Our plans for the former Western Infirmary site are now at an advanced stage. Our vision is about making connections:

- bringing the University’s colleges together
- bringing different parts of the city together
- bringing people together to strengthen our student experience, global research profile and contribution to Glasgow and beyond.

Our masterplan promotes connections between the new development on the old Western Infirmary site, the existing core campus and the surrounding areas through a permeable network of connective routes and spaces. This will allow people to move freely through the new quarter and open up views of key landmarks.

glasgow.ac.uk/campus/masterplan
THE UNIVERSITY AND BREXIT

The referendum in June resulted in a narrow but clear decision for the UK to leave the European Union.

For the University, with over 9,600 non-UK EU staff and 3,100 EU students, clarifying the impacts of the result and ensuring our voice is heard in the discussions and negotiations now taking place are key priorities.

The current process and funding arrangements for EU students are unlikely to change significantly in the short term, EU students who have been made an offer for 2016 (or 2017 deferred entry) will be unaffected and we are encouraging students who are considering applying for 2017 entry to do so in the usual way.

Barring any unilateral action by the UK Government, the decision to leave should have no immediate impact on the immigration status of current and prospective EU students and staff. There will also be no immediate impact on the UK as a full member of Horizon 2020 and Erasmus.

With regard to research funding and current academic collaborations, the commitment in August from Chancellor Philip Hammond that the Treasury would guarantee to back EU funded projects is welcome. While this provides a degree of certainty that research will be fully funded for the entire duration of any EU grant that has been awarded, considerable issues remain both on longer-term funding and on how vital collaborations with our European partners and colleagues might be protected post-Brexit.

We are doing all that we can do to ensure that the voice of the University of Glasgow is understood at all levels of government.

Our Principal has been asked to chair a group of experts, made up of specialists in legal, financial, business and diplomatic matters, to advise the Scottish Government on securing Scotland’s substantive ties with the EU when the UK withdraws. As part of this, our Principal, Professor Anton Muscatelli has been asked to chair a group of experts, inside and outside the UK to provide advice on the EU’s future relationship with the UK.

The University was chosen to host the first visit of a cabinet minister to Scotland since the EU referendum. Secretary of State for International Development, Priti Patel MP met senior members of staff and heard directly their concerns over funding, academic collaborations and freedom of movement for students and staff.

The Scottish Government, which has substantial devolved powers from Westminster, is currently looking at what Brexit will mean for Scotland and whether there might be a way for Scotland to retain substantive ties with the EU when the UK withdraws.

The University is also working with others in the Scottish and UK higher education sector to influence the outcome of the negotiations. A senior Universities UK delegation is seeking further clarification from the European Commission on a range of key issues including how the UK Government, the sector and the European Commission can work together to tackle the uncertainties regarding UK participation in research consortia.

There will be many months of negotiations under the EU treaties and there will be significant opportunities for the University to seek assurances and influence future policy, both as an institution in our own right and as a member of organisations such as the Russell Group, Universities UK and Universities Scotland.

We will be doing all that we can do to ensure that our voice is heard in these discussions.

EAST MEETS WEST

The growing collaboration between the University and UESTC (the University of Electronic Science & Technology, Chengdu) was celebrated with the opening of a new learning and teaching hub in the James Watt Building on the Gilmorehill campus.

The UESTC Student Centre has state-of-the-art IT facilities to support interactive learning as well as an informal study area decorated with a Chinese theme. It will be a focus for UESTC students attending summer schools in Glasgow, along with a growing number of students studying in both Chengdu and Glasgow on a 2+2 programme (where students spend two years in each location).

The relationship between the University and UESTC dates back to 2009, when the two institutions signed an agreement to promote joint research and student mobility. In 2013, joint delivery of a four-year undergraduate dual-degree programme at UESTC’s Qinghuaih University Campus in Chengdu was launched.

The two institutions have now established a joint education institute in Chengdu. Called the Glasgow College UESTC, it will contribute at least £12m over ten years to each of the UK and Chinese economies, and will directly support 30 new academic jobs in the UK.

We will also be the nexus for cutting-edge research between the two institutions.

Stronger together

We recently recognised outstanding partnerships that have had a positive impact on society and the economy through our inaugural knowledge exchange awards.

Business Engagement Award
Professor Chris Williams, Institute of Health & Wellbeing, has produced an accessible form of cognitive behavioural therapy to help people facing common mental health difficulties such as depression and anxiety. The workshops, online resources and classes, which have helped hundreds of thousands of people, are the result of working in partnership with the NHS, Scottish Prison Service and mental health charities.

International Knowledge Exchange Award
Professor Heather Ferguson is an infectious disease ecologist who specialises in the transmission and control of mosquito-borne diseases.

Societal Engagement Award
Professor Rory O’Connor, Institute of Health & Wellbeing, for his work with third sector organisations on suicide prevention, and Dr Mirna Solic, School of Modern Languages & Cultures, for their partnership with the Human Rights Watch that uncovered abuse and intimidation of Syrian refugees.

