Success through learning

UWS19
ANNUAL REVIEW 2018-2019

Dream, believe, achieve. uws.ac.uk

The Guardian University Awards 2019
Winner
uws.ac.uk
The 2018-19 session has been another period of tremendous achievement for UWS.

It has been another remarkable year for University of the West of Scotland and I am once again extremely proud of the progress we have made. Among our significant achievements, one of the notable events of 2019 was the official opening of our £110million Lanarkshire Campus by the First Minister of Scotland, the Rt. Hon. Nicola Sturgeon MSP. Our fantastic new campus took first prize in the Guardian University Awards 2019 in the “Sustainable Buildings that Inspire” category, testament to our commitment to creating a benchmark building for UK Higher Education.

It is not just sustainability we are being recognised for, however: UWS was shortlisted for five awards in the Herald Higher Education Awards 2019 and we retained our ranking as one of the top 150 universities under fifty years of age in Times Higher Education’s Young University Rankings 2019, and were recognised by THE as being in their top 500 universities in their global university rankings 2019.

In the National Student Survey 2018-19 overall student satisfaction at UWS has remained consistent at 84%, with fifteen of our undergraduate degree programmes achieving an overall satisfaction score of 90% or higher.

Results like these could not have been achieved without the dedication of UWS staff, both academic and professional services, providing an exemplary experience to our students and giving them the best learning environment to enhance their studies. UWS is proud to be carrying out world-leading research and we have made a number of significant advances and continue to extend our global reach, building connections with partners around the world. We are also proud to be building connections with business and enterprise partners.

So, it has been a truly fantastic year for UWS and I hope you enjoy finding out more about our success and achievements throughout 2018-19 in our Annual Review. It is clear to see how our students reflect the University motto of ‘doctrina prosperitas’ and achieve ‘success through learning,’ and how we all strive to Dream, Believe and Achieve.
In context 2018-2019

TOP 150
THE Young University Rankings

19,900
TOTAL STUDENTS (HEADCOUNT)

140
EUROPEAN PARTNERS

1,385
STAFF (HEADCOUNT)

5 AWARDS
UWS was shortlisted for 5 awards across 4 categories in The Herald Higher Education Awards 2019
- Research Project of the Year
- Outstanding Contribution from a University Student
- Marketing/PR Campaign of the Year
- Partnership Award

Economic Impact

£816 Million
Generated by UWS as Gross Value Added to the Scottish Economy
5800 jobs supported

£995 Million
Generated across The UK as a Whole
7200 jobs supported

For every £1 of income UWS generates £7 of impact

TOP 100
RANKED AS TOP 100 UK UNIVERSITY AND HIGHEST RANKED POST-1992 SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY

84%
Overall student satisfaction
NSS 2019

1st in Scotland,
8th in UK, for volume and value of Knowledge Transfer Partnership bids

For the most sustainable & inspiring HE building in the UK
UWS Lanarkshire Campus

90%
and above
Overall satisfaction in fifteen programmes
NSS 2019

91%
of Graduate respondents happy with their life at UWS
Graduate & International 2018
We caught up with some of our former UWS Ambassadors to hear about the career successes they have achieved since graduation.

Elisabet McLuskey

After graduating with a First-Class Honours in Business with Events Management in 2016, Elisabet undertook a two-year international graduate programme with the luxury drinks brand Chivas. As part of this programme, she worked in Madrid as the Plymouth Gin Brand Ambassador. This included working with agencies to develop the consumer experience and adapting the brand’s global drinks strategy to appeal to the Spanish market.

Her hard work paid off as she was offered a year’s extension on the programme to work as a Marketing Associate at Chivas’ HQ in London. She says: “My degree skills really came to the fore as my first few projects were all about event management and creating a brand experience for Chivas. I also managed the Chivas Graduates – 29 of them in 50 markets – and gave them more visibility within the global team.”

In 2019 Elisabet went on to secure a full-time position as Assistant Innovation Manager working on a diverse range of projects. She adds “It has been a huge learning curve as I have had to develop social media campaigns, organise research sessions, screen concepts, shoot videos... I love the creative side of it, no two days are the same and I’m being challenged every day.”

Ludwik Walerysiak

Ludwik’s career has taken him in many interesting directions since graduating from UWS with a PG Dip in Project Management in 2015. He completed a six-month internship in event management in Monaco before travelling back to his home country of Poland and taking up a position in the mortgage department of a bank in Lodz. This was followed by a role with Infosys BPO, working for Procter and Gamble. In Lodz, Ludwik met Ann – who is now his wife – and he moved with her to Warsaw when she was offered a job there. In Warsaw he worked for Deloitte as a consultant in their internal audit department for twelve months, before taking up the role of internal auditor for the e-commerce platform Allegro in January 2019. He says: “Things are great - I’m now working towards professional exams to become a Certified Internal Auditor, and Ann and I have bought a flat together.”
Kiara Mayne

Kiara graduated in 2016 with a BA Hons Social Work and went on to study our PGDE Primary with the aim of working with children with additional support needs. She completed her probationary teaching year and then at the start of the 2018-19 school year secured her dream job at Isobel Mair School, for children with additional support needs, in East Renfrewshire.

