University gifts

Tote bags, 2016 diaries and calendars, clothing and many more gift ideas.


www.glasgow.ac.uk/shop

WELCOME

Welcome to Avenue, our twice-yearly magazine for alumni and friends of the University.

Every day in the UK, 800 people are reported missing. You can read about the Geographies of Missing People research project, which is improving the way police relate to missing persons (page 14). We also celebrate the opening of the new sport and Glasgow University Union (GUU) extension (page 8) with interviews from the current Glasgow University Sports Association and GUU Presidents, and graduate Mark Beaumont. Our cover story focuses on inspiring art. Curators from The Hunterian and two of our own graduates talk about the influential art they’ve had the chance to work with (page 10).

I hope you enjoy reading these features along with the regular reunion, event and news updates.

Professor Anton Muscatelli
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

CONTENTS

NEWS 2
Recent developments, project updates and research news at the University.

INSPIRING ART 10
Curators at The Hunterian and graduates talk about inspiring art.

MISSING PEOPLE 14
Where do missing people go and why? Our researchers investigate.

MHAIRI BLACK 16
Our Young Alumnus of the Year 2015 talks about the media, music and her MA.

RESEARCH CAREERS IN PROGRESS 18
A special focus on PhD researchers and their world-changing potential.

ALUMNI NEWS & EVENTS 20
Reunions, clubs and personal news.

REPORT TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL 26
Minutes from the half-yearly meeting, comments from the Convenor and the Principal’s report.

WHAT’S ON AT THE HUNTERIAN 29
Current exhibitions and collections on loan.

Half-yearly meeting of the General Council
Alumni are invited to the next meeting on Saturday 30 January 2016 in the Senate Room, Main Building, at 11am. For a report from the last meeting, turn to page 26.

www.glasgow.ac.uk/generalcouncil

University gifts

INSPIRING PEOPLE WHO CHANGE THE WORLD

Connect with the University:
@GlasgowAlumni
www.facebook.com/OfficialUniversityofGlasgowAlumni
www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni/linkedin

Editorial Strategy Committee:
Executive editor: Ailie Ferrari
Editor: Lynne Maclagan
Committee members: Cathy Bell, Lesley Richmond, Emily Howie, John Marsh, Helen McAvoy.

How to contact Avenue
See the following contact details. All addresses are University of Glasgow, Glasgow, G12 8QQ.

Alumni news:
Development & Alumni Office, 2 The Square
Tel: +44 (0) 141 330 4951
Email: alumni@glasgow.ac.uk

Changes of address and obituaries:
Development & Alumni Office, 2 The Square
Tel: +44 (0) 141 330 7146
Email: alumni@glasgow.ac.uk

Letters to the Editor:
Marketing, Recruitment & International Office
Tel: +44 (0) 141 330 7438
Email: avenue@glasgow.ac.uk


Cover: Anne Dulau, curator at The Hunterian

© University of Glasgow November 2015
ISSN 0950-7167
Views expressed are not necessarily those of the University or the editors. All rights reserved. Nothing may be reproduced without written permission from the Editorial Strategy Committee.

The University of Glasgow charity number SC004401

© University of Glasgow November 2015
ISSN 0950-7167
Views expressed are not necessarily those of the University or the editors. All rights reserved. Nothing may be reproduced without written permission from the Editorial Strategy Committee.

The University of Glasgow charity number SC004401
GLOBAL RISE IN RANKINGS
An update on some of our successes in the latest round of university rankings.

TOP IN SCOTLAND
And third in the Russell Group for student experience. Our highest ever ranking.
The NSS also places 15 of the University’s subject areas in the UK’s top ten.
- National Student Survey 2015

5 STARS+
We are the first and only UK University to hold this rare distinction. We also received 5 stars ratings across all eight other award categories.
- QS Stars University Ratings 2015

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OF THE YEAR
For our exceptional performance.
- Herald Higher Education Awards 2015

‘Students past and present will be delighted, but perhaps not surprised, to hear that Glasgow has soared in the latest world rankings.’
Liam King, President of the University’s Students’ Representative Council

• 62nd in the QS World University Rankings 2015–16, which highlights more than 800 of the top universities in the world.
• Shortlisted for University of the Year. As Avenue went to print we were waiting on the outcome of the Times Higher Education (THE) Awards 2015. For the result – which is announced on 26 November 2015 – see www.glasgow.ac.uk/avenue.
• 76th in the world. We’ve climbed up 18 places from the 94th spot in 2014–15. This is our highest ever placing. (THE World University Rankings 2015–16)
• Within the top 50 in the world for teaching and research in clinical, pre-clinical and health subjects, advancing to 47th from 57th place in 2014. (THE World University Rankings 2015–16)

‘Through close collaboration with the NHS and industry we have created a facility that will enable us to train the doctors of tomorrow in a state-of-the-art clinical environment and to develop a Scottish collaboration in precision medicine to transform the treatment of patients and the prevention of disease.’
Professor Anna Dominiczak, Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences

Careers community
Graduates around the world are signing up to The Network – the University’s new online career networking community for alumni and students.

Over 2,000 alumni have signed up so far to the community, which has the feel of Facebook and the professional opportunities of LinkedIn. You can get involved in many ways, such as networking with your peers or offering advice to current students or recent graduates.

‘Signing up to The Network is a great way to give back to the University,’ says Jo Field (MA 2001, MPhil 2003), who is the head of campaigns & stakeholder engagement with Transport for London. ‘I’m happy to make myself available to students to help them with their career plans. It’s also great to see so many fellow alumni on the platform and to feel part of that community.

The Network is open to all graduates and students. Setting up your profile is really simple; you can sync it with your LinkedIn account to populate your profile with one click.

www.glasgow.ac.uk/thenetwork #UofGTheNetwork

Excellence in healthcare
The Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, the Royal Hospital for Children and the Queen Elizabeth Teaching & Learning Centre were officially opened by Her Majesty The Queen at a ceremony in July 2015. Her Majesty has also granted the honour of the naming of these three centres of excellence.

Our experts at the University led on the development of the new teaching and clinical research facilities at the site in south Glasgow, which total more than £68m:
• A £25 million purpose-built Teaching & Learning Centre for the training of undergraduate medical and nursing students alongside NHS staff.
• A £6.5 million dedicated innovation floor which will accommodate the Stratified Medicine Scotland Innovation Centre, a Scotland-wide collaboration with industry which will develop ‘precision medicine’ – advanced diagnostics and precise treatments for individuals across a wide range of diseases.
• A new £5 million Clinical Research Facility to ensure that the hospital is at the forefront of clinical trials of new medicines.
• A £32m Imaging Centre of Excellence (opening in early 2017). As well as including clinical academic expertise in stroke, cardiovascular disease and brain imaging, the centre will include a 7 Tesla MRI scanner – an ultra-high resolution scanner, which will be the first of its kind on a clinical site in the UK.

‘Our experts at the University led on the development of the new teaching and clinical research facilities at the site in south Glasgow, which total more than £68m. Through close collaboration with the NHS and industry we have created a facility that will enable us to train the doctors of tomorrow in a state-of-the-art clinical environment and to develop a Scottish collaboration in precision medicine to transform the treatment of patients and the prevention of disease.’
Professor Anna Dominiczak, Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences

TOP IN SCOTLAND
And third in the Russell Group for student experience. Our highest ever ranking.
The NSS also places 15 of the University’s subject areas in the UK’s top ten.
- National Student Survey 2015

5 STARS+
We are the first and only UK University to hold this rare distinction. We also received 5 stars ratings across all eight other award categories.
- QS Stars University Ratings 2015

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OF THE YEAR
For our exceptional performance.
- Herald Higher Education Awards 2015

‘Students past and present will be delighted, but perhaps not surprised, to hear that Glasgow has soared in the latest world rankings.’
Liam King, President of the University’s Students’ Representative Council

• 62nd in the QS World University Rankings 2015–16, which highlights more than 800 of the top universities in the world.
• Shortlisted for University of the Year. As Avenue went to print we were waiting on the outcome of the Times Higher Education (THE) Awards 2015. For the result – which is announced on 26 November 2015 – see www.glasgow.ac.uk/avenue.
• 76th in the world. We’ve climbed up 18 places from the 94th spot in 2014–15. This is our highest ever placing. (THE World University Rankings 2015–16)
• Within the top 50 in the world for teaching and research in clinical, pre-clinical and health subjects, advancing to 47th from 57th place in 2014. (THE World University Rankings 2015–16)
Jewish impact on Scottish culture

The migration of Jews to Scotland over the last century and how they helped transform Scotland’s national identity is the focus of a new study.

