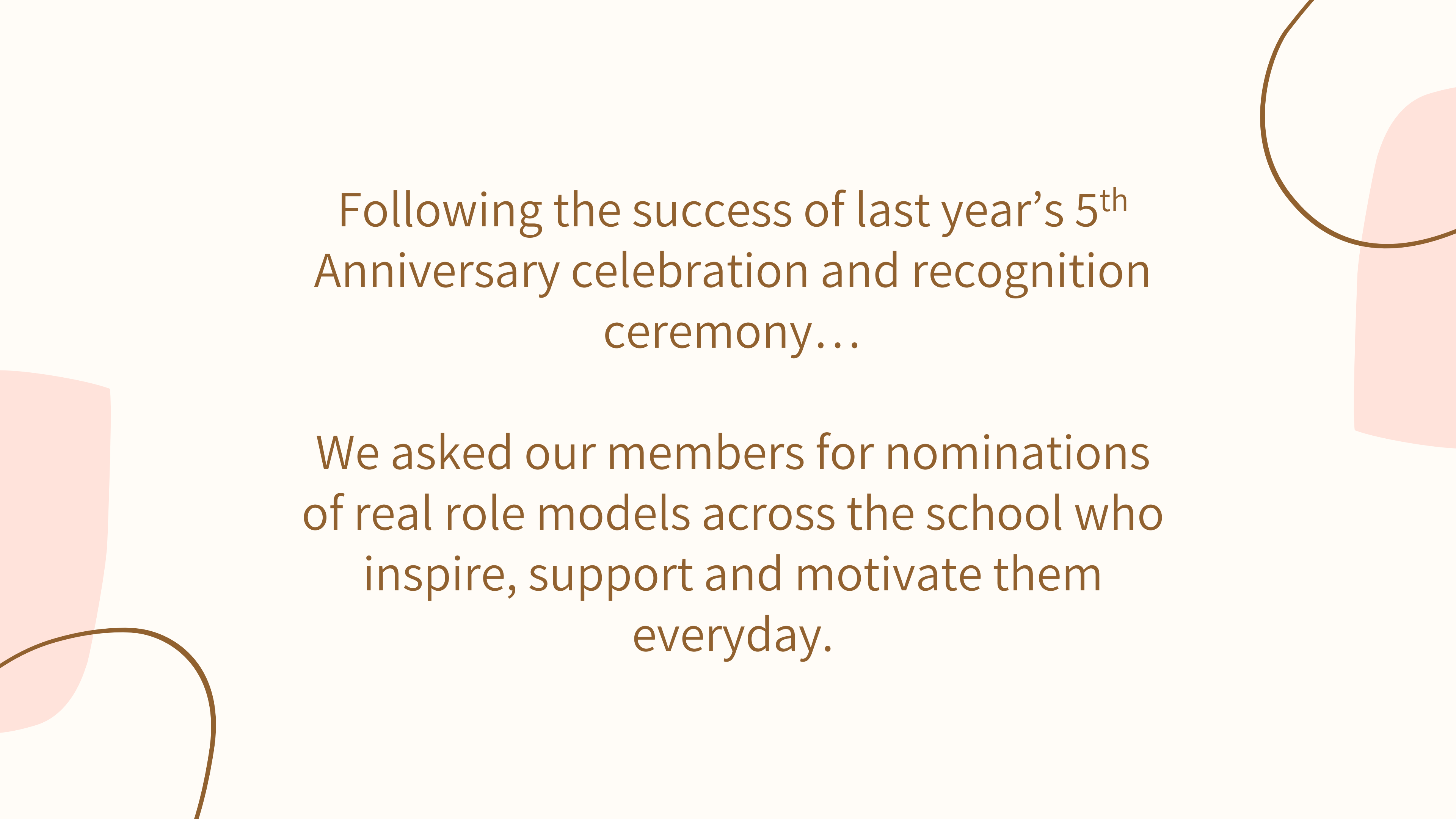




# Real Role Models

International Women's Day 2021

LSE Power



Following the success of last year's 5<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary celebration and recognition  
ceremony...

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

The background features several abstract, organic shapes in various shades of brown. A large, light brown shape is in the top left corner. A darker brown shape is in the top right corner. A small, solid brown circle is in the bottom right area. A thin brown line forms a partial arc in the bottom left corner.

Virtual drum roll, please!

# Mayisha Ahsan

## LSE Life

Mayisha is an incredibly creative and energetic person and colleague who has left a tremendous mark ever since she joined LSE LIFE in 2017.

Being the first woman in her family to complete a uni degree, she brought in views and perspectives to our team that we would not have been aware of as much or would have had much more difficulty learning about. Her willingness and ability to share her points and draw attention to many aspects of students' lives has been and is of crucial importance.

Her approach to work and to colleagues have reshaped the team in a way that it has become an even more lively and dynamic place, with her being a very supportive, creative, energetic team player, willing to make a difference within the team as well as for the students for whom she cares so much.

Working with Mayisha is a pleasure - every day, every hour. Her ability to connect with people - within the team, beyond the team, and with students - is in every way remarkable and she is an absolute role model for her ambitious, social, caring, supportive, and creative way of working.





# Adeola Akande Pierre-Noël

Institute of Global Affairs

Adeola is a dedicated EmbRace committee member who is passionate about making real change within the School. I am inspired by the way she addresses issues relating to race and how she puts her suggestions into action to make LSE a better place for Black employees and students.





# Oriana Bandiera

Department of Economics

Despite being a busy and active professor, she has supported me both professionally when I have wanted to try new things or change direction of events at STICERD. She has never questioned my ability and always been my champion when I have hit brick walls with other departments.

Last year I forwarded her an article I thought would be of interest to her about her research and she not only responded in detail, but sent me a video correcting the article and giving me more information about the subject.

When she gives feedback she is actively invested and is willing to go beyond the extra mile for colleagues. She is an inspirational professor and colleague and she has without a doubt given me the courage to not only step outside of my comfort zone, but abandon it altogether.



# Meeta Bhatt

Human Resources

Meeta is a very caring, considerate and creative individual, who will always go the extra miles to support the people around her. Meeta has an incredible ability to juggle multiple plates and remain calm under pressure.





# Mel Boucher

## Risk and Compliance

Mel has supported the School's Health and safety during COVID. She helped develop templates for risk assessments for local managers to utilise in order to ensure a safe return to campus. She (or one of her team members) have been a member of all the return to campus sub-groups and on the main Return to Campus working group. She has also advised staff who have been abroad, or who have wanted to travel, to ensure that they do so in a safe and responsible way. She has been proactive, engaged, and has always been willing to go over and above what is necessary.





# Dee Brecker

## Philanthropy & Global Engagement

I have worked with Dee who has been such a strong advocate for change at LSE, working closely to support the different programmes and departments at the school.

One key achievement that has greatly impacted the school was her role in acquiring the funds for the Uggle Scholarship Programme. This programme will focus on supporting BAME students from the UK and abroad to gain access to LSE academic programmes where they would not have had the chance before. This programme will also be focused on providing holistic support beyond funding that will work to ensure that these students have a great experience when they come to LSE. The programme structure will become an example for future work done at the school focused on inclusivity and equity and will have a significant impact on the culture of the school.

Dee is a role model who demonstrates a commitment to her passions and a great expertise in her work, which greatly advances LSE as an institution! She definitely is a model for our community!



# Morag Brocklehurst

Department of Finance

In her role as Associate Programme Director for MSc Finance & Economics, Morag has been a consistent source of advice and encouragement. Her commitment to provide the best level of student experience exemplifies what makes me glad to be part of LSE. I have appreciated her wise counsel and continued support, which informs my own work with students in Finance.







