



When Leeds Met IIFA Met Bangkok

A delegation of 75 Leeds Met students, staff and alumni based in Leeds, Hong Kong and India travelled across the globe to rub shoulders with champions of Indian Cinema, and work with international event management agency Wizcraft, international events management company, on this year's glittering International Indian Film Academy Awards in Bangkok, Thailand.

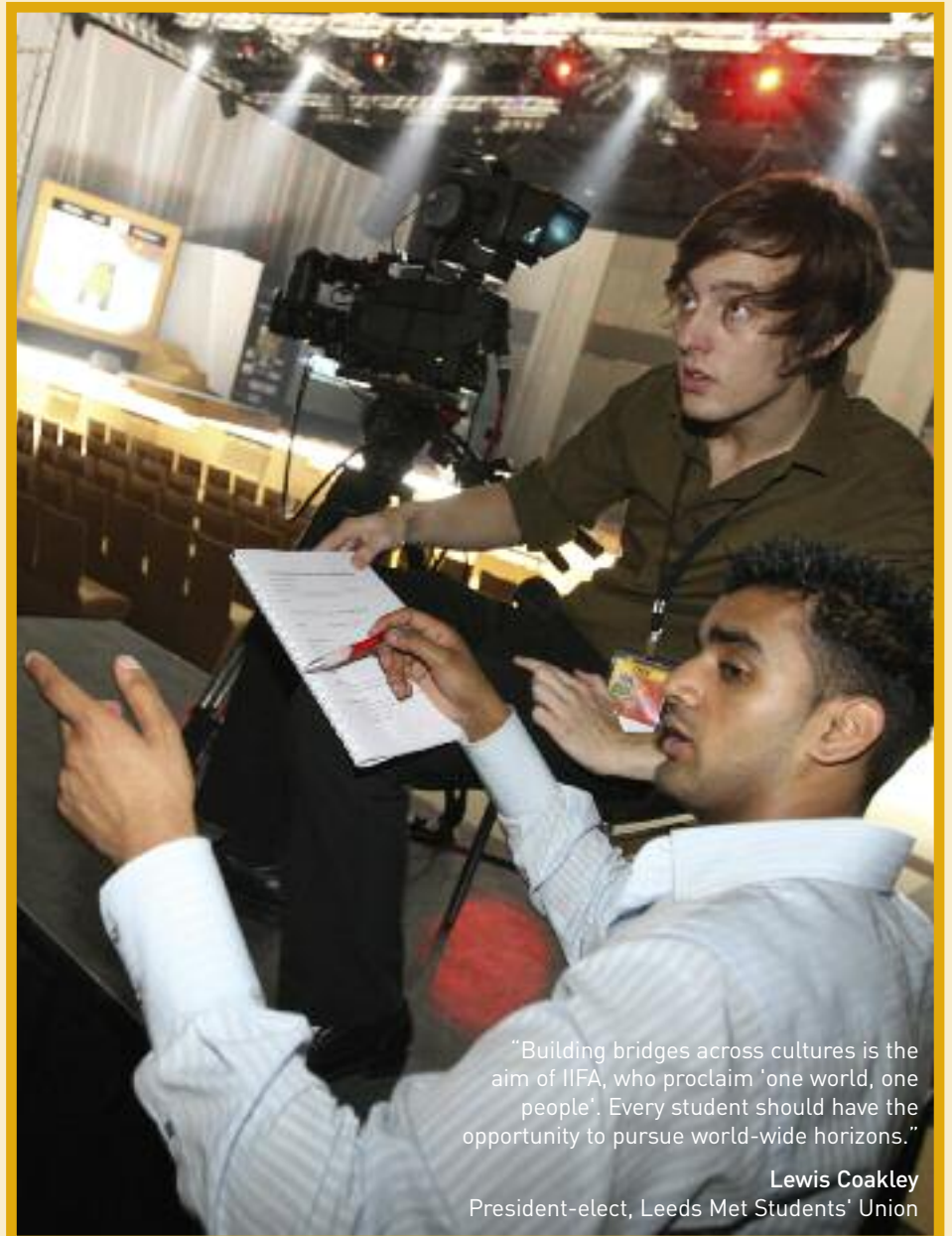
Volunteers offered back stage support as the stars of Indian Cinema took to the green carpet alongside Leeds Met representatives Mrs Patricia Lee, Joy Kumar and Annet Nottingham. During the

ceremony Wizcraft's brand ambassador and Leeds Met Honorary Doctor Amitabh Bachchan thanked the organisers and volunteers for their 'unwavering passion to help make this year's event a huge success'.

'Chak De! India' swept the board at the Indian Oscars. The film, which follows a coach who inspires the Indian women's hockey team to victory, reflects Leeds Met's own Vision & Character, designed to coach students to become the future champions of their chosen professions, through opportunities such as the IIFA partnership.

Among other events held over the weekend were a global business forum, a tree-planting ceremony, a world premier and a fashion show featuring Indian cinema's leading stars, all of which gave volunteers unique experiences. Once all the hard work was over, the volunteers' IIFA experience concluded with an international reception to celebrate their dedication and enthusiasm throughout the experience.

Staff from Wizcraft delivered excellent feedback for this year's Leeds Met contingent, offering further voluntary opportunities for 2009 and beyond.



"Building bridges across cultures is the aim of IIFA, who proclaim 'one world, one people'. Every student should have the opportunity to pursue world-wide horizons."

Lewis Coakley
President-elect, Leeds Met Students' Union





"My trip to the 'land of smiles' has certainly made me smile, and gave me something I will never forget."

Amanda Fox
Public Relations Student





"In 2007 Leeds Met ran a recruitment programme for volunteers to work with the IIFA team. The students and staff became part of that team, working successfully as part of an exciting journey. This year the University has run a second programme, recruiting volunteers from more than 20 countries to celebrate building bridges."

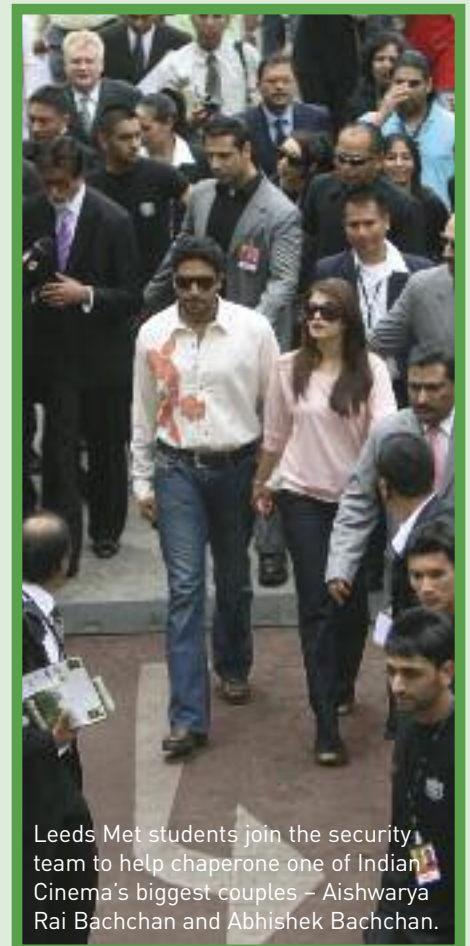
Sabbas Joseph
Wizcraft Director





“Taking part in IIFA 2008 has been a phenomenal and overwhelming experience which I have truly appreciated and will never forget.”

Keran Takhar
Youth and Community Work Student



Leeds Met students join the security team to help chaperone one of Indian Cinema's biggest couples - Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Abhishek Bachchan.