

British Education

Thinking of studying in the UK?

The annual UK Education Exhibition is hoping to appeal to a wider audience this year as uncertainty over the future hangs over studying in Britain reports **Annette Chrysostomou**

For anyone interested in studying in the UK next weekend brings the largest Cyprus exhibition for UK universities to Nicosia when 59 British education institutions will take part in the 34th Study UK Education Exhibition organised by the British Council at the Hilton hotel.

And this year the British Council is out to reach more people than ever, in several ways. "This year we boost our mobile application which we started to use last year," business development manager at the British Council Pantelitsa Michael said. "Potential students can see all available courses and filter their enquiries. They can see which universities offer what and what the course structure is."

Applicants can also view

the profiles of all universities taking part during the two days plus what is on offer at the exhibition, so they are easily able to schedule the day when they attend. In addition, they can register and will have their registration code with them at all times.

"It also has links to other events by the British Council," Michael explained. "There are students in Greece or moving from one country to another and all can see which seminars and other events are available in Greece or around other countries."

The preregistration has several advantages for the student, the university and the organisers. According to the British Council, the student has the possibility to win useful prizes, such as a discount on the IELTS

exam which they have to take or free counselling which is also part of an application, thus speeding up the necessary process.

As for the universities and the organisers, they can see in advance of the event which types of students are going to attend, thus giving them the opportunity to understand which kinds of enquiries to expect and what to prepare in terms of seminars.

During the event, more technology aims to ensure



that a wider audience can take advantage of the seminars, as there will be live links during the two days.

Regarding the seminars that take place during the hours of the exhibition the British Council has this year not only prepared subjects regarding tradition-

ally strong subjects such as finance and accounting but is accommodating a wider range of subjects.

The seminars are not aimed only at school leavers but also at those pursuing further studies and professionals who are looking for additional qualifications.

For example, there is one on how to write a CV, another on foundation courses. "People are confused by what foundation courses exist and what they are for and how they can move on from there," the British Council employee said.

Related is information about the preparation need-

ed as things are also changing. Nowadays, a number of UK universities also consider local qualification depending on the chosen subject and Cypriots may well get a place with an Apolytirion without needing A-levels.

The seminars also tackle the places where people might like to study, in a big city like London or elsewhere. One of the two-day event's sponsor is UNITE, which provides accommodation units all over the UK.

For those who are further along in their studies or are

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Students 'plugging research funding gap through fees'

International students paying lion's share

By Alison Kershaw

STUDENTS are subsidising university research through their tuition fees, according to a new report.

Research at UK universities is significantly under-funded with latest figures showing a £3.3 billion deficit, it says.

This hole is being plugged by money for teaching, particularly fees from international students, according to the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI) study.

It urges Chancellor Philip Hammond to find an extra £1 billion for research in his Budget later this month.

The study says that official figures show that in 2014/15, there was a deficit of almost £3.3 billion across UK higher education, which has been "traditionally filled from non-publicly funded teaching surpluses", money gained from international students, as well as activities such as consultancy work.

On average, over the course of their degree, each non-EU international student contributes over £8,000 to UK research, it calculates.

HEPI's report also shows

that universities' income for teaching from non-publicly funded fees totalled £4.6 billion in 2014/15, and the costs of teaching were £3.3 billion, leaving an excess of £1.3 billion.

In addition, income for teaching from publicly funded sources – largely fees paid by home and EU students, totalled £13.3 billion across UK universities, with costs of £13.1 billion.

This leaves a surplus of £200 million, which is understood to come from English and EU students studying at English universities, who pay up to £9,000 in fees and are eligible for government loans.

The study comes amid a growing debate about university funding, tuition fees and whether students are receiving value for money.

HEPI director Nick Hillman said: "My concern is that tuition fees are under the spotlight, students want to know where their fees are going, no one wants to increase fees, are these cross-subsidies sustainable?"

"And if they are, there is still a massive shortfall in research funding."

Report author Vicky Olive

said: "The cross-subsidies from teaching to research are a float keeping UK universities world-class, but they are under threat like never before.

