

SLA NEWSLETTER

'FOR SLAS BY SLAS'

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE SLA
COMMUNITY



WELCOME!

By Daniela Humajova and Aini Abdulahi

The coldest days of winter are slowly but surely coming to the end as February brings a bit of love, and a gentle feeling of spring wherever the sun lies warm. We have twenty-eight more days to enjoy the warmth of fireplaces snuggled in blankets, perhaps with a good book, surrounded by the smell of a favourite brew. And as winter slowly fades into spring, we would like to welcome you to a new season of SLA Newsletters. The newsletter will fly to your inbox every month, to keep you updated on our latest news, events and exciting opportunities the SLA role offers.

We also welcome ideas from you! If you have something you wish to share with the SLA community, whether that be a cute picture of your pet, projects being worked on, outstanding accomplishment inside or outside of your role, we are looking to hear from you!

Get in touch: dh802@live.mdx.ac.uk
aa4543@live.mdx.ac.uk

Daniela and Aini

(Chief Editors)

SLA WINTER EVENTS



THE INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY EVENT

by Aleksandra Filipova

Being an SLA means sharing any additional resources they may come across with their students. Moreover, being a Senior SLA means making sure that the SLAs are aware of the existence of these additional resources. The International Mobility Webinars were the perfect way to do exactly that! By organising two interactive sessions, we wanted to bring the SLAs' attention to the International Mobility Team and to all of the opportunities they have to offer. Here's a quick recap of what we did:

Firstly, we wanted to clarify what the International Mobility Team does. The International Mobility Team work with the students that started their studies at Middlesex University and went on an exchange programme abroad, as well as with the students that started their studies abroad and came to do an exchange programme at Middlesex University. To tell us more about the opportunities they offer, we had the amazing guest speaker Paulina, who is an International Mobility Officer (Outgoing). She explained that students can do study placement abroad and work placement abroad. We wanted the SLAs to be aware of this for two main reasons. The first one was so that they can take advantage of those opportunities themselves, and the second one was so that they can share this information with their students.

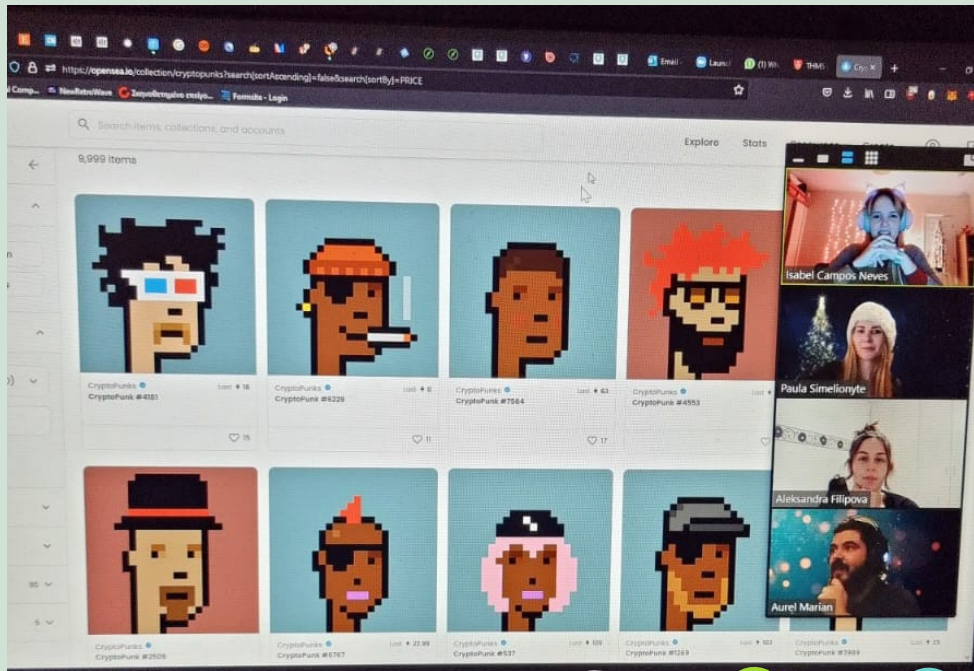
I might be a bit biased, but as the Senior SLA organising this event, I believe it was a success! However, this was thanks to the wonderful Senior SLAs Aini, Paula and Ciprian, who did an amazing job hosting the events! Moreover, the webinars wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for the one and only Dhana, who did so much of the organisation behind them! Last but not least, Paulina was an amazing speaker and I couldn't have asked for more! Thank you all!

