



Online Networking and Careers Advice

We are delighted to be able to welcome so many brilliant alumni to join us for this event and are hugely grateful to them for taking the time out of their busy schedules to support our Hertford community.

Format for the call

3-3:30pm Introductory talk on graduating into a crisis

We will hear from three alumni:

Dr Henry Fisher decided to undertake a DPhil in Inorganic Chemistry instead of going straight out into the working world and is now co-founder and Chief Medical Officer of the leading UK think tank on strategic consultancy in the cannabis industry.

Lauren Murrell was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer at 23 which forced her to endure nine months of extreme self-isolation. She has gone on to co-found her own skincare brand, By Sarah LONDON.

Rachel Chambers took two years out after graduating in which she travelled and worked in the outdoor industry before training to be a secondary school teacher. She now lives and works in Canada.

3:30-4:30pm

We will break-out into the pre-selected sector specific groups for you to have the chance to have a more informal chat about specific careers.

5pm

The call will be ended for all, if you are having a really great conversation with anyone, make sure to get their details so you can continue!



Alumni Attendees

The alumni in each sector group are listed below:

Education and Academia

Alan Ross (History, 2005) Assistant Professor at the University of Vienna

Rachel Chambers (Geography, 2005) Geography Teacher, Coast Mountain Academy

Michelle Sahai (Biochemistry, 2007) Senior Lecturer in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Roehampton

Banking and Finance

Paul Kavanagh (Econ and Management, 2006) Executive Director at Goldman Sachs

Isti Nadas (Visiting Student, 2006) Vice President at Dunes Point Capital

Alex Monk (Geography, 2011) Investment Analyst at Schroder

Briony Krikorian (PPE, 2000) Principal a UK Finance

Philip Smelt (Econ and Management, 2001) Principal at Lexington

Melania Edwards (Econ and Management, 2006)

Samantha Jarvis (Econ and Management, 2006)

Start-Ups

Hope Lewis (Jurisprudence, 2005) co-founder and CEO of MORE Health

Marja Verbon (Econ and Management, 2008) CEO at JUMP

Caroline Conner (Arch and Anth, 2006) Founder of Wine, Dine, Caroline.

Lauren Murrell (Geography, 2006) Co-founder of BY SARAH London

Journalism, Publishing and Media

Leah Hyslop (English, 2006) Deputy Editor at Waitrose & Partners Food magazine

Julia McDonnell (Biology, 2006) Executive Publisher, Oxford University Press NY

Oliver Coward (Engineering, 2006) Film Producer

Law

Matt Lewin (English, 2006) Barrister at Cornerstone

Grace Flynn (French, 2009) Criminal Barrister at Guildhall Chambers

Emma Danforth (Jurisprudence, 2005) Senior Associate at Allen & Overy

Jessica Hudson (Jurisprudence, 2011) Film and TV Associate at Sheridans

Professional Services

Helen Carswell (Econ and Management, 2012) Senior Brand Manager at Diagio

Jennifer Cownie (English, 2005) Strategy Director at VMLY&R

Private Sector

Mike Arnold (Econ and Management, 2005) Development Director at Medcentres

Andrew Bergbaum (MBA, 2006) Managing Director at AlixPartners

Emma Allen (Geography, 2005) Country Leader- ?What If!

Public and Third Sector

Josh Platt (History, 2012) Senior Policy Advisor at HM Treasury

Jess Daggers (PPE, 2006) Impact Director at NESTA

Science and Tech

Faz Chowdhury (Engineering, 2006) CEO- Nemauro Pharma

Henry Fisher (Chemistry, 2006) Co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer at Hanway



You can see detailed bios below:

Education and Academia

Alan Ross (History, 2005) Assistant Professor at the University of Vienna

After postdocs and teaching posts in the UK, Germany and France, I became Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) at the University of Vienna. My job involves research, accruing third-party funding, graduate and undergraduate teaching as well as outreach activities.

Rachel Chambers (Geography, 2005) Geography Teacher, Coast Mountain Academy

After graduating from Hertford in 2008, I spent 2 years working as a surfing and climbing instructor, which was followed by 9 months of solo travel around the world. I completed a Post Graduate Certificate of Education at Exeter University and started teaching geography in a secondary school in Cornwall. During my 4 years working in the UK I also took on additional roles of Head of Lower School and in my final year became a member of the Senior Leadership Team. In 2016 I left the UK to work a season in Whistler Canada, in 2019 I became a permanent resident of Canada and transferred my teaching qualifications across. I now work as a teacher at Coast Mountain Academy, which is an independent high school with a large emphasis on outdoor education. I still reside in Whistler and will be applying for my Canadian citizenship at the end of the year. As well as teaching I am qualified to instruct snowboarding, climbing, kayaking, surfing, mountaineering and soon to add skiing to this list.

