



Outreach @Warwick

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Issue 20
Spring Edition 2021



Welcome back to the Widening Participation and Outreach Team Newsletter! Read on to find out what we've been up to in a post-COVID world...

Celebrating International Day of Women and Girls in Science - 11th February 2021

To celebrate the International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2021 we asked our students and academic staff to create some great videos on their experiences of being Women in Science at Warwick. Several of our colleagues from the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Medicine took part in creating both pre-recorded content and hosted a live Q&A on the day.

We created pre-recorded interactive sessions aimed at year 9/10 students, to encourage them to consider a future in science. These one hour pre-planned lesson plans that included an academic session (delivered by some of our wonderful female colleagues), a talk by a current SEM student and a short session about applying to University.

On the evening of the 11th February, we hosted a virtual, live Q&A panel event aimed at year 12/13s, where the all-female panel was chaired by Professor Caroline Meyer (Faculty Chair and Professor within Warwick Manufacturing Group), and included three academics, a Biochemistry Alumna (who is now a research scientist at Oxford) and a current Physics student. The event was a huge success with 125 prospective students attending and 99 engaging and thought provoking questions asked in just over an hour! The event was such a success that we hope to deliver something similar again soon.

If you would like to request our Year 9/10 Science Lesson plans please email us at outreach@warwick.ac.uk and you can view our amazing female academics talking about their roles and journeys here: <https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/scienceinschools/internationalwomeninscienceevent2021/>

Finally if you would like to know more about Science in Schools, please email our WP Faculty Coordinator, Amanda Bishop on Amanda.m.bishop@warwick.ac.uk

Our Programmes in Numbers...

Below you can see some key stats:*

77 Warwick Scholars who will have guaranteed offers from Warwick

Warwick Scholars will have organised over **1000** hours of 1-to-1 tutoring for students

93 students have joined Realising Opportunities this year and **27** students from Realising Opportunities have joined Warwick in 2020

Students enrolled in pathways programmes: **43** for law, **37** for banking and finance, **36** for engineering

*accurate at time of print



Pathways Launches

This year the Pathways team hosted 3 virtual launches for our programmes, Pathways to Law, Pathways to Banking & Finance and the brand new Pathways to Engineering, throughout the months of November and December 2020. The launches took place on Wednesday evenings and ran from 4:30pm - 7:15pm on the platform Blackboard. The launches provided the team an opportunity to meet the new cohorts and explain to them more about the programme and what to expect over the 2 years. All the launches followed a similar timetable, with each opening with a welcome and introduction talk, which included an icebreaker quiz. Each programme then had a digital skills talk from an employer. The law

students had a talk from DLA Piper, the Banking & Finance students heard from NatWest Banks and the engineering cohort heard from Shell. Once all the students had heard about digital skills, students were put into breakout rooms so they could practice their digital skills and introduce themselves which involved small team building exercises. The main aim of this session was for students to meet each other and the pathways mentors who will be supporting them on the programme. After the team building session student had a quick break before participating in a student finance Q&A with a member of the university's student funding team. The students then heard from a year 13 pathways student, who spoke

about what they had got from the programme so far. The final session involved programme 'next steps' and informed students about the next upcoming event the CV workshop, which will take place in January. The students were then asked to complete a short evaluation form before the event finished. All the students said they enjoyed the launch and they felt much more informed about the programme afterwards. When asked 'what are you most looking forward to on the Pathways programme?', most students replied by saying the work experience and engaging with employers. Other themes that came up were, the summer school and speaking to professionals

Warwick at National Careers Week 2021

One of our highlights was taking part in the first ever Coventry & Warwickshire Virtual Career Show. The virtual fair was organised by the Coventry & Warwickshire Careers Hub. Employers, colleges and universities were all offered a 'virtual stand' where they could include useful links, resources and videos for local students, teachers and parents/carers.

The WP team and Warwick Student Ambassadors 'staffed' the virtual stand and answered lots of live chat questions from students, including questions about specific subjects, career pathways, degree apprenticeships and post-16 options. We were very impressed by how thoughtful and insightful these questions were and it was an absolute pleasure to take part in this event. We're very grateful to the Careers Hub for putting on such a fantastic Careers Show!

We also enjoyed speaking to some brilliant Year 10 and Year 11 students at Harris Church of England Academy during the week. In this session, WP staff and Student Ambassadors gave an introduction to university and university life and shared information about post-16 options and next steps.

The best bit, though, was taking the students on a virtual tour of the university campus. We walked - and sometimes flew! - our way around campus, showing the students places like the Library, academic buildings, the SU, a variety of halls and the Sports & Wellness Hub. At each stop, Student Ambassadors talked through their experiences and explained what things like 'lectures', 'seminars' and 'halls' are. We also had the opportunity to quiz the students too. One of our favourite quiz questions

was "Which of these Warwick student societies is real: 'Picnic Society', 'Cheese and Chocolate Society' or 'Snack and Chat'?"* We'd like to thank Harris for offering us the opportunity to speak to the students. We were very impressed with their engagement and wish them all the best with their future options!

