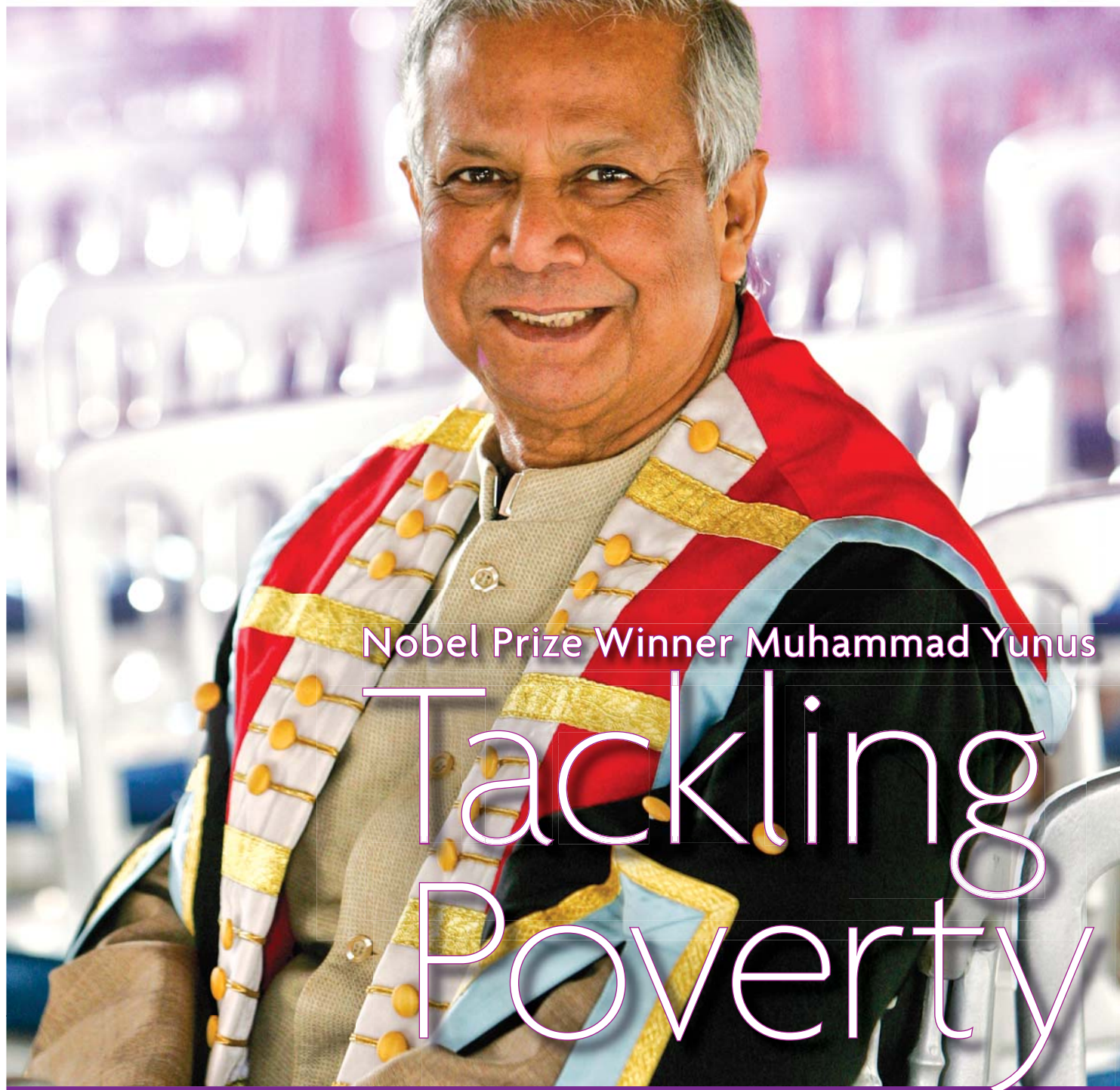


Caledonian^{PLUS}

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY ISSUE 5 : SUMMER 09



Nobel Prize Winner Muhammad Yunus

Tackling Poverty

MASTER CLASS WITH JACKIE STEWART : ALUMNI IN THE ANTIPODES : UNIVERSITY FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

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Caledonian+



we are delighted to hear from our readers.

Caledonian+

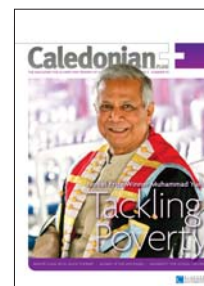
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Cover:

WildHearts Photography

summer 2009

WELCOME TO THE SUMMER 2009 EDITION

of **Caledonian+** – the fifth issue of your magazine since its re-launch in Summer 2007. We are constantly looking for ways to improve the publication and would love to hear your views and suggestions. I would urge you to turn to page 17 and follow the simple steps to provide your feedback and to enter our prize draw.

The success of the Legends vs Students Sports matches, covered on page 14, shows that alumni take pride in representing GCU well after graduation. Special interest groups organise many alumni events, both in the UK and abroad, so please check www.caledonian.ac.uk/alumni regularly for the latest details.

Finally, if you have an interesting story to tell or an achievement or success you would like to share in **Caledonian+**, I would be delighted to hear from you. Once again, don't forget to complete the magazine e-survey detailed on page 17!

Mansoor Ali

Alumni Relations Executive
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0141 331 8769



Applying our research for the benefit of society

WELCOME TO CALEDONIAN+. This edition highlights some of the university's new initiatives, such as the Grameen Caledonian Creative Lab, which build on our expertise in applying our research for the social and economic benefit of the communities we serve in Scotland and around the world.

DEMONSTRATING WORLD-LEADING EXCELLENCE and in the top 10 UK universities, our research in health and wellbeing achieved outstanding success in the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) with 90% of research classed as being of international quality. Work in the area of rehabilitation sciences was placed top in the UK. Our research focuses on long-term conditions, such as rheumatoid arthritis and stroke, as well as psychosocial and environmental aspects of health and wellbeing.

