

## UCLan dentistry student is ranked highest in the country

A University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) dentistry student is not only top of the class but top in the country after coming first in a nationwide test taken by newly qualified dentists. Matthew Davies was ranked first in a list of more than 1,200 dentistry students in England, Wales and Northern Ireland who took the Situational Judgement Test (SJT), a mandatory exam for all newly qualified dentists.

The SJT is designed to assess each student's decision-making ability, ethical judgement and professionalism through questions based on scenarios they may come across during their career.

Matthew's success means he will have first choice on where he can complete his year-long Dental Foundation Training (DFT), which is the NHS training scheme for graduates in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Matthew was treating patients at the Carlisle Dental Education Centre (DEC), where he has been based for the last three years as part of his degree training, when he received the good news.

The 27-year-old from Colchester said: 'I was absolutely over the moon when the results came out and I had to keep looking at the list to be sure it really was my name at the top.'

'Training at the Carlisle DEC for the last three years has fully prepared me for the next stage of my career' he said. 'I've been immersed in a general practice treating patients with a variety of different needs so it's been a varied, hands-on experience.'

Yvonne Halliwell, Senior Clinical Teacher at the Carlisle DEC, said: 'All of the staff at Carlisle DEC are proud of all of our students' achievements each year. Matthew has always demonstrated an excellent work

and study ethic and fully deserves the accolade he has received. We all wish him well as he enters this next phase of his dental journey.'



### IN TRIBUTE TO DAME MARGARET SEWARD, 1935-2021

The British Dental Association has paid tribute to its former president Dame Margaret Seward, following news of her recent death.

The first female resident dental house surgeon at the London Hospital, she went on to edit both the British (1979-92) and International Dental Journals (1990-2000) and became the second female president of the BDA in 1993.

She was an elected member of the General Dental Council from 1976 and the first woman president (1994-99).

In 1994 Margaret was honoured with a CBE for services to dentistry, followed in 1999 by appointment as the first dental dame (DBE). In the same year Dame Margaret retired from the GDC.

In 2000 Dame Margaret was head-hunted by the Department of Health to take forward the process of modernising NHS dentistry as Chief Dental Officer for England.

BDA Chair Eddie Crouch said: 'Words cannot express the depth and breadth of Margaret Seward's contribution to this profession.'

'The first female Chief Dental Officer, our second female president. From the BDJ to the GDC hers was a career like no other, as a dentist who inspired every colleague she met.'

'On her ascendancy to the presidency she told BDA members that a profession which has forgotten its past can have no future.'

'We can never forget Margaret, and the future for all dentists is brightened by every glass ceiling she smashed.'