She says: “I was extremely fortunate to participate in four varied and demanding placements during my social work degree, which gave me excellent experience across a range of sectors and service user groups. In my current role, I still draw on lots of the research and pedagogy that was ingrained in me throughout my Honours degree, and I feel confident working in partnership with other professional agencies as a result of my social work placements.”

“Throughout my time at UWS I found that staff were friendly and approachable, shaming a keen interest in supporting all students to reach their full potential. And my work as a Student Ambassador gave me confidence in presenting and public speaking and made me feel even more part of the UWS family. I made friends for life!”

Jane McKendrick

Jane graduated with an Honours degree in Social Sciences in 2016 and went on to postgraduate studies in Applied Social Sciences which she completed in 2017.

Jane says: “UWS was central to building my confidence as a person, particularly during my time working as an Ambassador, which included me giving a talk at the Scottish Parliament on my experience in higher education as a mature student and juggling work with study.”

Jane’s sociology lecturer at UWS encouraged her to push beyond her boundaries after noticing she had a flair for research. This paid off in 2019 when Jane was successful in gaining a qualitative researcher role with Liverpool John Moores University.

“UWS was central to building my confidence as a person”

Lainie Lawson

After completing her Contemporary Drug and Alcohol Studies postgraduate course in 2017, building on the skills she had gained on her UWS mental health nursing degree, Lainie moved to England and got a post as a Recovery Nurse in a local drug and alcohol service. She says: “I then got the past of a Hepatology Specialist Practitioner with Oxford University Hospitals and my main role was leading on the local prison clinics.”

In light of her work to improve hepatitis C virus treatment for prisoners and increase the numbers tested and treated, Lainie was the recipient of the Nurse Recognition award at the Dr Falk Pharma/Guts UK Charity Awards 2019.

Lainie has now been promoted to the Lead Nurse (Band 7) role for the service. She adds: “We cover 5 prisons, 1 young offenders’ institute and 1 high-security forensic mental health hospital, so my working days are very varied, but I love every minute of it!”

Ramender Kwatra

(known to his friends as Rammy)

After graduating in Mechanical Engineering in 2015, Rammy spent some time in the USA gaining skills in marketing with the aim of setting up his own company. He returned home to India and by November 2017 had set up a marketing and branding agency with a team of graduates from business, finance and engineering disciplines. Their work has focused on projects for the automotive and technology sectors and Rammy says: “The analytical skills that I developed from studying at UWS come in handy every day and the experience I gained has really benefited me. I’ll always be a proud UWS alumnus!”
Scotland’s leading university for widening access

A Scottish Funding Council report released in June 2019 positioned UWS as Scotland’s leading university for widening access to students from disadvantaged backgrounds. It revealed that almost a quarter of all SIMD20 students in Scotland are studying at UWS. Retention of SIMD20 students at UWS has improved by nearly 10% in the past five years too – the biggest improvement in student retention rates across the entire Scottish Higher Education sector.

Remarkable Kayleigh brings home silver

Kayleigh Haggo, a sports coaching and development student at our Ayr Campus, did the University proud by bringing home a silver medal in race-running from the Berlin 2018 World Para Athletics European Championships. Her remarkable performance put race-running – a sport which was introduced to the championships in 2018 – firmly in the spotlight.

Kayleigh has become an extremely successful para athlete, winning three golds in the European Paralympic Youth Games, and has set 13 world records and four national age group records in swimming, race-running and club-throw sports. This is on top of Kayleigh’s studies; her jobs as a swimming teacher, a sports coach and a motivational speaker; and her volunteering role with Scottish Disability Sport.

Upskilling employees with Graduate Apprenticeships

As part of Scottish Apprenticeship Week 2019, we announced the launch of our largest-ever offering of Graduate Apprenticeships in partnership with Skills Development Scotland. Capitalising on the University’s close links with industry, 95 Graduate Apprenticeships are now available across a range of vocations. These aim to address the critical skill shortages affecting productivity and growth widely reported by Scottish employers and give more individuals the opportunity to learn and develop their career whilst in employment.

Scotland’s 1st Honours Graduate Apprentice

In November 2018, UWS student Kade McArthur became the first Graduate Apprentice (GA) to gain a university Honours degree in Scotland. Kade successfully completed his GA in BSc Hons IT: Software Development, and graduated with a first-class Honours degree. He secured a role as a Compliance Systems Graduate with Jacobs, a global provider of technical, professional, and scientific services.
Removing barriers to an active lifestyle

In 2019, UWS became the first Scottish university to roll out free gym membership for students across university-operated fitness facilities. Aimed at removing barriers to entry, this initiative allows all students to enjoy the benefits of an active lifestyle including improved mental health and physical wellbeing, and higher levels of attainment.

Digital skills for the workplace of the future

The Fujitsu Innovation Hub at UWS Paisley Campus puts technology at the heart of education to enhance learning and teaching. The hub is the first of its kind for a Scottish Higher Education institution and is part of Fujitsu’s dedicated Education Ambassador Programme for Scotland. It is designed to provide students, staff and members of the community with the digital skills required to flourish in the workplace of the future.

