



REAL ROLE MODELS

We asked our members for nominations of real role models across the school who inspire, support and motivate them everyday.



Catherine Reynolds, Careers

Catherine balances her work LSE providing Career Support for PhDs and Researchers with an academic role teaching at the University of Warwick on their postgraduate diploma.

Catherine is an inspiring role model for me in terms of her professionalism, and capacity to deliver excellence and expertise while managing several working 'identities'.

I think of Catherine as a true careers 'professional', in addition to being a warm and supportive colleague. She encourages us as a team to reflect research in our practice which I feel is particularly relevant to ensuring we respond to the specific careers and professional development needs of LSE student and research communities.



Mini Staskus, Economics

Mini volunteered to be part of the organising committee for the PSS Conference 2019, she was keen to meet others from across the LSE community. Mini ended up taking a lead and coordinating the rest of the volunteers, which meant taking on extra work and responsibility, she did it with good humour and energy and was great at motivating the rest of us.

Mini is the Head of Education Delivery, Department of Economics which as you can appreciate is a big role (in other departments there are two people doing her job). I did not get the opportunity to nominate Mini for a Values in Practice (VIP) Awards, but if I had it would've been in the categories of Exceptional Team Member and Outstanding Collegiality.



Kirsty Conway, Government

Kirsty is dedicated, professional and incredibly fun. She knows how to get things done under pressure and with a smile.

She's someone who instantly makes a group of people feel like a team, bringing a sense of purpose and joy to her work and everyone around her.

Dorothy Richards, Accounting

Dot is a formidable woman - Fair, Honest, friendly and extremely approachable.

She has worked at LSE for 30 years and started here as a junior admin role and moved up the career path to programme manager. She gets the work done and always have a moment to share her thoughts and experience.

She is encouraging of her team mates and is the beating heart of the Department of Accounting. She is supportive of her students - always listens and offers help for those in need. She is calm under pressure and able to stand her ground in a department full of characters. She gives strong meaning to "Woman Power!"



Albina Shashyna, Human Resources

Albina is a constant support for colleagues at LSE. Even if things fall outside of her role, she takes the time to encourage/guide/mentor/advise colleagues through the journey of figuring out what's next.

Albina inspires colleagues to reach a little higher, lean in a little more and to do so with the confidence of knowing that she has your back! She is an asset to the School and an inspirational role model for women at LSE!



Jacqueline Martin, Health Policy

Jackie is someone who looks to connect people and does it with such positivity and zest that it inspires others to do the same.

She shows a real sense of fairness and justice and looks to improve LSE and the world around her in every way possible. She pushes people to be better whilst also being empathetic to the challenges of incremental change.

She's a great role model of tenacity and strength.



Catarina Heeckt, LSE Cities

Catarina has an infectious can-do spirit that brings out the best in others. She is always ready to help and shares her natural talents in various capacities.

Her caring nature and incredible photography skills are a real gift to LSE.

Ella is our main receptionist at the Student Counselling Service. She worked here a couple of years ago, left after a reshuffle and has since returned.

She manages a really difficult pressured job with grace, and remains smiling and approachable. She is the front line when a student (often in distress) comes to the counselling service and she puts them at ease, and makes the process as easy as it can be for them.

Ella Begum,
Student Counselling Service



Rachel Power, Management

Rachel is such a great listener and someone you know you can depend on to look out for your best interests.

She takes the time to really understand challenges and constantly pushes (in a friendly way) to improve things for students, staff and the whole of LSE.

Her perspective on work-life balance, the future of higher education and organisational culture are inspiring to everyone she encounters.



Joanne Hay, Directorate

Joanne leads by example and inspires so many of us here at the LSE. Her in-depth experience and her approachability allow her to be a role model and sounding board for so many staff at the LSE.

Joanne always gives time to colleagues, even when they are not even in her direct line of management. Joanne recognises people's struggles and supports them anyway she can, which involves her ability to network and provide people guidance and the right direction to resolve their issue.

