

UNIVERSITY of
STIRLING



ANNUAL REVIEW
2018

**BE THE
DIFFERENCE,**

Former student The Rt Hon Lord
Jack McConnell returns to Stirling
as the University's new Chancellor



More than
4,000
students graduated in 2018

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Principal and Vice-Chancellor,
Professor Gerry McCormac,
and graduates

Principal's welcome

The University enjoyed another year of research, learning and teaching and sporting success.

We played a pivotal role in securing the Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal – a £214 million investment in the future of the region, unlocking potential to drive economic growth, productivity and prosperity. Research and innovation is central to achieving this vision and the Deal provides £39 million for two University-led projects – £17 million for a new aquaculture innovation hub, along with £22 million for an International Environment Centre.

We also attracted a further £11.5 million in annual research income, allowing us to enhance our ongoing drive to tackle some of the world's most pressing challenges.

Ahead of the 2021 Research Excellence Framework exercise, we harnessed research strength across our five faculties, encompassing our three overarching research themes of Living Well, Global Security and Resilience, and Cultures, Communities and Society.

Our academics are pioneering methods to conserve international heritage sites, protect communities from crime, improve the health of school pupils around the world, preserve marine resources and inform the design of transport systems.

We held graduation ceremonies for more than 4,000 students, equipping them with the skills to make the difference in global research, business, society, culture and sport. We said a fond farewell to our Chancellor of 10 years, Dr James Naughtie, and announced the appointment of our new Chancellor, The Rt Hon Lord Jack McConnell.

The University's inspiring learning and living environment was recognised with five-star ratings for teaching, employability, internationalisation, facilities and inclusiveness, in the QS World University Rankings 2018. Our internationally renowned campus is being further enhanced through our £20 million Sports Centre and £21 million Campus Central developments.

I look forward to building on our strong foundation of shared successes in 2019, as we continue to make a positive difference to the local, national and international communities we serve.



Professor Gerry McCormac
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

More than

97%

of our undergraduate leavers are in employment or further study within six months of graduating

Destinations of Leavers in Higher Education survey 2016/17

£41 million

investment in Sports Centre and Campus Central developments

96%

of our postgraduate leavers are in employment or further study within six months of graduating

Destinations of Leavers in Higher Education survey 2016/17



Top 50
in the world

Times Higher Education Golden Age University Rankings 2018

1st in Scotland and joint 2nd in the UK for good campus environment

Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey 2018



More than

4,000

graduates in 2018



5 STARS

for teaching, employability, internationalisation, facilities and inclusiveness

QS World University Rankings 2018



240,000

Sports Centre visits over the last 12 months



Website received more than

4.4 million

visits from 1.9 million users in 207 different countries

25 medals



won at international sporting competitions in 2018

£39 million

investment in University-led projects

Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal



Nearly 1.5 million

people read articles by Stirling academics on The Conversation news website

Research with impact

Academics at Stirling carry out agenda-setting research that addresses key societal issues and has a positive impact on communities globally.

Palace Museum, Beijing, China

Archaeologist Professor Richard Oram, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, was involved in the creation of a world-leading heritage and conservation research centre at the University, as part of an international agreement involving Historic Environment Scotland and the Palace Museum – also known as the Forbidden City – in Beijing, China.

Policymakers should consider introducing The Daily Mile, which involves children taking a 15-minute break from class to do physical activity. This could improve the health and fitness of schoolchildren around the world, research by the Faculty of Health Sciences and Sport's Drs Colin Moran, Naomi Brooks, Gemma Ryde and colleagues found.

Our groundbreaking research encompasses three overarching themes: Living Well; Global Security and Resilience; and Cultures, Communities and Society.

Alongside these themes, we have established 12 interdisciplinary research programmes, to drive our strategic research activity. The University is building on our strong Research Excellence Framework performance, ahead of REF2021, by harnessing research strengths in our five faculties.

The changing face of serious organised crime, its impact on communities and the potential for local services to prevent exploitation, were highlighted in research jointly led by Dr Niall Hamilton-Smith, of our Faculty of Social Sciences.