Researchers at the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh have secured £500,000 funding from the Arts & Humanities Research Council to examine how Jewish migrants, and refugees fleeing Nazi persecution, helped change Scottish culture.

The three-year study focuses on how their new lives in Scotland brought subtle changes to what is commonly termed ‘Scottishness’ and ‘Jewishness’.

The project will look at the contribution Jewish migrants and refugees made to Scotland’s architecture, art, literature and culture as well as religion.

The team, led by Dr Mia Spiro from the University of Glasgow and Dr Hannah Holtschneider from the University of Edinburgh, will study boxes of detailed written records and objects, which Jewish migrants and refugees brought with them when they moved to Scotland, and the lives they experienced while they were here.

Dr Spiro says: ‘The personal possessions the Jewish migrants and refugees chose to carry with them when they fled reveal a great deal about what was happening at the time.

‘I think the most poignant and heartrending about what was happening at the time.

The researchers will be working in partnership with the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre in Glasgow, which houses extensive collections with the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre.

The project, co-directed by Dr Tony Pollard, director of the University’s Centre for Battlefield Archaeology, helps bring to life the reality of war for soldiers, families and communities. Running until November 2018, the project will host public events and school visits. The project is run in partnership between the University, Northlight Heritage, Glasgow City Council and Stewart’s Melville College.

Current Glasgow University Officer Training Corps, and reenactors, recreate a photo of Training Corps cadets digging a practice trench circa 1914.

DIGGING IN

Recreations of Allied and German trenches from WWI opened in Pollok Country Park in September 2015 as part of the educational and research project Digging In.

The project, co-directed by Dr Tony Pollard, director of the University’s Centre for Battlefield Archaeology, helps bring to life the reality of war for soldiers, families and communities. Running until November 2018, the project will host public events and school visits. The project is run in partnership between the University, Northlight Heritage, Glasgow City Council and Stewart’s Melville College.

Current Glasgow University Officer Training Corps, and reenactors, recreate a photo of Training Corps cadets digging a practice trench circa 1914.

There are over 2,000 active researchers at the University. And social media, such as blogs, allow you to connect with and find out about the world-changing research that’s happening in your field of interest. Here we look at several popular posts from www.academicblogs.co.uk, the University’s new and growing blog community. This is a brief taste of the diversity of fascinating areas you can explore through our research blog network.

One of our most successful blogs is the END OF LIFE STUDIES blog, which focuses on interventions at the end of life. In one of its most-read posts, Professor David Clark (pictured) takes a historical look at the rise and fall of the Brompton Cocktail – an elixir of opiates used in the early 20th century to ease pain and suffering, particularly in the care of terminal patients.

BLOGS

Watching paint dry is a metaphor associated with boredom, but observing how a material ages is extremely important for conservation, particularly with works of art. The CENTRE FOR TEXTILE CONSERVATION blog recently described new research they’re running in collaboration with Historic Scotland – the tapestry monitoring project. Here they use time-lapse photography to monitor how heavy tapestries deform while hanging, helping them to predict and conserve the areas where damage occurs first.

The CENTRE FOR VIRUS RESEARCH is the UK’s largest grouping of medical and veterinary virologists. Their blog posts delve deep into the inner workings of viruses and the diseases they cause. The centre is one of the UK leaders in hepatitis C virus research, and a recent post describes – with reference to classical Greek legend – the Herculean task of tackling hepatitis C.

To read these four blog posts, see www.academicblogs.co.uk/avenue.
Great Scott, it’s 2015!

A DeLorean shunted onto campus on 21 October 2015 – the day on which Marty McFly and Doc Brown travel in the 1989 movie Back to the Future.

As people around the world celebrated Back to the Future Day, around 300 people gathered around the DeLorean to have their photo taken from Ardossan – with the kids dressed as the ‘time machine’. A young family travelled above to our two screenings of Back to the Future II in the University Chapel. A DeLorean along to our two screenings of Back to the Future II, around 200 people came.

As people around the world celebrated Back to the Future Day, around 300 people gathered around the DeLorean to have their photo taken from Ardossan – with the kids dressed as the ‘time machine’. A young family travelled above to our two screenings of Back to the Future II in the University Chapel. A DeLorean along to our two screenings of Back to the Future II, around 200 people came.

Graduate Dr Alison Armstrong is delighted with the talent and energy interns from the University bring to her place of work. And the Internship Hub can help more alumni like Alison to take on an intern and reap the rewards they bring to a business.

Both the student and the organisation benefit from an internship, says Alison (BSc 1986, MSc 1990, PhD 1995), who works for BioReliance, a contract research organisation which provides testing services for the biopharmaceutical industry.

While the student gets practical work experience, having them on board helps us dedicate and focus time on completing ongoing projects. We can also spot potential candidates for future jobs.

And I wanted to give students the opportunity to get some practical experience. Although internships didn’t really exist when I was an undergraduate, I did get the chance to work directly within a scientific environment.

‘Over the years, I’ve been really pleased to offer that same opportunity so that students can get some valuable exposure to different working environments. Over 300 employers – large and small – are working with the Internship Hub to find the best students for their business. The Hub helps to make the experience of taking on an intern easy by managing the recruitment process and providing support during the placement.

So far, most of the internships have been based in the UK, but the Internship Hub has also placed interns with Fujitsu in Japan and MJ Boyd in New York.

If you would like to offer an internship, get in touch.

recruitanintern@glasgow.ac.uk

www.glasgow.ac.uk/recruitanintern

TOIL AND TROUBLE

Physicist PhD student Kayla Fallon stars as one of the prophecy-bearing witches in the film adaptation of Macbeth in 2015.

This was Kayla’s first acting role, and she appeared alongside Michael Fassbender (Macbeth) and Marion Cotillard (Lady Macbeth) in Justin Kurzel’s adaptation of Shakespeare’s Scottish tragedy.

‘The whole experience was very exciting,’ explains Kayla, who was in her third year of a physics degree during the filming. ‘I fell into modelling work – and then acting – while doing my undergraduate degree. I’d never been involved in anything like this film before.’

Kayla, who completed her MSc in Physics in 2015, managed to balance filming and her studies. ‘I studied wherever and whenever I could: on planes, in my trailer and at the hotel. I got a little bit of a reputation for it on set.’

Science research remains one of Kayla’s key ambitions. She is currently working towards a PhD in physics at the University and is fascinated by the intricacies of the universe.

‘I’ve always loved science. I find physics very rewarding,’ says Kayla. ‘My aspiration has always been to work in research. A lot of my friends don’t quite understand, but that still hasn’t changed!’

History makers and shakers

Ophthalmologist and medicine graduate Alan Dyer (1936–2014) is the latest alumnus to be added to the University of Glasgow Story website. And we’re looking for more stories like his.

If you wear glasses or contact lenses, it’s likely you’ve had your eyes tested by a technology inspired by the innovations of Alan Dyer (MBChB 1960). He is the inventor of the Eyelogic System, a revolutionary automated eye testing technology which is in use around the world.