Working in partnership with colleagues at the Italiana Health Institute, Tanzania she set out to find a better solution to the traditional surveillance method of recording mosquito biting activity. The result is a new mosquito detecting trap that provides safe, exposure-free sampling of biting activity.

Commendations were awarded to Professor Chris Williams, Institute of Health & Wellbeing, for his work with third sector organisations on suicide prevention, and Dr Mirna Solic, School of Modern Languages & Cultures, for their partnership with the Human Rights Watch that uncovered abuse and intimidation of Syrian refugees.

Knowledge exchange being a vital part in helping to connect our researchers with external partners, enabling our research to have real impact on society and the economy.

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Our connections with India reach back to 1870 and we’ve been nurturing those links for many years. In November, a large delegation of University staff visited the subcontinent to meet existing and potential academic and business partners.

NEW DELHI, INDIA, 19:00, 4 NOVEMBER 2016. Dr Abhinav Sinha and staff are gathering at the British Council. Among them is graduate Dr Soumi Dey, who is looking out for the Principal. He has something he wants to say in person.

It’s the end of the fourth day of the visit by our largest delegation ever to travel to India. Twenty-four representatives from the University have been meeting with existing partners, pursuing ideas for new collaborations and getting to know more about India.

Principal Professor Anton Muscatelli has just delivered a British Council lecture on his area of research – Inequality: causes and cure. Now it’s time to mingle and connect with our alumni. He is looking for Dr Sinha.

Days before boarding his flight to India, an email from Dr Sinha arrived in the Principal’s inbox to say he had just landed a dream job. Dr Sinha talks about his new position as a British Council lecturer. He is looking out for the Principal. “We are very keen to attract more talented postgraduate students like him from India to the University.”

An energising environment
The University has a long tradition of welcoming ambitious students from India. Our first graduate was Gopal Chandra Roy from Bengal, who qualified as a doctor in 1871. In 1897, Merbai Ardesir Vakil from Mumbai became our first female Indian graduate. We currently have more than 150 students from India, and our delegation’s trip to India has not only raised the profile of our world-leading research and teaching, but also provided opportunities to explore new partnerships.

Exploring potential
Our ties with India extend far beyond attracting talented students to come to Glasgow. We have diverse research collaborations with universities, government, communities and charities. Our partners include some of the most distinguished universities in India, such as the University of Delhi, the University of Calcutta, IISER Pune and St Xavier’s College.

Our delegation’s trip to India has not only raised the profile of our world-leading research and teaching, but also provided opportunities to explore new partnerships. “From our point of view India is a hugely important country. It’s an economic powerhouse in South Asia, explains the Principal. “It’s a country that has immense power. And we want to attract talented people to study and work with us. So we’ve been nurturing our links with India over a number of years and across all of our colleges.”

From this recent visit to India, new industry and academic partnerships have been discussed and agreements signed in areas as diverse as life sciences, engineering, physics, business, education, economics and law.

We will be joining forces with the Indus Training & Research Institute in Bangalore to examine how technology can foster innovation in teaching and learning. This new research collaboration will look at technological solutions and pedagogical interventions in teacher education, leadership and curriculum development.

More of India’s top students will have the opportunity to study with us from 2017 through a new £100,000 scholarship fund. This will provide scholarship opportunities for students interested in studying Masters programmes in business, law and life sciences.

The best institutions in the world are those deemed truly global, and Glasgow is proud to be one of them. Every year, our international connections and reach grow through our strategic university partnerships, research collaborations, joint degrees, and student exchange and study abroad programmes.

KOLKATA is the main commercial and financial hub of East and North-East India. Our relationship with the University of Calcutta goes from strength to strength. We have discussed new collaborations in areas such as English literature and medieval history, and we signed a new five-year agreement with the institution during our visit.

RESEARCH COLLABORATION
Dr John Davies, Research Fellow in history, and a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, has been collaborating with academics at the University of Calcutta on the early history of their respective nations. He has written a new book, Copper, Parchment and Stone, comparing Indian texts in Sanskrit on copper, medieval royal texts in Scotland on parchment and text on stone in both countries.

GLASGOW AULD STUDENTS
KOLKATA ALUMNI NETWORK
There is a well-established alumni network in India called the Glasgow Auld Students Kolkata. They are a group of engineers who graduated from engineering colleges, including the University of Glasgow, in the 1900s. Study was under government scholarship, and they returned to help develop Kolkata and the West Bengal region. They are holding a reunion event in January, see page 16.

INDEA: CONVERSATIONS & COLLABORATIONS
BY LYNNE MACLAGAN

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AT KELVIN HALL

of the organisations now using it. Glasgow Life, for instance, connects sports and fitness with cultural heritage,” says Professor Lury. “You can’t get much more interdisciplinary.”

Uncharted territory

New discoveries are increasingly being made in the fertile ground between well-tilled fields of study. But it is still largely uncharted territory. “If you’re a researcher you are driven by curiosity,” says Professor Lury. “You know it won’t be just one approach that solves the problem, or takes you on that journey of discovery.”