Lastly, if you want to learn more about the International Mobility Webinars, everyone has been sent the recordings of them and a list of the additional resources Paulina gave us. If you can't find them, please, drop me an email and I am more than happy to send them to you again. My email is af863@live.mdx.ac.uk.

Thank you all for reading,
Aleksandra Filipova, Senior SLA



SLA WINTER EVENTS



SENIOR SLA XMAS NETWORKING EVENT

by Isabel Campos Neves

As of recently, I had the pleasure of organising the Senior SLA Christmas Networking Event! Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the event was delayed and we were unable to hold it in person as I would have wished for. However, there was still a chance of celebrating the holidays with our colleagues online via Zoom!

It was a small event, but I can confidently say that we all enjoyed it so much! Being able to connect with my fellow Senior SLA's within a non-work environment was amazing, and it really allowed us to get to know our colleagues in a different setting than we would usually meet in. The aim of the event was for everyone to relax as I acknowledged that many of us were likely to have been feeling extremely stressed due to assignments and deadlines pending for us. It was such a fun experience getting to play games, have fun just chatting with one another, learning more about what everyone likes and dislikes, and of course what everyone is currently doing in their final year of university. I can't be more than thankful to everyone that came.

We are also currently in the midst of planning a similar event for all our SLA's at the moment so don't forget to keep an eye out for any events announcements that will be coming soon!

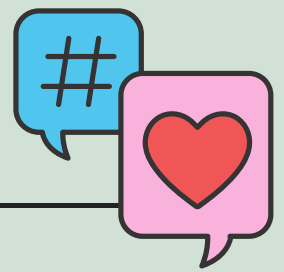
If you have any event ideas/proposals you would like to let us know about or if you would like to collaborate with us in organising event please let me know!

My email is IC307@live.mdx.ac.uk .

Thank you,
Isabel Campos Neves



INTRODUCTION TO SLA SOCIAL MEDIA



In 2022 we're all accessible through our favourite social media platforms. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has proven how vital these are to stay in touch with each other during these unprecedented, socially distant times.

The SLA scheme is no different in this digital age we're experiencing. This month, Paula and I will be launching our Instagram and Facebook pages dedicated exclusively to our ventures as SLAs. Our goal is to promote the scheme further and provide social space to inspire and swap professional experiences between current SLAs.

For any inquiries and collaboration offers, please contact me at zp092@live.mdx.ac.uk and Paula at ps1095@live.mdx.ac.uk