*It's the Cheese and Chocolate Society, but we think the others sound pretty good too!



Moving our events online, autumn term and beyond

We have undoubtedly seen far fewer students as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, we have really missed going into schools and being able to do things like assemblies and Careers Fairs.

However, we are pleased to say that we have been becoming very experienced in moving our events online and have managed to host booths at a number of virtual careers fairs as well as Teams versions of assemblies!

Whilst nothing will replace interacting in person, we've been amazed and pleased with how well these have worked and have really enjoyed answering students questions again.

Recent examples have been an online assembly for year eleven students in which Outreach Officer, Jo shared information, advice and guidance in her usual engaging way, with the option for students to email in their questions.

We have also been collating these questions into an FAQ section on our website as well as many other digital resources, please be sure to pop along for all of your questions answered in one place!

Do also follow our Social Media Twitter and Instagram to keep in touch with latest opportunities and resources, including our blog section.

Another example was the hugely successful Virtual Careers Fair run by Coventry and Warwickshire Careers Hub, right in the middle of National Careers Week. The team built a virtual booth which was packed full of handy information from finance and funding through to how to write a personal statement and everything in between!

On the day they were joined by our fantastic student ambassadors who were on hand to answer everyone's questions throughout the afternoon and evening.

It was a great example of how a team can work together and interact with so many people, all from our own homes!

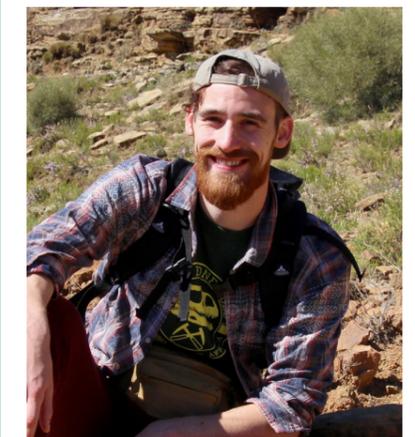
It was a busy week that week as we had academic enrichment days for our current Warwick Scholars as well as in-school (online!) talks with Harris Academy about careers and skills and at the weekend a Uni Explorers day in which PAIS Professor Shannaz facilitated an 'election' between Superman and Captain America!

If your school is planning a virtual event in the coming months, then please get in touch and needless to say, as soon as it is safe to do so - we can't wait to come to your school or college again soon!



New Team Members

We have two new staff who have joined the team - both called Daniel. Daniel Cashmore, our new Data Analyst and Daniel Tones, our new Widening Participation Assistant. Hannah Brindley who was responsible for writing the newsletters has left the team for an exciting new role in the Student Recruitment Team. We wish Hannah all the best and want to say thank you for all the hard work you put into the newsletters over the two years you were in the team!



Daniel Cashmore
Data Analyst



Daniel Tones
Widening Participation Assistant

A Spotlight on...

Green Week

At the beginning of March we marked Green Week during a series of online events and talks, held across the University and in collaboration with colleagues at Coventry University.

As we all think about ways that we can reduce our environmental impact and increase our sustainability, we looked to departments within the University who are doing vital research and work to achieve this.

One course is Global Sustainable Development, which is a transdisciplinary course which seeks to critically evaluate and explore the concept through many disciplines across social sciences, sciences and humanities.

Current student Daveena explains what GSD means to her:

"Global Sustainable Development is all around us. It is in everything we do. From food to fashion, economy to environment, every action you have taken today will directly be linked to Global Sustainable Development. It is a way to acknowledge the past, accept the present and advance the future. It is for you, me and the rest of the world. How you shape it is up to you."

Daveena

final-year single honours GSD student

There is also a lot of research and innovation happening at Warwick Manufacturing Group (WMG) and recently our colleagues there held a Webinar (video available online) in which they discussed powering the future responsibly, many schools attended the webinar and more events are planned in the future. Please keep an eye on our website and social media feeds for more information and who knows, you could be an innovator of the (green) future!

To find out more about our Undergraduate Global Sustainable Development Courses or any of our UG courses for 2021/22 entry visit here <https://warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/>



DIGITAL RESOURCES:

We have a wide range of **digital resources** available on our website

<https://warwick.ac.uk/study/outreach/digitalactivity>

Save the date!

Pre 16 Summer Series 5-16 July 2021- Registration of interest form opening soon
Sutton Trust Year 12 Digital Summer School 2- 6 August 2021 - Now fully booked

STAY SAFE  **STAY HOME.**

Contact Us

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