

Alumni UK Live

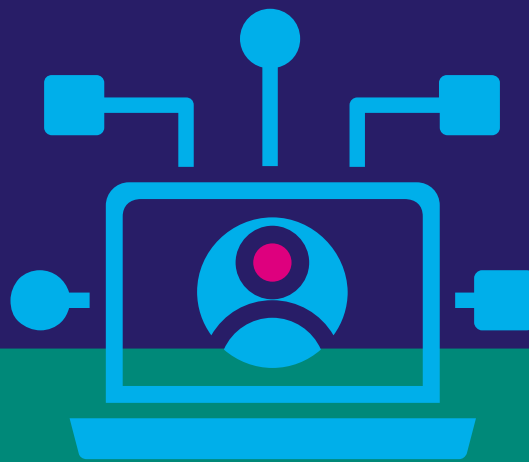


Your professional development festival

11–12 February 2025



#AlumniUK



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Welcome to Alumni UK Live

We are delighted to welcome you to the third edition of Alumni UK Live, Alumni UK's flagship professional development festival. We have an inspirational two-days of talks, workshops and discussions ahead of us with exceptional speakers from around the world – many of them international alumni like yourselves.

We hope by the end of the festival you will have had the opportunity to learn, challenge and share with your peers. Do make the most of this unique opportunity to gain practical skills and ideas to implement in your career journey, whilst making some valuable connections along the way.

And we hope that Alumni UK Live is not the end of your journey with us. Alumni UK is the global network for people from around the world who have studied with a UK university as an overseas student. Whether you are an existing member of our network, or you've just signed up for this event, all of you are now valued members of Alumni UK. We run a year-round programme of learning and development, opportunities such as competitions or grants, and networking events – both in-country and online. All our opportunities are freely available and designed specifically for international graduates of UK universities. We are here to support you in your career journey, build your network, and keep your connection to the UK.



Helen Etheridge

Global Programme Lead for Alumni UK
British Council

University Partners



Programme Overview

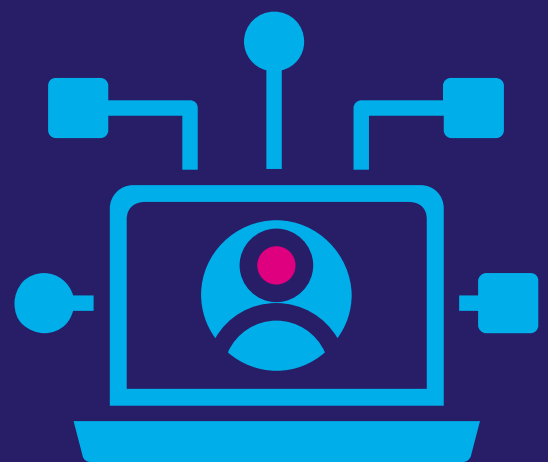
Tuesday 11 February

09.00–09.10	Welcome with Helen Etheridge and Kate Ewart-Biggs OBE
09.10–10.00	Why the future's bright: essentials for fostering hope and belonging in life and work
11.00–12.00	Thriving in tomorrow's workforce: future-proofing your career path
13.00–14.00	The changing creative industries landscape: in conversation with Professor Sara Pepper OBE and Rehana Mughal
15.00–16.00	Your future is waiting: empowering graduates for the job market
16.00	Closing comments for Day 1

Wednesday 12 February

09.00–10.00	AI and the future of work: staying ahead in a tech driven world
11.00–12.00	Own your achievements: make your performance review count
13.00–14.00	From challenges to opportunities: leveraging multi-generational perspectives
15.00–16.00	Alumni as changemakers: how professional networks can advance the SDGs
16.00	Closing remarks from Helen Etheridge and message from The Rt Hon Anneliese Dodds MP

All sessions are taking place in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)



Tuesday 11 February

09.00–09.10

Welcome with Helen Etheridge and Kate Ewart-Biggs OBE



Helen Etheridge (Host)

Global Programme Lead for Alumni UK, British Council

Helen is the British Council's Global Programme Lead for Alumni UK, the global network for people from around the world who have studied in or with the UK as an overseas student. Prior to Alumni UK, Helen was the British Council's Higher Education Lead for the EU region and also spent time in East Asia working on the Study UK campaign. Helen has worked at the UK government's Department for Business and Trade as a skills policy adviser, and at the Department for Education, where she supported academies and underperforming schools.



Kate Ewart-Biggs OBE

Deputy Chief Executive, British Council

Kate Ewart-Biggs OBE is Deputy Chief Executive of the British Council. Kate joined the British Council after working to help street children in places such as Brazil, South Africa, and Indonesia. Since joining the British Council, she has worked in Uganda, Tanzania, Central and Eastern Europe and Egypt. Kate was also Regional Head for the Middle East and North Africa, where she led the response to upheavals for the Arab Spring, offering young people education, skills and opportunities to reshape their societies. Prior to her appointment as Deputy Chief Executive, Kate was Director Global Network, accountable for the strategic direction, performance and resilience of our operations in over 100 countries. She was responsible for managing strategic relationships with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and other Whitehall partners. She was Interim Chief Executive in 2021, leading the British Council's response to the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.



