless of age and ability. She has used her enthusiasm to engage and inspire her pupils every single week, bringing her own passion for science to life. The atmosphere in the classroom is infectious and the girls always looked forward to their next session. Her commitment to outreach has also extended within the University as she has established collaborations with societies such as oSTEM, NucSoc and BioSoc. In addition to all this, she organised a College-wide outreach workshop which invited professional science communicator Dr Emily Grossman to share her most successful ideas. Alex is a positive role model to her pupils, many of whom hadn't met a female scientist before and therefore didn't think a career in science was attainable to them, and is a credit to WISE and the University.



AstroSoc

AstroSoc has a long history of innovative outreach but this year has been greater than ever! Their regular Tea, Talk and Telescope sessions are increasingly popular, and they continue to provide outstanding contributions to University events including the Community Festival and helping host the Federation of Astronomical Societies AGM. In particular, Astronomy in the City evenings rely heavily on the huge support they receive from AstroSoc: members give talks on the night sky, offer telescope observing, provide equipment demonstrations and diligently look after several hundred guests at a time. They are exemplary in these, but this year it was their additional activities where they really shone. In collaboration with the Big Bang Fair, AstroSoc members designed a set of new constellations based on inspirational figures of the

modern day and featuring the likes of Usain Bolt and Harry Potter, to make astronomy more appealing to a younger audience. The release of these constellations made national and international press, with AstroSoc at the forefront! They even tested their constellations on a local Brownie group, to great success, helping them achieve their Astronomy Badge. Later, their British Science Week Event saw 120 local schoolchildren visit the University to attend workshops on topics including exploring Mars, using a telescope and safely viewing the Sun. Feedback from students and teachers was overwhelmingly positive, with many already asking when they can book again! AstroSoc is an inspiration to the many people they reach with their enthusiasm for science, and in how to energetically and imaginatively build an outreach programme.



MathSoc

MathSoc launched their volunteering arm about three years ago and since then it has grown exponentially, particularly this academic year. In 2016/17, a small number of volunteers tutored GCSE pupils at the local Dame Elizabeth Cadbury College. They soon saw a desperate need for additional support for these pupils, so the then newly appointed Volunteering Officer Sam Davies set about devising a plan. The MathSoc Tutoring Scheme now sends over 80 student volunteers to tutor more than 100 pupils; that's almost quadruple the number of volunteers on last year! Initially, tutoring was only for maths but the team soon saw a need in other subjects and started collaborating with PPS and ChemSoc to add physics and chemistry tutors to their curriculum. Tutors work with a small group of pupils

once a week, giving close attention and support both to those striving for the best grades, and to those working hard to achieve a pass. All pupils being tutored are now achieving significantly higher grades than their peers. Many did not have high aspirations for their future career or education but meeting current University students has changed that and many are now growing in confidence thanks to their new positive role models. The Scheme has the added advantage of providing first-hand classroom experience to MathSoc members wanting to pursue a career in teaching. Sam has done a brilliant job of coordinating this Scheme and enhancing its effectiveness, and MathSoc and the School of Mathematics are proud of his vision and enthusiasm.



UBRacing

Over the past year, UBRacing has been involved in many outreach activities across the country, including an exhibit at the Goodwood Festival of Speed, one of the biggest motoring shows in the world attracting half a million visitors. UBRacing was part of a group of Formula Student teams invited to display their cars to interact with the public, promoting both the competition and STEM subjects. Also during this year, they visited the Silverstone UTC, meeting Year 12 and 13 pupils studying engineering-based programmes and considering continuing to university. At Sir William Borlase's Grammar School in Marlow, one of its former pupils gave an assembly on how he applied the things he learned at the school to his role as UBRacing's Head of Aerodynamics. The pupils were very interested

in the project and were asking numerous questions about how to get into engineering and what sort of subject they should study, creating a great swathe of potential future UBRacing members! As a part of the Malvern Festival of Innovation, their car was displayed at Malvern College alongside Aston Martin, showcasing the benefits of STEM subjects and the real industrial links a project like this can have. UBRacing is also working hard to increase diversity in its membership base and as a result, has one of the highest female team member ratios in the Formula Student competition. This has led to an engagement with both male and female schoolchildren, who can view team members as role models regardless of gender.

Sports Personality of the Year

This Award recognises sportspeople who have shown commitment and enthusiasm on and off the pitch; they are the most motivational and inspirational personalities within the team.



Adam Butcher: Sports Rep, PPS: Poynting Physical Society

Despite being unable to walk for a vast amount of the year due to knee surgery at the beginning of last summer, Adam has shown relentless enthusiasm in his position as PPS Sports Rep. He started their first mixed netball team, which provided an opportunity for female players to get involved with sport, as previously PPS only had male football teams. The football teams may not have won the league this season but Adam

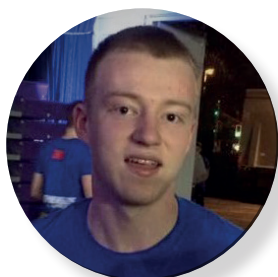
gave them his full support at all times and never let them see just how much he was secretly missing the sport that he loves so much. He also juggled being on the committee for the first-ever EPS Trophy competition with his fourth-year studies. All this shows that being a sports personality depends not on how many goals are scored, but perseverance and enthusiasm through times of difficulty.



Anastasia Pywell: Engineering Eagles Hockey

Ana is such a friendly, bubbly person who has played for the Eagles for a few years now. She has been committed to the team through her attendance at training and matches, and also in recruiting new members. Ana has also shown a commitment to improving her own hockey skills as well as helping members who need some extra support. Having won the Captain's Player Award at their end of season meal, she was also a close contender for Player's

Player. Not only this but she scored the winning penalty that secured Eagles as league champions in their final game! Ana is a real friend both on and off the pitch and can always be relied upon to support and excel the Eagles. She will be taking over as joint Captain in September and we as a team look forward to the positive change and great things she will bring to the team in that role.



Daniel Rhymer: Snooker and Pool Player, BUCES: Birmingham University Chemical Engineering Society

For the third year in a row, Daniel has won the snooker and pool tournament at the Frank Morton sports day for chemical engineers, proving that he is the undisputed best pool player in any chemical engineering department in the UK! He successfully balances his sport around his studies, helped of course by the pool table in the School building, and is a key member of the University's snooker team. His wins are significant due

to the individual nature of his sport; the entire chemical engineering society appreciate the commitment he has, which can sometimes put pressure on him as an individual, but he always delivers, and his wins helped to bring BUCES to a fourth consecutive Frank Morton win. He is an incredibly well-liked and valued individual, with chants of 'there's only one Daniel Rhymer' being sung by everyone at Frank Morton.



Freddie Offley: Sports Officer, MathSoc

Freddie has done a huge amount for MathSoc Sport this year. He captained MathSoc FC to a landslide league victory, winning every game. His team are now only two wins away from being crowned University champions. Freddie should be most proud of the way he has developed MathSoc to encourage greater involvement for members and added new sports to the Society's repertoire. He secured MathSoc's first-ever team kits, even washing the football strip on a weekly basis! Freddie introduced a social squash group allowing MathSoc members to play every Saturday morning, even if they'd never played before. He managed their first-ever girls' football team in a 6-a-side tournament, where they came fourth despite there being six existing teams

taking part! Outside of MathSoc, Freddie played an integral role in the organisation of the EPS Trophy, where he played in one of the three MathSoc teams and was quick to support the netball team, dashing from one tournament to the other. He went out of his way to single-handedly organise the first away trip for football and netball to the University of Nottingham to play (and win!) matches against their Politics Society. This and the socials he organised were a huge boost to the team spirit of MathSoc Sport. He achieved all of this while playing for the University's Table Tennis team. He is strongly committed to ensuring all his teams have every opportunity to perform well on and off the pitch, and has done wonders for MathSoc Sport.



