



Press Release from Bournemouth University
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BU Award for outstanding High Wycombe graduate

Graduate Nick Jones, from High Wycombe, has been presented with the Placement Student of the Year prize at the Bournemouth University 2009 Awards Ceremonies.

Nick, 23, was presented with the £500 award from BU Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Curran on the same day as graduating from the University's BA Retail Management course.

He was awarded the prize for his outstanding contribution while undertaking work placement as Assistant Business Analyst with Safestore Ltd – the fastest-growing storage unit company in the UK.

During his placement Nick played a pivotal role in introducing a new graduate training scheme, as well as helping Safestore to win the RBS/ NatWest Business of the Year award.

Nick Riding, Chief Operating Officer at Safestore Ltd, said: "We were delighted with Nick's contribution to Safestore over the time he was with us. He approached his work with a desire to contribute as well as learn and earned a great deal of respect from his colleagues in the process."

Commenting on his achievement Nick said: "I feel very happy and proud to win this award as it acknowledges the hard work I put in, as well as the huge benefit a placement offers to an individual and the company they are working for."

Head of BU's Graduate Employment Service Jacqui Gush, who helped to select Nick as the prize winner, said: "It was a difficult choice as we had some outstanding students who made real contributions to their employing organisations.

"What helped Nick to clinch it was the evidence that his hard work had directly helped his company to win the prestigious Business of the Year award. We congratulate Nick on this achievement."

Notes to Editors:

1. Attached Image – Nick Jones (left) with BU Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Curran.
2. BU is a finalist for 'University of the Year' and 'Research Project of the Year' in *the Times Higher Education (THE) Awards, 2009*.
3. BU is the UK's Number One New University (first place among all institutions that became universities since 1992) according to The Guardian University Guide 2009 & 2010. (www.guardian.co.uk/education)
4. In the 2008 [Research Assessment Exercise](#) (RAE) BU is the fourth most improved university in the UK for the quality of its research (according to *Times Higher Education*).

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