

Queen's Donor Newsletter

News from The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation Review of 2012

GOING BEYOND

Queen's ambitious £140m campaign

Internet

RAYMOND FLANNERY

A Life in Physics

HELP FOR WHAT MATTERS

Ulster Bank's connections to Queen's

PLUS: QUEEN'S ANNUAL FUND; LEGACY GIVING; NEWS REVIEW

Welcome to the Donor Newsletter



Welcome to the latest edition of the *Donor Newsletter* which is our opportunity to thank you for your generous gifts to the University and show you how your money is being invested.

Over the past ten years, generous giving has transformed the academic life of the campus and the student experience. The

McClay Library, Riddel Hall, the Elms Village and the range of scholarships and internships available to our students are striking examples of what has been achieved.

To build on this success, the University and The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation launched a second major fundraising campaign in October 2012. Our goal is to raise £140m over the next five years to support strategic priorities in areas that range from Green Chemistry to Food Security, from Astrophysics to the Humanities, and from Cyber Security to Medicine. Additional investment in these already successful areas will further enhance our worldwide reputation and will increase the impact we make on society and the economy both locally and internationally.

In this edition you can read more about this exciting new campaign as well as learning how your donations are shaping life at Queen's every day. We have our usual round-up of projects that have benefited from the Annual Fund and features on the importance of scholarships and corporate partnerships in the current economic climate.

Thank you again for investing in the University and for helping us to shape the future of Queen's and of Northern Ireland. You can be assured that every donation we receive goes towards improving the student experience and helping to position Queen's as a world-class university at the cutting-edge of teaching and research.

With sincere thanks and best wishes.

H. M. Cormel

Jacqui McCormick Stewardship Officer

Meet the team



Helen Barnes Head of Medical Fundraising

Helen has joined the Development and Alumni Relations Office as Head of Medical Fundraising (Individual Giving). Her role is to secure donations from individuals for research priorities within the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, helping to ensure that discoveries in the lab translate as quickly as possible into improved outcomes for patients. You can contact Helen on h.barnes@qub.ac.uk



Heather Wright Fundraising Manager (Major Gifts)

Heather's role is to raise funds for priority projects, including those featured in the new campaign. She engages alumni and friends of Queen's to enable them to support their Alma Mater through high-level philanthropic gifts. Heather can be reached at h.wright@gub.ac.uk



Rachael Sands International Development Officer

Rachael recently joined the team as International Development Officer. Her job will be to assist in the implementation of Queen's internationalisation strategy and as such she will be responsible for devising and coordinating fundraising, volunteering and alumni relations activities for international alumni, prospects and donors. Rachael would be delighted to hear from you on r.sands@qub.ac.uk



Naomi King Fundraising Manager (Major Gifts)

Naomi's role involves reconnecting with alumni and friends of Queen's. The long-term goal is to generate philanthropic income, so she combines the needs and interests of prospective donors with the projects of greatest need across the campus. You can contact Naomi at n.king@qub.ac.uk

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'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.' Nelson Mandela



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Campaign Report

Going Beyond

Queen's new fundraising campaign will 'provide the ultimate student experience' and address 'some of the greatest challenges facing society,' said Professor Sir Peter Gregson, the University's Vice-Chancellor.

With an ambitious target of £140m to be secured, the next five years will be a challenging period. Queen's extensive global alumni network will play an important role in the success of the campaign and graduates are already working with us to make a real impact. To date over £40m has been secured from individuals, companies and charitable trusts and foundations.

The high profile launch in October is evidence of the University's ongoing engagement with the Queen's Foundation and recognition of the fact that, to remain truly competitive in today's global economy, we cannot rely on Government funds to realise our ambitions.

With the strapline 'Together we can go Beyond' the campaign is centred around seven key themes:

- The Student Experience: including scholarships and global internships to raise aspirations and change lives.
- Medicine: addressing the major health problems of our time and helping Queen's and Northern Ireland lead the world in medical research, education and patient care.
- Global Food Security: spearheading the development of innovative solutions in sustainable food production.
- Cybersecurity: establishing a global innovation hub to address present and future challenges.

- Green Chemistry: providing sustainable solutions to global problems and ensuring safer and healthier lives for future generations.
- Astrophysics: seeking the answers to questions which have occupied the human race since time began.
- Humanities: creating a hub which will promote collaborative study and address society's challenges.

For information on the campaign, and to watch our campaign video, please visit - www.queensfoundation.com



Riddel Hall campus – open for business

The former President of Ireland, Professor Mary McAleese, officially opened the University's new Riddel Hall campus in October.

The new facility is set in 11 acres of beautiful parkland on the Stranmillis Road just five minutes' walk from the main campus. This latest landmark in our truly distinctive estate is now home to the Leadership Institute, the Queen's University Management School and to the Institute of Directors.

The space, which is used by businesses – large and small – from across Northern Ireland not only provides those businesses with access to bespoke executive education programmes but also offers them a link to the academic base of the University. Refurbished and extended at a cost of £15m, almost £5m was raised by the Queen's Foundation from generous alumni and friends, companies and trusts and foundations. The listed building has been transformed into a 21st century portal to provide top facilities for the economic development of businesses in Northern Ireland and across the island of Ireland. The campus is also home to the Riddel Hall Founders' Club – a select group of local companies who together have donated more than £1.2m to the project.

Riddel Hall now joins The McClay Library, Elms Student Village and the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology as a striking example of the power of philanthropy.



Former Irish President, Professor Mary McAleese (2nd from left) with Senator Martin McAleese (left), Professor Sir Peter Gregson and Lady Rachael Gregson (right)

Campaign Report

Giving while living

Queen's ambitious £140m fundraising campaign, launched by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Peter Gregson, in October, has already been given a major funding boost.

In November, the University received its largest ever single gift – £15m from The Atlantic Philanthropies (AP) – to establish a world-leading Centre for Experimental Medicine (CEM). Support from The Wellcome Trust, The Wolfson Foundation, The Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust, Insight Trust for the Visually Impaired, The Atlantic Philanthropies and The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation allowed us to lever further resources from the UK Research Partnership Investment Fund.

The new £32m Centre, due to open in 2016, will specialise in finding cures for eye disease, diabetes and developing a global programme into understanding the genetics of complex chronic diseases.

Charles 'Chuck' Feeney, who founded AP in 1982 and was awarded a joint honorary degree by the ten universities on the island of Ireland in September, was once described as the 'most famous anonymous donor in history'. Nowadays he epitomises a 'giving while living' philosophy which has seen him contribute over £500m to universities – north and south – including almost £80m to Queen's.



Supporting cancer research

Queen's Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB) has benefitted from a memorial fund set up in memory of the political satirist Sean Crummey and from a generous gift from the Darren Clarke Foundation.

In September, Darren Clarke OBE, the 2011 Open Golf Champion and veteran of five consecutive European Ryder Cup teams, visited Queen's to present a cheque for £80,000 from his Foundation to fund research into aggressive forms of cancer, including breast cancer.