Her dedicated work ethic, her passion to do this right and to achieve joint goals, is very infectious. A true role model and leader here at the LSE.



Laura-Ann Royal, Law

Not only is Laura a very good friend of mine, she's also hard-working - currently studying a Lsw MSc at LSE, intelligent, and always kind to others.

She deserves recognition for her loyalty, kindness and dedication!

Michelle Henriksen, Law

Michelle is an exceptional member of the LLB Team who provides amazing support, has brought so many ideas and positive vibes to the team.

She is amazing at her job and does everything with ease, has exceptional attention to detail and is always willing to help.

Her joyful manner has brought a lot of positivity to the team and she has been a delight to work with. Her passion for the environment has made me think about and made me more aware of trying to reduce my carbon footprint and plastic wastage.



Catherine Osley, Management

Catherine is such a good example of a supportive leader and manager.

She is fair, caring and always looking out for the bigger picture. She has navigated through challenging situations time and time again and always manages to have her sense of humour and smile.



Jeni Brown, Digital Skills Lab

Jeni Brown is, without doubt, an amazing leader and a great asset for LSE.

She is very supportive and understanding and always willing to help. Her advice is always helpful and considerate.

Jeni possess personal attributes that are consistent with LSE's values and an ability to inspire others - definitely have inspired me a great deal. Jeni has stellar professional accomplishments to her credit, including the prestigious 2018 FDM Every Woman in Technology Award, and a strong history of being a true champion of supporting LSE colleagues and women in particular.



Alex Banks, Management

Alex is fair, loyal and such a warm personality to be around. He is always looking out for the greater good and inspires a positive community around him.

His work ethic and professionalism make a great colleague, but his considerate nature and empathy make him an even greater friend.

Sandra Hutton, Catering

You will know you've met Sandra by her smile, it is authentic, open and generous - as she is with her time. Sandra works in Catering Services and is a woman of many talents, one such talent is she is a Well-Being Life Coach.

I recently attended a Developing and Maintaining Self-Value Workshop run by Sandra, organised by the Staff Network Embrace. This event was an excellent example of bringing LSE's diverse community together, whilst sharing your own transferable skills to help to inspire, motivate and support your colleagues.



Lalita John, Summer School

Lalita is the person everyone wants on their team. She's positive, fun, knows how to get things done and brings people together in her role of Student Experience Manager.

She serves as a great role model for the whole team by thriving in her day job whilst also being a key contributor to the office culture.



Monika Hockenhull, Directorate

Monika is such an incredible role model of continually challenging herself and rising to the next adventure whilst also keeping healthy boundaries for work-life balance.

She serves as a great example of being a working parent and following her great ambitions to improve LSE for the greater good.



Meeta Bhatt, Human Resources

Meeta is one of those people that constantly amaze and impress you.

She takes her work seriously as well as her outside ventures (her own vegan handbag brand!) - balancing an incredible tight rope between work, *other* work and life.

She's always kind and thoughtful - ready to help, but also knows where her boundaries lie. An incredible role model of knowing what you want and asking for it.



Cleo Jones, Management

Cleo is someone that everyone would want on their team. Hard-working, friendly, diligent and fun!

She seems to nail the exact balance of professionalism, confidence, personality and work-life balance.

She's always kind and willing to help others in the Department or around her. If only we could have more Cleos about!



Kelly Benson, Management

Kelly is reliable, kind and loyal. She is very gifted at helping people to see the greater picture and providing guidance calmly and rationally along the way.

Her support and belief in others is inspiring and a great example of how to be a manager.

Nadia runs an informal staff choir every week which we started together this term.

She manages with skill and humour to put a group of 15-45 people at ease, and make a beautiful sound together, often in several parts. Many of those people coming in each week arrive with the belief that they 'cannot sing' or 'can't hold a tune', but are brave enough to come and have a go, and she helps them see that they can.

We laugh, we sing, we leave smiling and the smile stays for the rest of the day. Truly inspirational.

