

BIMONTHLY

# CECOS INSIGHT



June - July 2019

Official Publication of CECOS College London

# NEWSLETTER



City & Guilds



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**CECOS**  
COLLEGE LONDON

Dear Students, stakeholders, team members, and other esteemed stakeholders

As this academic year draws to a close and planning is well underway for next year, I would like to thank you for all your support and share with you our priorities and expectations for next year.

We are really proud of our students this year and in particular we are proud of the way they have embraced the changes we have introduced.

The academic year has seen our HE provision grow with over 300 students on our HNC/HND Business Programme with our quality being highlighted in two separate Pearson visits, this is something we are extremely proud of and we only achieved this because of the dedicated staff members we have. The FE provision continued to excel despite funding speculation within the sector, we were able to up skill over 750 learners and our Apprenticeship arm maintained the good work it began with the learners in 17/18.

We are really excited about the start of next year when we will continue to build on the good work. We are committed to achieving excellence in all that we do. This requires dedication, determination, hard work and a relentless approach towards achieving the very highest standards. We have a team of staff who all want the very best for the students. With your support we will continue to improve.

Finally, I would like to thank you in anticipation of your support and look forward to a successful year next year.

May I take this opportunity to wish both students and stakeholders a most enjoyable summer; we look forward to working with you all next term.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Mudassir Tanveer  
Principal

## A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWLY FORMED BOARD OF GOVERNANCE (BOG)

Woven into the fabric of quality in education, CECOS College has a history and culture of using external reference points for better governance and growth. We have achieved another milestone in our bright history by setting up a prestigious Board of Governance that would provide an effective oversight to our processes and procedures. The benefits of creating a BOG includes the diversity of opinion and experience it would bring to facilitate an improvement in the leadership of CECOS College. The key benefits derived from CECOS BOG are to have an outside perspective, discuss CECOS performance and outlook with knowledgeable and objective professionals, strategy development and mentoring opportunities for staff and students.

External members of the Advisory Board are selected by the College Academic Board on the basis of their knowledge and expertise in areas considered particularly relevant to the College's strategy and operations. They may have current expertise in areas such as academic management, strategic planning, financial management, company taxation, funding, human resources, quality assurance or law. They may also be in a position to facilitate higher education collaborative partnerships.

### THE BOG MEETS FOR THREE TIMES A YEAR AT THE CECOS CAMPUS. THE MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO;

- Attend all meetings, unless unavoidably prevented;
- Always formal present apologies if unable to attend;
- Prepare for meetings by reading all papers and preparing comments and queries as appropriate to raise during meetings;
- Be punctual when attending BOG meetings;
- Participate fully in the discussions at each Advisory Board meeting;

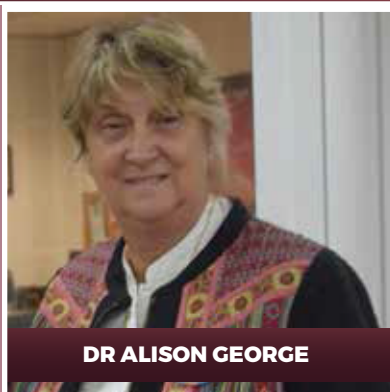
### THE CURRENT BOG OF CECOS COLLEGE COMPRISES OF THE FOLLOWING HONOURABLE MEMBERS:



**DR MUDASSIR TANVEER**



**MR DAVID ORFORD**



**DR ALISON GEORGE**



**DR. SHADMAN PAJOUH**



**DR. MR RALPH LEWIS**



**DAVID LEE MBE**



**MR HARISS PERVEZ**

## QUALITY IS THE FLAG THAT WE WAVE AT CECOS – PEARSON'S EV VISIT

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In the words of Tom Peters, "Quality - You will know it when you see it." 18th June 2019 was the day when quality of our learners and their work was scrutinized and commended by the Pearson. Mrs. A Lebbby, the external verifier from Pearson visited CECOS College on Monday the 18th June 2019 to conduct external verification. She was welcomed by the Principal Dr. Mudassir and Director of Studies Mrs. Erika Beumer. A brief introduction and presentation was given to the EV about the College, what it does and what it stands for.