Apprentice malt master

Single malt whisky The Balvenie, in 2018, named UWS graduate Kelsey McKechnie as apprentice malt master and potential successor to the longest-serving malt master in Scotch whisky, David Stewart MBE.

Kelsey, who studied Applied Bioscience, joined The Balvenie owner William Grant & Sons Distillers as a technical graduate working in a spirit quality and development role following her graduation in 2014.

David Stewart MBE said: “The appointment to apprentice malt master represents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for anyone working in the whisky industry. To achieve this at just 25 years old is testament to Kelsey’s abilities.”

Honouring the legacy of a pioneering female engineer

Highlighting UWS commitment to STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) a commemorative plaque was unveiled at Paisley Campus in 2019 to honour the legacy of pioneering female engineer Dorothée Pullinger. An apprentice engineer in Paisley before the First World War, Dorothée is famous for the lasting impact she made on the engineering industry – her groundbreaking work saw her design a car for women, built by women in the early 20th century. The event was attended by members of Dorothée’s family.
Innovation, impact and opportunities for all

In March 2019 UWS welcomed Richard Lochhead MSP, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education & Science, to our new Lanarkshire Campus. He toured the Campus’ innovative nursing and midwifery teaching facilities – the most modern in Scotland – as well as its state-of-the-art environmental chamber. More importantly, Mr Lochhead saw first-hand the sector-leading approach UWS is taking on widening access to education as well as our significant impact on research and knowledge transfer in the UK and across the globe.

Brodie’s Bikes initiative continues to grow

Brodie’s Bikes, the popular student bike-loan initiative launched in 2018 in memory of UWS student Brodie Eaton, has gone from strength to strength and grown to include our Ayr, Lanarkshire and Paisley campuses.

Brodie’s friends and family first came up with the idea thanks to his love of cycling, and wished to share this joy by providing bikes and equipment to enable UWS students staying at student residences to cycle in and around their campuses and the surrounding areas.

UWS Principal & Vice-Chancellor Professor Craig Mahoney says: “I would like to express my sincere thanks to every single person involved in this project for giving our students access to bikes completely free of charge. Students staying on campus can make the most of this initiative – using the bikes as a sustainable means of transport to get around town, or even to see the sights, using pedal power.”

UWS lecturer named in Honours list

Maureen Bell, lecturer and programme leader for the Postgraduate Certificate in Child Protection was recognised with an OBE in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list 2019. This honour marks Maureen’s long-standing contribution to child protection where she has been instrumental in influencing the work of professionals in supporting children and their families.

Harnessing the unifying power of reading

Our pilot Big Read programme in 2018 saw new BA Business students receive a copy of Gail Honeyman’s award-winning novel Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine. Harnessing the unifying power of reading, this initiative helped students settle into university life by giving them something in common to talk about from day one. In November 2018, Gail Honeyman visited UWS to perform a reading from her novel and take part in a question and answer session with students.

“I would like to express my sincere thanks to every single person involved in this project”
First Minister officially opens UWS Lanarkshire Campus

Staff and students were honoured to welcome The First Minister of Scotland the Rt. Hon. Nicola Sturgeon MSP to officially open the University’s award-winning Lanarkshire Campus in June 2019. The First Minister toured the campus to experience first-hand the innovative, dynamic and collaborative learning and teaching spaces that have been created. Ms Sturgeon also met with students and staff to hear about the many benefits of learning at our new facility. The First Minister said: “With top-class teaching spaces and state-of-the-art labs hosted in a building entirely powered by renewables, the new UWS Lanarkshire Campus is a fantastic addition to Scotland’s higher education sector.”

By focusing on providing practical and immersive learning, UWS Lanarkshire Campus is helping students to get the real-life experience and confidence they need to enter into the workforce.

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon MSP

UWS Lanarkshire wins Guardian University Award

The 2019 Guardian University Awards recognised UWS Lanarkshire Campus as one of the most outstanding Higher Education buildings in the UK. Shortlisted alongside Huddersfield and Swansea universities, our new Lanarkshire Campus won in the ‘Sustainable Buildings That Inspire’ category.

“This award is testament to the hard work, careful planning and dedication of everyone involved in this highly ambitious project.”

Professor Craig Mahoney, Principal and Vice-Chancellor
Researchers from the Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy and Practice (ASCPP) are collaborating in India to enhance the experience of people with dementia and their family carers, including addressing issues related to advanced dementia-related elder abandonment and abuse.

With some 4 million people diagnosed with dementia, there is an urgent need in India to develop dementia education aligned with the Global Sustainable Development Goals among practitioners, policy decision-makers and the public. To address this, the ASCPP team are undertaking a rapid review of research literature and local data, supplemented by community-based focus groups with key stakeholders. The evidence they collect will be used as a starting point to co-create a design brief to adapt the UWS Class In A Bag education resources for adults and children.

UWS Professor Debbie Tolson said: “We are delighted to have secured UWS-GCRF (Global Challenges Research Fund) funding to pump-prime this important international research collaboration, which extends the reach of our advanced-dementia research and dementia pedagogical research.”

