Annual Review 2019~20

Dementia resource bags top prize

Hybrid learning

UWS leads a global public health study

KTP partner wins Toyota Global Mobility $1 million prize
A year in review

Despite the challenges the Covid-19 pandemic has thrown our way, 2020 saw UWS achieve many successes, thanks to the resilience of our staff, students and wider community.

Colleagues worked swiftly at the very beginning of the pandemic to execute and deliver new ways of working and operating as a University. We focused on delivering high-quality learning and teaching online and ensuring the continuation of student support and other services, albeit virtually. Our new hybrid learning model ensured students were continually supported with their learning, teaching and assessments and the welfare of our staff and students remained paramount. A new learning experience platform, Aula, helped colleagues transform their course content for hybrid adoption making it engaging, accessible and impactful for students, and also promoting active and community learning.

#UWSTogether saw us contributing in the national fight against coronavirus through a range of new innovation and clinical contribution projects – which you can read more about on the next page of the review.

I’m hugely inspired by the work of UWS colleagues and of our students - 1,200 of whom joined the NHS frontline from their nursing, midwifery and biomedical science studies.

The country moved into lockdown just a few weeks after we had celebrated the launch of our corporate Strategy 2025. The new Strategy sets out our purpose, values and guiding principles - and I am proud to say that we have remained true to those in our responses over the past year.

Professor Craig Mahoney
Principal & Vice-Chancellor

Click on the tabs below to navigate through our Annual Review
#UWSTogether

UWS staff and students have been working tirelessly to support the national fight against coronavirus. Here are just a few examples of their incredible work.

### Anti-coronavirus tech developed

UWS Institute of Thin Films, Sensors and Imaging collaborated with Glenrothes-based semi-conductor company Semefab to produce thin film-based chips for embedding into non-contact thermometers to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

### New facemask development

UWS academics and fabric architecture firm tensARC were awarded funding from the Scottish Funding Council to aid their development of Face Gaiter – a facemask prototype - that could help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

### GAMING TECHNOLOGY LEVELS UP COVID-19 TRAINING

UWS, Edinburgh Napier University and NHS Education for Scotland developed an innovative COVID-19 training solution for healthcare professionals based on gaming technology that allows trainees to assess patients’ symptoms, review notes, check vital signs and make decisions on diagnosis and treatment.

### Dementia support podcasts

UWS's Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy & Practice, together with Alzheimer Scotland, produced a series of video podcasts during the coronavirus pandemic, offering helpful advice for those living with dementia and for their families and carers.

### Provision of equipment and PPE

In addition to providing beds from the University's specialist nursing wards to help the set-up of the NHS Louisa Jordan in Glasgow, UWS supplied healthcare equipment for NHS staff training. And colleagues in our School of Computing, Engineering & Physical Sciences used the University’s 3D-printing facility to create visor headbands for those working on the NHS frontlines.
Paulo Nutini Scholarship recipient announced

Munich-born singer-songwriter David Husz, a student on the University’s acclaimed MA Music programme, was named the 2020/21 winner of the UWS Paulo Nutini Songwriting Scholarship - a £5,500 tuition grant funded by the Scots singer and designed to help the next generation of songwriters hone their craft.

Top film award for UWS graduates

A group of UWS filmmaking graduates won the Best Postgraduate Drama category at the prestigious 25th national Royal Television Society (RTS) Student Awards with their short film, UFO. The trio, who graduated from the MA in Filmmaking in November 2019, were one of 13 winning entries from universities across the UK.

Basketball success for Team UWS

UWS men’s basketball team won the British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) Scottish Conference Cup, and the UWS women’s team secured silver. The men’s team achieved a league and cup double after winning their BUCS league and securing the Scottish Conference Cup at the event in St Andrews in March 2020.

Computing students land air traffic control award

UWS Computer Games Development students Ross Hugh Kilpatrick and Damian Slocombe’s 3D simulation game, Toy Controller, designed to put players in the shoes of highly skilled air traffic controllers, won the National Air Traffic Services (NATS) competition in 2020.

Graduate Apprentice wins Hammerman Award...

