

GCU ALUMNI

Summer 2014

The magazine for graduates and friends of Glasgow Caledonian University



Founder of Mary's Meals

Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow explains about the impact that one free school meal a day can make.

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Some of the life-changing scholarships that GCU offers to its students. **Page 23**

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Welcome



Emma Thompson, Dr Phyllida Law, Lindsey Becket (Alumni Relations Officer), Tindy Agaba.

A very warm welcome to the Summer 2014 edition of our GCU Alumni magazine.

The past few months have been very exciting for GCU with the launch of our New York campus - we are the first UK University to open a campus in the city - as well as the launch of the British School of Fashion, which will be based at GCU London.

We have also welcomed over 5,000 new graduates to the GCU Alumni family at our graduations in Glasgow and London, including Honorary Graduates such as Sir Craig Reddie CBE, Vice President of the International Olympic Committee.

In 2014, we are looking forward to work starting on the £30million redevelopment of our Glasgow campus, which will enhance our reputation as a world-class University (see page 10) and will provide our students with some new and stimulating learning spaces.

Recently GCU alumni have attended various events, including CATS the musical, Celtic Connections and several Masterclasses and Professorial Lectures (see page 14). We are delighted that so many of you remain in touch with GCU through our social media and email communications and several of you help to enhance the current offering for our students by delivering student talks, advertising jobs, providing marketing profiles and donating to provide scholarships and student support.

I also wanted to mention that Lindsey Becket is on maternity leave and Sabrina Allan is covering for Lindsey.

Thanks for being fantastic ambassadors for GCU and we look forward to keeping in touch with you in the months and years ahead.

Kind regards,

Rob Morton
Editor and Alumni Relations Manager
alumni@gcu.ac.uk



Sir Craig Reddie CBE, Rob Morton (Alumni Relations Manager).



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New awakening for GCU in the city that never sleeps

In April 2014, Scotland's First Minister, the Rt. Hon. Alex Salmond MSP officially opened GCU New York to a select audience at the campus building. Vice President of GCU NY, Cara Smyth, has been busy preparing for the Wooster Street campus to open its doors to students. GCU caught up with her for a transatlantic Q&A.

What has been the reaction to the arrival of GCU in New York and what feedback have you received, particularly from other education providers, civic leaders and other potential stakeholders?

The reaction has been fantastic. New York is home to a number of leading institutions with a vast history, such as NYU, Columbia, Pace and other institutions such as Parsons, FIT, and the New School which have unique programmes here. In preparation for the launch, the Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Pamela Gillies, had introduced GCU to the key universities here who have offered wonderful support and we continue to develop these relationships. It is not seen as a competitive environment, but collaborative.

The city is particularly pleased to have its first UK university campus. We have had strong support and interest from the UK side as GCU presents a unique opportunity for international partnerships and exchanges in learning, business and social causes. Our goal is to utilise the New York campus to expand further the strategic partnerships that the University already has in place and continues to develop.

In addition, the New York community, from city to business leaders, has been incredibly welcoming to our entry, our programmes and particularly to our social mission. A terrific thing about New York is its robust and diverse population, its participatory nature and the vast number of international communities that call New York home. With such a large population, different entities focus on adding value to the community and we are pleased to be joining forces with them.

GCU New York will be based in Wooster Street, Soho, in a converted office block. What stage are you at with the design and building work and what is the expected timeline for completion?

The building is in the heart of Soho on the cusp of many vibrant neighbourhoods. The campus has been fully designed and is currently under construction. We opened in early 2014 and are already planning our first series of programmes. It is an exciting time and we can't wait to take everything forward.

The GCU London campus is much admired for its imaginative use of space and its learning environment. What can you tell alumni about the vision for the GCU New York campus?

Professor Karen Stanton and the London team have done a wonderful job in bringing such great success to GCU. We know we have big shoes to fill in New York in order to follow their example. Much of our planning and design work has followed the format of the London campus, which is so engaging and welcoming. The vision for New York incorporates design and modern technology to create a learning venue that will be a centre for divergent thinking, education and community outreach activities.

We will follow Glasgow and London by having a Caledonian Club for young students and their families as part of our community engagement model. The local community around the campus area is very excited about this, as are we.



GCU New York is based in Wooster Street, Soho.

GCU NY is located in an area that is being transformed as part of the city's urban regeneration programme. GCU London's Spitalfields base has undergone a similar transformation. Do you think the similarities between the two locations will be reflected in the character of GCU NY?

There are definitely significant synergies between the campuses, both being located in transformed areas of the cities that are full of vibrant activity and retailers, galleries and residential neighbourhoods. As the Wooster Street campus is located near so many important neighbourhoods it will allow us to grow in many ways and tap in to the interesting cultural treasures that NYC has to offer, including the lower East Side, Chinatown, Tribeca and Nolita, all of which our school borders. The character of GCU is to welcome our neighbours on to campus and spill out into the surrounding areas in an effort to have a positive impact on our community.

Are there any unique aspects to the design/development of GCU NY that you are able to share at this time?

64 Wooster is a ground and lower level location in the heart of New York's landmark Cast-Iron District. The building includes period detailing, 45 linear feet of street frontage,

skylighting/daylighting and extended ceiling heights. The interior will be a modern design with nods to the period of the building itself in the materials/furnishings. The layout includes a solution for the dual requirements of school function and open event space for Town Hall lectures. We have worked to be eco-friendly and maximise energy efficiencies.

GCU NY will initially offer short executive courses and masterclasses, with a view to offering postgraduate programmes in the future. Those programmes are still being developed, but can you give a flavour of what subjects will initially be offered, and have any specific guest lecturers been lined up to deliver masterclasses so far?

We are in discussions with a number of thought leaders both here in New York and from the UK. They are professors and professionals who are experts in subjects including the business of fashion, social business and microfinance, risk, global talent management, sustainability and more.

Full postgraduate programmes will only be available after the University is granted a charter by the New York State Education Department. Can you explain the background to this process and how long it will take?

This is a standard process that all institutions must undergo in New York if interested in offering accredited programmes and we expect the charter will be granted in time for the next academic year in September. Although a lengthy process, the activities surrounding the education licence were undertaken on a timely basis and various GCU teams were involved in assuring all areas were professionally handled, including course work, student experience, compliance and so on. Institutions are subject to peer review and site visits. Through this process, the state ensures that we have the curriculum and learning environment in place to meet the educational needs and higher education standards of New York universities and the population they serve.

When GCU NY is granted its charter, will the PG courses be designed and delivered as an extension of GCU's three academic schools in Glasgow, as is the case in GCU London, or will a completely different approach be required for the US market?

In fact, we are closely following the Glasgow and London models. Our initial focus will be on programmes offered by Glasgow School for Business and Society and the British School of Fashion, extending in time to other market needs. We will integrate the experience and activities of Glasgow and London with sensitivities to best practices and interests of our New York audience.



GCU New York will use the most modern and dynamic teaching methods, including what's known as the 'Town Hall' approach. Can you explain this in more detail?

GCU is at the forefront of embracing and creating future learning methods. Town Hall formats – where professionals or professors speak about specific issues or ideas and afterwards participate in a general 'public' discussion, often involving a panel and a moderator – are currently being used live and online. There are a growing number of Universities working to evolve traditional methods of teaching to attract new audiences and encourage new solutions. We know from the success of TED talks that people are keen on short and rich programmes driven by compelling ideas. We are exploring a number of styles for setting up our inclusive programmes as well as on how to integrate content and educational material in a way that is exciting, dynamic and offers the potential for further exploration.

How big a role will new and innovative technology play in learning and teaching at GCU NY?

Innovative technology will be key for all learning in the future and at GCU NY this will be an important part of our overall agenda. We look forward to using our new space as a vehicle for experiential and online learning. We are also exploring how social media and live streaming will play a role in furthering our content and allowing connectivity for people all over the globe. For example, if we host an event at GCU New York on supply chain integration in fashion, we can find a way to livestream this to communities in Glasgow, London or Bangladesh. The opportunities with technology are exciting and appear endless.

What are some of the key factors which will attract potential students to GCU NY?

I think students will be attracted to GCU NY by the quality of our truly unique educational offerings. Our 'For the Common Good' motto and activity are key to our evolving community. There is a tremendous movement underway to create a better world. There is a focus on social business and responsibility, community engagement, impact investing, resilience engineering, health services, responsible risk management, that all have a new tone and approach. Our Chancellor, Professor Yunus, is certainly one of the most powerful examples of creating practical change that results in a better society. People want to be part of that. GCU is at the centre of transformative education that can support the positive development of the world.



Scotland's First Minister Alex Salmond opens GCU New York

Will there be the opportunity for GCU Glasgow, London and New York students to participate in transatlantic trimester exchanges?

The possibility of international exchanges, sharing information and experiences, is one of the most exciting features of GCU. We are a globally-networked university and as such, we present terrific opportunities for our students, Professors and Researchers. New York is home to strong fashion and financial service sectors as well as media, technology, insurance and health. Manhattan is also where the United Nations and the New York Stock Exchanges are headquartered which provide potentially exciting collaborations. As GCU is a signatory to the United Nations PRME (Principles for Responsible Management Education) and is the first Scottish university to be a member of the UN Global Compact, we are keen to develop engagement possibilities alongside their initiatives as well.

There will be a core team of academic staff based at GCU New York. How will this be made up?

The total number in our core team and what the composition of staff will look like is still being finalised, but key staff are currently being recruited, including the Dean, local academics and other staff.

You come from a 'business of fashion' background and have held senior roles in Burberry, Jil Sander and Jeffrey.

How have you found the transition from the fashion industry to academia?

I actually felt very compelled to make the switch. I truly love fashion and all my roles in the field, but strongly believe that the landscape has changed. Business and industry can now be married with social concerns and this is where I want to invest my time and efforts. GCU is at the forefront of education and practical applications in this area. I am constantly energised by the synergies I see opening up in areas that are ripe for collaboration and exploration.

What have been the biggest challenges and achievements related to GCU NY so far, and what are the biggest challenges you face in 2014?

The challenges involve juggling the many details of the new building while further expanding our network and continuing to establish our reputation in New York. However, the achievements have been notable: we had a wonderful launch event in September 2013 and since then we have been participating in various initiatives and events and are making a name for ourselves. For 2014, we will continue the momentum, opening our doors to the numerous possibilities we hope to bring to New York.

Chancellor Yunus spoke about his hope that GCU New York would become a centre for discussion with a view to promoting the importance of sustainability, particularly in fashion. How important will this role be in differentiating GCU NY from other education providers?

As New York is one of the key fashion centres of the world, we have an audience that we hope will explore new solutions in the business of fashion, innovation and ways to promote sustainability and environmental and social issues. GCU has the credibility and opportunity to facilitate education and change in these areas like no other institution in the world.



Vice President of GCU New York
Cara Smyth shares the plans for the University's new campus in Soho.

Powerful combination

High Street giant Marks and Spencer and the British School of Fashion at GCU London have come together to help nurture new talent and create tomorrow's leaders for Britain's fashion industry.

Belinda Earl is one of the most talked about women in British fashion. The former Saturday shop girl rose through the ranks to become the UK's highly-respected, albeit unofficial, 'Queen of Retail'. Now, as Style Director of Marks and Spencer, Belinda has joined forces with GCU to find the fashion business leaders of the future.

In September, Marks and Spencer announced the launch of their M&S Studio @ Fashion Street within the British School of Fashion at GCU London as well as pledging £50,000 for the M&S Fashion Scholarships – annual bursaries which will provide support for a select number of students to study on one of the School's four courses.