The Kelvin Hall launch of the project reflected the diversity of disciplines it brings together, says Professor Lury. “We had scientists, social scientists, curators, librarians, the Head of the School of Medicine, Dentistry & Nursing, the Director of The Hunterian, professors of English literature and medieval history. Our research students presented their work as a series of conversations in which they connected to each other and to the idea and practice of collections.”

Making the most of the new seminar rooms at Kelvin Hall made the launch even more special. “It’s a lovely space,” says Professor Lury. “There was also an event in the Moving Image Library nearby, which is another fantastic resource. They had their audience, we had ours and you got a real sense of a diverse community doing arts and heritage. At the same time you could see all these people running around in the sports halls. I did think, ‘Only in Glasgow.’”

Bringing together collections, expertise and people through the transformation of Kelvin Hall has been a lesson in the value of connections.

BY DOUGLAS BLANE

Most objects in museums are never displayed. They languish behind locked doors, in carefully labelled shelves, drawers, racks and cabinets. But many of those objects, hidden in the darkness, have interesting stories waiting to be told. For The Hunterian’s unseen collections, the move to Kelvin Hall is an opportunity at last to see the light.

Right now and for months to come, those collections are converging on their new home from storage places across the city – as they previously converged on Glasgow, over the centuries, from locations across the world. It is work in progress. But lecturers are already using the new purpose-designed facilities for teaching, and researchers are beginning to bring objects from storage to illuminate their stories.

Opportunities for connecting

“I started thinking about how we could understand all this stuff,” says Professor of Film & Television Studies Karen Lury, who leads a major research initiative that takes full advantage of the new site’s opportunities for creating connections. “How could we tell the many stories of the collection?”

The initiative – Collections: an Enlightenment Pedagogy for the 21st Century – is funded by the Leverhulme Trust and supports 15 PhD students exploring diverse topics. Kelvin Hall inspired the thinking that led to the interdisciplinary endeavour. “Not just the building and its varied history – circuses, concerts, carnivals, barrage balloons, world championship boxing – but the eclectic nature of the organisations now using it. Glasgow Life, for instance, connects sports and fitness with cultural heritage,” says Professor Lury. “You can’t get much more interdisciplinary.”

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New spaces, new opportunities
Hints of the old building combined with the openness of modern design make Kelvin Hall an appealing place to work and learn. The research and teaching labs are a testament to that, with their smooth work surfaces illuminated by subtle striplights, enhanced by the autumn glow through half-moon windows. “The aim of the design was to retain as much of the old building as possible, while also creating new spaces and resources that are functional and attractive,” says The Hunterian’s Communications Manager, Harriet Gaston. “The colour scheme for The Hunterian staff offices upstairs, for instance, is based on the palette of the Scottish Colourists.”

Unpacking the collections
Across the city, our collections are being packed and moved in stages to their pre-allocated space at Kelvin Hall. It’s a carefully planned operation. “We have nine stores across the city,” says Collections Management Officer, Lizzie O’Neill. “Everything in them is coming here – roughly 1.5 million objects.” The zoology and entomology collections have begun arriving. Numismatics and art will be next, she says. “It’s a long process that began two years ago. We track every item through our database, where it’s been, where it is now, where it’s going. A storage location has been decided, before they come, for every one of them. Once shelved, the objects will be made available for research and teaching.”

Anyone interested in an item from the collections should contact her team about 20 days in advance, says Ms O’Neill. “We expect the service to be used mostly by academics. But members of the public can study our objects too, under the same conditions. On the day, you come to one of our object study rooms and one of our team will bring the object to be examined. They stay with it while you work, then return it to store. Teaching with collections has already started and research is beginning.”

Kelvin Hall is the perfect venue for all this, says Professor Lury. “It’s about community and about the animation of cultural life. I can’t think of another city that could have a building that brings all that together so creatively. It has this unique combination of worldwide ambition with a friendly, local feel.”

In one of our new labs, researchers and students examine pieces from our archaeology and historical collections.

The entranceway of Kelvin Hall fuses the old with the new. The “Avenue” leads you along to each partner organisation’s space which neatly intertwine.
IN OUR BLOOD

BY JENNIFER BAIRD

Glasgow ecologist Daniel Streicker works from a field station in Peru to study rabies transmission in vampire bats.

The bats are the main cause of human deaths from rabies between northern Mexico and northern Chile, and they also have a devastating effect on livestock and livelihoods.

THE BIZARRE SIGHT of a tiny flying mammal scuttling along the ground on its thumbs, intent on sinking its fangs into the ankle of an unsuspecting animal, may seem like the stuff of a cartoonist. Vampire bats are real, however. And they present long-term problems to the health of both livestock and people in Latin America.

In parts of the Andes and Amazon of South America, the flying bloodsuckers are spreading Vampire Bat Rabies Virus (VBRV) and rendering havoc on livestock in ever-greater numbers. The result is multi-million-dollar losses each year for subsistence farmers and an increasing health threat to humans.

Unpredictable outbreaks of rabies are capable of killing dozens of people in some remote, isolated areas.

