

DONOR IMPACT REPORT

Making a Difference in 2022



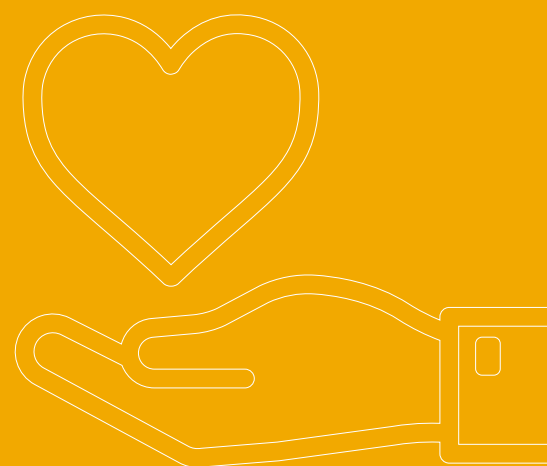
THANK YOU

*You are changing lives
for the better.*



Paul Stephenson
Head of Development

*“It’s been wonderful to
get out and about and
meet many alumni
and supporters.”*



A warm welcome to the Heriot-Watt Donor Impact Report 2022. This is a celebration of the impact of your philanthropy on the aspirations and achievements of our students and on the communities we serve. We have plenty to update you on since our last report in 2019, including our 1821 Appeal and Bicentennial Celebrations that so many of you took the time to join and support.

But first, I would like to introduce myself as the new Head of Development. I have long aspired to join the team at Heriot-Watt and build on 25 years in fundraising at charities, as well as senior fundraising roles at UK universities. A big part of the attraction to Heriot-Watt is its **world-leading research and commitment to supporting global communities** through the transition to Net Zero.

I grew up on a council estate in Newham, East London, and was one of the first generation of my family to benefit from a university education. It will not surprise you that I am hugely impressed by the emphasis that Heriot-Watt places on **creating educational opportunities for talented people across the world**, whatever their circumstances in life. The opportunity to support an Appeal that encourages girls and young women to embark on careers in STEM subjects, supports Black and Minority Ethnic groups, and champions disability programmes, resonates very strongly with me.

Many of you contributed to the Appeal, which raised £4.6m. The following pages explain the impact we set out to deliver, why it is important, and what we have already started

to achieve. We also update you on the **generosity of some of our legacy donors** who are funding wonderful initiatives to help students.

Last year we transitioned out of lockdown restrictions, and it has been wonderful to get mobile and meet many alumni and supporters. Highlights included the alumni dinners in Houston and New York, and the chance to work with the American Friends of Heriot-Watt University board to extend USA activities and networks. I look forward to meeting more of you this year.

Finally, I would like to thank you for supporting Heriot-Watt University in these wonderful initiatives. You are changing lives for the better.

P Stephenson

EDUCATION *for* FOR ALL *200 years*

Inspired by our bicentennial, the 1821 Appeal has raised £4.6m to enable talented students from a wide range of backgrounds across the world to access a Heriot-Watt education.

When the first-ever School of Arts of Edinburgh lecture took place on a cold evening at St Cecilia’s Hall on 16 October 1821, it was attended by local workers who would never normally have had access to such opportunities. That was how Heriot-Watt University started, and our ethos of ‘education for all’ has flourished ever since.

Last year’s 1821 Appeal paid tribute to that ethos by raising £4.6m for eight projects designed to promote inclusion and create opportunities for a wider range of students. For instance, our **Black Voices Project** is bringing more Black and Minority Ethnic students to Heriot-Watt through 40 scholarships, while our **Denis Goldberg Scholarship** is helping talented graduate employees in southern Africa undertake an online part-time MSc without having to leave their home country.

As a global university, we are also delighted that **Project Dubai** and **Project Malaysia** are both providing full scholarships to students in those countries who would not otherwise have had the opportunity to study at Heriot-Watt.