As the British School of Fashion opens its doors to the first M&S Scholars, Belinda explained exactly what she is looking for from the new cohort.

"We want students with a positive attitude," she said. "They must be willing to learn and embrace the demands of an international retailer with a very strong brand like Marks and Spencer."

Belinda laid the foundations for her own success in the fashion business at an early age. She began her career as a 16-year-old shop assistant in Debenhams before going on to study for a degree in economics at the University of Wales. After graduating, Belinda joined Harrods in 1985 as a merchandiser before returning to Debenhams. She worked her way through a number of promoted positions and,

aged 40, was appointed their Chief Executive in 2000, making her the youngest ever CEO of a major UK retailer. She became Jaeger's Chief Executive in 2004 before taking up her current role with Marks and Spencer in September 2012.

"We've been delighted to work with the University to create the M&S Studio @ Fashion Street," said Belinda. "It really gives us the opportunity to be innovative and creative, and we're really impressed with the British School of Fashion and the emphasis it has on developing the marketeers and brand managers of the future."



Belinda Earl

In December, a panel of experts from M&S and the British School of Fashion met to select the M&S Scholars. Professor Christopher Moore, Director of the British School of Fashion, said: "We were absolutely judicious in terms of who we awarded these scholarships to. We selected people who were serious, who genuinely wanted to learn, who saw a career path emerging in front of them and who, without this scholarship, would not have been able to study with us."

"We chose robust, clear, professional applications from people about whom we could really say: 'Yes, you deserve to be an M&S Scholar at the British School of Fashion'."

The Scholars will not only benefit from Marks and Spencer's financial support during their studies, they will also have exclusive use of the M&S Studio @ Fashion Street, as well as receiving mentoring from the retailer.

"M&S will benefit from working with GCU, an auspicious educational institute," Belinda explained. "But it's more about the students. They'll benefit from working with us during their studies and, as a business, we will embrace their

learning and development and provide them with a number of opportunities to pursue."

Her sentiment is echoed by Professor Moore, who believes that M&S's core values of quality and style are closely aligned with those of the British School of Fashion.

"I'm convinced that our relationship will go from strength to strength," he said. "As we produce M&S Scholars of ability, character and success, I'm sure both parties will realise that it's a very fruitful, strategic relationship."

"Belinda is one of the UK's most respected and successful fashion business leaders. She has a wealth of experience in managing new talent within the world of fashion and it's wonderful for us to have her involvement in this important initiative."

For more information visit:
www.gculondon.ac.uk/fashionscholarships



M&S Studio at Fashion Street, London.

Building for our Future

We like to pride ourselves with a strong work ethic in Scotland, but when your working day starts at 6.00am and doesn't end until 11.15 pm, that rather pales into insignificance. But as Glasgow Caledonian University graduate Christopher TO states: "If you want real success, you have to earn it."

And success is something the Hong Kong-based executive knows a thing or two about. TO has risen to the heights of his industry to become the Executive Director of the Hong Kong Construction Industry Council and is Deputy Chairman of the Hong Kong Institute of Directors... and the latter is just in his spare time!

Add to this, a list of qualifications and a string of executive roles that are longer than the trek up to the Victoria Peak mountains, in the HK islands, it's not bad for a boy brought up in Bellshill.

TO spent four years at GCU and earned a BEng (Hons) in Manufacturing Systems with Electronics and he believes that the work ethic that he employs today was partly honed during his time in Glasgow. TO said: "I really enjoyed my time at Caledonian.

"The teachers were so helpful and it was a very small and hard-working community. You could always phone your teachers if you had a problem with something. My time there taught me many things, but mostly that learning is a process you should enjoy. Studying should not be a burden.

"It was a good time for me and I enjoyed Glasgow. After I graduated I got offered a job in Hong Kong and returned there and I have had many challenging jobs and opportunities in my career since then."

That's no exaggeration with TO, who has a CV that is simply spell-binding and who regards learning as a pleasure. To list all his achievements would take the length of this magazine but highlights include being awarded Young Global Leader 2007 status by the World Economic Forum to recognise the most distinguished 250 young leaders below the age of 40, from around the world. In 2001/2002 he was awarded Director of the Year by the Hong Kong Institute of Directors for his drive towards excellence in Corporate Governance and is currently a Council member of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre and a steering committee member of the Department of Justice on Mediation, tasked with setting standards and qualifications for mediators in Hong Kong. And that's just the highlights!

So what advice would TO give those at the University now studying hard to get to the top of their game. He said: "There was a Government Minister

who said that people should get on their bike and explore - I agree with that.

"You have to think and get out of your own comfort zone. There are opportunities out there, but hard work is the key. It is important to keep learning all the time.

"For example, I was made the Secretary-General of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre and it is because I find the whole arbitration subject fascinating. I have a passion for it.

"It's what I do to relax. I used to play tennis, but it's too humid here! Luck is a part of your success, but really the important thing is hard work."

The construction industry in a city like Hong Kong is an exceptionally challenging field and TO is at the forefront of 'green construction' now in the Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.

TO had a big role to play in the world's first zero carbon building (ZCB), which is a pioneering project to showcase state-of-the-art zero carbon building technologies and raise community awareness of sustainable living in Hong Kong. The building actively feeds electricity back to the grid and makes large-scale use of biodiesel made from waste cooking oil.

ZCB is a place where cutting-edge technology is mixed with using bamboo for scaffolding and TO's job is to marry old-school skills with the new technology and push the ever-hanging Asian city to new limits.

TO said: "There are so many new buildings going up all the time in Hong Kong. It's a very challenging and exciting role.

"At the Construction Industry Council, we are very proud of our zero carbon building. It's been very well received. It's all about sustainability. Being environmentally friendly is naturally a very important part of the challenge here."

For more information: www.hkcic.org



Above: Christopher (left) receiving a souvenir as a speaker at an international construction conference. Right: ZCB (Zero Carbon Building).





Anna Sloan wins Bronze at Winter Olympics



Congratulations to GCU graduate and international curling star Anna Sloan on her Bronze medal triumph at the Winter Olympics in Sochi.

The 23-year-old, who graduated with a BA (Hons) Sport And Active Lifestyles Promotion in 2012, played a key role in the Team GB women's curling squad victory over Switzerland during the final of the thrilling bronze medal play-off.



Lily Delivers Freshers' Address

Lily Cole made a return visit as part of Freshers' Week to introduce students to impossible.com, a social network that will seek to engender a peer-to-peer gift economy. Lily delivered the annual Freshers' Address after accepting an invitation from GCU Student Association President Matt Lamb. She first visited GCU in July 2013 when she was awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters.

£30million Project Starts

This year signals the start of work on the ambitious campus transformation which will create cutting-edge teaching, learning and research facilities and inspiring social spaces. The George Moore Building will be tackled first with the contractor due on site in May and work scheduled for June. The ground floor will feature a stylish new restaurant while the first floor will be a dedicated 'one-stop-shop' for student services.

It's scheduled to be completed in summer 2015 when work will begin on the Hamish Wood

Building, which has a completion date of spring 2016. The building will be the setting for a showcase University reception and café space and a new teaching and conference facility. The reception will also act as the official entrance to the Glasgow School for Business and Society, based on the first floor, and will have a blend of flexible and contemporary learning spaces.

www.gcu.ac.uk/campusfutures



Excellence Recognised

The University was presented with the HR Excellence in Research Award from the European Commission in recognition of its commitment to the career management and skills development of its researchers. It marked an important step in GCU's strategic commitment to produce and disseminate research which contributes to the common good through its practical applications to public policy, service delivery and economic regeneration which has a beneficial impact on lives and wellbeing in Scotland and further afield.

Mal Returns

Mal Young, one of Britain's most influential television producers, returned to GCU to work with the next generation of television scriptwriters. The former producer of acclaimed BBC shows EastEnders, Doctors, Casualty and Holby City worked with MA TV Fiction Writing students on their original pitches, listening to their ideas and offering feedback.



Cyber Challenge

The University hosted Scotland's first cyber security residential camp, teaming up with Cyber Security Challenge UK in the continuing fight against online crime. The event tested participants' resolve through challenges, including an entrepreneurial Dragon's Den competition to create a security product, and a virtual online game of attack and defence against competitors in England's Defence Academy.



Going Underground

The University announced that it is to work with Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) to transform ingress water in Glasgow's underground systems into a sustainable heat source. The GCU team will support SPT in developing a financially and environmentally effective method of harvesting heat from the water. That will allow SPT to offer an even more efficient service and further improve customers' experience of the system. The heat from the ingress water will be extracted using an energy efficient heat pump. Water in the underground tunnel has a temperature of around 14C, which is sufficient for extracting heat. The pumps will allow SPT to use this heat in its stations and other buildings.

Tourist Triumph

The Moffat Centre for Travel and Tourism Development won a major contract to work out how much Scottish tourism is worth to the Scottish economy at a national and local level. Working in partnership with Professor Hervey Gibson from consultants Cogentsi, the Centre will establish the volume and value of tourism in Scotland.



Gold Award

GCU became the first university in Scotland to be recognised with a prestigious gold EcoCampus award, marking the commitment of its students and staff to sustainable principles. The University is now working towards the top platinum status.



Principal's Award

The third Principal's Awards, organised by GCU LEAD, honoured Digital Forensics and Security Senior Lecturer Dr Michelle Govan, who was named winner of the Principal's Award (Individual) for Learning and Teaching. Dr Govan, with the support of the Head of Department, Professor Tom Buggy, was instrumental in winning approval for a five-year undergraduate Masters in digital security, forensics and ethical hacking, the first of its kind in the UK.

The Games Team from SEBE received the inaugural Principal's Team award for Learning and Teaching for the collaborative approach of their Scottish Games Jam event, the largest in Europe, during which GCU students and industry professionals work together to create a game in 48 hours. The team's wider work also supported Alzheimer Scotland and Gathering the Voices, an initiative inspired by the experiences of Jewish refugees.



Celebrating Success

The winter ceremonies in London and at the SECC in Glasgow were attended by more than 1,400 graduates and their families. They were joined at GCU London by fashion business industry leaders Richard Craig, Managing Director of Margaret Howell, and Michael Sharp, Chief Executive of Debenhams, who were presented with Lifetime Achievement Awards. In Glasgow, honorary degrees were conferred on Magnus MacFarlane Barrow OBE, founder of Mary's Meals; Ian Grabiner, Group Chief Executive of the Arcadia Group (pictured below); leading scientist Professor John Marshall MBE and Sir Craig Reedie CBE, Vice-President of the International Olympic Committee.



