

# National Mentoring Consortium



13th Annual Award Ceremony

A photograph showing a group of diverse professionals in a formal setting, likely a networking event or award ceremony. In the foreground, a woman in a tan blazer and a man in a dark suit are smiling. Behind them, several other individuals are visible, including a man in a grey suit, a woman in a brown blazer, and a man in a dark suit holding a brochure for the National Mentoring Consortium. The background shows a crowded room with more people and tables.

**NATIONAL  
MENTORING  
CONSORTIUM**

**Assisting high-calibre students  
and mentors to achieve their full potential**

With special thanks to our hosts Lehman Brothers and award sponsors LDA

**LEHMAN BROTHERS**

**UEL** University of  
East London

## Overview

The sumptuous auditorium at the Head Offices of Lehman Brothers in Canary Wharf, welcomed over 200 guests to celebrate the National Mentoring Consortium's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Award Ceremony on 9 May.

Those from the world of politics, business, and sport spoke not only of the impact that mentoring has had on their career development, but its key role in getting ahead in today's graduate market.

Diane Abbott, MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, broadcaster and regular on BBC1's political late night discussion show said:

"In today's increasingly competitive labour market, mentoring gives job candidates a vital edge, as well as a clear sense of achievement and self belief. I am delighted to be here to support the work of the NMC."

Diane Abbott MP Presents Andrea Bridgeman with the Mentee of the year Award 2007



There were speeches from past and present mentees who spoke enthusiastically of how participating on the schemes had increased their confidence and development of their professional and personal abilities and strengths

Mike Brace, Chair of the British Paralympic Association, lost his eyesight in a firework accident at the age of 10. He has represented Great Britain at three World Championships, six Paralympic Games and two European Championships. He is now on the board for the 2012 London Olympics.

He stressed the importance of pursuing your goals and that mentoring had played a major part in his professional life. Building confidence and self-belief were major attributes that his mentors gave him.

Manny Lewis, Chief Executive of the London Development Agency, addressed the audience by stating: "We are in the business of creating more jobs and employability prospects for Londoners of all backgrounds. Mentoring helps us develop our skills and overcome barriers to success."

The real demonstration of the benefits of mentoring came from the speeches of the mentees and mentors who had taken part in our schemes. The main experiences of mentees were how positively their mentors enabled them to have an increase in confidence and communication skills - effectively tools to reach for their career goals.

Debra Chidakwa, a mentee on the Disability & Dyslexia Undergraduate Scheme and undergraduate BA Honours Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of East London

described how her mentor helped her how to "speak with confidence". She endeavoured to "use these tools to reach the world with pride and confidence" proving that "disability does not mean incapability".

Others echoed Debra's sentiment. Peter Emelone participated in the scheme last year and thanks to the support he received from his mentor Jackie Bannister of the Department of Work and Pensions, has been successful in gaining his first graduate job. He credits his mentor as being an inspiration and developed his confidence to go for the job. He also recommends the NMC programme.

The feel-good factor continued throughout the ceremony. Mentors who have actively participated in the NMC programmes on several occasions were keen to build upon the positive results of their successful mentoring partnerships.

Of the number of new mentors, Jaz Gillon from our hosts Lehman Brothers found that being a mentor gave him an opportunity to help open doors for undergraduates but also a 'wonderful insight' regarding their experiences and needs.

Overall, this was a day to recognise the hard work and achievements of all those who make the National Mentoring Consortium programmes a success year upon year – not only the mentees and mentors but the supporting employer organisations and universities across the country. It is a true day of celebration heightened by the enthusiasm of the guests and the superb hospitality of Lehman Brothers.

## The National Mentoring Consortium

is a nationally recognised leader in mentoring support, encouraging the recruitment of talent from under-represented populations in the U.K.

## Our Mentoring Schemes

### Ethnic Minority Undergraduate Scheme

This successful scheme provides support and experience to Black and Asian students, and promotes equality and diversity in graduate recruitment. The scheme links students with motivated professionals in order to give them the support and help in preparing them for the workplace.