Aaron McMath, Graduate Apprentice in Engineering: Design and Manufacture, won the prestigious Hammermen Award for Engineering Students and Apprentices – recognising him as one of the most promising young engineers attending university in the Glasgow area. Aaron’s apprenticeship, being undertaken with precision engineering firm Swissmatic, has seen him play a key part in producing life-saving ventilators used throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

Performer Rachel Jack ~ the original Paolo Nutini Scholar in 2018 said: “The scholarship really developed my confidence as a songwriter and performer, opening me up to collaborators, mentors and peers that I continue to work with to this day.”

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Over the past year the majority of UWS’s programmes have been delivered via our flexible hybrid learning model that combines on-campus engagement with an interactive, online experience, in line with national coronavirus guidance.

Our hybrid model provides access for students to:

• online lectures
• laboratory-based study in line with Government guidance
• assessment mostly through coursework, presentations and practical assessments
• extensive student support
• small group face-to-face teaching on-campus
• flexible study to suit individual students

In the early stages of lockdown, UWS colleagues rapidly adapted and transformed their course content for hybrid adoption across our teaching platforms to ensure effective promotion of student-centred learning and teaching while giving access to support services and extra-curricular activities both on-campus and online.

The University’s new learning experience platform, Aula, was piloted with new first year and postgraduate students to provide seamless communication, collaboration and support from academics and peers. Plans are in place for a full roll out of the platform over the coming year.
In the Enhancement-led Institutional Review, undertaken by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in November 2019, UWS was commended for its significant contribution to widening access, its well-designed quality assurance and enhancement processes, and its strategic collaborative provision. Well done to all UWS colleagues!

As part of the Vision Schools Scotland initiative, launched in 2017 by UWS and the Holocaust Educational Trust, ten schools from across Scotland were recognised for their good practice in Holocaust education at a celebratory event at the Scottish Parliament in November 2019.

The University was awarded its first Advanced HE Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence in August 2020, for its ground-breaking Class in a Bag programme. Created by UWS in collaboration with Alzheimer Scotland, the initiative has already helped thousands of schoolchildren across Scotland become more dementia aware.

UWS SCORES CELTIC FC PARTNERSHIP

The University's longstanding experience with elite sports organisations saw UWS become Celtic's first Youth Academy sports science partner in July 2020. Led by Vish Unnithan, UWS Professor of Paediatric Exercise Physiology, the partnership provides UWS PhD students the chance to support elite youth football development.

UWS commended in ELIR report

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UWS leads a global public health study

UWS is analysing the impact of antibiotic waste, and its role in fuelling antimicrobial resistance is being studied as part of a major new £800,000 research project.

Funded by the Natural Environment Research Council and the Government of India’s Department of Biotechnology – and forming part of the recently announced £8million research collaboration between the UK and India – UWS is working in partnership with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay to assess the impact of increasing levels of antibiotic pollution entering waterways and the role this plays in enabling bacteria to resist the effects of once-successful medication.

This cross-university project will also fund three post-doctoral research assistants, and two UWS-sponsored PhD students to join the research team at UWS.

"Antimicrobial resistance is a global public health challenge," says UWS project lead Professor Fiona Henriquez. "Following the challenges of COVID-19, this research will enable us to understand the actions we can take to prevent potential widespread dangers to public health."

Read more
In Summer 2020 we opened our brand new London Campus.

Situated in the historic London Docklands, our next generation campus features light and airy teaching and learning spaces boasting great views across London and technology-rich, flexible breakout and study spaces to encourage student collaboration.

UWS has been awarded €145,856 in funding from the Erasmus+ programme to provide accessible online learning programmes to universities in Bhutan, Nepal and Indonesia. Working alongside Poland’s Lodz University of Technology and Greece’s Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, UWS is developing the eACCESS teaching platform and remote teaching systems to widen access for future power engineers.

International project to inspire women in STEM

Led by UWS academic Dr Evi Viza, the Female INSPIRES project (International Network and Support Platform for Interdisciplinary Research Engineers/Scientists) will create an online support platform for female STEM early career researchers. Supported by the Royal Academy of Engineering, the initiative will provide researcher support in Malawi, Ghana, Indonesia, Egypt, Nigeria and Kazakhstan before expanding globally.

