



From The Chief Executive



We started **IntoUniversity** six years ago because a group of us were determined to do something to reverse the deep inequalities in the British education system. The facts are stark: if you happen to be born into an economically deprived family, you are far less likely to do

well at school or go on to tertiary education. By comparison children from better-off families are six times more likely to go to university than those from less affluent homes. **IntoUniversity** is working hard to overcome this inequality.

We started with a local **IntoUniversity** scheme in North Kensington, and we now have ambitious plans to set up more centres across London. As we approach the end of our first year of expansion. I am pleased that we are making real progress in changing futures for young people. We now have four centres and are serving over 2500 students. The National Foundation for Educational Research has conducted an evaluation of **IntoUniversity** and has concluded that we are having a 'transformational impact' on young people. We have raised over £2.5 million and we have built an extensive network of partners and supporters: funders, universities, schools and businesses.

We are entering 2009 full of confidence and hope about what we can achieve at **IntoUniversity**. We are deeply grateful to our supporters and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Dr Rachel Carr

IU in the Press

IntoUniversity featured prominently in an article by Mary Ann Sieghart entitled "Unequal Britain: the future has already been decided for our children" [*The Times*, 12 June 08]. **IntoUniversity** was cited as a way of successfully combating inequality.

http://women.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/women/families/article4114490.ece

We have also recently had letters published in *The Guardian* and *The Times Education Supplement*.

IU: Voluntary Organisation of the Year 2008



We are delighted to report that we were named Voluntary Organisation of the Year at the London Education Partnership Awards. The ceremony, which was attended by a team from

IntoUniversity, including students Sara Lamrani and Sadiya Ali, took place at the Science Museum on the 17th June. The accolades didn't end there, **IntoUniversity** was also named first runner-up in the Individual Organisation Impact Award and our students' stories were referred to in several of the speakers' speeches as examples of successful widening participation.

Case Study

Reem Altamore, former IU Student



IntoUniversity has greatly contributed to making a difference in my life. I was one of those first lucky pupils to have been chosen for the Mentoring Scheme and was paired with a mentor called Ingeborg studying physics at Imperial College, London when I was in Year 10.

Ingeborg has been very supportive during my educational journey in terms of helping me to revise during my GCSE's and providing me with guidance during my final year at college about all aspects of university life. I was also given a second mentor who was part of a mentoring scheme by JP Morgan aimed at students in college.

Both mentors have further increased my dream and drive of graduating from university and becoming very successful in order to make my family proud, and to create a better life for myself and my mother, whilst setting an example for my younger sister.

At the moment I am currently at the University of Birmingham and have completed my first year of studying BA Sociology. In a few years time I do hopefully see myself as becoming a successful lawyer or investment banker.

Funding News



IntoUniversity has a funding target of £3.75 million by 2010. We are currently doing well having raised £2.5 million and we are incredibly grateful to the many

trusts and individuals who have helped us get this far. However we are expanding throughout London and for our plans to have six centres open in London by 2010 to come to fruition we still need your help. Therefore please take a minute to consider our funding challenge...

Can you help us achieve our total of £3.75 million?

Become an **Academy Fellow** (£1000), a **Benefactor** (£5000) or a **Fellow Benefactor** (£10,000) of **Into**University and see your contribution recognised on our Founders Ladder.

£1000 would run our Mentoring Programme at one of our centres for one year.

£5,000 would fund our Academic Support provision in two **Into**University centres for a year, providing help with homework/ coursework and a safe, quiet place between school and home for over 600 disadvantaged children and young people.

£10,000 would cover the tutor and volunteer expenses for one centre for a year providing our staff with the support and people power they need to successfully run every aspect of our programme.

Gift Aid- If you can add Gift Aid to your donation you could increase the value of your donation by 28%.

Case Study Sarah Cooke, Benefactor

*Sarah Cooke has recently become an **Into**University Benefactor, having visited our site and seen the work we do in her local area. Here she talks about her views on charitable donations and the current economic climate:*



At the beginning of every recession, there are people who see downturn as an occasion for moral revival. People everywhere will simplify their lives. They'll discover what really matters: home, friends and family. This time is no exception and it is about more than

material deprivation, it is a time when cultural consequences can be uplifting as people understand more clearly the implicit value in education for all and how our community benefits from mutual strength.

There is no doubt that **Into**University epitomizes this philosophy and enables young people to attain their potential by reaching for the stars. Secondary and higher education is a pathway to opportunity, employment and independence. My family is pleased to support its objectives and approach.

Promises Auction 2009



The second **Into**University Promises Auction will take place on 28th January 2009. With lots including a staffed villa in St Lucia and a life portrait, the evening will be a fun way to beat the January blues.

