Keele ranked among world’s best universities
Distinguished Alumni

Maggie Atkinson
(1983 PhD Education)

Maggie was President of the Association of Directors of Children’s Services and the Director of the Children’s Rights Alliance for England in 2009. She has been at the forefront of policy and practice and the rights of children and young people with learning disabilities.

Fiona Woolf
(2010 Law and Psychology)

Fiona is a leading international lawyer who was President of the Law Society in 2008-09 and Sheriff of the City of London in 2010-11. She was appointed Lord Mayor of London in 2013.

Steve Cutts
(1982 American Studies and English)

Steve is Assistant Secretary-General for the UN Secretariat in New York – the second highest ranking job in the UN system. He has held a series of senior positions in intergovernmental organisations, including the Chief of Staff/Media of the Secretary-General’s Office in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris.

Steve Jackson
(1975 Biology and Philosophy)

In 1975 Steve co-founded Games Workshop and helped to organise the first role-playing convention, the first “Games Day.” He was involved in developing the Fighting Fantasy gamebook series and he now works at Games Workshop, which he founded with Peter Holmes.

Ian Moncrieff
(1977 Geography & Geology)

Ian joined the Royal Navy on a university appointment in 1991. In 1998 he became the Director of the Royal Marines at Plymouth. He is now CEO of the UK Hydrographic Office.

Dame Jo Williams
(1971 Applied Social Studies and Psychology)

Dame Jo Williams was Chairman of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) before joining the UK Government as special advisor to the Prime Minister on public service reform and to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Since 1st June 2013 she has been the Lord Mayor of London.

Sir Peter Coulson
(2008 Law and Philosophy)

Sir Peter Coulson was the first Keele Law graduate to be appointed as a High Court Judge in 2008. He was sworn-in by the Lord Chief Justice as a High Court Judge in 2008.

Jonty Bloom
(1991 English and Law)

Jonty Bloom is a Keele graduate who is Economic and Finance Correspondent for BBC Radio 4’s The World Tonight programme.

Maggie Atkinson
(2008 PhD Education)

Maggie is Professor and Head of the School of Social Policy and Sociology at Keele University.

Francis Beckett
(1939 History and Philosophy)

Author, journalist, biographer and contemporary historian. Francis has written biographies of Aneurin Bevan, Clement Attlee, Harold Macmillan, Gordon Brown and Tony Blair. While at Keele he was chosen by the English Speaking Union to be one of the two British student debaters to tour the USA in 1959.

Francis Beckett

Steve Jackson

Fiona Woolf

Maggie Atkinson

Jonty Bloom

Dame Jo Williams

Sir Peter Coulson

Steve Cutts

A Keele education provides distinctive opportunities and experiences. The University has designed its degree structure to give maximum flexibility in what our students study and how their degree is shaped – so by studying at Keele they can have the best of all worlds.

We embed learning about these qualities directly into our academic programmes to ensure that all of our graduates master them. To showcase these, Keele has teamed up with the largest employer in the world to provide an accredited portfolio, the Keele University Skills Portfolio. This is open to all undergraduates and postgraduate students and is free of charge. For more information visit www.keele.ac.uk/distinctive

Graduate Attributes

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Keele ranked among world’s best universities

Keele moved into the top 1.75% of the world’s leading universities in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2013-14.

The University was placed, for the third consecutive year, among the world’s best education institutions. The Times Higher Education World University Rankings are the only global university performance tables to judge world class universities across all of their core missions: teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nick Foskett, said: “It is very pleasing that not only have we maintained a place among the world’s best universities but we have improved our position.”

This is an excellent result for Keele, which shows that our achievements are being recognised, not only locally and nationally, but internationally.

Phil Baty, editor of the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, said: “Keele’s position in the top 350 is very impressive. The University’s international outlook appears to be its key strength and has helped it return to its position in the top 1.75% institutions worldwide.”

Keele University’s position among the global elite was underlined by a new table which placed it among the 100 most international universities in the world.

Times Higher Education compiled a list of the top 100 most international universities using the “international outlook” indicator from the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, with Keele in 89th place.

Student Experience Abroad

Keele graduates are highly prized for their flexibility of thought and the variety of their educational background. The University has one of the best graduate employment rates in the UK, ensuring that our students are in high demand.

Keele is consistently placed among the UK’s top universities for student employability and we develop distinctive graduates who can thrive in whatever sphere of life they choose. The University is jointly proud of its students and our alumni set themselves ambitious goals as they seek to make a positive impact on the world around them. Keele graduates shape the world in which we live, with integrity, academic rigour and humanism.

Employability skills often involve much more than the knowledge in the course itself and at Keele we offer a range of activities, courses and experiences that not only give a taste of a career, but also help to ensure that a student has the edge that a Keele student needs to stand out.

Keele is proud of the employment record of its graduates – they are successful in a wide range of different career areas from medicine, pharmacy and technology to business, banking and IT.

Many undergraduates at Keele study two subjects, which have a dual honour degree, offering a flexibility that develops problem solving, organisation and creative thinking. At Keele we give our students the opportunity to develop communication skills by being student ambassadors, volunteers, working as mentors and pursuing interests, be those in music, sport or other activities.

Students are helped to develop their career ideas within the curriculum or outside it, equipping them not only to secure employment but also to develop within their chosen field.

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Choosing a university is an important decision, but students might also wish to consider the support they get once they have finished their studies.

Keele’s internship team have a great track record in preparing and supporting final year students for the transition into the workplace by offering paid internships with local businesses. An internship can be a really great way to use skills in the workplace, test out a dream job – and, with many Keele internships leading to permanent roles, it could end up being the best move a graduate makes!

Here’s what some employers and graduates have said:

Lyane Bartlett, 2012 Keele graduate in Business Management and Criminology, did a three month internship with Language For Fun as soon as she graduated. She said: “I learnt a lot about how small businesses run and I would certainly like to start my career with one. Being in a small team and knowing the returns are down to your work is very rewarding”

And Language For Fun company owner, Jessica Bonnard, commented: “Lyane’s fresh ideas and energy pushed me to be more daring in my marketing approach which I am already starting to see a return on.”

Daniel Rushton, who graduated from Keele in 2011 with a degree in International Relations and Law, said: “The internship opened the professional door for me. Not being a business graduate, I had a lot to learn about business practices. The scheme allowed the company to take a gamble on me and it has paid off.”

Stoke based Packet Media offered an internship to Rosie Weatherly, who graduated in Criminology and English. Julian Gallimore, Managing Director said: “Taking on a graduate was and continues to be, an investment for us. Rosie has delivered to a high standard and more than met our expectations – I think we have been fortunate in finding her. She’s an intelligent self-starter with an excellent ability to understand audiences and articulate our technical products convincingly”

Rosie said: “An internship can be highly valuable. Getting experience of an in-house role so early in my career has been great for building a professional portfolio and on top of that I’ve now got first-hand experience of small business needs, as well as having learnt a couple of new skills – Search Engine Optimisation, and working with Google Analytics, for example”.

Sean Hawkins, who graduated from Keele in Information Technology Management, said: “The graduate internship was the ideal way to gain employment experience which is what I was lacking after graduation.”

VAST Operations Director Andrew Thompson said: “Due to the lack of specialist skills within our workforce and the prospect of winning new contracts on the horizon, we knew it was essential to get someone in who knew specifically about IT systems. Sean has really developed the role and has helped us to think in new ways.”

For more details visit www.keele.ac.uk/internships

Lyane Bartlett Daniel Rushton