Discover UWS London Campus
Researchers are running tests on thousands of fish to develop a digital database that will allow future blood samples to be cross-referenced against a set of biomarkers that represent normal conditions – helping seafood producers to identify and manage health concerns and inform treatment decisions.

Fish farms currently tend to use a histological approach to check health indicators on a small sample of fish, which may not provide an accurate picture of the overall site and can take up to 14 days to return results. The new method of measuring biomarkers could return analysis in less than 24 hours with better data.

Awarded funding from the UK Seafood Innovation Fund – with support from the Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre (SAIC) and other aquaculture organisations – the UWS team hopes to set up a spin-out company via Scottish Enterprise's High-Growth Spinout Programme once the results from this research have been used to create a final product.

UWS researchers are developing a biochemical monitoring tool that could transform the global aquaculture sector.

Research to boost global fish health

In 2020 UWS was shortlisted in The Guardian University Awards' Sustainability category. This was in recognition of the innovative measures and projects across our campuses that resulted in UWS reducing carbon emissions by 42% – more than double our original goal of 20% by 2020.

UWS was also shortlisted in the Green Gown Awards 2020 in the Sustainability Institution of the Year category. The Green Gown Awards recognise the innovative and inspiring sustainability work carried out by colleges and universities across the UK and Ireland.

UWS STRATEGY 2025 COMMITS TO NET ZERO EMISSIONS BY 2040.
UWS academics have discovered the world’s first treatment for Acanthamoeba keratitis – a serious eye condition that affects 3 million people globally each year. The University now plans to create a spin-out company to roll out the safe, new additive to the contact lens and eye care industry to help prevent the condition developing.

KTP partner wins Toyota Global Mobility $1 million prize

The Phoenix I ultralight wheelchair developed as part of a Knowledge Transfer Partnership between UWS and Phoenix Instinct secured a $1 million prize in the Toyota Mobility Foundation’s ‘Mobility Unlimited Challenge’ in December 2020. Boasting an intelligent centre of gravity and lightweight power assist, the revolutionary wheelchair could help transform millions of lives worldwide.

I am extremely proud of the role UWS has played in Phoenix Instinct’s success, from being selected to work with them on the initial bid concept, through to reaching the global final.

Stuart McKay, Senior KTP Manager at UWS
UWS was successful in securing £14.5m of new research and enterprise awards in 2019–20 – an increase of 45% on the previous year (£10m).

The significant growth of knowledge transfer partnerships (KTPs), continuing professional development and UWS success in securing funded graduate apprenticeships have all helped to increase the award value, which will flow through the University over the next 4 years.

UWS’s knowledge transfer partnerships portfolio peaked at **35 projects in 2020** with a combined value in excess of £7 million – positioning UWS as **third in the UK and number one in Scotland** by size of its KTP portfolio.

With 12 management KTPs, UWS’s School of Business and Creative Industries occupies the top spot in the UK. As well as increasing its new research and enterprise awards, UWS exceeded its target to increase the postgraduate research community by 10% each year, peaking at over 1,100 postgraduate research students in 2019 – more than 200 above the original target.
**UWS 2019-20 Financial Statement**

The results for the year ended 31 July 2020

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<th>2019/2020</th>
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<td>Income</td>
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<td>Expenditure</td>
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<td>Pension charge</td>
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<td>Deficit for the year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total net assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building development loans</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS IN PERFORMANCE ACROSS THE UWS STRATEGIC PLANNING PERIOD INCLUDE:**

- Improved performance in Research Excellence Framework* measured by research and enterprise award value *part year figure

- Growth in industrial partnerships/start-ups and spin-off businesses

- Sustained growth in total student numbers.