Mrs. Lebbby thoroughly checked the documents supplied by the College pertaining to College policies, student's work, and feedback from learners, staff CPD records, minutes of the meetings, assessment plan, Internal Verification records and record of academic staff. She also conducted meetings with learners and academic team of Cecos College. After a tight scrutiny and through examination, Mrs. Libby confirmed that the evidence and assessment provided by centre was very good for the course. She also commended the formative feedback, formal and informal tutorials, and quality of assignment briefs, assessment decisions and recording of all meetings. She acknowledged that the visit was very well planned and supported by the College. The academic team has appropriate qualifications and experience and their CPD is done on a regular basis.

Mrs. Lebbby expressed her confident in the nature of the assessments, that they permit the aims and learning objectives of the programme to be met and are of a standard appropriate to the qualification. All assignment briefs checked are fit for purpose.

She further added that the student's progress is accurately tracked against recognized, regulated standards and is regularly reviewed. Documents requested for verification were orderly presented and in a professional manner, which enhances audit trail. Mrs. Lebbby expressed her agreement on the staff numbers and other resources available in the College for learners and appreciated the quality of communication, effective tutorials and pastoral support provided by the tutors.

The College received a very positive and encouraging report following the visit from Pearson. The report confirmed release of awards for 36 learners in Group BGCT7 and 260 awards in Group BMJT8.

Well done CECOS team!!! No one wins alone. Teams win.

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## **THE SECRET OF MY SUCCESS!**

As part of our Staff Celebration day CECOS College awarded a prize to the Functional Skills Tutor with the highest learner success rate. The prize went to Gulshad Khan whose success rate was an astonishing 98%! That means that for every 100 learners that study with Gulshad, 98 will go on to successfully pass their course.

When we asked Gulshad to explain the secret of her success this is what she had to say:

When I start teaching a new class I think that it's really important to build strong rapport with my learners and find out how best I can help them improve their English and Maths skills. This helps me to plan each lesson so that I can cater for everybody's individual learning needs and help them to succeed.

Gulshad's colleagues in the Functional Skills team were hot on her heels in terms of their own success rates; between March and June an outstanding 178 out of 200 learners passed their functional skills courses.

Congratulations to all our learners and the functional skills team!



## CECOS COLLEGE ENGAGES WITH DIPLOMATIC FRATERNITY

H.E Bodgan Vaduva, Commercial Attache from the Embassy of Romania visited CECOS College London in June 2019. This visit opens the doors of diplomatic fraternity for CECOS College. Bodgan Vaduva chose "Brexit" as his topic of discussion that turned out to be a great session in current times. Based on a great population of Romanian students at CECOS, the lecture was welcomed in an enormous manner.

Bodgan Vaduva is a seasoned diplomat and career officer who has a strong sense and background in Economics and International Affairs. He has served at senior positions in Romania and U.S in the past. He shared his valuable insight in to the current paradigm of regional politics and its effect on local communities. The lecture was concluded with a souvenir presentation to our honourable guest from the Principal Dr. Mudassir Tanvir and Head of Academic Ms. Erika Buemer.



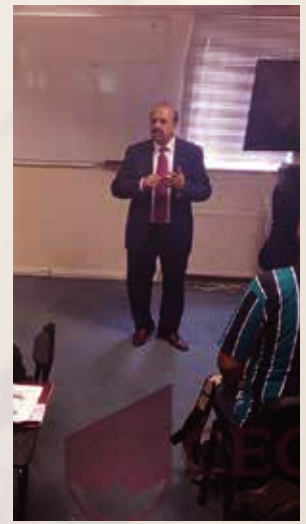
## LET'S LEARN THE ART OF CONTINUOUS LEARNING WITH COLONEL HUGH PURCELL

Colonel (R) Hugh Purcell visited CECOS College London in June 2019 and delivered a special lecture on the importance of continuous learning. The lecture was based on his military and later experiences as CEO of Reserve Force's and Cadet's Association (RFCA). Continuous learning helps professionals in remaining relevant, preparing for the unexpected, boosts profile, improves competence and confidence, sparks new ideas, changes perspectives and helps develop career skills.