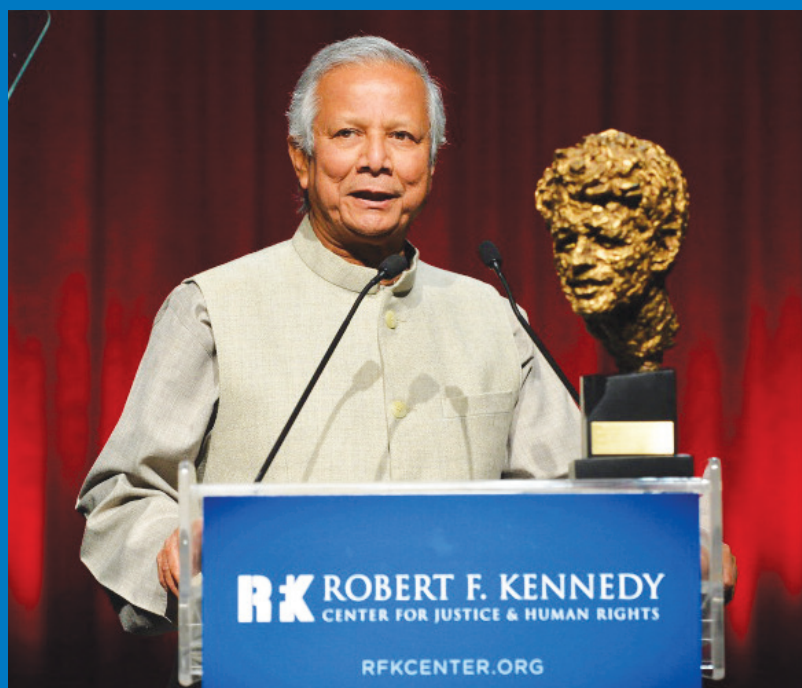
Gates Grant

The Caledonian Academy, with the help of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is investigating what strategies and behaviours people adopt while studying on massive open online courses (MOOCs), online programmes with open access where anyone can learn from the world's leading academics. Millions of people are studying on MOOCs but little is known about how these students actually learn while using this revolutionary approach to higher education.

Chancellor Yunus Honoured

GCU Chancellor, Professor Muhammad Yunus was presented with the Ripple of Hope Social Justice Award by the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights in recognition of his international anti-poverty work to empower people through the use of microfinance.

The award recognises leaders of the international business, entertainment and activist communities who demonstrate commitment to social change. Recipients are considered to share the late Robert F. Kennedy's passion for equality, justice and human rights, as well as his belief that everyone must strive to "make gentle the life of this world".



Pizza Discovery

Professor Kofi Aidoo played a key role in the development of a 'healthy pizza'. One of the world's leading food scientists, Professor Aidoo and colleagues set out to discover the nutritional content and quality of contemporary pizzas and show how they can be reformulated to make it the basis of a nutritionally-balanced meal. The findings were reported by media sources across the globe.



Widening Participation

The University welcomed a significant rise in students from schools in neighbourhoods with a lower than average participation in Higher Education. At the end of its first year in operation, the Schools and Colleges Engagement and Transition Team (SCETT) reported that the number of pupils from its six partner secondary schools who have gained a place at GCU is up from 16 in 2012 when there was no SCETT activity, to 30 this year after SCETT intervention - a rise of more than 80 per cent.

Team of the Year

The newly formed UK Recruitment and Outreach department won the Team of the Year prize at The Herald Society 2013 awards dinner. The group, which began working in its current format at the start of the 2012/13 academic year, beat competition from the Macmillan@Glasgow Libraries Volunteer Team, Scottish Marriage Care and the University of Strathclyde to win the prestigious accolade. The Herald Society Awards, run by Scotland's biggest-selling quality newspaper, celebrate the best work in the public and voluntary sectors.

Innovation on Show

Researchers demonstrated the latest technical advances in rehabilitation to John Swinney, the Scottish Government's Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth. Professor Lynne Baillie and her team were attending the inaugural European Telemedicine Conference and the European Innovation Showcase at the Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh.

Mandela Memories



The death of Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa and an honorary graduate, inspired tremendous interest in the Anti-Apartheid Movement archive. The collection contains original documents, letters, flyers, badges, campaign banners, posters and stickers that were used by campaigners during the anti-apartheid struggle. Archivist Carole McCallum was interviewed and filmed by STV and BBC, as well as newspaper journalists.

Mark's Fiction now a Fact of Life



GCU'S highly successful MA TV Fiction Writing course has produced its own classic example of life imitating art.



Mark Stevenson

It's a storyline that could have come from any top TV drama: successful journalist reads an article in a rival newspaper and his life is changed forever.

The journalist was Mark Stevenson, the newspaper was The Herald, and the article was an interview with Shed Media Group Chief Executive, Eileen Gallagher about GCU's MA TV Fiction Writing course. Mark, now a successful television screenwriter, has kept that crumpled piece of newsprint ever since.

The former Daily Express journalist has gone on to write for EastEnders, Casualty and Holby City and he shared his story with this year's MA TV Fiction Writing cohort and industry leaders at a recent MA TV award ceremony. Mark graduated in 2011 from a programme which in less than five years has had a major impact on the UK television industry, attracting almost £500,000 in scholarship funding from, among others, the BBC and Warner Bros. who have recognised its crucial role in nurturing the next generation of TV screenwriting talent.

"The course has exceeded my expectations," said Eileen, who played a vital part in its genesis.

"I didn't expect the students to go on to get good jobs as quickly as they have done. For some of them to get on to the writing teams at Hollyoaks and EastEnders is an incredible success.

"Writers can spend 10 or 15 years of their careers trying to get on to those shows, and this just highlights that we're able to give our graduates a great step up."

The course was designed to fulfil a particular business need. With many programmes offering film-writing, there was nothing teaching the discipline of writing for long-running dramas, something which was becoming a problem within the industry.

"Many of the graduates coming to us for jobs had inappropriate qualifications or experience – film-writing degrees, or something in general media," explained Eileen. "So we started thinking about how we could solve the problem for ourselves and for the industry."

"Brian Park, Ann McManus and I chose to approach GCU because we wanted our course to bring in voices that would never normally be heard on television," said Eileen. "The University is a perfect fit because it's so inclusive, and that's the tone we wanted for the course."

The programme launched in 2009 and, as it goes from strength to strength, its success and popularity can be credited to a number of factors.

"It's partly down to the people we have teaching the writing part of the course," said Dr Catriona Miller, MA TV Fiction Writing Programme Leader.

"Ann Marie di Mambro and Chris Dolan are themselves practising writers, and it's important for our students to work with people involved in the industry.

"We've also developed close relationships in the business and we've had TV commissioners such as Mal Young [who created Doctors and Holby City] and Stuart Murphy (Director of Entertainment Channels at Sky) coming in to work with the students. Having Eileen and Ann from Shed involved has given us gravitas – they were described as TV royalty to me and when people discovered they were part of the course, it really opened doors for us. They've been great supporters."

As GCU begins to welcome new applicants for its 2014/15 MA TV course, Eileen has set her sights on broadening the programme's horizons. "We want this to be a UK-wide course," she said. "I think we got around 70 applicants for the last intake but I want us to get around 200 or 300 next time."

And Mark's storyline had its own happy ending. "If it wasn't for this course," he said, "I wouldn't be a screenwriter. It's as simple as that."

"The University is a perfect fit because it's so inclusive, and that's the tone we wanted"

GCU Alumni Events 2013/2014

Capercaillie at Celtic Connections - January 2014

GCU alumni had a great night watching Capercaillie at Celtic Connections, including an exclusive GCU pre-show drink and canapé reception where Donald Shaw (one of the founder members of Capercaillie and Artistic Director for Celtic Connections) joined us to introduce the show. A great night of Celtic music ensued for our 50 alumni at the sell-out Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.



Image by: Leila Angus.

Dough School China Tea - April 2013

The Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science, or 'Dough School', was a very significant part of the University's past and this event marked the culmination of an oral history project undertaken by the Centre for the Social History of Health and Healthcare, which provided a fascinating insight into the experiences of its staff and students. Over 100 alumni sat down for a wonderful China Tea as they listened to talks from Dr Vicky Long, Lecturer in History; Dr Jennie Jackson, Lecturer in Nutrition and Dietetics and one of the Dough School graduates, Ann Marshall. Items from the archives such as dresses and embroidery were also exhibited. Thank you to everyone who kindly donated their work.



The exhibition (left) and alumni enjoying their tea (right).



Abu Dhabi/Dubai Alumni Networking - May 2013

Graduates based in the UAE got the chance to meet up with students and staff who were in the country on the KAR Scholarship Study Tour, to hear the latest news from GCU and to do a spot of networking.



Guests at the Movenpick Hotel in Dubai.

London JOLOMO Viewing - May 2013

Twenty of our London-based alumni enjoyed an exclusive viewing of John Lowrie Morrison OBE (JOLOMO) artwork, presented by Corrymella Scott Gallery at Gallery 8. Glengoyne whisky were also in attendance and there was an opportunity to sample some of their excellent malts. One of our alumni, Ummed Jain, won an exclusive bottle of 10-year old Glengoyne. Guests also enjoyed a glass of wine, some canapés, the chance to hear the latest news from GCU and the opportunity to reminisce and network with fellow graduates.



Risk Management Alumni Networking - June 2013

Risk Management graduates got together on the roof terrace at TBIAS Group's office in London. TBIAS Group is owned by alumnus, Charles van Oppen, who is also the Chair of the GCU Risk Management Alumni Branch. Guests at the event were treated to some great views of the London skyline in baking sunshine, as they undertook a spot of business networking with GCU graduates in their industry. For more information on the Branch, search 'GCU Risk Management Alumni' under LinkedIn groups.

50th Anniversary of Occupational Therapy Education in Glasgow - June 2013

2013 marked the 50th Anniversary of Occupational Therapy being taught in the City of Glasgow. The event coincided with the College of Occupational Therapists' Annual Conference and OT alumni from GCU, Queen's College and the Glasgow School of Occupational Therapy were welcomed back to the Glasgow campus. The event was a great chance to catch up with former classmates as well as an excellent industry networking opportunity.

A photo/video booth was in-situ and alumni left video messages about their time as a student and their career path since then, as well as taking some amusing photos using the props provided. Guests heard speeches from Professor Pamela Gillies, Principal, GCU; Christine Craik, Former Director of Occupational Therapy, Brunel University and Fiona Kennedy, Senior Lecturer, OT, GCU.

www.facebook.com/gcuotalumni



BBC Scotland Tour - August 2013

GCU alumni had the opportunity to see behind the scenes at BBC Scotland's Pacific Quay offices. The tour of the building lasted for two hours and included a trip to the Reporting Scotland news room as well as presentations from the Head of News and the Head of Public Policy and Corporate Affairs. The 40 graduates had a truly illuminating time.



CATS - September 2013

We were thrilled that 80 alumni joined us for an evening of singing, dancing, drinks, food and socialising at the fabulous King's Theatre, as GCU Alumni attended Andrew Lloyd-Webber's record-breaking CATS The Musical. At the event there was an opportunity to network with other GCU Alumni, hear a short update on the latest news from GCU and the most exciting part of the night was Rum Tum Tugger and Jemima joining us at our pre-show drinks and canapé reception, where they were in high demand for photo opportunities.



One of our alumni getting a snap with the CATS.

Upcoming Events

For further details on upcoming events please visit www.gcu.ac.uk/alumni/events. New events are added regularly. You can also follow our Facebook and Twitter pages for up-to-date event information.



www.facebook.com/CaledonianAlumni



[@CaledonianAlum](https://twitter.com/CaledonianAlum)

To ensure that you are kept informed of local events, please update us with your current email address (most event invitations are via email) by registering your contact details at www.gcu.ac.uk/alumni/keepintouch/updateyourdetails.

Wonky



Woolies

While the rest of us shiver and curse the utterly miserable weather that we often get, Alison Burn may well be spotted doing a little jig of delight. When you are in the business of keeping people warm, these Scottish seasons couldn't be any more welcome.

Burn is the owner and inspiration behind Wonky Woolies - a personalised service to individuals, businesses and groups looking for customised bobble hats. Perhaps the most curious thing about Alison is her unique designs for the creations and where they originate. "I just sort of come up with the ideas in my head, and see if they work" she stated. "I've never really been one for following the latest trends, I just like to be creative with textures and patterns." She must be doing something right because her brand is currently stocked in department stores throughout Japan.

