It is a real pleasure to sit down to write my first foreword for Giving to Glasgow, having taken over from Cathy Bell as Director of Development & Alumni at the University, having taken over from Cathy Bell as Director of Development & Alumni at the University, and the fantastic work of our researchers that this University draws investment from such a wide range of people and organisations.

The commitment of Santander Universities UK to developing graduate talent and supporting enterprise, the wonderful £1m Grant awarded by the Wolfson Foundation to our Institute of Health & Wellbeing; the family of Ronald Drever establishing scholarships to continue his legacy of pioneering discovery; these are all truly inspiring examples of supporting enterprise; the wonderful £1m scholars, the humanity and the new College of Arts building at the University. "The University anticipates that the Professor Ronald Drever Scholarship in Physics & Astronomy will allow us to welcome more postgraduate students into gravitational wave research, and we’re delighted by the generosity of Professor Drever and his family." In the three decades since Professor Drever left the University, we’ve made huge steps forward at the Institute for Gravitational Research and as part of the LIGO and Virgo collaborations. We’re looking forward to continuing our work with the assistance of postgraduate students so generously funded by the Drever family."

Professor Sheila Rowan, Director of the Institute for Gravitational Research since 2009, said: “It’s been just over two years since the first gravitational wave detection and we've already learned so much new information about our universe. This bequest and scholarship will allow us to welcome more postgraduate students into gravitational wave research, and we’re delighted by the generosity of Professor Drever and his family.”

The University anticipates that the Professor Ronald Drever Scholarship in Physics & Astronomy will fund one postgraduate position at our Institute for Gravitational Research each year in perpetuity, with the first scholarship expected to be presented in 2019.

• For further information about supporting the Arts & Humanities Scholarships Fund or the new College of Arts building at Glasgow please contact Lucinda Keith, email: lucinda.keith@glasgow.ac.uk or tel: +44 (0)141 330 7148.

Ronald Drever (right) with James Hough at the University of Glasgow in 1972.
From foundations, charities and corporate groups through to families and individuals – we celebrate our wonderful community of supporters who donate to many of our key projects and help to change the world through their funding.

Supporting communities

We’re delighted to report a significant funding milestone, having received over £1m from Santander Universities UK since becoming a partner institution in 2010.

The £1m funding has supported a range of University priority projects which are mainly student focused and include:

• over £300,000 in scholarships funding, supporting some of the University’s strategic ambitions in postgraduate and international student recruitment
• almost £90,000 towards mobility scholarships and supporting students to undertake life-changing experiences overseas through summer schools and exchange programmes
• supporting the establishment of 15 new student business enterprises through the University’s student enterprise summer programme
• funding support from Santander Universities UK SME Internship Programme to 250 Glasgow students to enable them to take up placements or internships through our Internship Hub.

Santander Universities UK also supports the Striking Maxwell Research Project in History of Art, which studies the contribution to scholarship and collecting of Spanish art collector and former University Chancellor, Sir William Striking Maxwell (1818–78).

“We are privileged to be in partnership with Santander Universities UK,” says Professor Sir Anton Muscatelli, “and to have benefited greatly from their support since 2010, which has made a difference to many of our priority projects. We look forward to the continuing relationship.”

• In 1996 Emilio Botín, then chairman of Santander, decided that the bank should be useful to the communities in which it operates and, with the conviction he operates and, with the conviction that a university is a vital cornerstone of any community and a mechanism that helps people and businesses prosper, Santander Universities began its activity in Spain. It now works with 2,200 institutions across 20 countries, including 81 in the UK.

BOOST FOR HEALTH & WELLBEING

The Wolfson Foundation has awarded £1m to support the construction of the Institute of Health & Wellbeing’s new building, part of our £1bn campus development programme.

Born in the Gorbals in 1897, Sir Isaac Wolfson (Hon LLB 1883) made his fortune in business. He established the Wolfson Foundation in 1956, chaired today by his granddaughter Dame Janet Wolfson de Botton, which has funded some 10,000 projects across the UK in science, medicine, arts and education. Glasgow enjoys a long-standing relationship with the foundation which has supported some of our key projects over the past 60 years, such as the Wolfson Medical School Building.

