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Cardiff
Metropolitan
University

Cardiff Met
**Alumni
Tracker**
India

2014-15



Inside

- ★ **Welcome to the Cardiff Met Alumni Tracker India 2014-15**
- ★ **Cardiff Met South Asia Office**
Meet Mr Priyesh Thar
- ★ **Cardiff Met Alumni Reunion 2014**
- ★ **Alumni Profiles**
Meet our graduates



**Cardiff
Metropolitan
University**

Alumni Mag Welcome



Welcome to the Indian Alumni Tracker Magazine. Throughout this magazine you will find information on the Cardiff Met alumni network, our successful University career service and, most importantly, a range of profiles from our Indian alumni.

The Cardiff Met Alumni Network currently stands at over 70,000 graduates, with this number increasing every year. We are a global University and wherever our alumni are, their successes, the careers they have forged and the impact their lives, work and research has on the wider community is the bedrock upon which our University is founded.

The Alumni Network that awaits our former students once they have graduated has a wealth of talent and experience within it. It is made up of alumni ranging from Olympic Champions to Chief

Executives; from leading Entrepreneurs to inspirational Designers. Our Alumni give back to the University by offering support and guidance to current students as well as to recent graduates about to embark on their careers after education. There is no one more qualified to assist our students and recent graduates than those who have already been through the same experience.

We believe that the success of our alumni and the strength of our network demonstrate the values and excellence of Cardiff Metropolitan University. I hope that I will have the pleasure of welcoming you into that network in the near future.

Best wishes,

Lisa
Alumni Officer



Lisa Gillian Bowen
Alumni Officer

lgbowen@cardiffmet.ac.uk

WANTED: International Alumni Ambassadors

If you want to find out more about Cardiff Met Alumni in your area or about becoming an ambassador:

web: www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/InternationalAlumni

e-mail: alumni@cardiffmet.ac.uk

★ Canada (109 Alumni)

★ Pakistan (1,128 Alumni)

★ China (1,167 Alumni)

★ America (157 Alumni)

★ India (3,486 Alumni)

★ Europe (60,034 Alumni)

★ Australia (71 Alumni)

★ South America (598 Alumni)

Cardiff Met Global Alumni Network: 76,049
Indian Alumni Network: 3,486

Key: ★ Amount of International Alumni Ambassadors in the region

Cardiff Met

South Asia Project Office

Cardiff Metropolitan University opened a Project Office in Gurgaon in 2012. Since then the office has grown in strategic importance and is now an information hub for students and strategic partners in India. Since July 2013, the office has been managed by Mr Priyesh Thar, an alumnus of Cardiff Met. Below Priyesh shares his experience of studying at Cardiff Met and provides a few helpful hints for future students too!

'After completing my BCOM from Mumbai University, I knew I wanted to further my education in management studies. I started looking at my options for study abroad and came across Cardiff Metropolitan University. I had many friends who graduated from the same university and were working as high qualified professionals in Multi-national companies. In the case of most of the senior successful managers, I realised that what was most important was that they came from a recognized school of business- the Cardiff School of Management. Hence, my determination towards pursuing MBA in Cardiff Met became much stronger and very soon, it became a passion.

I started my MBA in Project Management with Cardiff Met in

2010- the University was then known as University of Wales Institute Cardiff (UWIC). During my programme I was involved with a lot of activities on campus from cricket to international student societies. One of the best things I experienced was working part-time as an international student helper as this led to me being offered a full-time position with the office for approximately 4 months. Some great memories I made there which I will always cherish with such supportive and lovely staff in the international office.

I graduated in 2011 and stayed to work in the UK for 2 years. In 2013, I applied for the role of Manager of the Cardiff Met South Asia Project Office and I am delighted to be back with the University once again- although this time, I am much further from campus!!

My time at Cardiff Met was one of the best in my life and my advice for students is simple- your future is bright if you're on a Cardiff Met flight! Studying overseas offers you the best chance for unique experiences and self-exploration. Cardiff Met will offer you a home in which you can grow academically and professionally- you will never look back.'



