

Imperial College
London

Festival of Learning and Teaching 2022

The developing
Student Partnership at
Imperial – through the
pandemic and into the
future

STUDENT SHAPERS



StudentShapers; an introduction



“Creating a series of new grants that support our students to work with staff in determining priorities for change and recommending improvements. These will enable students to engage in the implementation of relevant changes within their own departments”

2021-2022



“getting to work with staff from the department made me feel I was part of Imperial's [Dept X] community in a deeper sense and made me see once again that staff and students are not two separate, independent bubbles”

Student partner



A relational approach

- StudentShapers is about adopting a **partnership** relationship with students
 - Working as
 - collaborators**
 - co-creators**
 - colleagues**on a problem or project
- Student expertise is different but equally valuable



Students have new expertise

- Remote learning: the good, bad, ugly...
- What were the good bits? How do we integrate them into the 'old' way of doing things?
- How has the relationship between staff and students been changed? How do we need to develop if further?



Co-creation is nothing new...

- Co-creation with consumers and customers is business and marketing
- Co-creation with patients and service users in the healthcare and medical sciences



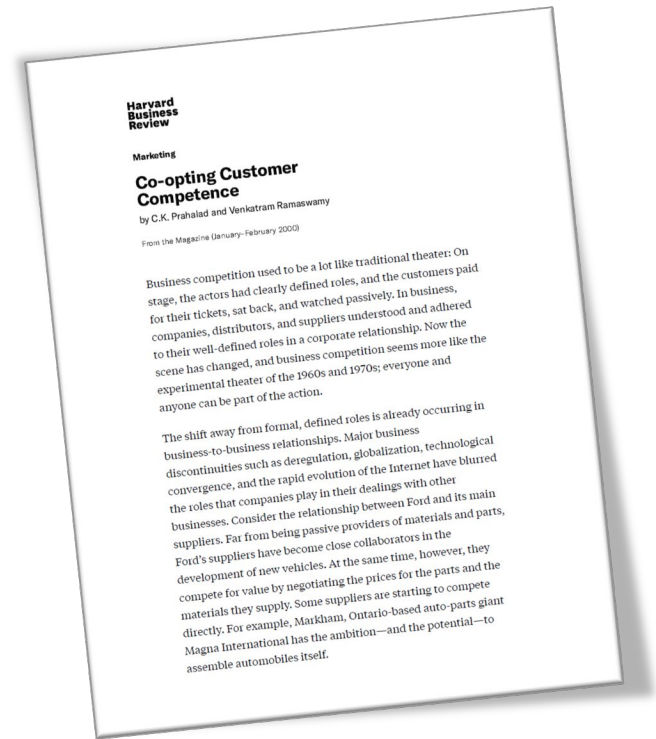
Co-creation is nothing new...

Patient Experience Research Centre

[About us](#) [COVID-19](#) [Public Involvement](#) [Research](#) [Publications](#) [Meet the team](#) [Get in touch](#)



Promoting participatory approaches to improving healthcare and biomedical research



ideas.lego.com/projects/create

LEGO IDEAS EXPLORE BLOG HOW IT WORKS Find Ideas LOG IN

IT'S YOUR TIME TO SHINE!

Now it's your chance to unleash your creativity and show that you are a true master builder. Can you come up with an idea that wows your fellow LEGO® fans and persuades our review board to give it the green light?

[SUBMIT IDEA](#)

BECOME A LEGO FAN DESIGNER

The journey of becoming a LEGO Fan designer is incredibly challenging and requires a unique brick-built concept, solid

It can take up to several years and you will have to work hard to build awareness of your project until it gains the necessary 10,000

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Our areas of Partnership

StudentShapers is not just about developing our curriculum; it is about embedding **STUDENT EXPERTISE** into a range of College activities and processes that impact on the student experience.

Most of our projects are in Curriculum development and Educational research, some space design too....but....

One size doesn't fit all



*Especially with student
partnership*



Space for more?

- So far (this year) over 375 expressions of interest for 129 student spaces on projects
- Students are particularly attracted to projects that are:
 - **Cross-college**
 - **non disciplinary specific**
 - **Engage programming and analytical skills**
- Students want to make a difference and engage in something different



My point...

- The diversity of work we undertake to support the student experience is huge
- Can we be more ambitious about the breadth of student partnership? If we all think about this, we develop a collaborative, productive staff-student culture
- An institutional approach to student partnership develops a positive student experience and culture in which students are a valued part of our community



The challenges ahead

- How do we diversify and expand a partnership approach without ever *more* projects?
- Bringing partnership *into* the curriculum
- Student driven (partnered?) learning; get from A to B, but you design the route...