Rocco Casale: Sports Rep, CivSoc

When CivSoc's original Sports Rep chose to take a year in industry at the beginning of this year, Rocco jumped at the opportunity to take the reins. He is a passionate and enthusiastic committee member and, thanks to his extreme efforts, he successfully arranged a committed CivSoc football team who train regularly and for the first time ever have entered into the University's intramural league. This is something CivSoc members have been requesting for years and it is already going down a storm! Rocco's biggest success came at the EPS Trophy, where he arranged a full netball and football team to compete against the College's other society sports teams, with a great turnout for CivSoc at the tournament. On the day he was a keen footballer and showed off his managerial

skills for the netball team, leading CivSoc to win its first ever sports trophy as the netball team were crowned champions of their tournament, and thanks to the points gained in the football rounds, CivSoc finished overall runners-up for the whole tournament! Despite being new to the role and to the University, Rocco has thrown himself into the Society, arranged team training and matches each week, and encouraged participation across the years and the whole Department. He even organised several staff-student matches and inter-society games. Following his successes this year, he will be stepping up to CivSoc President to lead his Society.



Sam Holdsworth: BUMS: Birmingham University Materials Society

Sam is an invaluable member of BUMS Sport. He is the only member to regularly take part in BUMS football, netball and basketball teams, showing the great commitment he has to sport and his Society. In each, Sam performs with great skill and enthusiasm and is integral to all three teams. His biggest success has no doubt come from being a key part of the winning BUMS EPS Trophy Team. On 17 February, Sam captained the BUMS 2nd Football Team and showed great talent on the pitch. His brilliant leadership encouraged an inexperienced team through the heats, narrowly missing out on the knockout stages thanks to an unlucky playoff. On the same day, Sam commanded a pivotal role

as goalkeeper in the netball tournament. His 'never-say-die' attitude led the team to a second-place finish, thus making BUMS overall EPS Trophy Champions thanks to an impressive overall points total! In testament to Sam's achievements, he was awarded an unprecedented four BUMS Sports Awards at their end-of-term celebrations, which included Player of the Season for BUMS Netball. He is an essential part of sport in the Society and is key to building their sporting community and team success. He is BUMS' Sports Personality of the Year and his Society believe he has an exceptional case for holding the same title across the College!

Sports Team of the Year 2017/18

This Award celebrates sports teams within the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences that are acknowledged as both high performing and tight-knit. These teams can be part of a school or society, or entirely independent. They work exceptionally well as a team, play to the strengths of all members, stick together whether they win or lose, promote sporting activity and encourage healthy competition.



BUMS Sport: BUMS: Birmingham University Materials Society

BUMS Sport has come into its own. The Society has again offered an array of sporting opportunities free to its members. All year groups, from new students to postgraduates, have played alongside each other to take part in the University's netball, basketball and football campus leagues, with great success in each. They're even starting to encourage some brave staff members to play with and against their teams! During their regular training sessions, strong friendships are being built and everyone is showing outstanding commitment to their sport. Starting a year of firsts, BUMS entered the Touch Rugby Tournament in summer 2017, placing seventh out of 16 teams, which was brilliant for the novice team; they launched the EPS Trophy in February as the College's first multidisciplinary cross-society sporting competition,

and held the first-ever BUMS Sports Awards in March. Their greatest achievement has undoubtedly been both organising and winning the inaugural EPS Trophy! BUMS finished second out of the 13 football teams and second out of six netball teams, making them overall winners based on the cumulative points total. They are officially crowned sporting champions of the College! Not only are their teams highly successful, but they have created their own sporting spirit. Many of their members had never played competitively before and as such needed an extra confidence boost. The Captains and Sports Reps gladly jumped to their aid with their continual enthusiasm and invaluable advice, helping calm nerves and encouraging everyone to strive for success.



Engineering Eagles Hockey

The Engineering Eagles have once again had a fantastic year. They've welcomed so many new members from a range of disciplines that they now more commonly go by 'Eagles', as 'engineering' is no longer representative of the team! They cater for all abilities and train to suit players, regardless of starting level. From those who have never held a hockey stick before, to University-level players, they work together for the good of the team; no one is too good or bad to play. Even with large turnouts on match days they make sure every player has game time and don't keep anyone on the bench just because they're a novice. For the first time in their history, they now hire two-thirds of a pitch for their weekly training sessions; the extra space allowing them to try new and

exciting drills. Having acquired new sponsorship, the captains have made sure that Eagles are the best-dressed team on the Bournbrook pitches with their new kit. It is testament to the Club that most of their members turned up to a snow-covered hockey pitch on perhaps the coldest March night in history! As is tradition, their chemical engineering members competed in the annual Frank Morton sports day, winning without loss and helping the overall Birmingham team win their fourth Frank Morton in a row. Their fantastic year was capped with a nerve-wracking, sudden-death penalty victory over the University Medics to win the Campus League and bring the hockey trophy back to the College.



MathSoc Sport: MathSoc

MathSoc Sport has taken to new heights this year in the University league tables! Their football team remains unbeaten for the third consecutive season, dominating the Campus Intramural League yet again. Their netball team finished higher than ever before, coming third in their league. The Society has worked hard to increase participation in sporting activities throughout the year. They launched a social squash club with weekly training sessions to learn the sport and develop a team, and formed their first female football team. Amazingly, MathSoc Womens' FC finished fourth in their first-ever tournament, beating more experienced teams and playing against University-level teams from Birmingham, Aston and Birmingham City Universities! They even entered three

teams in a charity dodgeball tournament, of which one went on to win the whole competition. MathSoc has also spread their wings outside the University, travelling to the University of Nottingham to play (and beat!) their Politics Society at football and netball, and creating a friendship that they hope will continue for many years. Much of their success is thanks to the Society's drive to encourage more students to take part in sport. The new MathSoc Sport has been pivotal in forming friendships and creating an excellent outlet for stress-release and fitness. They have worked hard to develop a brilliant atmosphere and sense of community across all the sports they participate in, ensuring wins are celebrated and magnifying the success of MathSoc Sport.



PPS Netball: PPS: Poynting Physical Society

Brand-new for this year is the PPS Netball Team. Until its founding, there was no sporting activity available to female physics students and this didn't sit right with the society. Sports Rep Adam Butcher set about changing this and called on his fellow students to start a 'turn-up and play' team in the campus league. It was very important in this first year that it was not about winning, but creating a team and friendly environment. Despite this notion, they ended the year with a very respectable league position! This new team has

created a great opportunity for female students to participate in sport in an environment with a great balance of competitiveness and team building. As well as involving girls, there were also many male players trying netball for the first time and learning the sport. The PPS Netball Team has been a triumph for inclusivity, team building and opportunity. It's now hoped this will lead the way for a successful term next season, and for more ideas to develop new sports and encourage other groups to join in.