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**UWS**

**Intro**

**Passionate About Education**

**Global Outlook**

**Tackling World Issues**

**Growing Investment**

**We Value Our People**

**Innovative**

**Shaping Societies**
**Court Members 2019/20**

**Lay Members**
- Kay Allum (from February 2020) - Formerly Cedo Ltd
- Chair of Court
- Laura Barjonas (until February 2020) - Skills Development Scotland
- Margaret Curran - SQA
- Craig Devlin (until December 2019) - Seric Systems
- Margaret Gibson OBE - EY Foundation
- Andrew Gordon - Formerly Canmore Partnership
- Dr Waiyin Hatton (until January 2020) - Chair of Court
- Dr Waiyin Hatton (until January 2020) - Wai Beyond Consultancy and formerly NHS Ayrshire & Arran
- Hugh Henry (until January 2020) - Former MSP
- Professor Caroline Macdonald - formerly Teesside University
- Vice Chair of Court
- Ann McKechn - Scottish Power
- Andrew Miller (from February 2020) - CAPA Consulting
- Andrew Munro - Scottish Parliament
- Therese O'Donnell - Management Consultant
- Kevin Quinlan - Scottish Government
- William Smith (until June 2020) - ASDA

**Student Members**
- Clare Hunter - Vice President (Student Development) Students’ Union
- Franklin Jacob (until May 2020) - President of Students’ Union
- Ishmail Nizami (from June 2020) - President of Students’ Union

**Staff Members**
- Allison Buchanan (from June 2020) - Library (Professional Services Staff Trade Union Representative)
- Allan Burns (from June 2020) - School of Business & Creative Industries (Academic Staff Trade Union Representative)
- Professor Craig Mahoney - Principal & Vice-Chancellor (Ex Officio Member of Court)
- Mary McCusker - Marketing & Student Recruitment (Ex Officio Member of Court)
- Dr Lucy Meredith (from August 2020) - Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Ex Officio Member of Court)
- Dr Chris O’Donnell (from Nov. 2019) - Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Ex Officio Member of Court)
- Professor Steve Olivier (until July 2020) - Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Ex Officio Member of Court)
- Dr James M Thompson (until August 2019) - School of Computing, Engineering & Physical Sciences

**New Chair of Court**
In February 2020, Kate Allum was elected as the new Chair of UWS Court. An economics graduate of University College Cardiff, Kate has more than two decades of experience at Board Level ranging from the food industry to the construction sector. This role marks her first position in a higher education environment.

Acclaimed Scottish actor James Cosmo MBE received an Honorary Doctorate from UWS at the London Campus graduation ceremony in March 2020. With a career spanning over 50 years, the actor has a huge range of film and television appearances to his name, including roles in the blockbusters Braveheart and Trainspotting and hit series Game of Thrones.

We Value Our People
The 10th UWS STARS Awards saw 157 nominations received. As always, the nominations received were testament to all the hard work that colleagues do on a day-to-day basis and demonstrate the enormous positive impact this has on UWS students and colleagues.

**AWARD-WINNERS...**

**Teaching**  
Marjorie McCrory / Emma Bolger - Education & Social Sciences, Senior Lecturer/Lecturer

**Research & Enterprise**  
Mohammed Yaseen / Mostafa Rateb - Computing, Engineering & Physical Sciences Lecturers

**Service to Students**  
Gavin Baxter - Computing, Engineering & Physical Sciences Lecturer

**Service to Colleagues**  
Campus Assistants (Lanarkshire), Campus Services

**Leadership**  
Val Cassidy - Health & Life Sciences, School Operational Manager

**Team**  
Admissions, Marketing & Student Recruitment

Former UWS deputy principal’s role in NHS Louisa Jordan

Professor Paul Martin CBE, a former UWS Deputy Principal, played a leading role in creating NHS Louisa Jordan, Scotland’s largest temporary hospital created to help fight coronavirus. As the workforce lead for the project, his role involved advising the clinical shape of the hospital’s services and workforce model.

Khadija Mohammed, a senior lecturer in UWS’s School of Education and Social Sciences, was named one of TES Scotland’s top 10 people of 2020. TES’s key audiences are primary and secondary school teachers across the UK. Prior to her selection, Khadija was interviewed for TES’s podcast in February 2020 discussing her experiences of racism as both a pupil and a teacher and how her ground-breaking research is tackling the sector-wide issue.