★ **Contact Priyesh for more information** on the Cardiff Met South Asia Project Office.

pthar@cardiffmet.ac.uk
+91 (0) 991 085 5466





Cardiff Met Alumni Event 2014

Novotel, Juhu Beach, Mumbai

Cardiff Met was delighted to welcome past students from across India to the 2014 alumni reception.





On May 17th 2014, Cardiff Metropolitan University hosted the first official alumni event in Mumbai. Alums from across the country were invited to attend the gathering at the Juhu Beach Novotel for an evening of food, discussion and nostalgia.

Throughout the evening alums listened to speeches from the international office staff, Cardiff Met South Asia Project Office Manager and were also treated to some surprise video messages from the academic and support staff based in the UK.

Over 20 alums from across 7 batches attended the reunion. Ms Anya O Connor, Cardiff Met's Country Manager for South Asia, said: 'It was a truly fantastic evening in Mumbai. Cardiff Metropolitan University is

extremely proud of our Indian alumni network and of the success of each individual alumnus. The reunion has been a showcase for the high employability of our students and I congratulate each of them on the impressive career moves they have achieved since graduation.'

Cardiff Metropolitan University continues to be a popular University choice for students across India and the alumni network is a great selling point for such students. Upon graduation an immediate professional support group is in place to offer

advice on graduate jobs and to share wisdom gained down the years.

Many of the students who attended the Mumbai alumni event have since applied to become alumni ambassadors for the University-graduates who will act as a point of contact for future, current and past students. If you would like more information on Cardiff Met's alumni network then please visit:

www.cardiffmet.ac.uk
/internationalalumni or email
alumni@cardiffmet.ac.uk



Madhukar Reddy

MBA International Marketing

Graduated 2003

Founder and CEO of Content Syndicate, Dubai

'More than the academic value of an MBA from here or elsewhere, my experience of University life at Cardiff Met was outstanding- the relations, networking, meeting new people, travelling, exposure, juggling part-time jobs, studying, flat mates was great. It's been over 12 years and I'm still in touch with lot of class-mates who have become great friends.

Over the past 16 years, I have worked for leading media groups in Bangalore, Mumbai, London and Dubai. I started my company in 2008, inspired broadly by a dissertation I did for my MBA – on the economics of content i.e. pricing content and its business value for sales, marketing, stock prices as it's become increasing commoditized in the digital/mobile/social media age.'



Pranjal Choudhary

MBA International Business
Management

Graduated 2011

Assistant Manager –
Business Development &
Support at Planet EDU



My time at Cardiff Met was a great learning and growing opportunity both personally and professionally. It built my professional skills to work with Loyds Bank, HSBC, Deloitte & Touche and more. The university is located in the beautiful city of Cardiff, its ambience and atmosphere is very cool and friendly which gives students the opportunity to learn and grow in a social environment. If you need peace and quiet for study, you can also find that. The library section of the university has a wide collection of

renowned and useful books it also has a very peaceful atmosphere and plenty of space to study and work.

My current job role is working as Asst. Manager-Business Development within Planet EDU. Planet EDU is a network of specialised educational services & learning facilitation organisations, delivering global educational services. My job is to support some of our key partners in India such as Cambridge English Examinations in schools and colleges all over India. The practical methods of teaching

from my MBA- like live case studies and internship- helped me gain hands on experience which has really supported my work with Planet EDU.

I travel PAN India for Business meetings and enjoy meeting with education professionals from all over the country. My key role is to conduct meetings for business tie-ups and organizing Cambridge International exams in schools, organizing orientations International trainings and workshops for teachers and students.

Niloy Choudhary

MBA

Graduated 2011

PWC London UK



Like every overseas student coming to the UK for the first time, I too had a feeling that I would have to come across many challenges but the International office at Cardiff Met proved me wrong. They were very friendly and helpful. I was picked up from the airport by the international office staff members. They provided assistance with accommodation, part-time jobs and any ad hoc queries to the best of their ability.

