



# Donor Impact

2015

Development and Alumni  
Relations Office

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Shaping bright futures



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## Meet the team

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We love getting to know you, so it's nice for you to get to know us. In each edition of **Donor Impact** we'll introduce you to some members of the Development and Alumni Relations team.



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**Debbie Caulfield**, *Executive Assistant*

Having worked at Ulster for over 20 years, Debbie is currently responsible for processing, recording and reporting on all financial transactions for the fundraising team. Debbie is a keen traveller, and most recently enjoyed a trip to Iceland.



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**Brid McLaughlin**, *Development Assistant, Student Fund*

Brid has been with the development team for seven years and currently works to maximise income and oversee accurate disbursement of the Student Fund. Brid and her husband are both alumni from Ulster, so they are hoping their daughter Sarah will follow in their footsteps – in 17 years' time.



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**Kathy Morrow**, *Development Officer, Student Fund*

Moving from the major-gift team, Kathy now oversees the Student Fund, raising income from alumni and staff. She particularly enjoys meeting the students who benefit from the generous donations. Kathy is kept busy at home with two young children.



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**Sandra Irwin**, *Executive Assistant*

The longest serving member of our team, Sandra has worked at Ulster since 1980. She joined the Alumni Relations Office in December 2007 and provides support for a wide range of activities, primarily liaising with our alumni on updating details, arranging events and selling University merchandise. With both her children currently at university, Sandra can relate to our students' needs.



# Thank you to our friends and donors

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**Welcome to the first edition of Donor Impact, Ulster University's donor newsletter. As I commence my first year as Vice-Chancellor of Ulster University, it is inspiring to learn of the generosity of our friends and alumni and the impact this has on our students.**

I would like to take this opportunity to offer you my sincere thanks for your generous support. All gifts to Ulster University – large and small – are hugely appreciated, particularly by the students whose lives they enhance.

We are seeing an increase in donations from Ulster University alumni and staff, as well as our corporate supporters. Without this support, we simply would not be able to provide life-enhancing awards to our current students. These awards are becoming increasingly important, not only because of the impact they have on our students' academic achievements but also because of their impact on the wider student experience. The Student Fund donates 100% of every gift directly to students, providing emergency hardship grants, rewarding excellence or supporting entrepreneurial students developing their own business ideas.

It is clear that we are facing difficult decisions in the light of cuts to education budgets. For this reason, it is now more important than ever that we secure assistance, both financial and non-financial, from our alumni and friends, and demonstrate our shared commitment to the fact that education is the cornerstone of our society.

Thank you for supporting Northern Ireland's most talented, determined and deserving students, for enabling and encouraging them to reach their potential and for inspiring them to achieve their goals.

Professor Paddy Nixon  
*Vice-Chancellor and President, Ulster University*

# Ulster University Student Fund

## Your donations really count

Donations to the Ulster University Student Fund from alumni, staff and companies, make a real difference to the lives of students.

They encourage and reward excellence, provide much needed financial assistance and support activities that add value to students' academic experience.

Make no mistake, by giving to the Student Fund you are helping students to transform their futures and fulfil their full potential.

More and more alumni are deciding to support our Student Fund and so we are able to help more and more students every year.

In today's economic climate more students than ever before need our help.

## The amazing impact of your gifts

### Second chance for Pól thanks to Gateway

**Pól Stíobhard owned and ran his own plumbing and bathroom refurbishment business for many years, but in 2006 he noticed a downward turn in his business when the economy began to change drastically.**

Unfortunately, Pól was forced to close his business in 2008 and become a full-time carer for his disabled daughter. His family faced some really difficult times for a period of about five years, but when Pól saw an advertisement for higher education, he knew he needed to give it a try.

He is now studying Irish Language part-time, hoping to become a teacher, and despite the work and additional time pressure, Pól feels it is turning his life around. Being awarded the Gateway Scholarship, specifically aimed at adults returning to education, has made a huge difference to his and his family's life.

“Receiving the Gateway Scholarship helped me purchase books, cover travelling expenses and afterschool club hours for the kids so I could get worthwhile studying completed prior to them coming home. What I wasn't expecting was the psychological affect that being awarded the scholarship would have on me.”

## Penning a new chapter for Ulster University students

**Thanks to funding from the Ulster University Student Fund, an exciting new Writing Centre has been launched on the Coleraine campus.**

The Writing Pad offers an inviting space where students from any course can develop their writing skills. It's modelled on similar centres found on many American college campuses.