“**It’s now time for critical action and we need to work even more closely together in order to make our educational settings racially inclusive spaces.**”

Comment from Khadija’s TES podcast

Championing equality and diversity

At UWS we’re committed to promoting equality and diversity in everything we do. Our #UWSVoices Campaign, for example, uses the power of stories and storytelling to disrupt stereotypes and promote equality, diversity and inclusion. It recognises UWS as a diverse institution and offers a space for UWS staff, students, alumni and individuals from partner organisations to reflect their own lived experiences of the issues in focus.

Over the past year topics have included:

- BLACK HISTORY MONTH  
- MENOPAUSE AWARENESS MONTH  
- UWS PRIDE MONTH  
- GYPSY, ROMA AND TRAVELLER HISTORY

Former UWS deputy principal’s role in NHS Louisa Jordan

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Comment from Khadija’s TES podcast
Dr Lucy Meredith  
Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor  
Lucy was appointed as UWS Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor in December 2020, having joined UWS as Interim Vice-Principal and Pro Vice-Chancellor Learning, Teaching and Students in March 2020. Lucy has extensive experience of academic leadership and her appointment followed a period of time as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the Royal Agricultural University.

Joanne Maguire  
Vice-Principal of Resources  
Joanne took up her current role as a core member of the Vice-Chancellor’s Executive Group in December 2020, advising and guiding on matters relating to the strategy and management of the University. She joined UWS in November 2018 to provide strategic leadership of the University’s HR function. Joanne has extensive experience in HR leadership in education and industry including work with a number of high-profile, international organisations, including global food manufacturing company Bakkavor Group.

Professor Jonathan Powles  
Vice-Principal, Learning, Teaching and Students  
Jonathan joined the UWS Executive Team in August 2020 from the University of New England in Australia where he had held the post of Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic Innovation since 2017. In that role Jonathan had responsibility for strategic programmes for academic innovation, transformation and student success. Prior to this, Jonathan fulfilled a number of senior roles related to learning and teaching in Australia and the UK.

Marcus Ross  
Vice-Principal of Planning and Recruitment  
Marcus has worked in higher education for over 20 years across a number of professional disciplines. He took up his current UWS role in December 2020 with responsibility for overseeing UWS strategic planning, performance monitoring, marketing, student recruitment and admissions. Marcus’ work on corporate level projects has included responsibility as Programme Director for development of the University’s £110m Lanarkshire Campus.

Professor Milan Radosavljevic  
Vice-Principal, Research, Innovation and Engagement  
Milan took up his post in May 2020, following a period as Associate Vice-Principal Research and Enterprise since September 2017. He joined UWS in December 2013 as Professor in Civil Engineering. Milan has contributed his expertise at institutions globally, including the Norwegian School of Management, Tallinn University of Technology and Shandong University.

UWS Executive Group Appointments 2020  
UWS retains HR Excellence in Research Award  
UWS has retained its HR Excellence in Research Award for its commitment to providing high-quality working conditions and support for research staff. The award meets the principles of the UK Concordat, which sets clear standards that research staff can expect from the University.

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We Value Our People  
Innovative  
Shaping Societies
Two UWS projects made it to the finals of the Converge Challenge 2020 as examples of innovative businesses demonstrating high commercial potential and strong intellectual property.

- **Professor Des Gibson** and Albasense Ltd's project focused on creating miniaturised sensors for the detection and identification of multiple gases in instruments used in industrial, health and environmental monitoring.

- **Professor Brian Quinn** and the UWS Aquaculture Health Laboratory's project looked at developing rapid, non-lethal methods to assess fish health to aid the fish-farming sector.

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**Finalists in 2020 Converge Challenge**

UWS won a prestigious Times Higher Education Award in November 2020 for its pioneering artificial intelligence drone collaboration.

The project team – a partnership between UWS, multinational firm Thales and CENSIS, the Scottish sensors and imaging innovation centre – scooped the prize in the ‘knowledge exchange/transfer initiative of the year’ category.

The technology developed as part of the collaboration has the potential to save lives by identifying missing people. Thanks to its advanced cameras and “deep learning” technology, the drone system can identify specific individuals who appear just as a speck in the distance.