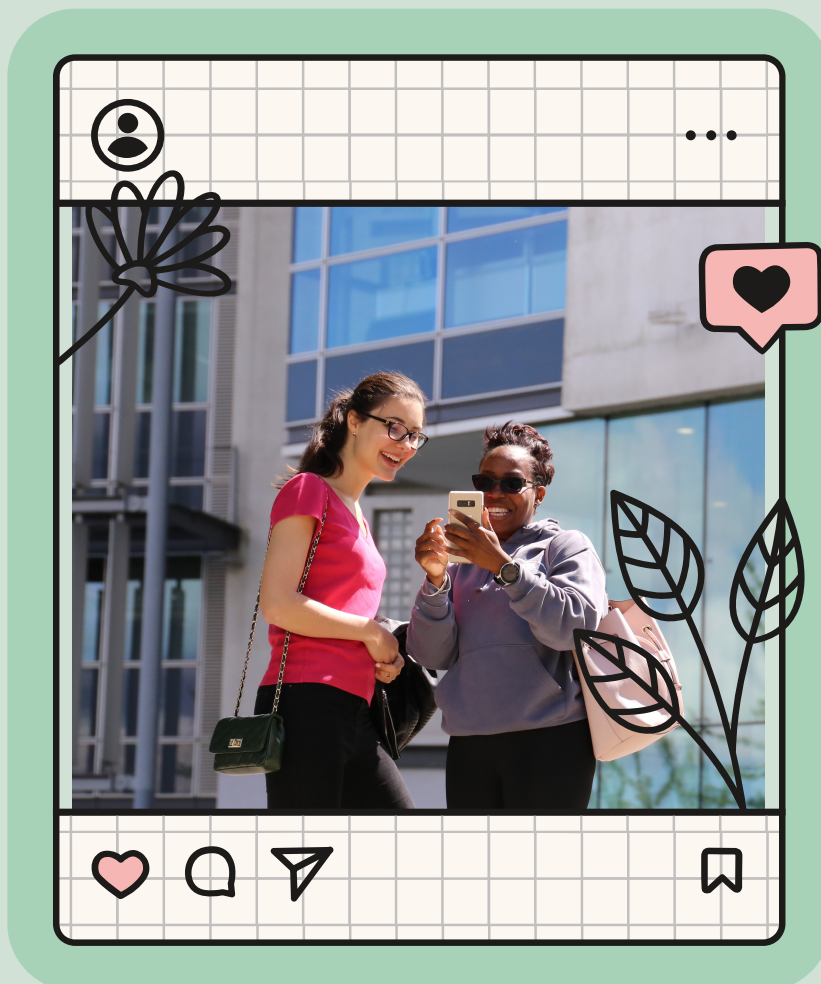
Our handles are



@MDX SLA on Facebook.



Tony Pisarski
(Senior SLA)





WANT TO JOIN THE SLA YEARBOOK COMMITTEE?

#yearbook

Every year SLAs celebrate a year in their lives by creating a yearbook, featuring everyone who worked as an SLA during that particular year, outlining their journeys, and showcasing the achievements of all SLAs. This year will be no different!

Currently we are looking for:

Section editors - ideally one SLA from each school to collect pictures, quotes and achievements and then assist in the layout of each section. Checks all pages for consistency before submitted to me for final checks.

Designers - to help with page spreads, the overall theme and designs.

Photography editors - photographers for events, tracks calendars to make sure virtual events are photographed, edits them, makes sure no photo is used more than once.

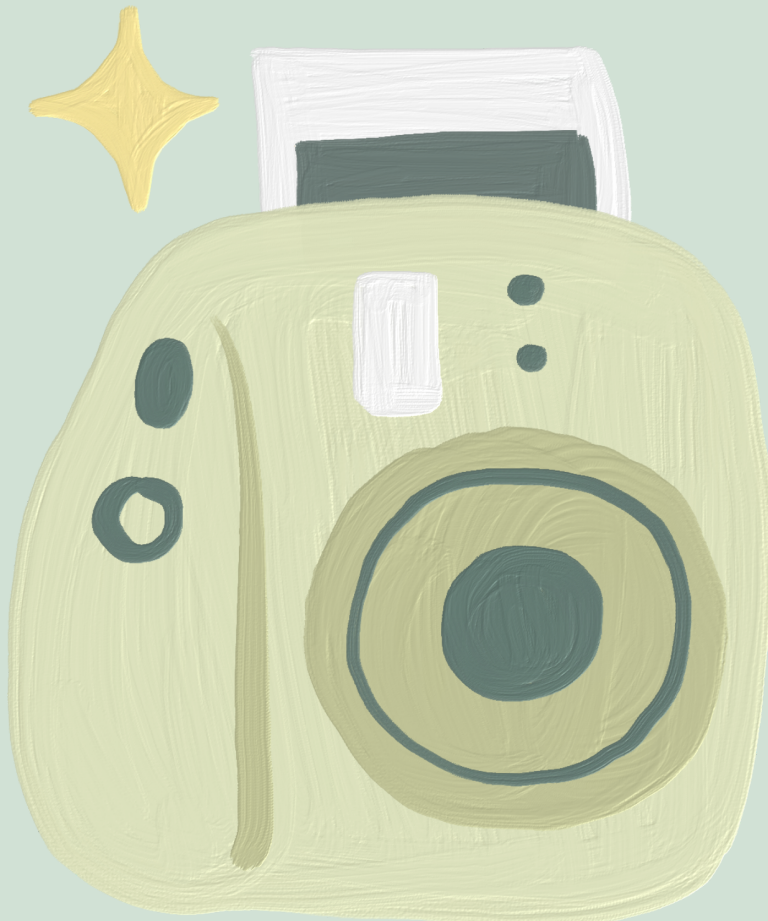
Copy writers - brainstorm ideas and coverage concepts for the spreads, write captions and headlines for assigned spreads, spell checks and proofreads.

