Get involved
Get rewarded
You can find the EP team at the Canterbury Innovation Centre, just down the hill from the main bus stop on campus.
The Employability Points Scheme
By Professor Karen Cox
Vice-Chancellor & President

The global economy needs people who have been educated and also know how to apply their knowledge. Employability is about more than just getting that first job, important though that is. It is the capacity to have numerous jobs, and for individuals to develop successfully in whatever areas they decide to pursue.

The University of Kent is one of the UK’s leading universities. We were awarded gold, the highest rating, in the government’s Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) and the most recent Research Excellence Framework (REF) ranked us 17th in the UK for our research intensity. We are particularly proud of our commitment to enhancing the employability of all our students, undergraduate and postgraduate, in order to enable them to compete and flourish. We back this commitment with a wide breadth of student opportunities across all our campuses. We have an employability strategy that includes the acquisition of discipline-specific and transferable skills through the curriculum; support for Personal Development Planning; high quality careers guidance; vocationally relevant curricula; opportunities for volunteering and placement experience overseas; and support for Innovation and Enterprise initiatives and activities. Our Careers and Employability Service won the Best University Careers/Employability Service award in the National Undergraduate Employability Awards 2017.

Our Employability Points Scheme rewards the commitment of our many students who are determined to stand out to prospective employers. I know the huge value placed on practical hands-on experience with employers and I hope this highlights the benefits of collaboration between local and national employers with our students, and is a testament to the high value employers place on University of Kent graduates.

Employability Points are just a part of the wider preparation that the University can help to provide for the world of work. We continue to enhance opportunities for our students, through study at our Paris and Brussels campuses as part of the Summer School Scholarships programme, an ever increasing portfolio of workshops and events with graduate employers and working in partnership with Kent Union to support and recognise the contribution made by students to volunteering and student societies.

Our alumni range from senior business people, academics, writers and diplomats. Our graduates and those students rewarded via the Employability Points Scheme are able to support the aspirations of future University of Kent students.

Professor Karen Cox, Vice-Chancellor & President
WHAT IS THE EMPLOYABILITY POINTS SCHEME?

The Employability Points (EP) Scheme rewards you for undertaking co-curricular activities whilst you complete your studies at the University of Kent!

If you are a student undertaking co-curricular activities, such as volunteering, working part-time, attending events, participating in societies and much more, you can claim Employability Points.

Towards the end of the academic year, you can cash-in your points for the chance to apply for Rewards! All rewards are offered by external businesses and include:

- Paid internships
- Paid project placements
- Work experience and work shadowing placements
- Training sessions, company experiences and skills development sessions
- Vouchers and iPads

In 2016-17, over 7,782 students engaged with the EP Scheme, with 145 businesses sponsoring the scheme and 803 rewards being offered.

Ultimately, the EP Scheme actively rewards students who are going the extra-mile to ensure they stand-out to employers.

Get involved and get rewarded!
WHY GET INVOLVED?

On average, it is reported that over 80 graduates are competing for each graduate job vacancy. What will you do to ensure you stand out from the crowd?

The Employability Points Scheme provides you with work-ready skills (through earning points) and relevant work experience (through EP rewards), which is increasingly essential to ensure graduate employment.

Just read what some of our current and previous students have to say:

‘I would definitely recommend the scheme to other students because you learn and grow so much and there are a lot of opportunities to meet great and influential people. I thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. Thank you EPS!’

Fatoumatta Kurang, Business

‘The Scheme is excellent as it allows you to feel good about yourself – you work really hard and you get rewarded. The goal is to be recognised and the EP Scheme does this – it recognises everyone.’

Darios Quadri, Politics and International Relations

‘The skills that you develop, and the awards that you can achieve could give your graduate job applications the edge that you need to succeed!’

Mollie Ferguson, Law

‘The Employability Points Scheme helped me to unleash the entrepreneurial drive within me. As a student not doing a business related degree, it encouraged me to think beyond what was given to me through academia.’

Andre Lewis, Social Studies
HOW DOES THE SCHEME WORK?

The EP Scheme works on a simple premise:

1. You undertake co-curricular activities whilst studying at the University of Kent.
2. You log your activities on MyFolio and are allocated ‘Employability Points’.
3. For 2017-18, all activities must be logged on MyFolio by 5 p.m. on 19th March 2018.
4. After the deadline, you will have the chance to redeem your points for the opportunity to apply for exclusive EP rewards.
5. If successful, you complete your rewards over the summer period.