Traditional methods of attempting to control the disease, such as culling bats by setting their caves on fire, may actually make the problem worse by encouraging the bats to roam further afield. It’s time for a new approach.

What if we could predict where and when outbreaks of rabies were likely to appear? This is the focus of Dr Streicker’s research.

“When I first started studying vampire bat rabies, I was shocked to see how many knowledge gaps existed for a disease that is the focus of Dr Streicker’s research.

My approach has been to answer basic questions on how the disease persists in bats, and in doing so, to empower more effective decision-making by the authorities that deal with the disease on a daily basis.”

Dr Streicker leads a team of researchers covering 30 separate sites in Peru. Coping with travel, political instability, snakes and mudslides is challenging, but his dedication is essential. The research is already yielding valuable insights.

He has been using ingenious new analyses of molecular genetic data to predict how and where bat-borne rabies will spread. Nuclear, mitochondrial and viral genetic markers tracked how the spread of the virus is connected to bat population movements. This also revealed that males, rather than females, were largely to blame for the spread of VBRV to new areas.

Worryingly, the analysis also showed that there is a new mixing of vampire bats found on either side of the Andes. This means that the VBRV-endemic regions of the Andes and Amazon are now connected to the currently rabies-free Pacific coast. This has enabled our researchers to forecast that coastal areas will see their first cases of rabies by June 2020 – a prediction that has been corroborated by the appearance of the disease in livestock living along corridors in the direction indicated by the studies.

“Rabies continues to traverse the Andes and reaches currently uninfected vampire bat populations on the Pacific coast,” says Dr Streicker, “this will have important practical implications for rabies control programmes in Peru, and potentially Ecuador and Chile.”

This could take the form of local vaccination programmes, but control measures or education about the risk posed by vampire bats.

Forwarned is forearmed, and the information from Dr Streicker’s study has the potential to help governments in the region take preventative action to manage the emergence of the disease in both animals and humans.

Investigations such as these illustrate how tightly the health of humans, animals and ecosystems are interconnected. The University’s strengths in this field of research lie in an integrated “one health” approach, which brings together experts in human and veterinary medicine, ecology and social sciences to devise solutions and reduce the spread of disease.

In Africa, we play a leading role in rabies surveillance, control and prevention. Evidence from our highly successful dog vaccination programme in Tanzania is helping to make the global aim to stop human deaths from rabies by 2030 a reality. Our researchers are also looking for new ways to tackle diseases such as Zika, malaria and African sleeping sickness.

Researchers such as Dr Streicker’s team in Peru use their expertise to help devise practical strategies to reduce the burden of disease around the world.

Vampire bats are the only mammals that feed entirely on blood. Cattle and horses are their usual victims, but they feed on people too.

Between 2009 and 2013, they bit 20,000 people in Peru alone.

There are three different species of vampire bat. The common vampire bat keeps blood flowing from its prey thanks to an anticoagulant in its saliva. The hairy-legged vampire bat feeds mainly on bird blood.

And the white-winged vampire bat pretends it is a mother hen, where there is a dense collection of blood vesels to choose from.
ENROLMENT AT GLASGOW HAS REACHED AN ALL-TIME HIGH WITH OVER 145,000 ALUMNI AROUND THE WORLD. THIS NUMBER WILL CONTINUE TO GROW AND BECOME INCREASINGLY INTERNATIONAL IN MAKEUP AS WE SEE MORE STUDENTS ATTRACTION FROM A WORLDWIDE RANGE OF COUNTRIES.

IN ADDITION TO HAVING A MULTICULTURAL STUDENT BODY, WE KNOW THAT MANY OF OUR ALUMNI TRAVEL OVERSEAS WHEN THEY GRADUATE. A GREAT WAY OF MAKING NEW FRIENDS AND MEETING LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE IS TO JOIN ONE OF OUR MANY ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS.

MY COLLEAGUES HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH OUR VARIOUS GROUPS OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS TO UPDATE OUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS PROGRAMME. THE NEW CHANGES WILL HELP ESTABLISHED ASSOCIATIONS AND THOSE INTERESTED IN STARTING AN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TO HAVE A DIRECT LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY, WHICH SHOULD MAKE THE EXPERIENCE EASY AND EVEN MORE EXCITING.

ONE BIG CHANGE IS OUR NEW REWARDS SCHEME WITH MORE PRESTIGIOUS ACADEMIC PARTNERS TO OFFER INTERNATIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES.

IN THE UK WE HAVE ACTIVE GROUPS IN OXFORD, LONDON AND EDINBURGH. WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WITH THE VISION TO START A NEW ASSOCIATION IN BIRMINGHAM.

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OUR ALUMNI CONNECTIONS WITH INDIA HAVE RECENTLY BEEN REINFORCED WITH A HIGH PROFILE VISIT TO THE COUNTRY BY A LARGE UNIVERSITY DELEGATION. YOU CAN READ ABOUT THIS ON PAGE 4.

