



# News

For friends and alumni of the University of Glasgow living in North America

## Keeping it in the family



**Pictured**  
Yogesh (proudly wearing his UoG t-shirt), Jhansi, Bina, Arjun and Manavi during their recent trip back to the UK.

### For the Katechia family, attending the University is fast becoming a tradition which is set to span future generations.

Dr Yogesh Katechia (MBChB 1987) & Dr Bina Katechia (nee Solanki) (BDS 1990) recently returned to the University to celebrate as their nephew Kashyap graduated this year with an MBChB. Kashyap is the most recent Glasgow graduate from the Katechia family, and there are more yet to come!

Yogesh and Bina met for the first time by chance on Hillhead Street. Bina had just arrived in Glasgow to commence her studies and Yogesh was part way through his degree. They both chose to study at Glasgow for similar reasons: outstanding reputation of the medical and dental schools, long tradition of medical teaching and innovation and a diverse and exciting student population.

In 1996, 3 years after the birth of their daughter Jhansi (age 16), they moved to Connecticut where their family grew with the arrival of Manavi (age 11) and Arjun (age 8). Bina specialized in pediatric dentistry and is an Assistant Professor at the University of Connecticut Health Center. She was recently named one of Connecticut's Top Dentists by 'Connecticut' magazine. Yogesh is a primary care specialist and has served as Chief of Service in Family Practice at the William W Backus Hospital. They are both very much involved with teaching in their professions as Bina trains dental students and residents

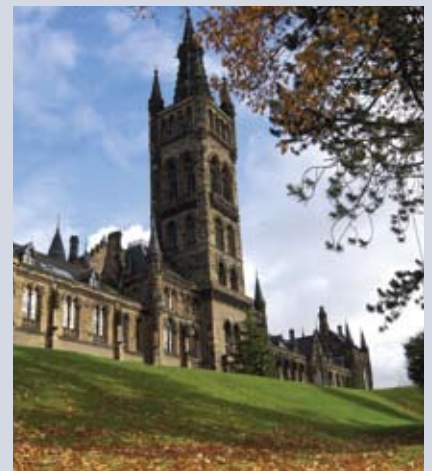
in all aspects of Pediatric Dentistry and Yogesh mentors medical students in his practice. They feel indebted to Glasgow which 'cemented their love of learning', and teaching is their way of giving something back. This love of learning has enabled Bina to gain a diploma in Forensic Dentistry and a Master of Science in Oral Medicine.

Some 22 years after Yogesh graduated there are still members of the family studying at Gilmorehill. Their love of the University itself sparked a family tradition to study at Glasgow, and so far they have been followed by four nephews, Kalpesh (BDS 1996), Avinash (BEng 1996), Kashyap (MBChB 2009) and Devvrat, who is due to complete his MBChB in 2011.

Both Yogesh and Bina talk about how fortunate they are to have had the chance to study at Glasgow and how proud they are of their University.

Most recently their daughter Jhansi has expressed an interest in following in her parent's footsteps into medicine or dentistry and hopes to come to Glasgow in a few years time. Yogesh and Bina would love for their children to experience the Glasgow education which they feel has truly benefited them in being able to work effortlessly in many different environments both here and abroad.

## Update from Glasgow



### After a successful string of events over the summer we are busy preparing for our autumn and winter activities and appeals.

We would like to say thank you to our Canadian alumni who recently took part in the spring Telephone Campaign and gave generously to the University's priority projects. We are now planning to call our alumni in the USA as part of the autumn Campaign to raise funds for AAGU.

We are continuing to work with AAGU and our various regional groups in the USA and Canada to plan a number of alumni events for the coming months (see back page for more information). It is hoped that we can develop our programme of alumni activities to support our growing network and to help encourage future students from the US and Canada to choose Glasgow.

Please contact Emma if you have questions regarding giving from the US and Canada, or Emily if you would like more information about any of our planned events. We can be contacted via the details on the back and would be delighted to answer your queries.