### Disability & Dyslexia Undergraduate Scheme.

Our mentoring scheme enables students with a disability or dyslexia to develop their abilities and increase their confidence. In addition, the scheme enables mentors to develop as professionals and employers to become more disability aware of both their staff and client needs.

### Professional Mentoring Programme.

This new project is designed to provide non-judgemental and professional support to people in full time employment, who are aiming to reach senior management positions.

### **3 National Mentoring Consortium**

#### **Chief Focus**

##### **\* Achievement.**

The Ethnic Minority and Disabled Undergraduate Schemes help students from Under-represented groups to prepare for the workplace, focus on their goals, and achieve their full potential.

##### **\* Celebration.**

The Award Ceremony is an annual event when all the mentors, mentees, universities and employers are acknowledged for their participation on the schemes.

##### **\* The Future.**

The National Mentoring Consortium's ethos is taking action to make a difference.

The Award Ceremony demonstrated to guests representing a wide range of organisations why they should support the NMC in achieving this.



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#### **Chief Challenge**

\* The National Mentoring Consortium as a leading mentoring organisation is to continue to encourage employers to see the value of a diverse and integrated workforce. For example, demographic trends show that by 2011 over half the growth of Britain's working population will be from an ethnic minority and nearly one in five people of working age in private households have a long-term disability.

\* Therefore, the primary aim is that we help employers recognise this trend and raise awareness of the talented, motivated graduates that exist with these groups.



### Chief Take-Away Messages

- \* Don't be restricted by other people's preconceptions
- \* Aim high, don't set your sights too low
- \* Mentoring is a positive and effective way to develop the mentee, the mentor, and entire organisations



### Looking to Next Year

- \* Working to further our successful programmes in different areas of the UK, increasing the potential for new employers and universities to tap into the talented but underrepresented student groups
- \* Our 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Award ceremony, celebrating the many achievements that all our partners have amassed over the year and welcoming guests to see the work of the Consortium in action.
- \* The ceremony will be on 6th May 2008, at Lehman Brothers.

1. **MANNY LEWIS** Chief Executive, London Development Agency with **PUSHPINDER JASWANT** from Ford Motor Company who won the award for New Employer of the Year on the Ethnic Minority Undergraduate Scheme.
2. **DIANE ABBOTT MP** with **RICCARDO LAMBERTINI** UEL Mentee of the Year.
3. Executives and Mentors from **CITI UK**
4. **DEBRA CHIDAKWA** UEL Mentee on the Disability and Dyslexia Undergraduate Scheme
5. **MIKE BRACE** with **SUSANNA HANCOCK** of Mencap receiving the Disability and Dyslexia Undergraduate Scheme Employer of the Year award.
6. Enjoying the hospitality at Lehman Brothers
7. **KASHIF IJAZ** former NMC Mentee at the University of Westminster and now at JLT Management Services.



## **5 National Mentoring Consortium**

### **AWARD WINNERS**

#### **UNIVERSITIES ETHNIC MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE MENTEE OF THE YEAR 2007 AWARD**

Presented by **Diane Abbott MP**

Riccardo lambertini  
Sharlene Haynes  
Marvina Newton  
Jinesh Patel  
Laide Granvaud  
Toral Odedra  
Jessica Ling  
Tishana Coakley  
Florence Ikpeme-Ayinde  
Albert Tse  
Gloria Ireo  
Andrea Bridgeman

University of East London  
London South Bank University  
University of Westminster  
Brunel University  
University of Northampton  
City University  
University College London  
Kingston University  
Greenwich University  
Northumbria University  
Brighton University  
University of Bedfordshire

#### **UNIVERSITIES ETHNIC MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE MENTOR OF THE YEAR 2007 AWARD**

Presented by **Manny Lewis**, Chief Executive, LDA

Claire Downie  
Darren Clyde  
Graham Smith  
Alexandra Martin  
Luke Norbury  
Jonathan Lunn  
Eamonn Harvey  
Russell Foster-Jones  
Farhana Patel  
Jackie Nero  
Mark Sheridan  
Mohini Sawhney  
Annaliese Hemsley  
Rae