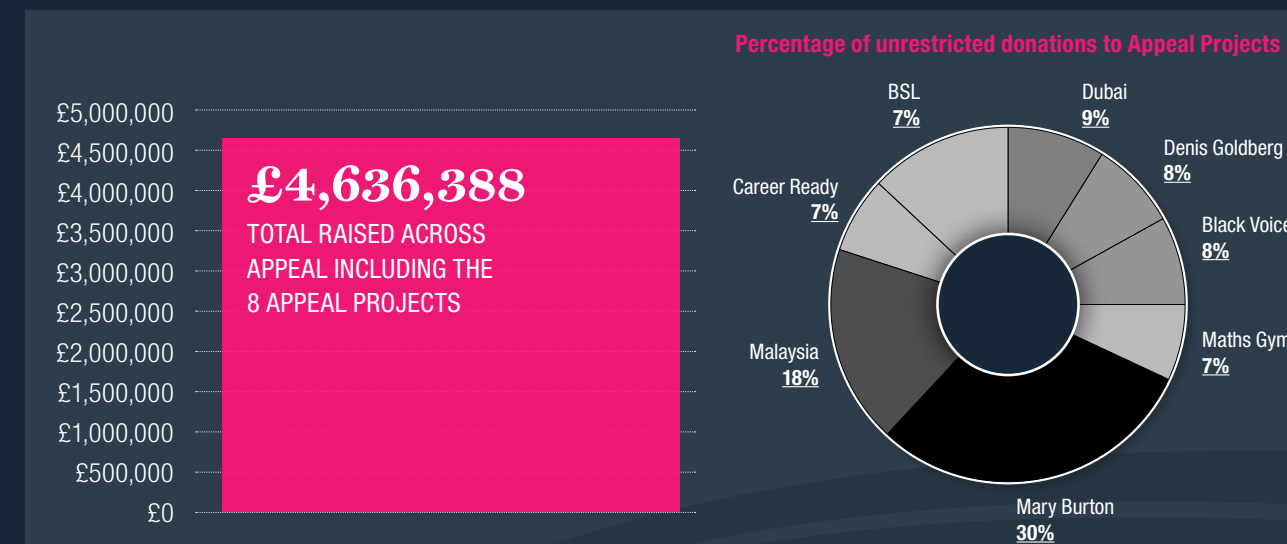
Meanwhile, our **Deaf and British Sign Language (BSL) Project** is creating a pioneering programme of scholarships for students across Scotland, while **Career Ready** is bringing mentoring and internship opportunities to school students from some of Scotland’s most disadvantaged areas.

Finally, the **Mary Burton Project** is helping more women from across Scotland to take up science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) courses, while our **Maths Gym** is providing valuable support to Heriot-Watt students around the world.

A big thank you to everyone who has supported these initiatives, all of which will have a hugely positive impact for many years to come.

*“A big thank you to everyone who
has supported these initiatives.”*

Paul Stephenson, Head of Development



A BRIGHTER FUTURE THROUGH DENIS GOLDBERG SCHOLARSHIPS

Your donations to the 1821 Appeal are supporting a powerful initiative to give talented African students the chance to study an MSc in their home country – bringing lasting benefits to their careers, employers and communities.

Theophile Iradukunda is a young mechanical engineering graduate working in Rwanda. “In three years, I’ve developed expertise in creating and implementing customised renewable energy solutions for residential and commercial customers,” he says. “Despite this, **I still need extra knowledge and experience** if I am to achieve my dream of making renewable energy more affordable and dependable for every person who needs it.”

Theophile is exactly the kind of talented and ambitious young professional who can shape a positive future for Rwanda and Africa. The 11th child in his family, he is hungry to learn more and that’s one of the many reasons why we awarded him a **Denis Goldberg Scholarship**, inspired by the South African social campaigner of the same name.

The first 10 scholarships were all awarded to graduates working in **Rwanda’s renewable energy sector**, with their participation funded partly by donations to the 1821 Appeal (see P5) and partly through financial support from their employers. Further scholarships have since been awarded to 15 students in Rwanda and Ghana. In addition, access to MScs in Real Estate and Construction Project Management have also opened. And since January, the scholarships have been available in Zambia too.

The courses, run by our School of Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure and Society in conjunction with the Edinburgh-based charity Challenges Worldwide, combine distance learning and mentoring with support from local co-ordinators.

Theophile can already see the impact that the scholarship is having on him. “The experience has been great so far,” he says. “It has more than met my expectations and I feel really well supported. I know that **the MSc will empower me to become a driving force for change**, and give me the tools, networks and belief to go on and make a real impact.”