Dr Willa Murphy, lecturer in English, had witnessed the model working in America and knew it would be a useful asset at Ulster.

The Writing Pad is a student-run, staff-mentored project using peer tutors to help students with any stage of the writing process, and with assignments in any discipline. Through a friendly conversation with a peer, students can experience writing not as a solitary task but an enjoyable process. Student tutors were selected and trained over the summer by American experts in the field.

Third year English student, Sinead Molloy, who is one of the writing tutors, describes the project:

“The Writing Pad is a place for all students to air their writing concerns in an open, welcoming and non-judgmental environment. In other words, no anxiety is irrelevant, no concern is trivial and no question is silly! Essentially, we hope to encourage our fellow students to find their 'voice' in writing, to motivate them to take pride in their own ideas and to present these effectively.”

## Reaching new horizons

**At Ulster University, we're great researchers, and this means discovering pioneering solutions and sharing our outputs and impacts in many different ways around the world – and you can help us to do this.**

This year, through a Broadening Horizons Travel Bursary, one of our PhD students was able to attend the premier forum for the exchange of ideas in the Earth, planetary and space sciences field, the European Geosciences Union General Assembly in Vienna.

Magda Bucholc presented her scientific results to fellow scientists. Magda, who is completing her PhD in Geophysics, was testing the hypothesis of whether Earth tides, caused by the gravitational attraction between the Earth, Moon, and Sun, can modulate the timings of earthquakes.



Pól Stóibhard



Magda Bucholc



Megan Frazer

“

Says Magda: “My presentation was very well received and followed by long discussions that provided useful feedback on my project in its final stage. I would like to express my thanks to the Ulster University Student Fund for giving me the opportunity to participate in such a major scientific meeting at such an important stage in my career.”

### Fantastic sporting achievements

**Sports Scholar Megan Frazer has had a remarkable season on the hockey pitch, maximising her support from the Student Fund and demonstrating that at Ulster University, we're great achievers.**

Megan was one of three students to be awarded a much coveted Sports Scholarship in 2014, which provides a grant of £1,000 to help towards the travel expenses and equipment costs involved in competing at an international level in the chosen sport.

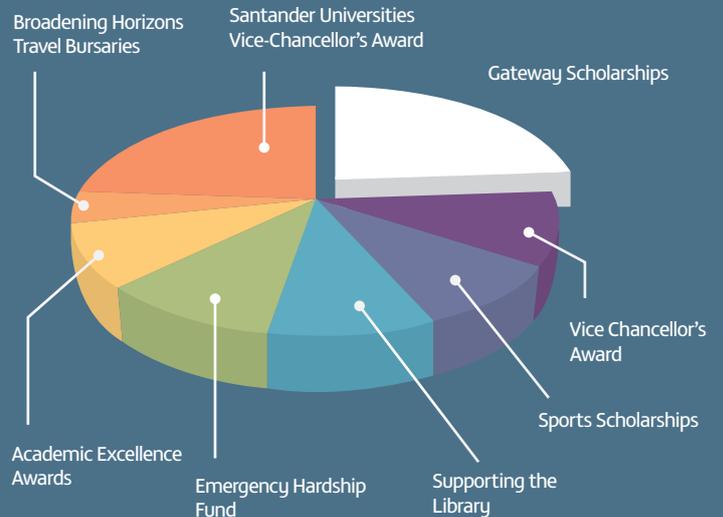
As the Irish Women's Hockey captain, she led the squad to huge success as Eurohockey Championship winners, securing promotion to the top division in European hockey, and to World League Two success.

And as an Ulster Elks player Megan was very proud to make history by winning the coveted Irish Senior Cup. This is the first time this prestigious trophy has come to Ulster, a huge achievement for the University and the Elks. Megan was also named player of the tournament both in the Irish Cup Final and the Eurohockey Championships.

“

“The Sports Scholarship has been hugely beneficial, enabling me to train comprehensively and perform at the highest level,” says Megan. “It's helped me fund travel to weekly training sessions in Dublin, as well as allowing me to purchase some specialist equipment to assist my training. I am so grateful to the Ulster University Student Fund for this support.”

## Where your money goes



# Record-breaking telephone campaign

The Development and Alumni Relations team would like to thank everyone who took the time to chat to our students during the telephone campaign earlier this year – and we are delighted to announce that it was a record-breaker, with over £50,000 raised for the Ulster University Student Fund.

