TOP 3% RANKED IN THE TOP 3% OF UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE BY TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION

93% OF UWS POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS RECOMMEND THE UNIVERSITY

2,732 INTERNATIONAL (EU AND NON-EU) STUDENTS

DREAMING, BELIEVING, ACHIEVING ~ A 21ST CENTURY UNIVERSITY
The past year has been a truly historic time for UWS: a year during which we celebrated 120 years since the foundation of our original institution; 25 years with a university title; and 10 years as University of the West of Scotland. In 2017 we appeared in the Times Higher Education’s world university rankings for the second year running, rising from last year’s position to now be recognised by them in the top 3% of universities worldwide, and amongst the top 200 universities under 50 years of age. We were also placed for the first time in the top 100 in The Times/Sunday Times Good University Guide; and ranked in the top 3 Scottish universities for teaching excellence – a reflection of our hard work and efforts.

Our ambitious research and enterprise activity included achieving first prize in a national award for the use of high-resolution imaging as an alternative to x-ray. A spin-out company from this project is under development – marking an exciting stage in our enterprise activity. This is just one example of the many innovative projects that are taking place across the University including work in thin-film technology, dementia research, protein identification, virtual reality, media, sport, science and education which are establishing UWS as a force for good arising from our research and innovation priorities.

In 2017, UWS was a central partner in Paisley’s bid to be UK City of Culture in 2021. As one of the five shortlisted locations, and the only place in Scotland to be selected, the bid has already brought significant advantages and helped bring public attention to Paisley and the local area.

In this past year UWS also hosted the highly successful International Higher Education in Teaching and Learning Conference; and in conjunction with Glasgow Convention Bureau, UWS has been chosen as academic partner to host the European College of Sports Science Congress in 2021 in Glasgow; this is the 2nd largest conference of its type in the world, attracting an international academic audience of over 4,000 delegates.

I hope you enjoy reading about our great year in our review of 2017; successes on which we aim to build in the next academic session.

Professor Craig Mahoney
PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

Our new Coat of Arms, devised by the Lord Lyon of Scotland, was launched in 2017. It draws upon the arms of the former organisations that comprise UWS. Find out more – page 36.
UWS ranked in the top 3% in the world.

94% of all UWS graduates in work or further study six months after graduation.

UWS 2017 in context:

15,990 total students (at Nov 2017)
2,732 international students (EU and non-EU)
135 European partners
20 plus transnational education partners
1,407 staff (FTE)

Our Civil Engineering, Engineering Management, Physics and Law & Business courses came top in the UK for overall student satisfaction in the National Student Survey (NSS) 2017.

100% recognised in the TOP 100 UK universities & ranked in the TOP 3 Scottish universities for teaching excellence.
NATIONAL RECOGNITION IN TWENTY SEVEN-TEEN

WE WERE PROUD IN 2017 TO BE RECOGNISED NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY ACROSS A RANGE OF SURVEYS AND AWARDS:

2017

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS
officially recognised by THE in the top 3% of universities worldwide

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION YOUNG UNIVERSITY RANKINGS
officially recognised by THE in the world’s top 200 universities under 50

THE TIMES AND SUNDAY TIMES GOOD UNIVERSITY GUIDE
recognised in the top 100 UK universities for the first time, and ranked in the top 3 Scottish universities for teaching excellence

SUCCESSFUL AWARD FOR JOINT BID BETWEEN UWS AND GLASGOW CONVENTION BUREAU
to host the European College of Sport Science congress in 2021 in Glasgow

WINNER OF THE HERALD HIGHER EDUCATION AWARDS for “Student Support Team of the Year”

WINNER OF THE HERALD HIGHER EDUCATION AWARDS ‘Research Project of the Year’ for our work in Nanokicking

HIGHLY COMMENDED IN THE EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR category of the Scotland Women in Technology (SWIT) Awards for commitment to advancing the careers of women in technology and supporting initiatives to address gender imbalance in the workplace

SHORTLISTED IN THE ROCCO AWARDS the annual business awards of Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce - for excellence in student customer services

PAISLEY BID FOR 2021 CITY OF CULTURE STATUS supported by UWS, shortlisted as one of the final 5 locations and the only Scottish one in the final running
INVESTING IN OUR STUDENTS

Ongoing investment across our campuses aims to ensure our students enjoy access to 21st century technology, equipment and resources to provide innovative learning and teaching informed by the latest pedagogy. Support for our core student activities across the student life-cycle including careers, international student support, effective learning, finance and IT has seen development of new on-campus and virtual resources to enable students to access information and advice across the University.

5 campuses
6 schools
1 UWS
Partnership Broadcasting (Scotland) Awards 2017. 

recent graduates worked on the QTV production QTV Sports. More than a dozen UWS students and played, and broadcast online by Glasgow-based 

and provides opportunities for UWS students in Broadcast Production: TV & Radio and Journalism/Journalism (Sport) to gain invaluable experience in live TV. Internship opportunities are also offered. STV2 broadcasts a mix of local, Scottish and international content and reaches around 85% of viewers in STV’s national transmission area. 