Michelle Sahai (Biochemistry, 2007) Senior Lecturer in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Roehampton

I am a Senior Lecturer in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Roehampton, London. At Roehampton, I teach both undergraduate and graduate students and I am also research active. This post was a traditional progression from my D.Phil in Computational Biochemistry via a Postdoctoral fellowship at Weill Cornell Medical College in Manhattan, NY, USA. Prior to this I was an undergraduate student at the University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada specialising in Pharmacology and Toxicology. I also completed my Masters at the University of Toronto, in Medical Biophysics. My current research requires High Performance Computing (HPC) infrastructure to perform computational modelling and molecular dynamics (MD) simulations of membrane proteins. I am particularly interested in the interactions of small molecules with these proteins. At present I am investigating the effect of synthetic (designer) drugs on monoamine transporters.

Banking and Finance

Paul Kavanagh (Econ and Management, 2006) Executive Director at Goldman Sachs

I'm an Executive Director in Goldman Sachs' Financial Institutions M&A team, where I help to advise the boards and senior management of European financial institutions (e.g. banks, insurers, and asset managers) on developing and executing their inorganic strategy through M&A and capital markets activities. At a high level, my job involves interacting with clients to develop a relationship with them and help them to develop their strategic thinking. I then help them execute the strategy they have decided upon.



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Isti Nadas (Visiting Student, 2006) Vice President at Dunes Point Capital

I am a Vice President at Dunes Point Capital. Prior to DPC, I was a Senior Associate at Post Capital Partners and an Associate at The Riverside Company. I have also worked as an investment banking professional at Stifel Nicolaus and Paragon Capital where I helped execute a number of buy-side, sell-side, and restructuring transactions. In addition, I've worked as an Associate at Industrial Group Holdings, LLC where I helped execute a number of buy-side and restructuring transactions.

Alex Monk (Geography, 2011) Investment Analyst at Schroder

I am responsible for analysing companies from across the world in the renewable energy space and coming up with investment ideas for the investment fund that I work on. I am a big believer that finance has a social purpose and that the actions of companies are hugely important in driving social change. Being able to engage with renewable energy companies and help provide finance for them to grow is therefore hugely rewarding – as is trying to generate an investment return for my clients. It is also great that I get to use a lot of what I learnt in my degrees while doing my analysis!

Briony Krikorian (PPE, 2000) Principal at UK Finance

After leaving Oxford, I spent two years doing development projects in Armenia. Since then I have worked in policy for financial services - first for the insurance trade body, then for card payments and more recently for UK Finance which represents 250 financial institutions. My work involves providing guidance to members on, and helping to influence, regulatory frameworks; and running innovative projects in the public/private realm, such as contactless payments on public transport.

Philip Smelt (Econ and Management, 2001) Principal at Lexington

I read Economics and Management at Hertford between 2001 and 2004.

After Oxford I worked in Mergers & Acquisitions at both Rothschild and Bank of America Lynch. In 2011, I joined Lexington Partners, a New York headquartered private equity firm. I am a Principal at Lexington Partners and am focused on equity co-investments.

Melania Edwards (Econ and Management, 2006)

After graduation, I spent time working in various global finance roles across Europe, Asia, and the USA as an International Manager for HSBC. Currently, I am part of the Venture Capital group at HSBC in San Francisco, where I connect investors and venture-backed technology companies with our global capabilities and ecosystem. I'm also an active mentor to early-stage start-ups, and am particularly focused on supporting strong companies with female or traditionally underrepresented founders.

Samantha Jarvis (Econ and Management, 2006)

I joined the FSA's graduate scheme in 2009 after completing a summer internship there in 2008, in the middle of the financial crisis which had created huge opportunities at the market regulator. The graduate scheme offered rotations into various parts of the FSA, including being part of the supervision team for Northern Rock after its collapse and a secondment to HM Treasury. Following the grad scheme, I continued to seek both progression and variety within the FSA, as it became the FCA. I was Executive Assistant to the CEO of the Payment Systems Regulator (PSR) while it was set up as a subsidiary of the FCA, before returning to the financial crime team as a Team Leader. I am currently on maternity leave but when I'm not, I work 3 days a week, balancing work with being mum to Izzy (2) and Sophie (7 months).



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Start-ups

Hope Lewis (Jurisprudence, 2005) co-founder and CEO of MORE Health

I'm the co-founder and CEO of MORE Health, carrying more than 7 years of executive experiences. MORE Health began with the dream of providing the world's best physicians and medical treatments to our close friends and family in other countries. I founded it after that initial lifesaving venture. Using cloud-based technology, MORE Health gives patients a full-featured, intuitive and HIPAA-compliant online platform that connects them to a network of 30,000 physicians from top academic medical centres spanning the globe.