Research in construction and the built environment sets a Scottish standard, with 85% of work rated as being of international quality, placing the university best in Scotland and in the top 20 in the UK. We are recognised for the practical application of research in construction procurement and management, building performance, waste management and sustainable urban environments.

Our research was also rated as of international quality in Public Policy & Social Justice, Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Vision Sciences, Cultural Business, Engineering and Computing and Education & Lifelong Learning.

BUILDING ON THIS SUCCESS, GCU is moving to further enhance its reputation for applied research in key areas – participating in international research collaborations; winning major research grants and awards; and transferring knowledge to business, social enterprises and public sector partners.

New Faces

PROFESSOR SUE SCOTT

PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR,
LEARNING INNOVATION

"GCU is already an exciting place to study, with a strong commitment to supporting students to develop the skills they need to succeed. I hope to develop the programmes we offer and to utilise innovative teaching and learning methodologies. I hope we can equip students for work as well as encourage them to be independent life-long learners."



PROFESSOR FRANCINE CHEATER

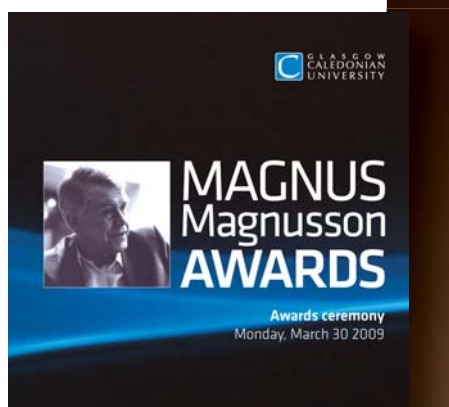
DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE
OF HEALTH & WELLBEING

"The Institute of Health and Wellbeing aims to consolidate and develop our existing research strengths across the university's 'health sciences community'. I want to create a research environment that offers individuals and groups greater opportunities for collaboration across traditional disciplinary and professional boundaries internally across Schools as well as nationally and internationally."



PROFESSOR PAMELA GILLIES
PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR





This Year's Winners

Six talented students and staff members received a prestigious Magnus Magnusson Award at a ceremony hosted by the Principal and Vice-Chancellor Professor Pamela Gillies and Sally Magnusson in late March. Winners received grants of up to £5000 to help fund a variety of unique projects. Established in memory of Magnus Magnusson, the university's late chancellor, the awards aim to help beneficiaries fulfil their potential. Sally Magnusson said: "These awards represent all the best things around my father: his enthusiasm for young people and for a dream. He wanted to see people be the best they can be and to help them carry through in life".

What a difference a year makes

Yvonne Fairholm received her Magnus Magnusson Award in 2008, and a year later we are delighted to hear her progress. "My award allowed me to travel to Spassk, a six-hour bus ride from Moscow, to continue my work with the charity Love Russia, supporting orphans and helping them assimilate successfully into adult life. This has been one of the greatest experiences of my life. It's amazing how much you learn about yourself when you are rocketed into a different life full of poverty and injustice."



Thank You!

This year's Magnusson Award winners join the inaugural group of 10 winners who received their awards in 2008. Their projects and stories are inspirational and a great example to us all. None of this would have been possible without the support of many individuals and companies who have given so generously to the Magnusson Fund. Thank you. You can make a donation to the Fund through a tax efficient gift to the university by visiting www.caledonian.ac.uk/alumni/magnusmagnussonfund or email jo.dowling@gcal.ac.uk



UNA MACGLONE
MSc Psychology

Una will deliver nursery music workshops in the Sighthill area of Glasgow and will travel to Chicago to take part in a training programme of music workshops for inner-city youth.

DAWN HUNTER
Bachelor of Law Glasgow Caledonian University / Magnusson Award

Dawn will take part in a three-month placement in Uganda, organised by the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative.

SILVIA GARCIA
Researcher, Caledonian Environment Centre / PhD Student Gordon Masterton / Magnusson Award

Silvia will join a team of 15 UK waste managers on a voluntary working visit to Freetown, Sierra Leone.

SARAH RAZZAQ
BA (Hons) Int. Product Design, Kaupthing Singer and Friedlander / Magnusson Award

Sarah hopes to establish her own online design business selling customised scarf and necklace accessories.

MARTA KANABUS
BSc (Hons) Biomedical Science Icelandair / Magnusson Award

Marta will join a volunteer programme in Kenya educating local women and children about Aids.

JULIE DE SIMONE
Research Fellow / PhD Student, Psychology Glitnir / Magnusson Award

Julie will continue her work with a music and mental health project, studying the therapeutic benefits of creativity.

Launch of Annual Fund

THE UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHED its Annual Fund in 2008 enabling staff to make gifts to support the student experience at GCU. The Development Steering Group, which is made up of donors, our Principal and Student Association President ensure funds are targeted where they will have the biggest impact; providing scholarships to students in financial need and grants to clubs and societies where alternative funding is not available.

Leadership Gifts

This year the university will launch the Annual Fund to encourage graduates, parents and friends to make a gift to the university that will have a positive impact on the lives of students. You can make a Leadership Gift today, visit www.caledonian.ac.uk/alumni/supportgcu Gifts of any size are welcome; together they make a big difference. A scholarship for an undergraduate student is £1,000 per year – that's £65 per month plus Gift Aid. Registered Scottish charity number SC021474