Scottish's brand new TV channel STV2 launched in April 2017. STV2 is delivered in partnership with colleges and universities across the country, but the UWS link-up is the only STV2 collaboration that broadcasts from an educational setting. The STV/UWS partnership sees STV2 broadcast daily from our Ayr Campus and provides opportunities for UWS students in Broadcast Production: TV & Radio and Journalism/Journalism (Sport) to gain invaluable experience in live TV. Internship opportunities are also offered. STV2 broadcasts a mix of local, Scottish and international content and reaches around 85% of viewers in STV’s national transmission area. 

Glasgow’s George Square became a temporary 

During a tour of the new campus buildings she got an overview of the stunning new facility and saw the exciting development work taking place as we prepare for the first student intake in September 2018, stating “University of the West of Scotland is a shining example of a modern university delivering real benefits for the people of Scotland. During my visit, I was able to see first-hand the excellent progress being made on the new UWS Lanarkshire Campus.” 

HOMELESS WORLD CUP 

As Paisley awaited news of its bid to be UK City of Culture in 2021, the University announced the Paolo Nutini Songwriting Scholarship as part of our contribution to the national arts and culture scene. Providing a full-fee scholarship for the songwriting stream of our acclaimed Masters in Music, the competition for selection is open to students from across the globe. Paolo, who was born, educated and still lives in the town where UWS has its biggest campus, is one of the most celebrated songwriters of his generation. As part of the link-up, Paolo will also bring his expertise to the classroom, contributing to workshops for the whole student cohort on the UWS Music programme. 

“I’m absolutely delighted that Paolo Nutini, a proud and passionate son of Paisley, who holds an honorary degree from University of the West of Scotland and is an icon in the music industry worldwide, will be contributing to this life-changing songwriting initiative. This collaboration with Paolo builds on our existing creative industries work and, significantly, helps us create new talent in the sector.” 

PROFESSOR CRAIG MAHONEY 

Herald Higher Education Awards Recognition 

Our Student Services team picked up the 2017 Herald Higher Education ‘Student Support Team of the Year’ award for their positive, proactive approach in supporting our student body, ensuring that all UWS students fulfil their potential, both academically and personally. 

LANARKSHIRE CAMPUS - AN EXCITING DEVELOPMENT 

Shirley-Anne Somerville, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science in the Scottish Parliament, learned more about our new Lanarkshire Campus development when she visited the site in May. During a tour of the new campus buildings she got an overview of the stunning new facility and saw the exciting development work taking place as we prepare for the first student intake in September 2018, stating “University of the West of Scotland is a shining example of a modern university delivering real benefits for the people of Scotland. During my visit, I was able to see first-hand the excellent progress being made on the new UWS Lanarkshire Campus.” 

New Routes to Higher Education 

In 2017 we launched our new Graduate Level Apprenticeships, developed in response to demand from industry, and matched to the sectors that need young people with degree-level qualifications and real-world work experience. The Graduate Level Apprenticeships are delivered with support from Skills Development Scotland and the European Social Fund. GLAs in IT Software Development and in Engineering Design & Manufacturing had their first intakes. Phase 2 of the initiative saw us successfully bidding to take these streams forward in 2018 as well as to offer additional GLA options in Civil Engineering and in Business Management. 

UWS ‘Wee University’ 

Our School of Education’s ‘Wee University’ initiative was officially launched by Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP - Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science - in February 2017. The Wee University brings together UWS Childhood Studies students and early learning and childcare centres to promote lifelong family learning. It aims to enhance awareness at an early age of future educational opportunities, help break down potential barriers around access to further and higher education and boost the confidence of parents and carers around opportunities offered to future students. The Wee University of the West of Scotland is aligned with priorities for the Scottish Government’s Widening Access to University agenda, Raising Attainment for All and National Parenting Strategy – and in line with our strategic commitment to providing routes to education for all. 

“Education is one of the most powerful tools at our disposal to help overcome the barriers associated with inequality. It is the foundation on which our society is built and on which our economy grows. I’m therefore delighted to launch the Wee University at University of the West of Scotland,” SHIRLEY-ANNE SOMERVILLE MSP.
**SHARING OUR MEDIA KNOW-HOW**

UWS journalism and creative industries academics and students lent their expertise in support of the Westfield Health British Transplant Games held in North Lanarkshire in July 2017, working with local youngsters aged 13 to 17 to equip them with skills and training to provide media coverage of the four-day sporting event. Participants were taught a wide range of journalistic skills, including how to produce blog posts and share news stories about the Games via social media channels. They set up their own interviews with athletes, friends, families and spectators – reporting stories on a Games website created by the University.

**A UK FIRST**

A joint project between UWS School of Health, Nursing and Midwifery and New College Lanarkshire celebrated the launch in 2017 of a new BSc Dental Nursing, the UK’s first. The UWS-validated programme is designed to future-proof dental nurses’ careers and place them at the same level as other professional groups within dental teams.

**STEM CAREERS**

SMARTSTEM 2017

As part of our ongoing promotion of opportunities in STEM subjects, over 400 girls from local primary and secondary schools got hands-on experience in science and technology at workshops and seminars hosted at our Paisley and Lanarkshire campuses. The University was also a significant participant in the Glasgow Science Festival 2017, providing information and advice to prospective students, parents and advisers.

**New UWS teaching and learning structure**

In 2017 the UWS Academy and Education Futures were launched as part of a review of our teaching and learning activities. The UWS Academy leads on development, delivery and review of the comprehensive academic development provision for all who teach and support UWS student learning. Education Futures oversees and leads the strategic approach and implementation of digital learning and will play a significant role in working with colleagues across the University to deliver the vision of innovating and using technology to its full potential.