Burn admits that she fell into her current business almost by accident. She has a creative family and her mother owned a knitting shop in Melrose. After creating various dresses for herself under the skilled tuition of her mum, she decided to try out designs for head wear. Through this venture she caught the eye of a local t-shirt producer who asked her to make some bobble hats to add to their

own clothing range. They in turn recommended her to another and it was then she decided to go it alone, quit her job as a travel consultant and go into business.

She is not one for looking back either. She said: "It was certainly the best thing for me to do. Before then I was jumping from one job to another, I couldn't find something that really suited me. I started at another university at 18 and then travelled but probably spent too long at the pub... or networking as I called it!

"When I started the business, it just seemed right and I've certainly no regrets. I just decided one day, okay, if I don't do this now I could risk losing what I've been working towards. I had to devote all of my time to the business to stand a chance of seeing it grow. It was a huge gamble but it has been a good decision for me."

Alison is also keen to add that her creations are not only winter attire: "I get good sales in the spring and summer time too. Trendy folk out there still like to set their outfit off with a stylish hat, at any time of the year. On social media I'm pushing #hatsforallseasons to keep the message going."

Burn gained a BA in Entertainment & Events Management in 2008 and insists her time at Glasgow Caledonian University gained her a good grounding for the challenges ahead in running your own business.

She said: "Strangely, perhaps the main thing I would say that helped me at Caledonian was honing my skills in public speaking. That used to terrify

me. Now I actually like it. It also taught me to be disciplined and see a project through to completion. It was a great time and I met many people who gave me lots of useful advice. It was also challenging for me."

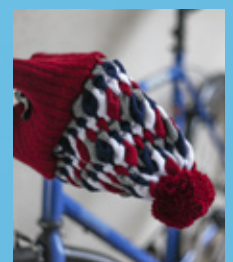
One glance at the Wonky Woolies website gives you an indication as to how well the fledgling company, who are in their second year and who operate from a studio in Central Chambers in Glasgow, is now doing. As well as the Japanese foothold, Burn's products have also received praise from customers all over the world.

Burn's advice to wannabe business gurus is to have faith in your own ability and to go for it. For now, while her business continues to go from strength to strength it means she gets busier and busier. Trade fairs and business seminars are the norm for her now. She said: "The best advice I can give is to stick to your guns if you think your idea is a good one."

As described on a glossy website, Wonky Woolies sell two main types of custom-made hats. You can choose either a bobble hat or a hat with full hem. Both can have company logos, patterns or personal designs incorporated in them. And of course she also sells her own designs. Pick from Lace Hats, Owl Hats, Sheep and Tractor Hats, Snowflake Hats, Tuck Hats and Wonky Hats... what else!

As she admits: "It's not a job, it's a way of life for me."

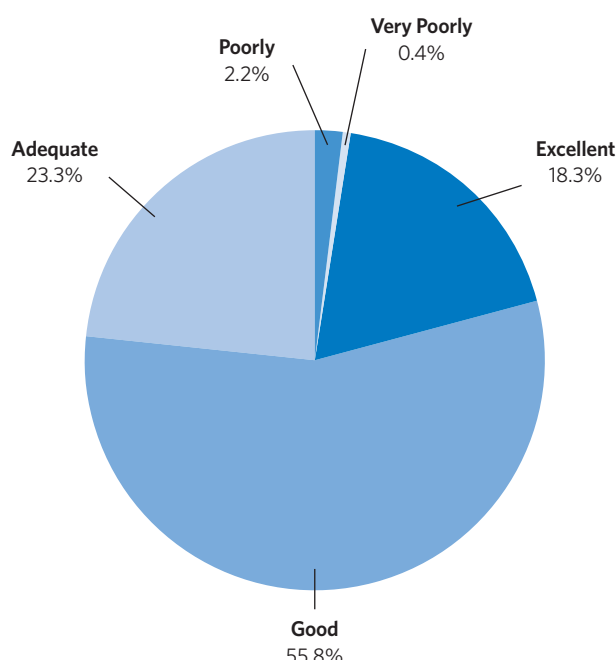
For more information: www.wonkywoolies.com



Alumni Relations Survey 2013

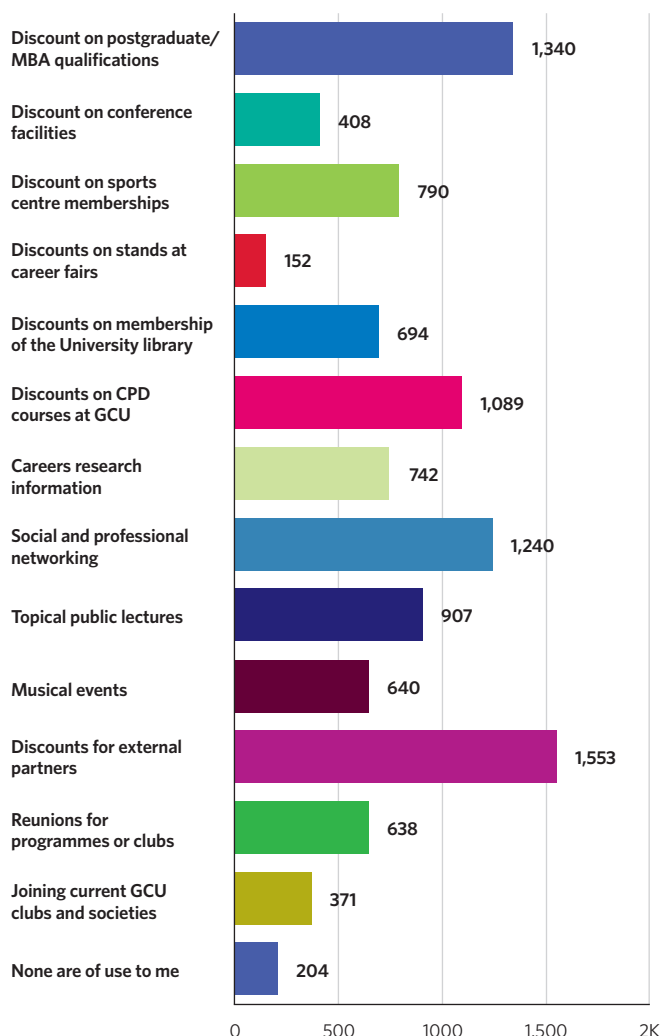
Throughout December 2013 and January 2014, almost 3,000 alumni kindly completed our Alumni Relations Survey. We wanted to share some of the responses with you and let you know what we plan to do to improve our alumni relations, for your benefit.

Question: What is your current view of how GCU Alumni Relations communicate with you?



What we will do: We are delighted that 97.38% of you feel that our communications are excellent to adequate, and as such we will continue to communicate with you in the way that we do at present. However, we are always grateful for your feedback and will continue to review this.

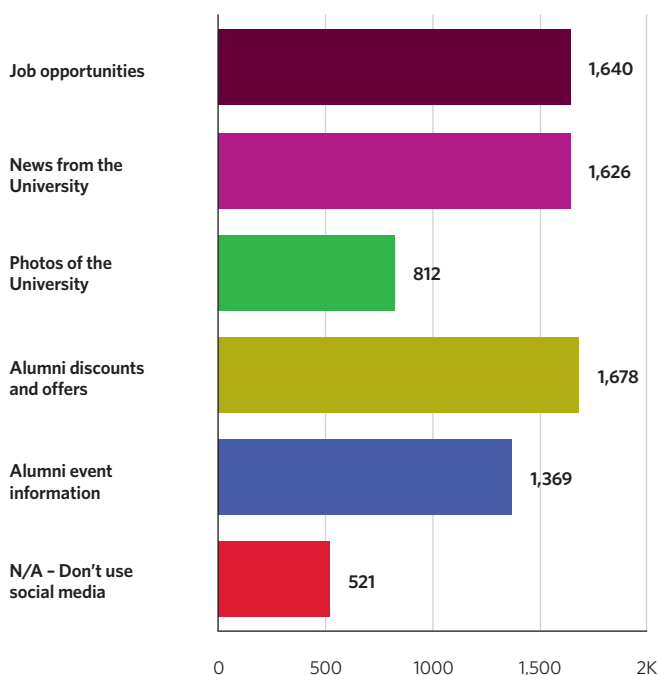
Question: We plan to develop the services and benefits available to our alumni. Which of the following would be of use to you?



What we will do: We do already provide many of the services and benefits listed for our alumni but we will look to promote these to you on a more regular basis. We have also decided to increase the number of benefits we promote from external companies. For more information:

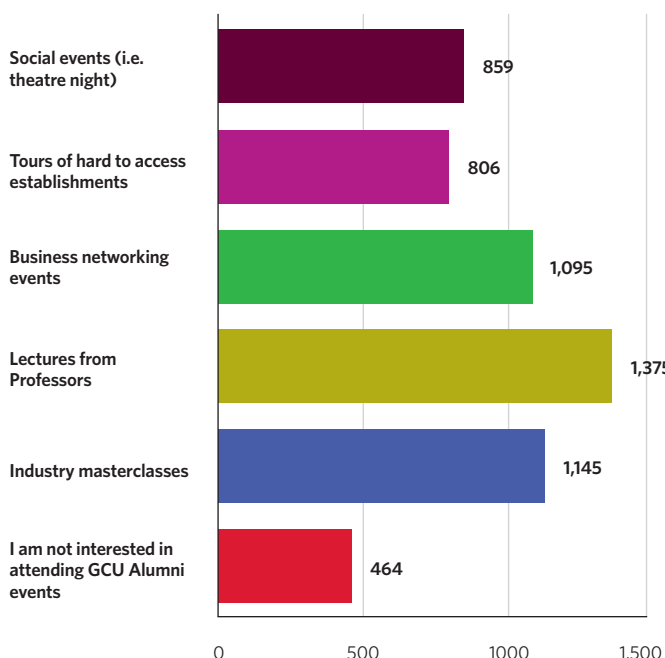
www.gcu.ac.uk/alumni/alumnibenefitsservices

Question: What content would you like to see in GCU Alumni social media?



What we will do: We will promote more of the things that you have indicated that you would be interested in, on our social media pages. In time, we hope to bring you more relevant jobs and we have recently added extra alumni discounts and offers.

Question: What type of events would you like to attend, if any?



What we will do: GCU currently have a fantastic Professorial Lecture Programme throughout the academic year which we will endeavour to increase our promotion of. We are also working on increasing our business networking opportunities and many of you will be invited to industry-relevant events in the coming months and years.

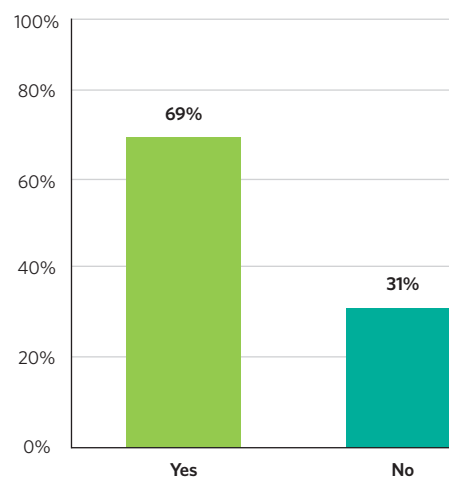
Question: If you were to consider donating to GCU, what type of initiative would you consider supporting?