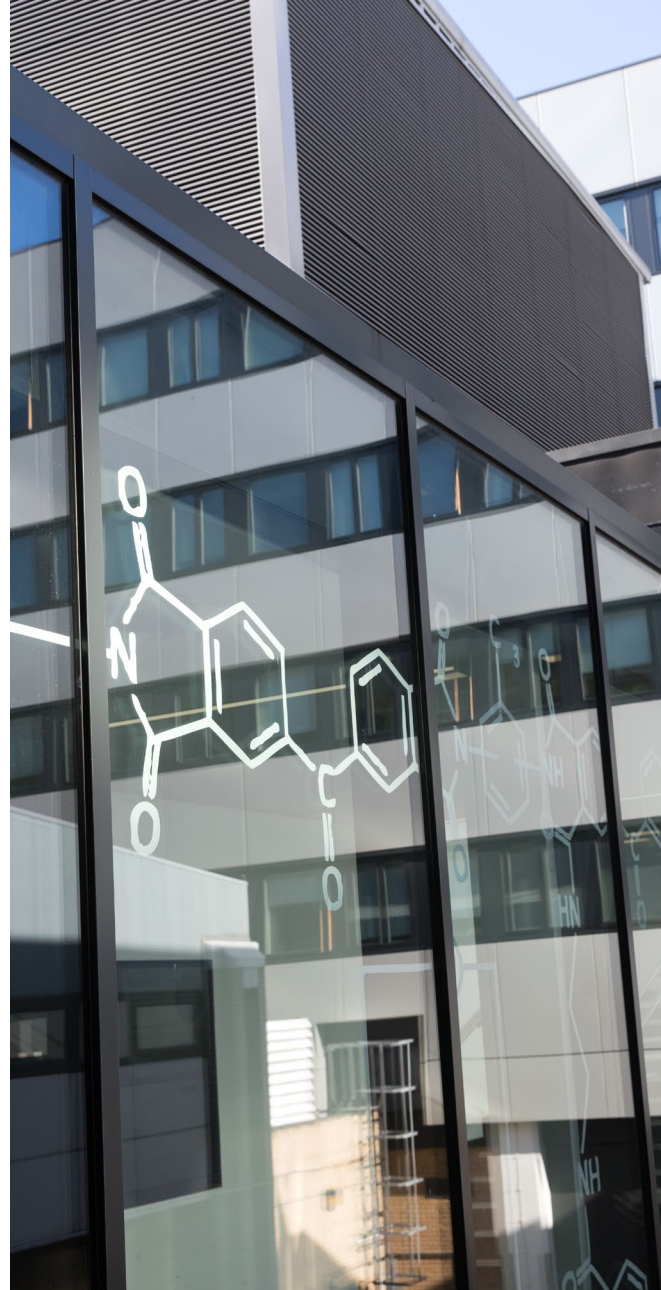
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Voices from partnership: Chemical Engineering

Since 2018:

- 11 StudentShapers projects
- 26 student partners
- 23 different staff partners

Around 500+ UG students, 40+ academic staff

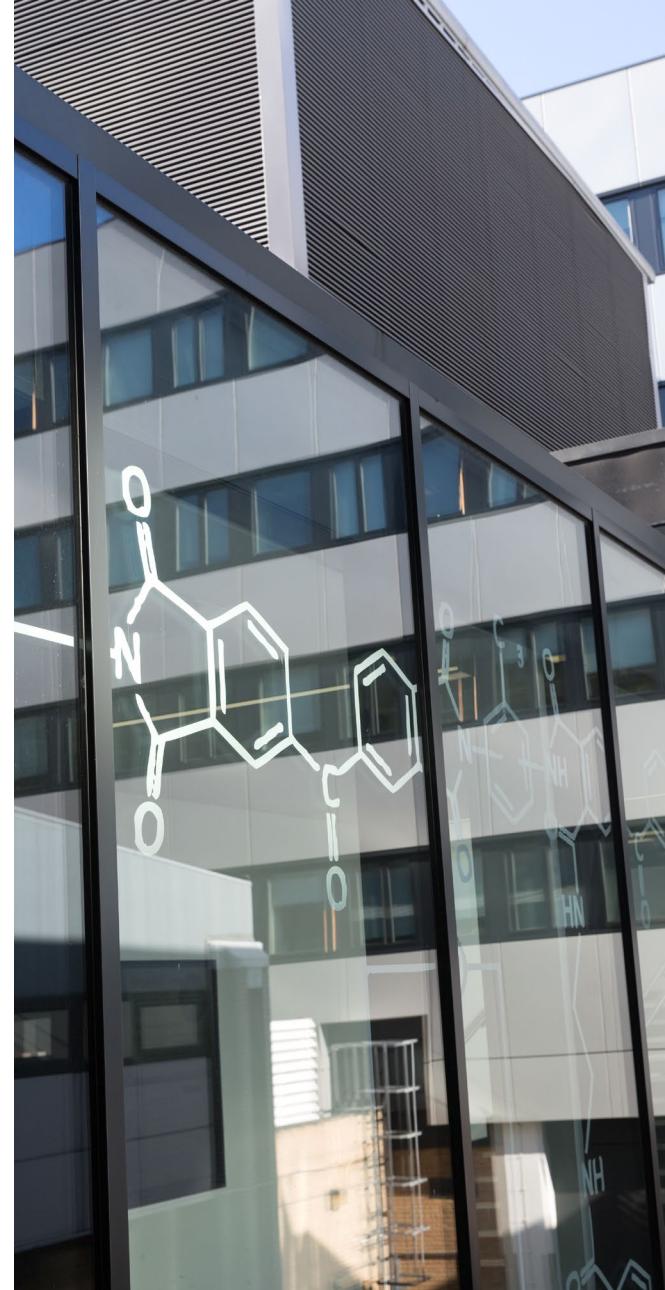


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Voices from partnership: Chemical Engineering

Welcome to past student partners:

- Pavan Inguva
- Pierre Walker



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Voices from partnership: Chemical Engineering

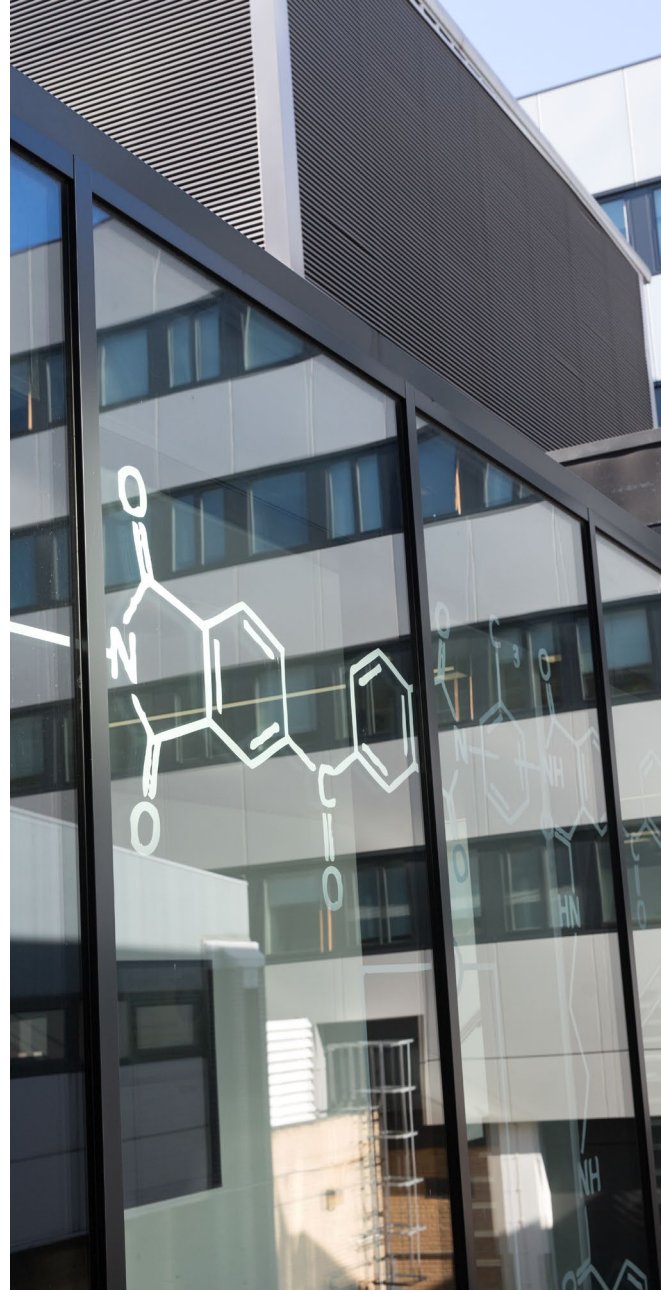
Welcome to:

Current staff partners:

- Andrew Haslam
- Vijesh Bhute

Current student partners:

- Nikolaos Kalogeropoulos
- Thomas Cheng



“understanding the students' approaches will in turn shape how we support them on their learning journey”

2020 Staff partner

browse: www.imperial.ac.uk/studentshapers

contact: studentshapers@imperial.ac.uk