**Professional accreditation**

Professional recognition and accreditation is a key feature of many of our undergraduate and postgraduate study options. In 2017, UWS School of Business and Enterprise’s BAcc Accounting degree received accreditation from the ICAEW (Institute of Chartered Accounting in England and Wales), meaning that the course is now recognised by five professional accounting bodies: ICAEW; the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA); the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA); the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA); and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS).

**SPORTING LIFE**

Our sporting links with local and national organisations across a range of exciting areas continue to grow. Our collaboration with St Mirren FC has already been recognised in national awards for employer engagement and business collaboration. We’ve worked with Braehead Clan ice hockey team to nurture new talent and are currently in discussion with Glasgow Rocks on coaching support for Team UWS basketball, placement options for our students, and exploring opportunities to contribute to teaching and research and to recruit and support high-performing student players.

Our partnership with Scottish netball superleague team The Sirens saw them become the UWS Sirens for the new season and our two organisations working even closer together to broaden opportunities for women in sport. We’ve also supporting Netball Scotland’s Under 21s team as part of our longstanding links with Netball Scotland. The Scotland U21s competed in Gabarone in Botswana in the Netball World Youth Cup 2017 and UWS student Kelly Boyle was named U21s player of the year, at the Netball Scotland Awards.

Ayr Community Rugby Trust are providing coaching and facility access for student rugby in Ayr and working with us to recruit and support aspiring rugby players looking to play and study in Ayrshire.
exploring various ways to enhance and transform teaching and learning through meaningful inclusion and diversity policies, programmes and activities
May 2017 saw our first graduation ceremony in London: around 50 MBA and DBA students graduated in St Marylebone Parish Church, joined by family and friends in celebration. This first event in London represented a significant development for the University – marking a key stage in the successful launch of our first campus outwith the West of Scotland and in building a strong community of almost 1000 students within the first 18 months of our delivery in London. UWS London Campus presents a very positive and dynamic environment, with students from around the globe studying and working together, and collaborating with our London staff, to enhance their future prospects and create the launch pad for the first or next stage of their careers.

EU funding to develop innovative approach to tackling prejudice-based bullying

In 2017 Dr Maria Sapouna, UWS lecturer in Criminology and Criminal Justice, was awarded €246,785 by the Erasmus+ Programme to lead an interdisciplinary European project on the use of serious gaming technology to support learning around prejudice-based bullying: as part of a collaboration between University of the West of Scotland, The Open University of the Netherlands, The University of Patras, Greece and the University of Nitra, Slovakia.

HETL Conference

The HETL (International Higher Education Teaching & Learning) conference was held for the first time in Europe in June 2017, with UWS Paisley Campus playing host to 250 delegates from across the world. The conference explored various ways to enhance and transform teaching and learning through meaningful inclusion and diversity policies, programmes and activities. Participants also looked at how higher education institutions can create inclusive and diverse cultures of teaching and learning. Attendees enjoyed a wide ranging programme of workshops and presentations, as well as a social events calendar, including a dinner and ceilidh at Glasgow’s Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, to provide a warm welcome to the west of Scotland and to enable them to connect with an international network.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS

The University works in partnership with organisations across the world. In 2017 we hosted visits from a range of partners including delegations from China, USA and South Asia. In addition, our School of Business & Enterprise’s links with Kuwait University, the state’s first public institution for higher education and research, saw a delegation of KU staff visit Paisley Campus for an intensive five-day commercial programme to develop an understanding of quality management systems as well as leadership and management. This marked an exciting stage in development of future collaboration between our two institutions.

A ROYAL SCREENING

HRII The Princess Royal and the British Ambassador to China, Dame Barbara Woodward, launched the Spirit of Youth campaign in Beijing in July 2017 to promote UK / China links.

UWS was invited to attend by the British Embassy in Beijing following the School of Media, Culture and Society’s successful workshop and screening sessions at Beijing International Film Festival to promote our new MA Film-making programme. At the event, The Princess Royal stopped at the UWS display to view Scotland’s first 360 degree virtual reality film, The Circuit, directed by UWS academic Professor Nick Higgins and produced by staff and students of the Creative Media Academy. The Circuit was filmed at Ayr Racecourse and premiered at the 2017 Glasgow Short Film Festival.

SMART TRAVEL

A commercial partnership between UWS and Chinese technology firm Wuxi Chigoo Interactive Technology has seen the University help improve journey experiences for airport visitors. Work by the School of Engineering and Computing has enhanced existing UWS-developed technology already used on smart trollies in 19 airports across China. ‘Charlie’ – as the smart trolley is known – helps passengers navigate terminals by acting as an electronic guide, and allowing them to charge their phones, book hotels, restaurants or onwards travel and providing games for entertainment.

The new UWS technology update integrates check-in information with existing data gathered from Charlie to help analyse passenger behavior and movement in the airport buildings. The approach helps map the patterns of passenger groups, such as families or couples, in order to improve terminal layouts and passenger management. The data can also help airport retailers tailor adverts for airport customers.