# Giving form

American Alumni of Glasgow University

Please complete this form and return to: Melvyn Pond, President, AAGU, 198 West River St, Milford, CT 06460-3468

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name at graduation (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (inc zip code) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

Degree and Subject \_\_\_\_\_

Give online: [www.glasgow.ac.uk/services/alumni/aagu](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/services/alumni/aagu)

Please accept my gift to further the mission of American Alumni of Glasgow University.

I would like to make a gift in the amount of \$...

I will give this amount every year for .... years.

I enclose my check payable to American Alumni of Glasgow University.

My company will match my gift; I will forward the appropriate forms to AAGU.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to convey to the Board of Directors of AAGU my hope that consideration will be given to allocating this contribution to \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that AAGU's Board of Directors retains sole discretion and control over all gifts made to help support its grants to Glasgow University.

The University may not include my name in its publications in connection with or by reason of my gift to AAGU

Thank you for your donation. Acknowledgement of your gift will be sent to you.

Details about this gift will be shared with the University. American Alumni of Glasgow University is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization (recognised by the U.S Internal Revenue Service) which funds grants that benefit the University of Glasgow. In compliance with IRS regulations, the Board of Directors of American Alumni of Glasgow University maintains complete discretion over allocation of gifts to the University. A copy of its latest annual report may be obtained, upon request, from its Treasurer.

If you are giving from Canada, please complete the form opposite.

# Glasgow graduate to chair the Board of Regents of the American College of Physicians.

Robert G Luke, MD, a professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Cincinnati, is the 2009-2010 Chair-elect of the Board of Regents of the American College of Physicians. He will become Chair of the Board of Regents, ACP's main policymaking board, in April 2010.

Prior to the University of Cincinnati, Dr Luke served on the faculty at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the University of Kentucky Medical Center, and was a research fellow at Yale. After receiving his MBChB from the University in 1959, he completed his internship at Glasgow and his residency and renal fellowships at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Dr Luke has been in academic medicine in the US since 1968 and is actively engaged in the teaching of house staff and medical students.



# Rev George M Docherty

The Rev George M Docherty, the Glasgow-born graduate responsible for the adding of "under God" to the American Pledge of Allegiance, died at the aged 97 in November 2008 of a heart ailment in his home in Pennsylvania, USA.



George Macpherson Docherty, born 1911, was a shipping clerk in his youth before entering the ministry in his 20s and gaining an MA from the University of Glasgow in 1935. In 1950 Rev Docherty made his move across the Atlantic and became pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. This historic Washington Church was attended by Abraham Lincoln when he was president in the 1860s and each year holds a special service to mark Lincoln's birthday which is traditionally attended by the president.

On February 7th 1954 at one such service President Dwight D. Eisenhower sat in Lincoln's pew and was urged by Rev Docherty to have the pledge to the flag amended, saying, "To omit the words 'under God' in the Pledge of Allegiance is to omit the definitive factor in the American way of life." President Eisenhower listened. With the threat of communism in the air, Rev Docherty's message immediately resounded on Capitol Hill; Bills were introduced in Congress that week and Eisenhower signed the "under God" act into law within four months.

## ALUMNI PROFILE

# Dr Strathearn Wilson BSc 1953

Glasgow graduate Dr Wilson was born in Scotland in 1932 and attended Ayr Academy from 1944-1949. Glasgow's reputation brought him into Chemistry and his BSc (Hons) in 1953. In his 4th year the excellent mentoring by Dr G D Buchanan (now Emeritus Professor), inspired him to try graduate research.



Strath then studied the action of gamma-rays on nucleic acids for a PhD at Birmingham University in 1956. This work led him to a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Research Council in Ottawa. It was during his fellowship that he fell in love with skiing, singing, rowing and a Canadian girl, Anne Yuill, so the decision to make Canada home was an easy one!

Strath joined Connaught Medical Research Laboratories at the University of Toronto in 1958 and started singing in his spare time. He later joined the Canadian Opera Chorus where he was a member from 1960-64.