Why I Give

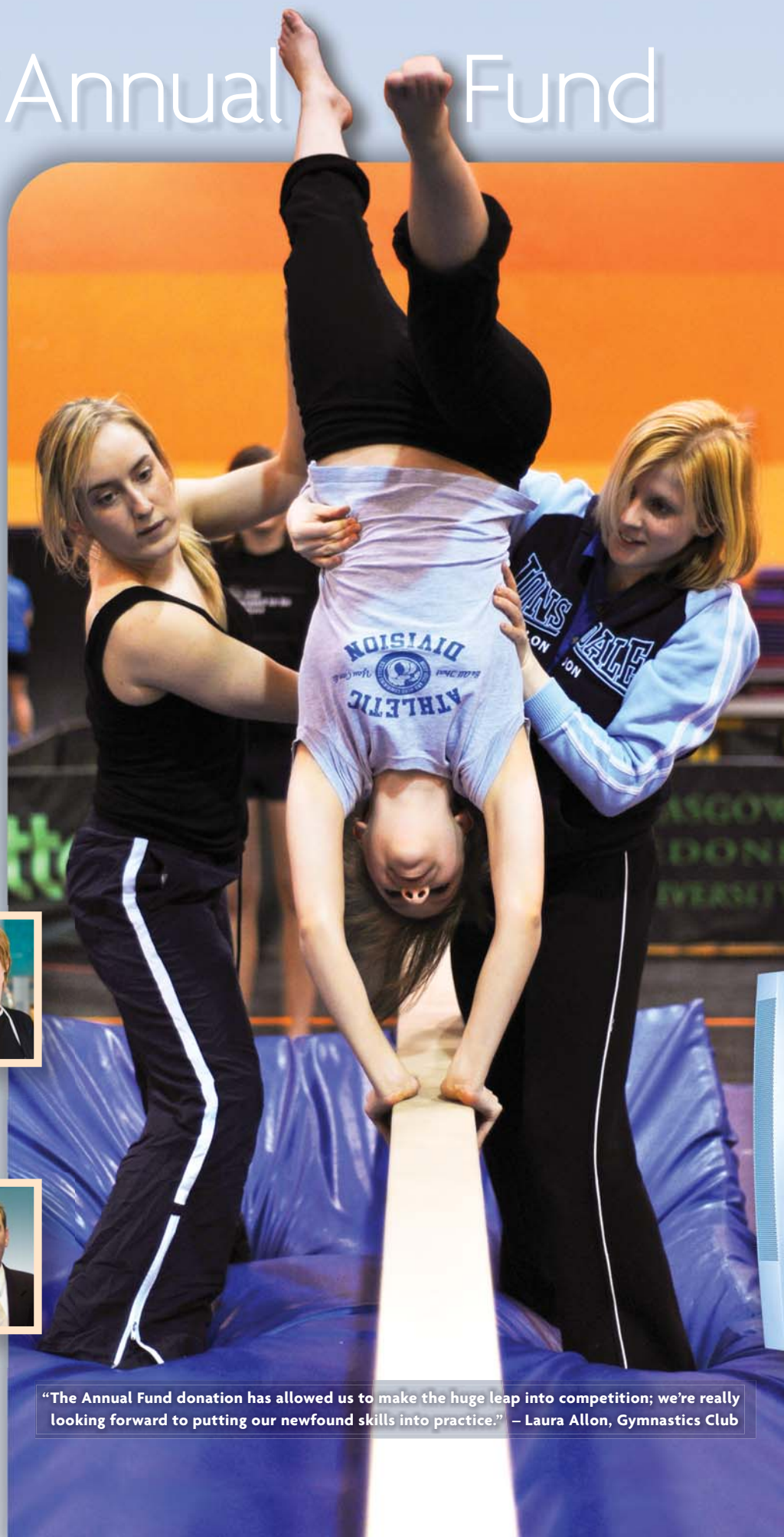
JO DOWLING Head of Development and Alumni Programmes, GCU

"I hear great stories from graduates about their time at the university, and I'd like to help current students. I'm not able to fund a full scholarship, but my small, regular contributions are combined with others so many scholarships can be funded."



GERRY HEPBURN Alumnus and President of Clinical Operations at Aptuit (Edinburgh) Ltd

"My experience at university set me up with a strong foundation on which to build my career. It's fantastic to see how the university has evolved, and I'm delighted to give something back to today's students. This is a great programme that benefits those who need it most."



"The Annual Fund donation has allowed us to make the huge leap into competition; we're really looking forward to putting our newfound skills into practice." – Laura Allon, Gymnastics Club

Industry support for MA

THE UNIVERSITY IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE that several prestigious scholarships have been granted for the new MA in TV Fiction Writing thanks to generous industry donations. Eileen Gallagher (Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Shed Productions), Shed Media Plc, Scottish Screen, MG Alba, Talkback Thames and the BBC Writers' Room have generously pledged £160k over the next three years, giving crucial financial aid to students wishing to study for the MA.

In addition to scholarships, many organisations are keen to offer their in-kind support, enabling students to establish industry connections even before they graduate. The scholarships were announced at two briefings for the television production industry in early February, one held at the Scottish Television (STV) headquarters in Glasgow and the other hosted by the university's Chancellor, Lord Macdonald at the House of Lords in London.

The MA in TV Fiction Writing was developed jointly by the Division of Cultural Business and Shed Media, producers of popular shows such as *Footballers' Wives*, *Bad Girls* and *Rock Stars*. The course will begin in September this year.

For further information visit www.tvfictionwriting.com



The TV show 'Hustle' is produced by the Shed-owned company Kudos

Specsavers donation helps open Eye Clinic



GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY'S VISION for a community eye clinic in Glasgow's Sighthill area is set to become a reality following a generous donation from Specsavers stores across Scotland. The stores have donated an ICARE Tonometer, a vital piece of equipment that can assess signs of glaucoma and similar conditions affecting the eye.

Dr Norman Button, Eye Clinic Director from GCU's Vision Science Department, said: "We are very grateful to Specsavers in Scotland. The ICARE Tonometer was an important piece in the jigsaw to get the Eye Clinic up and running in Sighthill, where it is much needed. The project is also important as a practical clinic for students and staff to work together as part of their professional development."

The university will support the growth, development and sustainability of Sighthill Community One Stop Shop, which aims to supply services to the community, which suffers from deprivation, unemployment and low incomes.

Dave Quigley, BSc (Hons) Optometry '84, and Glasgow Specsavers store director, adds: "We have a strong relationship with the Vision Sciences department at GCU and many graduates and students work in our stores. We were pleased to provide our support for this excellent initiative. We are sure the Sighthill Eye Clinic will make a big difference to the lives of the people within the community."



Caledonian Club activity examples

Nursery

Pupils, their families and teachers visit GCU's campus for a half day with children participating in age appropriate activities.

Primary

P5 children spend a day on campus followed by a half day working with student mentors in school over five or six weeks creating interactive media and websites.