Marja Verbon (Econ and Management, 2008) CEO at JUMP

I'm the founder and COO of Jump, where I lead product development, strategy and fundraising. Previous to founding Jump, I worked in Venture Capital, investing in Series A+ marketplaces at Piton Capital, and at McKinsey on Strategy and Private Equity projects. I'm passionate about people problems, and believe we should use the power of data for good. I'm excited to make a positive contribution to the world and solve real-life people problems at Jump.

Caroline Conner (Arch and Anth, 2006) Founder of Wine, Dine, Caroline.

I'm an entrepreneur in the hospitality sector. I got into wine during my time at Oxford, and have worked in London, San Francisco, and now I'm in France. I have a business doing wine education here in Lyon, and have launched an online wine course since Covid-19 hit.

Lauren Murrell (Geography, 2006) Co-founder of BY SARAH London

I read Geography and graduated in 2009 where I took a year to explore various avenues and jobs. Then enrolled in law school, but in my final year was diagnosed with an aggressive form of leukaemia. I was treated with chemotherapy, radiotherapy and a stem cell transplant and kept in protective isolation for many months. It took 2 years to regain a degree of normality and return to law school. Began my legal career at Cleary Gottlieb, working in London and New York. Once I qualified, I moved to the British Virgin Islands to practice law, but in 2017 I was on the island when Hurricane Irma hit, so I came back to the UK after that. My sister was ready to hit live on the skincare she had created to help my skin when I was recovering from treatment, so we launched the business (By Sarah London) together and haven't looked back since. We have since won 10 awards, appeared in Vogue, Forbes, Elle and more, and are now stocked on Deliciously Ella's webshop. Growing the business involves wearing many hats, often simultaneously, including marketing, sales, customer support, new product development to name a few. It's fast, I'm learning a lot and I love it!

Journalism, Publishing and Media

Leah Hyslop (English, 2006) Deputy Editor at Waitrose & Partners Food magazine

I am a journalist and editor specialising in food and lifestyle. I spent seven years at The Telegraph, before working as the Food Director on Sainsbury's magazine, the UK's most-read glossy magazine, and am now Deputy Editor at Waitrose & Partners Food magazine. In 2018 I published my first cookbook Made in London and am currently working on my second.

Julia McDonnell (Biology, 2006) Executive Publisher, Oxford University Press NY

I work for Oxford University Press (OUP) as an Executive Publisher in Science and Medical Journals. After graduating, I started working for OUP in an entry level position and have worked up within the company. I oversee all aspects of OUP's work publishing a list of Journals worth approximately \$12



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million, manage a team of seven staff, lead bids for new business, and am responsible for working with the Editorial Directors to shape the strategic development of the Journals Department. In 2017 I transferred from the Oxford office to the New York office.

Oliver Coward (Engineering, 2006) Film Producer

I completed an Engineering degree, and after completing an internship at a local video production company in Oxford, I decided to change direction and work in the film and video industry. Went onto found Quickstep Films based in London. My job is focused on helping clients produce video content for corporate communications and social media campaigns for brands. My role focuses on bridging the needs of what the video needs to achieve and collaborating with creatives to achieve those goals. We have also produced narrative films which have won awards at festivals around the world.

Law

Matt Lewin (English, 2006) Barrister at Cornerstone

I graduated from Hertford in 2009 and studied for an MA in English at UCL in 2010 then worked as a housing officer at Camden Council. I am now a barrister practicing in public law at Cornerstone Barristers in London. My website profile is [here](#) which has more information about my work.

Grace Flynn (French, 2009) Criminal Barrister at Guildhall Chambers

After graduation I studied the law conversion course and Bar Professional Training Course in Birmingham with the help of a scholarship from Inner Temple. I then spent six months working at the Criminal Cases Review Commission. This was followed by some time in Luxembourg at the Court of Justice of the European Union. I was based in the Press Office which finally put my French degree and law studies to good combined use! I was working there in the eye of the storm fielding questions on the ongoing Brexit campaign and the aftermath. Once back in the UK, I began pupillage at my chambers in Bristol, qualifying in 2017. Since then I have been a criminal barrister both prosecuting and defending trials in the Crown Court whilst also maintaining my interest in developing other areas of law in my practice.

Jessica Hudson (Jurisprudence, 2011) Film and TV Associate at Sheridans

On graduating, I went to London to work at Ernst & Young, where I stayed for a year before leaving to do my LPC and masters. I chose to do my training contract at Reed Smith on account of its prominent media practice and was lucky enough to spend 6 months working in Athens. I left on qualification to specialise in film and television at Sheridans.