School of Engineering RFC

Engineering Rugby may not have had the most winning season, but in a period of transition due to a large number of their players graduating last summer, they have focused on integrating new players and made significant changes to the Club. Their numbers have swelled to 85, and they continue to welcome players of all abilities. They now offer both competitive and social membership to account for those who may not wish to play full-contact rugby but still want to be part of the team. After many years of trying, they have successfully secured twice-weekly training sessions, allowing them to create a set training schedule, and launched a new player ethos to ensure everyone knows the expectations of their sport. Thanks to these changes, the Club can now rely on regular attendance at training, enabling the

committee to develop the entire team. Their mix of fixtures allows players to engage in the game at their own level, thus allowing those with little rugby experience to improve alongside seasoned players. They pride themselves on this inclusive approach and bring the core values of rugby (Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment and Discipline) to their diverse members. Moreover, the Club has a strong sense of belonging, with their annual Old Boys game seeing alumni return to challenge the 'fresh blood'. This combined with their tour, relationships with local teams and building the foundations of a National Engineering Rugby League thanks to their many away games, the Club is a force to be reckoned with.

Industrial Award

This Award recognises an individual or society whose work in creating industrial links or employment opportunities for fellow students reflects the values of the University: excellence, distinctiveness, impact, confidence and pride.



Addi Omoregbee and Nicole Lee: Careers Reps, BUMS: Birmingham University Materials Society

Addi and Nicole kicked off the year with BUMS Careers Month in November. First up was the placements talk where current students shared their experiences and offered applications advice. The duo then hosted the largest Metallurgy and Materials Careers Fair to date with 20 companies and more than 150 students attending. Alongside the fair was a series of talks from visiting companies offering more details on their day-to-day operations along with information on employment opportunities. A number of these speakers were alumni, which was a huge help! Many students were inspired by the professionals they met and have since successfully applied for placements and graduate schemes. The Fair was officially commended by the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining accreditation panel, which visited

the School in April. The panel even said they would suggest this as best practice for their own institutions. Addi and Nicole have also been proactive in organising trips to a variety of companies so BUMS members can get an idea of what working in that particular industry would be like. The visit to the Manufacturing Technology Centre was particularly enjoyable and the trip to Airbus was a highlight for many final-year students. During the visit, attendees were given talks by Airbus graduate employees and materials specialists, participated in a hands-on project and saw the Mars Rover testing facilities. Addi and Nicole are a huge support to their society and have spent the year working to support every student in Metallurgy and Materials to plan their careers.



Naomi Randall: Industrial Rep, BUCES: Birmingham University Chemical Engineering Society

As Industrial Rep, Naomi's responsibility is to build, maintain and improve links with companies that support the School of Chemical Engineering and offer employment to BUCES members. She has done exactly that and created a great number of opportunities for students to meet with employers. Naomi was instrumental in the success of the Industrial Dinner, an annual event where students share a formal dinner with companies to network and discuss their future careers. The event was well organised, ran smoothly and offered many opportunities for students to find out more about potential future employers. Companies sponsor tables and host students as their guests; this year competition for seats was strong with many companies having their pick of top students. Consequently, many students successfully obtained

graduate roles and placements on the night itself. It's also a great opportunity for alumni to return to the Society and share learnings from their new careers. Naomi has worked with external contacts to provide new CV clinics, application advice workshops, career coaching and various industrial talks from professionals. She has gone above and beyond to help put students in contact with alumni, helping BUCES members to learn more about the company they are applying to. Furthermore, Naomi has obtained over £10,000 in sponsorship for events throughout the year, allowing BUCES to lower ticket prices for events such as the annual Winter Ball and Frank Morton chemical engineering student sports day. To top it all off, Naomi is approachable and always puts maximum effort into her role.



PPS: Poynting Physical Society

PPS has excelled in developing brand-new opportunities for their members to get involved in career-enhancing activities. In securing sponsorship from BP at the start of the year, they have been able to not only promote their on-campus career talks and networking, but also start to build a lasting relationship with one of the world's largest companies. Ellen Butler and Lucy Millington organised an outstanding Internship Fair for Physics and Astronomy students. This new event focused on unique opportunities for undergraduates to gain internships in laboratories, research centres, teaching and in industry. Given that physics students have a strong track record in gaining internships with large companies, these were specifically avoided and instead focus was given to placements that aren't as easy to find and are directly

relevant to the knowledge learned on their degree programmes. The Fair received representatives from SURE, Cockcroft Institute, Daresbury Laboratory, The Odgen Trust and Teach First, as well as current students speaking about their own placements at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Maple TA, the NHS and the University. This has never been done by PPS or Physics before and resulted in several students successfully gaining summer placements. Feedback has been extremely positive and the event led to an invitation from Daresbury Laboratories for a group of students to visit their facilities. The unprecedented advances PPS has made in its industrial reach this year has allowed them to act as strong ambassadors of the School to industrial partners while enabling its members to gain access to unique employment opportunities.



Sarah Jackson: Industrial Liaison, CivSoc

Sarah's enthusiasm and hard work this year have been immensely helpful to staff and students alike. She has organised numerous CivSoc events, bringing industry and students together, and working with departmental representatives, EPS Community officers and other societies. She identified that many students were unaware of the careers available to them, and so designed and delivered the 'Kick start your career as a civil engineer' event to a packed room of civil engineering students. Professional representatives from Morgan Sindall, Curtins, Interserve, Amey and many more shared their knowledge and experiences. The afternoon aimed to help students in their job and placement applications thanks to being more informed of the areas and companies they were applying to. Sarah has also given immense support to the RESPECT

programme, through which many civil engineering students find mentors, summer placements and year-in-industry positions. She also helped to set up the main 'Meet the Companies' event, during which she was an invaluable support to new staff in the Department, sharing her experience of past events. This was followed by another workshop to help prepare students for interviews and to explain how to get the most out of speed-interviewing sessions. She has also taken a role in open days and Applicant Visit Days, speaking about her experiences with industry and promoting industrial links and experience opportunities to potential new students. Sarah's continued support and involvement have been of great benefit and her friendly, approachable and helpful attitude makes her a pleasure to work with.



UBeRacing

Although the team was only founded in the Autumn Term, UBeRacing has already established many sponsors in the UK and overseas. The team is committed to creating and maintaining relationships with industry and already all major purchases have been through industrial partners. UBeRacing's largest sponsors to date – Emrax, VoltSport and Altertek – are already starting to share their knowledge with the team and are happy to provide technical support or facility tours to UBeRacing members. The team is also starting to build relationships with overseas companies to balance with the international ethos of the team. Many members are Chinese speaking and have helped form a relationship with Ebusbar, a Chinese electric vehicle parts manufacturer, which is kindly providing products as gifts in kind. Not only are these relationships already

having a positive impact on the design of UBeRacing's first Formula Student electric car, but also on their members' technical skills, which can be directly applied to their degree programmes and future careers. Thanks to skills and experiences gained in the team, members are already gaining highly competitive industrial placements. For example Andrei Vieru, the team's Head of Powertrain, secured a year placement at BMW Mini. During the interview the panel focused on Andrei's experiences with UBeRacing and he now hopes to strengthen the team's ties with BMW Mini during his placement. In a very short time UBeRacing has built exceptional new relationships and they hope to maintain this momentum as they assemble their first competition car.

EPS Community Award

This Award recognises the exemplary contributions of individual student members or entire societies to the College Community.



