

**PRESS RELEASE**

**14 September 2017, for immediate release**

**LONDON METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCED AS NATIONAL BUSINESS AWARDS FINALIST**

**-Visit [www.nationalbusinessawards.co.uk](http://www.nationalbusinessawards.co.uk) for all finalists-**

**- Winners revealed on 14 November 2017-**

Today, London Metropolitan University has been shortlisted for the Duke of York Award for University Entrepreneurship for the 2017 Lloyds Bank National Business Awards. London Metropolitan University is a vibrant, diverse university based in North London. The University has a strong focus on employability, with the Accelerator, London Met's business incubator, directly offering guidance and support to students and graduates with a business idea.

Toby Kress, Head of the Accelerator, said: "We are delighted to be announced as a finalist for the Duke of York Award for University Entrepreneurship. London Metropolitan University exists to meet the needs of its time and we believe the Accelerator is doing just that by offering students and graduates a chance to turn their business ideas into a reality."

Professor Dominic Palmer-Brown, Pro Vice Chancellor for Employment Outcomes at London Metropolitan University, said: "The Accelerator offers students and graduates fantastic opportunities to get started with their business ideas. From the Big Ideas Challenge to Launchpad and several other initiatives, they are successfully nurturing the entrepreneurial talents of our students. We are proud this has been recognised and we have been named a finalist in the Duke of York Award for University Entrepreneurship."

The finalists were chosen from the hundreds of businesses that entered or were nominated across 18 award categories. They will now prepare for live presentations to an expert judging panel who will decide the overall winners.

Continuing the celebration of Best of British Ambition, this year's prestigious award ceremony will take place on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017, at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane, where the winners will be revealed.

Conor McGinn MP recently hosted a reception for the Lloyds Bank National Business Awards at the House of Commons. This enabled finalists to meet fellow entrants, the National Business Awards Advisory Board members, judges (who they will present to in September) and sponsors of each category.

Tom Broughton, Group Brand Director of the Lloyds Bank National Business Awards said: "Given the economic uncertainty over the past year, it is inspiring more than ever to see British businesses prosper. Through a thorough and comprehensive judging process, this year's selected finalists demonstrate exceptional quality and diversity across a range of business sectors within the UK. We

are now looking forward to the next step of the process and meeting some of the finalists face-to-face.”

Visit [www.nationalbusinessawards.co.uk](http://www.nationalbusinessawards.co.uk) for a full list of all finalists or for details on how to attend the event.

**-ENDS-**

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**About the National Business Awards**

Open to organisations of all sizes from all sectors across the UK, the National Business Awards is the UK’s most prestigious independent business recognition platform with its particular emphasis on excellence, innovation and ethical business. Now in its 16<sup>th</sup> year, the National Business Awards connects the nations’ professionals through its annual awards ceremony; year-round thought leadership and round table events; and is UBM plc’s flagship awards programme. Visit [www.nationalbusinessawards.co.uk](http://www.nationalbusinessawards.co.uk) for further information or follow us on Twitter @businessawards.

**About UBM EMEA**

The National Business Awards is organised by UBM EMEA. UBM plc is a leading global events-led marketing services and communications company. We help businesses do business, bringing the world’s buyers and sellers together at events, online and in print. Our 3,500 staff in more than 20 countries are organised into specialist teams which serve commercial and professional communities, helping them to do business and their markets to work effectively and efficiently. Running over 350 events per year UBM is the second largest exhibitions organiser globally and the biggest commercial organiser in the US, mainland China, India and Malaysia.

**About London Metropolitan University**

London Metropolitan University has been providing education to people from all backgrounds since 1848, with the creation of the Metropolitan Evening Classes for Working Men. Six schools teach cutting-edge, relevant courses across the arts, sciences, business, law and humanities. Accelerator – London Met’s specialist business incubator – helps graduates get their enterprises up and running and was named among the Top Five ‘Most Active’ accelerators in Europe in 2015, highlighting its contribution to London’s booming start-up industry.

London Met is home to world-leading academics who regularly give expert comment to the media. The University scored well in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, being ranked 4th in the country for Area Studies and performing strongly in Education and Social Studies.

The University is strongly focused on employability. In 2016, London Met recorded its highest ever graduate employment score, with 93% of all 2014/15 graduates in work or further study six months

after graduation. It was also ranked above all five Russell Group universities in London for teaching quality in 2016.