Of the responders, who said they would consider donating to the University, these were the top three areas that they would support:

1. Helping disadvantaged students to attend University
2. Student Scholarships
3. Community Outreach Projects

What we will do: With more support from our generous alumni we can continue to enhance our provision in these areas, especially around progression to University for pupils coming from disadvantaged areas, in line with our commitment to the common good. We can do this by building on the success of our Caledonian Club activity and offering more initiatives to a greater number of current students and young people.

Question: Do you still work or study in the industry that you got your GCU degree?

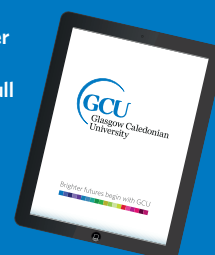


What we will do: We will take into consideration that 31% of you no longer work in the industry connected to your degree and look to keep you updated of events that are of interest to your current industry. Please ensure that we have your most up-to-date job details so that we provide you with the right information, by completing our contact details update form at www.gcu.ac.uk/alumni/update

And the winner is...

Congratulations to Gary Andrew, the winner of a brand new iPad mini, who was chosen from all of the alumni who completed the full survey by the closing date.

Gary said "Winning the iPad Mini Retina is both fortuitous and timely. It is going to be a great help in progressing my 360° panorama and interactive virtual tour business. No more testing on iOS simulators. I can now show clients examples on their preferred platform and demonstrate the cross-platform compatibility on all devices whether it be Windows, Android or iOS. Thank you so much GCU."



Transforming Lives

Pat Dunion graduated from Glasgow College of Technology with a BA in Business Studies. She is now the Chief Operating Officer of Transform Medical Group - the UK's number one provider of cosmetic surgery.



Transform has its own regulated hospitals, 26 clinics and a network of venues around the UK. Services provided include procedures such as nose surgery, hair removal and cellulite treatment.

As Transform's COO, Pat is responsible for the day to day running of a company with over 350 employees and a turnover of over £37m. Her main duty is to deliver the highest levels of patient care across the company, but it's also important to balance this with the delivery of the budgets agreed with Transform's Board of Directors.

"I'm responsible for ensuring we have the appropriate volume and mix of resources to generate the demand which keeps Transform as the UK's number one provider of cosmetic surgery. In addition, I am responsible for the 'supply chain' - that is, providing sufficient and suitably qualified clinical resources to deliver the very best patient care across the clinics we own, and our two cosmetic surgery hospitals."

Recently, Pat has helped to found the Transform Clear Charter, a set of detailed promises Transform makes to their patients and customers in order to make it absolutely clear to them the high level of care they will receive before, during and after their treatment. She is also a member of the Clear Panel,

alongside TV Presenter, Melinda Messenger and Medical Broadcaster, Dr Hilary Jones. This panel come together twice a year to discuss new ways they can deliver the best patient care, and assess whether they are meeting the current standards, in the hope that their ethical and transparent marketing standards will one day be at the forefront of all cosmetic surgery practices.

Pat studied at Glasgow College of Technology in the 1980s and she remembers affectionately her time there and the effects that her degree has had on her career success, "I enjoyed the variety of subjects my degree provided and I remember with much fondness my final year law lecturer, Jennifer Ross, who provided great encouragement. My degree was a sandwich course where I had to spend a year in industry. I did this with IBM in Manchester. This experience proved to be invaluable in gaining employment post-graduation." She ended up returning to IBM and working her way to a high-level in the company over the course of eighteen years.

"Of course I also enjoyed the social aspects of student life and remain great friends with a small group of the people I met during my degree.

"My work experience in my Sandwich year helped me to get where I am now in my career. The wide variety of subjects we covered in my degree helped me understand the big picture involved in driving a successful company. One of the most important things the degree made me realise is the attention to detail required in a business in order to be a successful COO - something I've held onto firmly throughout my career."

Outside of managing the operations of Transform, Pat loves spending time with family

and friends and travelling - anywhere from Majorca to Mozambique: "I'm looking forward to a trip to Madagascar soon!"

We, at GCU, are delighted that Pat is a shining example of our successful alumni community and that she is working to, ethically, transform lives.

For more information:

www.transforminglives.co.uk



Members of the Clear Panel.



The Record Collector

For a man who left school with just a School Certificate, undertaking a Masters in Philosophy at the age of 70 was a great challenge for Bill Dean-Myatt. When he completed his 60,000 word thesis at GCU in 2003 - entitled *Beltona Gramophone Records, 1923-75. Their role in Scottish Popular Culture* - he had fulfilled a life ambition that plugs a gap in Scotland's historical records.

Bill's fascination with Scottish music stemmed from his childhood where his Scottish Grandmother had such an effect on her children, who all grew up in England, that the family regularly attended Caledonian Societies and Burns' Clubs. Bill recalled some of those Scottish influences, "My Grandmother was from Govan and although she died before I was born, my Father always served us porridge with salt for our breakfast and at New Year he couldn't go to his bed until we had had a first footer - I remember

him dragging a drunk off the street one year and giving him 10 shillings!"

Scottish country music is what has stuck with Bill the most from his upbringing, and his love of the genre lead to him contacting every Scottish University in 2002, to ask if they were aware of a discography of Scottish music. Although none of the responses confirmed the existence of such a listing for this niche category of sound recordings, David Hutchison from GCU was very enthusiastic about his research project being compiled and he encouraged Bill to undertake the project as part of a degree at the University.

Bill's initial research into the obscure Beltona record label led to the compilation of a full discography of Scottish recordings, entitled *A Scottish Vernacular Discography, 1888-1960*, which lists over 20,000 titles - including music and spoken word. Readers can find details including artist's names, supporting artists, track listings, recording dates and world-wide issue details. In such a specialist area, Bill has sold a respectable 152 copies to date and has received worldwide interest including sales in the USA, Canada, Germany and Switzerland.

His biggest coup to date, was the National Library of Scotland's (NLS) addition of the discography to their website. Bill said, "For the NLS to pick up on my research was fantastic. I would really like them to create a National Sound Archive but, as with all of these things, budgets are an issue. I have donated over 3,000 records to the NLS already and I have written into my will for the remainder of my 9,000 piece collection to be donated to them, as well as my extensive research papers."

When asked about his motivation to spread the word about his research, Bill enthuses, "I love what I'm doing. Scotland is owed this information. I really want people to be aware of the richness of the Scottish culture. There are some fascinating stories behind some of the recordings - one from 1888 contains a message of congratulation to Benjamin Harrison, the 23rd President of the United States, and another contains a recording by the illustrious philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie."

We, at GCU, are delighted to have supported Bill's delivery of this important register of part of Scotland's history.

For more information:

www.nls.uk/catalogues/scottish-discography



GCU Scholarships – Making a Difference



Mandy Smith was the first GCU student to receive a Brighter Futures Scholarship in 2010 with funds donated by our generous friends and alumni.

"It had been a dream to go to university, a very distant dream, and that dream came true..."

Our donors, through the Brighter Futures Fund, have supported Mandy throughout her Business Studies degree and this June, we enjoyed congratulating Mandy on her graduation!

"...my biggest fear was not being able to cope financially with university, thus having an impact on my workload and commitment to my studies with the result of not being able to complete the four years of a degree."

With growing support for the Brighter Futures Fund, we are now in a position to offer at least five Brighter Futures Scholarships per year. Currently we have 20 Scholars benefiting from the generosity of our donors, and in many cases, this has enabled the first person in the family to take up a coveted place at university.

"I couldn't confide in anyone in my family as being the first in my family to go to university, no one understood the costs and the barriers to this education."

It has been an incredible journey for Mandy. She has achieved academic success, become highly involved with the University's widening access initiative, the Caledonian Club, and gained invaluable skills and experience through a year in industry as part of her course. Throughout all of this, the financial support from the Brighter Futures Scholarship has been the means to continue to give her all to her university experience and be the best she can be.

"The Brighter Futures Fund has given me the chance to fully appreciate university, and the opportunity to really enjoy my studies without the constant worry of costs and bills."

"University has been, by far, the most exciting experience of my life. I can't imagine a career path I would love to take that does not require a degree, and more importantly, I can't imagine being as comfortable about going to university without the help of The Brighter Futures Fund. To those who donate, I can only say thank you."

If you would like to support students like Mandy, please consider donating to the GCU Brighter Futures Fund. For more information visit www.gcu.ac.uk/bff

Other Scholarships at GCU

MA TV Fiction Writing

Scholarships for the MATV programme have been offered since its creation in 2010. In 2013/14, we were fortunate enough to receive and disburse £86,000 of scholarships to the next generation of Television Fiction writers on this flagship programme. Scholarship providers include Warner Bros., Shed Media, BBC Scotland and Fremantle.



Moffat Scholarships

The Moffat Charitable Trust is the University's most generous donor, and have provided funding for more than 150 scholarships worth over £500,000, since 2000, to exceptional students studying Travel, Tourism and Events programmes.



KAR Scholarships

GCU graduate Khalid Abdul Rahim set up a Scholarship Fund of £250,000 at GCU to benefit Construction, Surveying and Engineering students in the School of Engineering and Built Environment. This fund has supported scholarships and international study tours since 2010.



For more information: www.gcu.ac.uk/alumni/supportinggcu/oursupporters

The 10 Question Interview

Afia Aslam

Community Fundraiser and
Volunteer Co-ordinator

Islamic Relief Scotland

MSc Clinical Nutrition and Health

PROFILE: ISLAMIC RELIEF

As well as responding to disasters and emergencies, Islamic Relief promotes sustainable economic and social development by working with local communities – regardless of race, religion or gender.

1. What key things have shaped your career?

My upbringing has always encouraged me to help others - I have always felt that giving time is more important than money. I realise that we have a limited time in this world so I want to ensure that I do something that will be of help to others and be a benefit to the community.

2. What has been the proudest moment of your career?

It was organising the first ever health day in Glasgow. It was a new and risky project which required hard work to put it together, however there was a great response and the benefits are still being seen today. The event was attended by 200 people around Glasgow, showing their support and learning about changing their lifestyle and becoming active, as well as eating healthy. Also, there was a great response from organisations such as Diabetes UK, British Heart Foundation, the local day care for elderly and many others who made the event a huge success.

3. In what ways has working for charities opened your eyes?

It has made me see past the problems in my own life and realise that there are other serious matters out there. It gives me a reason to get out of bed in the morning as I feel I am blessed to have an opportunity to serve humanity. It has shaped me in such a way that I avoid being extravagant and I feel I have no right to complain or moan. I feel we are all equal - it doesn't matter what creed, race or faith you are we should look out for one another as in the 21st century there are parts of the world without shelter, clean water and food and this is unacceptable. It is our responsibility to help.

4. What drew you to GCU and a degree in Nutrition?

It was recommended by previous students, however what drew me in was the fact that the course was accredited by the Association for Nutrition. GCU is a dynamic place to study - being in the heart of city centre - and a great learning environment.

5. What is your best memory of your time at GCU?

It was great to meet international students in my degree and work together with them as well as making new friends and learning about each other. However I would say the best part of GCU was that the University was a great support and very accommodating during a hard and challenging time that I faced while studying.



6. What does your current job involve and how did you get to your current level?

I am a Community Fundraiser and Volunteer Officer for Islamic Relief Scotland and I started off as a volunteer for various organisations and projects. I moved on to become a part-time support staff member in 2012 and built my skills and experience through learning and developing myself from university and voluntary work. My current job involves me working in a variety of areas through fundraising, carrying out awareness projects, liaising with local community projects, training and managing a volunteer network as well as handling the finance and logistics for Islamic Relief in Scotland.

