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### **Two new Associates join the Cause4 Entrepreneurship programme**

Today, development and fundraising enterprise Cause4 announces two new Associates to join its Entrepreneurship programme.

Cause4 is delighted to announce that Michael Button, a University College London graduate, and Ali Khimji, a University of Leicester graduate, will be joining the Cause4 team on the Entrepreneurship programme. Michael and Ali both joined Cause4 as Development Interns and progressed onto the 12-month Entrepreneurship programme.

Michael will graduate from UCL in September 2013 with a first class BA in European Social and Political Studies, having specialised in French and History. He has previously worked at two charities and has experience volunteering in the education sector both in the UK and abroad. He is particularly passionate about sport, education and social enterprise, and will be focusing on advancing some of Cause4's entrepreneurial plans for innovating Third Sector fundraising. Michael's internship at Cause4 was funded by UCL Advances.

Ali previously worked as Assistant Editor of emel, a Muslim lifestyle publication, where he was tasked with researching ideas for content, interviewing high-profile personalities, and writing features and articles. He holds a degree in Financial Economics from the University of Leicester and currently volunteers for the Al-Mizan Charitable Trust, a grant-funder that works to fight poverty in the UK, where he oversees fundraising and marketing initiatives.

The Cause4 Entrepreneurship programme seeks to attract graduates with a passion for the charity and social enterprise sectors and an entrepreneurial drive. The programme provides graduates with a 12-month intensive programme of on the job training and professional development with a view to Associates developing the skills and experience needed to make a dynamic contribution to charities and social enterprises as development and fundraising personnel – and to become the leaders of tomorrow. We're looking for the next generation of Development Directors, Chief Executives and leaders of Social Enterprises.

Michelle Wright, CEO of Cause4, says *"It's exciting for us to welcome Michael and Ali to the team. We developed the Entrepreneurship Programme not only to find brilliant talent to support our growing business, but also to find charity-sector leaders of the future - self-starting and entrepreneurial fundraisers that can support charities and social enterprises at a time when funding is harder to generate. Michael and Ali will be developing programmes in entrepreneurship and philanthropy respectively, as well as working across a varied client portfolio."*

**For further information contact Cause4 Chief Executive, Michelle Wright on 07974 655294**

## **About Cause4 – [www.cause4.co.uk](http://www.cause4.co.uk)**

*Cause4* was set up in May 2009 to support charities, social enterprises and philanthropists in development and fundraising across the community, arts, sports and educational sectors. *Cause4* seeks to be a modernising influence and leader within the charitable sector, offering relevant, contemporary solutions for charities and social enterprises at a time when more creative, entrepreneurial approaches are much needed.

The organisation works in three main areas: strategy and fundraising, philanthropy and enterprise development.

In 2010 *Cause4* developed the Entrepreneurship training programme through which it seeks to address the widely-acknowledged shortage of entrepreneurial development and fundraising personnel within the charity, arts, sports and education sectors. The programme identifies young graduates with a passion for the charitable sector and with the entrepreneurial drive, personality and talent to succeed.

*Cause4* has won a string of awards including Michelle Wright, as female entrepreneur of the year at the Natwest Start Up Awards 2011, a top 10 winner in the Ernst and Young Future 100 awards 2011 for demonstrating innovation in social enterprise. *Cause4* was also a winner in the 2012 Startups 100 list for most innovative small businesses across the UK.

*Cause4* is a recipient of an investment bursary from the Goldman Sach's 10,000 small businesses programme and was a finalist in the Orange National Business Awards for Start Up Business of the Year 2012. In November 2012 *Cause4* won two prestigious silver international Stevie Awards for innovation. Further awards in 2013 include a Fast-growth entrepreneurship award from Unltd and a finalist placement in the Nectar Small Business Awards for Entrepreneur of the Year.

In early 2013 Michelle Wright and *Cause4* were invited by Lord Young of Graffham to join the Accelerate 250 group for UK small businesses showing rapid growth and potential.