**Nadia Drews,
Disability and
Wellbeing
Service**



Serena James, Government

Serena is considerate, thoughtful and a natural connector. She is always looking out for how she can improve things with her Department and around the School.

Her calm and confident demeanour allow other people to feel comfortable and share their views, whilst also ensuring her voice is heard.

She's a great role model and ally to many groups around the School and we're lucky to have her.



Emily Cruz, LSE Cities

Emily works incredibly hard at everything she does and is a phenomenally multitalented individual. It is actually a miracle that we have been able to keep her all to ourselves for all these years - she should be running the country!

The amount of things she does for us at LSE Cities is awe inspiring and we are so lucky to have her. She cares about everyone at work, always has time to listen and her loud laugh often echoes through the office bringing a smile to everybody's face. She is just a genuinely fantastic and kind colleague and she makes working here feel like we are all part of a big family.



Stephanie Cloots, International Programmes

Stephanie does such a fantastic job as Co-Chair of LSE Power!

Her dedication to ensuring equality, diversity and inclusion at LSE is commendable.

Alongside being a champion for EDI at the School, she is a collegiate, hardworking and supportive colleague who embodies a 'real' role model.

Thus, I am very happy to put forward this recognition in honour of International Women's Day!

Kathleen is an incredible woman and brilliant colleague and super-supportive.

She is always doing things that are worthwhile and helps create a better place.

Kathleen works with the housekeeping staff. She supports them everyday, appreciates what they do and takes a personal interest in their development. Kathleen cares for the wellbeing of men and women. She is truly an inspiration and I feel very honoured to be working with her.

Kathleen Lee,
Estates



Jonathan Leape, Economics

Jonathan is possibly one of the most supportive people I have had the pleasure to work alongside at LSE.

It says so much when someone in a senior position immediately values the work and opinions of the more junior staff around them - something that should be the status quo, but is in fact, sadly not often the case (especially when considering the often unspoken of unequal academic / PSS dynamic, further compounded by the intersection of gender etc).

As a junior female member of staff when I first started to work with Jonathan, his inclusive and collaborative working style, and immediate belief in my abilities, enabled me to build the confidence to grow into my role and strive for even greater heights. Jonathan is also so personable - he goes above and beyond to ensure that everyone, no matter what their role or position, feels valued and appreciated. He also makes a genuine effort to get to know his colleagues, regardless of their seniority (or lack thereof). These little things matter a great deal. And one last point: his irrepressible enthusiasm for what he does certainly makes many around him smile, and indeed motivates them to do great work. He certainly inspires me to be my best self!



Amanda Gaddes, Health Policy

Amanda inspires me with her dedication, hard work and positive attitude as well as encouraging me to believe in my own abilities!

It is a pleasure to be friends with Amanda and have her continuous support for me - thanks!



Dr Jillian Terry, LSE 100

Jillian is unfailingly supportive and engage with her students and colleagues.

Always ready to lend a hand, she constantly strives to provide excellent and creative work in support of the School.

She has a positive outlook, is open to new ideas, goes above and beyond, and is a pleasure to work with.

Luke Cox, International Programmes

Luke is an incredible ally and friend and proves a great support to equality at LSE and beyond.

His considerate and calm nature make him someone that people feel comfortable opening up to and he is always mindful of how he can make things better for the group.



Situ Diwan, Management

Situ is loyal, steadfast and honest. She serves as a calming force to stressed undergraduate management students (and fellow staff) whilst also being someone who is empathetic and non-judgemental when challenges come your way.

A great friend and colleague!



Louise Millar, Geography

Louise is friendly, kind and always ready to help. She is such a genuine person which makes everyone feel comfortable and at ease. Through her work, you can tell she really cares about students and that she is always ready to initiate change for the betterment of her Department and LSE.

Her can-do attitude and sweet nature make her an ideal colleague and friend.



Ashley Bouchard, Management

Ashley is an innovative and creative team member.

She always is willing to pitch in and share ideas (and she always has some great ones) and her tenacity and encouragement is always motivational.