It was Graham Dyer (Classics 1957) who brought the achievements of his brother Alan to our attention. Alan’s story now sits alongside the stories of other world-changing alumni and academics on the University of Glasgow Story website.

Talking of his brother’s early years, Graham explains: ‘In his school years, Alan showed a propensity for maths and science – possibly an inheritance from our father, a mathematics graduate of the University.’

Alan became really interested in ophthalmology in the 1960s and he started working on the Eyelogic System in 1986. Ten years later the Eyelogic System was launched, and it has since united further investigation and development of automated refraction by companies across the globe.

The University of Glasgow Story website celebrates the role pioneering people like Alan have played in the University’s 550 years of innovation and excellence.

Do you have a story to share about a world-changing graduate who has passed away? If so, please share the story with us: email us@alumni.gla.ac.uk.

www.universitystory.gla.ac.uk

BUILDING BUSINESS

Graduate Dr Alison Armstrong is delighted with the talent and energy interns from the University bring to her place of work. And the Internship Hub can help more alumni like Alison to take on an intern and reap the rewards they bring to a business.

Both the student and the organisation benefit from an internship, says Alison (BSc 1986, MSc 1990, PhD 1995), who works for BioReliance, a contract research organisation which provides testing services for the biopharmaceutical industry.

While the student gets practical work experience, having them on board helps us dedicate and focus time on completing ongoing projects. We can also spot potential candidates for future jobs.

‘Over the years, I’ve been really pleased to offer that same opportunity so that students can get some valuable exposure to different working environments. Over 300 employers – large and small – are working with the Internship Hub to find the best students for their business. The Hub helps to make the experience of taking on an intern easy by managing the recruitment process and providing support during the placement.

So far, most of the internships have been based in the UK, but the Internship Hub has also placed interns with Fujitsu in Japan and MJ Boyd in New York.

If you would like to offer an internship, get in touch.

recruitanintern@glasgow.ac.uk

www.glasgow.ac.uk/recruitanintern

5 benefits of taking on an intern with us:

1. Let us do the legwork to help you find the right person.
2. Get ahead of your competitors and find future talent early.
3. Inject energy into your workplace with a motivated intern.
4. Bring fresh ideas and perspective to your business.
5. Give something back by helping students gain valuable work experience.

All proceeds from this sell-out film evening went to the Beatson Pediatric Appeal. Our campus cinema season runs in conjunction with the Grosvenor Cinema and you can keep a lookout for more events like this at www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni/events.

www.universitystory.gla.ac.uk
A new £10 million extension to the Stevenson (Stevie) sports facility and Glasgow University Union (GUU) opened its doors to students, alumni and the local community in October 2015. We asked students, past and present, to tell us what this means to them.

Back in 2013, the 1960s wing of the GUU building – home to The Hive nightclub – was levelled to make way for a much-needed expansion of the Stevenson sports facility and an upgraded social space for the GUU. A welcoming feature on the corner of University Avenue and Gibson Street, the tall windows of this new five-storey extension give a passers-by a glimpse of the bright new space. The ground floor is occupied by the GUU and the other four floors are dedicated to sport.

In the last three years we have spent over £42 million on improving student facilities. But as Ann Allen, director of estates & buildings, said in the last issue of Avenue, developing our campus is ‘about more than buildings’.

For graduate Mark Beaumont (MA 2006) it meant he could keep working on his adventurous ambitions. The record-breaking professional cyclist and broadcaster grew up in the outdoors. At the age of 12 he cycled across Scotland. At 15 he solo-cycled from John O’Groats to Land’s End. Moving to a city for university could have spelled the end of Mark’s outdoor interests, even for a while. But by joining the Ski & Snowboard Club, training in the Stevie and getting involved with Glasgow University Sports Association (GUSA) – eventually becoming Vice-President – Mark was able to continue and expand his sporting pursuits while studying for an economics and politics degree. He built up valuable skills and experiences to go along with his academic studies. Most importantly for Mark, his personal passions were not put on hold – they added to his university experience.

“What you realise once you leave university is that your degree doesn’t actually count for much,” he explains. Employers are interested in really rounded characters with great ambition. I think by being involved in sports, clubs and unions, by being active at university, you’re showing a different sort of intellgience. You are learning communication and teamwork skills – things which are as useful in your work life afterwards.”

Mark fondly remembers training in the Stevie.

“I used the Stevie for strength and conditioning, played squash with friends and swam in the pool,” Mark recalls. “But the Stevie I remember sounds like it’s light years away from the new facility.”

For current GUSA President Caitlin Kelly (MA 2015), the prospect of increased capacity for sport has been markedly exciting.

“We were at crisis point in terms of numbers,” she explains. “But it’s not just the bigger space that’s exciting, it’s also going to be a place where I think everyone will feel more comfortable, and if it feel accessible to more people.”

Unlike for Mark, sport hasn’t always been a part of Caitlin’s life.

“I didn’t have a sport before coming to university. I had never even used a gym,” says Caitlin. “I joined the hockey club when I first arrived and then got more involved with sport. I loved the atmosphere and feeling part of something.”

Caitlin was elected as 2015–2016 GUSA President just as she was finishing her final year. “But she remembers well how getting involved in sport helped her with her studies. Within the first semester of being here I realised how much better I felt for taking part in sport, particularly when I committed to a bigger training programme with the boat club. It helped me to concentrate on my studies; I was much more alert and it improved my concentration. I generally felt a lot better.”

The Hive returns

GUU President Rory Slater got involved with the union during his first year. “I simply felt at home in the GUU,” he says. “Getting involved with the Board has been a hugely valuable experience. Although this year has been very demanding time-wise to get the new facilities open, it has been an incredible project to be a part of.”

His hard work has paid off. Walking along University Avenue you see into G12, the new café bar which welcomes you to the GUU floor of the new extension. The Hive is back and has been transformed beyond all recognition with a distinctly industrial feel. A new whisky bar, Base, and a dancefloor cum music venue, The Well, complete the new GUU space.

“This development is the culmination of a three-year project which brings University Sports and the Union closer than ever before,” explains Rory. “It’s not just for students – we’re keen for the local community and alumni to come in too.”

Join fellow alumni for a look around the Hive and the other new GUU bars at a ‘Friends of the GUU’ event on 29 January 2016. To find out more, see www.guuc.co.uk.

NO SWEAT!

The new Stevie sports extension totals 4,191m² and includes:

• PowerPlay: a 225m² high-performance strength and conditioning area, which includes equipment such as power racks, lifting platforms, dumbbells and competition bars. It also offers diagnostic technology to give feedback and help you to maximise your performance.

• Pulse: our 732m² cardiovascular and conditioning area featuring the latest treadmills, bikes, stair climbers, elliptical cross trainers and rowers, as well as stretching zones, rows and resistance machines. All equipment is fitted with a new LF Connect Fitness App to help you to make the most of your gym visit and track your progress.

• Sports Hall: for indoor sports – badminton, basketball, netball and volleyball – as well as a new spectator performance.

• GYM Membership

Alumni and family can join for just £300 per year or £25 per month.

www.glasgow.ac.uk/sport
The Art that inspires
and the people who bring it to you

Graduates in History of Art and curators at The Hunterian talk about the inspiring art and artists they’ve worked with.

BY DOUGLAS BLANE

The rainbow flag has become an iconic, worldwide symbol. But many people might not know that it was designed by an artist called Gilbert Baker, deliberately to create a visual identity for the Gay Pride parade in San Francisco in 1978.

Gilbert bought a bunch of cotton and some dye, took it to the gay community centre in Grove Street, San Francisco, and hand-sewed the first ever Rainbow Flag. Then he hung it in the United Nations Plaza. From there it became this symbol recognised around the world.

One of my real pleasures recently has been reading that history, interviewing Gilbert and bringing the Rainbow Flag into the contemporary design collection at MoMA as a permanent part of our collection.

Art can often seem mystical and something reserved for other people. What I liked about the University was that the people there were from ordinary backgrounds. There were no airs and graces. Tina Fiske in History of Art organised for me a short period of working with the artist Andy Goldsworthy. Not only is his work beautiful, but the way he makes and documents it demystified the process for me. He was very kind to everyone, including me, at the bottom of the ladder on work experience.

Glasgow is a great city to do art history, and architectural history in particular. It has such rich collections, amazing buildings and a strong sense of pride and culture. I love the Alexander Thomson church on St Vincent Street. It has this monolithic exterior, as you go up the hill, that is very powerful. Thomson was an amazing architect. His work is lovely and lyrical.

I think, though, that the people at the University inspired me even more than the artworks. Teachers, like Juliet Kinchin, were enthusiastic and thoughtful. They took the time to encourage me to go further with my studies. As the first in my family to go to university, that was helpful.

Having studied history of architecture at Columbia University in New York, I knew I was interested in Victorian and early 20th-century architecture. So I decided to come to Glasgow, where so much of that architecture still exists. Day one of class was my first time in Scotland. But I was lucky. I loved it there.

I got to see a lot of Charles Rennie Mackintosh’s work. I did my internship at The Hill House in Helensburgh, researching the furniture and paintings there. I ended up writing my Masters thesis on furniture in illustrations of fairy tales during the Arts and Crafts movement.

Working at the Wolfsonian, which is focused on European material culture from 1850 to 1950, allows me to use everything I learned and became interested in while I was at Glasgow. We have furniture by Mackintosh, but I guess my favourite piece is a Thomas Jackyll sideboard (pictured below), from the same period as Whistler, which I love.

Frank Lloyd Wright in the States and Charles Rennie Mackintosh in Scotland represent a transition to the modern period. Part of my fascination with Victorian interiors, ornate furniture and architecture is that I could never imagine living that way myself. I enjoy a much more modern aesthetic in my own home.

At the Wolfsonian, we look at modernity and how the Western world became the culture we live in today – the new materials, manufacturing and factories, the mass production and mass communication, and how these influenced the modern world.

We have one room at the Wolfsonian that’s focused on art reform movements from across the Western world – Italian, Swedish, English, Scottish, Austrian. I tell the visitors that I show around that this is my favourite room. While the world around them was industrialising, these people were committed to making lovely, hand-crafted, wooden furniture. They were the rebels.

Having studied history of architecture at Columbia University in New York, I knew I was interested in Victorian and early 20th-century architecture. So I decided to come to Glasgow, where so much of that architecture still exists. Day one of class was my first time in Scotland. But I was lucky. I loved it there.

I got to see a lot of Charles Rennie Mackintosh’s work. I did my internship at The Hill House in Helensburgh, researching the furniture and paintings there. I ended up writing my Masters thesis on furniture in illustrations of fairy tales during the Arts and Crafts movement.

Working at the Wolfsonian, which is focused on European material culture from 1850 to 1950, allows me to use everything I learned and became interested in while I was at Glasgow. We have furniture by Mackintosh, but I guess my favourite piece is a Thomas Jackyll sideboard (pictured below), from the same period as Whistler, which I love.

Frank Lloyd Wright in the States and Charles Rennie Mackintosh in Scotland represent a transition to the modern period. Part of my fascination with Victorian interiors, ornate furniture and architecture is that I could never imagine living that way myself. I enjoy a much more modern aesthetic in my own home.

At the Wolfsonian, we look at modernity and how the Western world became the culture we live in today – the new materials, manufacturing and factories, the mass production and mass communication, and how these influenced the modern world.

We have one room at the Wolfsonian that’s focused on art reform movements from across the Western world – Italian, Swedish, English, Scottish, Austrian. I tell the visitors that I show around that this is my favourite room. While the world around them was industrialising, these people were committed to making lovely, hand-crafted, wooden furniture. They were the rebels.
The first living artist I’d ever collaborated with was the contemporary Scottish landscape and still life painter Duncan Shanks.

He had been encouraged by friends to consider leaving his entire collection of sketchbooks to The Hunterian, and I was asked to investigate. Although familiar with contemporary Scottish art I had never worked on, was very enjoyable and I’m quite sad it is over. Visiting Duncan in his studio was a unique experience and I will miss it.

The first living artist I’d ever collaborated with was the contemporary Scottish landscape and still life painter Duncan Shanks.

He had been encouraged by friends to consider leaving his entire collection of sketchbooks to The Hunterian, and I was asked to investigate. Although familiar with contemporary Scottish art I had never worked on, was very enjoyable and I’m quite sad it is over. Visiting Duncan in his studio was a unique experience and I will miss it.

We decided to celebrate the gift of his entire output with an exhibition and Duncan very kindly allowed me to choose a painting in his studio from research directed towards exhibitions and publications. That’s useless if it can’t be shared with somebody. So the real pleasure comes from working with Duncan Shanks, one of Scotland’s most accomplished painters.

The Hunter picture collection is the most memorable research and exhibition projects I’ve been involved in here.

‘I started visiting him to go through the sketchbooks and to establish what would be most appropriate for The Hunterian: to select representative examples illustrating his career or to take the whole lot – over 100 sketchbooks from his student days right up to the present day. After a few visits it became clear that the material in those sketchbooks was quite outstanding, and that it could also be used for teaching.

‘Thinking about how to best display the sketchbooks was a team effort between The Hunterian and Duncan. A room full of tabletop cases, the most obvious way, did not feel like an attractive option. We investigated the attribution of paintings and found that there were important paintings that had been downgraded in the past by scholars, and we were also able to provide some of them with more suitable frames, where the original had been lost and replaced by something that was not worthy of the painting.‘

‘So Stubbs, for example, was a living artist whom he commissioned to make paintings of animals that were interesting anatomically, such as exotic animals, but on the whole he bought old masters. ‘

‘He had a Rubens and a Rembrandt. And three gems of the William Hunter’s picture collection. We didn’t have that when I came here in 1989.

‘A curator’s role is to be an ambassador for the objects in the gallery spaces within the Hunterian Museum. We also improved the state of the collection a great deal as a result of our research. We investigated the attribution of paintings and found that there were important paintings that had been downgraded in the past by scholars, and we were also able to provide some of them with more suitable frames, where the original had been lost and replaced by something that was not worthy of the painting.‘

‘When you go into the gallery now we have a bay dedicated to William Hunter’s picture collection. We didn’t have that when I came here in 1989.

‘A curator’s role is to be an ambassador for the objects in the collection. We are an essential intermediary between the object and the public. Research is the primary motivation for me, but the research is useless if it can’t be shared with somebody. So the real pleasure comes from research directed towards exhibitions and publications. That’s what motivates me.’

Scottish landscape and still life painter Duncan Shanks.

‘For me the most exciting part was trying to understand how and why he bought his collection of 65 old master paintings. The study of his habits as a collector of paintings was one of the most important outputs of this exhibition.

‘Still, for example, was a living artist whom he commissioned to make paintings of animals that were interesting anatomically, such as exotic animals, but on the whole he bought old masters.

‘He had a Rubens and a Rembrandt. And three gems of the William Hunter’s picture collection. We didn’t have that when I came here in 1989.

‘A curator’s role is to be an ambassador for the objects in the gallery spaces within the Hunterian Museum. We also improved the state of the collection a great deal as a result of our research. We investigated the attribution of paintings and found that there were important paintings that had been downgraded in the past by scholars, and we were also able to provide some of them with more suitable frames, where the original had been lost and replaced by something that was not worthy of the painting.‘

‘When you go into the gallery now we have a bay dedicated to William Hunter’s picture collection. We didn’t have that when I came here in 1989.

‘A curator’s role is to be an ambassador for the objects in the collection. We are an essential intermediary between the object and the public. Research is the primary motivation for me, but the research is useless if it can’t be shared with somebody. So the real pleasure comes from research directed towards exhibitions and publications. That’s what motivates me.’
ABSENT BUT NOT ALWAYS LOST
BY DOUGLAS BLANE

‘I DIDN’T THINK I WAS GOING TO BE A MISSING PERSON, BUT I KNEW I DIDN’T WANT TO BE FOUND.’

Sophie’s story, from the Geographies of Missing People project

EIGHT HUNDRED PEOPLE are reported missing in the UK every day. That’s about one every two minutes, says Professor Hester Parr, whose research has transformed the way police officers relate to missing persons.

I am a human geographer. I lead a team of academics and police partners who investigate the geographies of missing people where they actually go.

Many are children repeatedly disappearing from care homes, but a third of missing persons are adults, says Professor Parr. Around 80% of these have a mental health issue. Understanding the geographies of mental health is my passion. How people with mental health problems negotiate their everyday lives, how mental health issues are handled in society.

Despite the scale of the social problem, there was no research to explain why adults go missing or explore their experiences, she says. ‘Very little was understood about what happens to these people.’

So her team conducted in-depth interviews with 45 former missing persons. ‘We found that people who go missing often stay in familiar areas,’ says Professor Parr. ‘They want to be absent and not lost. They use conscious concealment strategies to help them stay hidden.’

Many who take missing journeys do so mainly on foot, she says. ‘They seek shelter in a range of public and natural environments. That is when they are at their most vulnerable.’

But their return can be traumatic and marked by poor police handling.

‘Some people feel criminalised,’ she says. ‘Police officers can be dismissive of the event or its cause.’

All this qualitative evidence was gathered, structured and used to create new guidance and training resources for UK police services on the handling of missing persons and their families. The reception has been extremely positive, says Professor Parr.

‘In 20 years of mental health research I’ve never seen anything taken up to this extent. The police have incorporated our recommendations into good practice guidance.’

I want to see the national-level agreements and training resources for UK police services taken up to this extent.’

Professor Hester Parr

Professor Hester Parr is based in the University’s School of Geographical & Earth Sciences. She is interested in developing sensitive methodologies for working with vulnerable people. Previous research has investigated the relationship between mental health and place by focusing on how ‘mentally ill identities’ are defined by reference to streets, institutions, cities, regions, virtualities, natures and mobilities.

MISSING VOICES

A series of ten stories of the missing experience is one of the learning resources to come out of this project. Listening to these stories — which have been adapted from real interviews — helps to prompt new conversations around the missing experience, as well as encouraging a more sensitive and empathetic police handling of missing people.

‘When the daylight was coming and I was still alive, that’s when I started to panic.’

Sophie’s story tells of a 24-hour journey as a missing person. We hear about her attempted suicide, being located by her family and the experience with police officers after she is found.

www.geographiesofmissingpeople.org.uk
The biggest learning curve for me was experiencing just how much the media can twist and misrepresent things for their own agenda.

Mhairi Black, MP
In the last few issues we’ve heard about the careers of a range of graduates, from writers to lawyers to entrepreneurs. Now it’s time to explore the early research careers of some of our current postgraduate students – Hazel, Joe and Muhammad – whose work is set to have an impact across the globe.

HAZEL LONG
4TH YEAR PhD STUDENT
BIOGEOCHEMISTRY
SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHICAL & EARTH SCIENCES

With awards from the Natural Environment Research Council, the Leverhulme Trust, the Royal Geographical Society, and the Scottish Alliance for Geoscience, Environment & Society, as well as a recently published paper in the Journal of Geophysical Research: Biogeosciences, Hazel has been widely recognised for her excellent work in the field of carbon cycling.

Her PhD focuses on the role that rivers play in the carbon cycle, exploring whether they are a source or sink of CO2, what controls this, and how the carbon dynamics of rivers will respond to the changing temperatures and precipitation patterns caused by climate change.

As part of this research she has travelled across the world researching temperate and Arctic carbon cycling, including a gruelling six-week intensive field campaign to the Kangerlussuaq region of Greenland, where she collected large amounts of CO2 efflux and carbon age data from ice sheet and permafrost melt-water systems.

JOE RYAN-HUME
3RD YEAR PhD STUDENT
AMERICAN POLITICAL HISTORY
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

Joe is currently on a three-month secondment in the Scottish Parliament (funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council), and his award-winning research has taken him all over the world. His academic achievements include a fellowship at the Library of Congress in Washington DC, a fellowship at the British Library in London, and a Schlesinger Library Dissertation Grant from Harvard University.

His PhD examines the presidential era of Ronald Reagan in the 1980s, and its impact on the current political landscape. He questions the notion of the so-called ‘Reagan revolution’ in America by reinterpreting the impact of liberalism at the time.

Joe says, ‘It is impossible to understand the present administration’s historic ascension without examining the political environment that nurtured it. Having the opportunity to apply this research in a real-world political setting has been invaluable.’

MUHAMMAD YAR KHAN
3RD YEAR PhD STUDENT
ACCOUNTING & FINANCE
ADAM SMITH BUSINESS SCHOOL

In addition to presenting his research at prestigious conferences, including the British Accounting & Finance Association’s Doctoral Colloquium at the London School of Economics, Muhammad recently received the Best Paper Award at the 2015 South Asian International Conference in Islamabad, Pakistan for his paper entitled ‘Corporate Governance and the Cost of Capital in Emerging Markets’.

His PhD, funded by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission, examines corporate governance reforms and their impact on corporate decisions in the developing world.

Focusing on the level of compliance and disclosure in developing countries, particularly in South East Asia, this highly important research has many practical implications for developing markets to improve their corporate governance reforms.
News from Emily Howie, Head of Alumni

NOTES FROM 20

Alumni News

I have the pleasure of writing this day to day at the Gilmorehill campus. Although with each year I’m gaining new campus memories, I still have flashbacks from my student days – such as the sticky floors in the Hive (and you can read about the GUU’s Hive reopening on page 23). This makes it easy for me to understand the feeling you may get when you come back onto campus for the first time in many years, perhaps for a visit, or maybe for another life event, such as a family member’s graduation or a wedding.

The team at the University Chapel have been telling us how they’ve come across several generations of the same family who have held their weddings at the University. For example, the wedding of Macdonald Gibb and Iain Brown, pictured below, where many of the family in attendance found themselves back at their alma mater for the young couple’s special day.

I read another wedding story, this time about a graduate I knew quite well. I had worked with John Anderson McNicoll (MBChB 1940) for many years on his class reunions and I’d no idea that he had also married here. As I was writing this column, I was saddened to hear that John had passed away in August 2015. John, or Dr McNicol as I knew him, was graduate Donald Coutts (BSc 1968) – a founder member of the Glasgow University Engineers Society (GU68) – and presenting Gareth the award in recognition of his academic achievements.

Queen’s Birthday Honours 2015

KNIGHTHOOD
Sir James Loy MacMillan (DUniv 2001) received a Knighthood for services to Music

DAMEHOOD
Dame Anne Glover (DBS 2014) received a Damehood for services to Science

OBE
Ms Carolyn Margaret McIntyre Campbell (MA 1971, LLB 1973) received an OBE for services to Higher Education

Ms Mary Teresa Rainey (MA 1976) received an OBE for services to Advertising

Mr John McWilliam Welsh (MA 1978) received an OBE for public service in Ayrshire

Dr Steven William Moffat (MA 1983, DLitt 2013) received an OBE for services to Drama

MBE
Mr Graham Robert Short (MEd 1987) received an MBE for services to Education

Ms Catriona Morrison (BSc 1998) received an MBE for services to Sport and voluntary service in Scotland

On the day of his graduation in July 2015 Gareth McWilliam (MBChB 2013) received the Glasgow University Engineers Society Medal Award for best final-year student. It was graduate Donald Coutts (BSc 1968) – trustee of Glasgow University 68 Engineers Trust (GU68) – who had the pleasure of presenting Gareth the award in recognition of his academic achievements. GU68 took over the reins of the Glasgow University Engineers Society affairs in 2014 – and awarding this medal is one of the Trust’s new duties. The group is pleased to be able to continue and increase its involvement with the development of engineering students at the University.

Tackling the Ebola crisis


Sharon was part of the first group of NHS volunteers to go out to Sierra Leone in 2014 to help with the deadly Ebola crisis. Their departure captured the media’s attention. ‘As we were the first NHS volunteers to go out, I guess we were going into the unknown,’ explains Sharon. ‘We felt prepared prior to deployment as we’d received ten days of military training. But it was pretty chaotic when we got there. Guidelines were still being written, and there were lots of different nationalities all working alongside each other, trying to form a united front.’

‘On the second visit, in May 2015, I was able to go back to the same area, and see many of the survivors we had discharged in November and December in the survivor clinics. I ran a WHO psychosocial counselling course for Ebola-affected individuals along with the national staff. We had a few survivors who worked with us, so it was very interesting but completely heartbreaking to hear their stories.

On the day of his graduation in July 2015 Gareth McWilliam (MBChB 2013) received the Glasgow University Engineers Society Medal Award for best final-year student. It was graduate Donald Coutts (BSc 1968) – trustee of Glasgow University 68 Engineers Trust (GU68) – who had the pleasure of presenting Gareth the award in recognition of his academic achievements. GU68 took over the reins of the Glasgow University Engineers Society affairs in 2014 – and awarding this medal is one of the Trust’s new duties. The group is pleased to be able to continue and increase its involvement with the development of engineering students at the University.

Engineering award

On the day of his graduation in July 2015 Gareth McWilliam (MBChB 2013) received the Glasgow University Engineers Society Medal Award for best final-year student. It was graduate Donald Coutts (BSc 1968) – trustee of Glasgow University 68 Engineers Trust (GU68) – who had the pleasure of presenting Gareth the award in recognition of his academic achievements. GU68 took over the reins of the Glasgow University Engineers Society affairs in 2014 – and awarding this medal is one of the Trust’s new duties. The group is pleased to be able to continue and increase its involvement with the development of engineering students at the University.

QUEEN’S NEW YEAR HONOURS 2014

Since publishing details of Glasgow alumni recipients in the last issue of Avenue, we have been notified of the following: Dr Stefan Jerkiewicz (MBChB 1972) received an MBE for services to Reducing Drug Misuse.

RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENTS

Helen Giejgo (MA 1944) was awarded the Polish Silver Guardian Medal of Places of National Memory in June 2015 for her voluntary work in the Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum in London.

The institute aims to secure and preserve documentation and memorabilia of the wartime Polish government-in-exile and of the Polish armed forces. Helen played a big role in helping to achieve this aim through her work in the archives from 2001 to 2010. This was not her first award. In 1990 Helen (pictured above) received a Lithuanian honour: the Medal of the Order of the Grand Duke Gediminas. This was for a scheme she set up in the 1990s to bring teachers of English from Scottish universities to Lithuanian schools.

Telling your story

We don’t always get to hear about the achievements of our alumni. If you have received, been shortlisted for or know of fellow alumni who have recently been recipients of awards, we would love to hear from you, email alumni@glasgow.ac.uk

www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni
Reunion Reports

1949 Chemistry

Although it is 70 years since leaving school and 66 years since graduating, we met for a celebratory lunch at the Ubiquitous Chip on 15 July 2015. The numbers were small for obvious reasons but absent classmates and staff were fondly remembered, many of whom had been ex-service men and women, and so even older than those present. It was another memorable day.

1948-53/54 Gamma Club

On 10 June 2015, 14 members and 7 guests had a reception and light lunch in the Marriot Hotel. A toast to the club proposed by the Chairman AGH was coupled with a toast to Charles and Jan McEwan celebrating their diamond wedding anniversary. AGH replied to the club toast with a review of the hospital changes in the city and a forward glance to the extension of the University on the site of the old Western Infirmary. A display of photos from the yearbook and past reunions organised by HD was much appreciated. 2018 will be the next event for the optimists to consider. Members can keep in touch through the Development & Alumni Office.

1960 Delta Club

Almost 61 years since we first walked up University Avenue to attend our classes. 27 of us from the 1960 Delta Club enjoyed an informal lunch together, along with many of our partners, at the House for an Art Lover in Bellahouston Park on 28 August 2015. The House for an Art Lover proved to be an excellent venue and we have already made a reservation to meet there again on 26 August 2016. Contact Dr Anne Louden - call +44 (0)141 639 4195 or email anneepl@aol.com

1965 Notre Dame

On 27 August 2015 there was a buzz of excitement as we got together again after 50 years. ESSUG at Archbishop’s Palace celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving in the University Memorial Chapel, after which there was a reception and buffet lunch. We shared memories and anecdotes of our college days. Was that really 50 years ago? There are now plans afoot for more reunions. There is still a lot of catching up to do.

1965 Chemistry

We celebrated the 50th anniversary of our graduation on 8 and 9 July 2015. Nineteen of 40 class members attended, together with 12 partners. On the first evening, we held a reception in the Turnball Room followed by dinner in the Ferguson Room at One A The Square by the Principal. An informal drinks reception accompanied by a 1975–8 playlist compiled by one of those attending (on an iPod rather than the original vinyl) and much reminiscing was followed by an excellent meal.

1975 Geology

We had our first reunion in 40 years on Friday 19 June. All but three managed to meet during the day and we were delighted to be reaquainted with some of our past lecturers. We enjoyed a tour of the old East Quad where we froze and boiled all those years ago, followed by a visit - led by Dr Gordon Curry - to the Gregory Building. It was agreed that the youngsters of today are certainly more comfortable! We followed the tours with some light refreshments and a meal in an old hall. The final part was an excursion to the Highland Boundary Fault at Aberfoyle – ending with a picnic in the sun. There was some sad news that one of our lecturers, Professor Brian Bluck, sadly had passed away that morning.

1975 Law

On Saturday 3 October 2015, 42 of those who materialized in the class of 1975 returned to the University for a reunion. We received a warm welcome to the Ferguson Room at One A The Square by the Principal. An informal drinks reception accompanied by a 1975–8 playlist compiled by one of those attending (on an iPod rather than the original vinyl) and much reminiscing was followed by an excellent meal.

1975 BDS Root Club

We held our 40th reunion at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver over the weekend of 7–9 August, with 29 people in attendance from the UK, Australia and Canada – and an impressive 100% showing from the ladies of the class! The weekend was action-packed, with activities such as a dinner cruise, BBQ at Garus Mountain, dinner at the hotel and other informal gatherings. We also had a great classroom session on the Saturday morning with speakers talking on topics from the history of implant dentistry to the rearing of pedigree Aberdeen Angus cattle! Five years feels a little too long between catch-ups, so there is a definite nudge towards a two-year interval in future.

1984 Chemistry

We held our 30th (plus 1) anniversary reunion on 25 April 2015, with a meet-up in the GUU Beer Bar and dinner in Òran Mòr. There were 15 attendees (around a third of the class). Lyn Rowan travelled the furthest, coming over from Switzerland, while others came from England and Ireland to meet with those who have remained in the Glasgow area. Five of us met on the day before for a tour of Gilmorehill. On our original graduation day, we were not able to get into the Bute Hall because of asbestos removal. We were fated not to get in for our return visit either, as the hall was being used for examinations. Dr Bob Hilland gave us a tour of the School of Chemistry. We moved on to the GUU Bar and were trolled into a pub quiz. Our next reunion is planned for 2024 for our 40th anniversary.

1995 Chemistry

We had a celebratory lunch at the Ubiquitous Chip on 12 partners. On the first evening, we held a reception in the Ferguson Room of 40 class members attended, together with 29 people in attendance from the UK, Australia and Canada – and an impressive 100% showing from the ladies of the class! The weekend was action-packed, with activities such as a dinner cruise, BBQ at Garus Mountain, dinner at the hotel and other informal gatherings. We also had a great classroom session on the Saturday morning with speakers talking on topics from the history of implant dentistry to the rearing of pedigree Aberdeen Angus cattle! Five years feels a little too long between catch-ups, so there is a definite nudge towards a two-year interval in future.

1975 Law

On Saturday 3 October 2015, 42 of those who materialized in the class of 1975 returned to the University for a reunion. We received a warm welcome to the Ferguson Room at One A The Square by the Principal. An informal drinks reception accompanied by a 1975–8 playlist compiled by one of those attending (on an iPod rather than the original vinyl) and much reminiscing was followed by an excellent meal.

2010 Earth Sciences

On Saturday 4 July 2015, 22 from our class gathered at the Beatson Pebble Appeal and raised a celebratory lunch at the Ubiquitous Chip on 12 partners. On the first evening, we held a reception in the Ferguson Room at One A The Square by the Principal. An informal drinks reception accompanied by a 1975–8 playlist compiled by one of those attending (on an iPod rather than the original vinyl) and much reminiscing was followed by an excellent meal.

2010 Veterinary Medicine

On Saturday 31 October, followed in the evening by our celebration dinner and ceilidh with 180 Vet alumni together with 70 partners. On the first evening, we held a reception in the Ferguson Room at One A The Square by the Principal. An informal drinks reception accompanied by a 1975–8 playlist compiled by one of those attending (on an iPod rather than the original vinyl) and much reminiscing was followed by an excellent meal.

2015 Veterinary Medicine

On Saturday 30 October. Over 150 veterinary students and alumni were present for drinks to celebrate our five-year reunion (almost five years to the day since we graduated). The whole Gregory Building has a make over since we last met foot it. It didn’t take long for the drinks and conversation to start flowing. A few of us had met up in the preceding years but it was great to see a third of the class together again. We moved on to Òran Mòr to continue celebrating and hearing all the wonderful things the class has gone on to do and places they have been. Hopefully we’ll see everyone again – along with those who couldn’t make this time – at the ten-year reunion in 2020.

Vet alumni reunion weekend

Professor Gary England gave a fascinating Wepers Lecture on Friday 30 October. Over 70 delegates, attended our ONG event on Saturday 31 October, followed in the evening by our celebration dinner and ceilidh with 180 of our graduates Glasgow based classmates. Pictured to the left is a ceilidh in full swing at the Vet School’s 150th anniversary event in 2015. For details on the 2016 Vet reunion weekend please contact Sarah Hunter at alumni@glasgow.ac.uk.

How to organise your reunion

Step 1: Contact us

We can help you with ideas and planning, as well as accessing contact information for your classmates.

Step 2: Make contact with your classmates

You can email or write to your classmates to find out who is interested in attending a reunion.

Step 3: Choose a venue and date

Choose a place and time that will suit most of your classmates. There are locations on campus, as well as around the city. It suits all types of reunion.

Step 4: Inform your classmates

You can email or write to your classmates, and place a notice in Union and on www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni/reunions.

Step 5: Enjoy the reunion

Enjoy the reunion, reminiscence memories and take pictures. Send us a photograph and a short description of your reunion and we’ll publish it in Avenue.

Submit your reunion notice

To submit a reunion notice please send a brief description of your planned reunion to us at the Development & Alumni Office. Remember to include your class or club’s name and year, as well as the planned dates and location (if known) of the reunion.

Get in touch:

alumni@glasgow.ac.uk

+44 (0)141 334 7143

www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni
Barbados: Alumni lunch
Saturday 27 June 2015
Eighteen alumni and guests enjoyed a lunch and tour at the Clifton Hall Great House. Clifton Hall is one of Barbados’ oldest houses. The group learned about the fascinating history of the house from Sir Henry Fraser. The group hopes to plan future activities.

Hong Kong: Cocktail party at Christie’s
11 May 2015
Over 50 alumni and friends met for a special evening to celebrate Glasgow on the 22nd Floor of Alexandra House, the new home of Christie’s Hong Kong. Speakers included Elaine Keew, director of Christie’s Education, Asia. Christie’s Education is an affiliated institute of the University and a subsidiary of Christie’s International.

China: University of Glasgow-Nankai University joint graduate school launch
21 October 2015
A number of alumni and over 100 current Nankai students joined Glasgow academics for the joint graduate school launch, which included an academic procession and guest lecture by the Bonar Macaulay Chair in Economics, Professor Charles Nielan. Students also celebrated with a traditional Scottish ceilidh complete with pipes.

Los Angeles: Alumni lunch
16 May 2015
Alumni enjoyed lunch at the home of alumni Stephen (MPh 1988) and Nairn Bethal in Glendale. Fifteen alumni and friends reminisced about their time at Glasgow and how they came to live in LA. Francesca Shepherd, Vice-President International Development, and Caroline Gould, international development coordinator, gave a brief update from the University.

New York City: Scotland Week
Saturday 11 April 2015
Kilt swayed rhythmically to the skirl of the pipes and the beat of the drum as alumni and staff joined the Tartan Day Parade along 6th Avenue – one of the highlights of Scotland Week in New York. The parade was followed by a lively reception for all Scottish University alumni at the Long Room on W 44th Street.

San Francisco: Cheese School evening
Tuesday 22 September 2015
Frances Shepherd and Emma Sloan from the Development & Alumni Office welcomed 40 guests to this evening event at the Cheese School of San Francisco. Guests had the chance to sample a number of local cheeses alongside recommended wine pairings.

Texas: Austin happy hour
Tuesday 15 September 2015
Emma Sloan, international development officer, joined the group of 12 alumni and friends for an informal evening at Searsmucker. Austin. Professor Emeritus Hugh S Forrest (BSc 1944) was the earliest alumnus to join the group. There are plans for a Burns Supper in January 2016.

Texas: Houston pub quiz
Wednesday 16 September 2015
Eighteen alumni and guests came together at The Black Labrador pub to pit their wits against fellow Glasgow graduates living in the Houston area. Winning a variety of Glasgow goodges, the team of Helen Mann (MA 1967), Norman Ritchie (BSc 1985) and Robert Bryce (BSc 1978) took the top spot, closely followed by Jana Jumper (MLitt 2012) and guests.

Washington DC: Burns Supper
5 March 2015
Alumni joined University representatives, Professor David Fearn, Emma Sloan, Caroline Gould and Danielle Houston at the Ritz-Carlton for our annual Burns Supper. Despite the treacherous winter conditions, more than 60 alumni and guests joined in the festivities for a wonderful night of dancing and singing. Alan Dickson delivered the Tae-bhagag and Frank Shaw gave the Toast to the Immortal Memory.

Toronto: Pub night
April 2015
Seventeen local alumni gathered at The Caledonian in Toronto for a few drinks and the chance to network with other alumni in the area. Attendees spanned 60 years of graduations and were able to share memories of the city both old and new.

Reunion notices
LADIES’ CLUB
The University of Glasgow Ladies’ Club is for all women working or who have worked at the University, or with partners or friends who are working or have worked at the University. If you’ve now retired and find yourself with plenty of time on your hands, why not have an evening out hearing about something new, join in our daytime activities or enjoy our social gatherings.

In addition to regular talks and visits, we hold evening and supper evenings, where you will find a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Find out more: email ladies-club@glasgow.ac.uk or see www.glasgow.ac.uk/myglasgow/staff/clubs/ladiesclub

Glasgow Auld Students of Kolkata
Annual dinner: Sat, 9 January 2016; The Black Labrador, Glasgow
The evening will be hosted by the Glasgow Auld Students of Kolkata.