EPS Trophy Team

In April 2017, a group of enthusiastic sportspeople had the vision to bring students across the College together through sport. That vision became a reality as the EPS Trophy; the first-ever multidisciplinary sports tournament for the entire College. The Trophy Team, founded in BUMS, grew to include MathSoc, PPS, UBSport, staff and many others to form a truly collaborative committee. They successfully applied for Hands Up funding, generously donated by Birmingham graduates, through the Alumni Office. The application process involved presenting to a panel of judges and the team had the ingenious idea of involving representatives of as many of the EPS societies as possible, visibly showing just how many groups the tournament would reach. This was a resounding success and the team not only obtained their funding,

but were invited to compete to double their money by creating a promotional video. This went viral across the College and was only the start of their success. Over 200 EPS students from 12 different societies competed and spectated on competition day. The event even utilised the specialist skills of our societies, with SATNAV officially covering the day with live tweeting and the official EPS Trophy Report featured in their next magazine. UBRobotics helped in the spectator zone and Cameroon Catalyst held extra activities such as wheelbarrow races to raise money for charity. The event received rave reviews from everyone involved! The team hope that the EPS Trophy will become an annual event, galvanising the student body. The gauntlet has been thrown down!



MathSoc

MathSoc has collaborated with more University societies than ever before to deliver an exciting set of new activities. The start of the year saw MathSoc working with ChemSoc and PPS to expand their Tutoring Scheme to cover chemistry and physics, along with the existing maths programme. Thanks to this collaboration, the number of volunteer tutors increased from 25 to 80 and there has been significant improvement among school pupils on the scheme. MathSoc also hosted a games night for 100 attendees from AstroSoc, BioSoc and PPS, encouraging more cross-society friendships. For almost a year, members of MathSoc sat on the organising committee of the EPS Trophy, helping to deliver the first-ever cross-College multidiscipline sports tournament. Just a few days later, MathSoc organised the inaugural University Challenge following their successful EPS Challenge, which has

run for the last two years and took it University-wide. All five colleges were invited to hold heats to find the best teams that would represent their college in the final competition. More than 20 teams entered, with most of course being from EPS! The eventual winners were the Policy, Politics and Economics Society. MathSoc has created a new sporting community within the Society, offering new teams and activities for their members. They finished the year with a lecture by respected mathematician James Grime on the Enigma machines, opening the doors to anyone who was interested. Throughout the year, MathSoc has consistently sought to improve their connections across the University by providing new opportunities for students of all EPS disciplines and beyond.



MechSoc

Since evolving from JUGS (James Watt Undergraduate Society) to MechSoc in 2016, the Mechanical Engineering Society has become bigger, better and more exciting. Now part of the School of Engineering, MechSoc has joined with their fellow engineering societies CivSoc and EEESoc to organise several events to promote community spirit. For the second year running the Engineering Spring Ball proved a great hit, with almost 250 students and lecturers enjoying the festivities and celebrating another great year. Similarly at the start of the year the Engineering Bar Crawl was incredibly popular, with many freshers and older years coming together to take on Broad Street and start the year in style. MechSoc has also been busy creating links with other societies across

the College: they hosted a Casino night with NucSoc and a go-karting event with the Motor Racing Club (UBMRC). For the first time ever, MechSoc joined with the University of Nottingham to create a varsity sporting competition. The day-long competition between the two MechSocs was a great opportunity for players from both societies to get involved. Matches were played throughout the day, with Birmingham MechSoc victorious in every sport: football (3–1); hockey (11–2), and netball (7–4), with a draw in the rugby (15–15). Both teams celebrated the successful tournament with an obligatory social. MechSoc has gone above and beyond to help try and improve the EPS community spirit, and plan for this to continue for many years.



SATNAV: Science and Technology News and Views

SATNAV magazine offers students the opportunity to share their scientific interests and expertise with the rest of the University, providing a bridge of communication between different disciplines in each themed edition. As such, SATNAV plays a vital role in scientific journalism within the EPS Community. The Society is now heavily involved in the EPS Christmas Lecture and Distinguished Lecture Series, providing coverage of both events, participating in round table discussions, and even filming exclusive interviews with the speakers Simon Singh and Professor David Phillips. SATNAV was also involved in the first EPS Trophy, providing live coverage of the tournament and dedicating the centrefold of their spring 2018 edition to celebrate the College's sporting prowess. The editorial team also collaborated

with AstroSoc and wrote an article for their 'Tea, Talk and Telescope' event. SATNAV has been an ambassador for the College in the Guild Media Groups, making sure that our voices are heard. They helped organise the first Media Ball, and collaborated with both *Linguist Magazine* and *Beyond My Ethnicity* magazine. A film screening of *Hidden Figures* and a panel discussion was held for International Women's Day with *Beyond My Ethnicity* magazine to explore issues of inequality in scientific workplaces. To celebrate these new collaborations, the magazine contains a new segment titled 'Society Spotlight', giving student groups the chance to tell the rest of the University what they've been up to. This is a fantastic way to strengthen our societies' reputations by celebrating their activities.

Inspirational Committee Member

This Award recognises those committee members who are the heart and soul of their society. Through a positive attitude and proactivity they ensure their society is engaging and that members have the opportunity to get fully involved to reach their full potential.



Alice Perry: Events Officer, AstroSoc

Alice Perry has truly made an immeasurable contribution to AstroSoc over the three-and-a-half years she has been a part of the committee. Her love of the Society has been shown through her outstanding effort in everything AstroSoc does. Alice has been elected as Events Officer twice and has also been the Society's Chair. Constantly acting in the best interests of AstroSoc, Alice has made the Society a more fun, welcoming and exciting environment. Social events such as the Space Race Bar Crawl and meals out have seen an increase in participation, and weekly meetings have received higher attendance. Alice has also created

and presented many astronomical talks such as 'Space is Hot. And Also Cool'. She is always the first to volunteer for any outreach opportunities, playing an active role in the operation of the Astronomy in the City events that AstroSoc assist the School of Physics and Astronomy in running, creating and running one of four workshops in AstroSoc's British Science Week event, and presenting a talk to members of the public at a retirement home. It is safe to say Alice works tremendously hard behind the scenes to ensure AstroSoc is a thriving society and her involvement has had a noticeable impact.



Andrew Evans: Head of Aerodynamics, UBRacing

Andrew leads the development of Aerodynamics for UBRacing, a technically challenging task that involves managing the largest group of engineers working on the car this year and includes several final-year project students. He has undertaken this role in a most professional manner and has incorporated several innovative steps into the development process, including the use of a wind tunnel as part of the validation of their aero design. Andrew's hard work has allowed UBRacing to test the individual aero components, the full car and a scale model of the car, which will be built this year.

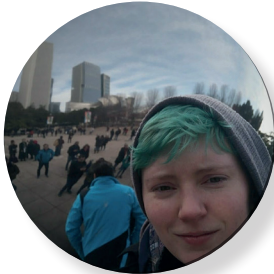
Andrew has involved more new members than any other person in the team as well as leading all manufacturing of the carbon fibre aero components. His countless early starts and late finishes show his ability to lead by example and keep going until a job is done to the highest standard. He is a brilliant role model for younger members of the team as he shows great balance between his degree and work with the team, attaining high grades in his time thus far. What is perhaps most remarkable is that he has taken this role as a core team member despite only being a second-year student!



Beth McGoff: Vice-President, CivSoc

Having been a member of the CivSoc committee from her very first term at University, Beth is incredible. She is highly professional and has an incredible air of calm, is innovative and ready to contribute amazing ideas. She was instrumental in the creation of the College's 'An Evening With' events, starting with Carillion's in 2015. Together with fellow committee members, she worked with Carillion to design a networking model that would introduce students to what it's like to be an engineer in each of the company's core branches.