09.10–10.00

Why the future's bright: essentials for fostering hope and belonging in life and work

This session will consider our mindset in relation to our own individual futures and our collective trajectory as a human race. Is everything getting worse or is there good reason for hope and optimism? We will consider three things:

- 1. Wellbeing:** how can we grow working environments where that enable people to thrive?
- 2. Inclusion:** how can we break down the categories that lead to division and create inclusive spaces that affirm the value of every single human?
- 3. Leadership:** what does equitable leadership look like and how can we each become more effective in positively impacting those around us?



Peter Radford

Speaker/Consultant, Beyond This

Peter is an experienced public speaker, teacher, trainer and author of *Love Teaching Keep Teaching*. He has a wealth of experience of leadership, personal development and education. Peter founded Beyond This to work with schools and organisations in equipping staff and students for the adventure of life and work, and to help leaders and teachers develop the strategies and momentum to transform education and grow ground-breaking schools. Peter has worked in education for over 25 years and has particular experience in addressing systemic misogyny, racism and LGBTQ+phobia to effect change at an organisational level. His training sessions and workshops address the systems and mindsets that stifle progress. Peter has led two schools to achieve the Unicef Rights Respecting School Award. His *Free & Equal?* national human rights conferences for secondary and sixth form students have reached tens of thousands. He now speaks to students and staff around the world inspiring change. His forthcoming book *Every Single Human* addressing discrimination and inclusion is due out in 2025.

11.30–12.30

Thriving in tomorrow's workforce: future-proofing your career path

As the dynamics of employment markets are evolving, the skills required to thrive in your career are shifting. This session will offer a look at how individuals can adapt to a rapidly changing job market, emphasising the importance of building transferable skills, leveraging emerging technologies and committing to lifelong learning for multi-industry employability. Through real-life examples from UK alumni, attendees will gain practical insights into navigating evolving career landscapes and staying relevant to help support you in long-term career resilience in the face of change.



Adonis Americanos

Managing Director, TCS Educational Consultants

Dr. Adonis Americanos is a student recruitment and marketing-in-education expert. He specializes in career guidance and counselling for high school students as well as university graduates. He is the Managing Director of Americanos TCS Educational Consultants since 1997 and a founding member and the Chairman of the Cyprus Association of Educational Consultants since then. He has extensive experience working as the Director of Admissions and International Office at a higher education institution and as an external examiner on Business, Finance and Marketing related courses. Dr. Americanos is the author of a book on the factors that influence international students' decisions in choosing a higher education institution (ISBN-13: 978-3659231209). He regularly writes articles related to education in various newspapers, magazines and online news sites.

**Kim Bui**

Freelance writer

Graduated from Birmingham City University with a Master's in International Broadcast Journalism, Kim began her career in TV production before transitioning to freelancing as a content writer. In addition to her media work, Kim proudly serves as the Regional Alumni UK Ambassador, fostering connections and opportunities within the alumni network.

**Seher Sayman**

Founder/HR Consultant, Ask Consulting

After graduating from Political Science and International Relations Department, Seher was awarded the degree of Master of Arts in European Studies at King's College with full scholarship. Having experience in various sectors, she continued her career in Human Resources function. She has 15 years Human Resources leadership experience in corporate world and now is having her second career as a HR consultant and a professional coach. Now, Seher provides services to corporations to ensure they uncover the true potential of their employees in the fields of Management Skills, Organizational Development and Culture Transformation. She has strong expertise in team coaching and culture transformation projects. She has a passion for discovering inner strengths in people and transforming them into growth mindset. Seher's mission is to empower organisations and individuals to embrace change, navigate complex challenges, and thrive in an ever-evolving world.

**Imru AL Qays Talha Jebril (Chair)**

Co-Managing Partner, A&K Advisors

Imru AL Qays is a public policy analyst and consultant with extensive experience in research, policy evaluation, and development advisory services across the MENA region. He is the co-founder of A&K Advisors, where he leads initiatives focused on governance, institutional capacity building, and socio-economic development. His work includes designing and implementing field-based research and providing evidence-based recommendations to support effective policy-making. With a strong academic foundation from Al Akhawayn University, Kansai Gaidai University, and SOAS, University of London, Imru applies interdisciplinary approaches to address complex policy challenges. He has worked with international organizations, NGOs, and public institutions, contributing to projects on governance, gender sensitivity, and professional development. His commitment to transparency and practical solutions drives his efforts to support sustainable policy reform and development. Through his work, Imru aims to foster impactful change and improve institutional effectiveness in the region.