OUR LATEST ANNUAL REPORT IS OUT NOW. IT INCLUDES AN EXTENSIVE UPDATE ON OUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS PROGRAMME, AS WELL AS OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NEW YORK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

OUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS PROVIDE A LIVELY AND ENGAGED NETWORK THAT IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS TO JOIN US. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING AN EXISTING ASSOCIATION OR IN STARTING ONE IN YOUR AREA, PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO HELP YOUR ASSOCIATION OR TO START ONE IN YOUR AREA. YOU WON'T FIND ANYWHERE ELSE.

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YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Alumni events

Alumni around the world get together to celebrate their connection with the University. Representatives from the University attend these social events to meet with and grow our esteemed network of graduate, current and future students. To find out about future events, see glasgow.ac.uk/alumni/events.

Glasgow: Outdoor cinema screenings
Friday 17 and Saturday 18 June 2016
In conjunction with the Glasgow Science Festival and the Grosvenor Cinema, the Development & Alumni Office held screenings of Jurassic Park and E.T. in the East Quad of the University, along with some fun-filled science activities. Jurassic Park sold-out with 200 attendees and 150 watched E.T.

London: Law alumni reception
Thursday 5 May 2016
Over 80 law alumni enjoyed an evening of wine, canapes and conversation, generously hosted by Glaister and May at their Partners’ Dining Room. Vice-Principal Professor Anne Anderson and Head of School Professor Ian MacNeil welcomed the guests, along with school colleagues. The evening was such a success we are looking forward to next time.

Glasgow: Scottish University Boat Race
Saturday 21 May 2016
Around 30 alumni cheered on Glasgow crews in the 139th Scottish Boat Race. Despite valiant efforts by all involved, the Edinburgh crews proved too strong for Glasgow and we were overall victors. Join us next year to see if Glasgow can win the trophy back!

Brussels: Alumni event
Wednesday 1 June 2016
Alumni from Brussels and surrounding areas gathered for a reception at the Renaissance Hotel for drinks and light bites. Professor Anton Muscatelli, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, shared an update with the 30 alumni who attended the gathering.

Glasgow: Commemoration Day
Wednesday 15 June 2016
Around 400 alumni and guests attended the event this year, and among the honorary graduates were Janet McIlain, David Ross, Stephen Conway and Gregor Tennison. It was a great pleasure to see large numbers of alumni returning for the day to help celebrate the foundation of the University.

EVENTS AROUND CAMPUS

Don’t miss a campus event you’ve been anticipating, a lecture on your favourite subject, or a fun social event such as a campus selfie sharing in the quad.

Connect with former classmates, find out about alumni events happening in your area or read about how to organise your own reunion at glasgow.ac.uk/alumni.

Alumni events

Glasgow, 27 June 2016
Arun Sood (PhD 2013) has received a scholarship award from the Forbes Commission, which will allow him to research and write a book on the reception and cultural influence of Robert Burns in the USA during the 19th century. Arun will carry out the research at Georgetown University, Washington DC.

Singapore: Alumni reception
Tuesday 10 May 2016
A number of alumni met at the home of Keith and Linda Hunter to welcome Professor Jim Connery, Vice-Principal, Internationalisation and Rachel Sandison, Director of the Marketing, Recruitment & International Office to Australia. Guests enjoyed a fabulous BBQ lunch and learned of current developments and exciting news from the Glasgow visitors.

San Francisco: Alumni reception
Thursday 10 May 2016
Hosted at the exclusive Eden Hall, over 100 guests had the chance to mingle and reminisce. Principal & Vice-Chancellor Professor Anton Muscatelli was joined by Professors Frank Color and Jim Connery, to share all the latest news from Glasgow with alumni and friends in San Francisco.

Vancouver: Alumni association welcome night
Thursday 6 October 2016
The British Columbia Alumni Association hosted an event at Sage Bistro Vancouver to welcome this year’s exchange students from Glasgow to the University of British Columbia. Professor Anna Dominiczak and David Galloway entitled “Inspiring People: Medicine from Glasgow to Hong Kong”. Afterwards, guests had the chance to mingle over some light bites.

Alumni events

Beijing, 15 May 2016
Over 100 alumni and fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons were welcomed to the Grand Hyatt Hotel for a lecture by Professors Anna Dominiczak and David Galloway entitled “Inspiring People: Medicine from Glasgow to Hong Kong”. Afterwards, guests had the chance to mingle over some light bites.

Chengdu: Alumni association launch
Friday 30 September 2016
Over 40 alumni in Chengdu witnessed the official launch of the Chengdu Alumni Association. Professors John Marsh and Muhammad Imran attended the event. Please join the Chengdu Alumni Association by emailing business-alumni@glasgow.ac.uk and keep in touch with the University.

Shanghai: Alumni association welcome event
Sunday 30 October 2016
A welcome event for new Glasgow graduates returning to China was hosted by the Shanghai Alumni Association. Alumni from a wide range of industries including accounting & finance and headhunting shared their experience and thoughts on job-hunting and self-marketing. If you would like to be a speaker at upcoming Beijing AA events, please contact business-alumni@glasgow.ac.uk.
1957 Alpha
2017
To celebrate the 60th reunion of the 1957 Alpha Club. Dates TBC. Contact: joesie.walbaum@glasgow.ac.uk.