Secondary

S5/S6 pupils work with student mentors on a two-day challenge to create a product or a marketing campaign on a Commonwealth Games theme using the University's resources.

Educating for social change

GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY WELCOMES a different type of student this year. Children as young as three have been taking classes with the groundbreaking Caledonian Club, which aims to widen access to higher education to local communities which are traditionally under represented in universities. This innovative venture, currently in its pilot year, was launched in August 2008 and has secured £45,000 funding from the Robertson Trust for the next three years.

The Club uses role models from GCU's student and alumni population to build key life skills and raise aspirations among members and their families. The Club also offers teenagers a taste of university life. S2 pupils from Drumchapel High, S3 pupils from Springburn Academy and S5 and S6 from All Saints Secondary School have all enjoyed taking part in activities on campus, such as shadowing a student for a day, attending first-year lectures and labs and meeting lecturers.

When pupils become members of the Caledonian Club, they receive a matriculation card that, for senior pupils, gives them access to the university's library and IT facilities. It has made members more confident about going to university or college and has motivated them to work harder at school.

BBC Radio Presenter Ravi Sagoo, BA (Hons) Communication & Mass Media '04 (pictured at right), said: "I come from a non-traditional background, but was able to come to university and cultivate a career in the media. I didn't have this opportunity at school and it is great to break down barriers and challenge a few myths. I've loved coming back to my old department and telling the boys, if I can do it, they can too."

For further information call 0141 273 1419/14 or email caledonianclub@gcal.ac.uk



Course leader Dr John Connell said: "Social entrepreneurs



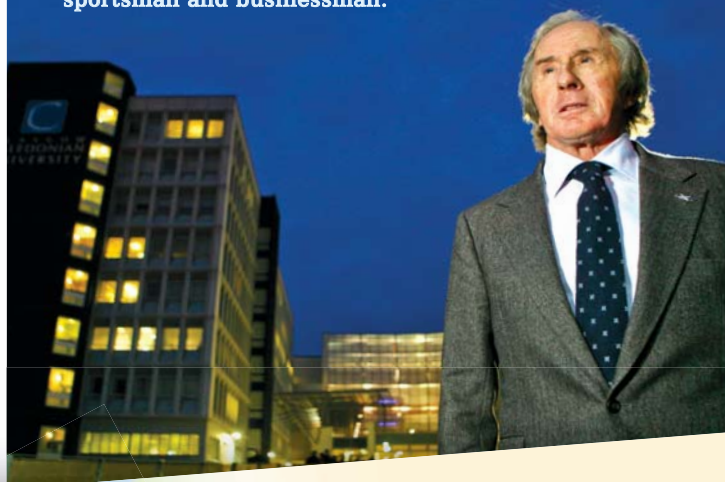
Dr John Connell (left) at the Social Enterprise course launch.

Working in partnership with the Scottish Social Enterprise Academy, the year-long part-time course has been created around three intensive study weekends, which provide the basis for independent study and a work based project.

For more information visit
www.caledonian.ac.uk/socialenterprise

A Winning Formula

FORMULA ONE LEGEND and three time World Champion, Sir Jackie Stewart, shared tips for success in the first Caledonian Business School (CBS) Masterclass of the year. An honorary graduate of Glasgow Caledonian University, 'The Flying Scot' gave a humorous and inspirational Masterclass entitled "Make it Happen", focusing on his experiences as an international sportsman and businessman.



Win £50 shopping vouchers and do your friends a favour

We are proud of our alumni and want to share significant benefits and valuable opportunities with more graduates from GCU and our founding colleges.

If your college friends have lost touch with us, send us their contact details on-line at www.caledonian.ac.uk/alumni or by email to alumni@gcal.ac.uk or by post to the address on page 3 of this magazine. The reader providing the most contact details for lost alumni by 31 Oct. 09 will win £50 of vouchers.





MALAYSIA

GCU alumni event attracts potential students

ALUMNI AND POTENTIAL STUDENTS MET IN THE Sheraton Imperial Hotel in downtown Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, for the first GCU international alumni event in the region. Alumni and students gathered for an evening of networking and rekindling connections and to officially launch the GCU Alumni Chapter in Malaysia.

International Alumni Ambassador for Malaysia, Dr Rasid Hussin, PhD Risk Management '95, said: "There has been a strong link between Malaysia and GCU since the late 1970s. The Malaysian Chapter will further cement this bond and we are all very excited about working together." Potential Malaysian Quantity Surveying (QS) students were also invited to the event to hear more about the university and the QS programme. Dr Irene Bonnar, Head of Learning, Teaching and Quality at the

School of the Built & Natural Environment added: "It was a pleasure to see so many QS alumni at the event, and to hear how their careers have progressed since graduation. Hopefully this will be the starting point for an effective alumni network across Malaysia, particularly for new graduates entering the QS field."



THE ALUMNI EVENT ALSO ATTRACTED a large number of Risk Management and Financial Services graduates now working in Kuala Lumpur, which is fast becoming one of the major financial hubs in Asia. Zul Razak, Risk Management '94, said:

"Kuala Lumpur is a wonderful city with many opportunities to advance if you are interested in the field of finance and insurance."

During the late '80s and early '90s, a high number of students came from Malaysia to study at GCU. The Alumni Chapter in Malaysia aims to link alumni in Malaysia and the university by developing relationships and creating opportunities for both students and graduates of GCU.

For further information on the GCU Alumni Chapter in Malaysia, please contact the GCU Malaysian Alumni Ambassador Zul Razak at zulrazak@yahoo.com



Worldwide



CHINA



GCU ALUMNI IN BEIJING AND SHANGHAI were treated to a grand ball hosted by The British Council in early March for UK alumni who are now based in China. GCU was one of seven universities who hosted a table at the Ball, which attracted 300 UK alumni now living in China. The event offered graduates a unique opportunity to meet fellow alumni from GCU, whilst enjoying a sumptuous banquet dinner, music and traditional entertainment. Rui Guan, MSc Finance '04, said: "It was great to see so many graduates who are now in Beijing. We all had a great time sharing our experiences and we hope to have similar events in the future."