Dr Margaret Hughes, a senior lecturer in Journalism at UWS, had the honour of chairing the first-ever international conference staged by the Association for Journalism Education in 2019. Exploring the theme of ‘Untold Stories’ the conference, held in Paris, was part of the World Journalism Education Congress. Dr Hughes presented two papers on pedagogical approaches to journalism education and curriculum development, joined by UWS colleagues Dr Kenneth Pratt and James Mahon.
One of the world’s best-known football clubs, FC Barcelona, gave sports fans an insight into its enormous success at a special seminar hosted by UWS at our Lanarkshire Campus. Dr Antonio José Gómez Díaz, FC Barcelona’s First Team Strength & Conditioning Coach, joined Professor Vish Unnithan, Professor of Paediatric Exercise Physiology from the UWS School of Health & Life Sciences, to shed light on FC Barcelona’s approach to talent identification and how the club physically prepares its first team players.

The event brought together students and staff alongside media representatives, sports scientists and coaching staff from top Scottish clubs such as Rangers, Celtic and Hibs, as well as representatives from the Scottish Football Association and the Scotland Women’s National Football Team.

UWS has a strong relationship with footballing giants FC Barcelona thanks to a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2017, opening up research opportunities between the club and the University.

Environmental lab helps athletes reach peak performance

The School of Health & Life Science’s Extreme Environments Laboratory at UWS Lanarkshire Campus is home to Scotland’s highest specification environmental chamber. In its first year of opening, it has already been put to good use helping athletes train for intense physical endeavours internationally.

Academics have worked with the Scottish Women’s Football Team who made use of the chamber in their preparation for the 2019 World Cup in France; quadruple amputee Corinne Hutton who trained in the facility ahead of her 11-day ascent of Mount Kilimanjaro in October 2018 to raise funds for her charity, Finding Your Feet; and Scottish athletes are using the lab for the 2020 Olympics in Japan to prepare them for the climate conditions.

The lab can replicate:

- ALTITUDE 0–5800m above sea level
- TEMPERATURE 10–40°C
- HUMIDITY 30–90%
Memorandum of Understanding signed with the University of Abuja

UWS signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The University of Abuja in June 2019 to enhance innovation through collaboration in education, and academic and industry research between the two institutions.

"We are very happy to collaborating with one of the most prestigious universities in Nigeria. There is so much we can learn from other countries and this is the starting point of a great partnership."

Dr Christian Harrison, of the UWS School of Business and Enterprise, who was instrumental in facilitating the partnership, said:

The University of Abuja, located in Nigeria’s capital city, is one of the country’s foremost universities and was established in 1988. Abuja has the continent’s fastest growing economy.

Promoting digital education in China

UWS and Phoenix Education’s unique partnership promotes digital media education in the growing network of Phoenix Academies based in universities and colleges across China.

In January 2019, we welcomed three scholarship students from the Phoenix network to study the Creative Media Masters programme at UWS.

UWS Vice-Principal and Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic, Professor Ehsan Mesbahi, said of the partnership during his June 2019 visit to Beijing: “We are future-proofing the media industries by developing a new generation of media professionals who are equipped to create new content, embrace new technologies and establish new models of professional practice.”

UWS activity as Scotland’s 1st official training partner for China

In 2018, UWS was recognised as Scotland’s first official training partner for China after receiving accreditation from China’s State Administration for Foreign Expert Affairs (SAFEA). After successfully delivering the first training course in 2018, over 2019/20 we have been invited to deliver 23 training courses for a variety of public authority, higher education and professional organisation clients from around China.

By January 2020 we expect to have completed all of the courses planned for 2019/20, positioning UWS in the top 3 providers of SAFEA training in the UK.

Our plan is to consolidate our position as one of the strategic SAFEA partners and increase our training provision for clients in China and further afield.

Algerian Scholarship Scheme funds first graduate, at UWS

In November 2018, PhD student Dr Linda Merzougui was the first person to receive a Doctorate as part of a scholarship scheme funded by the Algerian Government. A linguistics scholar in the UWS School of Education, Dr Merzougui graduated through the Algerian Doctoral Initiative, a five-year scheme designed to improve the teaching, learning and research of English in Algerian universities.

Dr Merzougui said: “I feel privileged to be the first on the initiative to receive my doctorate as it is an important milestone for me personally, as well as for academic relations between the UK and Algeria.”

The 2019/20 academic session will see more than 30 Algerian students at UWS under the initiative.
Ground-breaking discovery nominated for Research Project of the Year

The discovery of the world’s first viable preventative treatment for Acanthamoeba Keratitis – part of a ground-breaking study by UWS – was nominated as Research Project of the Year in the prestigious Herald Higher Education Awards 2019.

Led by UWS Professor Fiona Henriquez, the project has created a unique and innovative compound which breaks down Acanthamoeba Keratitis (AK) and can be added to contact lens solution bottles in the manufacturing stages to protect contact lens users.

AK is a devastating eye condition prevalent amongst contact lens users – of which there are 125 million across the world. Until this discovery, made by UWS, there was no medical treatment to effectively manage the disease, which affects roughly 1.2 to 3 million people each year. AK can cause excruciating pain, blindness, and the requirement of corneal transplants or removal of the eye.