Glasgow Alumns of BSc in Modern Languages.
Coffee club
Are you interested in joining fellow alumni for coffee in the Glasgow area? If so, please contact david.ross317@intworld.com for more details.

www.glasgow.ac.uk/avenue
brought together and create a world-class environment for learning and research which empowers staff and students alike to discover and share knowledge that can change the world.

There are three broad themes to the strategy:

1. People – bring inspiring people together
2. Place – create a world-class environment for learning and research
3. Purpose – discover and share knowledge that can change the world

The Principal thanked all the staff of the University for their positive engagement with the new strategy and for their hard work and dedication over the last academic year.

Scottish Government – Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Bill: The Principal explained the University would review the recently drafted Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Bill and consider its response.

The Chancellor thanked the Principal for his report and welcomed the positive news delivered in his report, which showed that the University continued to grow and move forward, before inviting comments.

Q&A: In answer to questions, a General Council member raised concerns about the lack of acknowledgement by Court on the views of the General Council members with regard to Draft Ordinance 207. The Convenor of Court stated that he would convey the concerns raised by General Council members to Court. A General Council member also asked about widening access and the future of the Centre for Open Studies. The Principal reported that the Centre for Open Studies had recently been reviewed by Court and Senate. The University, however, was fully committed to community education and would continue to offer programmes to maximise the benefits to the whole community while ensuring value for money.

Closure of the Meeting
The Chancellor thanked all those present and declared the meeting closed.

Convenor’s Comments

As I mentioned last time, the Business Committee is working hard on establishing more effective communication with graduates, whether by email, an enewsletter or an improved website.

This has been a busy time for the Business Committee, as the Scottish Government asked for comments on the Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Bill, proposing radical changes in the way the Scottish Universities are governed, particularly affecting the four ancient Universities of Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and St Andrews.

Earlier this year, I met with the Convenors of the General Council Business Committee of the other ancient universities. In discussing the Bill we identified many common areas of concern.

The General Councils of the ancient universities have a long-standing role in governance, and the Business Committee was concerned that parts of the Bill might not ensure good governance. A submission was therefore made on behalf of General Council to the Scottish Government, with a summary being sent to the leaders of the main political parties and to the MSP for Glasgow Kelvin constituency, in which the University lies.

The Business Committees of St Andrews and Edinburgh have written to their General Council members, encouraging them to make individual personal submissions, and many of you will have responded to my message in 2015, suggesting that our graduates should contact their own MSPs. Although the responses to my email were overwhelmingly supportive, there had been a small number of responses that did not support the Business Committee’s views. I welcome all comments, even those which disagree with me, as they are extremely useful in ensuring that we reflect the opinions of our graduates.

We were particularly concerned to understand what the Education Secretary believed was wrong with the existing governance arrangements – where General Council and Senate appoint Assessors to Court – and how the arrangements in the Bill would improve governance. Our concern does not seem to have been addressed.

Regrettably, the contribution of General Council has already been diminished by the recent reduction in the number of Assessors it appoints to Court, very significantly reducing the influence of our graduates.

We were also concerned that the Bill introduces a level of government control, similar to that already exercised over the newer universities, which could potentially lead to the universities being viewed by central government as public bodies. We feel that this amounts to an assault on the autonomy of the university sector in Scotland and could have serious consequences for future funding, threatening their charitable status, the loss of which could vastly restrict available sources of funding and investment.

I hope that, by the time you read this, the weight of opinion expressed widely in the press, by the universities and by graduates will have prevented the Education Secretary from imposing the baby cut with the bath water. To keep up to date with the latest General Council news please see our website www.glasgow.ac.uk/about/generalcouncil.
Our strategy plans to take the University to even greater heights, following our successes in the last five years, and the story over recent weeks has already begun to put flesh on the bones of these ambitions.

The South Glasgow Hospital was opened by Her Majesty the Queen in July 2015, and named, significantly, in recognition of the South Glasgow University Hospital (GEUH)-Glasgow, marking the University’s important presence on the site. As previously reported, the GEUH is now the base for the University-led £23m Strathclyde Medicine Scotland Innovation Centre (SMS-IC), and the site of the £60m University clinical academic campus.

On 28 October, Jo Johnson, Minister of State for Universities & Science, visited the QEUH and announced that the SMS-IC had been selected as one of six UK regional centres of excellence by the Precision Medicine Catapult. The Catapult, established in April 2015 and funded by Innovate UK, is the UK’s new national innovation centre for precision medicine. Its aim is to make the UK the most attractive place in the world in which to develop precision medicine tests and therapies. The Scottish centre of excellence will be led by the University with investment from all of Scotland’s medical schools, NHS Research Scotland, and industry partners Astellas Informatics, ThermoFisher Scientific and Illumina. On the same day, the Minister undertook the ceremonial ‘breaking ground’ for the new £32m Imaging Centre of Excellence, housing the UK’s first 7-Tesla MRI scanner on a clinical site.

And as a University, we are committed to being a good employer and so we were delighted that the University received formal confirmation of our accreditation as a Living Wage Employer in August. The University is also committed to the Scottish Business Pledge, a Scottish Government initiative which aims for a fairer Scotland through more equality, opportunity and innovation in business. The Living Wage is part of this initiative and the formal announcement of our commitment to both was made on 2 November 2015.

Moving to Garscube, the Sir Michael Stoker Excellence, housing the UK’s first 7-Tesla MRI scanner on a clinical site.

While our strategy recognises the value of our research stars, it also recognises the values of all of our colleagues and the important part everyone plays in creating a working, learning and research environment of quality. Continuing success in the student experience bears this out. The University was ranked top in Scotland and third in the Russell Group in the National Student Survey 2015 as measured by overall satisfaction.

And as a University, we are committed to being a good employer and so we were delighted that the University received formal confirmation of our accreditation as a Living Wage Employer in August. The University is also committed to the Scottish Business Pledge, a Scottish Government initiative which aims for a fairer Scotland through more equality, opportunity and innovation in business. The Living Wage is part of this initiative and the formal announcement of our commitment to both was made on 2 November 2015.

What’s On At:

The Hunterian is one of the leading university museums in the UK and one of Scotland’s most important cultural assets. Founded in 1817, it is the country’s oldest public museum and home to one of the largest collections outside the National Museums.

OPENING TIMES
Tuesday to Saturday: 10am to 5pm
Sunday 11am to 4pm
Free admission to the Museum, Art Gallery and The Mackintosh House. Admission charge for some special exhibitions (free to University of Glasgow staff and students with valid staff/student card).

The Hunterian, University of Glasgow, G12 8QG
Tel: + 44 (0)141 330 4221
For updates on programmes and events, see www.glasgow.ac.uk/hunterian.

NORTH EAST MUSEUMS: DRENTS MUSEUM 20 September 2015 to 7 February 2016
Exhibition: The Netherlandish Masters 1200-1800
On loan: works on paper and fish-knife by Charles Rennie Mackintosh.
On loan: three works on paper and fish-knife by Charles Rennie Mackintosh.

Exhibition: Cats
On loan: Poster for the Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts by Margaret MacDonald.

UK: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND 10 December 2015 to 31 May 2016
Exhibition: Players
On loan: two pieces of medical equipment and four wet specimens.

UK: NATIONAL GALLERIES OF SCOTLAND (SCOTTISH NATIONAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART) 7 November 2015 to 26 June 2016
Exhibition: Modern Scottish Wood Painters and Sculptors 1885-1965
On loan: three paintings including Bessie MacNicol’s Lamplight.

USA: WASHINGTON STATE HISTORY MUSEUM 16 September 2015 to 23 March 2016
Exhibition: Arctic Ambitions: Captain Cook and the Northwest Passage
On loan: 10 Native American/First Nations artifacts collected on Cook’s voyages.
It’s often said that the Inuit have 50 different words for snow. But our researchers have uncovered that in Scots there are even more: 491 to be precise. Find out their detailed meanings at:

www.scotsthesaurus.org
@scotsthesaurus