This resulted in Carillion receiving tailored applications from civil engineering students to their placement and graduate positions, and a strong relationship between the company and Department, even including several football matches. Beth goes above and beyond to ensure that all civil engineering students feel part of the Society, taking time to get to know everyone and encouraging them to get involved. She enables them to get the best out of CivSoc.



Amy Cunningham: President, NucSoc and Chairperson, oSTEM: Out in STEM

Amy is the powerhouse of both oSTEM and NucSoc. They are at the forefront of every campaign, every outreach project and every conference. They have taken oSTEM to new heights, engaging not only with the LGBTQ+ community in Birmingham, but also in the UK and the USA, representing oSTEM Birmingham at the organisation's annual conference in Chicago and travelling further than any other branch. Amy has drawn on their own life experiences to become a champion for the rights and safety of LGBTQ+ people who often feel underrepresented and ignored. They are a spokesperson and advocate for positive change, working to ensure the College is welcoming for people of all genders and sexualities, and that everyone has a voice. Amy has fuelled NucSoc into being a truly accessible and warm society

with opportunities to get involved in careers activities and outreach to inspire the next generation of scientists. They have helped at Applicant Visit Days and supported new students during those first tricky weeks at university. They have also worked to bring both societies into the wider EPS Community, collaborating with the likes of WISE and EEESoc on workshops and events, all with their signature enthusiasm and creativity. Amy has gone through a heartbreakingly difficult year but despite this, they are always the first person to help others, from making tea to finding relevant resources. Amy is the backbone of both their societies and both are proud that Amy has given their all to support every single member in any way possible.



Curtis Collins: President, MathSoc

As a MathSoc committee member for the past two years, Curtis has gone out of his way to continue to grow the Society on the back of a highly successful period, and make sure everyone is welcome and catered for. His devotion has resulted in a massive increase in MathSoc membership, now reaching over 300 students! He is always looking for ways to collaborate with other societies and offer new and exciting activities for MathSoc members, such as paintballing with the PsychoSoc, a games night with PPS and AstroSoc, setting up a new squash team, joining the EPS Trophy, taking the EPS University Challenge across the entire University and taking MathSoc Sport to the University of Nottingham. Events such as these are what make

MathSoc stand out among other societies and Curtis has been the driving force behind them. Curtis is everyone's go-to person if they want to know anything about MathSoc and he can always be counted on to help. He regularly volunteers for the School of Mathematics in organising events such as 'mathematical musings', which bring staff and students in maths together. This constant desire to bring people together means everyone in the mathematics community knows Curtis as an approachable person, always willing to give up his time for others, supporting new events or helping them with work. The tears he shed at the AGM and successes throughout the year are what makes Curtis an outstanding committee member.



Matthew Teller: Co-Founder and President, RailSoc

RailSoc as a society owes a great deal to Matthew. As one of the founding members, he organised the meetings that got RailSoc off the ground, spearheaded the idea of setting up a society, quickly networking and enlisting fellow students at the start of his first term, and played a leading role at the EPS Societies Fair in October when the Society was just a few days old. Not content with this, Matthew used his experience and contacts from his year working in the industry to arrange unique and interesting trips to various rail organisations. These have been fully subscribed and much appreciated by the participants. Particular

highlights were the highly informative visits to Cross Country headquarters and the Kings Heath depot to see the railway in action. He has been consistently welcoming to new members and friendly with existing ones, and has helped the society grow from a small cluster of first years to a broad membership including students from other colleges. Matthew became the first RailSoc President and was recently voted in for a second term by unanimous vote. In short, it is no exaggeration to say that Matthew is synonymous with RailSoc and the two have grown together.

Role Model of the Year

This Award recognises those who exemplify the best within themselves and others, and are recognised as a role model for their achievements and ability to get the job done.



Belinda Rich: Co-President, BUMS: Birmingham University Materials Society

Bee is a remarkably friendly, helpful and enthusiastic person who is universally appreciated by students and staff alike. She promotes a very positive culture and friendly environment within the School. She is also highly effective as one of BUMS Co-Presidents, and has helped to take forward many of the excellent BUMS initiatives that have taken place this year. In particular, she pioneered the 'families' programme for new students, where two or three students from higher years become 'parents' of small groups of first years, making sure that everyone feels welcome and included from their first day at University. The families provide

a broader and more flexible network, and is regarded as much more flexible and meaningful than one-to-one 'buddy' models. As a result, first years very quickly participated actively in School events and we have much greater interactions between year groups. She helps out on open days, Applicant Visit Days and she creates a happy atmosphere wherever she goes. Bee is universally loved and respected in the Department of Metallurgy and Materials. Her friendly, bubbly nature makes her a great ambassador of the Society and School alike, and her enthusiasm has inspired others to give back to the Society.



Beth McGoff: Vice-President, CivSoc

Beth has been the heart and soul of CivSoc for four years, holding the roles of First-Year Rep, Secretary, Vice-President and President. She has been integral to the organisation of all events and a key decision-maker. During her time with CivSoc she has introduced an International Rep position to the committee, organised networking events, socials and set up a mentoring scheme. She has successfully integrated all years, including Masters and PhD

students and staff, and created a real sense of community within the Department. This has been particularly evident through her commitments to the wider School as a student ambassador, Institution of Civil Engineers representative and Women in STEM advocate. She has been the glue holding CivSoc together, has made a lasting impression upon the engineering community and her legacy will live on for many committees to come.



Charles Hodgson: Race Engineer, UBRacing

Charles was UBRacing's Team Principal for the 2017 Formula Student competition. He led the team to their most successful year of all time, finishing second overall, with the fastest car at the UK competition and three trophies. Though it was not the easiest year due to the loss of some key sponsors, he took this in his stride and worked hard to gain incredible new supporters. His great professionalism and confidence in speaking to sponsors is testament to his passion for his team. Charles' enthusiasm attracted swathes of new members and his management style ensured they engaged in the project, learning from existing team members and developing

their hands-on skills by getting stuck in. Charles' exemplary organisation saw a near-military operation to get UBRacing competition-ready. He made every effort to safely get everyone to and from competition, kept the team well-fed, rested, in position and on schedule. It is this organisation coupled with his exceptional dedication (bordering on obsession!) that resulted in the team's most successful year ever. Charles embodies UBRacing's supportive and collaborative team ethos, sharing his enthusiasm with his leadership team and, most notably, with young people who have an interest in motorsport and potentially the UBRacing engineers of the future.



Chloe Wilkinson: Treasurer, ChemSoc

Chloe has been significantly involved in ChemSoc throughout her time at University. While many step back from society committees for their final year, Chloe remained an active committee member, bringing her wealth of experience to the table. She has maintained a positive outlook throughout and has actively supported her fellow students through her involvement in the Student Staff Committee, voicing her peers' concerns

in a constructive and respectful way, and ensuring that the best solutions could be found for both staff and students. She took a major role in planning the 2018 ChemBall, despite it being held just before her dissertation was due but never complained, always remaining focused and upbeat. She is an excellent example of how a student can have a positive impact on their department, both socially and academically.