The collaboration is a direct result of a partnership between UWS and Nanjing University of Posts and Telecommunications; one of 37 Chinese institutions with which the University is currently partnered.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OF THE YEAR RUNNER-UP

UWS student Franklin-Jacob Babu, BSc Hons Applied Bioscience with Forensic Investigation, was named runner-up in the ‘Student of the Year’ category of the NUS International Student Awards 2017, for his contribution to internationalisation and global engagement.

1st UWS LONDON GRADUATION

A ROYAL

Ten BA Hons Social Work students from the University’s Dumfries and Paisley campuses added a distinctive international dimension to their second year module in ‘Social Work Experience & Enquiry’ working with villagers in Nasavahn and Houy Mieng, near the UNESCO world heritage town of Luang Prabang in Laos. The students undertook work to help improve the supply of clean running water to the village schools and local area.

“Laos has a rich cultural heritage, but is one of the world’s poorest countries,” explains Paul Harvey, lecturer in Social Work at Dumfries Campus. “Social work aims to improve the positive capacities of individuals, families, groups and communities with an emphasis on social justice. This international placement helped facilitate our students’ experiential education as global citizens and enabled them to make practical positive improvements to people’s lives. The students studied the local language, customs and social and economic conditions as part of their pre-placement work and undertook fund-raising to collect educational equipment for use in Laos.”
The innovative technologies that UWS is developing are helping shape society in Scotland and throughout the world: from research in thin film technology and 5G networking to apps for health monitoring.
Our long history of successful and productive engagement with business and industry means we can offer a wide range of commercialisation and consultancy opportunities from specialist expertise and talent, to access to high-quality equipment and facilities. Our academics share their expertise in a wealth of topics – and we encourage, support and facilitate commercialisation of our IPs through licensing, spinoff and spin-out companies. We also offer help with grant applications for innovation projects, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships, facilities for hosting events, and access to UWS graduates and students to meet job, internship and placement opportunities.

UWS researchers Dr Dave Hughes and Professor Des Gibson were shortlisted for their projects Novosound and Spectral Sense respectively. The six shortlisted applicants were assessed by a panel of experts from industry, leading entrepreneurs and investors from across the business community. We were extremely proud in 2017 to have two projects shortlisted in the final six for Scotland’s leading academic initiative the CONVERGE Challenge. Out of the original 212 applications lodged from 17 of Scotland’s universities and research institutes.

Our long history of successful and productive engagement with business and industry means we can offer a wide range of commercialisation and consultancy opportunities from specialist expertise and talent, to access to high-quality equipment and facilities. Our academics share their expertise in a wealth of topics – and we encourage, support and facilitate commercialisation of our IPs through licensing, spinoff and spin-out companies. We also offer help with grant applications for innovation projects, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships, facilities for hosting events, and access to UWS graduates and students to meet job, internship and placement opportunities.

Dr Dave Hughes was announced as first-prize winner – read more on page 27.

In 2017 our wide-ranging work in Health saw interdisciplinary and collaborative activity including:

- **Nanokicking** – our research project for a new method of supplying bone graft for clinical procedures won the Herald Research Project of the Year award. The unique system converts adult stem cells into osteoblasts (bone building cells) using a method that is cheap, scalable and free of chemical induction factors that can potentially have harmful side effects within the body. UWS researchers, working with colleagues at Glasgow University, developed a means of mechanically stimulating cells using extremely precise nanoscale vibration in a technique called “nanokicking”.

- **Smartcough** - a pioneering development allowing patients to be monitored, unobtrusively and constantly, using their own mobile phones in the treatment of COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, a group of non-cancer lung conditions including emphysema and chronic bronchitis.

- **Funding awarded by the Chief Scientific Officer** was matched by the University for a broad and comprehensive programme of UWS PhD studentships in the School of Science and Sport with the overall aim of implementing a variety of targeted exercise interventions, all focused on improving the symptoms of patients with MS and addressing the many limitations within the current literature base for the condition.

- **Discovery of an anti-virus protein.** Research by the School of Science & Sport has led to discovery of a protein in cells that has anti-virus properties. In 2014 a role for protein called HIRA that stops cancer developing was found. Following further research of this protein a second breakthrough was made that HIRA is also an anti-virus protein. The research project was undertaken in collaboration with colleagues at the Beatson Institute for Cancer Research, University of Glasgow, University of Cardiff and Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute in the USA. The research increases understanding of how viruses evade host cellular responses and may lead to better treatments in future.

- **Building on our close links**

UWS and Alzheimer Scotland signed a Strategic Partnership Agreement in 2017 which will see a focus on shared priority areas, including further developing the UWS Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Dementia Policy & Practice; increasing collaborative working to influence policy; and shaping practice in dementia care to develop new and innovative interventions that reflect current needs and emerging policy. In July 2017 staff of the UWS Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy and Practice published Being Home, Scotland’s first report on housing and dementia.

“University of the West of Scotland is at the forefront of developing new ideas and approaches to improve quality of care and quality of life for people with dementia and those who care for them.”

HENRY SIMMONS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF ALZHEIMER SCOTLAND
Our School of Business & Enterprise and School of Engineering & Computing collaborated with external partners on the first study of its kind in the world, to boost the economy of rural Scotland. The project looks at using renewable energy to produce high-value microalgae, with benefits to the aquaculture industries, and use in products such as biofuels and pigments. The wider economic and social impact in rural Scotland and beyond, and the potential for producing algal products at industrial scales were also investigated.

