



# Media and Communications

## Newsletter 2

We hope you are well and you are looking forward to starting your studies with us in the Department of Media and Communications in September! This is the second offer newsletter in a series that we will continue to send in order to help prepare you for your studies. And you can find more news on our [Newsletter For New Students](#) webpage so do take a look there too.

There has been lots of reason to celebrate and be excited in the Department of Media and Communications of late. Firstly, the department as a whole has been rated #1 outside of the US and #3 globally in the 2016 **QS World University Rankings**. We are very pleased and proud to have achieved such a fantastic placing which sees us move up the rankings from last year and we look forward to sharing this experience with you when you arrive.

Secondly, one of our faculty and Programme Director of our MSc in Media and Communications (Data and Society), **Dr Alison Powell** has been selected by LSE's Learning Technology & Innovation team as one of three LSE Innovators case studies for Lent Term 2016. Check out her case study on **An Ethical Approach to Teaching**. Dr Powell's research interests are technologies and systems of technologies. She deals with digital activism and technological citizenship, asking how people might create political spaces with new media technologies. She comments: *"I am interested in how people think about technologies, and how they can build them in ways that transform the world... when we build technologies, especially of communication, we actually build them with a set of values that are in the world that we occupy at the time that we build them."* Dr Powell will be giving an **LSE networkEd seminar** organised by LSE's Learning Technology & Innovation team on 18 May 2016 which we are all rightly excited about.

And it is not just our faculty who have achieved great things but our students too! We have recently completed publication of our 2015 MSc Dissertation Series, available [here](#). Within this series are some of the highest marked dissertations produced by the Department's MSc students. When reading these dissertations, it is easy to see what excellent and fascinating work is produced – you should feel very proud to be joining these ranks of outstanding students. The Dissertation Series is also a wonderful resource for students to see what a high quality dissertation looks like.

Following on from this, you may or may not have had a chance to take a look at the department and degree programme [Reading Lists](#). If you have not, do not worry, there is no rush and no pressure to be reading already! But should you want to satisfy your media and communications literary appetite in advance, please feel free to take a look.

So you can see the type of world class work that is currently taking place in the Department of Media and Communications. Don't forget follow the Department on Twitter [@MediaLSE](#) to join the conversation if you would like and keep up with all the latest news. Or to meet other 2016/17 offer-holders you may like to join our Facebook group [here](#). And in the mean-time, all the best for the next few months ahead and we will be in touch soon!

**Wendy**

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**New book: *Civic Agency in Africa: Arts of Resistance in the Twenty-First Century***