If you would like to be involved in the Yearbook committee for 2021/2022, please drop us an email with your desired position and an expression of interest at: dh802@live.mdx.ac.uk or aa4543@live.mdx.ac.uk.

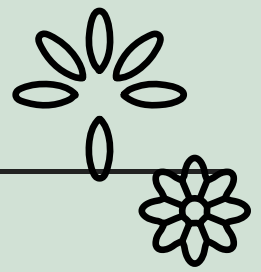
This must be done by the end of February. The committee will be kept small - so don't pass this opportunity up! **It is also paid.**

Daniela and Aini

(Chief Editors)



EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR



WELLBEING & FIKA SEMINARS

Wellbeing is extremely important for every single one of us, and can be in danger especially over stressful exam periods or stacking deadlines.

Our fellow seniors Aurel and Leidy are hosting weekly presentations, collaborating with different guest speakers to alternate between general wellbeing and the FIKA courses. They will share useful tips for students on campus, such as how to improve both physical and mental health, and what services the university provides, ranging from free massages, sports activities to mental health counselling. Moreover, the FIKA presentations will explore specific areas such as connection, confidence, motivation, positivity, stress, focus and meaning.

[Click here to learn more :\)](#)



**MDXCELERATOR IN COLLABORATION WITH
ENTREPRENEURIAL BARNET COMPETITION PRESENT**

WHAT'S YOUR BIG IDEA?

A unique start-up and early stage business support programme

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST BY 13 FEBRUARY 2022 VIA
WWW.MDX.AC.UK/BIGIDEA**

Sponsored and supported by

Middlesex University London

BARNET LONDON BOROUGH

Barnet Southgate College

Santander Universities

MDXwork Tell your story | Shape your career

MDXCELERATOR AND ENTREPRENEURIAL BARNET COMPETITION PRESENT: WHAT'S YOUR BIG IDEA?



This year, MDXcelerator Start-Up programme and the Entrepreneurial Barnet Competition are partnering to offer a joint programme that is open to MDX students and alumni, to provide a unique, compelling and innovative mix of masterclasses and workshops, delivered by successful entrepreneurs, networking opportunities, pitching challenges, one-to-one mentoring from successful business founders and the chance to pitch for seed-funding in front of an esteemed panel of renowned entrepreneurs and business leaders.

[Click here to learn more](#)



EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR



THE RE:ACTION 24/7 SUMMIT

The RE:Action 24/7 Summit in partnership with TGConsulting, Enterprise Rent a Car and some special guests kicks off this month. This is a great opportunity for our students to understand how to develop their skills, confidence and a positive mindset to deal with the challenges of life and get an edge when competing for graduate jobs!

Described by students as inspiring and a great experience, the programme will provide 24 sessions over seven weeks, giving access to:

- Extraordinary sessions with celebrity speakers
- Interactive workshops with specialised trainers
- Exclusive sessions with high-level employers

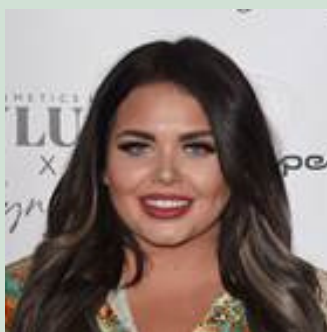
All Sessions will be delivered live online and be available on demand. There are limited places available and the deadline to sign-up is Thursday 10 February 2022. This is our students FREE ticket to becoming their best self.