The 30 students who took part in the campaign had a fabulous experience, enjoying their conversations with alumni and gaining valuable career advice along the way.

We can't emphasise how important this experience is for the students. It not only gives them valuable work experience, but also raises their confidence and develops their communication skills.



**1,141**

Alumni spoken to by students in three weeks



**£45**

Average gift per call



**£50,000**

Overall total for campaign



**£6,418**

Top income in one calling session





Julie Steele

### Gateway Scholar steps up to make calls

**Julie Steele, final year BSc Hons Marketing student, decided to take up the role as a student caller this year so she could speak directly to alumni who are supporting her.**

As a Gateway Scholar, Julie has received £1,000 per year of her studies at Ulster to help towards her living and academic costs. She is extremely grateful for this support.

“The Scholarship means so much to me as I come from a background with very low income. With the scholarship, I can cut back on my hours in my part-time job and have more time for my studies. Now I’m in my final year I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who supports the Student Fund.”

### Internship opportunity from telephone campaign

**Gavin Moriarty thoroughly enjoyed his time working on the telephone campaign, particularly because of one very successful conversation.**

Gavin, a Masters student in PR & Communications (with Advertising), had such a great chat with alumnus Conor McKernan, that Conor offered him an interview for an internship post at his company, Firefly in Lisburn.

Gavin was successful at the interview and has thoroughly enjoyed the hands on experience gained at Firefly.

“I’m so grateful to Conor for offering me this great opportunity,” says Gavin. “Working at Firefly as an intern was an experience I would never have secured had I not been working on the telephone campaign. I learned so much in my time there which will stand by me when I begin applying for jobs.”

### Personal note sparks caller’s career ambition

**Genevieve McBride, a final year English with Education student, was thrilled when she received a personal note from one of the alumni she had spoken to during the telephone campaign.**

Conrad Smith, who graduated from Coleraine in 1975, was so impressed with Genevieve during their conversation, that he not only decided to donate monthly to the Student Fund, but also sent Genevieve a note to encourage her in her desire to become a teacher.

Advice given from alumni during the telephone campaign is incredibly valuable to our students. As Genevieve says: “As well as developing my confidence and communication skills, the campaign was a great opportunity for me to engage with alumni, listen to their stories and share their experiences.”

“When I spoke to Mr Smith we talked at length about how the University had motivated him to become a teacher. I was encouraged by his words and look forward to pursuing my career ambitions as an Ulster University graduate.”

*Conrad J.H. Smith*

*Dear Genevieve,*

*Thank you for listening to my stories about Ulster and as a teacher I wish you well in the profession. You'll tear your hair out sometimes but it is so rewarding and you will remember your exceptional students. Coleraine lifted my life chances, it's only fair that we help students now.*

*Kind regards,  
Conrad*

# A big thank you to our corporate sponsors

At Ulster University, we're great business partners. We're helping companies to work smarter and continually partnering with a wide range of stakeholders to enhance opportunities for our students.

Support from corporate partners is absolutely essential to our work, and we acknowledge the profound impact it makes on the lives of students across our four campuses, their communities and the Northern Ireland economy.



Pictured with Laura McDonald, Santander branch manager are students Brendan McKillop (left) and Matt Robinson

## Santander Universities partnership banks scholarships boost

**Ulster University received further support from Santander Universities this summer with an additional £89,500 in scholarships.**

Santander Universities has supported Ulster since 2011, investing a total of almost £480,000 in a wide range of philanthropic projects.

This summer's additional funding will be used to provide support to over 70 students, in the form of mobility scholarships, work experience placement bursaries, internship grants and a digital fund.

We are grateful to Santander for their deep commitment to higher education and the opportunities this support provides.

Media Studies and Product Design student, Brendan McKillop, who received a scholarship to support his study abroad, says he believes that becoming integrated into a different culture will improve both his academic standing and personal character.

“This will benefit me for the rest of my life,” he adds. “I appreciate this once in a lifetime opportunity and look forward to my study abroad experience.”

## Bringing high energy to scholarship scheme

**The SSE Airtricity Scholarship Fund provides a total annual value of almost £50,000, helping 12 students per year from Ulster University.**

The students who are studying a diverse range of STEM courses (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) benefit greatly from the fund, with 50% of each student's fees for every year of their degree provided.