Jamie Hepburn MSP, Minister for Business, Fair Work and Skills, visited UWS to learn about the cutting-edge technology available and how UWS academics, students and graduates are influencing the way new technologies are developing.

Mr Hepburn saw first-hand how work underway at UWS is shaping new and emerging technologies in a range of areas including advanced robotics. He was introduced to Pepper the Robot, a semi-humanoid robot used by University academics to teach programming to students as well as aid research into human-robot interactions.

Mr Hepburn remarked: “I have been impressed with the commitment of UWS staff and the enthusiasm and expertise demonstrated by the students and researchers I met. As Minister with responsibility for business, I am particularly impressed by the way in which so much of the work I have seen has practical applications in industry and in the enhancement of skills – something UWS has always been renowned for.”
Boosting business links with FSB

UWS signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) as part of a landmark agreement to strengthen ties between the University and local small businesses. The partnership aims to increase the number of University-based start-ups and spin-outs as well as increasing engagement with local businesses through joint events and communications. The two organisations will work together to develop a fully-funded Graduate Apprenticeship programme, while FSB members will benefit from access to the University's wide range of research facilities in business, software, health and science.

Improving care for Scottish veterans

‘Unforgotten Forces’ is a large-scale review into the care available to retired service personnel in Scotland, launched by UWS in collaboration with 14 armed-forces charities including Poppyscotland, Legion Scotland and the Defence Medical Welfare Service.

Funded by a £4million grant awarded by The Aged Veterans Fund, the three-year ‘Unforgotten Forces’ project aims to improve the care available to those over 65 through a comprehensive evaluation and development of the services currently available to Scotland’s older veterans.

Dr Liz Frondigoun, project lead and senior lecturer in criminology and criminal justice at UWS, said: “As we get older, we unfortunately lose the close connections in our personal support network, which is why social and health care for the elderly is so important. Unforgotten Forces isn’t just about evaluating the current work these organisations are doing, but also how we can spread the reach of these services to benefit those who have given so much for our country.”

Supporting community revitalisation

Academics from the UWS School of Business and Enterprise have been supporting the Stove Network in their work to revitalise Dumfries town centre. The organisation has spearheaded the Midsteeple Quarter Project which aims to support community buy-back on disused buildings on the town’s High Street. UWS colleagues have contributed to the development of the network’s business plan as well as helping with project management.
Innovation of the Year win for UWS and G-Hold

A partnership between UWS and G-Hold, the inventor of a device which makes it easier to hold and use tablet notebooks, was awarded Innovation of the Year at the Scottish Knowledge Exchange Awards 2019.

Dr Chris Ugbolue, from the UWS Institute for Clinical Exercise & Health Science, worked with Edinburgh-based G-Hold on a number of rounds of product testing, helping to prove the ergonomic benefits of the revolutionary accessory which reduces hand and wrist strain.

Alison Grieve, inventor and G-Hold CEO said: “Without the test data received from Dr Ugbolue, we would not have been able to partner with companies like Microsoft and Amazon Devices. It’s wonderful to have the science behind G-Hold and the expertise at UWS recognised with this prestigious award.”

Making waves with the LIGO Scientific Collaboration

The LIGO Scientific Collaboration (LSC) team, an international research partnership that includes UWS Professor Des Gibson, is celebrating a new round of funding to support their trailblazing work into gravitational waves.

The money was awarded to the California Institute of Technology and Massachusetts Institute of Technology to upgrade the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) – an international collaboration which made history in 2015 after directly detecting gravitational waves for the first time. The University is a full partner of LSC and UWS academics have played a key role in the project’s historic discoveries.

This new round of funding supports the UWS gravitational wave group’s aims to exploit the novel and unique thin film coating facilities available at the University to address some of the key challenges in technology required for upgrades to LIGO and other planned gravitational wave observatories.
Some of our other notable partnerships over 2018-19...

UWS joins forces with Ayr Rugby

Ayr Rugby and the Ayr Community Rugby Trust have joined UWS in an ambitious collaboration to strengthen relationships between the organisations and focus resources on a number of high-priority areas including education, research, squad development, coaching and community inclusion.

The partnership features a newly created internship programme where four UWS students will have the opportunity to work closely with Ayr Rugby across areas such as strength and conditioning, performance analysis, and marketing and promotion. Ayr Rugby will also benefit from access to UWS’s cutting-edge facilities including the biomechanics lab and high-spec environmental chamber at our Lanarkshire Campus. The club will be able to tap into research and expertise from UWS academics in sports coaching, development, and sports science.

UWS sporting partners also include:

• Scottish Women in Sport
• Glasgow Rocks
• St Mirren FC

Leading progress in supporting at-risk young people

In a strategic partnership with Kibble Education and Care Centre (Kibble), UWS is leading research, change, progress and policy review in supporting at-risk young people.

Kibble is a specialist care provider and charity which supports at-risk children and young people. The three-year partnership with the University will focus on three key strategic themes: supportive interventions for positive youth development, innovative and creative learning in primary and secondary education, and developing an enterprising and socially responsible workforce.