The Folks on the Hill creator and impersonator Sean Crummey, who graduated from Queen's in 1980 with a BA in French and Classical Greek, died in November 2011 (aged 53) from a cancer-related illness. Family members, friends and former colleagues of Sean Crummey have to date donated £18,000 to support bowel cancer research in the CCRCB.

Both contributions were received on behalf of the Centre by Dr David Waugh, Acting Director of the CCRCB in the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences at Queen's.

"These gifts will enable Queen's to conduct further research that will underpin an improved genetic understanding of various cancers," said Dr Waugh. "This knowledge will enable our scientists and clinicians to identify new therapeutic strategies and simultaneously develop the tests that we can use to identify those patients in which these treatments will be effective.

"Support such as that demonstrated by the Darren Clarke Foundation and the Sean Crummey Memorial Fund is vital to ensure that world-class cancer treatment is available to people in Northern Ireland."

The CCRCB has gained global recognition for its pioneering work since it opened in 2007. Survival rates for cancer in Northern Ireland are now among the best in the UK.



Darren Clarke (centre) with Helen Barnes (Head of Medical Fundraising) and Dr David Waugh

Sean Crummey's wife Gabrielle (3rd from left) with John Linehan (better known as May McFettridge), family and friends, and staff from CCRCB

News

Benefactors' Lunch

On Saturday, 16 June 2012 the Development and Alumni Relations Office hosted its annual 'thank-you' lunch for donors and legators to the University.

Guests were warmly welcomed to the Riddel Hall campus by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Peter Gregson, who spoke of the invaluable contribution made by benefactors over the years. Sir Peter also provided a preview of the new fundraising campaign to be launched later in the year.

Also present at the lunch were the new Patrons of the Lanyon Society, Leslie and Hilary Morrison. Leslie addressed guests at the lunch and highlighted the importance and impact legacy gifts have had – and continue to have today.

Lunch was served in the fabulous Isdell Courtyard and was followed by a presentation from Keith Kiely, a recipient of The William and Betty MacQuitty Travel Scholarships. Keith spoke about the impact that winning the award had on his PhD studies and how philanthropy was actively enhancing the student experience.

"Without this Scholarship I would not have been able to meet individuals vital to my research project," said Keith. "It has allowed me to travel to the United States, get a feel for the political atmosphere here and meet with some high profile individuals who have provided extremely important insight into how US foreign policy works.

"I believe the funds I received will have a strong bearing on my success as a PhD researcher and hopefully beyond into my academic career."

The event concluded with guests being given a tour of the recently refurbished

Riddel Hall building which now houses the Queen's University Management School, the Leadership Institute and a new Teaching and Conference Centre.



Maxwell Scholarships

The John PB Maxwell Scholarship Fund was endowed in 2008 to award young barristers who distinguished themselves in the course of their postgraduate training at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies (IPLS) at Queen's.

John Maxwell (pictured centre, below) was born in Belfast and is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin. He is one of Northern Ireland's most distinguished legal practitioners and is a former tutor at the IPLS.

The 2012 Scholarship winners, who were presented in October at the Inn of Court at the Bar Library, are (pictured left to right) Sarah Hansen, Cathryn O'Neill, Marie-Claire Campbell and Connor Cassidy.



"I am very grateful to have received a John Maxwell Scholarship. Starting out at the Bar – and particularly during pupillage – comes with a financial burden, which the Scholarship helps ease." – Sarah Hansen

"John Maxwell has shown great generosity in establishing this scholarship, and being a recipient means that the financial liabilities I undertook to reach this point have been greatly eased." – Connor Cassidy

"In these difficult economic times, John Maxwell's generosity is particularly welcome and the Fund has made, and continues to make, a real difference to pupil barristers." – Cathryn O'Neill

"Being a 2012 Maxwell scholar has afforded me the opportunity to meet past winners and senior members of the Bar and provided me with assistance at the beginning of my pupillage." – Marie-Claire Campbell

The MacQuitty 'ripple effect'

'Curiosity is a natural teacher: those who manage to stimulate it for themselves will never be bored, whatever their age.' These are the words of the late Dr William Baird MacQuitty (1905 -2004) whose illustrious career as a photographer, author, banker and filmmaker touched many lives.

Today his family continues to inspire others through their funding of The William and Betty MacQuitty Travel Scholarships. Established in 1999 they enable Queen's postgraduates to travel to further their education.

In March, William's widow Betty and her daughters Miranda and Jane, hosted a reception and awards ceremony in

the Queen's Film Theatre (QFT) when nine students were each presented with scholarships worth £1,000.

Speaking at the event, Miranda highlighted the importance of travel, indicating how it 'broadened the mind' and produced a 'ripple effect', igniting creativity and hunger for knowledge. The destinations of this year's recipients include Madagascar, Italy and America.

Following the presentations, the MacQuitty family, in conjunction with the Development and Alumni Relations Office and QFT, screened A Night to Remember the critically acclaimed film about the sinking of RMS Titanic and one of Dr MacQuitty's best-known

achievements. The digitally enhanced version, shown just days before the 100th anniversary of the Titanic sinking, was greatly enjoyed by its audience.



(L-R) Miranda and Jane MacQuitty, Ray Johnson (Professor of Film Heritage and Documentary and MacQuitty archivist), Betty MacQuitty and Susan Picken (QFT)

Eaton Lecture

The 2012 Eaton lecture, Three Solitudes? Faith. Politics and Secularism in Canada, was delivered in May by Bill Blaikie, a former Canadian politician who is an adjunct Professor in Theology at the University of Winnipeg, and Director of the Knowles-Woodsworth Centre for Theology and Public Policy.

Principal guest, Dr Fred Eaton O.Ont., an honorary graduate of the University, who generously funds the annual lecture, formally launched a new Eaton Exchange Programme between Queen's and the University of New Brunswick (UNB). Representing UNB was Dr H.E.A. (Eddy) Campbell, President and Vice-Chancellor.



Wall Street comes to Queen's!

The First Derivatives Trading Room, supported by Invest NI, has opened at Queen's providing a dynamic learning environment for students hoping to embark on a career in financial services or technology.

Based at Queen's University Management School on the Riddel Hall campus, the facility replicates New York and London trading rooms and gives students a real-life experience of a busy stock exchange with the capacity to deal in equities, bonds, foreign exchange and derivative instruments.

First Derivatives is a leading provider of products and consulting services to the capital markets industry, offering

one of the largest graduate training programmes in Northern Ireland with up to 30 Queen's alumni employed annually by the company.

Founder and Chief Executive, Brian Conlon – a 1987 BSc Accounting graduate - sees the Trading Room as a platform for closer engagement between the company and Queen's students and staff.

Speaking at the opening of the Trading Room in September, Brian said: "As one of Northern Ireland's main graduate recruiters we recognise the value of working closely with universities. From our perspective this is an opportunity to collaborate with Queen's on projects

and develop courses in Computational Finance which align more closely with our company's requirements.