We are now entering the second year of our partnership with SSE Airtricity and would like to acknowledge the immense difference this commitment is making to the educational aspirations of young people and their families.



SSE 2014 Scholars with Aoife Ryan, SSE Airtricity

“ Mark Ennis, Chairman of SSE Ireland, said: “There is nothing more important to young people and their families than access to high quality education and at SSE Airtricity we recognise that enrolling in third level education involves a large financial commitment. The SSE Airtricity Scholarship is about funding the future through local energy. It will make a real difference in the lives of local people and will help to make the educational aspirations of families local to our new wind farms a reality.”

## Subway generosity serves up tasty rewards

**The Subway Ireland Management Scholarship, provides £5,000 to a student entering the Ulster University Business School's MSc Management course, and is a tremendous boost to the successful student.**

Subway Ireland has committed to provide one scholarship per year for ten years.

In addition to financial support, the scholarship includes a 12-week internship at Subway Ireland, where mentoring support from the leadership team is provided.



Marie-Claire presented with her award by Paul Heyes, Subway Ireland

“ Marie-Claire Caldwell was the 2014 Scholar. “I am enormously grateful to have been awarded the Subway Ireland Management Scholarship,” she explains. “It has provided me with financial support and the prestige of being selected as a scholarship recipient. I was particularly excited about the opportunity to undertake work experience as part of the dynamic management team at Subway.”

**Much needed support from Access to Justice**

**Joan Davidson was this year’s awardee of the Access to Justice Scholarship and she says it was “much needed”.**

The scholarship from the Department of Justice is awarded to a student on the LLM in Clinical Legal Education course at Ulster. It provides funding support of £5,550 towards fees and expenses.

“ Joan says she is honoured to be this year’s recipient, adding: “The scholarship provides much needed financial support for my academic career and will greatly enhance my professional career prospects.”

**Actavis supports student on UK’s number one pharmacy course**

**Charlotte Kane, a final year MPharm student, has been honoured to be the Actavis Scholar during her time at Ulster University.**

Charlotte has been awarded £5,000 for each year of her study by the global pharmaceutical company.

“ I have benefited enormously from the scholarship through access to the company and work experience. I am very proud and excited about my future in the pharma industry,” says Charlotte.

For the second year running, The Guardian league table has ranked Ulster University as the top university in the UK to study pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences. We are proud of this achievement, and it’s exciting news for the pharmaceutical industry.

Partnerships like this with Actavis add real value to the student experience and help ensure that we are producing highly skilled employees for Northern Ireland’s pharmaceutical sector as it continues to grow and develop internationally.



Charlotte Kane

Joan Davison being presented with The Access to Justice Scholarship by Mark McGuckin, Department of Justice



Deirdre Murray

**Norbrook delighted with Barnett scholars**

**The Barnett Pharmaceutical Sciences Scholarship is awarded each year to a student joining the MSc in Pharmaceutical Sciences.**

The scholarship, generously supported by Norbrook Laboratories, provides £10,000 to a student each year.

“ Professor James Haughey, Director of Norbrook, has been delighted with the quality of scholars to date: “The two recipients of the Barnett Pharmaceutical Sciences Scholarship to date have been of the highest calibre and are excellent ambassadors for the University and their programme of study. Both of them have clear career aspirations and are extremely focussed on their studies as a way to achieve their goals.”

Deirdre Murray was awarded the scholarship in 2014, and it meant a great deal to her. “I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to prove myself capable of completing the MSc Pharmaceutical Sciences programme to a high standard,” says Deirdre.

**Chateau De La Ligne adds flavour to Ulster events**

**We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Mr Terry Cross, Distinguished Graduate and Managing Director of Delta Print and Packaging.**

Terry has generously provided Ulster University with wine from his vineyard in France for events over the last year, which our guests very much enjoyed and appreciated.



# Connecting with the United States of America

## Supported by an Angel

Roma Downey, Honorary Graduate, award-winning actress and film producer, is a generous supporter of Ulster University....

When Roma Downey walked across the Millennium Forum stage in her hometown last year to receive an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Art, it was by no means her first encounter with an audience in full appreciation of her talents.

The Los Angeles-based television and stage actress, producer, author and philanthropist has had an outstanding career in front of and behind the camera, and as audiences come, well, Roma Downey's number in the hundreds of millions.

It was this level of contribution to her profession that prompted the University to honour the multi-talented Ms Downey with a doctorate.