UWS microbiologists and environmental chemists are collaborating with chemical engineers and physicists in a project looking at new ways to recover critical metals and other valuable elements like gold from waste electrical and electronic equipment such as mobile phones.

A new type of imaging system for use in agriculture, designed to be up to 90% cheaper than existing technology and to help yield bigger crops, is being developed in a partnership between UWS, University of Strathclyde and the James Hutton Institute, Dundee. The project is being led by Glasgow-based product design firm Wideblue and aims to develop a new type of hyperspectral imaging (HSI) system. The technology it is expected will allow farmers to monitor various crop attributes including plant health, hydration levels and disease indicators and have a significant impact on overall crop yield. Potential use in applications including gas sensing and anti-counterfeiting are also being investigated.

Collaboration with NHS Lanarkshire to assess current health projects for children, including those tackling obesity, and to help develop successful future schemes. The recent State of Child Health Scotland report from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health shows 28% of Scottish children are overweight or obese. As part of the NHS Lanarkshire partnership the University has created three full-time PhD studentships to conduct a number of studies on health and wellbeing projects over the next three years. Following completion of the PhD studies, the University is investigating establishment of a Centre for Paediatric Exercise & Health.

As part of an EU-funded INTERREG VA programme, UWS researchers in the School of Science and Sport are embarking on a major research project investigating lung disease in south-west Scotland, with study into a potential link between poor air quality and increased disease later in life. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD, is the collective term for lung conditions which restrict airflow and cause breathlessness, and it is predicted it will be the third biggest killer in the world by 2030, according to the World Health Organisation.

Development of a new approach significantly enhancing detection and classification capabilities on thermal imaging cameras at long-range. The collaborative project involving UWS, CENSIS - the Scottish Innovation Centre for sensor and imaging systems - and Glasgow-based company Thales has created a system which helps a device detect, improve the resolution of, and classify objects at a distance of up to 1500m. The technology could have extensive applications in a variety of industries, with the security, surveillance, engineering and construction sectors among those that could benefit most.

“This project is a great example of what can be achieved when the right academic institution is paired with industry specialists.”

GAVIN BURROWS, CENSIS PROJECT MANAGER

A partnership aimed at creating a ground-breaking Enterprise and Innovation Hub, including a digital and cyber security research facility, as part of the regeneration of the former Diageo bottling plant in Kilmarnock, East Ayrshire saw UWS sign a Memorandum of Understanding in early 2017 with The HALO Kilmarnock Limited. The HALO is a £65m mixed-use, brown-field regeneration project.
UWS staff and students are recognised for their innovation and ambition. Read more about their hard work and achievements.

Dr Dave Hughes of the Institute of Thin Films, Sensors & Imaging was presented with the award in September 2017 by Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister of Scotland, for his project on novosound technology that will allow expectant parents to see their unborn child with the image quality of MRI. The revolutionary sensors, systems and software allow for low-cost, high-resolution imaging with applications for the medical, dental, industrial and veterinary markets. A UWS spin-out company Novosound is under development as a result of the success.

The Converge Challenge is Scotland’s leading company creation competition and an entrepreneurial development programme for Scottish universities. The prize received includes £50,000 in cash and £28,500 worth of business and support with mentoring from Royal Bank of Scotland.

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon described the Converge Challenge as ‘an opportunity to showcase one of Scotland’s great traditional strengths – generating new ideas, products and technologies, supported by our world-class educational institutions.’

“Myself and all the team at novosound are thrilled to win this year’s Converge Challenge. The experience, expertise and support have already been invaluable and it seems like only yesterday we were learning how to pitch as part of our training. We look forward to making sure this package of support takes novosound to the next level.”

DR DAVE HUGHES
In 2017 our students and graduates achieved success across a range of areas including:

Christopher Osborne
Christopher, a first-class Honours graduate in Music Technology from 2011, was selected as an Edinburgh International Television 2017 talent scheme delegate and named among 30 ones to watch in TV.

Kirsty McCallum
First-class Honours Biomedical Science graduate Kirsty McCallum was the inaugural recipient of the Physiological Society ‘Claire Egan’ Memorial Award, part-sponsored by the British Lung Foundation. The award celebrates the life of UWS Biomedical Science graduate Claire Egan.

Dominic Gibson
Business student Dominic Gibson was recognised by Glasgow’s International Financial Services District for achieving outstanding performance in a financial qualification.

Carianne de Koning
School of Business & Enterprise student Carianne scooped first prize in Eventice 2017, a UK Apprentice-style competition for event management students, and was offered a trainee project manager role with Identity Events, an events company based in East Sussex.

Kazamira McGroarty
Dumfries Campus student Kazamira McGroarty was named ‘Student Social Worker of the Year’ at the Scottish Association of Social Work Awards.

Michael Mabon
Digital Art & Design student Michael won the Alex Richardson Achiever of the Year Award which celebrates the outstanding achievements of survivors of brain injury.

Angela McNay
Honours year Social Policy and Sociology student Angela McNay opened the Unity Grill in Ayr as a social restaurant with 100% of profits used to challenge food poverty.

Craig McNally
UWS Sports Scholarship recipient, swimmer Craig McNally was selected to represent Team Scotland at the Commonwealth Games in Australia - Gold Coast 2018. Bioscience student Craig also achieved an impressive 6 BUCS medals - 3 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze - in his first season with Team UWS for long course and short course backstroke events.