The technology is the first of its kind used by police forces in the UK. It was applauded by the THE judging team for building on successive projects to demonstrate life-saving applications. They commended the “growing stature of the UWS academic team and their work to create AI-based business solutions.”
Crop disease-detecting camera developed by UWS

A revolutionary new camera that will detect crop disease quickly, efficiently and cost effectively has been developed by UWS. Funded by InnovateUK and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, the camera contains a linear variable filter developed by Dr Shigeng Song, Dr David Hutson and Professor Des Gibson of UWS's Institute of Thin Films, Sensors and Imaging.

NEW THIN FILMS LAB UNVEILED

The University’s thin films laboratory was officially opened, after a £12m refurbishment, in January 2020 by Chief Scientific Adviser for Scotland Professor Sheila Rowan. The lab is part of the UWS Institute of Thin Films, Sensors and Imaging, whose research team carried out pioneering work with semi-conductor foundry Semefab to produce thin film-based chips for use in non-contact thermometers to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Professor recognised as Knowledge Exchange Champion

v of the School of Computing, Engineering & Physical Sciences was recognised in the Knowledge Exchange Champion of the Year category of the Scottish Knowledge Exchange Awards 2020 for his ground-breaking work in artificial intelligence and multimedia processing. Naeem has been involved in a number of Knowledge Exchange projects with companies including Codeplay, Lumen Research and more.
Walking football dementia study scores success

UWS AND ALZHEIMER SCOTLAND HAVE EXPLORED THE EFFECTS OF WALKING FOOTBALL ON MEN OVER 70 LIVING WITH DEMENTIA.

The pioneering research revealed that walking football promoted physical, mental, social and emotional benefits for participants who all had varying degrees of dementia. Enabling the men to foster new interactions and build relationships, the study also allowed participants to create new emotional memories while reminiscing about old memories. A key element of the research highlighted a change in the men’s behaviour when presented with a choice of football kit to wear.

Teams including Celtic, Rangers, Queens Park and Partick Thistle provided team kits for participants. “Our findings showed the reach of properly inclusive walking football programmes and the positive impact they can have in terms of the social benefits for participants and their supporters and carers,” said Dr Eilidh Macrae, the project’s lead researcher and lecturer in UWS’s School of Health and Life Sciences.

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“‘Our aims are to work with the sport sector and use our findings to enhance the skills of the sport workforce, equipping all sports workers and volunteers with the knowledge to confidently work inclusively with people living with dementia.’

Dr Eilidh Macrae, School of Health and Life Sciences at UWS

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The role of GPs and primary care teams in areas of extreme deprivation in responding to drug-related harm and deaths post-Covid-19 is being led by Dr Aileen O’Gorman, Programme Leader of Contemporary Drug and Alcohol Studies at UWS – one of ten projects approved by the Scottish Government’s Drug Death Task Force.

UWS’s new BSc Paramedic Science programme – run in partnership with the Scottish Ambulance Service and NHS Lanarkshire, Dumfries & Galloway, and Ayrshire & Arran – welcomed its first cohort of students in October 2020. The degree, accredited by the Health and Care Professions Council, aims to enhance patient care and boost training opportunities for budding paramedics.

UWS’s new vocational master’s degree aims to enable graduates to become teachers of mindfulness and compassion. Delivered alongside the Mindfulness Association, the MSc has an academic basis in psychology. Graduates can enlist on the British Association for Mindfulness-based Approaches’s UK Listing of Mindfulness Teachers.

UWS’s Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy and Practice has had a successful year. The ASCPP Carer’s Academy received funding from Alzheimer Scotland to expand, creating two hubs at UWS’s Ayr and Lanarkshire campuses. The Centre also produced a series of podcasts, discussing issues and providing reassurance to those affected by dementia during coronavirus restrictions.

“We are delighted our new BSc Paramedic Science programme has been officially recognised and accredited by the Health and Care Professions Council. Paramedics are playing an increasingly important role in healthcare delivery and we look forward to educating the next generation of the profession to meet this demand alongside our partners at the Scottish Ambulance Service.”

Julie Edgar, Dean of the School of Health & Life Sciences at UWS

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