Roma shot to fame in front of the camera as Jackie Kennedy in the award-winning mini-series *A Woman Named Jackie*. She then played the kind-hearted angel, Monica, in the CBS series *Touched by an Angel* in the 1990s. Reaching a weekly audience of 20 million, the series ran for nine seasons in the US and went on to be screened around the world.

She was nominated twice for an Emmy and twice for a Golden Globe for this role and won the TV Guide award for favourite actress.

Following *Touched by an Angel*, she began the second act of her career as a producer. She is President of the production company LightWorkers Media and, with her company, produced the record-breaking mini-series *The Bible*. Roma also played the role of Mary the Mother of Jesus in the series. This award-winning show was watched by over 100 million viewers in the US alone and many more millions around the world, and was accompanied by record-breaking DVD sales.

The star is married to the award-winning reality TV pioneer Mark Burnett, with whom she co-produced *The Bible*. The couple later adapted it into the feature-length film *Son of God*, which was screened in Derry-Londonderry when Roma was home to receive her doctorate.

Roma has also produced the TV series *The Dovekeepers*, *AD: The Bible Continues*, and *Answered Prayers*, as well as the feature films *Woodlawn*, *Little Boy*, and the forthcoming retelling of *Ben Hur*, a big-budget epic set to be released next year.



## Close contact

Faith and family values are clearly at the core of everything Roma does, and despite her hectic schedule she has maintained close contact with her beloved Derry-Londonderry.

The connections to her hometown made her a prominent advocate for the 2013 City of Culture in Derry.

Without seeking the limelight, she worked with local organisations and charities behind the scenes, providing support for the successful, world record-breaking 'Annie' song and dance routine in the city and creating a fundraiser for the Foyle Hospice.

Roma's generous gift to Ulster University, in support of the John Hume and Thomas P. O'Neill Chair in Peace, not only extended that connection to her hometown and an existing connection to the Hume family, but demonstrated her backing for both politicians' influence as peacemakers, as well as the University's internationally renowned peace and conflict work.

But her giving is not just reserved for home. Roma is behind numerous good causes and, as an ambassador for Operation Smile, an international medical charity that provides surgery for children born with cleft lip or cleft palate, she pours much commitment and energy into this organisation annually. She has travelled with them on medical missions to Vietnam, South America, and Jordan.

And this summer, through the American Ireland Fund, she also pledged a most generous gift to the New York Irish Arts Centre. This gift will go towards the \$60 million redevelopment plan for the centre on Manhattan's West Side.

Roma Downey is much more than an actor and producer. She is an artist, designer, doting mother and compassionate humanitarian. The Hollywood trade publication *Variety* recognized Downey as a "Trailblazer" and listed her as one of *Variety's* "100 Most Powerful Women in Hollywood."

It is more than fitting that next year she is to be honoured yet again. This time by being inducted into the Hollywood Walk of Fame, when Roma's star will be set into the pavement on Hollywood Boulevard.

### Hume O'Neill Peace Chair achieves funding goal

Ulster University is delighted to have hit the £3 million (\$4.8 million) funding target for the prestigious John Hume and Thomas P O'Neill Chair in Peace, to be based at the Magee campus. This is the University's first fully endowed Chair.

The final elements of the funding for the endowed Chair were secured following a significant gift from the International Fund for Ireland as well as donations from a number of other benefactors.

This funding means the Chair – the most senior of academic positions – will steer a wider peace initiative building on the internationally renowned work of INCORE, the International Conflict Research Institute.

The attainment of the funding target was announced during a University-organised visit by former US President Bill Clinton to Derry-Londonderry last year.

Addressing the general public at Guildhall Square, President Clinton said he was thrilled at the work INCORE has done over the years and that the new Chair will symbolise the commitment of a whole new generation of peace-making leaders.



Professor Brandon Hamber, the John Hume and Thomas P. O'Neill Chair in Peace, Professor Hugh McKenna, Ulster University Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Research & Innovation, AFL-CIO President Emeritus John J Sweeney and Mr Eddie Friel, Ulster University Director of Development and Alumni Relations

### John J Sweeney event raises \$230,000

A major event in Washington DC honouring the life and work of Irish American labour leader John J Sweeney raised \$230,000 towards supporting a scholarship to be based at INCORE, the International Conflict Research Institute.

The event was organised by the AFL-CIO, the largest federation of labour unions in the United States, representing 12.5 million working people, and took place in the organisation's headquarters opposite the White House.