Case Study Ruby Kumah, IU Student



Ruby Kumah joined the Academic Support programme at IU Brent in October. She is a Y6 pupil from local Furness Primary School. From the outset she has worked extremely hard on the targets she set with IU staff, including improving her decimals and fractions in Maths and learning more about plants and circuits in science. She recently won our Primary Handwriting Competition. She made a very thoughtful application to the Mentoring Scheme, she'd like to be a mentee 'because I think the mentors will really help us to achieve what we want to be in our future'. Ruby will be coming along with her class from Furness Primary School to attend a FOCUS Week in February next year. Her maturity is a fine example to the primary classroom at Brent as the Y6s work towards their SATs at the end of the year.

www.intouniversity.org

IU Brent Opens



IntoUniversity Brent officially opened on the 7th July. The opening ceremony was attended by representatives from local schools, trust funds, government, the students we help, Deputy Mayor Cllr James O'Sullivan and local celebrity Tamsin Greig (*Black Books, Love Soup, Green Wing*).

The evening was a great success, the Deputy Mayor and Tamsin Greig both expressed how impressed they were with the facilities at the centre and the students spoke of their experiences and the help they receive from **IntoUniversity**.

IntoUniversity Brent opened its doors to the children and young people of Brent in April and has been receiving incredibly positive feedback ever since. One Year 6 student from St Mary's C.E. Primary School who took part in a FOCUS week on school transition and Performing Arts said:

It brought excitement to my life and made me want to get up- it was like a surprise and I never knew what was coming next- this is the best week of my life.

Advisory Panel

The second of our Advisory Panel meetings took place on the 8th October and focused on our current and future Business Plans. The **IntoUniversity** Advisory Panel is made up of eight professionals with expertises in areas as wide ranging as journalism, business and law. The findings of the meeting will feed into the final draft of our Business Plan.

IU Intern Programme



Over the summer we were joined by a group of enthusiastic Summer interns. Six volunteers came to work at our centres. Mary Jarvis, who worked at **IntoUniversity** Lambeth for two months said

*I feel extremely fortunate to have been given the chance to work here at this time and with this team. My internship with **IntoUniversity** has made for an extremely rewarding and stimulating summer which I believe will stand me in good stead to enter the graduate world next year.*

IU Mentoring Graduation

June 14th 2008 saw over 30 mentors and mentees from IU North Kensington and IU Lambeth celebrate their achievements as part of the inaugural **IntoUniversity** Mentoring Graduation. They were joined by parents and families who came together with staff to mark their progress over the past year. The event included an array of activities including a Memory Tree, interview recordings and a mentoring banner. As certificates were presented we heard from several pairs- Reina and Hanna, Chiara and Bochra and Christopher and Alistair. Mike Gale from the Mentoring and Befriending Foundation congratulated the scheme as one "that does not settle for second best". The day finished with strawberries and cream.

Strategic Advice

IntoUniversity has recently benefited from pro-bono advice from Strategy Consultants. Their team of OC&C consultants worked with us for three weeks to identify the key issues that we must tackle as we expand.

IU Lambeth Summer FOCUS



From the 21st to the 25th July **IntoUniversity** Lambeth held a highly successful Sports FOCUS week. The programme had various sporting activities that many of our students had never tried before, including a Boules tournament, played in the true French style in Cleaver Square. On a trip to Northwick Park the students also enjoyed a game of adventure golf followed by a session on the driving range. The highlight of the week was a visit to the hallowed turf of Wimbledon, where the students were given a tour of the site, Court number 1, the BBC Sport room and the press interview rooms. It was an extremely successful week, and the **IntoUniversity** staff had the pleasure of working with some very enthusiastic, and up and coming sportsmen and women, aged 10-18 years.

IU Bow Opens



IntoUniversity Bow opened on the 24th November in the premises of St Paul's Church in Bow. Zoe Cox, Set-Up Manager will lead the new project and act as Centre Manager, for the initial stages. The centre will also employ two Education Workers and an

intern. IU Bow is situated in an area of urban deprivation; Tower Hamlets was ranked the 3rd most deprived borough in the country in the 2007 Indices of Deprivation. Interestingly Tower Hamlets has 10% more children/young people with free school meal entitlement than any other borough in the the UK.

Staffing

Since September **IntoUniversity** has employed eight new staff members to work at our IU Centres, including **IntoUniversity** Bow which opened in November. We received over four hundred applications for the posts - a sign that **IntoUniversity** is building a solid reputation within the charity/ education sectors.

Fun Run



On a chilly December morning ten intrepid IU staff members donned Santa Suits to take part in a 5 km Santa Fun Run. All the team made it round the course in Greenwich Park and raised over £1000. One Santa, Anna Clarkson, said 'It was a really fun way to raise money as a team; I'll definitely be here next year!'

Case Study

Devina Evanson, Education Worker



Devina Evanson joined us as an Education Worker in January 2008 and played a key role in helping to set up the Brent centre. Devina has a degree in Drama and Education and before working for IU worked as a Drama Teacher, a teaching assistant and a Youth Worker in East London.

Devina has particular responsibility for organizing the FOCUS programme in Brent and enjoys working with Brent primary schools to plan and deliver FOCUS Weeks and university visits. Devina says: 'One of the best things about working for IU is that we create something different every time we work with a new school or student, making our service unique. The children get so much out of coming to all of our centres, which makes me feel proud to work for IU.'

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