13.00–14.00

The changing creative industries landscape: in conversation with Professor Sara Pepper OBE and Rehana Mughal

Professor Sara Pepper OBE, Co-Director of the Centre for the Creative Economy at Cardiff University shares her insights about how the creative industries are evolving the jobs that exist within the sector. Participants will learn what they need to do to respond to the changing nature of the employment of this sector.



Sara Pepper OBE

Co-director, Centre for Creative Economy, Cardiff University

Professor Sara Pepper is Co-Director of the Centre for the Creative Economy at Cardiff University. Her role is to provide leadership for all Centre current and future activities. Currently this includes creative city network Creative Cardiff, Clwstwr (a £9 million R&D project promoting innovation in the Welsh economy) and Media Cymru (a £54 million UKRI Strength in Places funded programme). Sara works with a wide variety of stakeholders including academic, industry and government partners and is keen to find ways for them to coalesce to better understand, support and enable the creative economy. She is passionate about championing & developing creative talent and ideas and brokering partnerships that enable individuals and organisations to realise their full creative and commercial potential.



Rehana Mughal (Chair)

Director, Creative Economy, British Council

Rehana Mughal is Director of Creative Economy at the British Council where she works with a globally dispersed team to deliver projects that focus on policy, research, advocacy, and on leadership development for creative professionals. Rehana builds strategic international collaborations and works to ensure the conditions are in place for creative individuals and organisations to thrive and contribute to more sustainable and inclusive creative sectors. Prior to leading the creative economy portfolio, Rehana held the post of Director Arts, British Council, China, and Cultural Counsellor, at the Cultural and Education Section of the British Embassy in Beijing. In the UK she has held roles at Arts Council England, the Southbank Centre and Teach First.

15.00–16.00

Your future is waiting: empowering graduates for the job market

This session is designed for international final-year students and early-stage alumni who want to gain insights and guidance on navigating the job market after graduation. Learn what to expect during your job search and receive practical tips to effectively prepare for your employment journey. Hear firsthand experiences from alumni who have successfully transitioned into their careers, sharing valuable advice and strategies to help make this important transition smoother and more successful.



Lusiné Manukyan

CEO, Health for Armenia

Lusiné Manukyan is an accomplished public policy, governance, and international development leader known for her ability to drive impactful change. She has successfully led multi-million-dollar initiatives aimed at strengthening public systems and empowering communities, with notable work at the Local Government Association in the UK and the Children of Armenia Fund. She holds an MPhil in International Relations from Cambridge University and a BA (Hons) in Politics and French from Newcastle University. As CEO of Health For Armenia, Lusiné brings her strategic vision and expertise to advance the organisation's mission of strengthening Primary Health Care and fostering community resilience. Fluent in four languages, Lusiné lives in the remote village of Debet, Armenia, where she is building a homestead with her small family. Lusiné believes change only happens at a local level, so she is deeply committed to finding community-focused solutions to global problems while promoting inclusive leadership.



Urvashi Prasad

Former Director, Office of Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, Government of India

Former Director at India's policy think tank, NITI Aayog, Urvashi is the British Council's UK Alumni Ambassador for SDG 10. She provides independent advice on public health and policy. Urvashi has contributed to the management of the Covid-19 pandemic in India, the implementation & monitoring of the SDGs and the promotion of gender equality and social inclusion. She is a World Economic Forum Expert Network member with over 100 publications and one of 75 Indian achievers recognized at the UK Parliament. One of Businessworld magazine's 40 under 40 ('23, '24), 25 most influential women in healthcare ('23, '24) and 100 most influential women in India across sectors ('23), she graduated from the Universities of Birmingham and Cambridge, and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. She has received an honorary doctorate in recognition of her work in public health. Urvashi is a Stage 4 lung cancer survivor.



Rawan F. Taha

Monitoring and Reporting Officer and British Council SDG 8 Ambassador, United Nations World Food Programme, Namibia

Rawan is currently working with the United Nations World Food Programme in Namibia as the Research, Assessment, Monitoring (RAM) and Reporting Officer. She also dedicates time daily to advocate for youth employment through writing self-help content, sharing entry-level international jobs, and conducting webinars with over 50,000 global youth followers on LinkedIn. Rawan is the author of a business book titled No More Job Secrets which focuses on helping youth find entry-level international jobs. She also volunteers with the British Council as the Ambassador for Sustainable Development Goal (8) Decent Work and Economic Growth. A role that still gives her goosebumps because of the platform and privilege it gives her to create change in a field she is so passionate about. Have a question regarding your career? Need help navigating the job search? Message Rawan on LinkedIn and she would be happy to help. Bonus points if you use the magic words: No More Job Secrets! <https://www.linkedin.com/in/rawan-taha/>

**Rida Tahir**

Legal Consultant, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Rida Tahir is a Barrister of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn and an Advocate of the High Courts of Pakistan, dedicated to promoting gender equality and child rights. She has earned prestigious fellowships, including those from Cornell Law School and the Centre for Protecting Women Online, and serves as the Gender Equality Fellow for the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW/NY) for the year 2024-2025. She is the legal expert for the Gender Equality Committee of Sindh. Further, she has played an instrumental role in drafting legislation to protect survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. Her notable contributions include authoring the roadmap for eliminating domestic violence, mapping legal aid mechanisms and improving access to safe abortion services. She has over a 100 publications in leading academic journals, including Oxford and Cambridge. She frequently pens down op-eds in prominent newspapers on human rights. She provides capacity building training to judges, policymakers, and law enforcement on gender and child rights.