How to claim your Employability Points
Logging activities and claiming Employability Points is a very simple process, achieved through the following steps:

1. Firstly, you must be undertaking co-curricular activities. This could be anything ranging from attending optional workshops, working part-time, volunteering, and much more. (See pages 8-9 for more information).
2. To log an activity, you must access the University of Kent’s MyFolio system (this is done with your University of Kent log-in and password).
3. Once signed-in, you must navigate to the ‘Employability Points Dashboard’ and select the option to add an activity.
4. Once activities have been logged, the EP team will allocate Employability Points. This usually takes up to 48 hours.

How to use your points to gain rewards
If you qualify, you will gain the chance to redeem your Employability Points on exclusive rewards:

1. In late March, if you qualify, you will receive a copy of the EP Rewards Pack, outlining all EP rewards available.
2. Shortly after this, you will receive an application form and you can select which rewards you wish to apply for.
3. The EP team will shortlist applicants and you may be invited to attend an interview in May.
4. All EP rewards are confirmed by the end of May and you can start undertaking your rewards after the examination period in early June.

/EP TIP
EP rewards are announced throughout the academic year! Check social media and the EP website for frequent updates.
SPONSORING ORGANISATIONS
2016-2017
WHAT CAN I DO TO EARN EMPLOYABILITY POINTS?

There are hundreds of ways for you to earn points!

At the University of Kent there is a diverse range of things to get involved with to improve your skill-set as well as to meet new people and have some fun outside of your studies.

Remember you can claim points for activities undertaken off campus, such as part-time work, volunteering and attending interviews.

1. Students Earn Points  
2. Students Apply for Rewards  
3. Students Get Rewarded
POINTS EXPLAINED

Through completing co-curricular activities, you can claim Employability Points. The EP Team awards points for hundreds of different activities and a full listing can be found on the website.

All points are manually allocated by the EP team, allowing each activity to be assessed on the relevance to your employability and the level of commitment demonstrated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Activity</th>
<th>Points Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Events</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribute to/present at conference</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organise University event</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend a networking event</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend careers fair</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Work Experience</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part time work (on-going for more than 1 month)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment centre</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview/presentation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mentoring and Achievements</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Mentoring</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University prize (Chancellor’s Prize, Entrepreneur of the Year)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Volunteering</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteering</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Languages and International Opportunities</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study, work or volunteer abroad (not as part of degree)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of a World language module</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of a Language Express course</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Training and workshops</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accredited course (First Aid, Health/Hygiene, ECDL)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent Union Employability Skills training</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills Workshops</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roles and Responsibilities at University</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Rep</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Ambassador</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee member of a society</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## REWARDS EXPLAINED

For more information on the types of opportunities available to you, please see below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunity</th>
<th>Overview</th>
<th>Employability Points required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>Temporary full-time work placement within a company. (4-12 weeks)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Placement</td>
<td>Work to be undertaken for a particular project, requiring certain level of expertise, which may have a flexible start/end date.</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Experience/Mini Internship</td>
<td>Unpaid placement for 2 weeks. Students are expected to undertake work but must be under supervision of a mentor or team leader at all times.</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>A one-day training programme allowing students to develop experience and skills in a certain sector.</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Shadowing</td>
<td>A placement, 2-10 days, allowing students to ‘buddy’ an existing employee(s) within a company.</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills Development Workshops</td>
<td>A half-day training workshop/talk, where a company will focus on particular skills.</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mock Assessment Centres</td>
<td>An opportunity to provide students with an insight into an assessment centre and the skills required to succeed.</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Experience</td>
<td>This can be a tour of a site or the opportunity for students to attend events/open days.</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employability Sessions</td>
<td>One-to-one sessions with industry professionals, providing CV feedback and interview tips, or insight into their sector or role.</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vouchers</td>
<td>Many students are unable to attend placements or workshops and as a result, the scheme offers vouchers to reward them for their efforts.</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HIGHEST POINTS REWARDS

Each year, the top performing students win highest points prizes, which include campus prizes, faculty prizes and much more.

All the winning students are presented at the annual Employability Points Rewards Evening, which is attended by sponsoring companies, internal stakeholders and participating students.

Here are a few of the 2016-17 winners:

Joey Chong
Highest Scoring Student from the Canterbury Campus

Having achieved an astonishing 2,855 points, Joey was the highest scoring EP student in 2016-17.