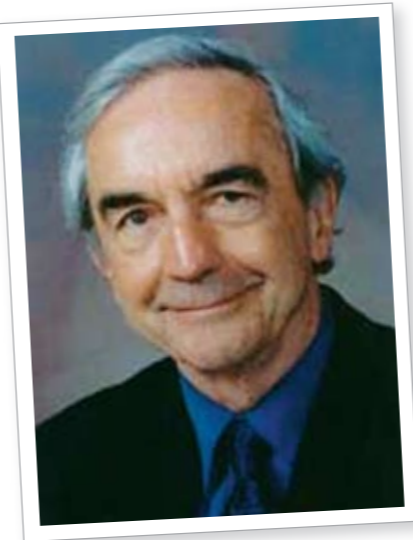
At Connaught he held several senior positions in research, quality control and production of vaccines/diagnostics in the 39 years until his retirement in 1997. He admits that throughout his career he was excited by product-related challenges as opposed to administration. Strath's achievements include 46 publications and 2 patents which cover immunological, biochemical and physical studies on DNA, insulin, polio, measles and hepatitis.

He is most proud of his work on a Hepatitis B antigen kit which made its way from bench to licensing in the US in a rapid 3 years, selling up to 4 million tests per annum. After retirement in 1997 he served as CEO of BioCurex Inc. to license tests for breast and prostate cancers.

Dr Wilson has supported both the Chemistry Department at Glasgow via the Chancellor's Fund and the University's Beatson Pebble Appeal to help build the first cancer research facility in Scotland dedicated to translational research; linking the work of the bench scientists in the lab to that of the hands-on clinician in the hospital.

Strath married Anne, a Canadian nurse, in 1959 and has three daughters. Besides family activities he still very much enjoys singing and outdoor pursuits including downhill skiing, bicycling and kayaking. Although his activities have resulted in 9 broken bones, most recently a femur, he isn't put off and intends to continue ski coaching come December!

# Canadian biomedical engineering pioneer receives international award.



Dr John L Brash (BSc 1958, PhD 1961) has been presented with the Founders Award by the Society for Biomaterials at their annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas, April 2009.

John is only the second Canadian to receive the award, of which just 14 have been presented since it was established in 1987. Selection for a Founders Award is based on long-term, landmark contributions to the discipline of biomaterials. Dr Brash is the director of the School of Biomedical Engineering at McMaster University, and his 40 years of research have helped to make the use of life-saving devices such as heart-assist devices, prosthetic heart valves and heart-lung bypass systems almost commonplace.

# Giving form

Giving from Canada – tax deductible

Please complete this form and return to: Development & Alumni Office, 2 The Square, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, G12 8QQ, Scotland, UK

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name at graduation (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (inc postal code) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

Degree and Subject \_\_\_\_\_

Give online: [www.glasgow.ac.uk/services/givingtoglasgow/givenow/canada](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/services/givingtoglasgow/givenow/canada)

I would like to make a gift to the University of Glasgow of \$....

Enclosed is a check made payable to 'The University of Glasgow'

I will give this amount every year for .... years.

Please charge my Visa / Delta / Mastercard / Switch (please note that we cannot accept American Express):

Card number \_\_\_\_\_

Start date — / — Expiry date — / —

Issue number (Switch only) — —

Card security number (on reverse) — — — —

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please allocate my gift to support:

- The Medical Fund
- The Vet School Small Animal Hospital
- SCENE – Scottish Centre for Ecology and the Natural Environment
- The Chancellor's Fund
- The Scholarship's Fund
- Beatson Pebble Appeal

I would like information on how I may make a bequest to the University in my will.

I would like my gift to remain anonymous.

Thank you for making a donation. Acknowledgment of your gift will be sent to you.

Please make checks payable to 'The University of Glasgow', not 'University of Glasgow Trust'. The University will send you a receipt for your own tax records.