7. What tips do you have for new graduates who are setting out on their careers?

Use your time wisely and soak up as much as you can while you are at university. This could be through

volunteering related to your degree field or not, which gives you great exposure as well as networks and develops new skills. Volunteering can also get you experience to get into your desired field. Be confident and stay positive, look at the skills you have picked up through your degree when setting your career rather than the job title - such as working to deadlines, analytical skills, logical thinking and giving presentations. Sometimes your degree can open more doors than you realise and you can take your career into a completely different direction but you need to be open-minded and creative - think outside the box.

8. What is the biggest challenge for Islamic Relief Scotland?

The challenge for Islamic Relief is to reach out to more people as poverty levels are still high. So increasing fundraising targets is key so we can provide the basic needs and sustainable long-term projects to those in need so that nobody is facing poverty alone. We won The Community Award at the Scottish Asian Business Awards 2012 - this really helped to raise our profile and to get our name out there amongst some key stakeholders.

9. What are your ambitions for the future?

I'd like to go abroad on a field trip that requires emergency aid and physically analyse the situation and implement it myself, which will allow me to grow and expand in Islamic Relief. I hope, in the near future, that I can reach out to more people and expand the nutrition business I have in mind which is more about helping people make a difference to their lifestyle and health through nutrition and awareness.

10. What is your favourite city in the world and why?

That would be Glasgow! Probably because it lies close to my heart, it was where I was brought up, received my education as well as where I met my friends and most of my family are here too. Glasgow has a friendly and warm feeling as it has the vibrant west end area with boutiques, museums, restaurants and many other buildings such as Merchant City, Mitchell Library and the Lighthouse - which are all unique. There is a huge amount of diversity in Glasgow which makes it my favourite city.

For more information: www.islamic-relief.org.uk



Afia receiving the Community Award at the Scottish Asian Business awards in 2012, which Habib Malik of Islamic Relief Scotland won.





Why every child in the world deserves a free school meal

His mission may seem impossible to many, but more than 800,000 children worldwide already depend on him. GCU met the founder of international children's charity Mary's Meals and GCU's latest honorary graduate.

Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow hasn't been home for days. He arrives at GCU direct from a fundraising trip to Los Angeles, having allowed himself only a brief pit stop in the Mary's Meals Glasgow office to gather his thoughts.

As delighted as he is to be receiving an honorary degree of Doctor of the University from GCU, he has the look in his eyes of a man whose body clock has long since quit trying to keep up. But that, he explains, is what he does: "If it's to do with Mary's Meals I feel that I'm supposed to be standing up and telling people about it.

"The way people are moved to work all over the world is an incredible thing to watch. I feel that my own role – and those of the staff who are working every day on this – is to support that global movement."

As you'd expect from a man who founded an organisation that now feeds 822,000 children worldwide, foreign travel is a bit of a theme. Mary's Meals itself grew from one such trip. It was the early 90s, Magnus was working as a salmon farmer in his native Argyll, and Bosnia, a country he'd visited regularly throughout his childhood, was in the middle of a bloody civil war.

Magnus and his brother watched a news bulletin

featuring somewhere in Bosnia they knew well – Medjugorje, a place of religious pilgrimage linked to the Virgin Mary.

"There was a report about refugees and how they were suffering. My brother and I started asking wouldn't it be great if we could do a small thing to help those people. So we launched a very simple little appeal to family and friends. About three weeks after that, we found ourselves driving a Land Rover with all those donated things to Bosnia and delivering them to a refugee camp."

On his return to Scotland, Magnus expected to go back to work. But the people who'd engaged with his earlier appeal had other plans. He found his house packed with new donations and, though he didn't know it then, what is now Mary's Meals had been born.

"It was only then that I thought about it, and prayed about it, and decided to give up my job. I had a little house in the village and I sold that and someone gave me a truck and at that point I decided to continue driving back and forth. I thought it would last a few months, maybe a year."

The charity was initially called Scottish International Relief and carried out a range of projects in many different countries. Mary's Meals – the delivery of one meal per day to children in a place of education – started life as a campaign but grew in importance until it became the sole aim and name of the charity in 2002. The significance of delivering the meal at school is the hope that in the longer term education will help provide a route out of poverty.

"We always bring it back to the simplicity. We don't want to get tempted to complicate this and add on other parts," Magnus explained.

And it's this back to basics philosophy which

connects so powerfully with the thousands-strong network of volunteers and donors who still provide the vast bulk of the charity's funding. And although the charity has grown in size and scope, receiving Scottish Government and philanthropic donations, Magnus still prefers to see it as a "grass roots" organisation, one that is run out of the shed in Dalmally where he stacked his first Bosnian donations.

That a major worldwide aid organisation is run out of a tin shed is as much a reflection of the person who founded it as anything else. A tall, unassuming man – who played shinty for Scotland – he seems an unlikely front person for a multinational aid agency. He says his chronic shyness led to him dropping out of a history and politics degree at Stirling University and he still gets nervous when asked to speak publicly on topics unrelated to the charity.

But ask him what prompted him to dedicate his life to helping others and the answer is not hard to come by: faith. He was brought up a devout Catholic and the influence of his religion on his life choices is a clear thread which runs throughout his conversation. He speaks of his "desire to put my faith at the centre of my life." Which is not to say he is pious.

Speaking of growing up in the Highlands, he says: "That's certainly not to say that I became a saintly teenager. I got into plenty of scrapes and had the usual teenage traumas. I had a life very similar to most teenagers – and probably a wild one at that. But I never lost my faith, it was always there, and I always came back to it when I had to make decisions."

Mary's Meals has around 200 paid staff. Most

are based in Africa, in the charity's largest projects in Liberia and Malawi. This number is dwarfed by the organisation's army of volunteers – more than 65,000 in Malawi alone, and 700 based in the UK. They all work towards a single goal – the provision of one meal in a place of education for every child in the world.

"We always think about the next school or the next child on the waiting list – because there's always someone next on the waiting list. That's what drives me on."

It's a simple idea. Too simple say some of its detractors, questioning whether relying on a Scotland-based charity to feed so many children in Africa and beyond is first of all sustainable, and secondly contributing anything to tackling the deeper structural problems which lead to such widespread global hunger and entrenched poverty.

Magnus has heard the questions before, and quickly points out the fact that the Malawian government is now feeding more of its own children, basing some of its work on the Mary's Meals example, adding that the charity sources as much of the food as possible from the countries they work in and therefore support local economies.

"Our vision is that every child in the world should be able to receive a meal every day in their place of education. We believe that's possible. We don't believe Mary's Meals will deliver every one of those meals. Clearly it won't, or shouldn't even aspire to that. There are other organisations – particularly governments – who are and should be providing school meals."

He bristles slightly, motivated, you suspect, by what he has seen, and the people he has met, on his travels: "There are between three and four million hungry children that no one is reaching just now; there's 59 million out of school, so there's clearly far more to be done."

Married in 1996 to nurse Julie, whom Magnus met through the charity's early work, he has seven children between the ages of two and 16. What was their reaction when they were introduced to the poverty Mary's Meals works so hard to alleviate?

"They haven't actually been to Africa. Please God; one day they'll get that opportunity. Having seven kids is a big financial factor when you're trying to get them somewhere. On Mary's Meals salaries it's not something I'd be able to do very easily. But hopefully one day. They all certainly want to. So as they get older, I'm saying we might take one out at a time."

At first the answer is surprising, then less so when you think it through. Magnus is determined that the charity he founded should stay committed to its humble beginnings, knowing that that is Mary's Meals great strength.

"It is a very simple concept that works. People love it on both sides of the work. People in the communities who volunteer to cook and serve the food believe in it because they see that it works – it changes the lives of their children. It's the same here, in terms of the way people support it. They see it for what it is – something very simple that changes lives."

For more information: www.marysmeals.org



From Scotland to Malawi and GCU: Magnus delivers the Mary's Meals message.



Congratulations to our 2013 Alumni Achievement Award winners!

The annual Alumni Achievement Awards (AAA) recognise and celebrate the successes and contributions that our alumni make to society in their chosen path. The awards are given to graduates from Glasgow Caledonian University and its founding institutions who have excelled in their chosen field, made contributions to society, the community, humanitarian issues, the arts, sport or charitable work, or special contributions to the life and development of the University.

We are delighted to award this to three very deserving alumni of GCU:

Christopher TO - BEng (Hons) Manufacturing Systems with Electronics, 1992, Glasgow Polytechnic – Executive Director, Construction Industry Council and Council Member, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre



Awarded for leadership in Arbitration and his work on Zero Carbon Building technology.

"I am delighted and honoured to receive such a prestigious award. I enjoyed my time at GCU enormously - in fact the attitude and dedication of those who put their heart and soul into teaching me gave me an impression that the University is indeed a cut above the rest when it comes to delivering quality and innovative teaching techniques. The University gave me direction and a sense of purpose in life which is to strive for excellence and dedication wherever possible. Thank you GCU for being my guiding star."

Christopher is a recognised authority on alternative dispute resolution techniques and is a sought-after speaker/moderator at international forums. He was the Secretary-General of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre. He was selected by the World Economic Forum to work towards its 2030 initiative, which aims to understand current and future trends, risks, and opportunities at both global and regional levels.

In 2007 he was awarded Young Global Leader 2007 status by the World Economic Forum to recognise the most distinguished 250 young leaders below the age of 40, from around the world. Christopher played a key role in the World's first zero carbon building (ZCB), which is a pioneering project to showcase state-of-the-art zero carbon building technologies and raise community awareness of sustainable living in Hong Kong.

Jaswant Hayre - BA (Hons) Business Studies, 1990, Glasgow College of Technology - Managing Director and Head of International Tax - Americas, APAC and EMEA, The Bank of New York Mellon



Awarded for leadership in the field of Banking and his work with aiding injured Royal Marines.

"I am deeply honoured to have been chosen to receive this award. However, it truly belongs to those wonderful lecturers who gave me my education at GCU, and in particular Dr John Cooper, as without them I would not be where I am today. It is a debt that cannot ever be repaid."

After graduating, Jas left Scotland and started a distinguished career in Accountancy for professional firms and financial institutions. In 2004 he was awarded a Fellowship in the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales. Jas is now in a senior position at The Bank of New York Mellon in London where he has responsibility for a wide range of businesses globally.

Jas enjoys motor racing, and uses this hobby to assist with the rehabilitation of injured Royal Marines returning from Afghanistan, regularly taking injured soldiers around Brands Hatch in his racing Lotus. He also regularly takes terminally ill children around Ford's test track at Dunton (pictured) - albeit in his slower classic Ferrari.

Pat Dunion - BA (Hons) Business Studies, 1987, Glasgow College of Technology - Chief Operating Officer, Transform Medical Group



Awarded for business excellence and her work on the Transform Clear Charter.

"I am thrilled, delighted and extremely honoured to have been nominated and chosen as a winner of the award. Having a year's work experience as part of a sandwich course went a long way to securing my first full time job. Given how valuable this was for me I have always made it a point to work with local colleges and universities to offer work experience opportunities to undergraduates wherever I have worked. GCU taught me a broad

range of topics in business which really set me on my way and has helped me in my role as a COO."

As Transform's COO, Pat is responsible for the day to day running of a company with around 350 employees and a turnover of over £37 million. Her main duty is to deliver the highest levels of patient care across the company, but she also has to balance this with the delivery of the budgets agreed with Transform's Board of Directors.