**David Gee (Chair)**

Head of Global Employability at UWE Bristol; Creator of GradLink

David is creator of GradLink, an award-winning careers site for international students in the UK. GradLink is a completely free service for students, graduates and employers. The service is used by thousands of students and graduates from 100+ UK universities, has 200k followers on its social media, and a global network of over 1000 employers. GradLink is winner of the prestigious Times Higher Award, and has been shortlisted for the award three times. Through the development of GradLink, David has worked with employers across the world, including Asia, Africa, Middle-East and Europe. This has enabled David to develop an understanding of what exactly global employers look for when recruiting international students and graduates from the UK. As a result, David has presented at key careers events both in the UK and overseas, and has contributed to UK government reports on the subject of international student employability.

16.00–16.10

Closing comments for Day 1

**Helen Etheridge (Host)**

Global Programme Lead for Alumni UK, British Council

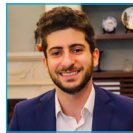
Helen is the British Council's Global Programme Lead for Alumni UK, the global network for people from around the world who have studied in or with the UK as an overseas student. Prior to Alumni UK, Helen was the British Council's Higher Education Lead for the EU region and also spent time in East Asia working on the Study UK campaign. Helen has worked at the UK government's Department for Business and Trade as a skills policy adviser, and at the Department for Education, where she supported academies and underperforming schools.

Wednesday 12 February

09.00–10.00

AI and the future of work: staying ahead in a tech driven world

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly becoming an essential tool across industries, transforming how we approach productivity, project management, time tracking, and collaboration—especially in remote and hybrid work environments. In this session, you'll learn how to harness AI to enhance your work and position yourself as an innovative leader. We'll explore practical strategies and tools to leverage AI for efficiency and effectiveness, offering real-world case studies of successful AI integration. These examples will provide valuable insights into staying competitive in the global market and adapting to the AI-driven changes reshaping the modern workplace.



Fadi Bou Debs

Entrepreneur & Investor, Evolve Online App

Fadi Bou Debs is a tech entrepreneur, public sector innovator, and investor known for harnessing technology to drive social and economic impact. He co-founded Evolve Online App, a company specializing in bespoke digital solutions, including AI-powered applications, AR experiences, and intelligent chatbots that enhance business operations and customer engagement across various industries. In the public sector, Fadi spearheaded the development of the national passport digital appointment system, a platform that streamlined processes and served millions during a critical period, demonstrating his ability to deliver impactful large-scale solutions. An MBA graduate from Cranfield School of Management, Fadi was recognized as a global finalist in the British Council Study UK Alumni Awards for his transformative contributions to digital infrastructure. Fadi continues to innovate at the intersection of technology and public service, empowering organizations to adapt to an AI-driven world.



Pandu Putra

Special Advisor for Digital Transformation to Minister of Administrative and Bureaucracy Reform of Republic of Indonesia

Pandu Kartika Putra is a seasoned digital government expert with over 8 years of experience driving public sector innovation in Indonesia. As Special Advisor for Digital Transformation to the Minister of Administrative and Bureaucratic Reform (PANRB), he leads initiatives to advance government transformation and enhance public service delivery through technology. Pandu has contributed to Indonesia's digital government agenda through roles at the Tony Blair Institute Indonesia office, Govtech Edu at the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health's Digital Transformation Office, and the World Bank. Earlier in his career, he established and led West Java Province's Jabar Digital Service, delivering award-winning digital programs for over 48 million citizens. An Informatics graduate from the Bandung Institute of Technology, Pandu collaborates with organizations and leaders to craft innovative policies, striving to transform governance and improve citizens' quality of life.

**Nabeel Akmal Qadeer**

Dy. Group CEO and BenchMatrix LLC

Nabeel is an innovator who is key in influencing the entrepreneurial landscape in Pakistan. He has spearheaded groundbreaking initiatives, including the creation of Plan9 Tech Incubator and hosting Idea Croron Ka, Pakistan's first business reality show, showcasing his commitment to democratising entrepreneurship. Beyond borders, Nabeel has taken on global roles, serving as CEO of the Commonwealth Youth Innovation Hub and contributing to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development–Commonwealth Entrepreneurship Project for Pakistan. Nabeel is the winner of the Study UK Global Award for the Business and Innovation category in 2024.