In recognition of her achievement, Joey was awarded with a £350 Amazon Voucher, courtesy of Kreston Reeves.

Miguel Santos
Highest Scoring Student from the Faculty of Humanities

Having obtained an outstanding 2,310 points whilst at the University of Kent, Miguel was the highest scoring student from the Faculty of Humanities.

As a result of this, Canterbury City Council awarded him a £200 Amazon Voucher.

Vladislav Kozub
Highest Scoring Student from the Medway Campus

Having obtained an exceptional 1,945 points whilst at the University of Kent, Vladislav was the highest scoring student from the Medway Campus.

Medway Council awarded Vladislav with a £350 Amazon Voucher.
COMPETITIONS

Throughout each academic year, the EP team runs a series of competitions to encourage students to get more involved with co-curricular activities. Here are some previous winners:

/EP TIP
Competitions are frequently announced via social media.
EMPLOYABILITY POINTS REWARDS EVENING

The Employability Points Rewards Evening took place on Tuesday 6th June 2017 at the University of Kent, Woolf College.

The evening, which welcomed nearly 300 guests, witnessed 20 top performing students being recognised for their achievements through the provision of iPads, Amazon vouchers and much more, all offered by sponsoring companies and organisations.

Guests included the Sheriff of Canterbury, Councillor Colin Spooner, and, for the University, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research & Innovation Professor Philippe De Wilde and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education Professor April McMahon, as well as staff and students.

Carole Barron, Director of Innovation and Enterprise said, ‘I am delighted that so many students have engaged with the scheme this year and it is a testament to The University’s commitment to providing the best possible student experience. The EP Scheme has gone from strength to strength and continues to be an important part of university life. I hope that all the students who took part are proud of what they have achieved.’

Event Sponsors:
STUDENT CASE STUDIES

Holly Yelland

Studied: Digital Arts  
Prize: Internship with Mobile Caddy and ‘The EP Student with the Highest Number of Hub Activities Logged’

During her time at the University of Kent, Holly acquired an impressive 1,170 points. Notably, Holly was the Founder and President of the Digital Media Society, following a successful application for funding from the University’s Student Project Grant Scheme. The society, under Holly’s leadership, undertook client projects and delivered workshops for students, leading to Holly being a runner-up for the prestigious prize, Chancellor’s Employability Points Award.  

Holly was rewarded with a 3-month internship with Mobile Caddy, focused on website and app design. Having impressed during her 3-month placement, we are delighted to confirm that Holly was offered full-time employment as a Digital and UX Designer.

Elouise Mitchell

Studied: Law  
Prize: Internship with Shepway District Council

Kent Law School student, Elouise Mitchell earned 1,025 points during her time at the University of Kent. Elouise earned points through engaging with a number of activities, including the Kent Law Campaign, hosting a radio show on CSR FM, the Academic Peer Mentoring Scheme and notably, her role as the Student Employability Points Ambassador.  

As a result of her co-curricular engagement, Elouise was rewarded with a 3-month internship in planning with Shepway District Council. Here, Elouise quickly impressed and within 4-weeks, she was offered the chance to participate in the Trainee Planner Graduate Scheme. As a part of this, Elouise is currently working as a Planning Officer, whilst undertaking a part-time MA in Planning at London Southbank University.

Lauren Hocking

Studied: Sociology and Social Policy  
Prize: Internship with Medway Council and ‘Highest Scoring Student who has Completed the CES Award’

As an undergraduate, Lauren acquired an impressive 1,110 points through engaging with a range of co-curricular activities. Lauren was given the chance to intern at Medway Council in the Regeneration, Culture, Environment and Transformation Department. During this placement, Lauren gained the chance to work on a number of projects, including the burial ground register and the 2018 Local Plan.  

Lauren has since returned to Kent to undertake a Masters degree, but having impressed Medway Council, she has started part-time employment as an External Investment Technical Officer.
DEADLINES

The following dates are our sponsor deadlines, to give you an idea of the timings of each activity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 25th September 2017</td>
<td>Term starts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 19th March 2018</td>
<td>Deadline to log points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week commencing 19th March 2018</td>
<td>Reward application forms issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 7th May – Friday 25th May 2018</td>
<td>Interviews for placements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2018</td>
<td>Reward Ceremony (details TBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 18th June – Friday 14th September 2018</td>
<td>Rewards undertaken</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Get involved
Get rewarded

Employability Points Scheme

www.kent.ac.uk/employabilitypoints