

Taught MSc Newsletter

MARCH 2021

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Dear Offer Holder

Congratulations on your offer to study on one of our MSc programmes.

We hope you enjoy finding out a little more about our School, its staff and students in this newsletter.

Do you have a question? Contact us via email (msc.lifesciences@warwick.ac.uk) or contact your [regional agent](#).

Why not come and 'visit' us on 24 April for our next [Virtual Open Day](#) to find out whether studying here might suit you.

Alternatively, please join one of our [Live Chats](#) which run on selected Tuesdays.

The PGT Team
School of Life Sciences

Empowering students and making friends

by **Malay Soni**
MSc Biotechnology, Bioprocessing & Business Management

"Namaste! Hello! Bonjour!

I am Malay, and my roots are based in India. It has been a lovely experience at Warwick since I started as student, navigating my way through a new curriculum during the pandemic. The department is highly supportive and provides splendid resources that makes it all easy. It is lovely to be on campus which is full of lush greenery and premium amenities.

I am Chair of the Taught Postgraduate Staff Student Liaison Committee (SSLC) and am also the part of the Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Committee. The SSLC is a group of students who are elected to represent their respective courses. It is quite interesting to be part of this committee as you get to interact with peers from different streams. You built a rapport with the professors and the department, alongside understanding the functioning of the university. Since my election life's been full of colours that come in the form of unique and exciting tasks and my lovely friends.

If you have a knack for leading and want to be the voice for your peers this is the right place for you. You will be conveying feedback and suggestions from students to the department. Being part of SSLC will give you ample opportunities to host fun activities for the student cohort. You will empower the students from minority groups. Addressing sensitive topics like BLM, women's safety, etc will keep you aware of current affairs and help you get rid of any prejudice.

I have learned a lot about different cultures and their festivals. I wholeheartedly cherish my diverse group of friends whom I met as the days went by. The appreciation which I receive is a real morale booster and keeps me enthusiastic all the while. It's a role that will harness your confidence and sense of responsibility. The role looks great on your curriculum vitae and is the cherry on the cake."

"I can vouch that while being a part of SSLC, you will always be enjoying and learning."





Agricultural student of the year

Congratulations to **Hannah McGrath** on her British Farming Agricultural Student of the Year silver award.

Hannah graduated with an Environmental Bioscience in a Changing Climate masters from the School of Life Sciences in 2017 and is currently doing a PhD with Rothamsted Research and the University of Reading as part of the Waitrose Collaborative Training Partnership.

See [Hannah's profile](#).

Find out more about the [Warwick and Waitrose CTP](#).

New blogger

We have a new postgraduate student blogger, **Oorja Kohli**. Oorja is studying on our Biotechnology, Bioprocessing and Business Management MSc and is an international student from India. Her latest blog covers 'Top five tricks to ace your personal statement'.

Why not take a look at her blogs, and those of other Life Sciences and Warwick students, on [OurWarwick](#) to get a feel for student life here at Warwick.

You can [contact Oorja](#) via OurWarwick if you have any questions for her.



Virtual Graduation

Our graduates from across the world met up again on Monday 1st March for a virtual graduation ceremony. The 2019-20 cohort were unable to attend an in-person graduation due to pandemic restrictions, so the School invited them to join online to celebrate.

The event began with speeches from the Head of School, the PGT Director and the Chair of the Staff-Student Liaison Committee. Prizes were awarded for best dissertation projects and best coursework for different masters degrees.

The graduates were able to catch up with each other and share their stories about the interesting careers and experiences they've begun since completing their masters.



Scholarships

We have some fantastic scholarships available! Check out deadlines and whether you are eligible. We look forward to receiving your application.

[Women in STEM - South Asia: Climate Change](#)

Five full scholarships.

[Clyde Higgs Scholarships](#)

Five scholarships of £6,758.

[SLS Excellence Scholarships](#)

A 50% fee reduction will be offered to two high achieving students.

[GREAT - Warwick Scholarship - India](#)

A £15,000 fee reduction to a student from India.

Laughter, jokes and new friends

by **Emily Sanders**

MSc Environmental Bioscience in a Changing Climate

"There is no point beating around the bush, university life in a pandemic has been challenging. I mean come on, we're students - we're supposed to spend two thirds of our degree at the pub, right? Not alone, at home, discussing the good old days with our parents in the kitchen... However, we didn't let this stop us and Post-grad students across Warwick stepped up to the plate proving proudly that the 'pub-life' really is where the heart is.

A legendary pub quiz hosted by the Student Staff Liaison Committee occurred over Teams on 17 February. That's right, I'm talking laughter, jokes, new friends, 1 o'clock beers, and even some knowledge learned. Against all odds, we pulled off the social event many didn't think was possible; abiding by Covid rules whilst still having fun. So much so that there were even cries for a second one in the future (though hopefully we can do it face-to-face next time).

All jokes aside, I think that really goes to show the resilience and strength of our student cohort. You can make the most of a bad situation, and together anything really is possible. For 1.5 hours out of our lockdown lives, the world stopped, and we were able to be the students we were born to be. Just goes to show - you can take the student out of the pub, but you can't take the pub out of the student!"

Emily was born in South Africa, moved to the UK in 2008 and has a BSc in Zoology. While traveling to Australia, she experienced the devastating 2019 bush fires and came back to the UK to study at Warwick. She says "Although challenging, I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of my course. With the environmental obstacles humanity faces, I hope to continue working in this sector in tackling climate change, ensuring a sustainable future for all."