Julia Dancu: Publicity Officer, WISE: Women in Science and Engineering

Julia has been an exceptionally dedicated, enthusiastic and determined student who is an exemplary member of the EPS Community. As an international student who moved to the UK for her university education, Julia has overcome a range of difficulties that are unimaginable for most fellow students. She brings a great spirit of resilience and a fantastic range of ideas to WISE. Julia took on the role of Publicity Officer after last year becoming the first-ever WISE non-committee member to organise an event, the Women in Science Conference, in which she also chaired the panel discussion. The enthusiasm and dedication she showed has since translated into every activity she has been involved in. A particular highlight was her taking over the organisation of the highly successful Women

in Tech Conference, which she led with great skill. Outside of WISE, Julia has acted as a student ambassador for the School of Physics and Astronomy at Open Days and Applicant Visit Days. She has been involved with outreach activities at local primary and secondary schools, and also delivered a talk to fellow students, in conjunction with the Careers Network, about the benefits of completing a summer internship. Finally, Julia is an exemplary student and has managed to complete three different summer internships throughout her time at University, including a Maple T A internship in Theoretical Physics, a Public Engagement internship and an internship abroad at the highly prestigious Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel.



Nisha Kandola: Academic President, BUCES: Birmingham University Chemical Engineering Society

Nisha is an incredibly organised and diligent student. She has formed an excellent relationship with all staff and students in the School of Chemical Engineering, building strong bonds with staff while also being heavily engaged with the wider student body across all year groups; earning her the respect of both communities. She has been a heavily involved chair of the Staff Student Committee, and the student rep system has worked much better under her leadership than in previous years. Her reputation has allowed her to take on responsibilities above and beyond her duties as BUCES' Academic President, such as participating in the Vice-Chancellor's review of the School, lunch meetings with the Vice-Chancellor to discuss University-wide improvements, assisting in an external project on assessment and feedback, working directly with lecturers to improve the course

and assess prospective new lecturers. Nisha is also a regular volunteer on Open Days and Applicant Visit Days, successfully promoting the School and BUCES to potential future students. She works well with industrial visitors to help promote BUCES' members to companies, and share careers opportunities with students seeking summer and year placements, and graduate employment. Outside BUCES, Nisha is first flute in the University's Wind Band and participates in sports such as Iyengar Yoga and the Birmingham half marathon. Nisha's commitment to her peers is second-to-none and she will do everything in her power to ensure all chemical engineering students have the resources they need to succeed in their degree. She is a superb example of the type of student that can thrive at Birmingham.

Head of College Idea of the Year

This Award recognises an individual or society who has been involved in an innovative new project or event that has had a significant impact on their school or society.



British Science Week: Exploration and Discovery in Space: AstroSoc

As part of British Science Week 2018, AstroSoc hosted an afternoon of astronomical exploration and discovery for local schoolchildren. The afternoon saw more than 120 11- to 13-year-olds from four local schools – Bordesley Green Girls' School, Foxford School, The Royal School Wolverhampton and St Paul's School for Girls – visit the University with their teachers. Building on the success of their newly designed and internationally renowned modern day constellations, AstroSoc wanted to make astronomy more exciting to young people and encourage them to look up at the night sky; something which quickly became apparent that many had not really done before. The event consisted of four workshops in rotation: A Tour of the Solar System, stopping off at planets, moons, and comets; Exploration Mars Choose

Your Own Adventure, an educative game where players were the first humans to land on Mars; Telescopes: A Window to Cosmos, gave pupils the chance to get hands-on with AstroSoc's equipment, and The Sun: Our Closest Star offered an introduction to safe solar observing, space weather and activity on the Sun. Each workshop was meticulously designed and executed by AstroSoc members. The whole event took a great deal of planning, with multiple simultaneous activities and staff schedules being created, all while the committee was busy with end-of-term deadlines. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with many teachers already asking when they can book onto the next event. An idea of this scale takes months to plan and the team worked incredibly well to deliver a truly inspiring event.



CSS Talk Sessions: CSS: Computer Science Society

CSS organised a number of great talk sessions this year on a variety of topics with the intention of supporting computer science students with their modules and potential future career choices. They invited speakers from their student base, across the University and several external companies. CSS's rationale was to gather experts to give tips and advice to members who want to prepare for the real world. The first round of talks featured a Cyber Security expert from Manchester who shared the inner workings of the emerging sector, offered more details on what a job in the industry looks like, and inspired several attendees to consider this as their future career path. Next up were talks from the CSS Industrial Liaison Officer, providing CV tips and advice on how to apply for internships, and also featured presentations from

current students who took a year abroad or in industry, and also from Masters and PhD students explaining the possibilities of further study. Next, they collaborated with the University's StartUp society for a talk on 'Blockchain and Emerging technologies', and the Autonomous Robotics Club. Their final talk saw second- and third-year students discuss model choices with those currently considering their options as to what to study the next academic year. Each talk received record attendance and the feedback has been fantastic. Many have commented that it has been invaluable to hear directly from those who have experience in each of these topics and saying they now feel well prepared for making decisions to kick-start their careers.



James Grime Lecture: MathSoc

Towards the end of the Spring Term, MathSoc invited well-respected mathematician Dr James Grime to campus to share his expertise with students. James is a mathematician with a personal passion for maths communication and the promotion of mathematics in schools and to the general public. He is part of the Enigma Project at the University of Cambridge, which brings to life the fascinating history and mathematics of codes and code breaking. This brand new event received high engagement from all year groups and international students, postgraduates, staff and students from across the College. The turnout was brilliant and MathSoc achieved a full lecture theatre

for this exciting new event! The aim was to engage students in a subject outside of the main syllabus in an interactive way, and looking at the way mathematics has impacted history. The lecture taught about the applications of mathematics in World War 2 intelligence and the famous cracking of the Enigma code. Attendees were able to see an Enigma machine first-hand, and learn how it worked. Many guests commented that the lecture was a huge success that was both intellectually stimulating and entertaining. MathSoc hopes a speaker event of this nature will become a regular fixture in their calendar.



Internship Fair: PPS: Poynting Physical Society

The PPS Internships Fair in January broke new ground for the Society as its first large-scale careers and industrial event, which was a resounding success. Backed by departmental funding, the committee decided to devise a novel opportunity not covered by the scope of any other current careers events on campus. The culmination of this effort was an afternoon focused on advertising unique industrial and research placements directly within the field of physics such as laboratories and industrial research companies, as opposed to the large STEM recruiters featured at other fairs. Presentations delivered to students featured speakers representing organisations such as the Cockcroft Institute, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory and SURE. The talks were followed by a networking reception, allowing students to directly engage with

the industry professionals for careers advice. The event was extremely well-attended and received strong feedback from attendees, invited speakers and Peggy Vazoura from Careers Network. Many students applied to placements advertised at the fair, leading to successful placements such as Ellen Butler, who will be joining the SURE programme for the summer. The Cockcroft Institute was extremely impressed by the event and subsequently invited the Society to tour its facilities. Furthermore, the School consequently expressed interest in collaborating with the Society to support its own future careers events. The event has had a huge positive effect on the Society itself, with its success laying crucial foundations for PPS to continue to deliver such opportunities, further expanding the scope and impact of the Society.



Society Founding: RailSoc

RailSoc has got off to an amazing start in its first year. The Society formed in the autumn as five first years, days into their University degrees, noticed there currently was no society for those with an academic, professional or casual interest in railways. They met with various College staff to discuss the idea and put the wheels in motion. Thanks to a very organised group, the newly formed RailSoc exhibited at the EPS Societies Fair just days later. To ensure the success of the new society, the profile was kept relatively low at first, with the Society operating as a small group of about 15 students dedicated to their mission and having a firm idea of what they wanted to achieve. The team started to gauge interest from their fellow students and

were ready to expand. When an email was sent out to the whole College in January, interest from other students came flooding in! Their numbers now stand at 85 people in the Facebook group, 70 on the mailing list and at least 30 attendees at every event this semester. The Society has formed a strong link with the Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education (BCRRE), who run the degree programmes that many of RailSoc's members study on. The team now regularly hold events and trips to railway depots and companies across the country, are building links with industry and allowing students to make friends with like-minded students. What they have achieved in just a few short months is astounding!