“The scholarship has offered me an incredible opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills that I need,” he says. “When I got the scholarship I was really excited – as was my company.”

Theophile Iradukunda



Denis Goldberg
Scholars

Your generosity in supporting the 1821 Appeal Black Voices Project has provided 40 scholarships for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) students, created a team of BME Advocates to support them throughout their Heriot-Watt experience and created safe spaces for discussion and networking.

The parents of Heriot-Watt Accountancy and Finance student Shanzay Akhtar moved from Pakistan to the UK with very little, but they were inspired by the hope of creating a good life for their family.

“My parents didn’t have the privilege of being able to attain higher education, so it was always a big dream of theirs, as well as mine, that I attend a university,” says Shanzay. “When I received my unconditional offer from Heriot-Watt, I knew instantly I wanted to attend but felt helpless, knowing my parents wouldn’t be able to financially support any accommodation or commuting costs. I applied for the scholarship having little hope and ended up getting a job as a waitress. The day I received the scholarship was very uplifting. It’s not just the funding that has helped me. The scholarship felt like a reset of my perspective on life and a realisation that there is hope.”

It was through your generosity in supporting Black Voices that Shanzay was able to realise the dream she shared with her parents. The project increases the number of BME students joining us at Heriot-Watt through 40 scholarships. And by appointing four BME advocates



to facilitate safe spaces for discussion and networking, we strive to ensure that all our students, regardless of ethnicity, can enjoy a positive experience.

One of our first BME Advocates was Marine Biology PhD student Alycia. “I jumped at the chance to join as an advocate back in November 2020,” Alycia says. “As a woman of colour who has been in education for nearly 20 years now, **it represented the first opportunity I’d seen to enact real change.**”

Alycia and her colleagues conducted an extensive BME student survey earlier this year to guide the sort of events that will be held in the current academic year and improve inclusivity in aspects of university life such as catering, accessibility, and social life.

“We’re really looking forward to seeing the impact that efforts like these can have,” Alycia adds. “Thank you from all of us. **Your funding has recognised the hard work it**

takes to address something like this and the importance of the issue.”

Black Voices also has the whole-hearted backing of our Chancellor Sir Geoff Palmer. “A Heriot-Watt education changed my life and provided me with a range of opportunities I might otherwise not have accessed,” says Sir Geoff. “Yet this was not without its challenges, and I believe **it is crucial that we support BME students to overcome the barriers they face and help them fully realise their potential** while studying with us.”

“It’s not just the funding that has helped me. The scholarship felt like a reset of my perspective on life.”

Shanzay Akhtar

EMBRACING BLACK VOICES

MAKING WAVES ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

Alumni dinners in Houston and New York marked a memorable year of celebrating our relationship with Heriot-Watt alumni in the USA.

Over the past year, we've very much enjoyed seeing more of our alumni in North America. There is such an abundance of talent and goodwill across the Atlantic, and we celebrated our relationships in the USA in April 2022 with dinners in Houston and New York City, where so many of our USA friends are based.

It was wonderful to meet up with many of you on our visit, hear what you've been up to and share news about exciting developments at Heriot-Watt. The **new National Robotarium and plans to expand our work in Net Zero** were popular topics of conversation. There was also a lot of interest in our **1821 Appeal** (see P3), which is extending access to a Heriot-Watt education to students from a diverse range of backgrounds and circumstances.



L-R: Cedric Manzoleloua Ndongala, PGDip alumnus; Professor Dame Heather McGregor, Provost of Heriot-Watt University Dubai; Robin Watson CBE, alumnus and CEO, Wood plc.

One of the guests at the Houston event was Uwem Ukpog, Heriot-Watt alumnus and VP of Global Services at Amazon Web Services. Uwem attended with his wife Eno, Global HRBP Director at Wood Mackenzie, and they were both particularly interested when our Principal, Professor Richard A. Williams, discussed the influence of Sir Geoff Palmer and his role as Chancellor at Heriot-Watt.

"I found his story fascinating," says Uwem. "The barriers he overcame and how Heriot-Watt opened doors for him was very interesting. It stimulated a conversation that led me, and my wife Eno, to support the Black Voices Project within the 1821 Appeal. I was drawn to this project because it will **not only mitigate difficulties faced by BME students but help to provide the professional diversity** that will benefit business and industry."



Bryan Milton, BSc, CEng. Distinguished alumnus and Heriot-Watt University supporter.

The Houston event was co-hosted by the Principal, Professor Richard A. Williams, together with Professor Dame Heather McGregor, Provost of Heriot-Watt University Dubai, and Robin Watson, Heriot-Watt alumnus and Chief Executive of Wood plc. Robin's involvement was particularly appreciated given the high numbers of Houston alumni working in the energy industry. The event also featured a talk from Heriot-Watt alumnus, donor and former President of Exxon, Bryan Milton.

"It stimulated a conversation that led me, and my wife Eno, to support the Black Voices Project within the 1821 Appeal."

Uwem Ukpog

Professor Dame McGregor co-hosted our New York event, together with our Global Chief Financial Officer Andrew Jefferson, and Helen Sayles, Heriot-Watt alumna and Chair of the National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA. "I chose to support the 1821 Appeal, and serve on the Appeal's Advisory Board, because **I deeply believe in supporting access to education,**" says Helen. "I was fortunate to do well at school and progress to university, which opened up significant new possibilities. Without that opportunity, I would not have enjoyed the career that I have."

"We're very grateful to all alumni that attended the events and supported the 1821 Appeal," says Andrew Mackinnon, Senior Development Executive, Heriot-Watt. "Our alumni in the USA generously contributed \$560,000 to the Appeal

which will directly impact the lives of so many of our students. One of the most important outcomes for us was being able to explain some of the extraordinary work that Heriot-Watt students and academics are doing to make the world a better place."

The Development and Alumni team looks forward to consistent engagement with the USA in the years ahead, with more events and visits planned for 2023 and beyond. We are currently working to **expand our American Friends of Heriot-Watt Board** by identifying new alumni members in the USA who can work with us as advocates, connectors and provide advice in terms of engagement and fundraising in the USA. We look forward to reporting back again next year.

L-R: Professor Dame Heather McGregor, Provost of Heriot-Watt University Dubai, Helen Sayles CBE, distinguished alumna and guest, Hilary MacGillivray.



"Our alumni in the USA generously contributed \$560,000 which will directly impact the lives of so many of our students."

Malaysia's Leaders with Impact Scholarships, funded by the 1821 Appeal and two supportive local partners, is providing students from less privileged backgrounds with life-changing educational opportunities.

Tan Ying Shien's father sadly passed away six years ago, leaving his mother as the sole breadwinner. It's been a tough few years for a close family. And the hopes of Tan and his sister to move into higher education must have seemed out of reach at times. However, they are both pursuing their ambitions and, through the 1821 Appeal, Tan is now studying a Foundation in Business course leading to Data Sciences at Heriot-Watt University.

Tan was awarded a Leaders with Impact Scholarship, funded by the 1821 Appeal's Project Malaysia Appeal and FWD Takaful, a business partner that provides forms of Shariah-compliant insurance.

"I truly appreciate this opportunity," says Tan. **"By having this scholarship, I am able to be totally committed to my studies without worrying about financial support.** Most importantly, it helps to lighten the burden for my mother. This is the most fortunate thing that has happened in my life. I will push myself to achieve excellent academic results and make all of you proud."

The team at Heriot-Watt University Malaysia (HWUM) is aiming to award 10 Leaders with Impact Scholarships every year for the next 10 years, and Tan is one of the first to benefit from a programme that is also financially supported by Yayasan Tunku Abdul Rahman, a charitable foundation committed to nurturing positive leaders for Malaysia. The scholarships are being awarded exclusively to students from the B40 community, a socio-economic grouping with lower levels of income and educational opportunities.

"We're widening access to a positive education regardless of backgrounds," says HWUM Provost and Chief Executive Officer Professor Mushtak Al-Atabi. "It is our hope that this scholarship will enable deserving students from the B40 community to have a life-changing UK education that will make a difference in their lives and future."

Another of the new scholars is Hashveen Kaur. "Coming from a B40, single-mom family, I realised pretty early on that getting a good education would help to pave the way towards a better future," she says. "Being awarded this scholarship not only bestowed upon me **the opportunity to further my education in the field I am passionate about,** it also helped me to relieve my mother's burden. My experience so far has been excellent. I intend to fully commit myself in learning and exploring new things in and out of my field of study."

"The 1821 Appeal, which aims to enable deserving students to access a Heriot-Watt education to achieve their dreams no matter their circumstances, is in line with our vision," says Dzameer Dzulkifli, Chief Executive of Yayasan Tunku. "We look forward to **forging a new generation of leaders** who will shape a better future for themselves, their community, and the country through this initiative."

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported Project Malaysia through the 1821 Appeal. We have several other hugely enthusiastic testimonials from the first intake of scholars – your donations are making a profoundly positive life-long impact on deserving students, their families and their communities.



Hashveen Kaur

"It is our hope that this scholarship will enable deserving students from the B40 community to have a life-changing UK education."

Professor Mushtak Al-Atabi

OPENING DOORS TO LESS-PRIVILEGED MALAYSIAN STUDENTS

OUR TELETHON RETURNS!

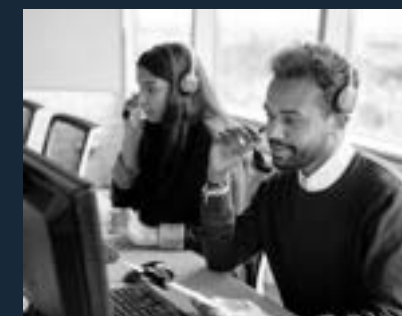
After a three-year break, the Annual Heriot-Watt University Telethon made a successful return last summer. Thanks to our highly generous alumni and an enthusiastic team of student callers, we raised £54,000 to guarantee educational opportunities for students from a wide range of backgrounds.

If you're a graduate of Heriot-Watt, you may well have received a call from one of our students during last summer's telethon. Taking place from 24 July to 21 August 2022, it was a wonderful opportunity for us to update alumni with developments at the University, and explain to our alumni what their donations will support.

As ever, the kindness of our alumni ensured the response was very generous, despite the current economic crisis. All of the money raised is being put to very good use, with the majority of it supporting the 1821 Appeal, which continues Heriot-Watt's 200-year tradition of **creating greater access to education for people of all backgrounds and circumstances.**

The Appeal has several strands but, in particular, our callers shared information on our Black Voices, Deaf and British Sign language (BSL), Denis Goldberg, Mary Burton and Maths Gym projects (see P3 for more information). And the overall telethon also raised valuable funds for our pioneering **Net Zero Community Hub**, which will inspire change by showcasing Net Zero innovations and developing outreach work with schools.

24 students worked throughout the full four weeks, contacting more than 2,000 alumni across Europe and North America, the vast majority of whom were in the UK. The team was trained and managed by an experienced external agency, which used the latest call technology to keep information and conversations secure.



Calling our alumni

"The success of the 200th anniversary campaign is an excellent example, attracting substantial support from alumni."

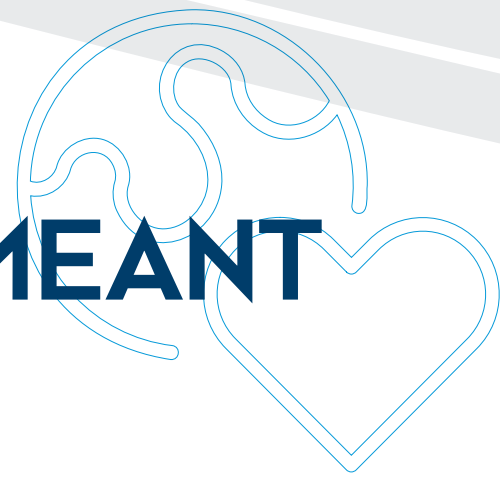
Dr David Stewart Boak

One of the call recipients was 1821 Appeal donor Dr David Stewart Boak. "I received a call in August from a current student, Hitansh-Dilip," says David. "I very much enjoyed our conversation, and he was very professional. As an alumnus myself and regular contributor, I clearly believe **the 1821 Appeal is a cause which deserves our sustained support.** I personally like the idea of the scholarships and decided to make a gift. Little did he know when he called that I was actually the University's first Director of Development overseeing the start of the fundraising campaign 30 years ago. I am impressed with the progress it has made over the years. The success of the 200th anniversary campaign is an excellent example, attracting substantial support from alumni. I wish Hitansh-Dilip all the best in his career. I'm sure he'll go far!"

"With everything that's happened in the world recently, it was remarkable to see just how generous people still are," says Alexis Nielson, Regular Giving Officer at Heriot-Watt. **"I want to say a big 'thank you' to the alumni community for rallying behind this – it's very much appreciated by everyone involved."**



SHOWING THE WORLD WHAT MEANT *most to you*



Heriot-Watt will be forever grateful to our legacy donors whose names live on in celebration of the work that meant so much to them.



Dr Stefan Kay,
OBE, BSc, CEng,
FIMechE, CIMgmt,
FRSA, HonDUniv
24/07/1944-
22/02/2021

Legacy gift to
Heriot-Watt University of

£11,900

Stefan graduated from Heriot-Watt in 1967 and quickly became an **industry leader** in paper and the environment. We are extremely proud of Stefan's contribution to Heriot-Watt University as a distinguished alumnus, Watt Club President and Court member, as well as his consultancy work and long-standing commitment to our Student Union.

With his family's permission, we are pleased to allocate his legacy gift to the projects of our 1821 Appeal, continuing his passion to **enable students from around the globe to access a Heriot-Watt education** irrespective of their background, ethnicity, or financial need.

"A gift in your will is a powerful way to give to coming generations," says Ruth O'Hanlon, Campaign Director at Heriot-Watt. "Making education available for young people, or protecting our planet through renewable energy research, or remembering someone you love – a legacy gift to Heriot-Watt is a wonderful way to ensure that what is important to you during your lifetime is **carried forward into the future.**"

Memoriam



A passionate and enthusiastic geoscientist, **Bruce Blanche** inspired many who knew him.

"It was his passion for forging new alliances and bringing together key operators that was the hallmark of his achievements," writes his family. "A patient, generous and kind tutor, Bruce was delighted to mentor any trainee exploration geoscientist."

In recognition of Bruce, and thanks to the generosity of the Mediterranean, Middle East and Africa Scout Group, the **Bruce Blanche Memorial Awards in Applied Geoscience** were launched in 2020. The Awards recognise the best MSc theses in Applied Geoscience each year with a prize value of £500 – a fitting way for Bruce's name to live on for generations to come.



Another example is the greatly missed **Professor Adrian Todd**, who sadly passed away in June 2022. The **Adrian Todd Golden Key Fund** enables Institute of Geoenergy Engineering students to attend conferences abroad.

"Adrian was a much loved and respected academic," writes Emeritus Professor Patrick Corbett. "He was a pioneer in the field of carbon dioxide storage, and a modest man whose academic career should be an inspiration for anyone hoping to reach the summit of their chosen profession from humble beginnings. The fund was Adrian's initiative and he strongly supported

it whilst he was alive. Many of us were grateful for Adrian's support, which has been reflected by the great success of the fund."

Thinking about leaving a legacy?

If you would like to find out more, do get in touch at giving@hw.ac.uk for a full and confidential discussion.

REF 2021 RESULTS

The release of the REF 2021 results in May 2022 assessed **86.8% of our overall research and 88.6% of research outputs as 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent'**. We are also top in Scotland for world-leading Physics research, which also saw **97% of its research classed as world-leading and internationally excellent**. In addition, our three joint submissions with the University of Edinburgh – in **Mathematical Sciences, Engineering, and Architecture, Built Environment and Planning** – were awarded a top-four ranking in the UK based on the quality and breadth of the combined research.

Upskilling Scotland

Through funding from the Scottish Funding Council, we have made significant strides in delivering education based on demand from businesses on a course-by-course basis. In 2021/22, **Heriot-Watt provided learning to more than 500 individuals** on this basis. The University also made use of the National Transition Training Fund, which is aimed at individuals who are unemployed, at risk of redundancy or have a clear need to develop skills around Net Zero to meet changing business needs.

Graduate Apprenticeships

Our Graduate Apprenticeship scheme, where students complete their course to the same timetable as traditional degrees but with the majority of activity and assessment based on tasks carried out in the workplace, continues to flourish. 85 of our apprenticeship students graduated in 2021/22 (more than double last year), with just **over a third of them achieving first-class degrees**.

Heriot-Watt Global College

The establishment of the Heriot-Watt Global College is a **powerful engine for global growth, inclusion and access**. There is so much potential here given our strong track record in providing foundation and other pathways into and throughout higher education globally.

Go Global

Following the easing of pandemic lockdown measures, we've renewed our Go Global offering, which offers all students at Heriot-Watt the opportunity to study at any of our five campuses. Approximately 350 students moved between campuses in 2022 – a return to pre-pandemic levels. Go Global **provides students with exposure to different cultures and ways of working**, enhancing their global employability. And as students graduate and go on to make their way in the world, the experiences gained through Go Global strengthen the multinational connections of our Watt Club alumni network.

97%

of Heriot-Watt's research is classed as world-leading and internationally excellent

85

apprenticeship students graduated in 2021/22 (more than double last year)

Approximately

350

students moved between campuses in 2022 – a return to pre-pandemic levels

Emerging from the pandemic crisis, Heriot-Watt took bold, positive steps in 2022. Here's a review of some of the key developments at the University over that period, including our Global Research Institutes and other initiatives for making a positive impact on the world while broadening access to educational opportunities.

The people of Heriot-Watt have always shared a **culture of wanting to make the world a better place**. That philanthropic commitment was a repeated theme of our bicentennial reflections, and is exemplified by your generous donations and the heart-warming stories within this report.

The University will continue to embrace this approach across all its departments. We will address critical global issues through our interdisciplinary approach and close collaboration with industry and business. We will strive to transform the global sustainability agenda by fostering collaboration and innovation. And we will continue to build on the research and entrepreneurial agendas that place us at the forefront of academic achievement in the wider world.



National Robotarium

QUEEN'S ANNIVERSARY PRIZE

As you know, we are leaders in many areas such as photonics and quantum sciences, marine and geosciences, deprivation and social sciences, robotics and medical technologies, logistics management, energy systems, and smart construction. Indeed, in November 2021, we were awarded the highest honour in UK education, the Queen's Anniversary Prize, for our **ground-breaking research in the advancement of photonics technology**. It's the fourth time the Prize has been awarded to the University.

GLOBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES

Our commitment to tackling major global challenges is also exemplified by the Global Research Institutes (GRIs) we have successfully established across AI, earth and marine science, Net Zero, decarbonisation, health and care engineering, and medical device manufacturing. Last year saw major advances across all these fields:

National Robotarium

28 September 2022 was a big milestone for Heriot-Watt with the official opening of the National Robotarium, in partnership with the University of Edinburgh. Located on the Edinburgh campus, the National Robotarium is the **largest and most advanced applied research facility for robotics and artificial intelligence (AI)** in the UK. Home to world-leading experts in robotics, data and AI, the facility is leveraging existing research and industry expertise to address the global demand for disruptive innovation in robotics and autonomous systems. The opening event gathered leading figures from government, industry, research and the robotics community for networking, talks and a tour of the multi-million-pound, purpose-built site. The facilities cover three distinct areas: Robotics and Autonomous Systems, Human and Robot Interaction and Precision Laser Applications.

Lyell Centre

Since the Lyell Centre was launched in 2016, combining the strengths of both Heriot-Watt University and the British Geological Survey, it has focused on becoming an internationally recognised centre of excellence, delivering **innovative and impactful advances in earth and marine science** that makes a difference to societies across the world. Over the past year, our research has explored how tropical rainforest headwater rivers are influencing global carbon and nutrient cycles; the effects of plastic pollution in the coastal zone of Vietnam; sustainable development of the blue economy; how gas migration from decommissioned energy wells is impacting the surrounding soil and atmosphere; the archaeological significance of newly-discovered animal tracks on understanding our ancestral palaeo environment; and the role of dead jellyfish in marine biochemical cycles.

