

## University of Dundee

Transforming Lives Locally & Globally



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# Welcome from the Principal

What is it that universities should do? For us at Dundee the answer is straightforward – we are here to transform lives, locally and globally, through the creation, sharing and application of knowledge.

The words locally and globally are crucial. The work we do at Dundee has applications and implications for not just those in Scotland or the United Kingdom but for people around the world. By bringing the world to Dundee, and taking Dundee to the world, we make people's lives better.

How do we achieve this? We have links across the world with businesses, governments, health services, international organisations and, of course, students. We have transferred our world-leading expertise in diabetes care and treatment to Kuwait to help tackle chronic problems there. We are training the next generations of oil, gas and energy leaders and working with students from countries as diverse as Nigeria, Colombia and China. We are one of the world's leading research centres for life sciences, working in partnership with major pharmaceutical companies. We are teaching nurses in Africa and the USA, designers from India and China, engineers from across the EU and beyond.

At every level we are engaged with people and institutions across the world – no fewer than 145 countries are represented among our students and staff. More than one-quarter of Dundee's students are international. They are a vital and vibrant part of the University community, helping make Dundee the best student experience in the UK.

We aim for similar results in all of our collaborations with other organisations. We have led the way in interdisciplinary working and our partnerships in biosciences, space technology, art & design and renewable energies are transforming lives.

I am proud of what we have achieved so far but at Dundee we are always moving forward. Our inspiration comes from working with others across the globe to overcome challenges, grasp opportunities and deliver solutions – and our international relationships are at the heart of what we do.

We are excited to share the scope of our international ambitions with you and hope that it will spark some ideas about new ways of working together.

#### Professor Pete Downes

Principal and Vice-Chancellor

# Who we are University of Dundee at a glance

#### History

The University of Dundee is a leading Scottish institution and one of the world's top universities for Life Sciences, Medicine, Engineering, Computing, Art & Design, Humanities, Law and the Environment.

Founded in 1881 as University College, Dundee, and subsequently part of the University of St Andrews, the University of Dundee was granted a Royal Charter in 1967 that established it as an independent body.

Our University now comprises four centres of excellence in teaching and research: College of Arts & Social Sciences; College of Art, Science & Engineering; College of Life Sciences; and the College of Medicine, Dentistry & Nursing.

#### **Key facts**

With 18,000 students from 145 countries, we are truly a global University. Most students are based in the city of Dundee, though some 5,000 study with us by way of distance learning. While our international reach is broad, our identity remains strongly Scottish - from a country with over 500 proud years of experience in higher education.

Our University is a key pillar of the region's economy, employing 3,000 staff and attracting tens of millions of pounds in research funding every year. Annual turnover is around £220 million.

#### Research profile and strengths

Research at Dundee delivers impact by harnessing expertise across disciplines to tackle some of the most challenging problems the world faces today. We promote the sustainable use of global resources, shape the future through innovative design and improve social, cultural and physical well-being.

With high-quality teaching, world-leading research, and a superbly designed £200 million campus with an unrivalled position in the heart of Dundee, it's no surprise that we are top of the class for student experience in Scotland, and consistently ranked among the top ten in the UK<sup>1</sup>.

Ensuring Dundee is fully engaged with multiple partners is the best way I know to maintain the

between teaching, research and innovation

Professor Pete Downes, Principal and Vice-Chancellor

links not just between teaching and research, but

<sup>1</sup> Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey

## Our international strategy

We are dedicated to advancing knowledge and understanding and to translating it into innovative solutions for health, the environment, social well-being and the economy.

Working in partnership is part of the DNA of the Scottish higher education sector. As part of Connected Scotland, we work closely with key partners such as the British Council, Scottish Development International and the Scottish Government to realize the benefits of joint resources, networks and collaborative international activities

Dundee already has strong, diverse international connections. But we want to do more. We aim to ensure that a global perspective lies at the heart of everything we do. Our strategy is to build sustainable, high-level international partnerships with institutions of excellence around the world. Through these partnerships we will strive to:

#### Bring the world to Dundee

- Recruit high-quality international students:
- Provide an outstanding campus experience for international students and staff:
- Enhance campus experience for UK students through exposure to other cultures and ideas
- Develop our students' skills and knowledge to enable them to thrive in a global environment;
- Attract top-level international research to Dundee: and
- Draw superlative teaching and research staff from ground the world.

#### Take Dundee to the world

- Establish Dundee as a world centre for research, teaching and innovation;
- Expand our portfolio of degrees and professional development courses delivered through distance or blended learning methods;
- Deepen the connections between our research staff and students and the global research community; and
- Grow our international alumni and business networks.