# Event round up

## 2009 Los Angeles Reception

Alumni, applicants and friends from Southern California gathered at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art on Saturday 23rd May 2009. Professor Neal Juster, Vice Principal and Ian Thomson from the International and Postgraduate Office kept guests informed of the University's international activity and student recruitment in the US. Guests enjoyed drinks and Italian themed canapés before escaping the breezy and chilly LA evening by viewing the newly opened Pompeii exhibition at the museum.

## 2009 New York Reception

The offices of Manatt, Phelps and Phillips, LLP, provided the spectacular setting for the reception in NYC on Thursday 23rd July. Aydin Caginalp, friend of the University, kindly offered his office space as the venue for the event which boasted views onto Times Square and the infamous New Year's Eve Ball! Guests were updated on current news at the University by the Principal, Sir Muir Russell, and also had the opportunity to catch up with old and new friends, chat to future University students and enjoy the views over drinks and canapés.

## 2009 Boston Reception

The Top of the Hub Skywalk Observatory was the location for the recent reception in Boston for alumni and applicants of the University on Saturday 25th July. Good weather guaranteed spectacular views of the city which provided a wonderful backdrop for the 50 guests in attendance. Sir Muir Russell brought everyone up to date with news from the University and took the opportunity to thank everyone for their support during his term as Principal. Guests enjoyed drinks and canapés through out the evening and the chance to mingle with fellow Glasgow graduates and friends.

## Forthcoming events

### AAGU NYC Whisky Tasting

AAGU are planning a Whisky Tasting event on the evening of Thursday 5th November 2009 at the Brandy Library in lower Manhattan. Email invitations will be sent in advance of the event to alumni in the tri-state area. If you would like to be added to the mailing list please email your details to Emma Steel at the address below.

### Denver Get-Together

Scott Mazuzan, International Officer, is planning to hold a get-together on Thursday 12th November for alumni in and around Denver, Colorado. If you are interested in attending and would like more information please get in touch at the details below.

### 2010 Burns Suppers & Events

We are planning a number of events for 2010 including Burns Suppers in New York on Friday 19th, Boston on Saturday 20th, Chicago on Saturday 27th and a reception in Toronto on either Thursday 25th or Friday 26th February to welcome Professor Anton Muscatelli as the new Principal. We are also preparing a number of summer events including alumni get-togethers in Washington DC and Los Angeles in May 2010, dates to be confirmed. Invitations will be posted in advance of all our forthcoming events.

Keep an eye on our webpages for up-to-date information:  
[www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni/events](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni/events)



1



2



3

- 1 Los Angeles Reception
- 2 New York Reception
- 3 Boston Reception

## News

### Glasgow makes gains in the Sunday Times University rankings

The University of Glasgow has jumped 9 places in this year's Sunday Times Good University Guide. The University was rated 22nd in the UK, marking the biggest improvement in terms of places gained out of any top 30 university. Alongside the impressive overall rankings increase, Glasgow was also shortlisted for the UK University of the Year award whilst it was runner up in the Scottish University of the Year.

At 80.5%, student satisfaction was also among the highest out of any city-based University, a fact that is reflected in the 14% increase in student applications that the University has seen since 2007, the highest figures of their kind in Scotland.

## Contact us

### Emily Wallace

Alumni Manager  
Development & Alumni Office  
2 The Square, University of Glasgow  
Glasgow G12 8QQ Scotland, UK

**Tel:** +44 (0) 141 330 2668  
**Email:** [e.wallace@admin.gla.ac.uk](mailto:e.wallace@admin.gla.ac.uk)  
**Web:** [www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni)

### Emma Steel

North American Development Officer  
Development & Alumni Office  
2 The Square, University of Glasgow  
Glasgow G12 8QQ Scotland, UK

**Tel:** +44 (0) 141 330 2810  
**Email:** [e.steel@admin.gla.ac.uk](mailto:e.steel@admin.gla.ac.uk)  
**Web:** [www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni)