Heading for the stars
Pilot David Mackay prepares to fly tourists into space

Improving lives
Alumni with world-changing careers

Dreams of success
Athletes prepare for the Commonwealth Games

Issue 55 January 2014
University wins Queen’s prize

The University’s Boyd Orr Centre for Population & Ecosystem Health has been awarded a prestigious Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher & Further Education.

The award highlights the scientific excellence and global importance of the centre’s research, which tackles some of the world’s most serious infectious diseases in innovative ways.

The centre addresses the links between human activity, ecological changes and the overall health of ecosystems.

Recent research includes four major diseases affecting animals and humans in both developed and less developed countries: rabies, foot-and-mouth disease, bovine tuberculosis and malaria.

www.glasgow.ac.uk/boydorr

• The centre is named after Glasgow alumnus and Nobel Peace Prize winner John Boyd Orr in recognition of his achievements, his focus on impact, and his distinctive blend of scientific integrity, ambition and pragmatism. The nutritionist and physiologist was a visionary researcher and a devoted supporter of the University.

Picture: Professor of Comparative Epidemiology Sarah Cleaveland is working on research into rabies elimination in Africa through dog vaccination.
Welcome

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

In this issue of Avenue we explore the lives and careers of alumni around the world, from Glasgow to California to Somalia. Our cover story takes us to Mojave in California, where Virgin Galactic’s chief pilot David Mackay is getting ready to fulfil his childhood ambition to travel into space by flying some of the world’s first space tourists towards the stars (page 14).

You don’t have to travel into space to change worlds. Many of our graduates are working hard to make changes on this planet, and we hear from Joanna Reid whose drive and determination is helping to improve people’s lives in fragile countries like Somalia (page 10). We also hear from Karina Atkinson (on page 8), our inspirational Young Alumnus of the Year 2013, who is pioneering conservation in Paraguay.

The University campus is undergoing and preparing for many improvements, and you can read about the latest developments on page 5. And for those who can’t make it to the campus to visit The Hunterian’s latest exhibitions, there are opportunities in other corners of the world to see Hunterian items on display. Go to page 29 to hear about their current loans.

In 2014 the Commonwealth Games are coming to Glasgow for the first time. I hope you will join me in wishing the University’s elite athletes all the best as they prepare for the Games. You can read the stories of a few of them on page 16.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of Avenue, and thank you for continuing to support and engage with the University.

Professor Anton Muscatelli
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

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Half-Yearly Meeting of the General Council
Saturday, 1 February 2014
Alumni are invited to join the Chancellor and the Principal at the General Council Half-Yearly Meeting on Saturday, 1 February 2014 at 11am in the Charles Wilson Lecture Theatre in the University.

Read the report of the last meeting on pages 26 and 27.

Cover image: David Mackay, Virgin Galactic chief pilot, practising flying in space in a simulator.
Photo © chadslattery.com
News

Space mission cleared for launch

Scientists at Glasgow’s Institute for Gravitational Research (IGR) have reached an important milestone that signals they are on course for the launch of the LISA Pathfinder mission in 2015.

LISA Pathfinder is a European Space Agency technology test mission that aims to pave the way for a future spaceborne detector to measure gravitational waves. These ripples in spacetime are caused by violent astronomical events such as the collision of black holes and the explosion of dying stars. Measuring them will allow scientists to trace the formation, growth, and merger history of black holes and enable the testing of Einstein’s Theory of General Relativity with observations.

Tested at the IGR in Glasgow, the optical bench of the LISA Pathfinder is the super-sensitive heart of the technology demonstrator mission. It has now been further integrated into the core assembly of the satellite and the team has demonstrated that the sensor system is ready to survive forces of up to 35 times the gravitational acceleration on Earth during rocket launch, and still maintain its exquisite alignment.

Dr Christian Killow, Scottish Universities Physics Alliance Advanced Fellow at the University, says: ‘The sophisticated laser interferometer performs superbly and is ready for its job in space.’

Honouring our graduates

Five Glasgow graduates collected Honorary Degrees from the University at ceremonies in 2013.

Singer-songwriter Emeli Sandé received a Doctor of the University during Commemoration Day in June for her outstanding contribution to the music industry. Emeli, who was our Young Alumnus of the Year in 2011, studied at the University between 2006 and 2009, gaining a BSc in Neuroscience.

‘Being awarded an Honorary Degree was a massive deal for me. The importance of going to university and education were such a big part of my upbringing,’ says Emeli, whose 2012 debut album remained top of the UK album charts for 63 weeks. ‘For my work to then be acknowledged by the University means a lot to me and my family.’

Also during Commemoration Day, television writer and producer Steven Moffat, collected a Doctor of Letters. Steven, who studied English and Philosophy (MA 1983), is now an executive producer and writer for Doctor Who and co-creator and executive producer of the TV-series Sherlock. During his time at University, Steven was a member of Glasgow University Student Television and really values the opportunities this gave him and the friends that he made. ‘It’s the people that you meet and the things that you do at university that can really help you.’

At graduation ceremonies in June, the Rt Hon Lady Paton (MA 1972, LLB 1974), athlete Katherine Grainger (MPhil 2001) and author Christopher Brookmyre (MA 1989) collected their doctorates. Lady Paton, a Judge for the Court of Session, and Katherine, who was our Young Alumnus of the Year in 2012, both received a Doctor of Laws. Young Alumnus of the Year in 2005, Christopher, received a Doctor of Letters.
Glasgow’s highest world ranking

The University continues to move up the QS World University Rankings, rising three places from 54 to 51. This is the University’s highest ranking in the survey with Glasgow one of only three Scottish universities in the top 100.

Principal, Professor Anton Muscatelli is delighted that the University’s progress in these rankings over recent years has continued. ‘While we should always be cautious about league tables, this is once again our best ever showing. The QS World Rankings are significant as they confirm the reputation of Glasgow as a world leading research intensive university. This is a very pleasing result for the University of Glasgow.’

- Glasgow is ranked highly in both UK and international league tables. The International Student Barometer 2013 Summer Wave ranked the University fourth for international student satisfaction and we consistently rank in the top 25 for a variety of UK university guides.

A new hub for policy debate

Policy makers, academics and practitioners will stimulate fresh thinking into public policy debate through the University’s new research hub, Policy Scotland. The hub, which launched in June 2013, draws on existing research and leads new projects and debate on public and social policy.

According to Principal, Professor Anton Muscatelli, Policy Scotland will provide a hub for policy research and increase the University’s capacity to contribute to policy thinking in Scotland, the UK and internationally. ‘This is a critical time for public policy development given the current and important debates around constitutional change, and I’ve no doubt that Policy Scotland will have a tremendous contribution to make to these discussions.’

The first of Policy Scotland’s seminars tackled the debate on the currency of Scotland in the event of Scottish independence. Find out more about the currency debate and other debates at www.glasgow.ac.uk/policyscotland.

Women are better multitaskers

New research from a team of psychologists supports the popular perception that women are better at multitasking than men. Researchers from the Universities of Glasgow, Hertfordshire and Leeds measured volunteers’ ability to carry out multiple tasks in laboratory and more real-world situations. They found that women demonstrated a distinct advantage over men in specific aspects of both multitasking situations.

Widening participation

Additional places for up to 800 students from low-income backgrounds will be created at the University over the next four years. The announcement, made with the financial backing of the Scottish Funding Council, will strengthen the University’s existing commitment to assisting students who might otherwise miss out on access to higher education.

175 faces of Chemistry

Glasgow PhD student Jamie Gallagher has been named as one of the Royal Society of Chemistry’s ‘175 Faces of Chemistry’ in recognition of his science communications work. The project showcases some of the most important past, present and future contributors to chemistry.

Encouraging results for stroke patients

Researchers at Glasgow have reported encouraging results from the world’s first clinical trial to test the safety of using stem cells to treat people who have suffered a stroke. The PISCES trial, which has seen the brains of ischaemic stroke patients injected with neural stem cells to test the safety and tolerability of the treatment, shows that the first nine patients treated have shown no cell-related or immunological adverse affects. In fact, most patients experienced sustained modest reductions in neurological impairment and an improvement in abilities to undertake day-to-day tasks.

Read the full stories online at www.glasgow.ac.uk/avenue
News

Graduating in Singapore

For the first time in its 562-year history the University has held a graduation ceremony outside Scotland.

The ceremony, which took place in Singapore, was for the first cohort of students who had completed Honours programmes run in collaboration with the University and the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT).

Eighty students, who upgraded their polytechnic diploma qualifications with a further two years of university study in Singapore, graduated with BEng (Hons) in either Mechatronics or Mechanical Design Engineering this October.

The students studied a similar curriculum as students on campus in Glasgow in the final two years of their BEng degree. In the vacation between the two years of the course, the students visited Glasgow for four weeks and undertook a design project and were introduced to Scottish culture.

The University has been developing collaborations with SIT since 2010 and now offers five undergraduate degree programmes, having started enrolling students for Aeronautical Engineering, Aerospace Systems and Computing Science programmes in Singapore in 2012.

At the graduation ceremony, the Principal announced the launch of a new programme of postgraduate scholarships to develop the next generation of engineers and computing scientists. The Industrial Postgraduate programme, run in collaboration with the Economic Development Board of the Singapore Government, will place approximately 50 PhD students over five years with companies based in Singapore. The scheme will offer students the opportunity for postgraduate training in a research and development environment with the aim of extending knowledge exchange and partnership possibilities.

Read on page 19 about Fannon Lim, a Glasgow alumnus who is leading the Mechanical Design Engineering and Mechatronics programmes for the University in Singapore.

The healing properties of Scottish heather honey

A new study has revealed that Scottish heather honey rivals Manuka honey for its healing properties.

Honey has long been used in veterinary medicine as a wound dressing, in particular Manuka honey. Senior lecturer in equine surgery and keen bee-keeper, Patrick Pollock, was interested to know if other honeys might also make effective antibacterial wound dressings.

‘Honey helps to promote healing, cleaning the wound and keeping it infection-free,’ says Patrick. ‘Although Manuka has been the most studied honey source to date, other honey sources may have valuable antimicrobial properties too.’

Patrick and colleagues at the School of Veterinary Medicine looked at 29 honey products, including commercial medical grade honeys, supermarket honeys and honeys from local bee-keepers.

Of the 29 honeys tested, eight were found to be effective against all the bacteria at concentrations ranging from 2% to 6%. Heather honey from the Inverness area was shown to be particularly effective – killing MRSA microbes and three other types of bacteria.

‘Honeys derived from one type of flower were shown to be the most effective, and while Manuka is currently the only medical grade honey, the study reveals that other honeys may be just as suitable for such purposes,’ explains Patrick. ‘In many regions of the world access to expensive antimicrobial drugs is limited, therefore locally sourced honey may provide an inexpensive alternative.’
Our changing campus
The University is on the threshold of an exciting new era of development and growth. We are embarking on a journey to reshape the campus in what is the biggest development since the move from High Street to Gilmorehill in 1871.

Reshaping the campus
The transfer of ownership of the last part of the Western Infirmary site is complete. The entire 14 acres are now owned by the University.

It is highly unusual for an urban university to be able to acquire such a large amount of land for redevelopment directly adjacent to its existing location.

‘This is tremendous news for the University,’ says Ann Allen, director of Estates & Buildings at the University. ‘We have been hugely encouraged by the amount of interest from staff, students and people who live in the West End as we have talked to them about how we might develop the site.’

In 2013, staff, students and the wider West End community were given the opportunity to find out about the vision for the future of the campus and share their feedback. A third planning consultation and feedback initiative got under way at the start of this year.

‘This is obviously an incredibly exciting time for the University but the Western development will have an impact across the West End and the whole of the city,’ says Councillor Gordon Matheson, Leader of Glasgow City Council. ‘This hugely ambitious plan will do so much to ensure that undergraduate and postgraduate talent will want to come to Glasgow and ultimately stay here.’

To find out more about the campus vision see www.glasgow.ac.uk/campusdevelopment.

Kelvin Hall to house Hunterian collections
A £4.5m Heritage Lottery grant will help to transform Glasgow’s iconic Kelvin Hall into a major new museum facility for The Hunterian, Glasgow Museums and the National Library of Scotland.

Plans are under way to transform the historic Kelvin Hall (pictured below) into an exciting new centre of cultural excellence providing shared storage for collections, and teaching and research facilities. Around 1.5 million objects currently stored in various locations around the city will be relocated to the new facility.

A new Hunterian centre for object-based research, teaching and learning will also be located at the new facility. ‘The creation of the Hunterian Collections Study Centre at its heart will raise a new benchmark around the world in museum practice and public engagement with collections,’ says David Gaimster, director of The Hunterian. ‘It will cement The Hunterian’s position as a centre of innovation in the museum world.’

New sport and social facility
At the bottom of University Avenue a major new development of the Glasgow University Union (GUU) and Stevenson Sports Building is under way.

The 1960s GUU extension, which housed the Hive nightclub, has been demolished and a new five-storey sports and social venue is going up on the site. Set to open in early 2015, the new Stevenson Hive building will house a café, bars and a new nightclub, as well as a major extension to the current sports facility.

‘It is an ambitious project and one that is part of our ongoing strategy to improve and invest in an innovative way,’ says Principal, Professor Anton Muscatelli.

Students, staff, alumni and the local community will have greater access to sport through this new development. There will be significant muscle conditioning and cardiovascular provision (1400m²), a competition size basketball court, a martial art studio and an increase of studio space.

It is hoped that the new facility will also greatly improve the experience of club sports. ‘Sports clubs will have more space to train and compete, and they’ll be able to have more people watching them,’ explains Grant Reilly, the marketing & business development manager for Sport & Recreation. ‘There will be a larger viewing gallery, and it’ll be a real hub for club sport.’

www.glasgow.ac.uk/stevensonhiveproject

Not on the High Street: New book tells campus story
A new book, Building Knowledge, charts the development of the University from its original High Street location to the current campus at Gilmorehill. Produced in partnership between the University and Historic Scotland, Building Knowledge is available to buy from the University shop or online at www.universityofglasgowshops.com.

Watch the video about the book at www.glasgow.ac.uk/avenue.
Watching TV could change your accent

Researchers at Glasgow interested in how television viewing affects language found that engaged watching of the television soap *EastEnders* is altering certain features of the Scottish accent.

The linguists have found two particular features of pronunciation typically associated with London English that are becoming increasingly apparent in the Glaswegian dialect among people who regularly watched the television soap.

‘Our study shows that the programmes that we watch on television can help to accelerate changes in aspects of language which are also well below the level of conscious awareness,’ says Jane Stuart-Smith, Professor of Phonetics at Glasgow and lead researcher on the project.

‘In particular, this study was investigating why certain linguistic factors that are normally found within the Cockney dialect in London were gradually entering into Glaswegian. Although this trend was apparent in people who had contact with friends or family living in London, there was a stronger effect for people who had strong psychological engagement with characters in *EastEnders*.’

However, the study also found that simply being exposed to television is not enough to cause accent change; for someone’s speech to alter, they need to watch the show regularly and become emotionally engaged with the characters.

Television and other forms of popular media constitute only one of many factors that help accelerate language change. Other more powerful factors, such as social interaction between peers, have a much stronger effect on language change, according to this study.

‘We don’t properly understand the mechanisms behind these changes, but we do see that the impact of the media is weaker than that of actual social interaction,’ says Professor Stuart-Smith. ‘We need many more studies of this kind in order to appreciate properly the influence of television and other popular media on language change.’

Tomorrow’s workforce

Students are faced with an increasingly challenging job market on graduation. Offering an internship is one of the many ways that alumni can help to give the next generation of Glasgow graduates valuable work experience.

Alumnus Iain McDougall (BEng 1991), pictured above, found that having a student intern was also a great help to his company Taragenyx. Iain first took on Tom Davie as a summer intern through the University’s work placement scheme (Club 21). Tom proved he was an essential asset to the company during his internship and once he graduated became a full-time employee helping Taragenyx to achieve their international growth plans.

‘Tom was very unusual in that he not only understood our science, but he was interested in the business of fast-moving technology, and more importantly, he really had the hustle to dive straight into start-up culture,’ says Iain. ‘Send us more people like Tom!’

Taragenyx is tackling the global problem of orthopaedic implant failure across a rapidly ageing population by developing bio-regenerative orthopaedic and dental implant solutions, which allow patients to heal faster with far less pain.

Tom, who graduated in Anatomy in 2013, is meeting and pitching these implant solutions to some of the world’s leading life science entrepreneurs and venture capital investment firms in London, Boston and Palo Alto.

Many alumni like Iain have offered internships and work placements to students like Tom through the University’s Club 21 scheme. Find out how you can do the same, or how to get involved with other careers events and initiatives, at [www.glasgow.ac.uk/glasgowcareersalumninetwork](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/glasgowcareersalumninetwork).
Celebrating 100 years of isotope science

It’s 100 years since isotopes were discovered at Glasgow by chemist Fredrick Soddy.

Soddy, who lectured at the University before the First World War, introduced isotopes to the world in the journal Nature on 4 December 1913. Since then isotope science has transformed science, engineering and medicine, and there is scarcely an aspect of biological, medical, chemical, earth or nuclear sciences that does not utilise isotopes. Soddy received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1921 for this work.

Born in Eastbourne and educated at Oxford, Soddy spent two years in Canada working with Sir Ernest Rutherford on radioactivity, and then with Sir William Ramsay at University College London. He moved to Glasgow in 1904 as a lecturer in Physical Chemistry and Radioactivity, and it was during his ten years at the University, while working with collaborators including laboratory assistant Alexander Fleck (who later rose to become Chairman of ICI), that he completed his most important research, into the chemistry of radioactive elements.

He realised that a single chemical element could occur as atoms with different atomic weights, with different nuclear properties, such as radioactive half-life. This reconciled the periodic table with the newly discovered phenomena of radioactivity and atomic transformation.

To celebrate Glasgow’s role in the birth of this key development, University staff delivered a range of talks and public activities throughout 2013, including Isotope Day on 4 December. An exhibition is running in The Hunterian’s new science showcase space until the end of February.

www.glasgow.ac.uk/hunterian

Stay involved after graduation

Your relationship with the University doesn’t have to end after graduation. As a graduate, there are many benefits including discounted membership of the University’s library and sport facilities.

You can also have a voice in how the University responds to and tackles the challenges ahead. One way to share your views or hear what’s happening is to attend the General Council meetings, which usually take place in January and June. The dates of these meetings are posted in every issue of Avenue; see pages 26–27. Graduates and academic staff are all members of the General Council.

‘Every graduate’s contribution would be greatly valued,’ says George Tait, convener of the General Council’s Business Committee. ‘We are particularly keen to encourage recent graduates to get involved.’

From time to time there are opportunities to join the General Council’s Business Committee, who act on behalf of the General Council and raise issues of importance to graduates and academic staff with the University Court.

If you are interested in getting involved, see www.glasgow.ac.uk/about/generalcouncil.
Biologist and conservationist Karina Atkinson is named Young Alumnus of the Year 2013.

Karina Atkinson has been awarded Young Alumnus of the Year for her conservation work in Paraguay. In 2010, she established her award-winning not-for-profit conservation organisation Para La Tierra, which promotes conservation in fragile habitats in Paraguay through environmental education, community outreach and scientific research.

Discovering new species
On the Reserva Natural Laguna Blanca in Paraguay, the Para La Tierra team led by Karina run a volunteer programme, work with rural communities and have established an education outreach programme for young people. The team of volunteers and professional scientists study the fascinating range of populations that exist in the area, from birds and insects to amphibians and mammals.

‘We have recently discovered a new species of frog for Paraguay,’ says Karina, who is passionate about her work and the wildlife she protects. ‘After three years of work it’s important to know that we’re still discovering new species and that we are doing the right thing for the area.’

Karina graduated with a BSc in Genetics from Glasgow. ‘My time at the University gave me a really strong grounding in biology and also that specialist experience that I could take to whatever job I wanted,’ she says. ‘I really
enjoyed my experience at Glasgow. It was a great place to study, a great environment to be in and a great place to live.'

After completing her degree at Glasgow, she decided to join a gap year programme in Paraguay. It was a year that would change her life and take her career in a remarkable direction. 'I went to Paraguay originally for a new adventure, for a new experience and to gain some perspective on where I was. I just fell in love with the fauna and flora of Paraguay and the work I was doing there and so I decided that I didn’t want to leave,' she says. 'I saw a real need for more conservation in the country, because at the time it seemed to be lacking. I thought, someone has to do something about this, and so I decided to try myself by creating Para La Tierra. Fortunately it has been a success.'

Conservation and the community
Karina’s modesty is underpinned by hard work and a unique vision, and Para La Tierra is becoming a template for conservation and sustainable tourism throughout the world. 'I went out originally to do scientific research, but quickly realised that conservation needs more than that,' she explains. ‘It has to involve communities and local people as well. That brought with it a lot of challenges, and it’s those challenges and that daily problem solving that really interest me about what I do now.’

In recognition of her work, she was awarded the prestigious Rolex Award for Enterprise in 2012, and she has plans to expand her organisation even further. ‘My goal for the future is to have created a model conservation organisation for Paraguay which I can then transfer to other fragile habitats around the country,’ she says. ‘I’d like to have a network of ecological research stations around the country, and hopefully that could lead to conservation in other parts of South America as well.’

The实习 programme at Para La Tierra is for life sciences students and graduates from around the world, who design and carry out their own projects in Paraguay, guided by Para La Tierra staff. Roughly 80 interns each year work on the Reserva Natural Laguna Blanca, and students from Glasgow are encouraged to apply.

‘The advice that I’d give to young students who are interested in changing the world is to keep working at whatever they are interested in,’ says Karina. ‘Just keep doing the things that you love. And also to think big. If I can do it then anyone can.’

Following dreams
Speaking about the Young Alumnus of the Year Award, Karina is both delighted and typically modest. ‘When I found out that I’d won the award, I was very surprised and also humbled to be a part of it,’ she says. ‘There are lots of people around the world doing fantastic and important work and I’m really lucky to be part of that network. My time at Glasgow gave me the self-confidence to do the things I wanted to do; it inspired me to follow my dreams.’

Find out more about Karina’s work at www.paralatierra.org.
What it takes to change the world

Taking action. Changing the world. Helping to make it a better place. Idealistic dreams to some, but for many graduates it’s their life’s work. Avenue hears about the careers of three graduates working in international development.
Starting out
Someone who is not afraid of throwing herself in at the deep end of development is Joanna Reid. As head of the UK Government’s Department for International Development (DFID) in Somalia, a fragile state where over 40% of the population live in poverty, Joanna has her work cut out.

Joanna didn’t start out with the plan to work in international development. She graduated in Veterinary Medicine from Glasgow, then worked as a large-animal vet in rural Aberdeenshire. Her career took an unexpected turn when her contract was cut short. She embraced the change and started on a new career path, completing an MBA and rising through the ranks in health service management, where she found herself managing hundreds of people in one of Scotland’s largest hospitals.

Although it was a tough and challenging management career that lasted nearly ten years, there was still something missing. ‘I was well on the way to becoming a chief executive. I had a good income and a nice house,’ says Joanna. ‘But then I thought: this is all a bit comfortable and maybe it’s time to do something different, to do something difficult and to do something for other people.’

Making a change
It was time for another change. She left her comfortable life behind and started working as a programme officer for Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) in China while studying for an MSc in development management. After a few years in China, she moved to Bangladesh and worked for a charity organisation on a DFID-funded project. She continued to put her health service management experience into practice when she moved into the role of senior health adviser for DFID India. But when the time came for Joanna’s next challenge, she had a big decision to make.

‘I got two offers from DFID: South Africa or Sierra Leone,’ says Joanna. ‘And I thought South Africa sounded quite nice, probably get a nice house, pool in the garden, very civilised. So I chose Sierra Leone. I thought that sounds difficult so let’s go for that.’

Joanna could see that the country would greatly benefit from support to recover from the brutal civil war. ‘Sierra Leone was at peace by the time I started there. It wasn’t an unsafe place to be, but there was just no infrastructure at all. We were doing things like helping to rebuild the health service,’ she explains. ‘It was somewhere with a lot of need and we could do a lot to help.’

From Yemen to Somalia
Unafraid of unstable countries, Joanna’s next move was to become head of DFID in Yemen, and a few years later to her current role as head of DFID Somalia. Known for its piracy, poverty and volatility, Somalia is a difficult place to work. Due to the instability of the country, Joanna and her team, three of whom are Glasgow graduates, are based in neighbouring Kenya. In her time working in this role, Joanna has seen the devastating effects that famine and the activities of militant groups have had on the country.

‘Somalia and the Horn of Africa had the first famine of the 21st century,’ says Joanna. ‘But that’s only one of the country’s challenges that we’re helping them to overcome.

‘It’s a very fragile country but it’s in a better place than it has been for a generation, so there is a real chance to make a difference,’ explains Joanna, whose team of 35 staff are working with international organisations and the Somali government to help develop industry, improve access to healthcare and respond to humanitarian need. ‘We had a £95 million programme there in 2013 and some of that money was spent literally keeping people alive with food, water, shelter and health services.

‘No country is going to get back on its feet with just lots of injections of development assistance: it’s just a sticking plaster. So we’re supporting the Somali government in many different ways.’

Tackling terrorism
Making the headlines recently is al Shabaab, the Somalia-based militant group linked to al-Qaeda who stormed a shopping centre in Nairobi and killed over 60 people. One of Joanna’s staff members was stuck inside the shopping centre for five hours, and it was a tough time for them all. Although al Shabaab’s power in Somalia is decreasing in some areas, they are still a big threat to the future of the country.

‘You’ve got young men and women without opportunities, and if somebody comes along, offers them a gun and says come with us then they’ll think, Why not, what else is there for me?’ explains Joanna. ‘So if we can help to create jobs, to create hope and to give them an education, al Shabaab will hold no attraction for them.’

I thought: this is all a bit comfortable and maybe it’s time to do something different, to do something difficult and to do something for other people.
Campaigning for change

Joanna’s dedication to improving people’s lives and influencing change is shared among many other alumni. Sara Cowan, who studied Politics and History at the University is a campaigns and activism coordinator with Oxfam Scotland. Based in Glasgow, Sara works with communities to get them involved in Oxfam’s fight against poverty. This involves working with community groups as well as students on campus, informing them of Oxfam’s campaigns and helping them to take action. A University of Glasgow Oxfam campaign group has recently been established, and Sara is the group’s key support so that they can campaign on issues like food justice or the humanitarian crisis in Syria.

‘I also work in coalitions with international development and environmental organisations on developing the public engagement side of campaigns,’ explains Sara. ‘And this year our main focus has been on the ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYONE IF... campaign, where we’re making people aware of the issue that there is enough food in the world for everyone, but not everyone has enough to eat.’

This campaign raises the issue that one in eight people still go to bed hungry every night. In 2013, Sara and other activists from Scotland joined the thousands at the G8 pre-summit rally in Belfast with the aim of putting pressure on the world leaders to address the broken food system.

‘It was inspiring to see people caring enough that they would make this journey to show their support for people around the world they have never met, and that they care about having a better world,’ says Sara, who first became interested in international development while on a volunteer project in Nepal.

There is enough food in the world for everyone, but not everyone has enough to eat.

‘It was a three-month volunteer project. And that’s what really set me on the path of wanting to work in international development,’ says Sara, who went on the placement after her second year at university. ‘When I came back I chose politics modules on globalisation, international development and global ethics. I made that my focus.’

After university, Sara spent time working in advocacy roles with local charity The Advocacy Project. Like Joanna, Sara felt it was time to take a new direction and to do something to help people in the developing world. She signed up for VSO’s youth development programme and went to The Gambia to work on a project for a small children’s rights organisation. She then stayed on for an extra year to work on a teacher motivation research project, the results of
David began his legal career as a trainee lawyer with the Scottish Development Agency. Then after a brief stint as a legal assistant in private practice, David realised that this was not the right fit for him. He took a scholarship to study comparative law in Italy, which led to a job as a consultant to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This in turn led to a job with the United Nations Interregional Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Institute, based in Rome.

‘As a youngster I thought being a lawyer seemed like a very glamorous and exciting career choice − probably from watching too many courtroom dramas,’ laughs David. ‘But I also had the feeling that becoming a lawyer could be a way to contribute to a more just and equitable society.’

I had the feeling that becoming a lawyer could be a way to contribute to a more just and equitable society.

Research and partnerships
To support and further international development, the University brings together extensive research expertise through the Glasgow Centre for International Development (GCID). GCID’s research covers themes such as food security, human wellbeing and animal health, the economy, the environment, learning and citizenship.

A key area of GCID’s work is in developing a collaborative approach to research within the University as well as through partnerships with universities and institutes in low-income countries in the Global South.

One example of research under way is that by Professor of Energy Engineering Paul Younger (pictured above). In collaboration with Cluff Geothermal, he is working on research which aims to introduce low-carbon forms of energy in Africa.

‘Of the 360 million people in East Africa, only 15% are connected to the electricity grid,’ says Professor Younger. ‘So every megawatt of power that is added is changing people’s lives.’

To find out more about GCID’s research, see www.glasgow.ac.uk/gcid.

Protecting children’s health
Another graduate working in international development is David Clark. David is putting his law degree to good use in his role as a legal adviser with UNICEF. Based in New York, David works with UNICEF’s country offices to provide legal support to governments in developing policies and legislation to protect children’s health and nutrition rights.

which were used to campaign to the Gambian government on improving their policies towards teachers.

Sara has a breadth of experience in working in the community, working in developing countries and working with volunteers. With Oxfam Scotland, she has also visited South Sudan and spent time on secondment in Ghana.

‘It was an exciting time as I went out to Ghana to work with the Oxfam team there when they were launching a health campaign,’ says Sara. ‘The campaign challenged a government health insurance policy. There were many blockages in the system and access to healthcare was a big problem for women in rural areas in particular.

‘It was really interesting to be a part of the campaign and to see that they worked in a really quite similar way to how we do here, in terms of building people’s skills up to talk to politicians, and that working at many different levels to create change is really important.’

Sara Cowan (far left) and fellow campaigners in Glasgow raising awareness of the Syrian humanitarian crisis, one of many campaigns they have worked on.

Left:

Right:

Above: A woman collects water supplied by Oxfam and SAACID (an Oxfam partner) in Lafoole, Somalia.
Heading for the stars

Alumnus David Mackay has always wanted to be an astronaut. One day soon he’ll make his own and other people’s dreams come true when he flies them into space.

Space travel is soon to enter a new phase. The first of Virgin Galactic’s flights into space will be a landmark in aeronautical history and will change our relationship with space, and flight, for good. Glasgow alumnus and chief pilot for Virgin Galactic, David Mackay, is set to be one of the first captains to fly commercial passengers into space.

David’s interest in flight grew from watching the low-flying aircraft near his family home as a child. ‘I have been interested in flying for as long as I can remember,’ he says. ‘When I was six years old we used to see fast jet aircraft from Lossiemouth flying over our village. It looked incredibly exciting to me.’ The manned space programme inspired a generation of would-be space travellers, and watching the moon landing made the young David even more determined to fulfil his dreams.

‘I was so inspired by the Apollo moon programme that from a young age my very ambitious career plan was to become an astronaut,’ he says. After a fascinating career that has taken him through the Air Force and commercial flight, not to mention numerous countries across the world, his dream is now close to becoming a reality.

During his time at school David became increasingly interested in how aircraft fly, so he started looking into degree programmes. ‘I wanted to go to university to do something relevant and interesting. Glasgow offered a degree in Aeronautical Engineering that attracted me greatly and it became the obvious choice.’

Learning to fly

It was during his time at the University that David learned to fly. Having joined the University Air Squadron, he was able to train at Glasgow Airport as part of an incentive by the Armed Forces to attract people into the RAF.

‘I left university with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering and a significant number of flying hours,’ he says. ‘I’d had some close contact with the RAF and there was no doubt in my mind about what I wanted to do with my life.’

David joined the RAF and applied to become a test pilot, training in France as an exchange student from the UK. ‘The way forward seemed to be to become a military test pilot, and then an astronaut. That was what happened to many of those early astronauts in the Apollo programme,’ he explains. But the journey to space was not going to be straightforward, because by that stage there was no manned space programme in the UK. ‘I resigned myself to not achieving that ambition and in 1995 I left the Air Force and joined Virgin Atlantic to be a Captain on the Boeing 747.’

But in 2003 he once again stepped closer to his childhood ambition via work with the aerospace company Scaled Composites. Sponsored by Virgin Atlantic, Scaled Composites built the aircraft in which Steve Fossett flew solo non-stop around the world.

‘I was invited out to Mojave to look at the aircraft and to talk to the engineers,’ explains David. ‘At that time they were also building a prototype spaceship.’ David realised that this might be the key to launching a private commercial space flight. In 2005 Virgin Galactic began working on a commercial spaceship and wanted a test pilot. ‘I was asked to join the company and in 2011 I moved to California to work on the project full-time.’

Preparing for space

The programme is currently in the test and development stages, and David hopes to launch the first commercial space flight within a year. ‘I know that my first flight into space will give me a huge feeling of fulfilment personally, but there are many people around the world who also dream of going into space and are not in the position to fly the spaceship itself,’ he says. ‘It would be great to help those people fulfil their own dreams as well.

‘Sometimes I do pause and wonder how on earth all this happened,’ he laughs. ‘There is a lot of luck in life but I think you can influence your luck by working hard and getting the right qualifications so you can take advantage of any opportunities that come along.

‘Looking back on the history of aviation, it is only a hundred years ago that man started to fly. Where we have come since then is just astonishing.’
Prefering for the Games

\textit{Avenue} talks to three of the University’s elite athletes hoping to compete in the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games alongside some of the world’s top sports men and women.

Rising swimming star Camilla Hattersley is in her second year at Glasgow studying Aeronautical Engineering and is hoping to qualify for the 800m freestyle and relay swimming teams.

‘It would mean so much for me to compete in my first Commonwealth Games in my home country,’ says Camilla, who swims for the City of Glasgow swim team. ‘Watching major swimming events on TV really inspired me and qualifying for Glasgow 2014 has been my biggest goal since I was young.’

Camilla’s swimming career really took off when she qualified for the Scottish National Youth development squad as a teenager. ‘I was really motivated to start competing seriously by the older swimmers in my swimming club whom I saw succeeding at national competitions,’ she explains.

Balancing life as a student and an athlete is not always easy. She is currently studying part-time so that she can train and compete as well as study. Financial support from the University helps Camilla with her training and equipment costs.

Qualifying for Glasgow 2014 has been my biggest goal since I was young.

Student Joanna Patterson also receives financial support from the University to help with her athletics. She hopes to compete at the Commonwealth Games in the 400m and 800m as part of the Ireland team. In her fourth year studying Medicine, Joanna works hard on both her studies and her athletics training, and she loves being at Glasgow.
‘I love Scotland, and the University of Glasgow has such a good reputation,’ explains Joanna. ‘The sporting opportunities that both the University and the city offer are brilliant, and I always know that the University’s support is there if required.’

Sport has been part of Joanna’s life since a young age. ‘I was brought up in a very sporty family,’ says Joanna. ‘At school, I was part of many of the sports teams. But athletics came the most naturally to me.’

After school, Joanna went to university in Bath to study Sports Sciences and her athletics career really kicked off when she was selected for the 400m in the World University Games. At Glasgow, she enjoys competing for the University teams as well as her national team.

‘Personally I have never played in a big tournament in Scotland, so to play in front of my home crowd is going to be an experience,’ says Iain. ‘The thing I am probably most looking forward to is that all my friends will be able to come and watch!’

Getting to this point has required a lot of time and dedication. Iain successfully juggled his studies while playing hockey for Scotland and travelling internationally to compete.

‘The University was really helpful and arranged for me to sit exams away from Glasgow,’ Iain explains. ‘The University supported me financially as well, which really helped in terms of my travel costs.’

Iain believes that without this flexibility he wouldn’t have been able to compete at all. The academic flexibility provided by the University gives athletes the freedom to train and compete, and still sit their exams. It can help make dreams of competing in events like the Games a reality.

The University continues to recruit and support athletes with similar sporting aspirations. As the Games approach in June, Glasgow will be watching with interest to see how Camilla, Joanna, Iain and other University athletes past and present get on. We would love to hear from other alumni who are competing in the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. Please email us at avenue@glasgow.ac.uk.

www.glasgow.ac.uk/commonwealthgames

About the Games
Glasgow 2014 will be the 20th Commonwealth Games and it takes place from 23 July to 3 August. 17 sports will be played in this multi-sport event with 71 teams of athletes from across the Commonwealth. First held in 1930, the Games take place every four years and were previously held in Scotland in 1970 and 1986. One million spectators are expected to attend the Glasgow event, aided by an army of up to 15,000 local volunteers.

Sporting alumni family
At the 1970 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, Moira Walls (MA 1973) won a bronze medal in the high jump. Moira married a fellow Glasgow alumnus, the decathlete Kevin Maguire. Their younger daughter, Kirsty Maguire (MBChB 2007), followed in the footsteps of her mother to represent Scotland at the Commonwealth Games in 2006. Kirsty competed in the pole vault, finishing 13th.

Mark Beaumont covers the Games
Mark Beaumont (MA 2006), adventurer, broadcaster and Glasgow graduate, crossed 71 countries and territories for the BBC to cover one of the greatest traditions of the Commonwealth Games, the Queen’s Baton Relay. The baton toured for 40 days across the Commonwealth and Mark’s coverage featured on various BBC programmes including The One Show, BBC Breakfast and Radio 2.
Careers in progress

This new section takes a look at the career progress and successes of alumni around the world. *Avenue* speaks to Paul Kay in Hong Kong, Fannon Lim in Singapore and Catherine Dyer in Scotland to find out what they’re doing now and how they got there.

Paul Kay, MA English Literature and Film & TV Studies, 2000.
Current position: Founder and CEO Perfect Ink Media.

From arts editor with the University’s student newspaper the *Guardian* to managing editor of *Hong Kong Tatler*, Paul Kay has had a fast-moving media career. He is embarking on an exciting new venture with his own media agency.

Q: What have you done since University?
A: I live in Hong Kong and have just set up my own boutique media agency called Perfect Ink Media. Until very recently I was the managing editor of *Hong Kong Tatler*, which is a luxury lifestyle magazine. Before that I worked for *Time Out Hong Kong*, which I started and launched about five years ago.

Q: How did your time at the University help?
A: What helped me most was getting involved in extra-curricular activities, particularly the *Guardian*. It really helped me get a foot in the door and get that first job, and also learn the basic skills that you need for a career in media.

Q: What do you like about working in Hong Kong?
A: I’ve met a lot of different people through working on *Time Out* and *Tatler*. It’s pretty special to have such a wide variety of people in my life and to get to know how they contribute to making Hong Kong the city it is.

Q: What does the future hold for you?
A: Well, I’m starting out with the new company so the next couple of years are going to be a lot of hard work, a lot of fun too I think, but I’ll be working my socks off to get the company off the ground and to get the name known. After that, I don’t know. One of my friends pointed out that I’ve been saying for six years that I’m leaving Hong Kong in two years, so we’ll see!

Q: What do you love about what you do?
A: I love that I’m my own boss now. But generally I love being a journalist and being in the media in Hong Kong. I get to meet a variety of people and the access in Hong Kong is pretty amazing compared to somewhere like London or New York.

Find out more about Paul’s career and watch his interview online at [www.glasgow.ac.uk/avenue](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/avenue)
Dr Fannon Lim, BEng 1999, PhD 2003
Current position: Director, undergraduate programmes, University of Glasgow Singapore.

Dr Fannon Lim spent six busy years at Glasgow completing his BEng and PhD in Engineering, making countless new friends and travelling around Europe. Fannon rejoined the University in 2011. This time round he is not a student based in Glasgow’s Gilmorehill, but a member of staff leading undergraduate programmes for students in his home country of Singapore.

Five undergraduate programmes are now on offer by the University in Singapore through a partnership with the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT). Fannon is in charge of two of them: Mechanical Design Engineering and Mechatronics.

‘I’m really pleased to be leading these new programmes,’ explains Fannon. ‘Studying at Glasgow was one of the best times in my life and it’s nice that I can bring my experiences and knowledge to students in Singapore.’

After his time at university in Glasgow, Fannon returned to Singapore and began his career as a research scientist for Singapore’s Agency for Science, Technology & Research (A*STAR). During his time with A*STAR, he also managed a fund that bridges promising A*STAR technologies from lab scale to commercially viable ones. Most recently, Fannon was a chief operating officer for a start-up company where he played an instrumental role in developing the company’s solar and LED technologies.

Studying at Glasgow was one of the best times in my life and it’s nice that I can bring my experiences and knowledge to students in Singapore.

Fannon brings industry knowledge and a great commitment to learning to his role with the University and he’s enjoying every minute of it. ‘It was a proud moment to watch the students graduate,’ says Fannon. ‘I was even prouder when they handed me their first business cards!’

Read about the first graduations in Singapore on page 4.

Catherine Dyer, LLB 1982

The role of Crown Agent for the Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS), Scotland’s independent prosecution service, comes with many responsibilities. Catherine Dyer enjoys the variety her role brings.

‘In my role as Chief Executive I’m responsible for the day-to-day running of the service,’ Catherine explains. But this is just one of her responsibilities with COPFS. ‘As Crown Agent I act as the principal adviser on prosecution matters to the Lord Advocate, who is the ministerial head of COPFS.’

Catherine is also responsible for decisions about whether to claim ownerless goods on behalf of the Crown in her role as Queen’s & Lord Treasurer’s Remembrancer. ‘These items could include assets of dissolved companies or from individuals who have died without leaving a will and have no relatives to inherit,’ says Catherine. ‘There is also the Treasure Trove of ancient artefacts that have been found and could be claimed and allocated to museums in Scotland.’

When asked about how her studies have helped her in her career, Catherine comments: ‘My degree gave me the confidence to investigate and examine the history of issues, as well as recognition of the need to keep up with emerging developments.’

During her University days Catherine got involved with clubs and societies and became an elected member of the Students’ Representative Council. ‘I think that all my experiences at Glasgow made me more confident,’ Catherine says. ‘I knew that I could take on new and different challenges.’
Alumni news

Notes from No 2

News from Emily Howie, alumni manager in the Development & Alumni Office at No 2 The Square.

It’s always a pleasure to read the interesting stories sent to us here of the lives of alumni during and after university. One such story that caught my attention came from Graham Rennie, the son of Glasgow graduates Alistair and Ruth Rennie. He saw an article in Edit magazine – the Edinburgh University equivalent of Avenue – about two Edinburgh graduates, who, aged 91 and 95, ‘just might be Britain’s oldest university graduate couple’. Excited that his parents may be one of the oldest university graduate couples, Graham got in touch. His parents, Alistair and Ruth, are now 98 and 101 respectively, rivalling the Edinburgh couple.

Ruth Tullis Rennie (née Cochran) was born in 1912 and graduated with a first-class Honours degree in French and German in 1935. Graham’s father, Alistair McRae Rennie, was born in 1914 and graduated in 1937 after completing an MA and then a BD. They married in April 1941. So congratulations to Alistair and Ruth Rennie, who could well be Glasgow’s and Britain’s oldest university graduate couple.

Unless you know a Glasgow graduate couple older than Alistair and Ruth? If so, we’d love to hear from you.

Reading the reports about your reunions is a great reminder of the friendships formed while at university. For many graduates, life in halls of residence played a big part in that. Alumnus Stewart Campbell is pulling together stories of life at MacBrayne Hall in Park Circus. So, if you stayed in MacBrayne Hall or the adjacent Kelvin Lodge he would like to hear from you. Please send in your photographs, memories or reminiscences and we’ll pass them on. He is particularly keen to hear from anyone who was awarded one of the MacBrayne bursaries before 1990.

MacBrayne Hall was one of several special gifts given to the University by Laurence MacBrayne (c1867–1941). In 1923 Laurence gifted MacBrayne Hall, which had been his family home, to the University. It was named after his father, David MacBrayne, who was the founder of the shipping company that later became Caledonian MacBrayne. For graduates who come from or have visited Scotland’s beautiful west coast islands, Caledonian MacBrayne will be a familiar name as they run ferry services to many of the islands. Laurence also helped financially with the maintenance and extension of the Hall as well as three student scholarships.

As well as looking back at life during university, we like to see what’s happening for our graduates today. You’ll see a new addition to this issue of Avenue: Careers in progress on pages 18 and 19. This new section showcases some of our graduates and what they’re up to in their careers now.

Thank you for your contributions so far. Please continue to send me your news and reunions to: Development & Alumni Office, 2 The Square, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, G12 8QO or email: alumni@glasgow.ac.uk.

Graduate takes prestigious position

Professor Angelo Madundo Mtambo (PhD 1992) was recently appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science & Technology in Arusha, Tanzania, with responsibility for academics, research and innovations.

Artist elected to Royal Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts

Jacqueline Orr, who graduated from Glasgow School of Art in 1983, before going on to gain an MSc from Glasgow in 1988, has become an elected member of the Royal Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts (RGI). The award of RGI is made to artists for artistic merit and their dedication to the Institute, and Jacqueline is one of only 50 other RGIs in the current body.

Glasgow graduate named Young Software Engineer of 2013

Ben Callis (BSc 2013) scooped first prize in the annual Young Software Engineer of the Year competition. Ben won for his innovative application for iPads and iPhones called ‘Interactive Presenter’, which can be used by students and lecturers to share presentations with multiple viewers.

Former swim team captain swims the Channel

David Kane (BSc 2000) swam the English Channel on 4 September 2013 in a fantastic 12 hours and 20 minutes. While studying here at Glasgow, David was both captain and president of the University swim team.

From East to West

A group of 17 Edinburgh Society members visited the University in June 2013. They visited the Hunterian Museum, and enjoyed catching up over lunch in the Fraser Building before a visit to the Hunterian Art Gallery and the Charles Rennie Mackintosh House.
Animal welfare graduate receives honorary degree

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to the veterinary profession in New Zealand and beyond, alumnus Dr David Bayvel was awarded a Bachelor of Veterinary Science (honoris causa) by Massey University.

The ethical care and treatment of animals has been at the heart of Dr Bayvel’s career, which spans more than four decades and has included positions in private and public sector organisations and veterinary practice.

As one of the world’s pre-eminent experts in the fields of animal welfare and veterinary science, his work has taken him around the world – from Australia to Zambia, and from the UK to New Zealand. He is currently the chief veterinary adviser for the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA).

Queen’s Birthday Honours 2013

Dr Ian W R Anderson (MBChB 1975, DSc 2012) received a CBE for services to emergency medicine.

The Rt Hon Sir Menzies Campbell, CBE, QC, MP (MA 1962, DUniv 2001) received the Order of the Companions of Honour.

Craig S Clark (BEng 1994) received an MBE for services to technology and innovation.

Bernadette M Docherty (LLB 1975) received an MBE for services to Childcare in Scotland.

Professor Jim Hough (BSc 1967, PhD and member of staff) received an OBE for services to the Companions of Honour.

Craig S Clark (BEng 1994) received an MBE for services to technology and innovation.

Bernadette M Docherty (LLB 1975) received an MBE for services to Childcare in Scotland.

John C McEwen (BVMS 1969) received an MBE for services to equestrian sport.

Amanda E McMillan (BAcc 1990) received an OBE for services to business and tourism.

Queen’s Birthday Honours June 2012

A Gordon Cowie (BAcc 1974) received an MBE for Services to Healthcare in Africa.

2013 New Year’s Honours

Dr Richard Pattman (MBChB 1973) received an MBE for his work in sexual health and healthcare in the North East.

Obituary correction

Maguire, Patricia Elizabeth (Mrs Donovan), BSc 1975, 1 Scalebrow Square, Bury in Wharfedale, Ilkley, West Yorkshire, LS29 7SP, died 22/09/2012.

Top postgraduate scholarship for Glasgow alumna

Alison Gibbings, a former student telephone fundraiser for Glasgow, has been awarded the largest of the Institute of Engineering & Technology’s Postgraduate Scholarships, of £10,000, for her research on laser ablation of near earth asteroids.

First edition of Wealth of Nations presented to the University

While in Glasgow delivering a lecture on China’s investment funds, Stuart Leckie OBE presented the Principal with a beautiful copy of the first edition of Adam Smith’s Wealth of Nations. This first edition is now held in the library’s special collections along with several other Adam Smith first editions.

Stuart is the Chairman of Stirling Finance, a Hong Kong-based pensions and investments adviser, and was welcomed to the Adam Smith Business School in November to deliver his lecture. He currently advises on investments and pensions in Hong Kong and mainland China and has advised the Chinese Government on pensions reform. Staff, alumni and students attended his lecture, which explained the changing financial markets and asset management arena in China. Stuart’s lecture also looked at the reasons for the recent decline in the investment funds sector, the current state of the industry and a possible roadmap ahead.

North Carolina’s Teacher of the Year

In May 2013 Karyn Dickerson (MPhil 2005) was announced as North Carolina’s 2013–14 Burroughs Wellcome Fund Teacher of the Year. An English teacher at Grimsley High School in Guilford County, Karyn was presented with her award by State Superintendent June Atkinson, who said, ‘Karyn is an inspiring example of the teachers leading North Carolina public school classrooms.’
Reunion reports

1963–1970 GU Swimming Team
In July 2013, 35 swimmers, divers, water-polo players and partners, from as far away as Hong Kong, Singapore and California, met up to renew friendships. For many, 43 to 50 years had passed since we were in the University swimming team. The reunion began with a swim and relay race in the Stevenson Building pool, and also included an evening reception, a coffee morning with the Principal, a campus walk and lunch in the Melville Room.

1949 Chemistry
The 1949 class of Chemistry graduates held our reunion lunch in Glasgow in September with friends from Southampton, Invergordon, Edinburgh and Glasgow in attendance. We know that we are one of the older groups and our numbers are small but we plan to have our 65th reunion in Glasgow in June 2014.

1953 Gamma Club
In June 2013, we celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of our graduation. Fifty members and guests met in the Marriott Hotel in Glasgow for a champagne reception and dinner. The principal guest, the Chairman of the Health Board, gave a review of the role of hospitals in current healthcare. Some of us enjoyed a bus tour of the city, while others visited the Hunterian Museum. A finale lunch in the Gilbert Scott suite was enlivened by the Chancellor and his vision of future developments at Gilmorehill.

1957 to 1963 Beta Medical Year Club
In September 2013, some 61 classmates, out of the 135 who graduated in 1963, attended the class 50th anniversary in Glasgow from as far afield as Australia, America, Canada, Africa, Norway and Switzerland. On the Friday afternoon we were entertained by Professors Anna Dominiczak and Alan Jardine and they showed us around the new Wolfson Medical School Building. There was also an evening at the Blythswood Hotel, a morning of presentations at the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons and an evening banquet.

1960 Delta Club
Members and friends of the Delta Club met to celebrate their 53rd anniversary reunion in September 2013 in the Ferguson Room at 1A The Square (the old College Club). We plan to meet again next year.

1963 BDS
Our June 2013 reunion began with a cocktail night in the Hilton Grosvenor. The next morning Professor Jeremy Bagg welcomed us in the Dorothy Geddes memorial laboratory at the Dental School. A buffet was provided by sponsors Ivoclar Vivadent. Then we had an evening of cocktails and fine dining at Glasgow Art Club. Many also attended Commemoration Day in the Bute Hall, where a special mention of our golden anniversary was made by the Principal.

1963 Civil Engineering
Our 50th reunion, held in April 2013, was celebrated by holding a dinner in the splendid venue of the University’s Melville Room. The 25 diners included 14 class members who were joined by partners and staff members. We greatly enjoyed renewing past friendships and reminiscing on events spanning 50 years.

1963 Natural Philosophy
Our reunion in June 2013 began with a tour of the latest Hunterian exhibition and lunch at 1A The Square. We received a welcome from the Principal in the Melville Room. This was followed by a presentation in the Kelvin Building from Professor Martin Hendry, head of the School of Physics & Astronomy. We then enjoyed tea in the refurbished common room, complete with a selection of Lord Kelvin’s experiments. We then had dinner in the Ubiquitous Chip. For photos from 1963 and 2013 see gu1963.eu.pn.
1968 Beta Club, ladies’ reunion
To mark 45 years since graduation, 31 ladies from the Beta Club met in May 2013 for lunch in the University’s Melville Room and a tour of the Hunterian Museum. Members travelled from around the UK, Australia, Chicago, Cyprus and France. For many, this was the first reunion they had attended since graduation. There are plans for another reunion in the future.

1973 Beta Club
At their 40th reunion, the Beta Club medical year 1967–1973 were delighted to have raised £1,200 to donate to the University’s cancer research. The reunion took place at the Dunkeld Hotel, 17–19 May 2013.

1973 Notre Dame
35 graduates attended the 35th anniversary celebration on 22 June, the exact day of our graduation in 1978. We had Mass in the Chaplaincy followed by lunch in Turnbull Hall. We were delighted to meet up and the highlight for many was the attendance of the chaplain at Notre Dame in 1978, Fr Des Broderick. After the meal several remained behind for a sing-song, with some remembering perfectly the hits of 78! There are plans for future reunions.

1978 Notre Dame
Months of letter writing, emailing, photo sharing and Facebook messaging, brought over 40 ND73 graduates to a day of celebration at Turnbull Hall. After Mass, movingly celebrated by Father John Keenan, with music by Nancy and Agnes, we had a catch-up over a delicious buffet lunch. When the folks from far-flung places had to leave, we made our way to Oran Mór to plan the next reunion.

1973 Honours Geography Class
In March 2013, 19 graduates gathered to celebrate their 40th anniversary. We met for a welcome in the Turnbull Room, followed by dinner in the Melville Room. Many had made a difficult journey, on a day of heavy snow and some challenging transport conditions. Although most still live in Scotland, some had travelled from various parts of England and one from Canada. We were very pleased also to have the company of five of our former lecturers.

1973 Maths graduates celebrate lecturer’s 70th birthday
Over 150 mathematics graduates got together in Troon in May 2013 to celebrate their lecturer’s 70th birthday. Dr Tommy Whitelaw, formerly a senior lecturer in mathematics and senior adviser of studies in science, celebrated with what is just a fraction of his former students with whom he keeps in touch.

1983 Electrical Engineers, The Blown Fuse Society
Around 16 stalwarts made it to the 35th year reunion in September 2013, with the furthest coming from Canada. A dinner was enjoyed at the Crowne Plaza near the SECC and a visit was made to the Mackintosh House, followed by the Union Beer Bar, the new transport museum and the BBC. We are already looking forward to the 40th; if you wish to be involved contact Ken MacPherson at kenmacpherson@theiet.org or 07801 714163. There are also Blown Fuse Society Facebook and LinkedIn groups.
1949 Chemistry
June 2014, Glasgow
The 65th reunion will take place in Glasgow prior to the Commonwealth Games.

Contact: David Mackenzie, email dcm703@sky.com or the Alumni Office, email alumni@glasgow.ac.uk or call +44 (0)141 330 4951.

1954 Natural Philosophy
Advance notice: Summer 2014, Glasgow
The 1954 class might be gathering for a reunion at the University in the summer of 2014. Alan Cairnie would like to hear from classmates and he is circulating a round-robin in which some of the class he has reached have written a page about their lives since graduation.

Contact: Alan Cairnie, email cairnie@cogeco.ca or call 001 613 341 8681.

1964 Classics
21 June 2014
Get in touch if you would like to attend the reunion to celebrate 50 years since graduation.

Contact: Gordon Hepburn, email gordon@hepburn13.freeserve.co.uk.

1964 Dental Year Group
17 to 19 June 2014, Glasgow
A 50th Anniversary reunion celebration. This will include the Commemoration Day at the University on Wednesday 18 June.

Contact: Olive Melvin, email bilt.melvin@btinternet.com or call +44 (0)1563 820 958.

1964 Maths/Nat Phil
17 and 18 June 2014
Get in touch if you would like to attend.

Contact: Anne Mackinnon, email aimackinnon@tiscali.co.uk or call +44 (0)141 882 4186.

1964 Gamma Club
10 June to 13 June 2014, Cameron House, Loch Lomond
All year club members are invited to attend the reunion to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our graduation, which will include a day visit to Glasgow with lunch at the University.

Contact: David Steel, email dfandg@tiscali.co.uk.

1964 Notre Dame
28 August 2014, Randolph Hall
To celebrate the 50th anniversary of our graduation. We will have Mass at 11.30am at the University Chapel, followed by lunch in the Randolph Hall.

Contact: Helen Tennant (Dawson), email gerardtennant@btinternet.com.

1969 Gamma Club
6 to 8 June 2014, Hilton Dunkeld House
We are holding our 45th reunion in 2014, please get in touch if you would like to attend.

Contact: Dr Jessie Shaw, email jnashaw@btinternet.com.

1969–1975 Delta Club
17 to 19 April 2015, Hilton Dunkeld House
Please get in touch if you would like more information on the Delta Club’s 40th reunion.

Contact: Muriel Smith (Shannon), email murielsmith@btinternet.com or Bill Thomson, email wthomson4@sky.com.

1973/4 Biochemistry
2014, Glasgow
The reunion will probably take place after the Commonwealth Games. There is no programme yet and you can provide suggestions. We’ve contacted a few of you, but we would like to find everyone who started Junior Honours Biochemistry in 1972.

Contact: Alistair Lax, email alistair.lax@kcl.ac.uk.

1979 Delta Club
31 October to 2 November 2014, The Old Course Hotel, St Andrews
Delta ’79 Medical Year Club is having its 35th reunion.

Contact: Gail Addis, email gail.addis@mac.com.

Delta 94 Year Club
13 September 2014, Glasgow
The Delta 94 year club is holding a reunion on 13 September 2014 in Glasgow.

Contact: Juliet Sim, email julietsim@nhs.net.

GUST anniversary dinner
Late May 2014, Glasgow
The 50th anniversary celebration of Glasgow University Student Television.

Contact: Alumni Office, email alumni@glasgow.ac.uk or call +44 (0)141 330 4951.

Jersey alumni event
Weekend of 14 June 2014, Jersey
Please contact the Alumni Office if you would like more information.

Contact: Alumni Office, email alumni@glasgow.ac.uk or call +44 (0)141 330 4951.
Alumni events

Edinburgh Society of Glasgow University Graduates
Late April/early May 2014, Edinburgh
The society and friends of Glasgow will be gathering for the annual dinner of ESGUG. It is a great opportunity to gather with friends and network with other graduates. Representatives from the University will give an update on developments on campus.

T to attend either event or receive news of future events, please get in touch.

Contact: Sarah Edwards, Alumni Office, call +44 (0)141 330 7146.

Glasgow University Women’s Club
London
Proposed future events include the President’s afternoon tea, annual dinner and guided visit to Kew. All female Glasgow graduates are welcome for friendship and networking. Guests are also welcome at many events. For more information please contact the membership secretary.

Contact: Marjorie Bremner, membership@gu-london.org.uk

www.gu-london.org.uk

Organising a reunion?

We can provide advice and help you with contacting your classmates. To submit a notice for inclusion in the next Avenue, please contact the Alumni Office on the details below.

The reunion notice should include the class and year, dates, location, contact details and a very short description.

Email: alumni@glasgow.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)141 330 7146
www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni

Norway
In September 2013, 79 alumni and friends gathered for an evening of networking and reminiscing at the stunning British Ambassador’s Residence in Oslo. Secretary of Court David Newall shared news from Glasgow and gave an update on campus developments. Norway has one of the highest concentrations of Glasgow alumni in Europe, second only to Germany per capita, and we have high hopes that alumni will meet up again there soon.

Stanford
For the second year running we were delighted to invite University alumni to attend this special event on 17 September 2013. This was a unique event for our alumni held in association with the Stanford Photonics Research Centre, Scottish Development International and the SU2P partnership, which is a joint venture between the Scottish Universities of Glasgow, St Andrews, Strathclyde and Heriot-Watt and Stanford University. The Glasgow staff in attendance warmly welcomed all alumni and guests, and later in the evening there was a whisky tasting session.

China
Alumni and friends gathered at the Shangri-La Hotel in Chengdu for a special evening reception on 17 May 2013. The event, hosted by the Principal, celebrated the partnership activity between the University of Glasgow and the University of Electronic Science & Technology of China, with particular reference to the launch of the new joint degree programme in Electronics & Electrical Engineering. The event was well attended with over 80 guests.

Japan
Alumni in Tokyo gathered on 5 July 2013, which was a pleasant summer evening, for a reception in the beautiful surroundings of International House of Japan. Guests enjoyed a musical performance of Hebridean Islands’ traditional Scottish Gaelic songs and an art performance of Japanese traditional calligraphy.

Kenya
Professor John Briggs, International Dean for Africa and Clerk of Senate, and Helen Templar, international officer, hosted an evening in celebration of Glasgow on 10 May at the Sarova Panafric Hotel, Nairobi. Over 40 alumni, friends and prospective students attended the evening event to socialise, meet old friends and make new friends, as well as to hear the latest news from the University.

Tanzania
Continuing the tour of Africa, Professor John Briggs, International Dean for Africa and Clerk of Senate, and Helen-Marie Clayton, senior international officer, hosted a small dinner event at the Serena Hotel, Dar es Salaam.

Botswana
Professor John Briggs, International Dean for Africa and Clerk of Senate, and Helen-Marie Clayton, senior international officer, hosted a small dinner event at the Gaborone Sun Hotel on 23 March. Professor Briggs and Helen-Marie both really enjoyed meeting all alumni who attended and were extremely impressed and encouraged by the level of warmth shown towards the University.

Alumni around the world get together to celebrate their connection with the University of Glasgow. Representatives from the University attend these social events to meet with, encourage and grow our esteemed network of graduate, current and future students.

Find out about these events, including dates and locations, at www.glasgow.ac.uk/alumni/events.
Minutes of the General Council
Half-Yearly Meeting: 22 June 2013

Held on Saturday, 22 June 2013 in the Animal Health & Technology Complex (AHTC) Lecture Theatre of the University’s Garscube Campus in Bearsden.

Introduction and welcome
The Chancellor, Professor Sir Kenneth Calman, took the chair and welcomed those present to the meeting. He thanked Ms Mary Ryan, Garscube Facilitator, for her excellent presentation about the Garscube campus developments and reminded the audience there would be: informal presentations by Professor Anna Dominiczak, Head of the College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences, and Professor Alan Jardine, Head of Undergraduate Medicine in the School of Medicine; optional tours of the campus.

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2013
The minutes of the meeting held on Saturday 19 January 2013, printed in Avenue issue 54 (June 2013), were approved. There were no matters arising.

Report of the Convener of the Business Committee, Mr George Tait
The Convener reported that since the last General Council meeting, the Business Committee has remained focused on modernising recommendations, relating to role and purpose.

Modernisation and communication
In February, there was an informal reception with senior academic University staff, to raise the General Council profile with academic staff.

The April meeting was a major session about identifying the best way forward. Themes emerging were: a) exploiting the relationship with Court and Senate; b) encouraging feedback from academic staff; c) improving coordination with the Development & Alumni Office; and d) improving the General Council presence on the University website.

Business Committee matters
Standing orders: immediately required changes were approved at a previous General Council Meeting.

Ancient Universities meeting: In March, there was a regular meeting of the Clerks, Secretaries and Conveners of the Business Committees of the four ancient Scottish Universities: Aberdeen; Edinburgh; Glasgow and St Andrews. Matters discussed included: relationships with General Council Assessors; online voting technology; the Post-16 Education (Scotland) Bill; and the draft of The Scottish Code of Governance for Higher Education.

Business Committee meetings
At the March Meeting, Mrs Ann Allen (Director of Estates & Buildings) briefed the Committee on the Campus Development plans. The April Meeting was devoted to the subject of Modernisation. The Convener thanked the Clerk to the General Council for his help.

Questions and answers
In response to a question about the urgency about the governance situation, the Principal stated that the evolution of the Post-16 Education Bill had gone well; the clauses of concern to universities have been modified. The Chancellor thanked the Convener for his report.

Principal’s Report, given by the Principal & Vice-Chancellor, Professor Anton Muscatelli
The Chancellor invited the Principal to address the meeting. The Principal stated that the University had had a very good year, with many initiatives coming to fruition.

Teaching funding
Glasgow’s teaching funding has gone up by £1m (1.2%).

The University has been awarded additional funded postgraduate taught places in areas where the SFC would like to encourage skills development. Of all the Scottish universities, Glasgow received the largest allocation – about £1m, spread across the four colleges.

In addition, the University has been given 200 places for each of the next four years to widen access, directed at students who come from the 40% most deprived areas in Scotland. This is the biggest allocation of any of the pre-1992 universities.

Research funding
Research funding has increased significantly, by 7.3%. The University also received £2.5m for the Global Excellence Initiative, aimed at four-star world-leading research.

Research
The University has enjoyed a very good year for research, showing the effects of restructuring. Multi-million pound grants were awarded across different institutes and schools, including collaboration among different disciplines.

A major achievement this year was the winning of two Innovation Centres, in which the University is leading on behalf of Scotland: Stratified Medicine (ESfM); Sensor & Imaging Systems (£10m).

Multidisciplinarity has had an impact in other non-science colleges: Centre for Robert Burns Studies; Centre for Textile Conservation & Technical Art History; Centre for Copyright & New Business Models in the Creative Economy (CREATE); GRAMNet to build on the University’s expertise in migration and refugees; Public Policy Forum, to bring together discussions around the independence debate.

Research and impact
The University is preparing the complex information needed for the Research Excellence Framework (REF). Each University unit of assessment has to demonstrate how the research has had impact. Examples include:

- The College of Arts has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Glasgow Life (Museums & Sports) to exchange knowledge between the University and museum galleries, libraries, concert halls and sporting venues of the City of Glasgow.
- Space Glasgow Research Cluster, working with Clyde Space to tackle junk in space; Spinout company Clyde Biosciences is expected to save the pharmaceutical industry millions of pounds through more effective testing for cardiotoxicity, thus speeding up the process of finding effective medications for patients; Kelvin Nanotechnology supports the implementation of the University’s research in nanofabrication. The company has worked with 200 companies worldwide and is anticipated to generate £1m turnover this year.
- Collaborative research programme to investigate the legacy of the Commonwealth Games on the East End of Glasgow.
- Doing the Maths to Find a Match: helping patients who require a kidney transplant to find an appropriate match.

The University is preparing the complex information needed for the Research Excellence Framework (REF). Each University unit of assessment has to demonstrate how the research has had impact. Examples include:
Knowledge exchange
The University is committed to knowledge exchange (KE). KE is embedded in the job descriptions of all academic staff and they are required to engage in KE with impact.

The University continues its engagement with SMEs (small and medium size enterprises) including;
- Leading on a number of flagship SME engagement projects (Dialogues, the Innovation Network, Encompass, and one of the founding partners of Interface);
- Early adopter of the innovation voucher scheme (completed over 100 innovation vouchers with Scottish SMEs in the last two years);
- Development and pioneering of Easy Access IP; the sharing of IP (of no immediate commercial value) with business and organisations; eight licenses completed in the last 12 months, six with SMEs;
- Committed to creating ten new technologies through Easy Access IP scheme;
- Managing a portfolio of 2–3 targeted spinout companies per year where value can be quickly extracted – a small number but the University is committed to avoiding creation of companies that go nowhere;
- University will continue to grow its KE activity by 7.5% per annum.

Research income
The University can be proud of its gross research income: in 2011–12, it was £124m; in 2013, it will be £211m, the highest total ever.

International recruitment
International recruitment is an area of growth. In postgraduate taught international students, Glasgow has made real progress, overtaking its US counterparts, where the international student market is enormously important. The University is becoming like its US counterparts, where the international student market is enormously important.

International collaborations include: approved academic collaborations across Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Malaysia, Colombia, Libya and many more; collaboration is a key aim of the Glasgow 2020: a Global Vision.

Campus plan
The Principal referred to the book Building Knowledge, an architectural history of the University, written by Nick Haynes. It tells the story of the University’s ambition to be the best and the collaborative nature of the development of Gilmorehill, through widespread community and donor support.

The existing campus comprises about 60 acres. The purchase of 14 acres on the Western Infirmary site is a huge opportunity to reimagine the existing campus.

The Estates Committee of Court has approved this vision for the campus: to create a campus that respects its heritage while being fit for today and the future, innovative, cohesive, courageous in design and reflective of the University ambition in research and teaching and learning, inspiring current and future generations.