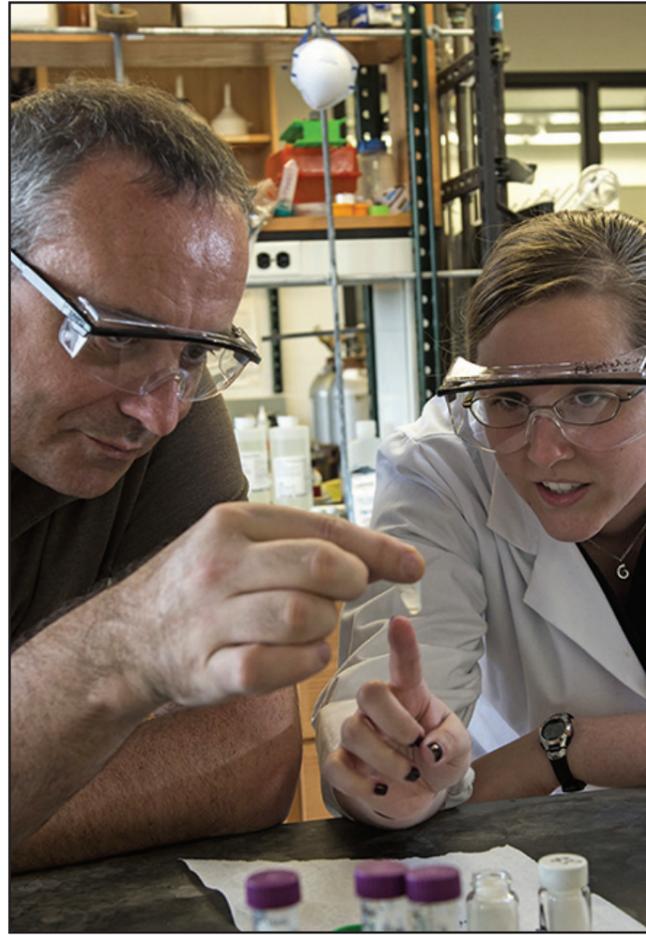
"The government has frozen fees for home students, students are demanding to know more about where their money goes and international student numbers are perpetually under threat.

"There is nothing morally wrong with cross-subsidising research from teaching, particularly if students see the benefits in their lectures and seminars.

"But it is right to investigate the scale of the subsidies and where they go, so that we can debate whether they are defensible, sustainable and valuable."

"The UK remains a global leader in terms of producing world-class research and innovation, but the UK's combined public and private spending on research and innovation has seen a decline in recent years," Hillman said.

"The UK has been investing under 2% of GDP, whereas the world's global innovation leaders such as Japan are committing to 3% of GDP spending."



'Students must be prepared to deal with uncertain times'

GRADUATES need to be better equipped to deal with a volatile and rapidly-changing world, says the dean of London's newest business school.

At the official launch of the King's Business School, Executive Dean Professor Stephen Bach said the new school aims to meet employers' demands for younger, more agile and innovative graduates in such unpredictable times.

The school aims to become the premier undergraduate business school and has said it will focus upon UG and specialist Masters courses including marketing, entrepreneurship, finance and talent management, addressing the changing needs of the economy and a demand for lifelong learning.

Professor Bach said: "We have listened hard to our School Advisory Board and what we are hearing is a desire for developing talent in more flexible, creative, digitally savvy graduates who are both very entrepreneurial and strategic in their thinking."

King's Business School has emerged out of King's College London's renowned School of Management and Business.

Middlesex University offers it all on a single campus



RATED the number 1 modern university in London (Times Good University Guide, 2017), Middlesex University gives students the skills and opportunities they need to grow as individuals and stand out from their peers back home.

Only 25 minutes from the centre of London, Middlesex University is situated in a global centre of excellence.

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Famed for owning one of London's largest single campuses, Middlesex provides an environment that enables students to learn, thrive and reach new heights. The campus is home to modern lecture theatres, digital workshops, studios and laboratories tailored to industry standards as well as a 24-hour library and free printing for students.

Outside the classroom, students also benefit from a wonderful social life. The student union offers an extensive choice of societies and clubs. The Forum at the Hendon campus is home to entertainment venues and cafés, as well as a state-of-the-art fitness centre.

Students at Middlesex experience and flourish in a multicultural environment in one of the world's most

international cities. With students from over 150 different nationalities, it is no wonder Middlesex University is among the top 15 most international universities in the world (Times World University rankings, 2017). Middlesex provides a vibrant and diverse environment allowing students to experience cultures, socialise and build global networks.

The support doesn't stop when you leave Middlesex. Graduates can join an Alumni network of over 80,000 students worldwide, applying the Middlesex ethos in their everyday lives. Middlesex graduates work with some of the world's top employers including Airbus, Apple, BBC, Emirates, Ford, Google, GSK, Intel, JP Morgan, Nike and Reuters among others.



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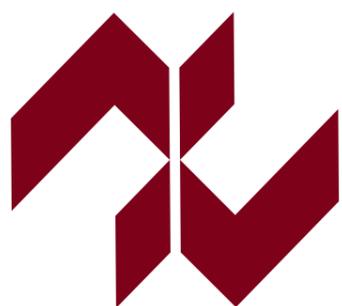
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Student loans now available from the Housing Finance Corporation



HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION

A new era with more options for credit extension has been introduced by the Housing Finance Corporation, which includes a broader range of funding in both housing and student loans.