The university is significantly increasing its presence in China as part of its ambitious internationalisation strategy. An agreement with the University of Jinan in Eastern China will see the delivery of new joint courses in China and exchange of staff and students. This summer a number of Glasgow students will travel to Jinan for a special summer school. With four International Alumni Ambassadors and more graduates throughout China, Development & Alumni Relations aim to formalise and launch the GCU Alumni Chapter in China later this year.

For information on joining this chapter, please contact GCU China Alumni Ambassador Rui Guan on rayerguan@hotmail.com



BAHRAIN



REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SCHOOL of the Built & Natural Environment visited Bahrain in early February to visit the Bahrain Training Institute in Manama. Peter Kennedy, Dean of the School, and Irene Bonnar, Head of Learning, Teaching and Quality of the School, also took the opportunity to meet with GCU alumni currently based in Bahrain. This meeting resulted in the alumni agreeing to develop a network in Bahrain to provide an opportunity for social and professional links.



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



THE NEXT INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI EVENT will take place in Abu Dhabi in late October to coincide with the inaugural Abu Dhabi F1 Grand Prix. Taking place near Yas Marina, invited guests will include Sir Jackie Stewart alongside GCU Alumni & Friends in the region. This exciting event will feature in the next edition of Caledonian+.

MA International Business Journalism

From October a new, one-year MA International Business Journalism will be offered exclusively to international students from countries with key global financial centres and successful English-language media. Programme leader Nick Bevens, a former business editor of *THE SCOTSMAN*, believes demand for business journalists has grown in the wake of the global economic crisis. For more information, visit www.gcal.ac.uk/cbs

Down Un



Gillian Emond

Course: Physiotherapy

Graduated: 1988

Current Position: Managing Director,
Plexus Medical Recruitment

Gillian first savoured life down under in 1991, and loved it: the beach, the healthy living, the weather. She returned in 1998 to work for a year, and then applied for residency, settling for good in 2001. She finds the work environment relaxed and supportive, and relishes the 'can do' attitude that pervades all aspects of life. Of course, it is the people she misses most, especially her family although she claims to have found a substitute one of ex-pats. Other than that, it's Marks and Spencer and Indian takeaways she hankers for! Her advice to anyone wondering about trying it, is "Go for it. It's a great experience and nothing needs to be forever – there are flights both ways."

Donal Graham

Course: BA (Hons) Business Studies

Graduated: 1984

Current Position: Managing Partner,
Deloitte Consulting

Donal moved to Sydney in 1988 on a two-year transfer with Price Waterhouse. He had no intention of settling, but the energy Australians invest in their work and play and their openness to innovation and change persuaded him to stay. In 2004 he joined Deloitte Consulting and is now the managing partner for the financial management consulting business in Asia Pacific. He finds the diversity of people around him and his interaction with the world's fastest growing economies fascinating. While he does miss Scotland and has fond memories of Glasgow Poly – inspiring lecturers and getting smashed playing rugby on Wednesday afternoons – he doesn't regret moving abroad and urges anyone to give it a go. He points to China with its huge potential and calls Shanghai one of the most exciting cities he's ever experienced.

A number of GCU alumni are now based in Australia. We ask what took them and keeps them there, and for any advice or insights for those keen to follow their lead.

keeping up with the low-down

dar



Alan Chaplin

Course: HNC Mechanical Engineering.
Graduated: 1982
Current Position: Managing Director,
Veolia Environments Connex Rail

On leaving Glasgow Technical College, Alan joined British Rail in Glasgow and helped guide it through the privatisation process to become ScotRail. By 1999, he had progressed to Production Director, and from there, transferred to the parent company's Melbourne operation. Still on track, he now works for the Melbourne rail operator Connex, where he finds one of the key differences with Scotland being the challenge of working in a multicultural environment. While he enjoys the combination of good weather and outdoor life, Alan is clear that it was the job that took him down under rather than the promise of bbqs and sunshine. Similarly, it will be the job that keeps him there. That said, he welcomed the chance to work abroad and recommends it as an enriching experience, but he does miss Glaswegian humour.



Ian McLeod

Course: BA Business Studies
Graduated: 1979
Current Position: Managing Director,
Coles Supermarkets, Liquor & Convenience

Ian only moved down under in 2008, when he's joined Coles, part of the commercial giant Wesfarmers. He has a strong background in retail, having worked for Halfords, Wal-Mart and Asda, but his current task, if successful, will represent a major retail turnaround globally. This is his first move away from Europe, and he remarks on the distances involved and the sheer scale of the country with its different time zones and state legislative bodies as particularly challenging, although the common language helps! Broad horizons give you a broader perspective, though, which he advises can only add to the CV. Beyond work, Ian's passion for football serves him well in sport-obsessed Australia, and he has added Melbourne Victory, Australia's most successful soccer team, to his list of Celtic and Fulham directorships.



Gordon Young

Course: BA Risk Management
Date: 1989
Current position: Partner,
Risk Advisory Services

If you're going to do it, do it when you're young is Gordon's counsel. He moved first to Atlanta, USA and then to Australia, working on each country's Olympic committees. Both moves entailed reams of paperwork, but he believes that the challenges of moving abroad seem less onerous and there are more avenues open when you're young. He arrived in Sydney to develop a risk management strategy for the Games and Paralympic Games with few preconceived notions of where he'd moved to but the city's charm and the people's hospitality soon beguiled him. If only there was decent TV and good football! Of his time in Glasgow, he remembers fondly the good times both in and out of the lecture hall, and still keeps up with some old classmates and lecturers.

Inaugural Students vs Legends Spo

FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS of the alumni 5-side tournament during the Caledonian Crystal Celebrations in 2008, the university hosted an inaugural Students vs Legends Sports Tournament in March. Graduates dusted off their shin guards and laced up their boots to compete against current students in mixed hockey, football and rugby, with the "Caley Legends" attempting to prove they still have what it takes. Robbie Totten, BA Sports Management '05, playing for the Caley Legends football team said: "A fantastic idea that should have been done years ago. I am definitely looking forward to the tournament next year."