I worked part-time for the university International office as a student ambassador and also with the alumni office as a fundraiser during my course of study. Working for the university gave me hands on experience and taught me excellent work ethics for my day to day life. The students union at Cardiff Met was also extremely helpful and friendly. I have always taken keen interest in charity work. With

support from the students union, I founded the UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) society at Cardiff Met in 2010 and was the acting President of the society in 2010-2011. As a voluntary group we were registered with UNICEF UK headquarter in London. We raised funds for poor children across the world. After I graduated I handed over the responsibility of the group to the fellow members. The society is presently active in the university and doing an amazing work. I'm still involved in voluntary work with UNICEF, currently acting as the vice-chair for the UNICEF London Group.

The lecturers at Cardiff Met were professional and had plenty of experience in their subjects. My MBA was more practical based with assignments, group discussions, presentations etc.

The knowledge that I gained studying at Cardiff Met with the enormous help and support from the faculty members helped me graduate with a Merit. There was also career guidance available to students and during my time in the university there were career consultants who guided me in the right direction in finding jobs. With all the help and support, I secured a job with Lloyds Banking Group in Cardiff after I graduated. I then went on to work for Barclays Bank. Over the recent years I have set up my consulting firm in the financial services sector here in London. I offer my services to major high street banks in the UK like Lloyds Banking Group and audit companies like PwC (PriceWaterHouseCooper). I'm currently involved in a project with PwC.

Afshana Khaisar

MBA International Marketing
and Product Development

Graduated 2011

Brand Manager for WWT Dubai

My greatest memory of Cardiff Met is the outstanding university campus and the tutors. UWIC or Cardiff Met, as it is now known, has a great atmosphere and is staffed by friendly and helpful people.

My MBA at Cardiff Met provided me credibility and a broad perspective of the business world and how my industry works. It has helped me to identify more job opportunities with a high magnitude of pay/benefits. The case studies and group projects in my MBA programme helped me to learn a lot about team work and how to use my interpersonal skills to the best effect.

I currently work as the Brand Manager in Dubai for WWT-handling about 10 top toy brands a few of which are - Barbie/Vtech/Crayola - for the Middle East and North Africa region. I travel around the globe a lot to visit toy fairs and events where I source the products which could be apt for the region. I take care of TV commercials/radio/magazine advertising /events for the brands and so on.



Sonam Singh

Studied LLM in
International Business
Graduated 2013

Advocate at High Court
of New Delhi and Supreme
Court of India



After completing my graduation degree I planned for further studies and I decided to do LLM from Cardiff metropolitan University. Yes, there was a specific reason for choosing this university for my Masters because of its unique programme of LLM. This was the first time I heard that not only law graduates can do LLM- it was also offered for other graduates as well. This was the reason that I found a very different atmosphere of studying as my classmates were from different backgrounds which enabled us to share our views and experience of different streams.

After completing LLM from Cardiff metropolitan university I found myself more confident towards my career goals than I used to be. It opened many options to pursue my career and, yes, I chose legal practice. So, now I am in Delhi and I work in the high court of New Delhi and Supreme court of India as a junior advocate.

In India, every fresher advocate has to practice under a senior lawyer at least for 2 years before practicing independently. Right now I am practicing as an associate advocate with one of the famous senior lawyers of the Supreme Court of India, her name is Ms. Aishwariya

Bhati, and she is also a secretary of Supreme Court of Bar Association, India. I am also posted as a legal advisor for a company called Geo Cargo Express Pvt. Ltd based in New Delhi where I am handling their legal issues on national and international level.

I would like mention that it is all because of the degree of LLM which I completed from Cardiff Metropolitan University that I am here today- it really helped me to start with a wonderful career. Special thanks to the faculty of Cardiff Metropolitan University, Prof. Mayo, Prof. Adebimpe, Prof. Angela, Prof. SDiamantidi.