Scottish Care has joined forces with UWS to give students hands-on experience in the care sector, as well as providing a unique opportunity for the University’s academics and researchers to work alongside the organisation in its role informing health and social care policy.

Representatives from both organisations will work closely together on projects concerning workforce development, technology in care and policy and practice reform.

Dr Donald Macaskill, CEO of Scottish Care, said: "I am delighted that we have formed this partnership. I hope that over the coming months and years both organisations can combine our individual skills and expertise to ensure that there is real benefit for those who work in social care across Scotland and that together we can work towards improving the care and support of all our citizens.”

The Carer’s Academy

Clare Haughey MSP, Minister for Mental Health, visited UWS Ayr Campus in July 2019 to learn more about The Carer’s Academy, a collaborative venture between NHS Ayrshire & Arran and UWS.

The Minister said: "This was a great opportunity to see the impact The Carer’s Academy is having on family carers of people living with dementia. There is no doubt that innovative approaches like this one can help to develop knowledge and understanding of the condition.”

Working together to improve health and social care

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Clare Haughey MSP, Minister for Mental Health, visited UWS Ayr Campus in July 2019 to learn more about The Carer’s Academy, a collaborative venture between NHS Ayrshire & Arran and UWS.

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Honorary Doctorates 2019

Kirsty Wark
Television Journalist

One of Britain’s most experienced television journalists, Kirsty has presented a huge range of television programmes over the past thirty years, from the groundbreaking Late Show to election night specials. She has also fronted the BBC’s flagship current affairs show Newsnight since 1993. In addition to political reporting, Kirsty hosted The Review Show, a weekly arts and cultural review and comment show, for over a decade.

Career highlights included conducting long-form interviews with Margaret Thatcher, Madonna, Damien Hirst and George Clooney.

In addition to a UWS Honorary Doctorate, Kirsty has a long list of major accolades to her name including BAFTA Awards for Outstanding Contribution to Broadcasting, Journalist of the Year and Best Television Presenter.

“I feel very privileged to receive this Honorary Doctorate from an institution which offers so much to local students. Dumfries & Galloway is an area with which I feel a great affinity which made the day extra special.”

25 October 2018, Crichton Memorial Church, Dumfries

Andy Campbell
Businessman

Paisley-born Andy Campbell has a wealth of experience in business start-ups and scale-ups spanning his 20-plus year career. He has concluded over £25m in international contracts, secured £2m in venture capital, and been responsible for the strategic vision, creation and management of several creative IT businesses in the video games sector.

Andy heads up the Accelerator Division for Elevator, a social enterprise at the heart of Scotland’s entrepreneurial ecosystem which supports start-ups, scale-ups and entrepreneurs. A big ambassador of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM), he works tirelessly to inspire future generations of scientists and engineers.

3 July 2019, Paisley Abbey

Dr Stephen Breslin
Chief Executive of Glasgow Science Centre

Since Stephen’s appointment as Chief Executive of Glasgow Science Centre in 2012, it has grown from strength to strength becoming a highly regarded destination, attracting 350,000 people through its doors every year. Prior to this, Stephen was Chief Executive of FutureLab Education, a think tank for innovative approaches to teaching and learning in schools.

He has had a rich career including a role as an engineering consultant with the Royal Navy, as well as working as a commercial software engineer and then CEO of the then Kelvin Institute in Glasgow. In this capacity, he worked with Scottish universities on the commercialisation of intellectual property in the areas of photonics, software, biotech and renewable energy.

25 June 2019, The Town House, Hamilton

Bill Costley
Hospitality Industry Leader

Bill Costley founded hospitality company Costley & Costley in 1988 with his wife Cath. With a portfolio that boasts nine hotels and inns, including the flagship Lochgreen House in Troon, Brig o’ Doon in Alloway and Ellisland in Ayr, they are a leading player in Ayrshire tourism.

His outstanding contribution to the hospitality industry was recognised with the Honorary Doctorate from UWS, something that Bill can add to his list of accolades, which includes a Lifetime Achievement award from the Scottish Licence Trade Association and the Gordon & MacPhail Award for Success in Business at the Scottish Bar and Pub Awards in 2017.

28 June 2019, Troon Concert Hall

Kirsty really is a leading light for our students, particularly for those looking to enter the world of media. She is an inspiring woman with so many achievements across her career to date and I am delighted that UWS is able to recognise and celebrate this with her.

Professor Craig Mahoney, Principal & Vice-Chancellor

25 October 2018, Crichton Memorial Church, Dumfries
Success through learning

UWS students and graduates achieved incredible things in 2018-19, here are just a few of them...

Brothers graduate from MBA programme together

Two brothers from Ayrshire who undertook our MBA programme whilst working full-time graduated together at our Town House, Hamilton graduation ceremony in November 2018. Craig and Ross Paterson are long-standing employees for UTC Aerospace Systems. Commenting on the MBA at UWS, Ross said: “I would definitely recommend the MBA to anyone who wants to further their career.”