The campus will: support learning with distinct and diverse environments encouraging depth and breadth of learning; support research through collaboration and connections, create community and look outward. The campus ambition is to: enhance the campus setting; ensure a sustainable future; secure the University’s built heritage; promote a sense of openness; create flexible spaces that are able to respond to changing needs; and provide clear connectivity within and to the University.

The University development campaign
The University will be launching a campaign to support this development. Gilmorehill was originally built largely through fundraising from its alumni and supporters. The campaign was ambitious, courageous, inclusive and meticulous; and persistent, continuing over 20 years.

The Principal encouraged everyone in the General Council to contribute to the new campaign for the University’s campus vision, just as the General Council contributed to the Gilmorehill campaign in the 19th century. This is the chance to help the University create a campus that is fit for the next several hundred years.

Questions and comments
The Chancellor thought the talk was very exciting and was particularly struck by the integration of the various subject areas across the University.

• In answer to a question about the impact of Scottish independence on the University’s reputation, the Principal noted the changes over the last few hundred years and how adaptable the University has proved to be. The Scottish Parliament is completely sovereign in terms of teaching funding and some research funding. An area for development would be the University’s funding from UK-funded research councils and foundations. The Scottish Government will want to negotiate the maintenance of a UK research area. The University has to remain completely neutral but will adapt to whatever the outcome is.

• When asked about the impact on teaching 2011–12 staff costs reduction, the Principal explained that arose from the University’s voluntary severance scheme, designed to help create a strategic 2020 investment reserve. In the current and following year, staff costs will increase by around £9–10m.

• Asked about the vision for income generation from international students, the Principal replied the rise is expected to continue for another 20 years. The issues for the University are: competition from other institutions; and from China for students from Africa. The University is becoming like its US counterparts, where the international student market is enormously important. Glasgow has improved market share by creating relevant and flexible courses (more international education, more partnerships, more dual degrees). The Chancellor thanked the Principal for an excellent talk, showing where the University is going. He also thanked the Court and the staff who are delivering major change.

AOCB
There were no matters of AOCB. The Chancellor reminded the meeting that questions could be sent to the Clerk by email.

Closure of the meeting
Finally, the Chancellor thanked the Convener, the Business Committee and the Clerk for their work; the Garscube campus for hosting the occasion; and all those present for their attendance.

He informed the meeting that the next meeting would be held on Saturday, 1 February 2014 at 11am in the Sir Charles Wilson Lecture Theatre in the University.
The General Council  
Paper A: Report by the Principal

The University continues to move forward in line with its strategic priorities, laid out in Glasgow 2020: a Global Vision. We monitor progress against a set of key performance indicators (KPIs) which focus on our strategic priorities and are grouped under six headings which include research, the student experience and internationalisation. It is therefore very encouraging that over the last three years (2010–13) we have moved in a positive direction in 13 out of our 20 KPIs.

Under research, for example, the number of staff holding research grants has increased by 5%, and research income per academic has grown from £109k to £114k. We have the healthiest research order book in our history at over £210m.

In terms of student experience, our student satisfaction levels (as revealed by the National Student Survey) continue to sit above the Russell Group and UK averages. Undergraduate progression is now at 91.6% compared to 83.4% three years ago.

And if we look at some indicators for our international activity, we have doubled our international student population over the last four years; we are top in the Russell Group for student satisfaction at 89.2%; we have increased student mobility – the opportunity for students to have an international experience – by over 400 students and we are growing our international research income by £5.4m.

These are important trends, for I am sure success does breed success. Let me illustrate the point with some examples.

We were allocated an additional £2.5m per year through the Global Excellence Initiative instituted by the Scottish Government to accelerate research performance in areas of strength. We were one of the top two beneficiary universities in Scotland, as it was allocated on the basis of the volume of 4* (top international quality) research taking place in the University.

Our success in securing leadership in two Scottish-wide Innovation Centres – Stratified Medicine and Sensor & Imaging Systems – has led to even further success. We won a bid to the UK/HEFCE, UK Research Partnership Investment Fund (UKRPIF) and received £10m. This will boost our own University’s capacity in stratified medicine, and our capacity to support the Stratified Medicine Innovation Centre, enabling it to be based in the South Glasgow Hospital and at the centre of a hub in relation to chronic and infectious diseases. It will link physically to the planned Clinical Research Facility (clinical trials) and state-of-the-art imaging suite and will add significant value to the linked infrastructure projects including the MRC-University of Glasgow Centre for Virus Research. It will build on our collaboration across universities, business and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. The total value of the project is £58 million.

Three separate research projects led by Professor Andy Baker (Institute of Cardiovascular & Medical Sciences), Professor Jon Cooper (School of Engineering) and Professor Miles Padgett (School of Physics & Astronomy) have recently received major grants from the European Research Council totalling more than €6 million (£5 million). To have secured three significant grants out of a total of 2,400 applications with a success rate of 12% is outstanding and testament to the world-leading research being conducted at Glasgow.

But success is not confined to biomedicine and science. We are, for example, leading a consortium of Scottish universities which has just secured funding of £14m from the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) for a new Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP). This will support 200 funded postgraduate studentships over the next five years. We are also the coordinating institution for a UK-wide centre for a DTP involving a consortium of 12 institutions focused on Celtic languages.

There are two other critical elements to these successes.

The first is our staff. The combination of the reversal of the SFC cuts together with strong international recruitment has allowed us to invest significantly in new staff. Between April 2012 and July 2013 we have invested over £16m in new talent in the last year alone, and considerably more in the period 2011–14, and it’s already having an impact.

The second is down to the invaluable role of our donors and supporters. They are vital in giving impetus to the cycle where success breeds success. Recent events capture the point graphically.

Without the generosity of individuals, trusts and foundations, without the success of such appeals as the Beaton Pebble Appeal for the Translational Research Centre, we would not have been able to secure the UKRPIF funding. Without our capital investment on the South Glasgow site, which leveraged investments by the SFC and the Health Board we wouldn’t have had the infrastructure in place to attract the Stratified Medicine Innovation Centre.

Without both we would not be in the powerful position we are in today to realise our ambition, one of international significance, for stratified medicine. Philanthropic giving, critical for specific projects, has this ripple, multiplier effect and therefore the potential to impact on the success of future opportunities and projects further down the line.

We are therefore continuing to look at ways to increase the involvement of our alumni and not just in terms of support for projects but in supporting our students. We launched an initiative last year, for example, Glasgow Careers Alumni Network (GCAN), which is aimed at bringing our graduate community together to support the career development of our students. Our alumni have a wealth of knowledge and experience and are ideally placed to offer insights, raise aspirations and even provide inspiration for life after graduation. GCAN offers practical ways on how this can be delivered. Your generous contribution to scholarship funds is also critical in helping the future generations of Glasgow students.

The international nature of this alumni community was brought home to me even more vividly recently. My last report noted some of our international collaborations and among them our links with Singapore Institute of Technology. On Friday 18 October I had the pleasure of graduating over 70 students in Singapore, our very first cohort of University of Glasgow Singapore Engineering students. This was history in the making, both for the graduates and for the University. It was a special moment and underlined the fact that we do indeed have a global community stretching across some 160 countries. That’s a great community, one that we can call our own and which over the years I hope will come to play an increasingly important and significant part in the support of our University and our students.
**Current exhibitions**

**Scottish Gold**
14 March to 15 June 2014
Hunterian Art Gallery
Free admission. 

The exhibition features a large selection of the finest Scottish gold specimens and objects made and used in Scotland from the Bronze Age to the present. You can learn about the precious metal as part of the natural history of Scotland and its historical uses. For the first time, several of the largest known Scottish gold nuggets will be displayed together, and the surviving gold torcs from the large hoard found at Law Farm, Moray, in 1857 will be reunited.

**Picturing Venus**
9 March to 29 June 2014
Hunterian Art Gallery
Free admission.

The ancient Roman goddess Venus features prominently in Renaissance art as a symbol of female beauty. Some of the most beautiful prints in the Hunterian collection will be displayed, including such masterpieces of printmaking as Dürer’s *Adam and Eve* of 1504 and Marcantonio’s *Judgement of Paris* c1510. The selection also documents how the image of Venus was prized and used in the earliest art academies, in the form of plaster casts, drawings and, most effectively of all, engravings.

**Coming soon**

**Mackintosh Architecture**
Opens 18 July 2014
Hunterian Art Gallery (admission charge)

The first major exhibition devoted to the architecture of Charles Rennie Mackintosh and the result of a landmark research project led by The Hunterian.

**The Hunterian loans**

**The Hunterian’s national and international loans programme gives you the chance to see our collections in different places around the world.**

**France:** Musée des Beaux-Arts, Rouen
12 April to 31 August 2014
Exhibition: Cathédrales/Kathedralen.
On loan: Sisley’s *Church of Moret-sur-Loing, Rainy Weather*.

**UK:** Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh
To 15 June 2014
Exhibition: The Scottish Colourist Series: J D Fergusson.
On loan: Fergusson’s *Les Eus* and *Dryad sculpture*.

**USA:** Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover
25 January 2014 to 11 May 2014
Exhibition: JMW Turner and Helen Frankenthaler.
On loan: Frankenthaler’s *Winter Map*.

**USA:** Freer Gallery of Art, Washington DC
2 May to 14 August 2014
Exhibition: *An American in London: Whistler and the Thames*.
On loan: five works, including the oil painting *Battersea Reach*.

**About The Hunterian**

The Hunterian is one of Scotland’s most important cultural assets. Founded in 1807, 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 exhibitions (free to University of Glasgow staff and students with valid staff/reg CARD).

**The Hunterian, University of Glasgow,**
Glasgow G12 8QQ.
Tel: +44 (0)141 330 4221

For updates on programmes and events, see www.glasgow.ac.uk/hunterian.

**Become a Friend**

The Hunterian Friends scheme offers members a range of exclusive benefits, including unlimited access to charged exhibitions. Hunterian Friends give vital support and make a direct contribution towards new exhibitions and galleries, our education and conservation work and to new acquisitions. To join, see www.glasgow.ac.uk/hunterian/support.