1959 Gamma
Thursday 18 to Sunday 21 May 2017; Marriott Hotel, Glasgow
We are celebrating our next reunion in 2017 in Glasgow. Contact: Marjory MacSween, marjorymacsween@googlemail.com.

1967 Alpha
July 2017; Cameron House, Loch Lomond
Our 50th reunion will be a three-day event comprising reception, reminiscences, dining, golf, rambling, fishing etc and lots of chatting and catching up. Contact: Jane-Joy Auchmogaul, j.auchmogaul@nhs.net.

1967 BDS – Apollonian Society
Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 September 2017; Glasgow
We would love to invite all members to celebrate our golden anniversary in 2017. Be there or be square! Contact: Mrs Sandra Gray, lygrayr15@gmail.com.

1967 Notre Dame
2017
The 1967 graduates of Notre Dame Teacher Training College are planning a reunion to celebrate 50 years since graduating. Contact: Mary Harmon, mary.harmon@cogeco.ca.

1969 Chemistry
Summer 2019
To celebrate an incredible 50 years since our graduation, I am calling all 1969 Chemistry graduates who would be interested in arranging a golden reunion in summer 2019. Contact: Dr Neil Hair in Sydney, Australia, nelck@optusnet.com.au.

1969 Engineering
2019
Are you interested in taking part in a reunion to celebrate 50 years since graduating? If so, please contact: David Kerr, kernd@jme.com.

1972 Alpha
Friday 28 to Sunday 30 April 2017; Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry
We will be holding our 45-year reunion in April. Contact: Jimmy McArthur, 01419548109@gmail.com or the reunion committee, alphaclub.gu.co.uk@gmail.com.

1972 Psychology
Saturday 20 May 2017; Glasgow
If you graduated MA or BSc from the 1972 honours psychology class, have a sense of nostalgia and a pulse, do come along to our 45th anniversary reunion in May. Contact: Russell Cunningham, atrayn@googlemail.com.

1973 Beta
Friday 12 to Sunday 14 May 2017; Dunkeld House Hotel
We are planning a reunion in 2017 to celebrate our 50th anniversary of starting university. Contact: Barry, barryvaillance@hotmail.com.

1977 Alpha Club
Friday 6 and Saturday 7 October 2017; Duchy House
We will be holding our 40th reunion celebration next October. Please get in touch if you are interested. Contact: Brenda Duthe, brenda.duthe@ntworld.com.

Glasgow Auld Students Kolkata
Saturday 7 January 2017; Calcutta Club, Kolkata
We are one of the University’s oldest and most established alumni groups. We hold a number of social events each year and will be celebrating our 63rd annual reunion with a dinner in January. Contact: Shamindra Nath Sengupta, shamin.sengupta@gmail.com.

1987 Beta
Friday 15 and Saturday 16 September 2017; Grosvenor Hotel, Glasgow
We will celebrate our 30-year reunion with a Saturday night event at Oran Mor. Contact: Mary Stevenson, m.stevenson@act.com. Alison Wilding, awilding@bhsnet.net or Matthew Checketts, matthewchecketts@nms.net.

1991 Biochemistry
Summer 2017
The class of 1991 are planning a summer reunion. Please get in touch for more information. Contact: Ronald Giles, rgil@gapps.uwcsea.edu.sg.

1992 Chemistry
July 2017
To celebrate 25 years since graduating, the Chemistry class of 92 are looking to host a reunion in 2017. Contact: Ian Riddoch, gsguru@hotmail.co.uk.

2002 Beta
Saturday 10 June 2017; Bute Hall
We will be celebrating 15 years since graduating with a reunion in the University’s Bute Hall. Contact: Fiona Burton, dfiona@burton.com.

GU Basketball
Spring 2017
A gathering of former GU basketball players is being planned in spring 2017, to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the foundation of the Southern Basketball Association. Leading the event is Sandy Sutherland (MA 1964), with support from Lebanon MacKay (nee McPhail), 1949 women’s captain, and Dai Thomas, 1951 men’s captain. Contact: Sandy, sportsbasket@hotmail.com.

1949 Chemistry
Three active members of the 49 class, Jim Knox from Southampton, Iain Maclean from Invergordon and David Mackenzie from Edinburgh, along with wives and friends, celebrated the 67th anniversary of their graduation with a lunch at the Royal Scots Club in Edinburgh on 22 July. Plans have already been made for next year.

1960 Delta
Over the last few years it has become a “tradition” for the Delta Club 1960 to have an annual luncheon at the beautiful Charles Rennie Mackintosh building, The House for an Art Lover, in Bellahouston Park.

The event this year was held on 28 August and almost 50 people attended, 28 of whom were members. It was so convivial and enjoyable that a further one has been arranged for 1 September 2017. Contact: Dr Arne Louden, +44(0)141 639 4195, AnneEPL@ad.com.

