

## Welcome to our Autumn 2018 newsletter

### Linacre transforms students' university chances, says Ucas report

#### Independent study says students 17 times more likely to win top-12 offer

A Ucas statistical report on Linacre's work says that Reach Higher is revolutionising students' university chances.

88% of Reach Higher students won an offer from at least one of the most-selective dozen universities. The figure for their non-Linacre equivalents was 5%.

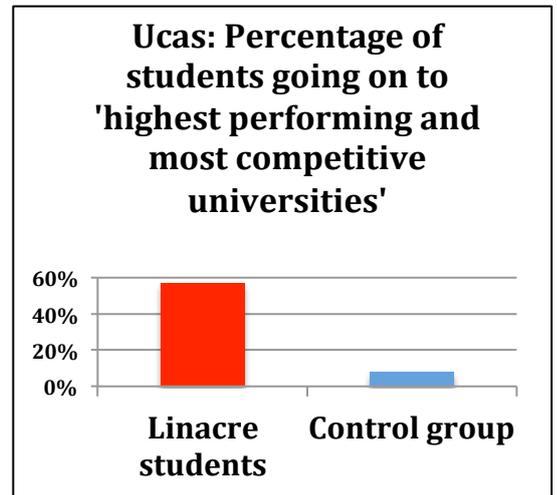
The independent study compared the university destinations of our first four cohorts of students to those of students with the same socio-economic background and GCSE results.

Fifty-seven per cent\* of Linacre students reached what Ucas calls the "highest performing and most competitive" universities, compared with 8% in the control group.

Statistically, Linacre's impact on students' destinations was "very significantly high" on almost every measure. A Linacre student was 27 times more likely to make an Oxbridge application, and around 63 times more likely to win an offer.

The full report can be seen on the Linacre website, under 'About – Policies and Reports - April 2018 independent assessment of impact by Ucas'.

\* The true figure will be higher, as the 57% included students from 2017-18 who had not at that stage gone on to university.



### First Reach Higher students graduate

The first students from our 2014-15 pilot year graduated from university this summer. We're delighted still to be in touch with almost all of them, and several are working with younger Linacre students as tutors or teachers. Well done all!

- **Melita Carty** (Sheffield) works for Zoo Digital, a digital-media company.
- **Krishan Gug** (Cambridge) is going into his fourth year of medical school.
- Having switched from Chemistry, **Philip Hope** (Sheffield) is studying Law
- After a year in Sweden, **Carenza Hughes-Cheshire** (Edinburgh) is in her fourth year of Scandinavian Studies
- **Charlie Lavemai Goldsborough** (Durham, pictured) has joined the borough council of Kensington and Chelsea.
- **Kia Lindley** (Cambridge) is applying for Masters degrees in Forensic Psychology
- **Bhavin Patel** (LSE) has joined Goldman Sachs, one of the world's leading banks
- **Matthew Smith** (Leeds) is doing a Masters at Leeds after winning a First in his finals
- **Simon Stockwell** (Nottingham) is in his fourth year of Physics and is playing American Football for the university
- **Lewis Waller** (Oxford) is going into his fourth year of an Earth Sciences degree
- **Ashleigh Weir** (Cambridge) has been touring Europe and the US as vice-president of the Cambridge Footlights
- **Arran Williamson** (Leeds) is going into his Masters year in Maths



## Passing it on: Launch of alumni society

### **Lucy Munro, co-ordinator of the society, writes:**

The Institute provides the most amazing spring-board for students to access our top Universities. But let's face it ... the need for support doesn't end there. The transition to Uni is one of the biggest we face in our lives – but other Linacre Students have been through it before and know how it feels. So by building a wider Linacre network of support, we can help ease the passage through what can be a challenging time.

University passes all too fast and the next stage of life comes quickly into view. A helping hand at that stage may also be welcome and we hope to create a powerful network to help, made up of Alumni and (hopefully) corporate partners.

A further benefit for the Institute is that (unsurprisingly) companies and employers are always keen to attract the best talent – and that includes Linacre Alumni. As a result, the Alumni Society may, in time, prove really important to the Institute's fundraising.

### **What have we done this year?**

It's been a really great first year. Not only have we got established and appointed some active year reps, but:

- We published our first Linacre Alumni Newsletter. To take a look, visit the Alumni News section of the website.
- We had our first Alumni event in July in the NORTH! Hooray!
- We are about to launch our Uni Buddy Scheme, which will help Alumni move to University by putting first-year students directly in touch with other Linacre students already at their University and/or studying their subject.
- The Charity has its first Corporate sponsor - CMS which is a leading City law firm, with a large office in Sheffield.
- We launched our pilot law mentoring programme in September with CMS, which will really help Alumni aspiring to practise law.
- We are hoping to develop relationships with institutions and organisations in other employment sectors to extend the help that Linacre Alumni can get in their journey into the world of work.

Let's keep the ball rolling! If anyone else would like to get involved, get in touch.

## Oxford 'spends £108,000' to recruit each low-income student

The *Guardian* reported in September that Oxford's "cost of acquisition" for every extra student from a low-income area admitted since 2009 is £108,000. The data is based on Oxford's record of admitting about 10 extra students from low-income postcodes each year between 2009 and 2016, spending at least £14m a year on access and widening participation. The figures were originally published in *Prospect* magazine.

About 5,000 school-leavers in the two most disadvantaged postcode categories attain A-level grades that would qualify them for Oxbridge, but Oxford admitted only 220 such students in 2015-16.

By contrast, around two-thirds of Linacre students come from these postcodes. Linacre improved their chances of winning an Oxbridge offer by around 63 times, at a cost of around £1,000 per student.

**We are a small charity, and 2018-19 looks like being a tight year financially. We rely on small grants and donations, and would hugely appreciate any assistance you can manage. Small sums have already made a life-changing difference to many students.**

### **It costs us around £780 – or £65 a month – to put a student through the whole Reach Higher programme**

- 5 days on Big Ideas residential at Westminster School ("life-changing" ... "greatest experience of my life") **£360pp**
- 10 days intensive work with first-class subject experts at Trinity Hall, Cambridge ("beyond outstanding") **£240pp**
- 10-20 one-on-one academic tutorials ("I can't begin to explain how much it has helped me") **£180pp**

Please see [www.linacreinstitute.org](http://www.linacreinstitute.org) or email [pcoupar@linacreinstitute.org](mailto:pcoupar@linacreinstitute.org) for details of how to contribute

### **In other news ...**

- Ryan Fox (Reading, 2015-16) has won a very competitive RAF bursary and been accepted onto Officer training.
- Tom Hannan (Lancaster; 2015-16) has won a highly competitive year's placement with the Government Economic Service.
- Imogen Laycock (Oxford; 2015-16) has been made Secretary of the university's LGBTQ+ Society, the country's biggest student society campaigning for gay, bisexual and trans welfare
- Two Linacre law students have won places with leading London firms. Fran Walker (Durham University; 2015-16) won a training contract with Hogan Lovells, and Rachel Taylor (York; 2015-16) will join DLA Piper.