"Partnerships like First Derivatives, Queen's and Invest NI create synergies between the world of business, government and academia, and drive the development of Northern Ireland's knowledge economy."



News

Former Chancellor in the frame

A portrait of Senator George J Mitchell, Chancellor of Queen's from 1999 to 2009, was unveiled in New York in October at the Residence of British Consul General, Mr Danny Lopez.

The former Special Advisor to President William J. Clinton on Ireland was joined by friends and family at a reception to celebrate the occasion jointly hosted by the Consul General and by Sir David Fell, Pro-Chancellor of Queen's. The evening was also attended by The Rt. Hon. Theresa Villiers, MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and the portrait artist James Hanley.

Speaking at the unveiling, Sir David talked of the University's deep sense of gratitude for Senator Mitchell's lengthy association with Queen's and with Northern Ireland. "Senator Mitchell served Queen's with great distinction during his ten years as Chancellor. Rightly lauded around the world for his efforts in peace negotiations, he was – and still remains – a consummate diplomat. "We are deeply indebted to Senator Mitchell for doing so much to put Queen's on the map, nationally and internationally, during a time when Northern Ireland was emerging from a most difficult time in its history," said Sir David.

Senator Mitchell was the eighth Chancellor of Queen's since the Charter of the University was granted in 1908. He was succeeded in 2009 by His Excellency Kamalesh Sharma, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth. The portrait will return to Belfast where it will hang in The Great Hall with those of Senator Mitchell's predecessors.

The Mitchell Portrait appeal was widely supported by staff, members of Senate, the University's Foundation Board, Honorary Graduates and local companies who donated generously towards the cost of the painting.



Senator Mitchell with son Andrew (left), daughter Claire and wife Heather (right)

Outstanding Award for Queen's

Queen's Development and Alumni Relations Office won the award for Outstanding University Fundraising Team at the prestigious Times Higher Education Leadership and Management Awards, in London in June.

The trophy was presented to Norma Sinte, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, and Marcus Ward, Head of Major Gifts, in front of 800 guests in the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane.

The team picked up the award for the fundraising campaign which raised almost £5 million for the development of the University's Riddel Hall campus.

The judges admired the way in which the University had managed not only to raise an impressive sum, but also to link the project to its own aims and to Northern Ireland's strategy to retain more highly skilled graduates and improve its business leadership.

Speaking about the award Ms Sinte said: "This transformative project, incorporating a Leadership Institute, is integral to Northern Ireland's ambition to compete globally as it will provide more highly skilled graduates and improve leadership development.

"The success would not have been possible without the co-operation of colleagues across the University and the Board of the Queen's Foundation, in particular Ed Vernon, who led the fundraising campaign on behalf of the Foundation," she added.

Now in their fourth year, the awards are

a highlight of the academic calendar and aim to celebrate the sector's leadership, management, financial and business skills. They showcase the extraordinary innovation, teamwork and commercial acumen of UK higher education institutions.



(L-R) Julian Clary, Edwin Eisendrath, MD Huron Consulting (sponsor) with Marcus Ward (Head of Major Gifts) and Norma Sinte (Director of Development)

The Acworth Collection – Rare CS Lewis chronicles donated to Queen's

A rare collection of letters from renowned writer CS Lewis was presented to Queen's in August.

Eleven of the author's letters to Captain Bernard Acworth, founder of The Evolution Protest Movement in the 1930s, were donated by the Captain's son, the Reverend Dr Richard Acworth, who was accompanied by his daughter Phyllida, a Queen's English graduate.

Captain Acworth was dedicated to opposing the teaching of the theory of evolution as scientific fact. In his letters to Lewis, he corresponded with the author on his views on the incompatibility of evolution and Christianity.

In the series of previously unpublished letters, written between 1944 and 1960, Lewis explains, at some length, his views on the question of origins. Donating the letters, Reverend Dr Richard Acworth, said: "My father became friendly with Lewis during the 1940s. In his published works, CS Lewis infrequently addressed creation and evolution, and when he did, he usually endorsed some version of theistic evolution."

Deirdre Wildy, Head of Special Collections and Archives at Queen's said: "The works of CS Lewis are enjoyed the world over. We are delighted to be in receipt of the Acworth Collection, and will be pleased to facilitate access to the letters as they are likely to be of great interest to researchers in several subject areas."

The handover took place in the CS Lewis Reading Room, in the University's McClay Library, which is entered through a replica of the wardrobe door used in the feature film, *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Queen's was chosen to host the Irish film premiere of Walt Disney Pictures and Walden Media's *The Chronicles of Narnia; The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* in 2005.





'The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate deserts.' CS Lewis

Raymond Flannery – the innovative theorist

The internationally recognised academic, Raymond Flannery, has spent almost all of his working life in the United States, though his heart is never far from the land of his birth and his Alma Mater. Raymond currently funds a prize which bears his name in the School of Mathematics and Physics at Queen's ensuring that excellence in applied maths and theoretical physics is acknowledged and promoted.

Raymend M. Flanker

"When I came to Queen's in 1958, I took 2nd year pure and applied mathematics and physics – all in my first year. In that class, I met several gifted students who had all performed superbly in their high school A-levels, so they too skipped first year.

I was exposed to the brilliant lecturing style of Professor Karl G Emeleus of the Physics Department who led me through quantum physics from a very physical viewpoint. I was then fortunate to go to the Department of Applied Maths where (Sir) David Bates provided the mathematics of all the nice quantum physics I'd learned in Physics."

(Martin) Raymond Flannery was born on 8th January 1941 in Claudy, Co Londonderry, the son of James and Bridget (née Lohan) Flannery of Tubbercurry and Roscommon respectively. His parents were schoolteachers at a two teacher school at Athnahoney, near Claudy. They had seven children and moved to Derry in 1945 where Raymond attended St Columb's College before coming up to Queen's in the late 1950s.

"I got off to a good start at Queen's with top-class students and professors of significance who were performing important work. I was also very fortunate to spend all of my three year undergraduate career housed in Queen's Elms (now the site of the Students' Union), a magnificent building just across from the main entrance."

Raymond earned the first of his three degrees from Queen's in 1961 when he graduated with a BSc in Mathematics (1st Class). A PhD in Theoretical Physics came three years later in 1964 followed by short spells on the faculty of Queen's and of Harvard in the USA. But it was at the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) that Flannery was to make his mark over the next 40 years first as Assistant Professor (1967-68), then Associate Professor (1971-74), Full Professor (1974-93) and finally Regents' Professor (1993-2007).

Illustrious career

Among numerous national and international awards earned over an illustrious career, Raymond Flannery received the Distinguished Professor Award at Georgia Tech in 1995. In his remarks at the time, college President Wayne Clough referred to him as 'one of the senior statesmen of the physics field,' an 'acknowledged leader in theoretical studies of recombination processes,' and an 'innovative theorist'.

Raymond's research focused on the theory of atomic and molecular collision processes and, in particular, on ultracold Rydberg plasmas. "I learned early on from my days at Queen's to collaborate with those who were carrying out significant work," said Raymond. "In turn, I was able to develop my own original research capability which resulted in some rather nice publications on problems which had never been fully solved before."

Throughout his career he published over 170 refereed papers and review articles in atomic and molecular physics journals and presented over 50 invited papers at national and international scientific conferences. He was a member of the Advisory Board of the Institute for Theoretical Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics, Harvard University. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and the Institute of Physics, London and, in 1997, was elected an Honorary Member of the Royal Irish Academy. in recognition of his 'distinguished services in the Section of Science'. Then, 37 years after first crossing the stage at the Sir William Whitla Hall, Queen's presented Raymond Flannery with his third degree, that of Doctor of Science, DSc (honoris causa) in 1998 for 'his distinction as a scientist.'

"Raymond Flannery was part of the 'golden era' in theoretical atomic and molecular physics at Queen's in the 1960s."

Among Raymond's most cherished awards however, is that of Alumnus Illustrissimus, which he received in 2001 from St Columb's College, where he was a pupil half a century earlier. Holding a special place in his heart, this particular honour came not from a narrow field of scientific peers, but rather from educators and lay people, in recognition of the impact of Raymond's major achievements.

After 'retiring' in 2007, Raymond Flannery remained as Regents' Professor Emeritus at Georgia Tech, continuing his research and serving the College which graduates the largest number of engineers in the US and which he describes as one of the finest engineering and bio-engineering schools in the world.

The Raymond Flannery Prize

Raymond Flannery's love and respect for his Alma Mater are all too evident. "I realised back then that the Department of Applied Mathematics, under the leadership of Professors Bates and Dalgarno, was the best place in the world to study theoretical atomic and molecular physics," he said.

"Postdoctoral Fellows and faculty came from all over, particularly the USA, to study at Queen's. I learned so much from these international scientists. In fact, my office mate in 1965 when I was an Assistant Lecturer was Neal Lane who went on to become Director of the National Science Foundation and later President Clinton's science advisor. With its world-class research and faculty, the Applied Maths Department enjoyed a golden era, of which we are all proud."

It's not surprising then that Raymond should set up a prize to support students at Queen's in the subject area that he loves so much. The Raymond Flannery Prize was established in 2011 and is awarded annually to the MSci graduate in the School of Mathematics and Physics with the best overall mark. This year's winner is Emma Laughlin from Kilrea near Coleraine, who told the *Donor Newsletter*: "It is a tremendous honour to have been awarded this prize from such a widely recognised, respected and renowned physicist as Professor M Raymond Flannery.

"This award is a great way to round off four years of challenging, yet interesting and enjoyable studies in Applied Mathematics. It also reflects the encouragement and support which I have received during my Masters from a highly dedicated and inspirational group of lecturers and tutors.

'It has indeed been an immense privilege to learn from and work alongside them,' she added.

Raymond Flannery was part of the 'golden era' in theoretical atomic and molecular physics at Queen's in the 1960s. The majority of his life may well have been spent away from these shores, but through the prize his name lives on in his Alma Mater. And future generations of students – here and elsewhere – will have him to thank for inspiring them to pursue careers at the leading edge of physical science.

Help for what matters

Campus life today is a far cry from the old notion which often accused universities of being ivory towers. Academics and administrators are relying increasingly on a wide range of external partners to enable them to best prepare the next generation for a rapidly changing world. Key stakeholders such as parents, schools, government agencies, funding authorities, research bodies and, increasingly, the corporate sector, are all integral to the student experience.

As Communications Officer, Gerry Power reports, one company providing help for what really matters at Queen's is Ulster Bank. From showcasing the arts to nurturing sporting champions, from leading the way on entrepreneurship to supporting local community groups and from helping students through the enrolment process to providing essential scholarships, the Bank is playing its part.

Underlining Ulster Bank's relationship with Queen's, Richard Donnan (pictured right), Managing Director, Retail Banking at Ulster Bank said: "Ulster Bank was established in Northern Ireland in 1836 and is deeply involved in the cultural and sporting, as well as financial aspects of life. We take seriously the responsibilities that come with the pivotal role we play in society and the economy. Our support for Queen's is a clear demonstration of our commitment to the future of Northern Ireland.

"Queen's is long established as a centre of educational achievement both locally and internationally. It sets the standards



for excellence and inclusivity, reflecting Ulster Bank's approach to business which aims to be helpful, supportive and active in our local communities."

Heart of cultural life

Ulster Bank's involvement with the Belfast Festival at Queen's started in 2007. Over the years, artists and performers, volunteers and staff, patrons and sponsors have all helped the Festival on its journey, ensuring that it continues to inspire, excite and entertain. It's this strong link with key partners in the local community – in particular with companies like Ulster Bank – that impresses the Vice-Chancellor of Queen's, Professor Sir Peter Gregson.

"From those early days in the 1960s the Queen's Festival – now the Ulster Bank Belfast Festival at Queen's – has been bringing us the best, and in doing so it has placed Belfast firmly on the map as a centre of cultural importance," said Sir Peter.

The Festival has featured well-known performers and writers such as Jimi Hendrix, Michael Palin, Mary Chapin Carpenter and Seamus Heaney. Today, it is the largest and most diverse arts festival in Ireland.

"The Festival is a significant part of our University's rich and diverse heritage. It is an important aspect of Northern Ireland life. While it now spreads its wings to venues beyond our campus, we are proud that Queen's remains its focus and we are grateful to generous sponsors – such as Ulster Bank – who have provided us with invaluable financial support," added the Vice-Chancellor.

"The Ulster Bank Belfast Festival at Queen's plays an important role in the thriving arts and culture sector," said Richard Donnan. "Over the last five decades it has delivered a wide range of social and cultural benefits, and has become a contributor to economic growth.

"We believe that the arts should be accessible to everyone. This year, through our Community Ticket and Night for Belfast schemes, we made more than 400 free places available for a range of this year's top Festival performances. We are always delighted to extend the reach of the Festival through the scheme and to help more people enjoy our vibrant arts sector."

This initiative – now in its fourth year – sees free tickets allocated to charitable organisations and community groups around Northern Ireland with an additional benefit of transport being provided to and from the events.

Members of Carryduff Retirement Group, Headway Belfast and Holywood Rudolf Steiner School were among those to enjoy Ray Davies, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Lesley Garrett and Buena Vista Social Club in 2012 as part of the successful community initiative.



Sport matters

The backing of Ulster Bank is also tangible on the sporting front. Ulster Bank funds 18 bursaries across several sports, including rowing, hockey, athletics and swimming, on top of which the Bank has provided an additional four rugby and GAA Bursary Awards directed at the most outstanding fresher and senior players at the University.