Graduates and students later attended the 13th Annual Sports Awards Ball at the Radisson Hotel, Glasgow, to join sports club members in a night of awards and celebration. Hannah Dunwoody, Vice President Sports & Societies said: "The Ball is a night to celebrate sporting successes at GCU. It is also a chance for me to thank student volunteers who dedicate so much of their own time to run the university's sports clubs."

GCU will be officially launching the "Caley Legends" sports alumni group this year. For more information and to join this illustrious group, contact Mansoor Ali at Mansoor.Ali@gcal.ac.uk

HOCKEY RESULT
LEGENDS 5-V-2 STUDENTS



RUGBY RESULT
LEGENDS 22-V-22 STUDENTS



FOOTBALL RESULT: LEGENDS 2-V-5 STUDENTS



60 years on

ELEVEN DOUGH SCHOOL GRADUATES reunited for a celebratory lunch at the university, marking their diamond reunion year since graduation. The graduates, from the class of 1949, enjoyed a three-course meal hosted in the university's Boardroom where they exchanged memories and pictures about their time at The College of Domestic Science. The event brought together former students from many different locations across the UK to celebrate this significant milestone. If you would like to organise a special anniversary reunion, contact Mansoor Ali at Mansoor.ali@gcal.ac.uk



Mentoring Success

THE ALUMNI MENTORING PROGRAMME has been a great success with alumni from diverse industries, including finance, petrology, construction and health care, signing up to mentor current students for a six-month pilot project.

The joint initiative between Development & Alumni Relations and Student Services provides students with guidance, advice and contacts in their chosen fields, and the opportunity to discuss career paths with successful GCU alumni. Alumni are invited to share their experiences and pass on advice on personal development, goal setting and interview techniques.

Land Manager for the Green Belt Group, Janet McQuillan, MBA '98, said: "The personal satisfaction of having the opportunity to grow and learn together is rewarding."

The programme will now be rolled out to all students in September. New graduates and those looking to change or advance their career are also encouraged to sign up.

To register as a mentor or mentee please visit www.caledonian.ac.uk/alumni/volunteer

What's cooking

GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY and Waverley books are delighted to announce that the world famous Glasgow Cookery Book will be in print once again. This sought-after book is being updated with the assistance of the GCU Dough School and Queens College Alumni Group in time for 2010, the book's centenary year.

The Glasgow Cookery Book started life as the textbook for the Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science – fondly dubbed the Dough School by Glasgow residents – and was put together by Principal Ella Glaister and the school's staff to include the recipes and techniques taught in class. Its reputation for dependable and economical recipes ensured its influence far beyond the walls of the Glasgow college.

Based on the 1975 metric edition, special care has been taken to preserve Dough School favourites – such as haggis, pot roast, cheese scones and shortbread – while ensuring it is updated for the modern cook.

Gilda Smith, BA Home Economics '91, said: "This has been a great project to work on with fellow graduates. We are all looking forward to seeing the finished product."

The book will be available to order on the 24th September 2009, please contact Mansoor.ali@gcal.ac.uk





Sweet Dreams

FOU FURNISHINGS scooped a finalist award for Best Organic Textile Product in The Natural and Organic Awards 2009 for its unique 'Fou duvet' top-opening cover: you will never struggle with a duvet cover again.

The brain behind Fou Furnishings, Stephanie McIntosh, MSc Product Design & Development '07, has spent 20 years working with major fashion and furnishings retailers across Europe. She said: "After only a few months in business, to be recognised as a finalist for Best Organic Textile Product is fantastic! This is a reflection of the quality of design and product I worked on at GCU."

Visit www.foufurnishings.com

A PROUD IF EXHAUSTED

graduate, Adam Gordon, BA (Hons) Social Sciences '99, completes Le Marathon de Paris, raising almost £3,000 for the Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice in Glasgow in memory of his mother who passed away last September.



Bucking the trend

CLAIRE MURRAY, PHD HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT '08, and Inderpreet Singh, MBA '06, have both taken bold steps in the current economic climate. Having spent many years in the recruitment and consultancy industry, Claire and Inderpreet have used experience and knowledge gained at Glasgow Caledonian University to launch their own recruitment and consultancy companies.

Murray HR Training & Consultancy is Claire's brainchild and specialises in people development, coaching and mentoring. "I always knew that I wanted to continue working with people and help them learn and develop," she said. "I am an extremely self-motivated and positive person, and I have used my determination and passion to drive my businesses forward."

Entrepreneur Inderpreet shows the same drive as he launched his recruitment company, Tech-Hiring Ltd. "Starting up my own business during this recession has been hard, but if you have a good idea you have to go out there and make it work."

Despite the economic downturn, Claire and Inderpreet are optimistic that their decision will be fruitful in the long-term and encourage others to follow their own ambitions. "One of the benefits of starting a new business venture in the recession is that things can only improve," Inderpreet says.

Visit www.tech-hiring.co.uk and www.murrayhr.com



Claire Murray, Phd Human Resource Management '08

Student Leaders Programme

GCU STUDENTS WHO HAVE SHOWN outstanding commitment to volunteering and mentoring were recognised at the inaugural Student Leaders' Awards Ball in April. The Student Leaders Programme is a flagship initiative run in partnership between the university and the Students' Association, and offers students the opportunity to develop effective leadership and communication skills.

Professor Sue Scott, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Learning Innovation, and Paddy Hastie, Student Union President, presented the awards at the Ball held in the Marriott Hotel. Alumnus and Beanscene founder, Gordon Richardson, HND Hotel Catering & Institutional Management '86 (pictured above), addressed the audience, giving an insightful talk on the qualities of an effective leader and the importance of building a strong team.

The Allister Boyd Award for Contribution to Health and Wellbeing in a Leadership Role was presented posthumously to GCU Student Allister Boyd who passed away on April 4. The award was accepted on his behalf by his brother Russell (pictured at right). Allister had raised nearly £200,000 and campaigned to raise awareness of teenage cancer. In future this award will be presented to students who have shown similar contributions to health and wellbeing.

Awards

GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT OF THE YEAR

GOLD AWARD

ANGELA McLAUGHLIN (middle), fourth-year Psychology, a student mentor who established Rainbow Foundations, a charity offering counselling and art therapy to children suffering a chaotic home life through parental drug misuse and domestic violence.