**Aamna Qama**

Lead Software Development Engineer, Stewart Pakistan

Aamna brings a decade of expertise in developing and delivering enterprise-level IT solutions to global clients across the education, healthcare, asset financing and title industries. In her current role, Aamna is leading the development and delivery of software solutions for premier title services provided by Stewart in the USA. These solutions leverage advanced cloud technologies and AI tools to bolster the system performance and provide enhanced user-experience on web and mobile devices.

**Gaurav Dnyanoba Somwanshi**

CEO and Co-Founder, EmerTech Innovations Pvt Ltd

Gaurav Somwanshi is CEO & Co-founder of EmerTech Innovations (incubated at IIT Bombay), leveraging Blockchain and AI. Author of Sakhaliche Swatantrya, India's first Marathi Blockchain book and an alumnus of IIM Lucknow, he champions transparency in agricultural supply chains through the AgroTrust platform with India's largest farmer producer company. EmerTech enables EUDR compliance for Apollo Tyres, ensures cotton-to-T-shirt traceability, and provides data security solutions for a Japanese partner. Gaurav advised on Blockchain-based e-governance pilots in Chhattisgarh and has conducted international workshops, including at the Mississippi Coding Academy in the US. He is Associate Editor at Frontiers in Blockchain, a social activist, columnist, independent researcher, and a British Council Future Leader (2019). Invited multiple times by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for post-budget Blockchain discussions, he is also a Dalai Lama Fellow (2019). EmerTech has won multiple awards nationally, internationally, and from central government agencies.

11.00–12.00

Own your achievements: make your performance review count

Performance reviews are a chance to highlight your value, set goals, and plan for your future. Join us for this webinar to learn practical tips and strategies to ace your review and take charge of your career.

What you'll learn:

- Why Reviews Matter: See how a strong performance review can boost your career.
- Showcase Your Value: Learn how to highlight your impact and contributions.
- Speak Up for Your Goals: Discover authentic ways to advocate for your career growth.

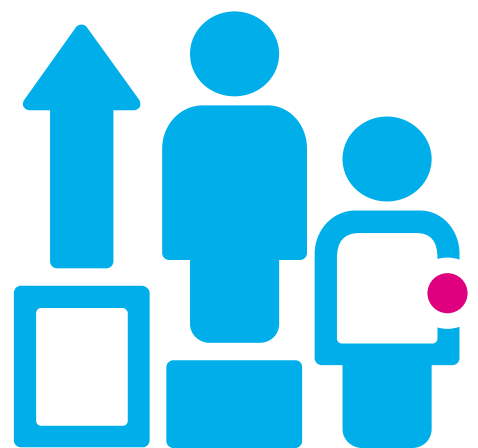
If you're an employee or leader aiming to shine, this session will provide useful insights on preparation, sharing your accomplishments, and building your path forward. Don't miss this chance to accelerate your career!



Tréasa Fitzgibbon

Career Expert, City CV

Tréasa Fitzgibbon is an International Speaker, DEI & Careers Expert, Trainer and Coach at City CV. Following a 20-year banking career at Citi, HSBC, Bank of America and Merrill Lynch, Tréasa now supports multinational organisations across all aspects of leadership and career management.



13.00–14.00

From challenges to opportunities: leveraging multi-generational perspectives

In today's multigenerational workforce, where up to five generations coexist, fostering collaboration is essential. Each generation brings unique skills, perspectives, and expectations, creating both challenges and opportunities for leaders. Cultural attitudes toward age further complicate this dynamic.

This session will offer strategies for navigating these complexities, featuring international insights on leveraging the strengths of all employees. Topics include cultural perceptions of generations, the importance of open communication, age-inclusive programs, and valuing diverse experiences.

Join us to explore how to build a collaborative environment that empowers employees of all ages and drives organisational success.



Teresa Baños

Trainer and Facilitator

Teresa is a social action trainer, experiential facilitator, and outdoor educator. Originally from Mexico but a resident of Scotland since 2013, Teresa creates brave and joyful learning spaces which invite people to tap into their curiosity. She has worked for organisations like Campaign Bootcamp and Girlguiding in the UK, and as a freelance trainer continues to deliver social action and DEI trainings to organisations like Media Trust.



Hauwa Liman

Technical Advisor to the Vice President of Nigeria on Women, Youth Engagement and Impact, Office of the Vice President, State House, Nigeria

Hauwa Liman is the Technical Adviser to the Vice President of Nigeria on Women, Youth Engagement and Impact. An accomplished Youth Development Strategist and Practitioner with over a decade of experience in empowering under-served communities through collaborative initiatives. She holds a degree in Economics and a master's degree in Development. As a Commonwealth Scholar, she completed another master's degree in Migration, Mobility and Development from SOAS University of London. Hauwa is a recipient of numerous local and international awards. In 2016, she became a Mandela Washington Fellow, a flagship program launched by former US President Barack Obama. She was selected one of the top 50 emerging global policy leaders by the British Council in 2017 and formed part of British Council's Nigeria Task Force for the 2020/21 Next Generation research project. Prior to her recent appointment, her career has been with the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) in Nigeria.



