



# SLA Newsletter

Winter 2019 / 2020

# Welcome to the Winter 2019/2020 Edition Of Our SLA Newsletter

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## PAL Manager's Note

Jerry and his editorial team have done a great job in putting together news items about what the SLA community has been up to this academic year. This edition promises to jog your memory of the training events (page 3) we had last term. It also features the SLA team's contributions at the Student Success Festival (page 4) and the SLA Networking event at Xmas (page 6). We are ever so proud of the work that our SLAs do in the classroom and beyond, and you can read about Zoya's achievement in receiving the United Nation's scholarship; Jerry, Christos and other SLAs' contribution towards the appointment of our new Vice Chancellor on page 5.

I am delighted to hear so many positive comments from lecturers and students alike about the work you are doing in supporting student learning. Keep up the good work and happy reading!

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# SLA Training



This is where it all began for our 2019/2020 SLAs. Here at the SLA scheme, we pride ourselves in receiving an exceptional training curriculum that molds, prepares and enables us as Student Learning Assistants to do great things. The depth and level of knowledge we grasp from the training enables us to thrive in various learning scenarios while supporting our peers and developing ourselves. We would like to acknowledge our Senior SLAs and other experienced SLAs for contribution to training and the development of the scheme.

***Jerry Okoye - Senior SLA Sports Science***



# SLAs at the Student Success Festival

The SSF was a fun filled event where SLAs back by popular demand, to brighten students lunch break with some fun games such as Spin the Wheel, Buzz Wire challenge and Marshmallow Challenge and the chance to win prizes! The activities were designed in a way to test students nerve, concentration and challenged students to be more competitive. Essentially, quick-fire games to help students uncover their own learning strengths.

*Dhana Letchmanan - PAL Coordinator*





# SLA Achievements

## Participation in the Appointment of the Vice Chancellor

**B**eing SLAs and recognized voices within the MDX board and various departments, our Senior SLAs: **Jerry Okoye** and **Christos Andreas Evangelou**; SLAs: **Nina Carlos-Bose** and **Callum Frank Wilkinson** represented the SLA Scheme and played key roles in the interviewing of the Middlesex University Vice Chancellor candidates, where a successful candidate (Nic Beech) was appointed the next Vice Chancellor of Middlesex University. Congratulations Nic!

*Jerry Okoye - Senior SLA Sports Science*

## Awards/Scholarships

**O**ur very own **Senior SLA Zoya Bhatti** has obtained a Scholarship for Change The World Model for United Nations (CWMUN). Zoya will be the first student from MDX to attend the United Nations Conference in New York alongside over 3000 students from universities worldwide. Congratulations on Your Achievement Zoya! Good luck with the participation and we are looking forward to hearing more about the event.

*Jerry Okoye - Senior SLA Sports Science*



# SLA Christmas Networking Party

**W**ith the new decade already upon us, we have some exciting and fun moments to share with everyone. Our **Annual SLA Christmas Networking Event** took place at MDX House in December of last year. **Organized by** a group of hard-working **SLAs** led by our **Senior SLA Zoya Bhatti**, this event allowed the SLAs and The PAL team to come together, party and network in a festive style. Food and drinks were in abundant, SLAs battled it out in karaoke, music chair and limbo fights and the SLA DJ spanned some awesome tunes. We are already planning our **next SLA Event**: The infamous **SLA Awards Ceremony** taking place at the end of this term. Watch this space!

***Jerry Okoye - Senior SLA Sports Science***





# To Celebrate The Life of **Louis Heinrich**



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the death of one of our SLAs, Louis-Michael Heinrich who passed on recently. Louis was a deeply caring individual who was genuinely interested in sharing his knowledge with others. Not only was he a Maths SLA, he was an exemplary student who embraced different opportunities within the university. He was an Ambassador for the Mathematics with Computing programme, a founder member of the Mathematics and Coding society and a Student Voice Leader.

One of his favourite places was the Maths Help Centre at Hendon Public Library where he was either learning, sharing his knowledge, or supporting others in their learning. He was truly inspirational and impacted his peers profoundly. He will surely be missed and we hold his family and loved ones in our thoughts at this time.

***Simbo Ajayi—PAL Manager***

# Things to look out for

## SLA AWARDS Ceremony



SLAs' biggest event is fast approaching. The Awards Ceremony marks an occasion where our SLAs are rewarded and celebrated for their exceptional and phenomenal contribution towards the SLA Scheme. Our Awards Ceremonies are attended by a cohort of high profile academics including the Chancellor of the University Dame Janet Ritterman. Date and theme coming up shortly.

## SLA Yearbook

### What is an SLA Year Book?

Yearbook is a publication celebrating a year in the life of SLAs, featuring everyone who worked as an SLA during that particular year and showcasing the achievements of all SLAs. The publication is led and created by SLAs and resembles the vision and ethos of those SLAs.

*If you are an SLA and would like to get involved in either project, please contact:*

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**Senior SLA Jerry Okoye:** [JO690@live.mdx.ac.uk](mailto:JO690@live.mdx.ac.uk)

### Do Not Forget

- ⇒ Submit your reflections on the OU blog
- ⇒ Use effective communication skills
- ⇒ SLAs work collaboratively with academics
- ⇒ SLAs facilitate and do not teach
- ⇒ SLAs are not counsellors
- ⇒ SLAs are the best!

Keep up with us on Social Media:



**@slamdx**