# Laura Carseldine

Department of Law

Laura approaches everything she does with enthusiasm and positivity, and she is a strong advocate for gender equality. Despite being involved in many projects, she always has time for people and puts a lot of effort into making everyone she comes into contact with feel included and welcome.

Her confidence is inspiring and her actions have motivated me to engage more with the wider LSE community. Laura has been a real support to me over this past year - thank you Laura!

# Lubala Chibwe

STICERD

Lubala is a new addition to the Power Steering Group and has made her impact and contribution immediately felt. She dives straight in and shares her infectious energy, optimism and commitment. She's a joy to work with and someone who you know will do what's right.





# Alisa Drake

## Design Unit

Since my first day at LSE Ailsa has always been there to support and inspire me! She helped me so much when I first started at LSE 12 years ago and has continued to support as a fountain of knowledge and fun ever since. Ailsa is a talented graphic designer and artist and continually manages to come up with new exciting designs and never loses her passion for her craft and how it impacts the University. I feel lucky to have learnt so much from her over the years and now call her much more than just a colleague...a great friend.



# Nicola Foster

School of Public Policy

I am very grateful for Nic's support and motivation - I think she is amazing! Nic always has time to help and support others. She is so thoughtful and kind. I also find it incredibly inspiring how Nic rises to take on challenges that come her way with calmness determination.





# Marta Gajewska

Directorate

I love working with Marta because I know I'll always get the honest truth, told to me with the upmost diplomacy and tact. I am so impressed with how she has managed the past year with so many new challenges and demands on SMC and the Directorate. I know it must be highly pressurised, but she does it all whilst looking like calm, considered and professional.







# Nicole Garnier

Department of Media and Communications

Nicole has been invaluable in supporting staff at LSE with their increased workloads over the pandemic. She has been a valuable UNISON branch officer routinely providing me with support, advice and care. She has fought for resources for staff and has sourced important information on key issues and processes.

Personally I have found her to be a kind and generous individual, who has been extremely encouraging and has built up my confidence in several ways. She is enthusiastic about supporting students and providing them with the best experience possible. But she is also fully aware of the staff around her and is passionate about all staff having the best working experience possible too. She devotes plenty of her personal time to help people and is always happy to chat if you need to talk to her. She is a real heroine!



# Laura Gilbert

## Finance Division

Laura has been with the Finance Division for almost 5 years now. Laura has worked her way up to become the interim Head of Financial Planning and Analysis which is amazing! Since joining the Finance Division, Laura has supported not only the FP&A Team as a whole, but she took on an area ( that had an entire team dedicated to it) with little guidance! That in itself, is a testament to her capabilities! She is always the optimist and glass half full kind of person.

Thereafter, she headed up the new Finance system becoming the functional lead for FP&A whilst still doing her own full-time work! In between that, Laura was and still is actively involved in the Green Impact Committee and I know in her own personal time she undertakes work doing charity accounts. She connects effortlessly with all stakeholders and has maintained such positive relations with them all- and she can turn even the most testing situations into a positive!

This will tell you the kind of person she is. Take Christmas for example - she took the time out to send everyone in the team a wee Christmas Cookie and a personalized message of thanks and appreciation.

She dedicates her every hour of every day to everyone else even if it means putting herself out! She works tirelessly! No matter how busy or stressful as her day may be, she is always sporting a smile. I really do hope she gets the recognition she deserves.



# Clare Gorman

Department of Social Policy



Clare is a wonderful colleague and I am so grateful for her support. She is absolutely fantastic in her role as Undergraduate Programmes Manager in the Social Policy Department and provides invaluable support to students.

On top of that, I'm really touched by her kindness and thoughtfulness- she always has time for colleagues and students that are going through a hard time. Clare is a 'real' role model!



# Joanne Hay

Directorate



Joanne always has people at the heart of everything she does! Joanne takes on a broad range of activities to support the School, while remembering about the human touch, being the greatest cheerleader and empowering others to be their best.