Adwait Phadke

Senior Manager Special Projects, Everest Industries Ltd

Adwait Phadke is a seasoned professional with over 13 years of diverse experience in HR transformation, talent management and data driven organisational strategies. As a military veteran, Adwait brings unparalleled leadership and operational expertise to his work, excelling in fostering inclusive workplace cultures and driving initiatives that enhance employee engagement and organisational effectiveness. Passionate about DEI, Adwait champions initiatives that promote fairness, innovation and collaboration in the workplace. Beyond his professional commitments, he is a creative enthusiast who has acted in drama and theatre, trained in Latin dance and a certified skydiver. Adwait's multifaceted interests and dedication to people centric solutions reflects his belief in the power of inclusion and creativity to transform workplaces and inspire positivity.



Jane Franklin (Co-Chair)

Global Head of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, British Council

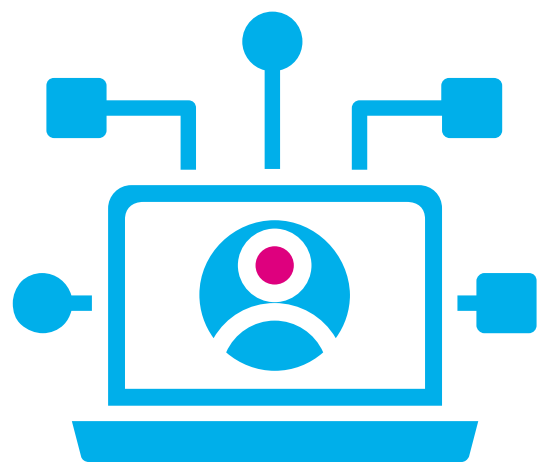
Jane Franklin is the British Council's Global Head of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), responsible for shaping and delivering the organisation's global EDI strategy across more than 100 countries. With expertise in designing tools, training, and measures for mainstreaming EDI, she combines data-driven decision-making with strategic alignment to ensure impactful results. Jane holds a Master's in Promoting Equality and Managing Diversity and has co-authored several publications on international diversity management. She is also an experienced coach and trained mediator. Passionate about fairness and inclusion, Jane serves as Vice Chair of the Independent Monitoring Board at HMP Styal, a women's prison, and is a founding Trustee and volunteer at Burnage Foodbank.



Chika Idoko (Co-Chair)

Deputy Global Head of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, British Council

Chika has worked for almost 20 years the majority of which have been spent in various roles with a focus on equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI). In her role as Deputy Global Head of EDI, she is responsible for providing oversight and leadership of the EDI Community of Practice to influence, operationalise and strengthen the mainstreaming of EDI to achieve the desired inclusive culture across more than 100 countries. She has led and contributed to distinct EDI research initiatives such as barriers to participation of persons living with disability in the workforce, understanding barriers to women's mobility in SSA and identification of key determinations for socioeconomic background in SSA. Chika is an experienced speaker, trainer and coach who has worked with global audiences. she is passionate about empowerment of women and girls, social justice, and achievement of the SDGs through an intersectional lens. Chika is certified in mediation & conciliation, change management and human resources amongst others. She is an Aresty Scholar at the Wharton Business School, holds a degree in Computer Engineering and a Masters in Corruption and Governance from University of Sussex.



15.00–16.00

Alumni as changemakers: how professional networks can advance the SDGs

In an interconnected world, alumni have the potential to become powerful agents of change, using their networks to address critical global challenges and support the SDGs. In this session learn how you can leverage your professional network to amplify your impact and drive meaningful change. Hear from peers and learn more about successful alumni-led projects that have made tangible impact on SDGs.



Baris Alpaslan

Professor of Economics, Social Science University of Ankara

Baris Alpaslan is a Professor of Economics at the Social Sciences University of Ankara. Prof. Alpaslan also holds a number of administrative roles at different levels in the same university. Prof. Alpaslan completed an MSc (with an award of distinction) and then a PhD in Economics at the University of Manchester. Prof. Alpaslan has multiple institutional affiliations with well-known research centres in the UK, Australia, Japan, as well as in Egypt. Prof. Alpaslan is a Vice President of the Committee of Experts on the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development Goals at the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO. Prof. Alpaslan has undertaken consultancy services for several international organisations, such as the World Bank, African Development Bank, and International Centre for Migration Policy Development. Prof. Alpaslan has recently been appointed Chief Advisor to Chairman of the Executive Board at IC Holding. Prof. Alpaslan was a finalist for the Science and Sustainability Award category in the 2023-24 British Council Study UK Alumni Awards. His research interests focus broadly on the macroeconomics of growth, inequality and development.