Pakzad Nussirabad

MBA Management

Graduated in 2005 and was awarded student of the year

Director - People SKP Group Mumbai



It was a kind of a gut feeling which made my decision to study at Cardiff Met- then known as UWIC. I had a great feeling about the University and it turned out to be right- life was good not only on the academic front but in Cardiff (Wales) in general. I learnt a lot and made great friends too. Although above all the opportunity to have my dissertation supervised by Dr. Trefor Lewis (former Director - MBA Programme) and the late Dr.

Neville Gaunt (Principal Lecturer) was just something else.

I am now acting as an alumni ambassador for Cardiff Met in India. I've always been connected with roles involving guidance, coaching and development. At Cardiff Met, I was selected to be Head Warden/Shift Manger (student Halls) this role involved counselling/caring for the students living at the Halls of residence. Even now, I am working as the

Director-People (HR) with a financial services firm and my role involves coaching and developing talent. So, what better way than this to be of assistance to aspiring students looking at academic opportunities abroad?

I want to set up a stronger alumni forum in India and ensure that all future students can benefit from the hugely successful alumni who have already graduated from Cardiff Met.

Vidya Rani

General MBA

Graduated 2013

Communications and
Marketing Specialist at Tech
Mahindra, Milton Keynes UK



If I think about the highlights of the course at university, I remember the group dynamics programme which was conducted by the university in the first week of course which really helped me in developing my self-confidence and courage me to overcome my fears as an overseas student living on my own in a new country.

My special thanks to the international office which really gave me all kinds of support throughout the journey. The

cultural activities, including the MBA industrial tour to Dublin, and immense encouragement from all teaching and non-teaching staff was remarkable. Cardiff Metropolitan University is one of the best universities for supporting multi-cultural students, striving to develop a great discipline and professionalism among students which helps them to shape a successful career in future.

A UK education is unique as it trains students through the

practical study of each subject.

The number of seminars, projects, presentations and group discussions at Cardiff Met has helped me to develop tremendous communication skills, which is valuable in any career. I am really thankful to the University who trained me to achieve what I'm today and I feel lucky to work as a Communications specialist and the complete credit goes to all those who helped me during the course at Cardiff Met.

Archana

MBA

Graduated 2012

Learning Support at South
Thames College

Sp d Catering Academy

an industry that's always hiring
business as well as the pract
patisserie and confectionery
al restaurant and develop
ses with industry lead

south th
CO
Merton | Tooting | W

Serving Your Fut

A full range of profi
courses from entry
graduate. If you wa
business as well as
we'll develop the sk
succeed. This is an
hard work and flair



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Follow us on @STC_Chief and @South
www.south-thames.ac.uk/taste

Studying at Cardiff Met was a dream come true. I was an associate professor in India with 14 years of teaching experience but I wanted to further my academic career with international exposure. I joined the University in 2011 found the academic teaching there to be first class.

What I am today, I owe to Cardiff Met. I would like to make a special mention of Prof Mukul Madahar my mentor and guide who with his dedication taught me RM and International Management. Heflin David who taught me People and organisations has made me deal with my work place management with all the knowledge of a HR specialist. Finally Professors Eleri Jones and Julia Fallon guided me with every step of my Research- a huge thanks to you all!

I am now working at South Thames College in learning support. My roles involves supporting students in a range of different ways- providing encouragement and reinforcing positive interactions between teachers and students; assisting students in their personal and social developments and monitoring and providing for the general care, safety and welfare of all students at the college. I particularly enjoy supporting students with special needs as I am a clinical psychologist and this allows me to use my skills and knowledge with a positive attitude.

Varalika Lucknow

General MBA

Graduated 2011

International Market Analyst

Travaall, Derby UK

Cardiff Met has brought some of the most remarkable experience in my life. The time I spent in the University can be described as intense, interesting and highly helpful. I'm glad that I can fully use everything I learned from my studies at Cardiff Met in my current work. As a market analyst I need to analyse and evaluate different market potentials for companies further expansion. My job requires multi-tasking skills as well as ability to analyse and interpret different data correctly. These are some of the skills that were imparted to me through my MBA studies which were very practical. It's a very challenging job as every market is different from others.