Husband and wife graduate with PhDs on the same day

International students and parents-of-three Raid Alzubi and Hadeel Al Zoubi each received their PhD in computing and machine learning from UWS in November 2018. They were among 170 graduates who celebrated their success at a ceremony in Paisley Abbey. Dr Alzubi said: “The staff at UWS offered us unlimited support from day one. Our academic success would not have been possible without their unwavering guidance, care and patience.”

Former footballer achieves Masters in Research

Former St Mirren frontman, Junior Mendes graduated from UWS in 2019 with a Masters in Research from the School of Health and Life Sciences. Currently the Head of Sports Science at St Mirren, Junior joined UWS in 2016 to undertake research on the impact of competition exertion on performance recovery in professional male footballers.
Flying the UWS flag in Antarctica
Catherine Campbell, a first-year accounting student, embarked on the expedition of a lifetime, flying the flag for the University on a trip to Antarctica. Travelling to the world’s southernmost continent in support of the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust, Catherine braved extreme conditions and saw with her own eyes the very real impact of climate change on one of our most breathtaking continents.

Celebrating Scotland’s midwives
A unique piece of artwork by third-year UWS School of Health & Life Sciences midwifery student Heather Gilchrist was revealed at our Lanarkshire Campus to mark the 2019 International Day of the Midwife and celebrate the community of midwives across Scotland. Heather’s Midwifery Tree of Life toured all 14 NHS Scotland health boards, collecting thumbprint leaves from midwives, students and educators along the way.

Top football award for Chloe
UWS student Chloe Docherty was voted Scottish Building Society’s Scottish Women’s Premier League Player of the Month in March 2019.

Stephanie’s scholarship success
BA Hons Criminal Justice student Stephanie Spence was awarded a prestigious Carnegie Trust Undergraduate Vacation Scholarship to undertake independent research on the impact of mock children’s hearings on the professional development of social workers. Stephanie’s submission was inspired by learning about the Children’s Hearings System, which ensures the safety and wellbeing of young people.

First specialist school nurse graduates in 17 years
The first cohort of specialist school nurses to qualify in Scotland since 2001 graduated from UWS in 2019, following the reintroduction of the Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (School Nursing) course at the University in 2017. The graduates will go on to support the emotional health and wellbeing of young people in schools.

Honorary award for Edward’s services to social work
Final year MSc Social Work student Edward McKim was shortlisted for Social Work Student of the Year and came away with a ‘Special Recognition by Users of Service’ at the 2019 Scottish Association of Social Work Awards. Commenting on his award, Edward said: ‘It is a true honour and it means so much to me as I was nominated by a family I’ve been working with.’
Our people

Joanne Maguire

Joanne joined UWS in November 2018 and provides strategic leadership to the University’s HR function. As a core member of the Vice-Chancellor’s Executive Group, Joanne takes a leading role in advising and guiding matters relating to the management of the University, and helps to shape and drive the University’s ongoing organisational development.

Joanne has extensive experience in HR, having spent over 17 years in managerial and leadership roles, latterly as HR Director at City of Glasgow College. She has led the HR divisions of a number of high-profile, international organisations, including her position as Head of HR for global food manufacturing company, Bakkavor Group.

Professor Carl Schaschke

In January 2019, Professor Carl Schaschke was appointed as the new Dean of our School of Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences. Professor Schaschke joined us from Abertay University in Dundee, where he held the position of Head of the School of Science, Engineering and Technology. With more than 12 years of experience in academic leadership roles, he also previously held the position of Head of Department of Chemical & Process Engineering at the University of Strathclyde, the institution at which he completed his PhD in chemical engineering. In his new role at UWS, Professor Schaschke will be responsible for providing experienced academic leadership and direction, and will drive forward both the School and the wider University’s strategic aims.

Donna Vallance

Donna Vallance became the University’s new Director of Estates in October 2018. She joined UWS from Ayrshire College, where she had held the position of Vice-Principal Infrastructure & Skills since 2015.

Donna has vast experience in a range of areas including commercial, retail, residential and industrial development and in her role at Ayrshire College she had overseen work on the College’s new £53m campus in Kilmarnock. Prior to joining Ayrshire College, Donna was Managing Director of Redgrange Consultants Ltd in Wishaw, providing strategic management consultancy to a range of clients. From 2006 to 2011 she was also Commercial Director of AJ Clark Group, Kilmarnock, and led on all commercial aspects of this large engineering group.

Jed Woodhouse

Jed Woodhouse took up the position, in July 2019, of Director of the newly formed Information Services which encompasses information technology, digital services and library provision. Jed had initially joined UWS in October 2018 as Interim Director of IT.

Jed has extensive experience in IT and digital services within the Higher Education and private sectors, including Northumbria University where he held the position of IT Services Director. His expertise will be pivotal to driving digitally innovative infrastructure developments at UWS. Jed will lead colleagues in the new department to implement the University’s ambitious vision to deliver a sector-leading model of truly integrated information technology, digital and library services for our students and staff.