The Bursary scheme offers recipients a comprehensive package, including sports science support, personal fitness coaching, free use of PEC training facilities, educational workshops, sports clothing and financial assistance to cover the costs of training at such a high level.

Among the beneficiaries who spoke recently to Queen's *Donor Newsletter* about the importance of Bursary support are Edward Scott Bowden (rugby), Laurence McGivern (swimming), Joanna Mills (athletics), Hannah McMillan (hockey) and Kevin Coughlan (rowing).

Ed Scott Bowden, from Tetbury in Gloucestershire is a 2nd year civil engineer and a loose head prop in Queen's Rugby 1st XV. The former Fresher of the Year and University Blue used part of his Award to buy gym equipment for his home.

"The Ulster Bank Bursary makes a great difference," said Ed. "It has enabled me to take this season more seriously – to eat better and to travel without worrying about money. It has also helped build my confidence."

Laurence McGivern represented Ireland in the pool in London at the Paralympic Games in that memorable summer of 2012. The 100m backstroke specialist beat the world record holder in his heat and was placed eighth in the final, well above his European ranking position. Laurence spends around 20 hours training each week - both in the pool and the gym – regularly starting at 5.30am each morning. The Silver Bursary holder uses his Ulster Bank Award to cover club fees and to travel to overseas venues in pursuit of all-important qualifying times. And this aspiring French and Accountancy undergraduate already has the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games and Rio 2016 in his sights.

For 2nd year dentist and 400m sprinter Joanna Mills from Ballyclare, the Ulster Bank Bursary has allowed her to attend warm weather training in Spain away from the dark months of January and February in her native Co Antrim.

"To get qualifying times for national squads I need to spend two weeks each winter concentrating on my speed work. The Award covers the cost of travel and allows me to compete with the best in Europe."

Hannah McMillan from Saintfield is a Pharmacy PhD student and an attacking midfielder on the hockey pitch. She has represented Ulster at every level from U16 to senior squad and is currently enjoying life at the top of the Ladies Premier League.

"Sport at Queen's now has great pulling power in attracting new students," said Hannah, "and the Bursaries are a great help. Access to finance undoubtedly increases the level of individual attainment – and hockey sticks can cost anything up to £230! And when, like me, you have to spend all non-study





hours concentrating on sport, you don't have time for a part-time job."

Kevin Coughlan from Co Carlow took his undergraduate degree at Dublin Institute of Technology. For him though, Queen's reputation and success as a rowing university was the main reason he came north.

Like Hannah and Joanna, Kevin is a Gold Bursary holder. "Having access to physiotherapists and sports medicine here at Queen's is great," said Kevin, a Masters in Structural Engineering student. "My primary sporting ambition is to be part of the next Queen's Senior Rowing Eight to win the Irish Universities title – which will be the first time in 50 years! Rowing is an expensive sport and, coming from Carlow I have added travel requirements, so the Bursary comes in very handy."





a scott bowden (ngnt)

Riddel Hall Founders' Club

Away from sport, Queen's is also gaining an international reputation for its approach to business and entrepreneurship. In 2009, Queen's won the highly coveted Times Higher Education Entrepreneurial University of the Year title. The recent reopening of the Riddel Hall campus – on a secluded site off Stranmillis village – has provided a 21st century portal for the development of businesses across the island of Ireland, and is central to the University's focus on the economy.

Ulster Bank is a member of a select group from across Northern Ireland which makes up the Riddel Hall Founders' Club. Together these companies have donated over £1.2m to the Riddel Hall facility.

"Ulster Bank is fully committed to reigniting our economy through specifically tailored assistances for SMEs and support for large firms and organisations," said Richard Donnan. "Equally important is the commitment to ensure we equip the next generation of business leaders with the knowledge and expertise they need to create the jobs which will be vital to our recovery.

"As a Founders' Club member we have made a clear commitment to the University, its students and indeed the future of Northern Ireland."

Riddel Hall brings together under one roof first-rate facilities and leading academics – making it a great place to do business. And with the economy a top priority for the Northern Ireland Assembly, this transformational project fills a gap in the market for quality business and leadership education, a partnership which Norma Sinte, Queen's Director of Development and Alumni Relations, is keen to endorse.

"The Founders' Club works in partnership with world-class business educators at the University to develop links with the local business community," said Norma.

"Founders' Club members, such as Ulster Bank, are demonstrating highly visible leadership and support for a project that is important to future economic success in this region. Through the exchange of expertise, advocacy and thinking, members are helping to unlock business potential while contributing to Northern Ireland's prosperity.

"The Club is rapidly becoming a part of Queen's influential network of alumni and friends at home and overseas." And the Bank recognises the success of the business community through its Business Achievers Awards which are now in their 19th year, and which recognise the outstanding achievements of companies and entrepreneurs across all sectors.

"At Ulster Bank we believe that recognising business success is very important," added Richard Donnan. "As well as providing a platform for businesses to promote their achievements, it also motivates staff and encourages excellence. The Ulster Bank Business Achievers Awards give the local businesses the opportunity to showcase their successes on an islandwide platform," he concluded.



Ulster Bank support for the arts at Queen's is not restricted to the Festival. The Bank also supports two studentships on the new MA in Arts Management.

The course welcomed its first 18 students in September, including one from Poland and two from the United States.

Queen's graduate and popular local actor Dan Gordon (seated front left) joins Noirin McKinney, Director of Arts Development at the Arts Council of Northern Ireland (2nd from left, back row), Professor Michael Alcorn, Head of the School of Creative Arts, (3rd from left), Stephen Cruise from Ulster Bank (3rd from right), Stephen Hadley, Chief Executive, Audiences NI (seated) and students on the new MA in Arts Management, including Molly Goyer-Gorman (second from right), winner of the first of two studentships sponsored by Ulster Bank.

Conclusion

By supporting Queen's, Ulster Bank is making an investment in higher education and ensuring there is a wealth of local talent equipped with the right skills and leadership qualities vital to the economic and cultural development of this region.

That investment impacts on local business, new students, sport and the arts. As a result this University, its students and the local community benefit enormously at every level from Ulster Bank's support.

In the right circles

Gift Clubs enable Queen's to thank and recognise donors who have shown particular commitment in their giving. By making a gift donors play a crucial part in shaping the future of the University, and of the lives of the next generation of Queen's students. Each year new Gift Club members are issued with specially-designed donor pins to acknowledge their regular support. This allows Queen's benefactors to participate in Donor Pin Week (usually in April/May), a national initiative aimed at raising awareness of philanthropic support for higher education.

At present there are three main Gift Clubs and membership is always open!

The 1845 Circle

Recognising regular giving

This Gift Club is designed to recognise donors who show their support by making a regular monthly, quarterly or annual gift (of up to £1,000 within a financial year) through direct debit or otherwise to the University.

The Vice-Chancellor's Circle

Leading the way

This Gift Club is designed to recognise donors who give £1,000 or more within a financial year.