SILVER AWARD

BETH MONTGOMERY (left), fourth-year Fashion Business, for her commitment to the university's basketball team.

BRONZE AWARD

MARC BREEN (right), fourth-year Environmental Management and Planning, for his work in establishing the university's Environment and Sustainability Society and commitment to raising awareness of environmental issues.



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University welcomes Professor Muhammad Yunus

GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY welcomed Nobel Peace Prize winner Professor Muhammad Yunus on December 1 2008, awarding him an Honorary Doctor of Letters on a day packed with events marking the inaugural Magnusson Fellowship.

Professor Yunus, founder of the Grameen Bank and recognised as one of the world's greatest social entrepreneurs, attended the first meeting of the University's Magnus Magnusson Fellowship and delivered the inaugural Magnus Magnusson Lecture in the university's Saltire Centre. He told an audience of more than 600 invited guests about his mission to use free market power to solve the problems of poverty, hunger and inequality in Bangladesh, and spoke of his aspirations for developing the concept globally: "This is our opportunity to design a new global economic architecture." He went on to explain his conviction that poverty could be better tackled by the people experiencing it. "It's not charity", he said, "It's a different kind of social enterprise. It's social business."



THE MAGNUS MAGNUSSON FELLOWSHIP comprises a prestigious but informal group of international leaders who represent a wide range of backgrounds and interests. Chaired by Principal and Vice-Chancellor Professor Pamela Gillies, members include Nobel Prize winning poverty campaigner Professor Muhammad Yunus; businessman and philanthropist Sir Tom Hunter; Palestinian lawyer, writer and human rights activist Raja Shehadeh; Dr Will Storrar, Director of the Centre for Theological Enquiry, Princeton; Sally Magnusson, Honorary President of the Fellowship; and the University's Chancellor Lord Macdonald of Tradeston. The group will meet annually to debate and agree action on issues of major concern to society.

The first meeting of the Fellowship discussed the role of education in alleviating poverty. Principal Professor Pamela Gillies said: "We discussed practical ideas and actions which could be focused on the poorest in society where education can have a dramatic impact on poverty reduction. The small diverse group worked extraordinarily well together and I very much look forward to the next meeting of the Fellowship."





GCU signs historic agreement with the Grameen Trust

FOLLOWING THE VISIT to Glasgow Caledonian University in late 2008 by Nobel Peace Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus, Principal and Vice Chancellor Professor Pamela Gillies led a small delegation to Bangladesh in February. The visit aimed to gain first-hand experience of the Grameen Trust and its work in Bangladesh addressing poverty and the needs of the most disadvantaged local people. The trip culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between GCU and the Grameen Trust, to establish the Grameen Caledonian Creative Lab.

Caledonian+ talked to Colin McCallum, one of the delegates to Bangladesh, who is the Vice-President of the GCU Foundation and Director of Development. "The university's mission 'for the common weal' lies behind our mission to serve communities by addressing inequality and making access to education more widely spread and impactful," said Colin. "In Bangladesh, we saw much that we can learn and much that the university and Scotland have to offer. The Grameen Bank works throughout Bangladesh – and increasingly elsewhere – providing small, unsecured loans to the poorest people, mainly women, in society."

The social contract that is undertaken by each borrower means that they agree to send their children to school and they must save as well as borrow. The 'circle of trust' is the structure around which the Grameen Bank operates in villages, with groups of five women supporting each other and helping to ensure that everyone repays their loans and is helped to develop their business. The women's stories of how they have helped to improve the lives of their families and communities are remarkable and moving. The Grameen organisation also helps to ensure that children in the poorest communities get an education and that beggars begin to earn rather than remain in a cycle of dependency.

The Grameen Caledonian Creative Lab will focus primarily on one of the university's major research and teaching strengths, the area of health. The Lab will operate in a multidisciplinary way ensuring the focus on health properly reflects relevant evidence based activities and knowledge related to the range of social determinants which influence health and well being, including amongst other things, the environment, education and the economy. Lab researchers will also monitor and measure the impact of social business developments on the health and well being of populations. The Lab will engage in action research and



ABOVE
Professor Pamela Gillies meets those working with the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh.

LEFT
The Grameen Bank operates as a social enterprise and not a charity. Making loans and providing support to enable viable business to succeed.

BELOW
Bengali women, who traditionally bear the brunt of the daily grind, have been the main beneficiaries of this social business.



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Grameen Collaboration

Special Feature

GCU's agreement with the Grameen Trust

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

development, evaluation, sharing understanding and knowledge, networking and contributing information relevant to the development of social businesses and Grameen initiatives. The university has established the Yunus Chair in Social Business and Health and will appoint an academic of international renown and esteem to provide leadership for the Lab.

"The Grameen Caledonian Creative Lab is one of two university Grameen research units, which will provide the foundation for the development of a world wide network of a small number of prestigious Grameen Labs," said Colin. In November the first gathering of the university Grameen Labs will take place in Berlin.

A T A PACKED PRESS CONFERENCE in Dhaka at the end of the recent visit, the Principal and Professor Yunus announced an ambitious new partnership to address the health needs of society's most disadvantaged. Today in Bangladesh, there are, remarkably, more doctors than trained nurses. The statistics on maternal and child mortality make worrying reading. Drawing on the university's experiences of assisting developing countries such as Kosovo and Tajikistan to create high-quality nursing and midwifery education programmes, GCU and Grameen are now working together towards the creation of a University College of Nursing in Bangladesh. In addition to the impact of this new college on the people of Bangladesh, it will also create exciting research and educational opportunities for the staff and students of GCU in Glasgow. In the recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), GCU's health research was judged to be in the top 10 in the UK.

Looking ahead, the establishment of the new Grameen Caledonian Creative Lab, building on the relationship with Muhammad Yunus and other world figures, presents the university with an exciting opportunity. With a focus on social business and health, we can create something of real and lasting benefit to society in Scotland and around the world. Success will only be achieved through creative partnership working. In future issues of Caledonian+ we will keep readers informed of progress and plans for this special programme.

To find out more or to help, please contact
colin.mccallum@gcal.ac.uk



ABOVE

The social contract requires even borrowers from the poorest communities to send their children to school.