We are strengthening our international network every day, not only with colleagues at other universities, but with funding bodies, charities, government stakeholders and corporations





### Research

The University of Dundee has powered its way to a position as one of Europe's leading research universities. Research awards in 2012-13 totalled over £140 million, placing us in the UK's top 20 universities for research income.

We pride ourselves on delivering research with significant impact on global innovation and international policy. With 44% of our staff devoted solely to research, we continue to advance the lives of people across the world.

- Internationally recognised for cell and molecular biology, the College of Life Sciences ranks first in Europe and the UK, and 9th in the world, for citations per paper in the biological sciences<sup>2</sup>.
- Dundee has led the world in the development of laparoscopic ('keyhole') surgery techniques, and has made major breakthroughs in diabetes, cancer and Parkinson's disease research.

- A diverse range of engineering projects, including electric vehicle design and wind, solar, and hydroelectric technologies, are positioning Scotland as a world leader in lowcarbon and renewable energy research.
- The Drug Discovery Unit, in partnership with the Medicines for Malaria Venture, has achieved a major breakthrough in the development of a new anti-malarial medicine that has the potential both to prevent the disease and to stop it from spreading.
- Our Centre of Environmental Change and Human Resilience, a partnership between the University and the James Hutton Institute, provides a hub for research addressing how societies can increase resilience to environmental change and promote sustainable futures.

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Whatever research we do should improve our knowledge of science and understanding of disease, but it must also have an impact on society. It must help patients and make a positive difference to them."

Ghulam Nabi, Surgeon and Clinical Reader in Surgical Uro-oncology

<sup>2</sup> QS World University Rankings 2014

## Knowledge exchange

We research in order to deliver practical solutions that improve quality of life and the environment. Our strategic commercial partnerships include industry investment, spin-out companies and licensing agreements, supported by our highly experienced Research and Innovation Services team. We use our global reach to share knowledge with governments and other public institutions, which both builds capacity and impacts social policy at home and abroad.

Our University holds patents on 85 technologies and has spun out over 25 companies across life sciences, medical devices and engineering. The resulting Tayside biotechnology cluster includes companies such as Axis-Shield and Cyclacel. Other key life science partnerships include the Division of Signal Transduction Therapy Consortium, one of the largest collaborations between academia and the pharmaceutical industry worldwide. Since 2012, DSTT has produced 27 new approved drugs targeting kinases, with current sales of \$30 billion.

Our partnerships, however, extend far beyond the life sciences:

- STAR-Dundee, a spin-out of the University's Space Technology Centre, provides technology to complement SpaceWire, an onboard computer network for spacecraft. In partnership with the University and collaborators based in Israel, Germany and Italy, STAR-Dundee recently received an EU award of £1.87 million to collaborate on Very High Speed Serial Interfaces.
- The Scottish Institute for Policing Research, a collaboration between Dundee and 11 other Scottish universities, carries out independent research and makes evidence-based contributions to policing policy and practice. Through SIPR the University is working with the Scottish police service and developing links with police services in Sri Lanka, Brazil and Thailand.
- The Offshore Renewables Institute collaboration delivers solutions for the offshore wind industry globally, and the £2 million Marine Renewables Test Centre coordinates development, design and testing of marine renewable construction materials, such as concrete foundations for wind farms.
- The Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy has earned a reputation for excellence for its natural resource and energy sectors distance learning and on-campus training programmes, reaching representatives from industry and governments in Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda and Sierra Leone.
- The Centre for Anatomy & Human Identification (CAHID) is internationally preeminent for craniofacial analysis and forensic human identification. Its Disaster Victim Identification programme, established after the 2004 Asian tsunami, trains first responders from across the UK and around the world.





## Partnerships

Dundee has forged strong international ties and is actively developing strategic academic partnerships worldwide. We currently have high-level institution-to-institution Memoranda of Understanding with 70 universities worldwide, many in priority markets such as India, Brazil, Colombia, the US and Europe.

Our senior academics regularly lead high-level international missions to meet with prospective partner institutions; recent destinations have included South Korea, Indonesia, Colombia and Brazil. The University also hosts visits from current and prospective partners, trade delegations and international policy makers.

One of our longest-standing and most successful relationships has been with China. Over the past ten years we have built a network of 23 engineering and biomedical engineering partnerships with top Chinese universities. Through these agreements, nearly 300 Chinese students are currently studying at Dundee. We are now working to deepen our relationship with strategic partners, focusing on research collaborations and expanded staff and student mobility. Our strong Chinese connections serve as a model for emerging partnerships around the world, such as our growing life sciences collaborations in Singapore.

Dundee also has a track record of expertise in healthcare partnerships. We are collaborating internationally with a range of institutions and countries to address global health challenges by supporting developing healthcare systems and tackling health inequalities.