Joanne has a wonderful ability to 'tell it like it is' while remaining positive, focused and forward looking. In a world with a lot of spin, it's so refreshing to hear someone say that something can't happen or isn't great, but in a straightforward matter-of-fact way without being downhearted or dramatic. Joanne's energy and motivation inspire people to move on to look for what might be possible or could be made better even (or especially) during challenging times.



# Monika Hockenhull

## Directorate

Monika is such a great example of someone who understands we all have different priorities and challenges we are working with. She is approachable and always working to improve LSE, particularly in her role with Parents and Carers.

I've been impressed with her candidness and transparency about her own roles this year and I think it inspires others to do the same.



# Edith Karintha-Durnez

LSE Careers

Edith is creative, inspiring and a fantastic role-model for me, my LSE colleagues and LSE students. She is positive, shares her good humour with generosity and makes us feel happy to be at work. She takes on extra responsibility willingly and delivers her work efficiently and always with 100% accuracy. Edith draws on her international background, her analytical and communication skills to add huge value to the LSE community. I really value her as a colleague and role model.



# Louisa Lawrence

Department of Sociology

Louisa has stepped up to be a Co-Chair of the Departmental Managers Forum – she is also a member of my Researcher and PS COVID group and supported the development of the departmental PS return to campus guidance.







# Becky Matthams

Department of Philosophy

Becky is an absolute role model for me. She is a supportive, kind, understanding and fair manager. Her door is always open to discuss any issues but also to share successes. She is encouraging and ensures you have everything you need to be your best self. She celebrates the team's and individual success and if things go wrong, she makes sure it is taken as a positive learning experience rather than a failure. Over the recent year, Becky has shown true leadership and I absolutely love being part of her team.



# Eleni Michael

Human Resources

I think the LSE Tree has been a lifeline for colleagues in supporting their wellbeing. I understand Eleni, and others, championed the introduction of the LSE tree, she has advocated and promoted it's use to keep the LSE community connected.





# Penny Montague

Department of Statistics

Penny is a Mental Health Champion, a Mental Health First Aider and a Safe Contact. Penny is advocating, supporting, educating and helping colleagues to maintain their mental health and wellbeing. We all need someone like Penny in our team.





# Niamh Moloney

Department of Law

Niamh is the Head of the Law Department at LSE. She is resilient, a brilliant leader, and invests so much time in supporting her colleagues, particularly through the last ten months where a different set of skills have been needed to do so.

She is so passionate about fairness and equity, and is not afraid to tackle tricky situations head on. She also has a brilliant academic mind, of course, and I find her hugely inspiring. I know that she worries a lot about getting stuff right. She shouldn't, she's brilliant.



# Rita Nemeth

Department of Economics

Rita, is a kind and resilient individual who not only highlights the importance of wellbeing and good morale, she also practices what she preaches. A true considerate person in the face of any adversity who shows strength, knowledge and a wealth of support to colleagues. She is without a doubt a valued colleague who 'keeps it real' and has an amazing inclusive nature. With such a humble attitude, I want to spotlight what a great human being she is for all to hear. If we could have more people here in the workplace and even world it would be a happier more positive place.





# Porcia Ossei

## Human Resources

Porcia is a consummate professional and an unsung Shero. There has been a lot of pressure on everyone across the School, but I do feel sometimes our colleagues in divisions such as HR get overlooked, but we see you and we thank you for all you do!



# Keri Rowsell

Marshall Institute

Keri has been part of my Researchers and Professional Service COVID group (formerly a sub-group of the Return to Campus working group). She has been a real joy to work with during these difficult months. She has helped to support the researchers and PS paperwork to ensure that individuals were able to safely travel to, and work at, LSE, when there were homeworking, health or wellbeing issues. She was also part of the group that provided guidance to Centres and Divisions on returning to campus.