These significant donations raise the profile of philanthropy and make a vital difference to the lives of Queen's students and staff. Such inspirational

The Chancellor's Circle

Membership of the Chancellor's Circle is open to alumni and friends who have donated £100,000 or more since The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation was established in 1999.

Members are invited to meet key people within the University and to stay in touch with project teams on a personal basis. They also receive priority invitations to University events.

We are always delighted to receive messages of support from our donors across the world who are proud to wear their pin and celebrate Queen's commitment to excellence. Thanks cle

Members of The 1845 Circle receive:

• special recognition on the on-line

• a specially commissioned donor pin;

• an invitation to an event at Queen's.

annual Donor Roll of Honour;

the University's annual Donor

Newsletter:

gifts make a real contribution to the development of the campus and enhance the University's distinguished reputation as a global leader in research, education and entrepreneurship.

Members of The Vice-Chancellor's Circle receive:

- the University's annual Donor Newsletter;
- special recognition on the on-line annual Donor Roll of Honour;
- a specially commissioned donor pin;
- an invitation to a special annual event hosted by the Vice-Chancellor;
- priority invitations to alumni and donor events.



to Lisa Cullen from London, a regular donor to the Annual Fund, who sent us this photograph (above), which was taken in Paris. For further details on Gift Clubs or to send a photo of you with your donor pin – contact Jacqui McCormick, Stewardship Officer - tel: 028 9097 5378 or j.w.mccormick@qub.ac.uk.

The benefits of legacy planning



A Living Legacy

While 70 per cent of adults in the UK give money to charity every year, when it comes to leaving a gift to a favourite charity, only 7 per cent choose to do so in their will. Susan Wilson, Queen's Legacy Officer, discusses the importance of a carefully planned will, answers some of the typical questions on legacies and looks at how charitable bequests not only provide vital funding for good causes, but could also potentially reduce your tax bill.

It is no surprise that many people find it difficult to talk about their own mortality. Deciding who to leave your worldly goods to is one of the most sensitive and personal decisions anyone has to make. This is perhaps why one in three people in the UK die without writing a will. Sadly, this can have dire financial consequences for their family and those they care about most.

And while most would never wish to leave loved ones exposed to any kind of risk after they have gone, even fewer would choose to gift their entire estate to the taxman!

Gifts in wills, also known as legacies and bequests, are a vital source of income for charities in the UK. One of the more traditional methods of giving – and still a really important one – gifts tend to be of a higher value than one-off donations and can help charities with long-term planning, especially if they've been notified of intent beforehand.

There are several practical reasons for making a will. Sadly, however, there are many perceived barriers and quite a few common mistakes which you'll need to avoid.

Why is it important to have a will?

If you die without a will, your assets are distributed according to the rules of intestacy. This means your partner may get nothing, and even a spouse may not get a significant slice of your estate. By writing a will you can be sure that your estate - your money and belongings - goes to the people you want it to after you die. For example, the intestacy rules only apply to people who are related by blood or marriage, so even if you have been living with someone for decades, they will not be entitled to anything from your estate unless you have made specific provision for them.

A will also ensures that there is adequate provision for your dependents, as well as stating who should care for them. So, if a married couple with children under 18 die at the same time, the children may end up in the care of the local authority, unless a legal guardian has been appointed.

I do have a will, but it is out of date or may be ambiguous

Even those who do try to prepare well in advance often make simple mistakes, which can be just as problematic. If your affairs are complicated by the presence of step-children, property overseas or a potential inheritance tax liability, you should seek independent legal advice. For example, an individual may bequeath a business to a child and the remainder of their estate to their spouse but if the business is subsequently sold for cash and the will not amended, the child may receive nothing.

In addition, if you leave a watch to your grandson 'Jack', but his name is actually 'James' on his birth certificate, and if there is more than one watch in your collection, this simple oversight could lead to costly legal problems in the future.

Another problem is that people can leave money to non-existent charities, - 'cancer relief' being a common one. By specifying the charity number in advance, many problems can be avoided.

For peace of mind, it is best to seek advice from a qualified, independent financial advisor, solicitor or professional will-writer. Your local Law Society should be able to provide you with a list of appropriate contacts in your area.

Legacy Gifts: barriers – what barriers?

While UK charities receive an estimated £2bn from legacies each year there are still a number of perceived barriers to this important avenue of support.

Isn't it a taboo subject?

Most people associate the word 'legacy' with death. In fact, experience tells us that legacies are all about life – preserving or enhancing provision and



'What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.' Pericles

security for the living and even those not yet born. Death just happens to be the key that unlocks the gifts that sustain, improve or even save lives.

Aren't legacies only for the wealthy?

Some individuals believe that charitable legacy gifts are only for the wealthy. However, the Queen's Foundation has recently received legacies of a few hundred pounds which have proved to be a financial lifeline for students in helping to fund essential course materials and equipment.

But wouldn't this mean leaving less for my family?

Paradoxically, legacies can also have financial benefits for your family and friends, as gifts to charity are exempt of tax and may help to bring the total value of your estate below the taxable threshold.

Will I – or my family – have to pay tax?

What of the tax implications associated with leaving (or not leaving) a legacy? The most commonly encountered tax is Inheritance Tax (IHT) – essentially a form of death duty charged on what you leave behind when you die. In some ways it's a fee levied by the Government for allowing you to leave at least some of your wealth to your heirs.

The basic calculation of IHT is simple value all the assets that are left behind on death, add them up, knock off £325,000 (the 'nil rate band') and tax what's left at 40 per cent.

In 2011, however, the UK Government introduced tax breaks for individuals who leave 10 per cent of their estate to charity, whereby the tax levied will reduce to 36 per cent.

Thus, it is worth bearing in mind that you can choose either to pay more tax to the Inland Revenue or less by making a gift to a charity whose work you support. There are tax implications in leaving the residue of your estate between charitable and non-charitable beneficiaries; your professional adviser will be able to assist you with this.

By way of a simple example, take a husband and wife who each have assets of £350,000. If, on the husband's death these are left entirely to his wife, there will be no IHT for her to pay. However, when the wife dies there will be IHT on her assets, now £700,000! Using her nil rate band of £325,000, plus her late husband's transferred band, her executors will have to pay IHT on £700,000 less (2 x £25,000) = £50,000 @ 40% = £20,000.

If the husband had made a legacy gift of £25,000 from his estate valued at £350,000, there would be no IHT on his part of the estate. If his wife also made a legacy gift of £25,000, then on the wife's death, because both nil rate bands would have been used, no tax is due.

So it is very important to use the nil rate band – though it is imperative to stress that individual practicalities must always be borne in mind and professional advice taken.

Making provision for your personal financial affairs after you die need not be complicated or emotionally daunting. Planning well in advance and keeping your will up-to-date will help avoid some of the most cumbersome potential pitfalls. And taking professional advice will put your mind at rest and help avoid giving an unplanned legacy gift to the taxman.