Ronnie Mooney
Ronnie Mooney first class Honours graduate in Applied Bioscience and Zoology was awarded the Royal Society of Biology Top Student Award 2017 and gained a prestigious Carnegie PhD Scholarship.

Sarah Dar
Civil Engineering student Sarah Dar was named joint winner of the Central Scotland Women in Property Student Award.

Jack McComish
Jack McComish competed as part of Team GB in the 2017 Deaflympics in Samsun, Turkey. Jack is a Sports Development student at Hamilton Campus and a member of Team UWS and the City of Glasgow Swim Team.
UWS colleagues’ successes celebrated in 2017 included:

**Honours recognition**

**Prof Belinda Dewar OBE**  
Professor Belinda Dewar, Professor of Practice Improvement in the University’s School of Health, Nursing & Midwifery was recognised in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List for her services to nursing.

**Margaret Gibson OBE**  
Margaret Gibson, a member of UWS Court, was recognised in the New Year’s Honours List for her services to business and entrepreneurship.

**Prof Paul Martin OBE**  
UWS Deputy Principal Professor Paul Martin was recognised in the New Year’s Honours List for his contribution to nursing in Scotland.

**'A Car for Women'**  
Dr Katherine Kirk, School of Engineering & Computing, and Professor Katarzyna Kasmala and Tony Grace, School of Media, Culture & Society, are joining forces with Pullinger expert and independent researcher Dr Nina Baker, to explore the story of Dorothee Pullinger’s life and achievements as part of an ingenious awards scheme project. ‘A Car for Women and Other Stories’ focuses on the life of the pioneering motor engineer, famous for designing and building a “Car for Women” at her factory in Galloway, with a large female workforce trained as engineers, in the 1920s.

**Professional recognition**

**Professor Moira Lewitt**  
Principal Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy awarded to Professor Moira Lewitt, of the School of Health, Nursing and Midwifery.

**Laura Wallace**  
Laura Wallace, Lecturer in the School of Science and Sport became a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

**Dr Mohammed Ishaq**  
Dr Mohammed Ishaq, Reader in Human Resource Management in the School of Business and Enterprise was appointed as one of five members on the Scottish Football Association’s Equality and Diversity Board.

**Dr John Connolly**  
Dr John Connolly, Senior Lecturer in Public Policy, was appointed Associate Editor of the Contemporary Social Science Journal of the Academy of Social Sciences.

**Professor Robert Smith**  
Professor Robert Smith of the School of Business & Enterprise won best paper in the Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence - the third successive year that Professor Smith has won such an award.

**Professor Des Gibson**  
Professor Des Gibson, Director of the University’s Institute of Thin Films, Sensors & Imaging was elected a Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) in recognition of his pioneering work in plasma assisted deposition of optical thin films, photonic based sensors and knowledge transfer.

**Dr Mohammed Ishaq**  
Dr Mohammed Ishaq, Reader in Human Resource Management in the School of Business and Enterprise was appointed as one of five members on the Scottish Football Association’s Equality and Diversity Board.

**Professor Margaret Arnott**  
Professor Margaret Arnott, Professor of Public Policy in the School of Media, Culture & Society was appointed a House of Commons Academic Fellow - one of five senior political and social scientists from universities across the UK.

**Paul McGeechan**  
Paul McGeechan lecturer in Commercial Music’s album ‘Starless’ was nominated for the Scottish Album of the Year Award 2017.

**Caroline Sime**  
Caroline Sime, Research Fellow in the School of Health, Nursing and Midwifery became the first recipient of the Annette J. Bartley Memorial Scholarship, and gained a place at the Institute for Health Care Improvement’s National Forum in Florida.

**Dr Mohammed Ishaq**  
Dr Mohammed Ishaq, Reader in Human Resource Management in the School of Business and Enterprise was appointed as one of five members on the Scottish Football Association’s Equality and Diversity Board.

**Laura Wallace**  
Laura Wallace, Lecturer in the School of Science and Sport became a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.
In recognition of their work and significant achievements in their respective fields, we awarded Honorary Doctorates at our 2017 graduations to:

Professor Henry A Giroux
INFLUENTIAL CULTURAL THEORIST
Professor Henry A Giroux is one of the world’s most prominent academics whose work traverses a wide terrain of intellectual disciplines. One of the founding theorists of critical pedagogy, he is best known for his pioneering work in public pedagogy, cultural studies, youth studies, higher education, and critical theory. In 2002, the publishers Routledge named Henry as one of the top fifty educational thinkers of the modern period. Professor Giroux currently holds the Chair for Scholarship in the Public Interest in the English and Cultural Studies Department at McMaster University, Ontario, Canada and the Paulo Freire Distinguished Scholar Professorship in Critical Pedagogy.

4 July 2017, The Town House, Hamilton

Trevor Sorbie MBE
INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED HAIRDRESSER
Trevor Sorbie MBE, who was born in Paisley, has been named British Hairdresser of the Year four times, more than anyone else in the industry and is known affectionately as the godfather of hairdressing. He has also won numerous industry awards and was the first hairdresser to receive an MBE from the Queen in 2004. Trevor’s flagship salon opened in London’s Covent Garden in 1979 and since then he has opened further salons, as well as academies in London and China. In 2006 Trevor founded the charity ‘mynewhair’ - a wig personalisation charity for cancer patients, dedicated to training hairdressers in how to customise wigs.