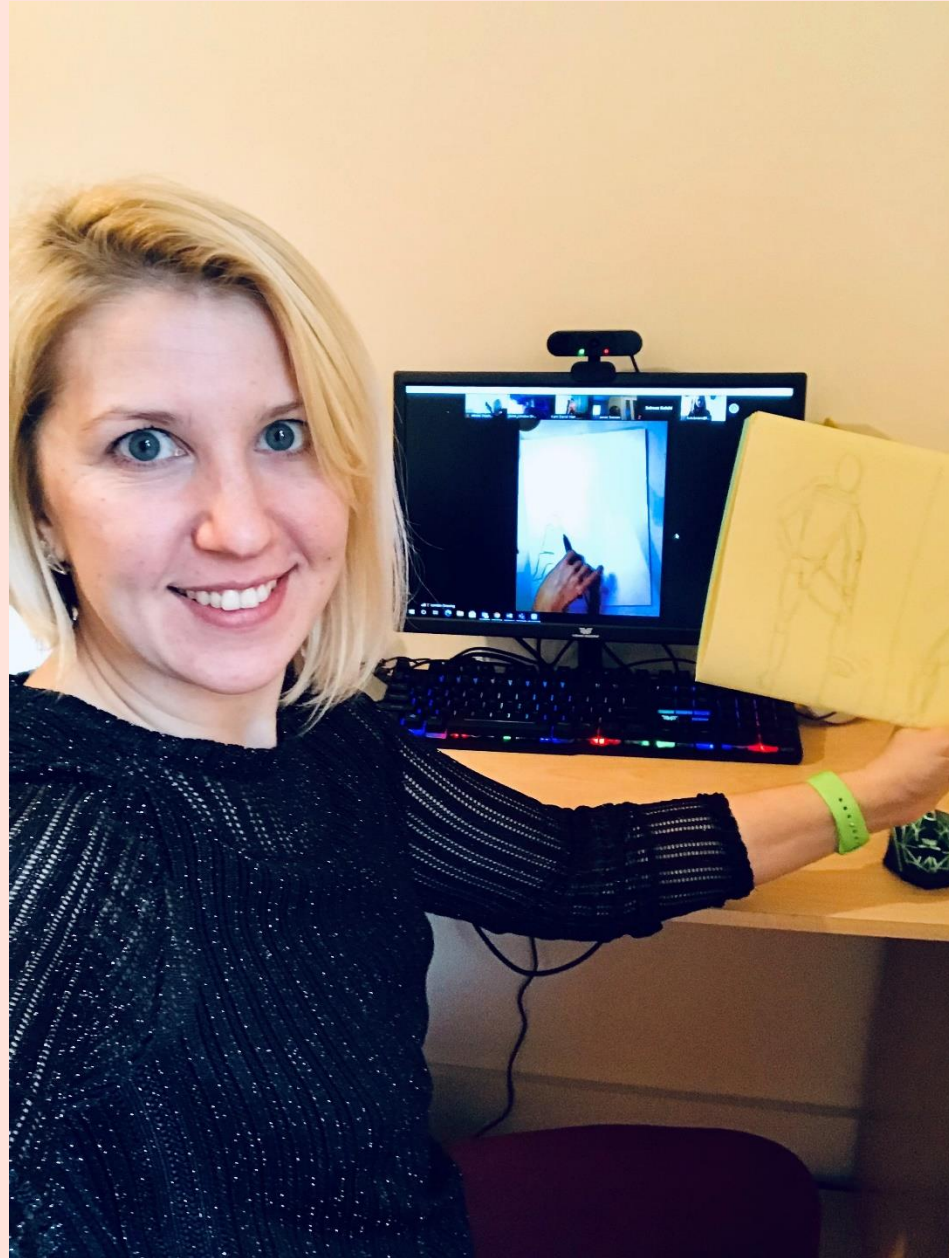


# Minouche Shafik

Directorate

An inspirational role model, showcasing great leadership skills during the time of crises, bringing the community together and inspiring women at LSE to thrive for and take on leadership roles.