AFL-CIO President Emeritus John J Sweeney, the son of Irish immigrants, has dedicated his life to advancing the wellbeing of working people. The John J Sweeney Scholarship will enable US students with a personal or family connection to a relevant union to study the MSc in Applied Peace and Conflict Studies at INCORE.

At the DC event the University recognised his commitment and contributions to the wellbeing of working people worldwide, and to the cause of peace in Northern Ireland, with the distinction of the inaugural INCORE Global Peace and Social Justice Award.

James Boland, President of the Bricklayers and Allied Crafts Union, Thomas P O'Neill, III, former Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and son of the late Speaker Tip O'Neill, and Stephen Coyle, Chief Executive Officer of the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust, served as members of a coordinating committee for the event.

### Rotary Club of Londonderry Peace Scholarships

The Rotary Club of Londonderry, whose members work tirelessly to serve community projects at home and abroad, has provided support for scholarships for students on the world-renowned MSc in Applied Peace and Conflict Studies course at Magee.

The scholarships will be allocated to a number of international and home students and have been funded as a legacy of the Rotary Global Peace Forum, held during Derry-Londonderry City of Culture 2013.

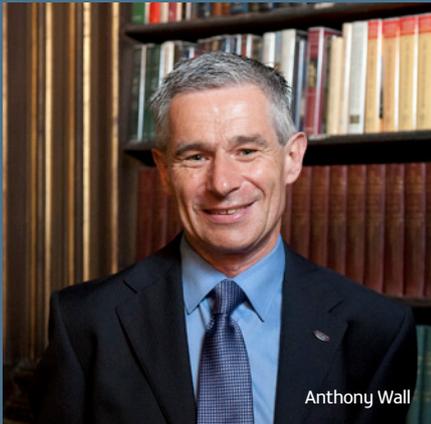


Professor John Hume, former US President Bill Clinton and Dr Pat Hume



President Bill Clinton in Guildhall Square

# Huge increase in Ulster staff giving



Anthony Wall



Caroline McGoran



Tim Brundle

It is so encouraging that many of our staff at Ulster University support the Student Fund.

Some of these staff are Ulster alumni and some are not, but equally they see the enormous value their donations can make on students' lives.

With 100% of donations to the Student Fund going directly to benefit students, this can be a real incentive to many staff who see first-hand from the students just how much of a difference a scholarship can make, both academically and personally.

In 2015 we have seen a huge increase in staff donating regularly to the Student Fund. Here are just some examples of why:

## Caroline McGoran, Head of Investment and Enterprise

“I was awarded a scholarship when at Ulster University which allowed me to work for Merrill Lynch in New York. As a summer intern I worked alongside 60 students from Duke, Harvard and Yale amongst others. It was a huge influence on my life and choice of career, and I can say with certainty that it led to many other opportunities in my career. I would encourage all staff to contribute to the Ulster University Student Fund – don't underestimate the impact that even a small contribution can make!”

## Anthony Wall, Senior Lecturer in Accounting

“When I received a phone call from a current student in June I was delighted to chat about my experiences as a student at Ulster and impart some advice. My degree ultimately led to me joining the University as a member of staff and has played a role in my subsequent career progression. I feel that all members of society should be entitled to a university education and this should not be restricted due to funding requirements. I therefore feel it is important for me to contribute to the Ulster University Student Fund and I was delighted to set up a regular donation during the phone call!”

## MFA Award enhancing careers

Tim Brundle, Director of Research and Innovation at Ulster University, generously funds The MFA Award, which supports students undertaking the MFA Multidisciplinary Design. It supports one student who wishes to enhance their design project development before they embark on their final year master's project.

Last year's winner of the much sought after award has described how it allowed him to reach new heights in his chosen area. Peter Cooper is a character artist and sculptor who used the award to visit Monsterpalooza in Burbank, Los Angeles, where he was able to learn from and network with some of the world's leading film industry professionals.

This experience propelled Peter into a world of creative possibility, giving him newfound credibility with peers in the industry as well as putting him on the radar of some serious names in the business. He has continued to foster these relationships and has received feedback from a potential long term mentor.

“It is an honour to give back to Ulster University” says Tim, “enabling our students the opportunity to go to new places, build new things and take a step closer to their potential!”

**Thank you to all the Ulster University staff who have made the decision to help our students – your support really makes a difference!**



## Now's the time to support Ulster University

This year Ulster University was included for the first time in the prestigious Times Higher Education 100 Under 50 Rankings.