11 July 2017, Coats Memorial Baptist Church, Paisley

Alasdair Malloy
PRINCIPAL PERCUSSIONIST, BBC CONCERT ORCHESTRA
Alasdair Malloy has earned international recognition as a highly creative musician crossing musical boundaries as a percussionist, glass harmonica player, programme deviser and presenter, musical arranger and conductor. Originally from Paisley, Alasdair studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (now the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland), joining the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra at the age of 20. He was later appointed principal percussionist with the BBC Concert Orchestra in London, a post he has held for over 30 years. Alasdair has made an outstanding contribution to music education, devising, producing and presenting a series of concerts for children, families and schools that tours all over the world.

12 July 2017, Coats Memorial Baptist Church, Paisley

David Smith MBE
PARALYMPIC CHAMPION
David Smith MBE was born with the condition talipes (club feet) and the wearing of special plaster cast boots left his right foot damaged. However David did not let this get in the way of his sporting career, which has encompassed international competition in bobsleigh and rowing. David’s successes have included gold medal wins at the World Rowing Championships and Paralympics. Seeking fresh challenge, David switched from rowing to cycling and made rapid progress, winning a spot in the British development team and podium places in a number of able-bodied time trials. Treatment for a spinal tumour however put his dream of competing at the 2016 Paralympics on hold.


Graham Peterkin
MEMBER OF UNIVERSITY COURT 2006-2015
Graham Peterkin was the Depute Chief Executive of South Ayrshire Council, retiring in 2010 after a 40-year career in local government. Following his retirement Graham has taken the opportunity to support local projects and organisations. He is a Director of the Ayr Gaiety Partnership, an Independent Director of Ayr United Football Academy and a Trustee and Vice-Chair of Action Against Stalking.

UWS benefited greatly from Graham’s professional knowledge and experience through his service on the University Court from 2006; he chaired the Audit and Risk Committee from 2012 and was appointed Vice-Chair of Court in 2013, holding both positions until his retirement from UWS Court in 2015.

7 July 2017, Troon Town Hall

UWS Annual Review 2017
Our staff across the University are one of our biggest assets: their achievements and successes are highlighted throughout this review.

**Professor Milan Radosavljevic**

Professor Milan Radosavljevic took up the position of Associate Vice-Principal (Research) in September 2017. Milan will play a vital role in leading UWS towards its strategic direction and vision for the delivery of the University’s major KPI for Research and Enterprise. Milan will work closely with the Associate Vice-Principal (Education) to provide a University-wide culture of reciprocal engagement and cross-fertilisation to ensure the enhancement of the UWS academic portfolio and the strengthening of research and teaching excellence across all disciplines.

Milan joined UWS in 2013 as Professor in Civil Engineering in the School of Engineering and Computing and became Assistant Dean (Research and Enterprise) in September 2014. Prior to this Milan was Associate Professor in Construction Management and Engineering at the University of Reading.

**Dr Lucie Pollard**

Dr Lucie Pollard joined University of the West of Scotland in February 2017 as Director of UWS London Campus. Prior to that Lucie had been the Faculty Operating Officer for the Faculty of Education and Health at the University of Greenwich.

Lucie started her career as a nutritionist lecturing to both undergraduates and postgraduates, and throughout has continually sought to create a strong and engaging student experience. This led her to becoming School Director of Learning and Quality for the School of Science at the University of Greenwich, a post she held for over eight years. Lucie is also keen to develop her own knowledge and experience base, and recently completed an Executive MBA achieving a distinction.

**Dr Claire Carney**

Dr Claire Carney took up the position of UWS Associate Vice-Principal (Education) in January 2017. As Associate Vice-Principal (Education) Claire will play a key role in ensuring UWS is positioned as a sectoral leader in learning innovation through the significant and consistent development of learning, teaching and assessment practice, ultimately positively impacting on learner attainment.

Claire has previously held roles at the Quality Assurance Agency (Scotland) where she was Interim Director and, prior to that, Head of Quality Enhancement. Claire has also held, and continues to hold, a number of external reviewer and expert panel member roles.

Annually we celebrate our colleagues who’ve gone above and beyond normal expectations in their everyday work.

**Our UWS STARS (STAFF APPRECIATION & RECOGNITION SCHEME) AWARDS RECOGNISE UWS STAFF NOMINATED BY COLLEAGUES AND STUDENTS.**

In 2017 we received almost 450 high-quality submissions and our judging panel had the onerous task of selecting the final winners in our STARS awards categories.

**Outstanding Teaching**

WINNER ANNE CLARE GILLON
Senior Lecturer
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE

**Outstanding Research & Enterprise**

WINNER GILLIAN BRUCE
Lecturer
SCHOOL OF MEDIA, CULTURE & SOCIETY

**Outstanding Leadership**

WINNER DR NEIL MCPHERSON
Assistant Dean
SCHOOL OF MEDIA, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

**Outstanding Team**

WINNER NURSING TEAM (DUMFRIES CAMPUS)
SCHOOL OF HEALTH, NURSING & MIDWIFERY

**Outstanding Service to Students**

WINNER DENISE ATKINSON
Skills Laboratory Facilitator
SCHOOL OF HEALTH, NURSING & MIDWIFERY

**Outstanding Service to Colleagues**

WINNER GILLIAN MUNN
Print Services Assistant
PRINTING SERVICES
Our new coat of arms was unveiled in 2017 to mark our anniversary year and celebrate our heritage. It references the former institutions that comprise UWS - University of Paisley, Bell College and Craigie College of Education. It also contains elements that represent the university’s presence in Dumfries and its wider context in the UK as well as internationally.