Nishant Dayal

MBA

Graduated 2001

Director - Elite Sports Management



The Experiences at the University were innumerable and wonderful. It was one of the most important learning paths which helped to establish me in the Business World at the beginning of my career.

The academic staff were very friendly and offered high quality advice and teaching. I did find the dissertation to be one of the biggest challenges to accept and accomplish but the University gave us the structure to work efficiently and perform.

Elite Sports Management is a company which was formed after my

MBA graduation, in India where sports, especially Cricket, was flourishing. Cricket is a passion of mine which has been converted into a structural Sports Management Company. Being the Founder of Elite Sports Management, which was established a decade ago, as director I am responsible for:

1. **Player Management** - We manage Cricketers like CHRIS GAYLE, SAURABH TIWARY, GLENN MAXWELL
2. **Sports Marketing** - We are the marketing right holders of one of the IPL Teams in India

3. **Premier League** - We have designed and Executed Premier Leagues and have input in Jharkhand Premier League, Sri Lanka Premier League, Bangladesh Premier League etc
4. **Instadia Rights** - We handle 5 Stadiums in India whose Instadia Advertising was managed by us
5. **Brand Communication** - We handle sports Investment for over 20 companies, which we guide when and where to participate in branding to get optimum Visibility

Ankur Sharma

MBA

Graduated 2003

Here and Now 365, UK



I was the Course Representative whilst at Cardiff Met and also played cricket for the University in BUSA shield and then the MCC university matches at the 1st class level. I absolutely adored my stint with the University and actually had my profile and picture in the 2005 Brochure too.

In-fact wherever I stand today is because of that wonderful

foundation I built at Cardiff Met. I am currently managing some of the key accounts with UK's biggest Ethnic Marketing company - Here and Now 365- who are doing some amazing work for the South Asian, Eastern European as well as the Afro Caribbean audience here in the UK.

I am involved in a lot of NHS, BHS and other government projects to

bring about awareness and outreach initiatives to ethnic minorities in the UK whilst handling other main stream clients like ASDA, Morrisons and Indian TV channels. Personally, have put together some of countries biggest Indian Real Estate Shows and have interviewed the who's who from the industry.

Start Your Career at Cardiff Met

Cardiff Met has over 3000 alumni from India, many of whom are still in regular contact with the academic and support staff within the University. It is a pleasure for us to be able to share their story with you in our annual alumni tracker. We hope that the profiles featured in this magazine have not only demonstrated the success of Cardiff Met's graduates but, also, inspired you to take the next step in your education.

Cardiff Met offers a wide range of programmes at Undergraduate and Postgraduate level which are both career-focused and professionally accredited. Many of our degrees also include work experience modules, ensuring that our students are fully equipped with the practical skills required to find employment upon their graduation. It is for this reason that the University currently boasts a graduate employment rate of 95% which is among the highest in the UK*.

We are committed to strengthening the alumni network across India and one of the many ways the University does this is through encouraging more bright and enthusiastic students to apply to Cardiff Met. We are immensely proud of the Indian students who have already passed through the University and look forward to

growing our presence in India through continuing to educate an outstanding and diverse group of people who will become a new generation of business and public leaders.

To start your career at Cardiff Metropolitan University, visit our website today. You will find details on all of the programmes we offer across our five academic schools-

The Cardiff School of Art & Design

The Cardiff School of Education

The Cardiff School of Health Sciences

The Cardiff School of Management

The Cardiff School of Sport

Cardiff Met's South Asia Project Office, located in Gurgaon, is always open for student enquiries and admissions advice. Members of staff from the university regularly travel to India to support the work of the office and to meet with prospective students. We hope we will have the pleasure of meeting with you soon to discuss your studies with Cardiff Met.

Anya O Connor
Country Manager South Asia

*DLHE Survey 2012.



Anya O Connor

County Manager South Asia
india@cardiffmet.ac.uk



**Cardiff
Metropolitan
University**