Great Achievement in EPS Award

This Award recognises outstanding contributions to the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, encapsulates the positive traits celebrated through all other Awards, and seeks to recognise exceptional individuals within the EPS societies. These are our future leading alumni.



Charles Hodgson: Team Principal 2016/17, UBRacing

Inspirational. Caring. Kind. Welcoming. All these words define Charles. In his time with UBRacing he has been an integral part of the team and central to their immense growth. As Team Principal, Charles led talks across the College to new students, encouraging them to join UBRacing with such vigour that the team received their greatest ever influx of new members. He is also a terrific student ambassador, showing genuine enthusiasm in encouraging visitors to study mechanical engineering. He also led the team in promoting the University and the Formula Student Competition at events such as the Malvern Festival of Innovation, Goodwood Festival of Speed and countless visits to schools up and down the country. He has successfully built relationships with new financial and gift-in-kind sponsors, who in many

cases turn to our University for their new recruits. He has liaised with team members new and old, keeping links with alumni through the formation of a UBRacing Alumni Facebook Group to help keep current team members in touch with them for guidance. He is a familiar face to many in the EPS Community, through the organisation of events such as Carl Hingley's retirement celebrations disguised as UBRacing's 20th Birthday Party and Reunion (with a beautiful speech). Undoubtedly Charles' greatest achievement was leading UBRacing to finish second out of more than 90 teams at the 2017 Formula Student Competition, winning the Endurance competition for the first time and also clinching the top spot for Overall Dynamic Performance – the best result in UBRacing's history!



Curtis Collins: President 2017/18 and Vice-President 2016/17, MathSoc

No one can doubt Curtis's commitment to MathSoc, his School, his College or his University. He has done everything: committee member, student rep, school ambassador, undergraduate senate rep, chair of Guild Officer Question Time, alumni host, society president, keen volunteer, tutor and mentor, and ran for a Guild Officer position in the spring hustling – the list goes on and all as a final-year student! Curtis is known for his immense enthusiasm and brilliant work ethic. As MathSoc President he has led the Society to greater and greater strengths through excellent team management and an innate ability to somehow be everywhere at once. He has helped others with their studies, held weekly support sessions for computer coding, constantly kept his fellow students informed on what's happening in the School, made sure everyone's

voices are heard, and is always available for a chat. Curtis is passionate about making a difference for students across the University and does this by positively engaging with staff, helping to solve problems and creating exciting new events. He was part of the organising committee for the EPS Trophy, which saw many of the College's societies compete for sporting glory, and he challenged societies across the five colleges to a University Challenge-style general knowledge quiz. Curtis has shown so much passion and enthusiasm when he helps at Applicant Visit Days that many students have said he was a prime factor in why they applied to Birmingham. Affectionately known as 'The King of Maths', Curtis is clearly at the centre of the School's community.



Helena Dodd: President 2017/18, 2016/17 and Vice-President 2015/16,
WISE: Women in Science and Engineering

Helena has been on the WISE committee for three years and has been instrumental in shaping the Society. She was a driving force in securing more than £11,000 in sponsorship and has forged links with numerous companies who have women's equality and widening participation as key priorities. She was central to the design and delivery of the Women in Tech, Science and Engineering Conferences; each welcoming inspirational speakers and offering powerful insights into their respective industries. Her award-winning 'Girls in STEM' scheme, which introduced workshops and clubs to local schools where girls were under-performing in science, is now WISE's benchmark programme and is a fantastic way to encourage young people to get hands-on with science and engineering. The scheme has been recognised in professional circles resulting

in Helena being the only undergraduate shortlisted for a national STEM Inspiration Award in 2017, and she was invited to present some of her teaching demonstrations at the House of Lords. She is a respected mentor, with all school pupils she works with achieving higher grades thanks to her unending support, and one even winning West Midlands Learner of the Year for their progress. Her dedication to inspiring young people is demonstrated by her involvement with the Big Bang Fair for eight consecutive years, and this year she became the Fair's youngest competition judge. On top of all this, she is an amazing chemist, was the only student to be awarded the RSC Undergraduate Research Bursary last year, and has been offered a PhD place at Imperial College London. Her achievements are seemingly endless.



Nicole Soor: Vice-President 2017/18, President 2016/17, Social Secretary 2015/16
and First-Year Rep 2014/15, NucSoc

Nicole has been on NucSoc committee throughout her four years at Birmingham. From acting as a student rep for the Nuclear Engineering programme to arranging NucSoc's first industrial visit to Diamond and ISIS and raising hundreds of pounds for charity, Nicole has given so much to NucSoc. As Social Secretary, she used her fun and outgoing personality to organise a plethora of social events. She knows her society has a diverse membership base, so goes out of her way to ensure that all students' interests are catered for and that everyone who wants to get involved is able to. Her organisation doesn't just sit with NucSoc and over the years she has worked on many activities with BUMS to build a better, more cohesive (and often competitive!)

relationship between the two societies. Despite trying to step away from the Society this year to focus on her Masters year, she just couldn't do it and was persuaded to run for Vice-President in NucSoc's emergency general meeting in September. She quickly adapted into the new committee, welcomed new position holders and opened the doors to great numbers of freshers. Nicole is a great friend to the committee, ensuring everyone is well looked after, supported and included, particularly in times of need when she is both encouraging and a shoulder to cry on. Nicole has had an incredible impact on NucSoc and she will be sorely missed when she graduates this summer.



Zak Viney: Co-President, BUMS: Birmingham University Materials Society and Co-Founder, EPS Trophy

Zak's name is synonymous with 'dedication', 'achievement' or 'maniac', depending on who you ask! Zak is a charismatic and selfless character who constantly thinks of new ideas to improve BUMS and ensures he fulfils his role to the best of his ability. He has encouraged more freshers to get involved with BUMS by making it his mission to put a name to every face. He offered unending support to the new BUMS Families Scheme, encouraged more new students to join the Society, and helped build strong friendships across all years. His crowning glory is the incredibly successful EPS Trophy; an idea that Zak conceived in early 2017. He collated and led a team from several societies to organise the College's first multidisciplinary sports tournament, all with the aim of building

relationships and inspiring friendly rivalry across EPS. All those involved will attest to Zak's determination and unwavering dedication to making the EPS Trophy the best it could possibly be. His attitude is an inspiration to all who work with him, especially within BUMS where Zak is committed to promoting involvement and fostering new leaders within the Society. On top of all this, Zak ran an incredible Guild Election campaign where he personally spoke to hundreds of students about the issues that matter to them (in the snow, no less!). A fearless leader, Zak has done everything in his power to lead BUMS to their strongest year ever and has clearly had a great impact on both BUMS and across the College; an impact that will not be quickly forgotten.

Society of the Year 2017/18

This Award celebrates the outstanding activities conducted by societies over the course of the year. Through events, innovative projects and activities, superb organisation, or raising awareness these societies provide an exceptional, well-rounded and inclusive experience to their members. They have pushed the boundaries and delivered more than ever before.