1966 Zeta
Seventy-nine Zetans plus spouses enjoyed what we agreed was our “best ever” reunion at Seabright Hydro in June. The fun began with a special tour of Dumfries House, attended by 60 people, where we renewed auld acquaintances with friends from all round the world.

Next morning, our speakers revealed an amazing diversity of talent and outside interests, from archery to glassblowing, from archaeology to global warming. In the afternoon, whether walking the Ayrshire Coastal Path, or visiting Bannock Birthplace Museum, folk just blethered non-stop.

Many then travelled to the University for an inspirational talk by Prof Anna Dominiczak in the Yudowsky Lecture Theatre – endorsed by our class president Bernie Kudzewitz. A fitting and a wonderful get together.

1976 Maths & Stats
On 10 September 2016, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of Statistics at the University. The evening commenced with drinks and a final tour of the building before it is demolished. Professor Adrian Bowman then updated us on plans for the University’s new campus and announced that the school will be moving to a new building on the former Western Infirmary site in 2017.

We then moved to The Hunterian Museum where Professor Ian Ford, a graduate of the first Statistics class, spoke about the role statistics has played in underpinning vital medical research in the west of Scotland.

The event also gave guests the opportunity to experience the latest research being undertaken in the school, with a 3D facial recognition camera giving them an opportunity to have their picture taken in 3D!
The General Council

The General Council of the University was set up by Act of Parliament to give voice to the views of the graduates and academic staff on the regulation and wellbeing of the University.

A report prepared for the General Council by Amber Higgins, Clerk to the General Council, can be found at glasgow.ac.uk/about/generalcouncil/gencouncil/gencouncilminutes.

The next meeting of the General Council takes place on Monday 23 January 2017 at 5.30pm in Kelvin Hall.

CONVENOR’S COMMENTS

From John Marsh, Convenor of the General Council Business Committee

I am often asked “What is the General Council, what does it do, and why should I care?” – so this is my opportunity to explain. The General Council was created by the Universities (Scotland) Acts 1889-1906. It comprises all graduates and academic staff, and thus has a special role in the governance of the University, as one of the three bodies with authority over the University, Court, Senate and General Council.

The General Council is entitled to be consulted on changes to governance of the University, and to appoint two assessors to the University Court and to enquire into any other matter which it considers relevant. As there are tens of thousands of graduates, the Business Committee looks after the routine business of the General Council.

As the active arm of the General Council, the Business Committee has an important role. Members are not expected to involve themselves in the management of the University but rather to have responsibility, along with Court and Senate, for overseeing its good governance and to act, if you like, as a “critical friend.”

At the half-yearly meeting of the General Council last January, I was delighted that there were 14 candidates standing for election to the Business Committee. Regrettably, there was only one vacancy having made disappointed, but this year, and I have drawn the reviewers’ attention to the fact that although the Code says institutions are expected to be well connected with their stakeholders, including staff and students, it overlooks the role of General Councils as stakeholders, because not all Scottish institutions have such a body. Many of our graduates hold key held senior positions in business and industry and have experience from outside the academic world which gives a useful perspective. It would be unfortunate if this opportunity was overlooked.

The governance of the University has to comply with the Scottish Code of Good HE Governance, which is being reviewed this year, and I have drawn the reviewers’ attention to the fact that although the Code says institutions are expected to be well connected with their stakeholders, including staff and students, it overlooks the role of General Councils as stakeholders, because not all Scottish institutions have such a body. Many of our graduates hold key held senior positions in business and industry and have experience from outside the academic world which gives a useful perspective. It would be unfortunate if this opportunity was overlooked.

It was noted that the General Affairs Standing Committee continued to highlight areas of concern to the GCBC and the Convenor thanked the University for the responses that they provided. The issues covered included non-completion rates, graduation fees and widening access.

The Convenor stated that as the GCBC represents the views of the General Council and to ensure that the GCBC is able to communicate effectively with General Council members, work would be continued on developing a communication strategy in collaboration with the University.

The Chancellor thanked the Convenor for his report and welcomed all the GCBC members for their hard work on behalf of the General Council.

Principal’s Report, by Principal & Vice-Chancellor, Professor Anton Muscatelli

The Principal thanked all those present for their attendance at the meeting and sought to reassure the General Council that following the EU referendum the University would have an impact on the finances. The Principal reported that the senior management would look into all potential consequences of the EU referendum and do their best to limit their impact on the University.

Closure of the Meeting

The Chancellor thanked the Convenor for his introduction and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Convenor reported that the General Council Business Committee (GCBC) had held two meetings since the last half-yearly meeting in January, with the Committee continuing to work closely with the University on a number of key issues. The Committee had welcomed Dr Cameron Marsh who was elected at the last half-yearly meeting. It was also reported that David Ross’ and Brian McBride’s terms of office as General Council Assessors would be coming to an end in July 2016. The Convenor thanked David and Brian for all their help and support to the GCBC over the last four years and stated that they would be missed. It was also reported that as the changes in the number of General Council Assessors had been announced, in addition, there would be no election for their replacement. It was noted that the next round of elections would be for GCBC members in January 2017.