Home Office  
The Royal Air Force  
Department for Constitutional Affairs  
British Transport Police  
BT  
House of Commons Library  
HM Revenue & Customs  
The Royal Air Force  
Department for Constitutional Affairs  
HM Revenue & Customs  
HM Revenue & Customs  
HM Revenue & Customs  
LeBoeuf, Lambe, Greene & Mac-

#### **UNIVERSITIES DISABILITY & DYSLEXIA UNDERGRADUATE MENTEE OF THE YEAR 2007 AWARD**

Presented by **Mike Brace**, Chairman of the British Paralympic Association and Board Member of the 2012 London Olympics

Michael Adu-Sarkodie

University of East London

#### **UNIVERSITIES DISABILITY & DYSLEXIA UNDERGRADUATE MENTOR OF THE YEAR 2007 AWARD**

Presented by **Mike Brace**, Chairman of the British Paralympic Association and Board Member of the 2012 London Olympics

Sally Tomlinson

Barclays Plc



## AWARD WINNERS

### UNIVERSITIES ETHNIC MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE MENTEE OF THE YEAR 2007 AWARD

Presented by Diane Abbott MP  
Riccardo Lambertini, University of East London

### NATIONAL MENTORING CONSORTIUM UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR 2007 AWARD

Presented by Manny Lewis, Chief Executive, LDA  
Brighton University Co-ordinator: Robert Prosser

### NATIONAL MENTORING CONSORTIUM EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR 2007 AWARD

Presented by Manny Lewis, Chief Executive, LDA  
The Royal Air Force, Wing Commander Steve Peters

### NATIONAL MENTORING CONSORTIUM NEW EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR 2007 AWARD

Presented by Manny Lewis, Chief Executive, LDA  
Ford Motor Company, Co-ordinator Justine Pughe

### NATIONAL MENTORING CONSORTIUM DISABILITY & DYSLEXIA EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR 2007 AWARD

Presented by Mike Brace, Chairman of the British  
Paralympic Association and Board Member of the 2012  
London Olympics  
Mencap Presented to Susanna Hancock

### NATIONAL MENTORING CONSORTIUM - HERBERT SMITH LAW STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2007

Presented by Murray Rosen of Herbert Smith  
Shonian Newell, Law Student and Mentee.  
University of Westminster

## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



Wing Commander Peters of the RAF receiving the Employer of the Year award from Manny Lewis of the London Development Agency

### Employer of the Year: The Royal Air Force

The RAF have provided substantial amount of support in terms of mentors and pledge to continue their support for the NMC.

This year also saw two of their number awarded 'mentor of the year' at Bedfordshire and Brunel universities.



Shonian Newell (whose is in the centre of this picture) from the University of Westminster who was recipient of the Herbert Smith Law Award

### New Developments

The prestigious **ethnic minority law graduate award** has enjoyed its 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Sponsored in partnership with leading city law firm Herbert Smith, it is awarded to the most outstanding and promising ethnic law undergraduate on the NMC scheme. This year's award was given to Shonian Newell from University of Westminster. Apart from her academic prowess, Shonian has demonstrated active community involvement working in a citizens' advice bureau, representing students at NUS Black Students' conference/academic council meetings and in 2003 chaired the Lambeth Youth Council.

**"Mentoring is a classic win-win situation – helping both the mentor and mentee, the sustained success of this programme shows that with the right education, people can succeed regardless of their background."**

**Professor Martin Everett,  
Vice-Chancellor of the  
University of East London**

**"Throughout my final year [at university] I was getting lots of job interviews, but lacked the self-confidence and communication skills to succeed. Jackie [my mentor] was amazing – a real inspiration. She gave me a shoulder to cry on, picked me up, and gave me the confidence to get that job! I would recommend this programme to anyone!"**

**Peter Emelone, former mentee, Disability and Dyslexia Undergraduate Scheme**

**"The NMC is making roads for people with disabilities to progress and get the careers they want"**

**LeRoy Brown, Mentor, Revenue and Customs Prosecutions Office**