[Register here :\).](#)

Claire Yates (she/her)
Middlesex Unitemps Branch Manager/MDXworks Service Manager



Reggie Nelson – Author,
Presenter and Social Mobility Advocate



Scarlett Moffatt – TV
Personality



Roman Kemp – Radio and
TV Personality



Ella Balinska – Actress and
Charlie's Angel



Harry Aikines-Aryeetey
– GB Athlete

EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR



TIME MANAGEMENT SERIES

By Migle Simaskaite, Senior SLA

As the second term is well and under way with it bringing an intensive and somewhat stressful exam period for all SLA's and students. I am sure that from personal experiences we all know how stressful the exam period can be to manage. That is why we have come up with an amazing event to help both SLA's and student to better time manage their activities! It is also important to note that we have two lecturers on board as guest speakers to answer any questions or ask for tips around time management. As a pilot event the skills, advice and conversations discussed during the event are not just short-term but can be used within the world of work and in future development! So please come and bring a student this is a great opportunity to network and improve time management skills!

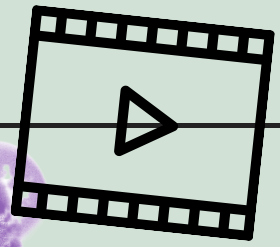
Migle and Aleksandra

(Senior SLAs)





SLA SUCCESS STORY

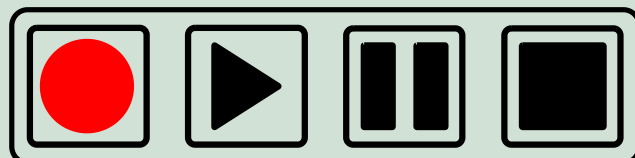
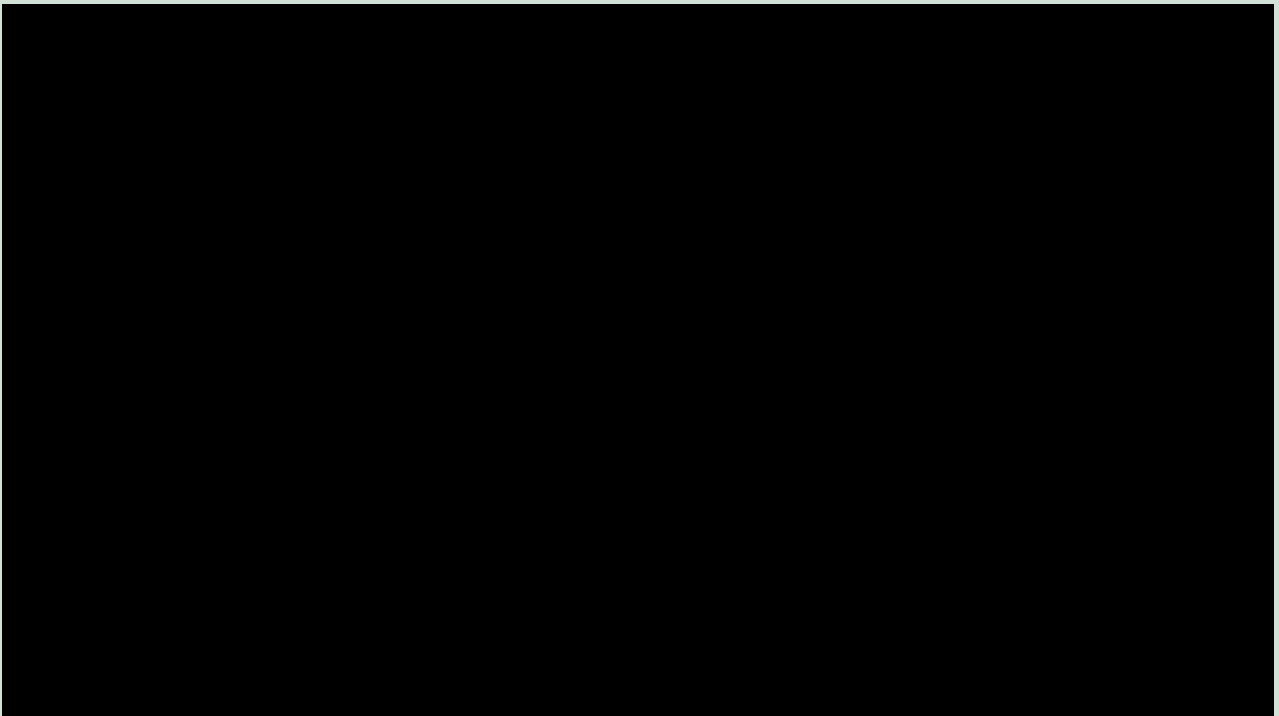