The Institute of Health & Wellbeing brings together staff and students from complementary disciplines to improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities both locally and globally. Our researchers span health and social sciences and collaborate with a wide range of stakeholders. A major focus is the prevention of disease through the promotion of healthier lifestyles and development of health-promoting environments and supportive health policies.

“We are absolutely delighted with the very generous support of the Wolfson Foundation,” says the Principal, Professor Sir Anton Muscatelli, “which will improve lives and health outcomes in Glasgow and around the world.”

“For the first time in decades we face the likelihood that our children will live shorter lives than their parents due to the rise in obesity and type 2 diabetes. Health services cannot cope with rising prevalence of chronic disease,” says Professor JK Pell, Director of the Institute of Health & Wellbeing. “Prevention is the only option.”

With Glasgow uniquely placed to study the effects of chronic disease on a small, stable population, with access to consistent health data, the potential to impact lives locally and globally is huge.

FINDING A BETTER WAY

In February football legend Sir Bobby Charlton visited the University to find out more about the synthetic bone project his charity is funding. He met the team, led by Professors Manuel Salmeron-Sanchez and Matt Dalby, and saw the labs where the work is taking place.

The project team began work in 2017 to develop synthetically grown bone tissue for use by trauma surgeons in the future treatment of landmine blast survivors.

While visiting a minefield in Cambodia, Sir Bobby saw the human-centric damage which landmines cause in war torn areas. The visit moved him to set up the charity Find A Better Way, as he felt that there had to be a more efficient way of negating the effects of mines and improving safety and security for local communities whose lives are blighted by them.

During his campus visit Sir Bobby also met with Eva the dog and her owners. Readers may remember that Eva was our cover star in the last edition of Giving to Glasgow. Her broken leg had been successfully repaired when an early version of the technology was used to save it from amputation.

Speaking of his visit, Sir Bobby said: “I am very proud that Find A Better Way and the University are working together to do so much good for people in so much need. It has been wonderful to meet the scientists making this possible, and of course wonderful to meet Eva who has given us a glimpse of what will be possible in future.”

“I AM VERY PROUD THAT FIND A BETTER WAY AND THE UNIVERSITY ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO DO SO MUCH GOOD FOR PEOPLE IN SO MUCH NEED.”

Student support

Dan Traynor is a regular monthly donor to the University and directs his gift to the Chancellor’s Fund which supports mainly student-centred projects which would otherwise fall outside core funding.

“I like the breadth of projects that the Chancellor’s Fund supports,” says Dan (LLB 2017), who is currently studying for a Diploma in Legal Practice, “and that’s what really got me involved – the variety of different things that it funds. The student enterprise aspect interested me in particular as it allows those ideas that students have to go that little bit further. I’m just proud to give. I’ve had a world-class education at an incredible place, so it’s good I’m able to give something back. I’m finishing my studies soon and it’s good knowing something always links me back, and keeps me as part of this community.”

“Hope my fundraising helps to further research.”

ALEX MCKENZIE

Alex’s family have also taken part in their own fundraising events. In 2016 his daughter, Nicola McHorm, and her team, The West Highland Way Warriors, completed the 96-mile walk, raising £5,640 for the Paul O’Gorman Leukaemia Research Centre and the Beatson Cancer Charity.

“I hope my fundraising helps to further research taking place in the laboratories to increase the chances of finding cures and to develop better treatments for all types of leukaemia,” says Alex. He continues to receive treatment and says: “There have been rough times, but you just have to keep the faith.” He describes the care he has received over the years as “fantastic”.

KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY

Alex McKenzie, pictured on the cover with his wife, Nan, and grandchildren Codie and MacKenzie, has been fundraising for the Paul O’Gorman Leukaemia Research Centre for 16 years.

In 2002, after being diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia, Alex decided to begin fundraising to “give something back” to the researchers and clinicians who helped him.

Alex holds an annual cabaret night in Raploch Bowling Club in Larkhall, which provides the venue free of charge. Nan helps to organise the event and, over the years, family, friends and the local community have helped them to raise over £20,000 for leukaemia research at the University. In addition to supporting leukaemia research, Alex also donates some of the proceeds from his fundraising to support cancer care volunteer drivers, a service that transports patients to and from hospital appointments.
The giving form appears on page 8. Don’t forget you can now give online:

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