StudentShapers Recruitment: Calling all Computing and Maths students

Redesign the Huxley Level 3 Foyer Area

Do you want to help redesign the Huxley Level 3 foyer area to make it a better space for students?

Bursary:

Up to 5 weeks full time at the start of the summer vacation, paid at £305/week

plus 3-4 hours per week part-time during the last 3 weeks of the summer term.

Who should apply:

We are recruiting a team of **up to 1 Computing student and 1 Maths student** (most likely current 2nd year undergraduates) to work together researching how we could make best use of this space, and working together with staff to propose a new design.

Campus/Location:

The project will be completed remotely.

Project details:

Although we are all currently working away from the campus, we're keen to push forward with projects to improve the physical space to enhance the experience for students and staff when we return. Can you help redesign some of the public space in Huxley?

The Huxley Level 3 Foyer is quite a large, flat space that links Lecture Theatre 340 and classrooms 341/342 to Lecture Theatres 311/308, the Walkway, and also to Level 2 lecture theatres, labs and street entrance via a wide staircase. These rooms are used for classes by both the Computing and the Maths departments and both sets of students use the transitional space.

The space currently features a few benches where students often congregate to study together (often with laptops perched on their knees), meet and talk before/after classes in adjoining rooms (often standing in groups), or eat their lunch together. We feel that with some joined up and creative thinking, this space could be rejuvenated and has great possibility for becoming a more useful space for informal study and interaction.

The idea of this project is to research how students use the space, think about other similar spaces around College (particularly where these have recently been updated - for example Blackett Level 1) and in other work environments, and work with staff to come up with a proposal for an effective design which can be implemented within reasonable constraints. All work will be done

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remotely and students will be expected to conduct online research around best use of similar spaces, both using academic research into learning and working spaces as well as finding examples of good design from other environments. Layout plans for Huxley will be provided digitally as well as other required information to support students to complete the project remotely.

If time allows, students will also be encouraged to think creatively of ways in which the "real" could be brought into the "virtual", eg. are there ways in which we can create the feeling of being on campus in our space while logging in from home.

We anticipate the project would start towards the end of the summer term (part-time, a few hours per week), and then turn into a full time project for up to 5 weeks at the start of the summer vacation. The students will work as a team, and together with staff, using online meeting tools to communicate (eg. MS Teams, Zoom, etc). Exact dates are somewhat flexible depending on the students chosen.

How to apply:

Please write a short email (max 400 words) explaining why you would like to work on this project, and what process you think would be best in order to determine the best use for the space, and how you would decide what the most effective updates might be.

We want to make sure that the needs of all students (and staff) are taken into account. At this stage we aren't looking for particular design ideas, but your ideas for how to best consult the students, staff, and learn about effective space design, and spaces that work well elsewhere. How would this research then inform the design you propose?

We will review all the applications, and then may invite a shortlist of candidates for an informal meeting to discuss further before making our final selection.

If you wanted to apply together as a pair (one student from Maths, one from Computing) that might work well, but individual applications are also more than welcome.

Send your email to both Dr Robert Chatley (rbc@imperial.ac.uk) and Mrs Inkeri Hibbins (i.hibbins@imperial.ac.uk).
Please put **"Summer Huxley Level 3 Redesign"** in the subject of your email.

If you have any queries, please email one of the people above for further information.

Deadline:

Midnight, Sunday 10th May.