- Egypt: We deliver an M.Sc. in Orthodontics in partnership with ASCDE (Arab Society for Continuous Dental Education) in Cairo, training dentists from across the Middle East.
- **Eritrea:** We work with the Eritrean Ministry of Health to train personnel in nursing and healthcare management.
- Kurdistan: Building on Dundee's history of supporting paediatricians in Iraqi Kurdistan following the Gulf Conflict, the Hawler Medical School partners our M.Sc. in Clinical Paediatrics.
- Kuwait: In conjunction with NHS Tayside, Aridhia Informatics, and the Dasman Diabetes Institute, we offer an M.Sc. in Diabetes Care and Management as part of a nationwide initiative to counter diabetes, from which up to 25% of Kuwait's adult population suffers.

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It is essential that the trained workforce be given the opportunity to study in their own country while continuing to contribute towards health improvement, rather than travel overseas."

Dr Susan Redman,

Programme Lead for the Dundee M.Sc. Global Health and Wellbeing (Eritrea)



## Student experience

More than one-quarter of Dundee's students come from around the world, ranging from distance learners in Eritrea or the USA to design students from China and energy policy experts from Nigeria. A similar proportion of our staff come from overseas to pursue their careers in Dundee, bringing a rich, global perspective to teaching, learning and research. Together, they inspire the kind of vibrancy and vitality for which the University of Dundee is renowned.

International students rank Dundee 2nd in the UK and 7th in the world for overall student satisfaction<sup>3</sup>. A specialised advice team supports students and staff at every stage of their journey, providing guidance on immigration, employment, finance, personal or family concerns and academic difficulties. We also coordinate social and cultural events to ensure that everyone feels welcomed by the community and experiences the excitement and beauty of our Scottish heritage.

Graduates today need a multicultural context that allows them to connect with others across international boundaries. At Dundee, our Learning and Teaching Strategy prioritises the development of graduate skills, ensuring that all degrees have the international dimensions that will enable our students to excel in the global market.

Employers look for graduates with a breadth of experience, and students who have lived, studied, and worked internationally stand out from the crowd. We support a broad range of exchange programmes in Australasia, China, and North America, as well as a network of 80+ Erasmus partnerships in Europe. We also offer unique overseas opportunities, such as our Masters programmes in International Commercial Law and Private International Law with the University of Cergy-Pontoise and the University of Toulouse in France. Through this array of options we are meeting our goal of enhancing student mobility opportunities and increasing the number of students going out from and coming to Dundee for part of their studies.

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The international experience that I can gain from going to two countries will push my boundaries, and stretch my character for a fuller 'me' to emerge. In Dundee, I have made many friends on the Erasmus programme who come from France, Germany, Italy, and I have noticed they have a broad perspective and a kind of openness in them which I admire."

Junyan Ng, European Studies and Philosophy, from Singapore

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 2013 International Student Barometer

#### Ranking

1st in Europe for Biological Sciences (by citations per paper, (QS World University Rankings 2013 and 2014)

1st in UK for Dentistry (Guardian University Guide 2015)

1st in Scotland and 5th in UK for Medicine (Guardian University Guide 2015)

1st in Scotland for Anatomy (Times Good University Guide 2014)

1st in Scotland for Pharmacology (Times Good University Guide 2014)

2nd in Scotland for Civil Engineering (Times Good University Guide 2014)

80% of graduates find graduate-level jobs, top 20 in the UK (Sunday Times University Guide 2013)

| Research Income 2012/2013  | £143 million |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Academic and support staff | 3337         |

#### **Students in 2013/14**

| Total number of students | 18,159      |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Undergraduate            | 10,663      |
| Postgraduate (Taught)    | 6,428       |
| Postgraduate (Research)  | 1,068       |
| Distance Learning        | 5,319       |
| International students   | 4,829 (27%) |
| (European Union)         | 3,164       |
| (Outside European Union) | 1,665       |

## Sustaining excellence

#### Alumni

In the words of University Principal Pete Downes, international students "are our ambassadors to the rest of the world." We have 60,000 alumni based in over 90 countries. With newly established alumni groups in Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong, as well as our growing online community DundeeConnect, alumni across the world can connect, share stories, arrange reunions, mentor and hire graduates. This global network of ambassadors continues to play a crucial role in our internationalisation strategy as we look to the future.

#### Looking to the future

We are committed to expanding and strengthening our network of high quality and sustainable partnerships.

Through our strategic relationships with academic colleagues, funders, governments, and industry, we will provide innovative solutions to global challenges and fulfill our vision of bringing the world to Dundee and taking Dundee to the world.

To find out more about internationalisation and international opportunities at the University of Dundee, visit **www.dundee.ac.uk/international** or contact the team at

internationalops@dundee.ac.uk