# Albina Shashyna

## Human Resources

Albina is one of those constantly positive people. Not in an annoying way, but in a way which brings back a spark and energy to sometimes a difficult and challenging situation. She seems genuinely thrilled to be able help others and LSE and is a consummate professional.

Her care for others' mental health, particularly over the past year, has been so appreciated.



# Esti Sidley

DTS

Despite having her own parental, caring and work responsibilities, Esti always has time to support Parents and Carers across the school. Whether it's an empathetic ear you need, practical advice or you need someone to be your voice to senior management. It has been an extremely difficult time for everyone but particularly for parents and carers and Esti has been a huge support not just to me but to the whole parents and carers community.





# Laura Silli

## International Growth Centre

Laura always works above and beyond to support other women, make their voices heard and push for positive change. She is a force of nature who refuses to take no for an answer when a female colleague is hesitant to put herself out there.

Examples of how Laura is amazing:

- She has pushed SO hard for gender equality in IGC panels. She will go above and beyond to ensure no event goes without gender representation.
- She organises an event every Women's Day linking it to themes of interest at the IGC
- She is an incredibly generous soul who has kindness for everyone even though she herself might go through a tough time.

She really is the best human and deserves all the accolades.



# Venetia Stoby

Student Wellbeing Service

Venetia presents a way of being as a disability professional that is both compassionate and effective. Venetia really understands what it is to deliver this work. Her empathic approach to staff experience is empowering and provides a strong incentive to improve the quality of work and to collaborate in the achievement of service goals. Her own management of challenging personal and professional circumstances inspires me to work towards having greater resilience in my own life. Her support and understanding have made a fundamental difference to my life as a professional who is also a carer.







# Natalie Van der Elst

Research Division

Natalie is the type of team player that everyone would want in their Team. She is smart, considerate, ambitious and kind. She seems to understand when the best time to challenge and when patience could be a useful factor. I've been so proud of her with her academic achievements while progressing her career through LSE Departments and onto new challenges. She's the type of person I hope LSE can keep as a future leader.



# Isobel Jones

Department of Geography

Isobel has been a great colleague and friend to me for the last 3 years. She is always there when I need any support with work or personally. I also can see how much Isobel values her job and the colleagues she works with through her hardworking and friendly attitude. I feel lucky to call Isobel my friend!



# Polly Liouta

European Institute

Polly does a fantastic job in the European Institute and School of Public Policy, and as someone who does a similar role to her, I am inspired by the work she does and use it as a benchmark to improve the standard of my own work. She is friendly and enthusiastic and I know she has balanced childcare whilst performing her role admirably the last few months. I cannot think of a better role model!





# Lisa Morrow

Human Resources

Lisa has a big job at the LSE and one that requires huge resilience and a particular mindset. I marvel at her ability to have so much patience and calm, given the nature of her role. She will always make time for you, and creates a safe space for all of us to ask sometimes very basic questions. Above it all she is kind, and I fear that sometimes this quality is overlooked when considering who inspires us. Long may that continue.

# Edina Nadasdi

Human Resources

Edina embodies LSE spirit - she is helpful, supportive and thoughtful and always goes the extra mile to help out. It's always a pleasure collaborating with her and I always feel inspired by her enthusiasm.



Congrats to all our  
nominees!



# Our Priorities

01

## INVESTIGATE

Work with EDI and HR teams to understand and make visible the experiences of female professional services staff, in particular at the intersections of gender, race, bands, and academic/PSS

02

## COMMUNICATE

Be a 'critical friend' to the School, represent our members in shaping School-wide plans

03

## REPRESENT

Increase our representation across LSE through targeted efforts

04

## CONNECT

Take advantage of School-wide themes linked to LSE 2030 ('Inclusive LSE', 'Healthy LSE', and 'Empowered LSE') to amplify LSE Power activities