Research jointly led by Professor Douglas Tocher, of the Institute of Aquaculture, Faculty of Natural Sciences, suggested a new feed solution for Atlantic farmed salmon – created from a genetically modified plant – could help relieve pressure on stressed marine resources.

Stirling Management School Professor of Work and Employment Ron McQuaid is involved in a project that will see the University receive a share of £2.3 million to create fairer and more inclusive transport systems that consider the needs of women as both users and employees.



Inspiring

“At Stirling, one of our priorities is enabling staff to be the best they can be, so we can offer a first-rate experience for our students.”

Professor Gerry McCormac,
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

We are proud of our global reputation for high-quality teaching. Our internationally renowned academics are consistently recognised for excellence across a range of subject areas.

Professor Herve Migaud, Personal Chair at the Institute of Aquaculture, was announced as President-Elect of the European Aquaculture Society; while Dr Ruth Watkins, Head of Student Learning Services at the University, was made a National Teaching Fellow by Advance HE in recognition of her work enhancing the student learning experience.

Global recognition

In 2018, we were named 49th in Times Higher Education's global list of 200 'Golden Age' universities – those that have been established for more than 50, but less than 80, years.

In The Guardian's 2019 league table, Stirling climbed 14 places to 40th in the UK – and fifth in Scotland. Stirling also received a five-star rating for teaching, employability, internationalisation, facilities and inclusiveness in the QS World University Rankings 2018.

The University received recognition for its 'Outstanding Contribution to Leadership Development' at the Times Higher Education Awards.

Teaching Fellow Jennie Young, Faculty of Health Sciences and Sport, scooped a top prize at the Student Nursing Times Awards 2018. She was crowned Educator of the Year, reflecting her excellent, inspirational and motivational teaching.



World-leading academics

Professor David Bell, Stirling Management School, was awarded a CBE in the New Year's Honours list in recognition of services to economics and public policy. Professor Bell joined the University in 1990 and has provided advice to the UK, Scottish and Irish Governments.



teaching



QS excellence
award for teaching

QS World University Rankings 2018

Professor David Bell meets His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

Public engagement



Experiences of Exile

Each year, the Art Collection's exhibitions, events and public engagement activities are directly inspired by the research being carried out across the University.

In 2018/2019, 'Experiences of Exile' focussed on refugees and migration. Alongside temporary exhibitions, the Art Collection featured works from the permanent collection by artists who, at some point in their lives, were forced to leave their homes due to hardship or war.

We embed public engagement into the way we approach all our work, supporting our commitment to make a difference.

The University opens doors to young scientists

Families enjoyed a fun-filled day out at the University's Science Fair, where children had the chance to try their hands at a host of exciting and educational experiments.

Hundreds of people participated in a diverse range of activities – including chemistry, forensics and conservation – hosted by the University and Forth Valley College.

The University toasts inaugural Pint of Science event

Stirling academics raised a glass to a successful Pint of Science Festival.

Experts swapped the lecture theatre for the pub, as they presented their scientific discoveries to patrons of the Curly Coo, in Stirling, as part of the popular global event.

Principal, Professor Gerry McCormac; Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Professor Maggie Cusack; and Dr Christian Schröder – the only UK scientist working on NASA's Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity mission – were among the speakers.

It was the first time that Stirling had participated in the UK-wide initiative, which was launched five years ago in a bid to promote the work of scientists to a wider audience.

Sporting archive takes 10,000-mile trip to Oz

Australia-themed sporting memorabilia, from the University archive, took centre stage at a special Commonwealth Games exhibition on the Gold Coast.

University archivist Karl Magee and Richard Haynes, Professor of Media Sport, flew 10,000 miles to exhibit the collection at Scotland House during the 2018 competition, after receiving an invite from Commonwealth Games Scotland.

Globally

With collaborative partnerships all over the world and more than 120 nationalities represented on campus, Stirling is a global university.

connected

Marina Bay Sands, Singapore

Global teaching partnerships

The University announced new partnerships with Amity Global Institute in Singapore and Planet Core Education in the United Arab Emirates. Stirling also developed a new aquaculture link with Ningbo in China.