The Convenor reported that the Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Act had been passed by the Scottish Parliament on 8 March 2016 and had also passed by royal assent on 8 April 2016.

The Principal also updated the General Council on the involvement of the University in the discovery of gravitational waves, which was widely recognised as one of the most important discoveries of our time, and the leading role that the University is playing in combatting the threat from the Zika virus. The University was also involved in a significant breakthrough in the understanding of pancreatic cancer and the fact that it is not one but several diseases.

The University is firmly focused on the future and the £1bn expansion of the campus, with the Learning & Teaching Hub the first project. The aim is to begin on site in January 2016, with the project completed by July 2016. This will lead to increased student space and an improvement in the student experience.

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

Q&A:

A General Council member asked about the financing of the campus redevelopment and if the EU referendum would have any impact on the finances. The Principal reported that the senior management would look into all potential consequences of the EU referendum and do their best to limit their impact on the University.

The Chancellor thanked the Convenor for his introduction and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Convenor reported that the General Council was set up by Act of Parliament to give voice to the views of the graduates and academic staff on the regulation and wellbeing of the University.

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Following the UK’s decision in June to leave the EU, it is perhaps not surprising that the impact of that decision on the UK and on higher education in particular has been exercising many of us. This edition carries an update and review of where things stand at the moment.

A major contribution

Uncertainties over the medium to long term remain but with over 950 of our staff from the EU, just over 3,100 EU students studying here and significant EU research income, we have, as a leading academic community, important responsibilities to manage and protect our vital interests. Our colleagues from outside the UK, both from and outwith the EU, are vital contributors to the very essence of the University of Glasgow. We gain undoubted strengths and benefits from our links with Europe and so, in partnership with the higher education sector across the UK, we continue to monitor the situation closely.

Setting an example

It is therefore timely that on 21 November, we launched the Guild of European Research Universities in Brussels and I have the privilege of serving as vice-chair of the guild board. Although the idea of the guild was progressing before Brexit occurred, its emergence appears over more pressing and never more vital. Founded by a group of world-leading universities, including Bologna, Gottingen, Greningen, Krakow (Jagiellonian), Oslo, Tubingen, Uppsala, Warsaw and ourselves, the guild has called on the national governments in the UK and the EU to recognise the importance of higher education and to prioritise the free flow of students, academic staff and scholarly interaction as a key objective of Brexit negotiations. The guild intends to set an example, it is committed to increasing the level of student mobility among its members, to creating a series of collaborative research workshops for the coming academic year, and to supporting growth in the number of collaborative funding bidswon within the guild over the next three years. Just recently, the universities of Ljubljana and Tartu also formally committed to join.

But whatever the political landscape, attracting talented students to the University remains key. For 2016–17, undergraduate recruitment remained buoyant, with increases in Scottish & EU, rest of UK and international admissions, and we have exceeded our Scottish Funding Council target to recruit students from areas of multiple deprivation (MD02/04 postcodes). Although final numbers in terms of postgraduate students take a little longer to settle down, the number of postgraduate taught degrees are set to record a year on year growth of 9.8% (19.2% home/EU and 9.4% international) and while increases in postgraduate research student numbers are smaller, we will exceed both our home/EU and international targets.

Similarly, our position in world league tables also remain of vital importance. It matters to our international recruitment. We are 8th in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, and 56th in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings, thus, and critically, maintaining our position in the world’s top 100 universities, one of only two Scottish universities to do so.

Key to our reputation is the quality of the student experience we offer. This year’s National Student Survey rankings show that overall satisfaction for Glasgow continues to exceed all sector, Russell Group and Scotland averages.

A campus for the future

We know too that attracting talented students and talented staff depends in part on providing a world-class campus with world-class facilities. Plans for the campus development have been under intensive discussion by and by the time Avenue goes to print. Court, at its meeting in December, will be asked to give the go-ahead to the Learning & Teaching Hub and to consider a set of prioritised and phased proposals to begin wider development work around the former Western Infirmary site. Part of what shapes and drives these discussions is our commitment to further improving the student experience, and building our already considerable research strengths through enabling and igniting genuine cross-disciplinary approaches to address some of the big themes that underpin our research portfolio.

In my last report, I mentioned the development at Kelvin Hall, and things have moved on. The £35m revamped building was officially opened on 11 November by the First Minister in a ceremony that involved all the partners: Glasgow City Council, Glasgow Life, National Library of Scotland, the Scottish Government and the Heritage Lottery Fund. Hunterian staff moved into their new offices in August, and in September The Glasgow School of Art restoration team were the first users of The Hunterian’s new Collections Study Centre. Key to our reputation.

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WE'RE IN TOUCH WITH 145,000 ALUMNI IN 173 COUNTRIES

MORE THAN 12,000 ALUMNI FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

WE HOLD AROUND 120 ALUMNI EVENTS EACH YEAR

WE HAVE 20 ACTIVE ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

STAYING CONNECTED

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