RIGHT

In each village, groups of five women support each other within a "circle of trust" helping ensure the success of each business.

BELOW

Professor Yunus with GCU's Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Pamela Gillies, in Bangladesh.





ABOVE

The Grameen Bank is committed to bringing renewable energy into the lives of ordinary Bengalis and training local people to install and maintain these facilities.

RIGHT

Dr. Muhammad Asif photographed together with Professor Yunus, and his team visiting Bangladesh.

BELOW

A solar panel brings much needed energy to Bengali village households.



Grameen Shakti Social Enterprise

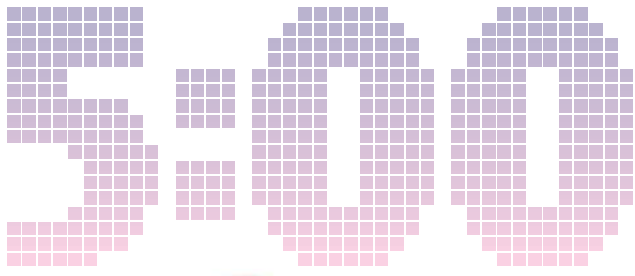
THE GRAMEEN BANK has a number of sister organisations that operate in the spheres of telecommunications, education, business and management services and renewable energy. The latter, **Grameen Shakti**, is one of the largest rural-based renewable energy companies in the world. Grameen means 'village' in Bangladeshi, and Grameen Shakti (GS) aims to tackle poverty in Bangladesh by providing affordable, sustainable energy to rural communities that for geographical or economic reasons cannot tap into the national grid.

Glasgow Caledonian University's School of the Built and Natural Environment (BNE) is collaborating with GS on a number of projects under the broader umbrella of the Grameen Caledonian Creative Lab. Projects comprise developing a framework for an energy model for the UK; joint research of renewable technologies to provide indigenised, cost-effective solutions for GS; career development for GS staff; and joint publications.

Dr. Muhammad Asif, Lecturer in Sustainable and Renewable Energy Technologies at the university, is leading the GCU team in this partnership and visited GS in Bangladesh earlier this year. "GCU brings a rich expertise in the area of renewable energy and its applications in developing countries", he said. Researchers work closely with colleagues in Bangladesh to develop low-cost, renewable technologies, combining GCU's strengths in wind and wave power with Grameen's knowledge of solar energy.

As well as providing energy solutions, GS uses innovative financial packages, such as micro-credit as developed by the Grameen Bank, to put solar and biogas technology within the reach of remote communities. The benefits serve to improve the lives of many by giving them access to power and freeing them from dependency on unsustainable, polluting fuel, such as kerosene. It gives businesses and individuals potential to thrive, as they can access technology and communications and are no longer restricted to working daylight hours.

GS provides the practical expertise and support for local people to install and maintain their facilities, including training engineers, many of whom are women. It is women and children, traditionally bearing the brunt of the daily grind, who have been among the chief beneficiaries. The organisation also works to link technology with agricultural and fishing industries to provide the waste matter for biogas plants, creating in the process an intermediary entrepreneur class that sells poultry litter, cow dung and slurry.



Andrew Galloway

Following the popularity of our previous 5 minute interviews with Hazel Mitchell from ITN, and Gordon Smith the SFA President, this edition features a determined graduate with a unique story. Andrew Galloway aka Drew McIntyre has chosen a curious career path which has taken him across the Atlantic to Tampa, Florida where he is a World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) Superstar. He is currently the Florida Championship Wrestling Champion.

Course
BA (Hons) Criminology

Year of Graduation
2007

Current Position
WWE Wrestler

Why did you choose Glasgow Caledonian University and your particular course?

GCU is a very modern university with great facilities for students. It is also in the heart of the city. Of course, the fact that it was the only university in Glasgow to offer Criminology was a major factor as I was very interested in this.

What did you enjoy most about life at the university?

I met some great people and I thoroughly enjoyed learning about the different aspects of crime and criminal justice. My tutors always understood when it came to wrestling commitments, though, and their patience really helped.

What advice do you have for new graduates?

Pursue your dreams and put the work in. Graduating is one of the most self-rewarding times in your life but also one of the hardest. By being serious and realistic you can find your niche.

How did you manage to get into the world of wrestling?

When I was 15, I convinced my parents to let me travel 12 hours to Portsmouth to begin training.

Were you a fan of the WWE before you joined?

I have been a lifelong fan. I was either going to play for Rangers or wrestle for the WWE (WWF at the time). When I reached 11, I knew I had to find a way into wrestling.

What was like meeting Vince McMahon?

He is the father of modern professional wrestling, and has been a strong character on TV for years. It was definitely one of the few times in my life when I was nervous. He is possibly the most confident person I have ever met.

What is a normal day like for you?

My day consists of an early rise, followed by breakfast, then off to

wrestling training for four hours. Then I have a break for two to three hours before hitting the gym for an hour, eat, then off to a wrestling show. Eat again, wrestle show, drive back home to eat once more before trying to get some sleep before doing it all again. It's definitely the most mentally and physically taxing experience of my life.

What does the future hold for Drew McIntyre/Andrew Galloway?

I would like to hold a regular place on WWE television and win a couple of titles. In the long run, I would like to retire back home to Scotland

Many people think that wrestling is fake. What do you say to those critics?

I always say the same thing: come along and try it yourself. I have met American footballers, professional MMA fighters, amateur wrestlers, and they all agree this is the most difficult thing they have ever done.

Who were the wrestlers you looked up to?

Bret Hart, for the most compelling matches; Hulk Hogan, like every other kid my age, for his amazing charisma and showmanship. I also admired guys like Dynamite kid, Undertaker, Shawn Michaels and Mr. Perfect.

What is your greatest personal achievement?

Being signed by the WWE by the time I reached 21 was always my goal, and I achieved it.

If you could live in any city in the world, where would it be?

Ayr (I know it's not a city but there's no place like home.)

If you know any graduates who would make an interesting, unusual or inspiring 5-minute interview, please contact Mansoor.ali@gcal.ac.uk

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