Atir Guliyeva

Education specialist, Institute of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Atir is a graduate of the University of Glasgow with a MSc in Education for Sustainable Futures. In her career, she has taken on roles as a tutor, researcher, project manager, and ambassador, all of which contribute to her identity as an “Educator.” She is passionate about offering high-quality education opportunities, not just for her students but for the systems she is part of. To deepen her understanding of sustainable education practices and better contribute to global goals, she applied for the “SDG4 Ambassador” position within the British Council’s Alumni UK platform. This position offers her a chance to exchange knowledge with fellow alumni, share best practices, and collaborate on innovative solutions to advance sustainable education worldwide. Through these efforts, she aims to make a meaningful difference in both local and global educational landscapes.



Siddharth Pillai

Education Programmes Advisor, Street Child

Siddharth advises on Education Programmes at Street Child and recently led the Education Portfolio for the Afghanistan Office. At Street Child, he supports the country teams and partners in establishing systems and processes to ensure project teams can measure and positively influence the teaching and learning process in each classroom. Before Street Child, Sid has worked as an Education Consultant for the Government of Afghanistan and also worked as a Prime Minister’s Fellow with the Government of India in insurgency-affected areas of India managing Education and Skill Development Programs. As a Commonwealth and Cambridge trust scholar, Sid has completed his M. Phil in Education, Globalization and International Development from the University of Cambridge.



Sana Rasool

Carbon Market Specialist, Pakistan Ministry of Climate Change and Environment Coordination

Sana Rasool is the Carbon Market Specialist at Pakistan's Ministry of Climate Change, where she advises the Government on potential Carbon trading projects, internationally competitive rules and regulations and international carbon reporting under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Sana has also been the negotiator for Pakistan on Article 6. She hopes to see a new era of Carbon trading whereby actual and measurable mitigation takes place and countries gradually shift towards cleaner and greener policies.



Stellah Bosire (Chair)

Executive Director, Africa Centre for Health Systems and Gender Justice

Dr Stellah Bosire is a multi-award winning medical doctor, lawyer, Global Health Practitioner and researcher who the Executive Director of The Africa Center for Health Systems and Gender Justice, a Pan-African organization dedicated to addressing health inequities and gender inequalities intersectionally. Stellah is a systems change agent with expertise in intersectional inequalities, health equity, health systems strengthening and sustainable development. She is currently the Chairperson for Amnesty International Kenya and a board member of the CIVICUS Alliance. Her previous positions include Co-executive director of the East Africa Sexual Health and Rights Initiative, CEO of the Kenya Medical Association, and vice-chair of the HIV/AIDS Tribunal of Kenya. She also served as a board member of Funders Concerned About AIDS and as an advisory Board member for Racism in Global Health. Stellah holds a Bachelors of Medicine and Surgery, a Masters in Global Health, A Masters in Healthcare Management and a Bachelors of Law.

16.00

Closing remarks from Helen Etheridge and message from The Rt Hon Anneliese Dodds MP



Helen Etheridge (Host)

Global Programme Lead for Alumni UK, British Council

Helen is the British Council's Global Programme Lead for Alumni UK, the global network for people from around the world who have studied in or with the UK as an overseas student. Prior to Alumni UK, Helen was the British Council's Higher Education Lead for the EU region and also spent time in East Asia working on the Study UK campaign. Helen has worked at the UK government's Department for Business and Trade as a skills policy adviser, and at the Department for Education, where she supported academies and underperforming schools.



The Rt Hon Anneliese Dodds MP

Minister for Development, Women and Equalities

Anneliese Dodds was appointed Minister for Development at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and Minister for Women and Equalities at the Department for Education on 8 July 2024. She was elected as the MP for Oxford East in June 2017.

Navigating Zoom Events

How to access the event

How do I access the event?

Click on the Join button at the top of the email sent to the email address you registered with.

Do I need to have a Zoom account to access the event?

No, although having a Zoom account can improve your experience. Your unique link will take you directly into the event lobby via your web browser. You must login with the email address used to register for the event.

Will I get a link for each session?

No. Your unique access link will give you access to every session.

How to find your way around the event

What is the lobby?

The lobby is the homepage of the event. From here you can chat with other attendees and access sessions and session details, speaker biographies, and your itinerary.

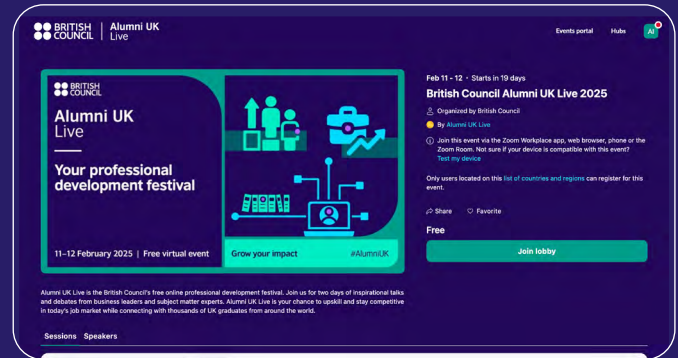
The event lobby will be open from Monday 10th February for you to explore the programme and save any sessions you would like to attend in your personal itinerary.