If you are considering a legacy gift, please remember Queen's and contact Susan Wilson (+44 (0)28 9097 3162) or email susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk for further information.

Queen's Annual Fund

A great big THANK YOU!

Queen's Annual Fund supports a variety of projects which are of benefit to students, the campus and the wider community. Gifts from alumni have enabled the Fund to build distinctive programmes and innovative research initiatives both in and out of the classroom.

In recent months we called 7,000 graduates from a brandnew call-centre in the Lanyon Building. The investment by the University in the new facility has already paid off – the autumn 2012 telephone campaign was the best ever!



In the last year, University alumni have donated a very generous £84,000 to the Queen's Annual Fund to support the student experience. And during 2012, the Fund disbursed proceeds from the previous year to more student-led initiatives on campus than ever before! Projects included a career mentoring scheme to boost employment opportunities, Students' Union health promotion campaigns, and a bicycle rental scheme.

Over the next three pages you can read about some of the student projects which you – our donors – have very generously supported. On behalf of all the students who received support through the Annual Fund in the last 12 months we would like to say a big THANK YOU to all our donors.

Autumn 2012 Telephone Fundraising Campaign – breaks all records!

We received the most student job applications ever... 275 in total!

We saw the highest amount pledged in one evening... £13,381, beating the previous record by £3,500!

We had the largest number of confirmed gifts in one night... a massive 60!

And finally, we broke the record for the most money pledged in a campaign... £130,696, almost £40,000 more than the previous best!

Thank you - you helped us become the best ever officially!

Bicycle Rental Scheme

Since the launch of the cycle hire scheme at the Elms Village in October it has grown in popularity. Queen's Accommodation offers bicycles for hire to students for travel between Elms and the main University campus. Currently, there are 20 bikes available, funded by the Annual Fund, and the charge is just 50p per day.



Keeping people in touch

A number of special Skype terminals have been funded and will be installed in the coming months, offering students communication and information points across the campus. Each one will provide users with the ability to talk with friends and family around the world and, closer to home, with lecturers and staff on a reliable network, using the latest video communications.

When the terminals are not being used for two-way conversations the screens will display useful student information. So far, one station has been purchased – a Dell Vostro 360, flat touch screen computer with built in camera, microphone and speakers – and has had Skype and a number of other apps installed. It will be housed in the student lounge in the award-winning McClay Library.



In tune with Queen's Symphony Orchestra

In June 2012, and with the support of the Annual Fund, 52 students from Queen's Symphony Orchestra travelled to Liverpool for four days, to showcase 12 months of hard work in two concerts. The group included students from all three faculties in the University, and the occasion was a wonderful opportunity to display the musical talents of Queen's students.



Rehearsals took place in the wonderful Lutyen's Crypt in the Metropolitan Cathedral and both concerts were performed in the Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas' where the Orchestra received superb feedback and high praise from the audiences. Thanks to all the graduates who supported our musical endeavours!

Surf's up!

The Queen's Annual Fund has enabled the Surf Club to purchase and invest in the 'Surf Club Start-Up Kit' containing essential safety and surf equipment for new and inexperienced members.

Funds received have enabled the Club to place an order for equipment essential for any surfer who does not already have their own safety gear.

The Club, which won the 2012 'Outstanding Sports Club Contribution to the Students' Union' award, would like to extend sincere gratitude to all the donors, supporters and judges from the Annual Fund. The benefits will be enjoyed throughout the Club for many years to come.



Cutting edge

Studiocode is a software video analysis tool used in the healthcare and education sectors for qualitative and quantitative research, professional development and multidisciplinary analysis and to measure and improve performance.



The system was purchased for the Clinical Skills Education Centre in May 2012 and was part funded by a grant from the Queen's Annual Fund. It has already helped many medical trainees at Queen's to acquire and retain new practical skills, including around 40 second year students who have used it to learn Venepuncture, and over 250 fifth years for cardiac resuscitation. Studiocode has been also utilised in training by postgraduate doctors and nurses in a trauma-based scenario.

Football crazy!



The University's Association Football Club is delighted to have received funding from the Queen's Annual Fund. This support has enabled the Club to provide coaches and players with new training equipment, playing kits, cones, bibs, warmup tops, sub suits, mannequins, training balls and important medical equipment.

Players in the three Queen's teams can now take the field knowing that they are the best dressed in their respective leagues! And coaches have all they need to deliver well planned, meaningful training sessions which have resulted in record numbers of footballers attending.

It is no coincidence that Queen's first squad is currently sitting at a record high position in its league and our 2nd and fresher sides are also having successful seasons.

The Club is looking forward to competing in the forthcoming Irish University competitions with hopes of retaining the Crowley Cup (for second XI's) – won last season for the first time since 1993 – very high. Thanks again to the Annual Fund and 'come on Queen's!'

Focus on Academy scholarships

Queen's Sporting Academies play a vital role in enhancing the student experience by offering over 120 scholarships to GAA, rugby, soccer and rowing each year!

Academy scholarships allow athletes to enhance their performance by providing free access to facilities, excellent coaching and the high-quality clothing needed for their sport.

Upper Malone

In March 2012, Queen's Sport officially opened the University's £13 million facility at Upper Malone signalling a new era for sport in Northern Ireland. The state-of theart venue will play host to major competitions and events, engaging with the wider community and students from across Ireland, the UK and further afield.

Upper Malone (previously known as 'the Dub') has provided the platform for University team performance and success over many years. The site is rich in heritage with many happy memories for thousands of students who experienced success, defeat and friendship when representing the University in local, national and international competitions.



Scholarships awarded

- 26 Jack Kyle Rugby Scholarships
- 9 Rowing Scholarships
- 19 Sean O'Neill Gaelic Football Scholarships
- 8 Ladies' Football Scholarships
- 8 Camogie Scholarships
- 7 Ted McConnell Hurling Scholarships
- 4 Soccer Academy Scholarships

Academy highlights

- Among the Jack Kyle Bursary recipients were lain Henderson who has since gone on to represent Ulster and Ireland at both U20 and senior level with distinction, and James McKinney who secured a professional contract with the Rotherham Titans in England.
- In the past year the University has seen seven players represent the Ulster Ravens, and also provided seven of the successful Ulster U20 side that won the recent Interprovincial series for the first time.
- For the first time Academy slots were made available to female students, and this year we had seven representatives on the Ulster Women's team, and three selected for the Irish senior/ Irish sevens squad.
- In 2011/12 Queen's Rugby achieved their highest ever All-Ireland League finish.
- The GAA Fresher football team won the University's first All-Ireland Championship in ten years at this grade.
- Four of the Ladies Gaelic Football scholars won All-Ireland Championships with their counties (Armagh – Intermediate, Antrim – Junior).
- Four of the Camogie Scholars won All-Ireland Intermediate medals with Derry.
- One Ted McConnell Scholar won an All-Ireland Senior club title with Loughgiel.
- The Ladies Gaelic Football Club successfully hosted the largest all female intervarsity tournament the O'Connor Cup at the new facilities at Upper Malone.



