

# Trading Room Sponsorship

The lack of equality and diversity on the Trading Floor, and the historical stigma that follows, creates a negative Trading Room culture. Since the late 90s this is something that many businesses have tried to overcome, both to improve staff wellbeing and profit, however, an equal and diverse Trading Room culture remains a distant aspiration.

It's reported widely that Finance and Accounting based careers in general are heavily dominated by men, and the further you push up the corporate ladder, the more apparent this becomes. This is evident in trading and broking with the [Financial Times reporting in 2019](#) that in some offices fewer than 1% of staff were female; and only 13% of staff approved by the UK's Financial Conduct Authority (2019) for trading roles were female.

Another barrier for both men and women in the trading and broking industry is [socioeconomic backgrounds](#). People from both a low income and ethnic minority background have been shown both

Empowering all and Providing Opportunity

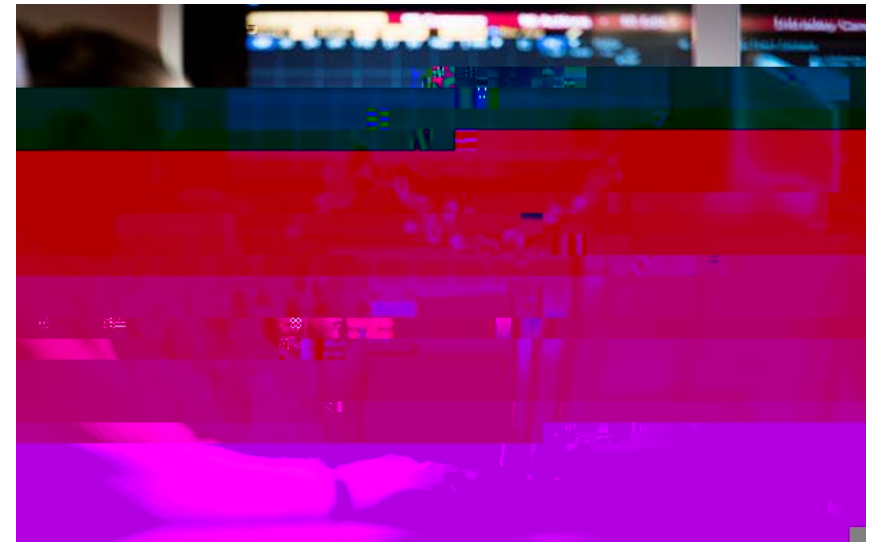
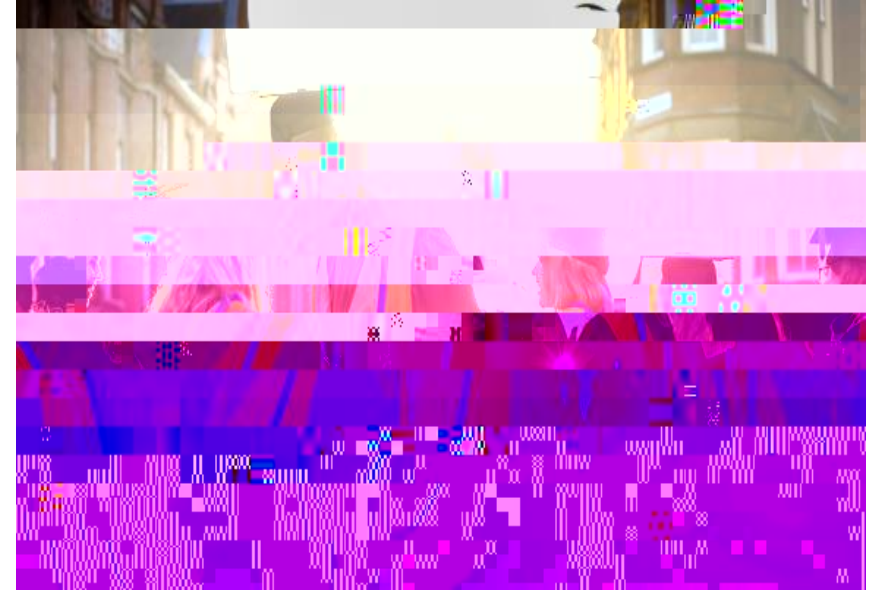
# How Do We Bridge the Gap Between Education and Employment?

We strongly believe that the answer to this question is from the enhancement of our own Trading Floor coupled with increasing sponsorship of our students and the space they work in from companies.

Our Trading Floor will be giving our students first hand experiences to the finance world with an insight into trading and broking. This exposure will allow us to alleviate some of the issues there might be around confidence entering that environment, and ensure women and disadvantaged students can feel it is for them, not an unobtainable or intimidating environment.

The Trading Room uses financial information software (Bloomberg & Refinitive) that is widely used in the industry today, simulating for students' decision-making opportunities in areas of macro-economic policy-making, portfolio management, central banking and risk analysis. Students will use terminals to get an idea of real-time stock and bond prices and news on businesses, industry trends and the wider global market. This provides insight and experience of roles such as trading, portfolio management, investment banking, corporate finance and financial or economic analysis. This experience will hopefully provide a vital edge for our students in a cut-throat jobs market, and mean they are familiar with the working environment from day one.

Having companies provide scholarships for students and sponsoring spaces is the final piece of the puzzle in ensuring our students feel the financial industry is also for them. It shows both a commitment from the company to students like ours, and also builds a familiarity for them to those companies in question, which we can develop further through guest speakers and placement opportunities. Historically this has led to a greater number of job and interview applications from our students, and we are happy to discuss how we can encourage this further and embed any partnership.









## Appendix 1: DMU Trading Room to become one of the largest in the country

Expanding the Trading Room is part of DMU's continued investment in facilities to enhance student experience and employability. In its new prime location on campus, it will hold a total of 48 students, and be adapted to be inclusive for all our students.

The Trading Room uses financial information software (Bloomberg & Refinitive) that is widely used in the industry today, simulating for students' decision-making opportunities in areas of macro-economic policy-making, portfolio management, central banking and risk analysis. During Covid-19 lockdowns we knew the importance of ensuring that our students still had access to these live stock's information, so we partnered with Refinitive in order to provide remote access. (We maintain this to ensure that students still get this access to allow them flexibility, which is especially important for any students with a disability or who might care for family members).

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