Stars 2019

(Staff Appreciation & Recognition Awards)

Celebrating colleagues who’ve gone above and beyond normal expectations in their everyday work

AWARD CATEGORY
WINNER

Outstanding Teaching
Ryan Meeten, Lecturer, School of Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences

Outstanding Research & Enterprise
Zeeshan Pervez, Reader, School of Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences

Outstanding Service to Students
Gavin Baxter, Lecturer, School of Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences

Outstanding Service to Colleagues
Paul Sheehan, Systems Administrator, ITDS

Outstanding Leadership
Naeem Ramzan, Professor, School of Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences

Outstanding Team
Lanarkshire Campus Sports Team
UWS 2018-19 Financial Statement

Income
£120.2m

Surplus
£0.3m

Cash & cash equivalents
£16.2m

Net assets
£61.9m

Borrowing
£34.5m

The results for the year ended 31 July 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018/2019</th>
<th>£m</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>120.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underlying surplus</td>
<td>0.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pension charge</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficit for the year before</td>
<td>(8.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other gains &amp; losses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; cash equivalents</td>
<td>16.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets</td>
<td>61.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash inflow from operating</td>
<td>13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowing</td>
<td>34.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For every £1 we generate 80% is directed to academic delivery for students.
Creating a greener environment

We’ve eliminated single-use plastic bottles from our retail outlets and only sell drinks in glass bottles and cans (saving over 100,000 plastic bottles from landfill per year).

Meat Free Mondays is a not-for-profit campaign encouraging people to help slow climate change, conserve natural resources and improve their health by choosing a non-meat based meal at least once a week.

All of the hot main meals across our three main campus restaurants are now plant-based on a Monday.

At UWS we are committed to sustainability and creating a green, clean, healthy environment for students and staff. Over the 2018-19 session UWS Commercial Services launched a number of sustainable initiatives in our campus catering outlets to support this objective.

We’ve expanded the range of vegan snacks, sandwiches and main courses available at our campus restaurants and introduced a vegan breakfast range. We aim to encourage customers to try something new and feel the health benefits of choosing this range.

We use seasonal, sustainable produce, such as MSC-certified fish, dolphin-friendly tuna and free-range eggs to ensure healthy, affordable and best quality produce is available for customers.

50% of customers buying hot drinks now use their own reusable cups (a 47% increase since the start of the initiative in February 2019).
University 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.

**Court Members 2018-19**

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**LAY MEMBERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization/Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laura Barjonas</td>
<td>Skills Development Scotland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Curran</td>
<td>SQA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Devlin</td>
<td>Seric Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Dinning</td>
<td>formerly Scottish Power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Until December 2018)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Gibson OBE</td>
<td>EY Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Gordon</td>
<td>formerly Canmore Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Waiyin Hatton</td>
<td>Wai Beyond Consultancy and former NHS Ayrshire &amp; Arran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hugh Henry</td>
<td>former MSP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor Caroline</td>
<td>Macdonald. Vice Chair of Court. SoE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macdonald</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann McKechn</td>
<td>Scottish Power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Munro</td>
<td>Scottish Parliament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therese O'Donnell</td>
<td>Management consultant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin O'Nialn</td>
<td>Scottish Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Smith</td>
<td>Asda</td>
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</table>

**STUDENT MEMBERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization/Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merle Hill</td>
<td>Vice President (Sport &amp; Wellbeing) SAUWS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Until June 2019)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clare Hunter</td>
<td>Vice President (Student Development) SAUWS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(From July 2019)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Jacob</td>
<td>President of SAUWS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(From July 2019)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Shottor</td>
<td>President of SAUWS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Until June 2019)</td>
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</table>

**STAFF MEMBERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anne Gifford</td>
<td>Assistant Dean (International), School of Media, Culture &amp; Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Until September 2018)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor Craig Mahoney</td>
<td>Principal &amp; Vice–Chancellor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Ex Officio member of Court)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Mcclusker</td>
<td>Applicant Enquiry Coordinator, Student Recruitment, Admissions &amp; Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(From November 2018)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor Steve Oliver</td>
<td>Deputy Principal &amp; Deputy Vice–Chancellor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Ex Officio member of Court)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Kathan Sloman</td>
<td>Reader, School of Health &amp; Life Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr James M Thompson</td>
<td>Assistant Dean (Education) School of Computing, Engineering &amp; Physical Sciences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Closing Remarks**

As you’ve just read, 2018-19 was an outstanding year for UWS. We maintained and, in a number of areas, improved our position in national and international leagues, and feedback from our students on their levels of satisfaction continued to strengthen UWS’ position. I have been pleased to see the enthusiasm of our Students’ Association being maintained, and greatly appreciate their feedback and contribution to University Court. Equally, I recognise with thanks, the commitment and dedication of the University’s academic and professional services staff, whose hard work is central to the success of the University.

As I approach the end of my tenure as Chair of UWS Court, I look back with great pride on all that UWS has and will continue to achieve. I am grateful to University Principal & Vice-Chancellor, Professor Craig Mahoney, and his Executive team for their strategic insight and drive. I also want to formally acknowledge the significant contribution of the Court members. Their diverse range of expertise and experience, coupled with their passion for learners, ensured sound governance, advice and constructive challenge in supporting the drive of UWS towards its ambitious aspirations.

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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.

Campuses in
Ayr, Dumfries, Lanarkshire,
London & Paisley

uws.ac.uk