**UWS Coat of Arms**

- The abbot’s mitre represents Paisley Abbey, the town’s ancient site of learning. The mitre previously featured in the University of Paisley arms.
- The torches represent learning and the light of knowledge, as do the two open books.
- The star, or mullet, is associated with Dumfries, and the bell references Bell College.
- The garland of laurel and holly features on Alexander Stodart’s statue of Colia - muse of Robert Burns in his poem ‘The Vision’ – that stands in the grounds of the University’s Ayr Campus.
- The globe represents the international outlook of UWS.
- The motto below the arms ‘Doctrina Prosperitas’ may be translated as ‘learning is success’ or ‘success comes through learning’, a fitting statement that encapsulates our strategic aims.

**UWS Financial Statement 2017**

**Income**

- £111.9m

**Surplus**

- £2.6m

**Cash in Bank**

- £18.9m

**Net Assets**

- £46.6m

The results for the year ended 31 July 2017 are summarised below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016/17</th>
<th>£m</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>111.859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure before non-cash defined benefit pension</td>
<td>112.946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on investments</td>
<td>0.338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating (deficit)/surplus</td>
<td>(0.749)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-cash defined benefit pension costs</td>
<td>3.392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Deficit)/surplus for the year</td>
<td>2.643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>18.895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets</td>
<td>46.598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash flow from operating activities</td>
<td>8.251</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UWS is a University that dares to be different

Closing Remarks

The motto on the University’s new coat of arms – ‘Doctrina Prosperitas’ – may be translated as ‘success comes through learning’ and it encapsulates beautifully why UWS is different from other universities. Committed to developing a new 21st century approach to higher education, UWS really places its students at the heart of learning and at the heart of everything it does, with the aim of transforming lives, enabling all its students regardless of their background to shape their future and make their mark.

I am excited to see the significant developments taking place as work proceeds on the University’s new Lanarkshire Campus and I look forward to seeing the first students on campus in 2018 – the new campus will provide students, staff and the wider community with a truly inspirational 21st century educational environment.

As Chair of UWS Court I am extremely proud to note the significant work and recognition that UWS students and staff achieve and I hope that you too have been inspired by their successes outlined in this review. Let us all continue to dare to be different.

Dr Waiyin Hatton
CHAIR OF COURT

University Court, the governing body of the University, collectively determines our future direction, fostering an environment in which our strategic aims are achieved and our learners succeed. Court members are appointed and elected governors with a variety of interests and experience to ensure the balance of skills, attributes and knowledge to enable Court to function effectively. Staff and student governors are also elected and have equal standing with our lay member appointees.

Lay Members

LAURA BARJONAS Skills Development Scotland
MARGARET CURRIE SQA
CRAIG DEVLIN Seric Systems
FRED DINNING formerly Scottish Power
MARGARET GIBSON OBE EY Foundation
ANDREW GORDON Canmore Partnership
DR WAIYIN HATTON Chair of Court
          Wai Beyond Consultancy and formerly NHS Ayrshire & Arran
HUGH HENRY former MSP
PROFESSOR CAROLINE Vice Chair of Court
MacDONALD
ANN McKECHIN Scottish Power
ANDREW MUNRO Scottish Parliament
THERESE O’DONNELL Management consultant
KEVIN QUINLAN Department for International Development
WILLIAM SMITH Asda

Student Members

HEATHER ARMSTRONG President of SAUWS
EMMA SHOTTER Vice President (Education) SAUWS

Staff Members

ANNE GIFFORD Assistant Dean (International), School of Media, Culture & Society
DAVID JOHNSTON Depute Director, Information Technology and Digital Services
PROFESSOR CRAIG MAHONEY (Ex Officio member of Court) Principal & Vice-Chancellor
PROFESSOR PAUL MARTIN CBE (Ex Officio member of Court) Depute Principal
DR KATH SLOMAN Reader, School of Science & Sport
DR JAMES M THOMPSON Assistant Dean (Education) School of Engineering & Computing

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Dr Waiyin Hatton
CHAIR OF COURT
At UWS, we believe in our students’ future.

We have a proud record in delivering work-ready graduates and developing effective partnerships with business, industry and the public and voluntary sectors.

With our cutting-edge courses, practical knowledge, and intelligent teaching, we help our students get ahead.

Through our innovative learning partnership we invest in people’s potential to shape their future. Built on uniting students, professionals, industry and our communities, this partnership stretches from the West of Scotland around the world.

We believe in the transformative power of active learning and engagement. We treat our students as individuals, partners and potential leaders in their fields and professions, providing them with the globally relevant knowledge, skills and confidence to think critically and to challenge received wisdom.

DREAMING, BELIEVING, ACHIEVING a 21st century University.

Campuses in Ayr, Dumfries, Lanarkshire, London & Paisley