QTaster
Generously supported by the Sir John Cass’s Foundation

An opportunity to host 30-60 diverse and engaged Queen Mary University students at your office for a 2-3 hour Wednesday afternoon insight session.

Why host a visit?
The students are competitively selected and receive full training – they arrive prepared and full of enthusiasm. It is a great way to increase name recognition and improve awareness with students from a non-traditional university background. Advice from employees can be life changing for our students.

Who are the students?
All students are undergraduates in year 1, 2 or 3. Based on previous participants, the subject split is 52% STEM, 24% Business, Economics or Finance, and 24% Humanities. 61% are female, 29% are in receipt of a bursary and 57% are from BAME backgrounds.

What does a visit involve?
Usually an overview of the organisation, some speakers or a panel discussion, followed by an opportunity to ask questions and network. A group activity or tour also helps to make a visit particularly memorable.

What is provided by Queen Mary?
The selection process, training and communications to students are handled by the Programme Coordinator, who will also support you in creating a suitable agenda. You will receive the students' course and year in advance of the day, followed by a full demographic breakdown and feedback after the visit.

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When can we book a visit?
We are currently booking for the academic year 2019-20. Semester A and B are a different cohort of students – organisations often host one visit in each semester.

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What have previous hosts said?
100% of hosts said they would recommend the programme to other organisations. Previous visits include ASOS, Barclays, Bloomberg, Bouygues UK, British Heart Foundation, Business Science, Capco, Entrepreneur First, FDM Group, IBM, ING, Knight Frank, KPMG, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Mazars, Microsoft, MThree Consulting, Octopus, Post Office, Salesforce, Springer Nature, TOPDesk, UBS and Wellcome Trust.

The most beneficial part of hosting a visit has been:
“Meeting some very engaged and enthusiastic bright undergraduates.”
“Seeing students saw us as a potential employer in the future.”
“Having an engaging opportunity to interact with students and deliver a focused session.”
“Hearing that the experience was genuinely useful for the students involved.”
“Very good engaged students, asked excellent questions.”
“The opportunity to bring what we do as an organisation to life.”

How do the students benefit?
We see the students increase confidence in networking, commercial awareness, understanding of career options and knowing what is expected in a professional working environment. They also have greater clarity for which sector they would like to work in.

“The experience of visiting employers and the practical skills sessions have been invaluable as I prepare for life beyond university.”
“QTaster has made me more aware of the opportunities out there and has increased my confidence in applying. It opened my mind to new sectors and businesses that I wouldn't normally think of.”
“QTaster has positively impacted my employability. Attending the visits showed me what type of skills the staff of each company uphold to carry out their jobs effectively. Knowing this I can spend my time developing these skills.”
“I found the experience really helpful because it helped me to narrow down what I actually wanted to do.”
“Through QTaster I can now easily navigate the various steps needed to land a job in my desired industry.”
“I am very happy I participated in the programme and feel that it helped me identify sectors I would like to work in. It also ran very smoothly and information and guidance was always clear.”

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