She is an advocate for ethical practice and is member of the Transform Clear Panel, which discusses new ways of delivering best patient care in the hope that Transform's ethical and transparent marketing standards will one day be at the forefront of all cosmetic surgery practices.

Douglas Dawson - HND Engineering Management, 1982, Glasgow College of Technology - Chief Operating Officer, Caparo Gp

Awarded for leadership in the field of Engineering and the Caparo partnership with the RSA Academy.



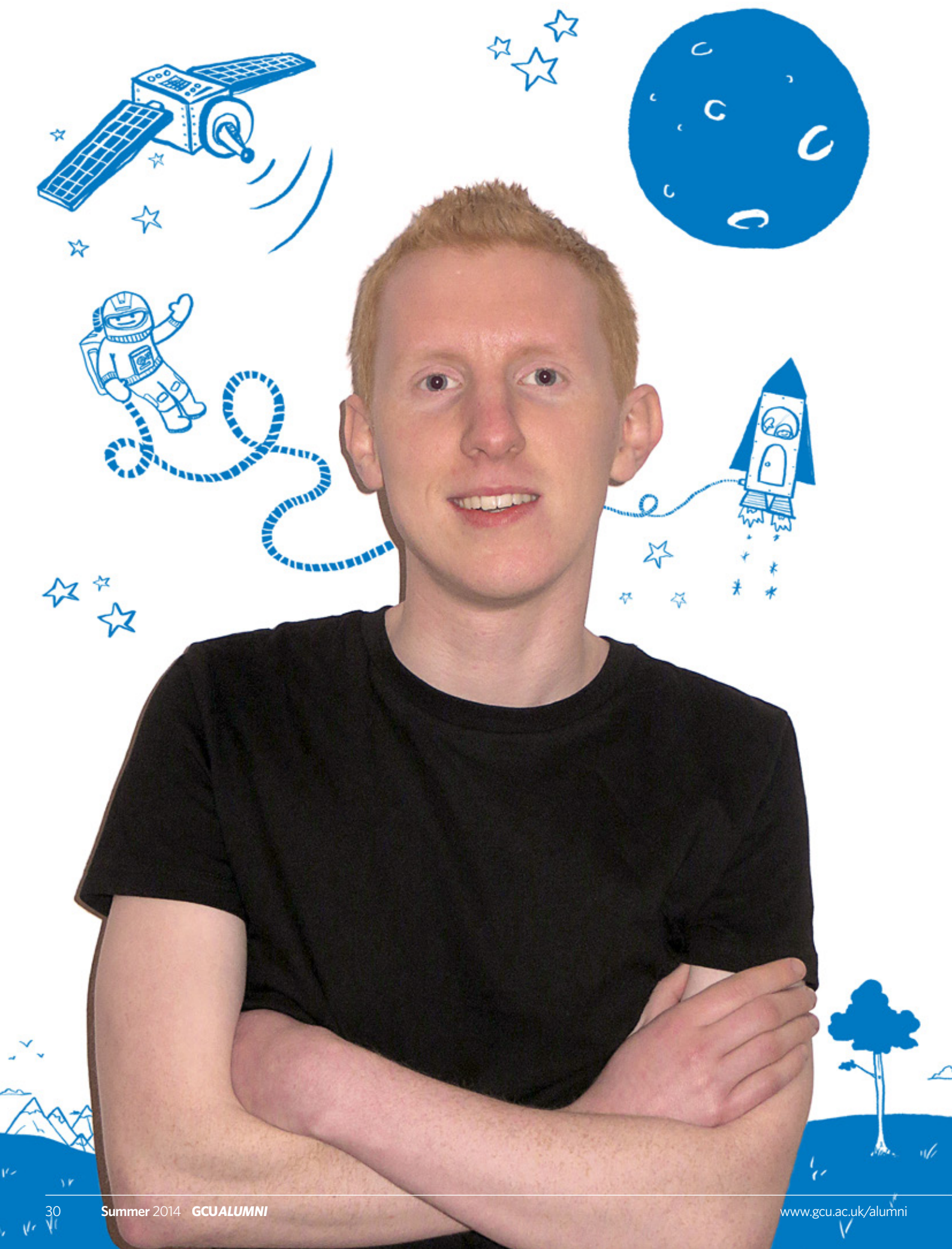
"I was surprised, humbled and delighted to receive this award. GCU was the first step for me on a very exciting and rewarding

career in Engineering and Industry and without the platform that the GCU provided me with I would not have been able to realise my ambitions. I hope this award gives inspiration to all young people contemplating a career in Industry regardless of their background."

After his graduation, Douglas spent the early part of his career as a Chief Engineer in the Navy and subsequently gained over 25 years of experience in industry including senior positions within BTR Industries, Citicorp Venture Capital and SPX Corp.

Currently he is COO of Caparo Group, a £1.5 billion turnover privately owned global industrial group. Caparo manufactures products/services ranging from street lighting to vehicle braking systems and is noted for producing the fastest accelerating road car in the world, the Caparo T1 (pictured).

Douglas is very proud of his humble beginnings in Glasgow and is passionate in providing opportunities for all young engineers who otherwise would be denied the possibility of excelling in a career in engineering & manufacturing. He demonstrated this commitment when partnered with the RSA Academy to create 12 apprenticeships for students. As well as the 12 apprenticeships, the company will also offer a university scholarship for one RSA Academy student with engineering aspirations.



To Infinity and Beyond!

“Yeah, it would be kind of cool!” is Glasgow Caledonian University alumnus, Tom Walkinshaw’s reaction to being asked whether his ambition is to go into space one day. And while that might be a little ambitious for most young Scots, most of them don’t have the drive, thrust and ambition of the 24-year-old entrepreneur.

Scots may have proudly led the world in inventions and innovations, but is space a final frontier too far for us? Not according to Walkinshaw, who spent four years at GCU and achieved a BA (Hons) in Business Studies in 2011.

When one door closes, that is often the signal for wannabe business gurus to give up and try and get a ‘proper’ job. For Walkinshaw, it only heightened his focus on the future.

He set up his Alba Orbital company in Glasgow a year ago and took on his first employee recently. He now calls Alba a serious company. The initial aim of his European micro-satellite company was for space burial. Whilst blasting the ashes of your nearest and dearest into the abyss may sound like a wacky project to some, the Biggar businessman had done his research and was convinced there was a market for it. He got a good amount of publicity and the future looked promising. That was until he came up against red tape and the UK Space Agency.

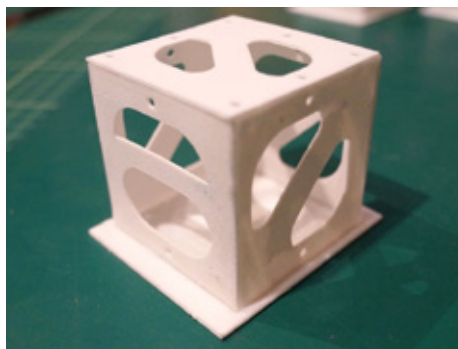
Walkinshaw explained: “It proved really hard to get a licence to do this in the UK and it ended up being very frustrating.

“What made it worse is that an American company have now got the rights to it. I actually met the guy when I went over to Silicon Valley and spoke to him. Good luck to him and if it does work out, at least I have the consolation of knowing that it was our idea. It’s all part of the learning process I suppose.”

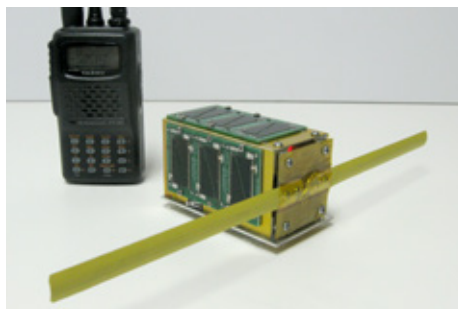
From there, Walkinshaw turned his attention to a new concept, with space again being the goal. His new idea is launching inexpensive, small and fully-functioning satellites, which would be launched in

Russia. The idea is that businesses and universities can launch their own satellites for a relatively cheap outlay.

The satellites, called PocketQube, can weigh as little as 150 grammes and be launched individually or several can be stacked together and propelled into space.



3d printed skeleton PocketQube structure.



\$50 sat – the world’s smallest/cheapest satellite.

He explained: “The vast majority of those that have been launched are used as an educational tool by universities. They have proved to be very popular in the USA. For example, you can launch a satellite for less than the cost of a lecturer for a year.

“The whole concept is to sidestep one of the biggest barriers into satellite launches... cost. Scotland is soon to launch its first ever satellite in February from a site in Kazakhstan. Lots of people don’t know that something like this exists and our job is to get the message out to them. So the interest is there and we hope it will catch on.”

Walkinshaw used crowdfunding site Kickstarter to fund the project and is confident the idea will take off... literally. But what is slightly puzzling is that he admits he’s no space fanatic and only got into the idea recently.

He said: “I studied Business at GCU and I suppose that’s not an obvious route to space exploration!

“But it’s such a fascinating subject now. You look at the likes of the billionaire Elon Musk and his SpaceX company, who has said that it’s his dream to colonise Mars one day. And you wouldn’t bet against him.

“I’m only 24 so I am not sure about going into space yet, but you never say never!

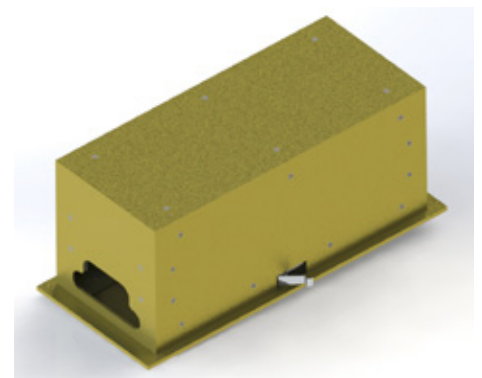
“There’s only one satellite company in Scotland, Clyde Space, which is also based in Glasgow, so I think there’s something there for us.”

Walkinshaw certainly has plenty of fond memories of his time at the University and says it has helped him in his current role and future ambitions.

He said: “GCU have been really helpful to me throughout. It was a really great learning experience during my time there and I owe them a lot.

“One of the lecturers has been great to me and given me plenty of pointers. I look back at my time there with fondness and it’s certainly helped me in my future ambitions.”

For more information: www.pocketqubeshop.com



2p flight structure.



PocketQube Shop

Keep In Touch

The complete list of all those who contributed updates is available on our website: www.gcu.ac.uk/alumni/keepintouch/tellusyourstories

1960s

Ena Gemmell (née Bell)

Diploma Domestic Science 1961

Married Ian Gemmell, Vet student, in Glasgow. We have two children - David and Mhairi. David is married to Laura and is a Golf Professional. They have twin boys aged five. Mhairi has been married then divorced. She was a Project Manager with an IT firm but made redundant and now has a cleaning business. I taught for seven years before children arrived, then helped with the veterinary business. I'm now retired and have holidays and enjoy our twin grandsons and our three dogs - two spaniels and a little black pug.

1970s

Mary Wishart (née Kerr)

Diploma Group III 1971

On graduating I went to work in East Kilbride. I had two boys and then worked in Glasgow. I then trained to be an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher. I also worked in Fife and Edinburgh. After retirement I moved to near Kirkcudbright and spend my time doing archival work in an NTS property - Broughton House. This is the former residence of Edward Hornel who was one of the Glasgow boys. I also make tea at a Mums and Tots Group, fundraise for Macmillan Cancer, make bobbin lace, spin and weave and I am a member of the U3A.