These rankings recognise dynamic young universities making a global impact in areas of teaching, research and knowledge transfer.

Breaking into the top 100 of elite young universities reflects the energy and commitment of our staff.

The rankings confirm that global achievement is not restricted to those longer established institutions, but can be developed and demonstrated in decades, not just in centuries.

As a leading modern University, Ulster is a progressive driver of change across Northern Ireland and our new Belfast campus is a vibrant symbol of this commitment.

The first new building in the Belfast development is now complete, with students starting to use the purpose built facility this semester.

The Belfast development is due to be complete by 2018 when 15,000 students and staff will be studying in the city centre location.

As the regeneration in the north of the city continues, coupled with new capital developments on both the Coleraine and Magee campuses, this is an exciting time for the University.

Our new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Paddy Nixon, has spoken of his commitment to shaping the vision that Ulster University has for learning and teaching, for world-class research outcomes, and for local and global partnership development.

Now is a great time to express solidarity with all that we are trying to achieve.

Your donations of any size and shape will be most welcome and ensure Ulster students can continue to prosper and ultimately positively shape Northern Ireland's economy in the future.

# TOP 25%

OF ALL UK UNIVERSITIES  
FOR RESEARCH POWER

## TOP 10 UK FOR

BUILT ENVIRONMENT  
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES  
ART & DESIGN  
LAW | NURSING  
RESEARCH

## TOP IN NI FOR

BUSINESS &  
MANAGEMENT  
ARCHITECTURE  
& BUILT ENVIRONMENT  
SOCIAL POLICY  
SPORT  
MEDIA STUDIES

## JOINT 1<sup>ST</sup> IN THE UK FOR OUTSTANDING OR VERY CONSIDERABLE IMPACTS IN EDUCATION RESEARCH

# Our promise to you

**Following recent reports in the media regarding fundraising practices, we are happy to reassure you that our alumni and supporters are at the heart of everything we do. For that reason we work in accordance with the provision of the Data Protection Act 1998.**

As you will be aware, declining budgets within the higher education sector means there is even more financial pressure on our current students. For this reason fundraising within universities in the UK is required now more than ever, as we rely on our valued alumni to help support current and future students.

The Ulster University Student Fund is wholly supported by graduates, staff and friends of Ulster and their tremendous generosity means we can provide scholarships to students who are struggling to make ends meet, provide bursaries to allow students to pursue academic related travel and provide awards to support students with entrepreneurial ambitions.

If you have any concerns about how we carry out our fundraising please do not hesitate to contact the team at [ulsteruniversityfund@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:ulsteruniversityfund@ulster.ac.uk)

Giving back to your University should be a great experience, and so to ensure this, we can assure you that:

- Your data is safe with us. We do not share your details with anyone else.
- It is easy for you to opt out from future communications; you just need to tell us.
- We strictly adhere to all fundraising and data protection legislation and guidelines.
- 100% of every donation goes directly to support our students – donations are not used to cover our fundraising or administrative costs.

Thank you for your ongoing support. You can see it is having a tremendous impact throughout Ulster University.





## Leaving a legacy

Legacies allow us to plan for the people and causes we care about, and for Dr Anne Heaslett, Principal of Stranmillis College Belfast, leaving a legacy in her will to Ulster University was a clear choice.

Anne has undertaken not just one, but four courses at Ulster University and values the education gained here tremendously. She also values the support provided by the University throughout her professional career.

Anne became the first female Principal of Stranmillis in 2007, following an honours degree in History and Education, a Masters degree in Curriculum Development, a doctorate in Education and an MSc in Executive Leadership (International Programme), which involved some study at the International Institute for Management Development in Switzerland.

“ Anne says, “I am deeply grateful to Ulster University for the opportunities it gave me and the way it supported me to build an extremely rewarding career. Leaving a legacy in my will to Ulster University offers me a meaningful way to support Ulster students even beyond my lifetime. I see this is as a very special gift and hope that it will help shape someone’s future in the same way as my education has mine.”

We are honoured that people like Anne choose to remember Ulster University in this way. Leaving a legacy can ensure that Ulster remains a well-resourced, world-class University that supports students who need it.

To leave a legacy to Ulster University in your will, simply contact Debbie in the Development and Alumni Relations Office on 028 7012 3208 or speak to your solicitor directly and they can advise you.

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