How do I view the session details?

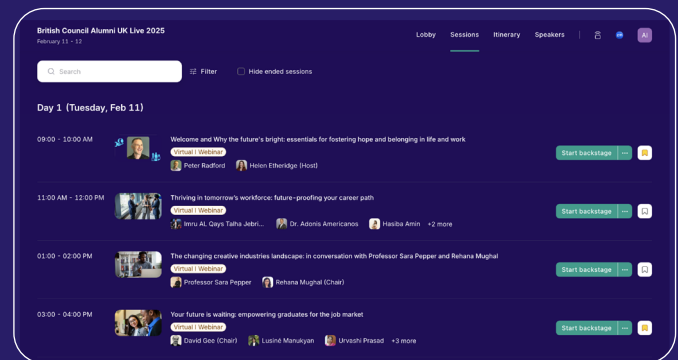
Click on the sessions menu title at the top of the screen. The sessions will appear in chronological order. To view the overview and speakers in a session, click on the session title.

How do I view the speakers?

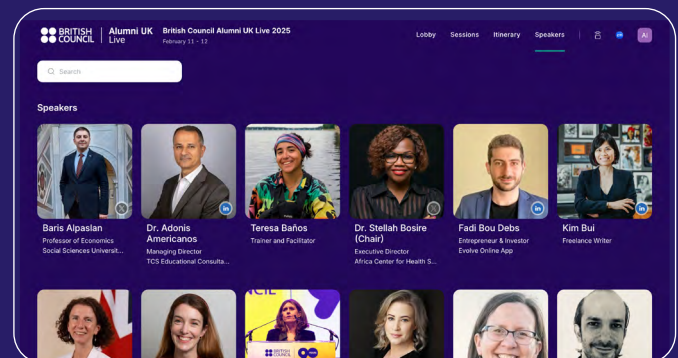
From the session details screen, click on the speaker's name to access their biography. Alternatively, click on the speakers menu title at the top of the screen for a list of all speakers. Clicking on a speaker's name will take you to their biography.



Zoom Lobby



Sessions



Speakers

Navigating Zoom Events

How do I create an itinerary?

On either the session listing or the session detail page, click on the bookmark icon and the session will be added to your personal calendar. This is accessed via the itinerary tab in the top menu.

How to access sessions

How do I access sessions?

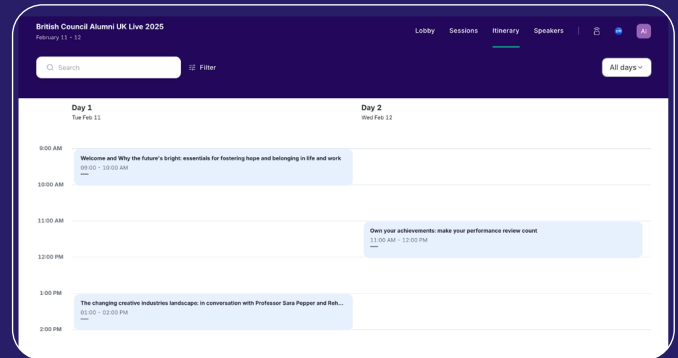
The next session to start is featured in the lobby. Click on Join and you will be redirected from Zoom events to a new Zoom webinar for the session. You can also join through the session timetabled in your itinerary or in the sessions tab. Just look for the join button. You are able to join sessions 10 minutes beforehand and you will see the session countdown.

How do I ask questions during sessions?

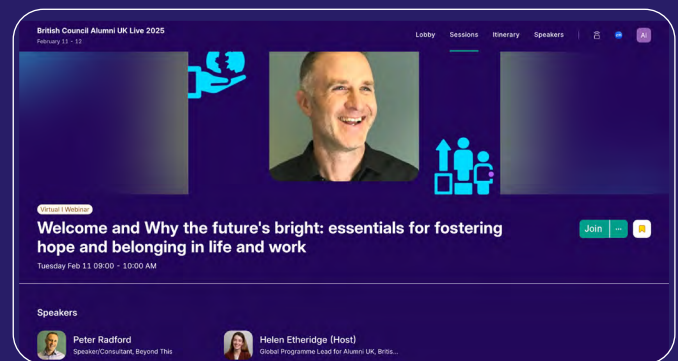
You can ask questions during each session via the Q+A option at the bottom of your screen. Questions posted in the session Chat may not be seen.

Will session recordings be available?

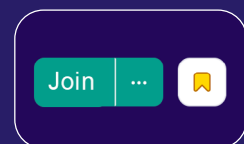
Yes, shortly after each session has ended, the recording will be available to watch on demand. The recordings will be available until 4.30pm on Wednesday 19th February 2025.



Itinerary



Sessions Bookmarking



Alumni UK is the global network for people from around the world who have studied in the UK as an overseas student.

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