

I am delighted to welcome all our new students to BU, and welcome you back if you are returning to us from a placement or a summer break. If you've not heard from me before, I'm the Vice-Chancellor at BU. I write to all our students at key times through the academic year to update you on what is happening and share important news.

I hope you are settling in well and that you are making the most of the support, information and advice available to all our students at this busy time. As well as speaking to your tutors and lecturers, you can talk to the [Students' Union \(SUBU\)](#), and [AskBU](#). More information is available on our [student web pages](#).

At BU, we believe that partnership is key to our success and so I am delighted that we have a strong relationship with SUBU, the students' union at BU. I was pleased to see that SUBU won the Education Award at the NUS Awards 2016 in July, for their work on student feedback, student experience and development. The new SUBU sabbatical officers have been settling in to their roles over the summer and I look forward to working with Daniel, Brooke, Georgia, Jamie and Charlie this year.

BU is on a journey to achieve our [BU2018 vision \(Creating, Sharing, Inspiring\)](#) based on our fusion of education, research and professional practice, which is at the heart of everything that we do at BU. We continue to listen to your ideas and feedback and to give you more flexible and innovative spaces for learning, we built [the Fusion Building](#), which does just that. Even the lecture theatres are named to reflect our vision of create, share, inspire.

It was great to hear this weekend that BU has risen 20 places in The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2017. I am delighted that our research, education and professional practice are all highlighted as areas of particular strength. Our fusion vision is key to creating a fantastic student experience at BU and this result recognises the hard work and commitment of all of the BU community.

We are delighted that BU has been named as one of the top 200 most international universities in the world in 2016, and this academic year is set to be another exciting one for creating a Global BU. Building global talent and helping students develop skills and attributes which will make you highly employable, is an important part of our fusion vision. Our new Global Talent Programme is a real highlight of the year. The programme has been co-created with employers to help you demonstrate that you can work in a truly global way. Whatever you are studying, this programme is designed to fit around your busy schedule, so do take a look at the [website](#) to find out more.

We will continue to build on this success with ongoing investment in our staff and students, as well as our facilities, to ensure BU keeps getting better.

I wish you all the best for a successful 2016/17.

Best wishes,

John Vinney  
**Vice-Chancellor**

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