James Walker

HNC Mechanical Engineering 1977

I got my HNC and set off to travel the world but forgot to come back to Bonnie Scotland. Came to the US for a one year contract in 1981 and am still here!

Iain Henderson

HND Accounting 1977

I would just like to hear from anyone who was on the course with me. Married with three children and have had quite an interesting time. I like the usual - skiing, fast cars, music, football, rugby and a little bit of golf and a few other things.

Donald Cameron

HND Civil Engineering 1978

Have remained in Engineering for my entire career but moved into Mechanical with a BSc from the Open University. Have worked for Lloyd's Register in London for 24 years, currently manager of the Technical Investigation Department. My Niece, Heather Steele, followed me to the renamed Glasgow Caledonian University to graduate in Nursing in the 2000s.

1980s

Stephen Kerridge

BSc Applied Biology 1981

Since leaving college I moved through sales and marketing in the pharma industry finally holding a senior position in GSK. I left to move into outsourced Pharma services as a director for a leading company then in 2000 set up my own company which grew to 500 employees before I sold in 2007. Since then I have been semi-retired and act as Chairman for a couple of Pharma service companies and Corporate Advisor for a Japanese company in Tokyo. In my personal life I sail and ski as much as I can!

Douglas Dawson

HND Engineering Management 1982

In 1978 I joined Glasgow College of Technology as an Marine Engineering Officer Cadet. After graduating and subsequently reaching the rank of Chief Engineer after ten years I left and joined UK Industry. My career then progressed with a USA flavour seeing me work for Citi Corp Venture Capital and SPX Corporation. After 9/11 I left the USA and started my own UK-based engineering group and for the last four years I have run the Caparo Group; a £1.5Bn turnover diversified industrial most noted for the Caparo T1 hypercar.

Ann Wyllie (née McCaig)

BA Home Economics 1987

I graduated as a mature student with three children. After a variety of jobs in youth and community training I specialised in credit union development and training credit union volunteers. I worked with Renfrewshire Council as a Credit Union Development Officer and worked with a group of small local credit unions to amalgamate them together into a larger credit union, which covered the whole of Renfrewshire giving low cost financial services to everyone who lived and worked in the area. I am now retired and enjoying life with my family and eight grandchildren. I love my life.

Robert Hamilton

BA Social Sciences 1989

After a "gap year" before they were fashionable I went onto to study Divinity at Edinburgh University and was ordained into the Church of Scotland Ministry in 1995, into my first parish in Irvine. I am presently Minister of a fairly busy town centre church in Airdrie and am forever grateful for the grounding I received at "The Tech" and would so love to know what others are up to.

1990s

Jaswant Hayre

BA Business Studies 1990

Reluctantly left Scotland, but thoroughly enjoying Kent and London. Qualified as a Chartered Accountant and entered Banking. Now working in the City of London for an American Bank. Involved in a lot of motorsport activities, and regularly take injured Royal Marines for fast laps around Brands Hatch in one of my cars as an "event day out" for them.



Andrew Cochran

PgD Management Studies 1992

Graduated in 1992 and left within a month to Canada and worked in Operations Management at ITT and Stanley before securing a position in Executive Management in 1995 at I-Gard. Still at the same company responsible for international growth of this niche electrical safety company. The foundation in strategic planning and execution gained at GCU has been invaluable.

Julie Lyon (née Kerr/Cameron)

BA Social Sciences 1994

I moved to England straight after my finals and have finally ended up in Cornwall. I can't imagine living anywhere else now. I have remarried and am working as a Lecturer in Sociology and Politics. I love life down here! I scuba dive and snorkel and walk my wee dog on the many beaches. I have such fond memories of my time at the Cally!

Federico Guzzo

BA Exchange Student 1996

From September 1995 until June 1996 I spent one very useful academic year in GCU in the framework of the ERASMUS programme (BA Business Studies). After graduating in Italy, I worked for one of the Big Four in the audit sector for more than five years. For about ten years I have worked for the European Union in Brussels. I think that my career path would not have been possible without the experience I got in GCU. I still remember the informal and constructive atmosphere in GCU, as well as the nice time I spent with my colleagues in Glasgow.



Jonathan Brown

MSc Information and Administrative Management 1999

I progressed to the University of Paisley to complete a postgraduate diploma in Urban Property Appraisal. I am now a member of the RICS and having worked in the UK and Central Europe, I am now based in Abu Dhabi working for ALDAR Properties PJSC as Senior Development Manager. I am currently responsible for the development of Yas Mall which extends to 235,000m² GLA. Yas Mall is a super regional shopping destination and is set to become one of the top 30 largest malls in the world.



2000s

Wasim Arshad

BA Accountancy 2001

After graduating I went to London to work in a CA practice. After two years I returned to work in Scotland and did so in a CA practice for seven years. I gave up Accounting to focus on my own businesses as

well as large property portfolio. My business portfolio includes SUBWAY and Baguette Express franchises. For Baguette Express, I am the master franchisor for north east of England and have plans to open 50 stores in that region. Currently on seven. Married and couldn't be happier! Work hard, play hard and enjoy the simple things in life, like my family.

**Karen Cameron**

Diploma Nursing 2003

Fab time and experience, can't believe it's 11 years since we graduated!

Sohaib Shafiq

BSc Optometry 2005

A fantastic institution that helped gear me towards my career! Now working in my own opticians and traveling the world when not at work!

Silvia Lindsay (née Garcia-Ormaechea)

MSc Waste Management 2006

Since graduating I have worked in four different countries: UK, Spain, United Arab Emirates and New Zealand. My MSc degree allowed me to find jobs easily - demonstrating to employers that I have qualifications from a reputable British university. Nowadays I try to balance my personal and professional life as I am a proud Mum of one child and another is on his way!

Anthony Eyo

MSc Network Security 2007

I am a Leisure Consultant with a Tourism/Leisure Company, and founded a project where I (and invited guest speakers who are successful in their chosen career) speak to teenagers on leadership and careers for free. Thus far we have interacted with over 8,000.

Zhong Sun

MSc Psychology and Mental Health 2008

I was the only Asian student in my programme and also the first Chinese. After graduation, I came back to China and continued a PhD programme in Shanghai, but haven't finished yet. Avoiding being a boring female PhD student. I experienced a lot, I worked part-time, I travelled, I helped people as a Psychological Counsellor, I got married, I had my own child, I nearly got divorced, I made a lot of new friends, I created a new me, I emigrated to Canada and might start a new life there next year. All in all - I love GCU and so proud of being a GCU-er.

Mark Laird

MSc Network Security 2009

Very quickly became self-employed. I now run a business in Scotland's West Coast, designing and installing high end residential networks, Security and Home Cinema Systems. Also involved with Entrepreneurial Spark - a fantastic but young industry bringing home control, digital health care to the home. It's hard work, but with great support from GCU and their business support facility I aim to be the premier business of this type in Scotland.

Maryam Shehu

MSc Public Health 2010

After graduation I immediately got a contract with an NGO (Nigerian Interfaith Action Association). My role was to coordinate the NGOs programme in one of the states in my country (Nigeria). It was very interesting as we worked on a malaria outreach programme to the people on the use of mosquito nets, with the help of religious leaders in the community. I got married in 2011, had a little boy by the end of the year and I'm currently working with the National Oil Spill detection and Response Agency as an Environmental Scientist.

Happy Kalongonda (née Masamba)

MSc International Tourism Enterprise 2012

Currently I am the Head of Hospitality at The Malawi Institute of Tourism. I am glad to be the first female to head the department.

Sharmin Mukta

Diploma Nursing and Midwifery 2013

My home district is far from Dhaka. My mother is a Housewife and Father is a Farmer. I have three sisters and no brothers. In our country, if any family hasn't a son they think they have no support. They think female children are vulnerable. But I support my family by educating myself and becoming confident by gaining knowledge. I want to go abroad, especially to GCU Glasgow. I completed my Diploma course from the Grameen Caledonian College of Nursing and want to study for the BSc from GCU.



Due to the overwhelming response we are unable to publish all updates in the magazine. To view all updates from the past year or submit an update of your own please visit: www.gcu.ac.uk/alumni/keepintouch/tellusyourstories

Obituaries

It is with great sadness that we inform you that Professor Velitchko Manahilov, Professor of Visual Neuroscience, tragically passed away in January 2014.



The University is sad to announce that Professor Ailsa McKay, Professor of Economics passed away in March 2014 at the age of 50, following a battle with cancer. First Minister Alex Salmond praised her "astonishing contribution" in the campaign for gender quality. GCU is establishing a scholarship in Ailsa's name.



We are sorry to announce that David MacLennan, Honorary Graduate of GCU, sadly passed away in June 2014 after suffering from motor neurone disease. David was an acclaimed actor, writer and producer and was known most recently for running the successful A Play, a Pie and a Pint theatre project.



Alumni Benefits and Services

CPD/Short Courses

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is a lifelong learning initiative which provides the opportunity to study for a qualification through part-time, distance learning and short courses while remaining in employment. This can be achieved by obtaining and developing a wide range of knowledge, skills and experience, which are not normally acquired during initial training or routine work.

Glasgow Caledonian University has been running management education and development programmes since 1971. Since then we have provided a high quality, innovative learning experience for more than 3,000 professionals.

A recent survey of our alumni found that more than 45% are interested in information about short courses, CPD and further studies.

For more information: www.gcu.ac.uk/alumni/furtherstudy

Advertise your company vacancies



Advertise job vacancies and internship opportunities at your company for free and recruit a fellow GCU graduate or a GCU student.

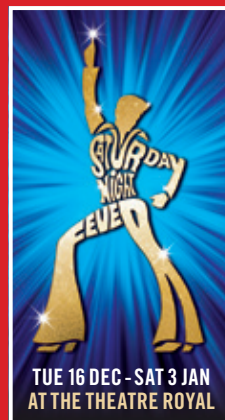
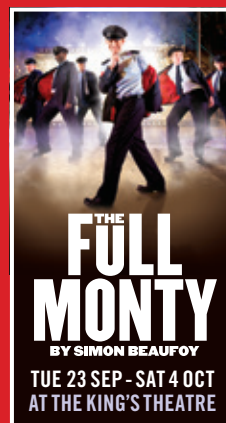
To recruit a GCU student or a recent graduate:
<http://employer.gcu.prospects.ac.uk>

To recruit more senior graduates, post a job discussion in our LinkedIn group: 'Glasgow Caledonian Alumni (Official)'.

Additional Alumni Benefits

- 20% off fees for postgraduate courses at GCU
- Dedicated career coaching platform
- Discounts on conference facility hire at GCU Glasgow and London
- Discount on GCU library membership
- Discount on membership at the Arc Gym, Glasgow campus
- 20% discount at the GCU Eye Clinic
- Two years free careers support, post-graduation
- Purchase graduation merchandise including DVDs
- GCU credit card
- Discounted theatre tickets in Glasgow and London
- Discounts at florists, car rental, airport parking, cottage holidays and more

For more information: www.gcu.ac.uk/alumni/alumnibenfitsservices



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Ryan Bounagui
Brighter Futures Fund Scholar

“ I am a recipient of the Brighter Futures Fund and it has honestly made a remarkable difference, allowing me to keep up with the essentials, such as books, exam fees and refectory lunches!

I will be forever grateful to the Brighter Futures Fund. ”

Ryan Bounagui 3rd year BA (Hons) Multimedia Journalism, Brighter Futures Fund Scholar at GCU



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