Professional Services

Helen Carswell (Econ and Management, 2012) Senior Brand Manager at Diageo

I joined the Marketing Graduate Scheme at Diageo in 2015. Diageo is well known by its brands - including Smirnoff, Gordons, Guinness, Baileys and Johnnie Walker. I've worked on the advertising campaigns for Captain Morgan, developed the framework for how the business can best use social media data & insights, and most recently managed the marketing for the Malt Whisky portfolio across Europe.



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Jennifer Cownie (English, 2005) Strategy Director at VMLY&R

I'm a strategy director in an ad agency, VMLY&R (which is part of WPP). After I graduated, I spent a few months temping as a customer service advisor in a call centre while (unsuccessfully) trying to get into the creative industries. When that went nowhere, I moved to Australia where I managed a book shop and did bits of freelance work for two years before coming back to London and finding a role. At the time, it felt like I was delaying the start of my career and/or not really being a proper adult, but I can now honestly say that I'm glad I did it - and that, if anything, those two years helped rather than hindered me.

Private Sector

Mike Arnold (Econ and Management, 2005) Development Director at Medcentres

My main role is as a Development Director for a family property company (I started with the company in 2008, with my original plans being adjusted by the financial crash!), we primarily develop healthcare and affordable housing for property investment funds and Registered Providers, and work closely with local Government and NHS organisations. We also have an interest in a small healthcare operator and property development interests in Portugal (private housing development.)

Andrew Bergbaum (MBA, 2006) Managing Director at AlixPartners

I am a Managing Director and Senior Partner at AlixPartners. I'm focussed on supporting management and financial stakeholders to develop practical and sustainable solutions in when it really matters situations. My sector focus is on the Automotive industry where I spend significant time working with clients on the transformation of the entire industry towards electrified powertrains. I finished my MBA at Said Business School in 2007 and went straight to McKinsey for 3.5 years before moving to AlixPartners in 2011. My current role combines client problem solving and project delivery; business and intellectual capital development; and internal leadership and management.

Public and Third Sector

Josh Platt (History, 2012) Senior Policy Advisor at HM Treasury

I'm a Senior Policy Adviser at HM Treasury leading the public spending strategy branch. Me and my team are responsible for negotiating funding settlements with departments across government at Budgets and Spending Reviews. Prior to that, I advised on EU exit policy at the Treasury and - as part of the Civil Service Fast Stream - undertook placements at the Department for International Development, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and in the charity sector.

Jess Daggers (PPE, 2006) Impact Director at NESTA

I graduated from Hertford in 2009 and went on to do a part-time Masters and part-time PhD at Birkbeck College, producing one of the first extended theses to be written on the growth of impact investing in the UK and internationally. I have developed a parallel career as a freelance consultant, providing impact measurement support for a wide array of organisations from small charities to venture capital impact investors. I am currently applying for research funding from UK Research and Innovation for a substantial project on the role of impact measurement in enabling a shift towards an alternative form of capitalism. I can be found on [ResearchGate](#), [Medium](#) and [Twitter](#).



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Science and Tech

Faz Chowdhury (Engineering, 2006) CEO- Nemauro Pharma

I have served as CEO and chair of the board of Nemauro Medical Inc., since 2013 and have over 20 years experience in the Pharmaceutical and Medical devices industry, taking products from concept to commercial launch. I am sole inventor on more than 100 granted and pending patents across over 15 technology platforms within the medical device and pharmaceutical sectors and have authored Textbook Chapters on Nano-biosciences for Wiley and Elsevier. I am a regular speaker at international conferences in this field, and serve on the Board of Medilink East Midlands, UK. I hold a Masters in Microsystems and Nanotechnology from Cranfield University, UK, and Doctorate from the University of Oxford on nano-medicine and drug delivery. In my spare time I enjoy photography and travel.

Henry Fisher (Chemistry, 2006) Co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer at Hanway

Henry studied Chemistry at Hertford, staying on at Hertford to complete a DPhil in Inorganic Chemistry, where he researched novel delivery methods of psychoactive pharmaceuticals. During his DPhil he worked at the Beckley Foundation, a think tank researching therapeutic use of psychedelics and cannabis, and drug policy reform. After finishing his DPhil, he became one of the founding team of Volteface, the UK's leading drug policy think tank, which was instrumental in leading the successful campaign to legalise medical cannabis in the UK in 2018. While there, he co-founded Hanway Associates, a strategic consultancy to the cannabis industry. As Chief Scientific Officer of Hanway Associates, Henry advises UK and international clients on cannabis research, licensing, policy and business strategy, and has also helped create a number of other companies and brands.