Alex Ali, our fellow SLA and a third year BSC Computer Networks student has shared his truly inspirational story with us. In 2019, he started at Middlesex University as a mature student, shy and struggling with his studies. Now, he's an SLA for two different modules – 'Computer Networks' and 'Data Communications'. He discovered his passion for computer science and helping others. The role has helped him to build confidence, enhance learning abilities, and to open new work opportunities, such as a student ambassador.

Well done, Alex!

If you wish to share your success story with us, please send us an email at:

dh802@live.mdx.ac.uk





TIPS AND TRICKS

HOW TO USE NEWROW

by Aini Abdulahi

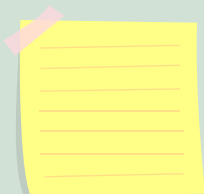
Due to COVID-19, we've all had to adapt to using various different online platforms in replacement of in-person events/lessons etc. Even after 2 years of online learning, I'm still discovering so many new online platforms that would be so useful in my work as an SLA and as a student also! Therefore, in this section of the newsletter, we will be going through tips and tricks of various online platforms that may be useful for you in your field of work. We hope this can be useful for even one of you guys! If you have any platforms that you'd like to recommend for us to share or a platform you would like us to go over in the newsletter please do let me know! My email is AA4543@live.mdx.ac.uk



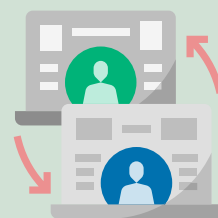
1. When using NewRow, you do not need the app or a NewRow account to join sessions. This can be super useful when you are hosting events/lessons that may need easy access to a wide range of people. As a guest, you only need to enter your name and email address.



2. The 'Shared Notes' features allows participants to see and share each other's notes which allows for collaboration in both meetings with other students and within the classroom!



3. You can share up to 25 webcams at once which may sound like an excessive number but can be super useful when you're required to share your work in a class or would like to see each other's screen to collaborate!



4. You can also share YouTube videos for synchronous playback on Kaltura Newrow as well as making a playlist to organize live class content which will make playing videos in classes/meetings much more seamless!



5. There are also several features similar to Zoom such as using the whiteboard, recording your live classes, using the whiteboard and annotation feature, using polls and quizzes, share files through the chat and many more!



SHOUT OUT TO SLAS

Appreciation from Seniors

**RHEA
SO**

In spite of starting her SLA role late due to several timetabling issues Rhea has shown consistent and outstanding reflection within the OU blogs. She has demonstrated and provided great support to her students and developed a positive relationship with the lecturers she co-facilitates with!

Tasnim has consistently persevered within her SLA role. She has gone above and beyond to provide help to students. She has utilized various techniques taught within the training to create a safe, positive, cohesive and engaging environment for all students both online and on campus.

**TASNIM
RAHIM**

**ROMINA
VASILEVA**

Romina has been a great SLA from the beginning. She has been a great support to her students. Her engagement and enthusiasms are outstanding. Romina is proactive when it comes to supporting the SLA scheme.

Kieran is a great SLA. He works hard to ensure his students receive the best possible support, and goes above and beyond his role.

**KIERAN
MORGAN**