Pictured are Iain Henderson and Ashleigh Baxter, among last year's graduates of the Queen's Rugby Academy who both went on to represent their country, helped by the support they received thanks to alumni donations.

Taking care

'Are Ye Well?' is reaching out to the student body to signpost those concerned about any aspect of their personal welfare or with other issues to the University department or service best placed to help them.

A key component of the October 2012 campaign was health checks, conducted by nursing school undergradutes and staff, when over 100 students were able to find out just how well they were taking care of themselves. Other stalls present on the day included a number addressing fitness, financial, healthy lifestyle and academic/educational support and advice issues.

The second roadshow in November saw over 50 students take part in a 'beer goggles' assault course, which simulated the effects of binge drinking and gave advice on the damage that could be inflicted as a result.

In recent years stress, alcohol abuse and unhealthy lifestyles have been considered to be among the main contributory factors leading to an increase in tension in community relations in South Belfast. The 'Are Ye Well?' Campaign is among those initiatives aimed at tackling the problem and represents a refreshing, innovative and student-friendly approach to addressing the issue.



Measuring performance

The purchase of the latest equipment to aid performance analysis, made possible through the Annual Fund, has already brought major benefits for Queen's rugby.

Activity both on the pitch – and in the gym – can now be measured. Home games are videoed permitting closer scrutiny of individual and team output. Streaming via an iPad has created an 'action replay' dynamic where the coach can re-watch a recent play and look for notable factors. It has also enabled the calculation of up-to-the-minute game statistics on possession, territory and unforced errors allowing the coach to make any necessary changes.

In the gym, the iPad is also used to show athletes corrections needed to avoid injury and increase longevity. With the current emphasis on strength and conditioning in rugby the support of the Annual Fund has been invaluable.



A tale of two cities - international scholarships

Queen's students are now being offered a number of exclusive opportunities to experience firsthand the workings of key financial markets. By offering wealth creators of tomorrow access to companies where important deals are made and key business decisions are taken they are being given a remarkable insight into the world of finance today.

Following the success of the City Scholars' programme in London and the launch of a new internship programme in New York, those behind the schemes – and the students hoping to benefit from them – share with the *Donor Newsletter* their motivations for getting involved.

London

The City Scholars' programme in London is supported by the City Leadership Group (CLG) – friends and alumni of the University – who have successful careers in some of the UK's top firms. Among the individuals dedicated to supporting Queen's vision to become a University of true global standing is Coleraine exile Jeremy Eakin, Managing Director, Global Family Office at UBS AG.

UBS AG is one of a number of leading legal and finance companies providing a week of work experience and a stipend of £750 to cover student travel, accommodation and living expenses.



"When I was asked to get involved I thought it was a fabulous idea," said Jeremy. "In graduate recruitment, applicants often have all the theory but little practical knowledge. I saw the initiative as an opportunity to help students find a more structured career and to give them a real advantage when applying for more formal intern programmes."

Rachel Powell, from Keady, is studying for a BA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics. She spent a week with UBS under the guidance of Jeremy Eakin.

Rachel's placement exposed her to the rigours of wealth management research, portfolio creation and investment banking. For five days she shadowed different employees and was given unique access to a number of senior company individuals who shared with her their personal experiences of working in the sector.

"The programme showed me just how international investment banking is and has opened my eyes to opportunities across the world. I was a bit hesitant beforehand about working or living outside Northern Ireland; now it is what I would prefer!" said Rachel.

"I am extremely grateful to Jeremy for providing me with a once in a lifetime opportunity that has changed my life," Rachel told the *Donor Newsletter*. "As a result of my Scholarship I have become more focused on my studies, have made great contacts and now know that I can work in a large company and make an influential difference," concluded Rachel.

"The young woman who turned up on day one was totally different from the one who left at the end of the week," reflected Jeremy. "Rachel impressed everyone; any doubts about her confidence fell away over the week, so much so that we were able to find her a further internship in our Dublin office.

"The CLG is supporting this programme over the next three years," said Jeremy. "And while there are plans to expand it, I am looking forward to looking back in 2015, to checking out how our interns have progressed and to being able to say that we really made a difference."

New York

The success of City Scholars has prompted the replication of the initiative in the US, kicked off by Belfast man Michael George at his home in Manhattan in October. The inaugural group of six first-year Queen's students will go on a two-week business-driven placement in the heart of New York's finance sector this summer.

"I feel passionately about the University, the top rate education it provides and the quality of the students it produces..."

Paula O' Hare, from Greenisland is studying for the new BSc in Mathematics with Finance and is excited about the possibility of a placement.

"The prospect of working for two weeks in the heart of New York's finance



Declan Breslin (centre) with guests at the launch of the New York internship programme

district would be truly amazing,' said Paula. "The new internship programme will certainly give Queen's students a head start in what is a very competitive market," she added.

The network of companies already enlisted in the programme includes UBS, BNP Paribas, SkyBridge, Fortress Investment Group and JP Morgan, where Declan Breslin, BSc Finance, 1998 leads the Client Service and Onboarding team.

"I feel passionately about the University, the top rate education it provides and the quality of the students it produces," Declan told the Donor Newsletter.

"Having worked previously in London and now New York I witnessed how top universities secured summer internships at some of the large banks for year one and year two students. This gives students a competitive advantage when they apply for year-long placements and full summer internships towards their final year.

"Firms also began to offer full time positions to the cream of their intern class - creating an exclusive pool of talent with differentiated skill sets," continued Declan. "Our students have the talent - they need the confidence to express this and the exposure to capitalise on it."

Niall Mackle from Lurgan, another student on the new Mathmatics with Finance course at Queen's, is hoping to do just that.

"It is fantastic that first years are being given this opportunity so early in their university life; I for one am looking forward to applying for what would be a chance in a lifetime."

At a time when several finance firms have opened significant operations in Belfast, it is not surprising that Queen's is now providing a platform for students to better engage with real world issues relating to global finance.

For further information on supporting work/study internships and scholarships in New York and London (or to discuss the possibility of establishing similar schemes in other major cities or in different career areas), please contact Marcus Ward – cityleadershipgroup@ qub.ac.uk or call on +44 (0)28 9097 3403.



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"When one of our patients received world-class care at the Cancer Centre at Belfast City Hospital, he decided to leave a significant legacy to Queen's. His generous bequest will enable our researchers to develop individualised treatments that will have higher cure rates, longer survival times, fewer side effects and provide a better quality of life."

Dr Richard Wilson Director of Northern Ireland Cancer Trials Centre



Queen's Foundation Help support the pursuit of world-class education and life-changing research

If you would like to speak to someone about leaving a gift in your will, please contact **Susan Wilson, Legacy Officer** Development and Alumni Relations Office, Queen's University, **T:** +44 (0) 28 9097 3162 **E:** susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk

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www.queensfoundation.com