## **Alumni Association**

## Postgraduate Alumni Reunion Event (Classes of 2009 and 2010)

Summary Report - 31<sup>st</sup> October 2011

The day kicked off with a warm welcome from Umar Mahmood, Student Support and Marketing Lead. In attendance at the event were former postgraduate students, current postgraduate students, academia as well as guests from the Association of Business Practitioners (ABP) and Birmingham City University.

Outlining the programme for the day Umar introduced the Alumni Association, its core definition and purpose the benefits which students will be able to take advantage of if they stay in touch with this collegiate network; and finally the future plans. Such benefits include the use of the online academic resource Emerald for journals etc, internships and work placements as well as business advice and support. Congratulating the students, Umar ended on pictures that painted a thousand words – former LCBMIT students at the graduation ceremony taking place at Anglia Ruskin University's Chelmsford Campus on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011. A huge round of applause for those students followed.

Saad Mahmood (Director Academics and Corporate Affairs) was invited to the podium to deliver his speech touching upon the academic updates of the college, the new postgraduate diploma in global community entrepreneurship and how the college is going to continue to organise regular events for Alumni. He also spoke about the new committees which were going to be created to build a structure for students, past and current, to form networks globally and connect colleagues.

We were graced by Philip Lingard (Head Quality Assurance) who informed us about the progress the college has made with regards to the process of Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) and for the Highly Trusted Status. Philip congratulated the College on being scheduled for a review by QAA. Alumni should feel proud to have graduated from LCBMIT.

One of the Guests, the Marketing Manager of ABP, Linda Wilkins, witnessed the Alumni's event and congratulated the Post Graduates and MBA's for their success. She asked some students to take part in a case study for ABP which would go in their marketing material including the website.

It was important to hear from our students who have gone through the process of graduating at the College and moving on to ARU. Former Ghanaian student, Baba Wahab who was part of the group that recently graduated from Anglia Ruskin University as an MBA shared his experience as a student of LCBMIT. He spoke about how he was welcomed by the college staff from the first day when he made his initial query from Ghana to London to get information about courses and his admission and later on after arriving in London he had unlimited kindness from LCBMIT. Baba shared that the will b returning to Ghana where he will run for elections to join the parliament in Ghana. He was grateful for the support of the College for his forthcoming election campaign — which the Principal personally assured.

The second student from the ARU graduates was Shakila Albert; who is working at the front desk and student support office at LCBMIT. She shared her memories at LCBMIT as a student; advising the current postgraduate diploma students to be focussed towards their studies to achieve their academic and personal goals. She admired the culture of LCBMIT which provided her the opportunity to polish her professional skills and to achieve the academic ambitions they came here with.

Professor Martin Reynolds from Birmingham City University, and formerly Anglia Ruskin University, congratulated students and encouraged them to actively participate in Alumni's gathering in future. Having helped initiate the process of collaboration between LCBMIT and ARU, Professor Reynolds

was ecstatic and highly joyful with seeing this collaboration having a tangible outcome — MBA graduates from LCBMIT. He mentioned that some of the biggest and most high profile universities in the world have ascended the rank/league tables due to the size and effectiveness of their alumni network, which is something he hoped LCBMIT would work towards.

To close the event, Mr. Toaha Qureshi MBE, CEO/Principal of LCBMIT gave his words of wisdom on the origins of the College and the journey taken to reach the current stage.. He encouraged the Alumni students to arrange their activities & organise events and said that in line with LCBMIT's strategic goal of becoming a university, the Alumni will play a big role in getting the student voice and the college working together for a better LCBMIT.

At the close of the Alumni luncheon, the Alumni members elected Shakila Albert as President of the Association and Prem Prasad Poudel as Vice President. Shakila and Prem will be organising a follow up event soon.

The programme concluded with Umar Mahmood requesting the Alumni members and guests to stand for a group photo, where souvenirs (an LCBMIT engraved Parker Pen pen) were also presented to the Alumni members by the CEO/Principal and Professor Martin Reynolds.



On stage L-R: Shakila Albert (President Alumni Association, LCBMIT), Linda Wilkins (Marketing Manager, ABP), Baba Wahab (MBA Gradate Alumni Member), Philip Lingard (Head Quality Assurance, LCBMIT), Saad Mahmood (Director Academics and Corporate Affairs), Umar Mahmood (Student Support and Marketing Lead)



Audience Alumni Event Including Alumni Members and Existing Students and Faculty



Shakila Albert (President Alumni Association, LCBMIT) Speaking on 'Cherished Memories at LCBMIT'



Philip Lingard (Head Quality Assurance, LCBMIT) Speaking on "Future Directions"



Baba Wahab (MBA Gradate Alumni Member) Speaking on 'Student Experience at LCBMIT'