World-wide research

Dr Axel Hagermann and Dr Nicholas Attree, of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, are working on NASA's InSight mission in an attempt to understand more about the formation and early evolution of Mars, Earth and other rocky planets. Dr Hagermann is also the only UK-based scientist working on the Japanese-led Hayabusa2 mission, which delivered a lander onto the surface of the primitive asteroid Ryugu.

Education without borders

A total of 175 University of Stirling students celebrated their achievements at graduation ceremonies in Singapore, Oman and Vietnam. Degrees were conferred on 63 graduates from Retail Marketing and Sports Studies and Marketing courses at the Institute of Management Global Education (SIM GE) in Singapore. A further 106 students graduated in Computing Science, Business Studies, Accountancy and Computing Science, Accountancy and Business Studies, and Business Computing, at Muscat College in Oman, while six students graduated with an MSc Media and Communications Management in the Vietnamese city of Ho Chi Minh.

300
international
teaching and research
partnerships



Her ambition to have an international career led Suzanne Buiter to move from The Netherlands to the University of Stirling to study International Management. As part of her degree, she also went to Spain and, in her final year, was one of just 30 students selected to attend the Association for Commonwealth Universities' leadership programme, on the theme of respect and understanding.

"I've always wanted an international career and what better way to do this than by going abroad? I chose Stirling because its students come from all over the world and the community feeling here is great."

Suzanne Buiter (The Netherlands)
BA (Hons) International Management

Student

With fantastic learning opportunities, first-class facilities and a beautiful location, Stirling is regularly recognised in global higher education surveys for the quality of our teaching, student satisfaction and employability.

We are proud the Times Higher Student Experience Survey lists Stirling as first in Scotland, and joint second in the UK, for having a good environment on campus.

The University has recently launched the £21 million Campus Central project, which will create a state-of-the-art study and social space at the heart of campus; and a £20 million project to redevelop the Sports Centre, which will provide an even better environment in which to train, play and stay healthy.

Big screen award win

Film and Media students scooped a top accolade at the Royal Television Society Student Television Awards for their documentary 'Hear Me Now', which has since been featured on the BBC News at Six.

Director Maria Craig – who also won the Thomas Alexander Dunn Prize for best performance in Film and Media – picked up the 'Undergraduate Factual' award on behalf of the film crew, which included Josefin Dahlin, Hannah McKelvie and Joel Rock.

Making students' lives better

The Students' Union is delighted to be ranked the fifth-best in Scotland in the National Student Survey, and to have cemented its 'Very Good' status in the Quality Students' Union assessment by the National Union of Students, which also rated the Union 'Very Good' for Green Impact.

Our work touches every aspect of student life, from clubs to advocacy, the Sports Union and campaigns. Over the past 12 months, our work has included: collecting donations

from students, which led to the re-using and recycling of 6.11 tonnes of items; securing a commitment from the University to divest from fossil fuels; reporting to MPs and MSPs on our Brexit Report; and securing £23,000 of external funding for bike shelters.

Looking forward, we will continue to deliver for students through our new strategic plan.

Astrid Smallenbroek
Students' Union President

experience



Campus Central artist's impression

Sporting

In a year that saw MSPs recognise the 10th anniversary of Stirling's designation as Scotland's University for Sporting Excellence, we lived up to our reputation with a series of successes.

Swimmers shine on the Gold Coast

Eleven University of Stirling athletes competed at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games, bringing home 11 medals, with third-year swimming scholar Duncan Scott becoming the most decorated Scottish athlete at a single Games.

The Business Studies and Sports Studies student also claimed four medals at the European Championships in Glasgow. He was named Athlete of the Year at the National Lottery Awards, as well as Scottish Sports Personality of the Year and Scottish Sports Personality of the Year at the Team Scotland and Sunday Mail Scottish Sports Awards.

Curlers take on the world

MSc Performance Coaching student Kyle Waddell competed for the Team GB men's curling team at the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games.

Sport and Exercise Science student Bobby Lammie won the Scottish Curling Championships with Team Mouat before going on to claim bronze at the World Men's Curling Championships in Las Vegas – and gold at the Le Gruyère AOP European Curling Championships in Switzerland.