Faithful to its social mission to upgrade the quality of life of Cypriot homes, the Housing Finance Corporation recently unveiled its Student Funding Scheme 'LET'S GO STUDY'. The scheme covers tuition fees and living and other expenses.

The key elements of the scheme are the following:

- A loan up to €120,000
- Repayment period up to 30 years
- Grace period of up to three years after normal

conclusion of studies

- The loan can be guaranteed by mortgaging a property and/or tying up a deposit
- Competitive interest rates
- The loan is released on an annual basis
- Extremely low life-insurance premiums (€0.99 per thousand)
- No administrative and partial loan-release costs

The Housing Finance Corporation was founded by the state in 1980 and tasked with taking deposits from the public and extending housing loans on the best terms possible.

In June 2017 a legislative amendment expanded the corporation's role to extend loans for buying, construct-

ing, renovating and energy-upgrading a home (primary or other), as well as the purchase of a residential plot of land.

With the expansion of its operations, the corporation is now in a position to cover more of households' financing needs. Specifically, as of August 2017, the corporation offers student loans and will gradually announce more financing options, such as housing equipment loans and medical treatment loans.

Additionally, with a view to making households' daily transactions easier, the corporation will soon offer current accounts with an overdraft facility and within 2018 will be in a position to offer its customers debit and credit cards.



We support your study financing as well!



Student Finance Scheme 'Let's go study'

The Student Finance Scheme 'Let's go study' covers financing needs for studies and includes tuition fees, living costs and other study expenses such as transportation, books, computer etc.

The Housing Finance Corporation provides loans to:

- New entry students
- Existing students

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Thinking of studying in the UK?

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in employment the professionals have advice on the workplace.

In an effort to bring even more people to the exhibition the British Council has added another two events, which are not for the general public but by invitation.

One of them is presented by the association of chartered accountants in collaboration with the government and targets school counsellors, the other one is a teacher's seminar.

These are the new things which will enrich this year's fair. Some things haven't changed, such as the number of universities that will participate and the number of Cypriot students studying in the UK, which remains stable since as yet there is no change due to Brexit. In the year 2018/2019 Cypriot students will be treated like home students, meaning the fees will remain the same, as will the ability to apply for a student loan and to work while studying.

"Last year, the first after Brexit, we had more interest in seminars, there is still equal interest from students, which means our efforts are on the right track. The two days are just part of a round of efforts to show people the benefits of UK studies and to inform them which lasts all year. Anybody who is interested should just contact our office," Michael concluded.

	Time	Activity
Friday 17 November, Hilton Cyprus	1600-1700	Choosing the right University for You! -Newcastle University (Othello Room)
	1600-1700	Studying in UK's second City -Birmingham City University (Akamas Room)
	1700-1800	Solid Foundations: The advantages of studying an integrated foundation degree -Canterbury Christ Church University (Othello Room)
	1700-1800	Study Accounting and Finance -University of Leeds (Akamas Room)
	1800-1900	How to write a Personal Statement that stands out -University of Warwick (Othello Room)
	1800-1900	Preparation for University and beyond -Christ's Hospital (Akamas Room)
	1900-2000	Music -Anglia Ruskin University (Othello Room)
	1900-2000	An introduction to Business Management and popular subject combinations -Northumbria University (Akamas Room)
	Saturday 18 November	1600-1700
1600-1700		Why a vocational Course may be for you! -University College Birmingham (Akamas Room)



For more information, contact the British Council at 22585000 or visit www.britishcouncil.com.cy/events

WHO WILL BE THERE

Aberystwyth University
Anglia Ruskin University
Bangor University
Bath Spa University
Birmingham City University
Bishop Grosseteste University
Bournemouth University
BPP University
Brunel University London
Canterbury Christ Church University
Cardiff University
Christ's Hospital School
City, University of London
Coventry University
De Montfort University
Keele University
King's College London
Lancaster University
Leeds Beckett University
Middlesex University
Newcastle University / Newcastle

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Northumbria University
Nottingham Trent University
Queen Mary University of London
Southampton Solent University
Staffordshire University
Swansea University
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The University of Nottingham
The University of Reading
The University of Sheffield
University College Birmingham
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University of Bradford
University of Bristol
University of Central Lancashire
University of Chester
University of Chichester

University of Derby
University of East Anglia
University of East London
University of Essex
University of Hertfordshire
University of Huddersfield
University of Kent
University of Leeds
University of Leicester
University of Lincoln
University of Plymouth
University of Portsmouth
University of Salford
University of Southampton
University of Surrey
University of Sussex
University of the West of England
University of Warwick
University of Westminster



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