Born in Dublin his military service included battalion command and working for a number of government departments, sustaining and creating partnerships with 35 countries. Hugh holds a number of related roles including Deputy Lieutenant of London and Chairman of Youth Organisations in Uniform (YOU London). YOU London is a partnership of 10 experienced uniformed youth organisations in London with a combined membership over 75,000 young people. Hugh is also Clerk to the All Party Parliamentary Group Reserves & Cadets, a member of NHS Armed Forces Network London, University of London Military Education Committee, Team London, national advisory board Remember WW1, Youth Research Forum and ambassador for 'Soldier on' and charitable trusteeships."

Thank you very much Colonel for visiting us. We are deeply honoured and would like to host and learn from your experiences again.





### LET'S WALK IN THE SHOES OF LORD QURBAN HUSSAIN – ART OF LEADERSHIP

Lord Qurban Hussain, the honourable member from House of Lords, United Kingdom visited CECOS College London on 23rd July 2019. He delivered a convincing and true to life talk around his personal leadership experiences. His rise from a small town boy to the honourable member of a prestigious house in this country attracted our learners and staff members. Servant Leadership, its pros and cons, followership and Brexit were among the topics discussed during the one hour long session.

CECOS learners interacted very positively and extensively with the honourable guest.

Lord Qurban Hussain is a politician and life peer. He was the unsuccessful candidate for parliament for Luton South in 2005 and 2010. He was firstly a member of the Labour Party, from 1996 to 2003 but then joined the Liberal Democrats. He has been a member of Luton Borough Council since 2003, serving as its Deputy Leader from 2005 to 2007. He was created a life peer as Baron Hussain, of Luton in the county of Bedfordshire on 20 January 2011.



### ONE UPON A TIME AT ROYAL AIR FORCE – LESSONS FROM AIR CHIEF MARSHAL (R) SIR BRIAN BURRIDGE

Cecos had the distinct honour of hosting the former Commander in Chief, Strike Force Royal Air Force Sir Brian Burrridge on 8th July 2019. Air Chief Marshal (R) Sir Brian Burrridge discussed the vital subject of Megatrends that are global, sustained and macroeconomic forces of development that impact business, economy, society, cultures and personal lives. He discussed the future trends in the field of business and aviation that are a critical knowledge for the learners of today and decision makers of tomorrow.

Sir Brian Burrridge is a highly decorated RAF Officer who spent a full career as a pilot in the Royal Air Force (RAF) holding a front line command at every level in the Service, including the national joint command in the 2003 Iraq war. He also spent a number of years in the UK Ministry of Defence in policy posts and left the RAF in 2006 as Commander-in-Chief Strike Command.

Sir Brian read physics and electronic engineering at Manchester University and holds an MBA from the Open University and two honorary doctorates. He was previously a research fellow in political science at King's College London and is now a visiting professor at the University of Reading.

Thank you Sir for your precious time and sharing your unbeatable set of wisdom and experiences with our learners.



CECOS College's ever increasing support system for students increased as we signed an exclusive partnership with Knowledgems Day Nursery to help our students who are parents with their childcare needs.

Knowledgems Day Nursery is part of the CECOS portfolio of companies and is located inside Valentines Park, Ilford, which is one of the largest green spaces in London Borough of Redbridge. The nursery is easily accessible from Ilford rail station and Gants Hill underground station. As the nursery lies in the heart of greenery and has its own huge gardens, it is able to offer a refreshing environment for children's learning. Four parking spaces are available for parents to pick-up and drop-off their children.

The nursery has been beautifully designed throughout with bright, open areas for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers. The nursery offers high quality, flexible childcare for children aged 3 months to 5 years. With wheelchair access, we are accessible to all. The aim of Knowledgems Day Nursery is to create a happy and relaxed atmosphere for all the children. The nursery provides children the freedom to explore the variety of planned activities suited to their needs, which helps them to develop their daily skills. Our staff members work to achieve the very best for the children at all times and aim to give them the best start in their life.

We have a number of our English Language students at CECOS who are dropping off their children for childcare needs, this ensures that when students need to concentrate on their classes then this is an excellent way of providing childcare, reassuring parents and giving them the peace of mind to focus on their studies.

IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN ENQUIRING ABOUT THEIR CHILDCARE NEEDS,  
PLEASE EMAIL [INFO@KGEMS.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@KGEMS.CO.UK)





## CHARITY OF THE TERM

CECOS College's ever increasing focus on supporting the community and getting the students involved means we are supporting one charity every term and in the Summer Term it was Haven House. Haven House has supported over 900 families, looking after children and young people aged from birth to 19 years old who have life-limiting or life-threatening conditions.

Residential and community services extend across North and North East London, West Essex and East Hertfordshire, including respite and end-of-life care.

In the hospice children benefit from play activities as well as day and overnight stays. Through the Holistic Care Centre, opened in September 2014, children can access a range of therapies, including music therapy, physiotherapy and therapeutic yoga.

Families can also take advantage of support groups for mums and dads and siblings (Buddies) as well as complementary therapies designed to reduce stress and anxiety.

In our grounds there is a fully accessible specialist play area and tranquil sensory garden surrounded by many acres of beautiful woodland.

In order to support the charity two groups of students went to visit Haven House children's hospice this term in order to get an idea of the charities values and mission. We also took part in a bucket collection at South Woodford station raising money for the children of Haven House, this raised over £400.

Well done everyone for the great support you have given us this term and we value the time we've spent together ensuring that we can support Haven House and help the families for many more years to come with future 'bucketathon'.

Special mention of our very own Mira Yotova, who organised the whole event and without whose passionate work this wouldn't have been possible.





## **STAFF CELEBRATION THROUGH THE EYES OF SHALINI**

Diversity and employee engagement are some of the key values of CECOS and they were cherished once again at the event organised on the occasion of Eid. CECOS responds to appreciation, expressed through the good work of employees and believes in celebrating success with all its team members. It was an ideal opportunity to mark the success of Pearson and NCFE visit and recognise the efforts of Further Education (FE) and Higher Education (HE) team. It was a proud moment for our high performers when they were awarded certificates by Marlon and Erika.

CECOS global presence was highlighted by Mr. Sohaib Tanveer, Vice President of CECOS University, Pakistan, who shared his experiences and course details of the sister organisation in Pakistan. We believe that motivation is further enhanced when team building activities are done in a fun filled manner and it was witnessed when staff members enthusiastically participated in different activities and showcased their talents in various forms. Apart from their routine job role, it was an opportunity to witness the hidden talent of various team members. The act 'Guess Who' performed by Maahi and Adeeba stole the show, as it left people puzzled when they had to identify team members by their qualities and characteristics. Staff members got a chance to know more about their peers by a tactfully organised BINGO game by Mira, which uncovered facts about other team members. Normally silent Jade, surprised everyone by presenting an innovative video of Spice Girls with Gintare, Katherine and Shemin. An impressive singing performance by Louisa made the party lively and cheerful. The spell bound magic by Tanveer and the creativity displayed by Jake kept everyone amazed. Gulshad worked hard to make long lasting memorable Heena design for everyone. Happy and motivated employees reflect the success of this event and we are sure there will be more success to celebrate in the future.

A big thanks to team members and management for supporting this event!

Contribution Written by Shalini Gupta



# THE CECOS STAFF EXCHANGE PROGRAMME THE VICE PRESIDENT COMES TO TOWN

The Staff Exchange programme initiative continued this month with CECOS University's Vice President Sohaib Tanveer attending CECOS College to spend a whole week looking at the systems in the UK, presenting to the UK staff about the University's timeline and current projects, alongside attending meetings for potential collaborations with UK Universities.

The Vice President wanted to understand the projects we run in the UK and how some of the teaching methods we use in the UK can be implemented in the international University market. Sohaib also had a meeting with Cambridge University to see how CECOS University's research projects can be expanded into the UK. Finally through the presentation to the UK staff, Sohaib was able to share the work they do in the international University especially around the Engineering field and the school they have in Pakistan.

Sohaib spoke of his time at CECOS College:

"The work being done in the UK is a credit to all the staff and I am very proud of what the college is doing in the UK especially when I spoke to some of the students and learned of the excellent student experience they have had. I was also impressed with the progression the college has developed between FE and HE learners, this kind of progression model I will take back to the University to share"

CECOS College would like to thank Vice President Sohaib Tanveer for taking part in the staff exchange programme, this scheme has benefitted both organizations and we aim to continue this in the upcoming years.