Clean sweep for golfers

The University's golf team won the Scottish, British and European team championships before being named the British Universities and College Sport (BUCS) Team of the Year. Hazel MacGarvie won the BUCS Tour Order of Merit in her first season, whilst Nicola Slater broke a course record en-route to winning the Stirling International at The Fairmont, St Andrews.

Further sporting achievements

Having been part of the Stirling team that won the European Universities Championships in Madrid, tennis scholar Maia Lumsden won her first professional title in Shrewsbury. The Sports Studies student was also part of the British side that finished second at the World University Championships.

Stirling was selected to host the LTA National Academy as partner venue with Tennis Scotland. The University was also awarded a franchise, in partnership with Stirling County RFC, for Scottish Rugby's new Super 6 competition.



Commonwealth Games gold medallist Duncan Scott

excellence

The Stirling

Members of the University's global family are shaping Stirling's future, inspiring others and making an impact on the world.

Honorary graduates

In 2018, we welcomed a host of influential honorary graduates to the Stirling family. Those awarded the degree of Doctor of the University include leaders from the worlds of public services, education, sport, journalism and the arts.

David Strang

Contribution to ensuring due process, quality and integrity of public services.

Martin Valenti

Contribution to the protection of the environment.

Eve Muirhead

Contribution to British sport.

Dr Lee Kwok Cheong

Contribution to the IT industry and education sector in Singapore.

Mark Daly

Contribution to investigative journalism.

Dame Anne McGuire

Public service to the people of Stirling and to people with disabilities.

Patrick McGrath

Support of academic research, through the donation of his literary papers to the University archives.

Alumnus in the spotlight

The Rt Hon Lord Jack McConnell

Scottish politician and Labour life peer in the House of Lords.

BSc Mathematics with Education / Honorary Doctorate, 2008.

Lord McConnell will return to the University as our new Chancellor in June 2019.

He served as First Minister of Scotland between 2001 and 2007, before being appointed to the House of Lords as Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale in 2010. He became a Vice-President for Unicef UK in 2015.

Lord McConnell graduated from the University with a BSc in Mathematics with Education, before going on to teach maths in local high schools between 1983 and 1992.

He received the degree of Doctor of the University in October 2008, in recognition of his contribution to public affairs.

Lord McConnell said: "I will be determined to do all I can to help the University to continue to grow and develop, while retaining the essential values that have helped build its success over the past 50 years."



Honorary graduate Mark Daly

family

Delivering our

2018 was another successful year for the University, as we continued to advance our global reputation for high-quality teaching and research.

Although we're all aware these are challenging times for the sector, there are inspiring developments at the University that will help us continue to be the difference.

The University continued to offer an outstanding student experience, with existing facilities awarded five stars in the 2018 QS World University Rankings. We're further improving the student experience, with work underway on two major projects that will see a combined £41 million invested in Campus Central and our iconic new Sports Centre.

These significant developments will benefit the University community and ensure we remain competitive and attractive to future generations of students and staff, by transforming the way the University supports student life.

Our international partnerships also continued to bring vibrancy to our community. We were delighted to be the first UK university to partner in the INTO University Access Centre at Dushu Lake, creating further opportunities for Chinese students

seeking to further their studies overseas. The University of Stirling Ras Al Khaimah campus also opened to students in the United Arab Emirates, in partnership with Planet CORE. Furthermore, our agreement with Amity Global Institute allowed students in Singapore to enrol on a range of high-quality undergraduate and postgraduate-level Stirling degree courses.

Skilled, enthusiastic and high-quality staff remain our strongest asset and key to our long-term success. We welcomed new staff, including eight early career researchers awarded Anniversary Fellowships, to carry out research addressing the needs of society.

As ever, I would like to extend my continued thanks to the University community for your ongoing commitment and effort.



Eileen Schofield
University Secretary and Chief Operating Officer

★★★★★
QS EXCELLENCE AWARD for
**TEACHING
EMPLOYABILITY
INTERNATIONALISATION
FACILITIES**

QS World University Rankings 2018



vision

UNIVERSITY of
STIRLING