BUMS: Birmingham University Materials Society

BUMS has spent the year pioneering many new activities for the School and College. In Welcome Week they made it their mission to get to know every single new student. They introduced the 'families' programme, where two or three students from higher years become 'parents' of small groups of first years, making sure everyone felt welcome and included from their first day at University. As a result, there are now more first-year members than ever and a record number applied to take on Society positions at the end of the year. The BUMS Careers Fair was the biggest to date, with more than 20 companies supporting the future careers of students, and directly resulting in students obtaining employment. Of course, BUMS had a very busy social programme with lots of parties,

quizzes and other social events, creating a fantastic atmosphere in the School. Together with NucSoc they again organised the Materials Ball, which this year sold out within five days and led to an Alumni Day being organised for graduates who joined the celebrations. To top it all off, BUMS spearheaded the EPS Trophy tournament, which successfully brought together students from across the College to compete for sporting glory. Thanks to their amazing sporting league success over the year, BUMS were victorious and won the entire competition! Continuing their winning streak, a few days later BUMS was crowned 'Cleverest Society' at the EPS University Challenge quiz and represented the College at the University-wide final. They have truly had a remarkable year.



MathSoc

Over the year, MathSoc has hosted a wide variety of fully inclusive activities reflecting the diverse range of the 300+ students the Society brings together. They have strived to cater to every member's needs, whether it be social, academic or career-oriented and member experience is always prioritised. Members wanted a new squash club, so a new squash club was introduced! MathSoc has also made a concentrated effort to bring societies together from across the College and further afield. They collaborated with numerous societies on games nights and socials, helped organise the inaugural EPS Trophy sports tournament, and ambitiously organised the first-ever UoB-wide University Challenge quiz, throwing down the gauntlet to the other colleges to see who would be named 'Smartest Society'. As a now well-established

society, MathSoc has not become complacent and continues to build on their accomplishments: their charitable activities are flourishing with more bake sales and fundraising events; the Family Scheme is thriving and is a well-reputed reason for students to study at Birmingham, and the Volunteering Scheme has grown exponentially with almost four times as many students tutoring local school pupils than last year. Not to mention MathSoc Sport, which is really coming into its own and growing a thriving (and winning!) community in its own right. They even put their new sporting spirit to the test and travelled to the University of Nottingham for a varsity competition. MathSoc's efforts to deliver a genuinely member-focused experience have truly paid off.



PPS: Poynting Physical Society

PPS has undergone significant growth and development this year, with a huge rise in members and a successful dive into the world of graduate prospects. As a society that has long been a catalyst for the formation of social bonds between students, staff and alumni, PPS decided to take on the challenge of networking students with potential employers. The Internship Fair and trip to Daresbury Laboratory were hugely successful, and all companies involved were very impressed. The relationships forged as part of the Fair have laid the foundations for more events of this kind to be organised in the future, to improve the graduate prospects of physics students at the University. Furthermore, the Society has improved its outreach offerings by partnering with MathSoc on their

tutoring scheme for Year 11s. Through this scheme, PPS is not only supporting the academic ability of local schoolchildren, but is giving a positive impression of the University, as well as providing valuable teaching experience to members. PPS also hosted a wide variety of their signature social events throughout the year, such as quizzes, Higgs Booze-On bar crawl, regular sporting fixtures, the introduction of a netball team and even a trip to a trampoline park. The famous Spring Ball saw an unprecedented number of guests; a great achievement for PPS, who are always striving to increase staff and alumni involvement and to create a strong community in the School. PPS have excelled themselves in creating that spirit of fun, but also in helping shape career opportunities.



RailSoc

From a standing start, RailSoc has already established itself as one of the College's most active societies. Its membership could well have grown quickest of all the new societies, now with 85 people in their Facebook group alone. RailSoc already has a fantastically diverse membership base with students from across the University covering all year groups, and also including postgraduate research students and members of staff. Some of the research students are part-time and based in industry, so aren't always on campus and thus bring a very different set of skills to the Society, proving that the RailSoc message is getting further afield than the University! In six short months, the Society has arranged trips to the Siemens' depot in Northamptonshire and Severn Valley Railway in

Kidderminster, had a hands-on experience at the Crewe Railway Heritage Centre, done a train planning course with CrossCountry trains, walked a disused railway line, and to cap it all, they plan to realise their ambitions and drive a train after exams are over in June. They've also got their hands dirty working with the Railway Centre's Hydrogen Train team to create this year's IMechE Railway Challenge locomotive, putting into practice the theory they've learned from their many trips. It's not been all technical: they took part in the Sports v Societies social night and got together with the Bad Film Society to watch The Titfield Thunderbolt, a classic Ealing comedy. With confidence and commitment to their society, RailSoc members can only go from strength to strength.



UBRacing

UBRacing has enjoyed a very successful year, returning from the Formula Student competition at Silverstone in July 2017 with their best ever result. They won both the Overall Dynamics and Endurance events, resulting in an overall second-place finish and giving the team their first silverware in their 20-year history. Formula Student sees almost 100 university teams from across the world build single-seater racing cars from scratch each year; UBRacing's 2017 second place has put them among the best automotive engineering teams on the planet! Riding on this success, the team has recruited a huge intake of new members, ranging from first years to final years, studying mechanical engineering to geology. They've also had one of their highest retention rates of members going into their second year. To ensure members are as active as possible, they have created

a set of unique opportunities to keep them involved, such as component talks and demonstrations from UBRacing functions to teach the new intake about the car. They also have a successful outreach programme and regularly exhibit across the country with the aim to encourage more young people into engineering. UBRacing has continued to secure new high-level sponsors and were invited to pitch to both BP Castrol and MAHLE Powertrain; competing against other top universities the team secured valuable support from both companies. At the same time, they maintained existing partnerships and worked with their sponsors to promote lasting relationships. Despite their new-found size, UBRacing continue their strong team ethos and effectively develop each and every member to achieve their full potential.



WISE: Women in Science and Engineering

WISE's achievements in 2017/18 are the result of years of transformation and building strong connections within the College, local community and industrial sponsors. WISE is one of the most diverse societies on campus, proudly encompassing members across all years of study, undergraduate and postgraduate, from all schools within EPS, as well as recently expanding to the College of Life and Environmental Sciences. To be as inclusive as possible, membership is free and all events are free and open to members and non-members alike. Throughout the past three years, WISE has collaborated on events with six different societies, two of which led to the establishment of annual College-wide conferences: Women in Technology and Women in Science. One of WISE's core missions is to encourage and support

young underrepresented female pupils within the local area to pursue STEM careers. To do this WISE has set up regular science clubs at local schools, as well as hosting and supporting one-off events in a variety of schools, ranging from primary to sixth forms. Another key mission of WISE is to provide networking and career opportunities; this year alone they've worked with eight different companies to deliver a range of workshops and events. They have also increased their social offerings with a trip to the ballet, a cocktail-making session with KPMG and participating in the EPS Trophy. WISE's efforts to empower and inspire their members through their invited speakers and outreach programmes translate into making university a more enjoyable and inclusive experience to all.

Our sponsors

We thank our award sponsors for their support in helping us stage an awards ceremony worthy of our finalists.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN



AN UNCONVENTIONAL
PERSPECTIVE
DELIVERS A DECISIVE EDGE.

From autonomous systems, to cyber security,
to NASA's James Webb Space Telescope,
Northrop Grumman makes the extraordinary every day.

THE VALUE OF PERFORMANCE.
NORTHROP GRUMMAN

© 2018 Northrop Grumman Corporation www.northropgrumman.com/europe



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Edgbaston, Birmingham,
B15 2TT, United Kingdom
www.birmingham.ac.uk

Designed and printed by

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

creativemedia