## WE HIGHLIGHT OUR KEY STAFF MEMBERS

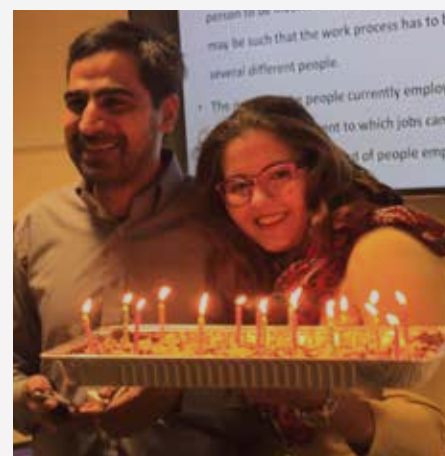
### DR. MUHAMMAD SALMAN KHAN

Dr. Salman, born 1985 in Peshawar Pakistan is a multi-talented, optimistic, persevering and dedicated person both in his personal and professional life. Born in a Pashtun Family of Yusufzai descent, Salman has an interesting life history. After doing his Masters from the University of Malakand with distinction, Salman obtained his B. Ed (professional teaching qualification) from the same university. He then decided to advance his career in teaching and specializing in politics. To this end, he studied at the University of Peshawar for his M.Phil. in International Politics. Salman, graduated from the University of Peshawar in 2013 with specialization in regional politics of South Asia and the Middle East with special focus on Pakistan-Iran foreign Policies. His M.Phil. thesis was: "Pakistan-Iran relations: dynamics, challenges and prospects." Not fascinated by the study of international politics, Salman decided to change course and hence aimed to specialize in local political economy and development. Within a year of His M.Phil, Salman won a scholarship from the Middlesex Business School at the Centre for Enterprise and Economic Development Research to study informal economy and local governance in the developing state context. He obtained his PhD in business studies/political economy from the Middlesex University in January 2019.

Salman has an extensive teaching experience of teaching political and institutional development, political economy, economy of Pakistan, social change and development, geopolitics, and business studies (especially small enterprise development and management, organizational behaviour and business law). This interdisciplinary education, teaching and research background makes Salman as a unique asset for any academic institution and a valuable source of professional and personal guidance for his students. Salman has taught the aforementioned subjects at the department of politics at the Universities of Malakand (2011-2014), Middlesex University (2017-2018), and currently at CECOS College. Salman has also supervised several undergraduate and masters students at the department of Politics at Middlesex University.

At present, Salman works as a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Enterprise and Economic Development Research at the Middlesex University. He also works as a freelance developing consultant. His most recent engagement in this connection was with the CREID project of Institute of Development Studies. Salman is currently leading two independent research projects: (1) weak civil society and ineffective governments: the role of micro enterprises in facilitating self-help effort of displaced communities in Pakistan; and (2) gendered analysis of women entrepreneurship: the case of Northwest Pakistan. Salman has published 1 book chapter, a number of journal articles, and have presented at 15 international conferences in the last four years.

On the personal side, Salman has a number of hobbies including poetry in both English and Urdu. Salman also sings occasionally in Urdu/Hindi and Pashto. He has won a number of declamation contests at school, college and university level both within his home institutions and at inter-institutional levels. Besides that, he is interested in reading fiction and non-fiction novels, especially of South Asian and Persian writers.



# ROUND UP OF JUNE AND JULY

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And in other news.....

CECOS College installed their new Clocking in & out system to ensure health and safety for all staff members, watch this space as we will roll the system out for all students in the upcoming months.

**2 YEARS ON  
ALWAYS LOVED...  
NEVER FORGOTTEN...  
FOREVER MISSED...  
OUR GRENFELL FAMILY**

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GRENFELL  
FOREVER IN  
OUR HEARTS



We congratulate the England Cricket Team on becoming the World Champions for the first time ever.

We waited 44 years for this moment and this is such a proud moment for the whole nation, the achievement will now inspire the new generation to take up cricket.

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Please ask at Reception for details if you want to Refer a Friend for our following courses:

HNC / HND in Business  
Functional Skills (English & Maths)



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London E18 1AD (Main Entrance)

51A Marlborough Road,  
London E18 1AR (Office Entrance)

020 7359 3316

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 [instagram.com / cecosslondon](https://instagram.com/cecosslondon)