Net Zero

We're committed to **developing our expertise and resources to support a Net Zero future** and this is emphasised by our advanced plans for ambitious research in this area. Our Net Zero GRI will step up the capacity for researchers across Heriot-Watt to address the need for fundamental changes in how we drive the transition to a Net Zero economy and a decarbonised future. Across our campuses and schools, we have developed expertise central to assisting society in solving the big Net Zero challenges, from decarbonisation to smart energy systems. This expertise has resulted in external funding for a wide range of projects led by academic teams from across the University. The focus on this expertise will promote **effective and sustainable progress towards meeting the Net Zero targets of the international community** and delivering the energy and economic transition required to achieve those targets.

Industrial Decarbonisation

After winning a £20m award in 2020, Heriot-Watt has taken on the responsibility of leading the UK's Industrial Decarbonisation Research and Innovation Centre (IDRIC). IDRIC is the focal point for the **green transformation of the UK's industrial heartlands**. Funded by UK Research and Innovation and based virtually at Heriot-Watt, the centre is tasked with developing decarbonisation solutions at pace and scale in the places where it matters most. By May 2022, we had already overseen the launch of 43 research projects, with more than 100 researchers working on IDRIC projects from across the UK.

HOW WE PUSHED FORWARD IN 2022



"Across our campuses and schools, we have developed expertise central to assisting society in solving the big Net Zero challenges."



Health and Care Engineering

Heriot-Watt researchers have already delivered 103 projects in health and care engineering supported by 46 different funders and 150 partners for a total value of £24m (with industrial partners providing £4.7m of contributions). And fulfilling our strategy of building on areas of existing expertise, we are committed to building levels of exceptional knowledge exchange in health and care engineering for the benefit of society worldwide. Through this GRI, we aim to accelerate research that will **transform patients' lives, across the NHS and globally**. This Hub of Research Excellence will provide a home for researchers influencing and working in partnership with governments, research councils and charity groups, as well as providing CPD courses and educational programmes for prospective students.

Medical Device Manufacturing

The past year has seen the growth and development of our Medical Device Manufacturing Centre (MDMC), launched in 2020 and inaugurated in 2022, to address prototyping and manufacturing challenges in the development of smarter and more cost-effective medical devices. The MDMC brings together engineers, scientists, clinicians and business development experts from four Scottish universities – Heriot-Watt, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Robert Gordon. One of the products already developed through the MDMC (in partnership with Abergower Digital Ltd and the Scottish Manufacturing Advisory Service) won an **Interface Knowledge Exchange Award in March 2022 for Best COVID-19 Collaborative Response**.

“Heriot-Watt researchers have already delivered 103 projects in health and care engineering.”

A message from PROFESSOR RICHARD A. WILLIAMS

Principal and Vice Chancellor



It's my great pleasure to complete this report by offering my heartfelt thanks to all of you who are supporting our philanthropic activities. As a multinational university with a pioneering heritage in innovation and technology, we strive to make the world a better place. And your generous donations are driving an extraordinary range of ideas and initiatives that are enhancing the life of thousands, perhaps millions, of people across the globe.

This report has picked out many of these, particularly in terms of our mission to extend educational opportunities to all, whatever their background or circumstances. In addition, I'd like to pick out two major projects which, while based in Edinburgh, will bring significant worldwide benefits, for generations to come.

The **National Robotarium**, which officially opened in September 2022, underlines our influence as a global leader in robotic and artificial intelligence research. Established

in partnership with the University of Edinburgh, and supported by both the Scottish Government and the UK Government, it's also the embodiment of successful collaboration. You will be hearing much about the work and innovations of the Robotarium in the years to come, and thank you so much to everyone who has supported its progress to date.

Secondly, our new **Net Zero Community Hub** will highlight the leading role we're taking in global sustainability initiatives. At a time when tackling climate change couldn't be more important to the future of the planet, the Hub will advance understanding, innovation and best practice. And as well as providing a physical space for the pursuit of this vital work, it will also be a virtual entity providing outreach activities across the world.

There is so much going on in the world – and so much we want to do to make it a safer, healthier and more prosperous place for generations to come. Your generous support in this is hugely appreciated by so many.

Thank you.

Giving Circles

Since 1821, we have helped students from diverse backgrounds and circumstances access an education that might not otherwise have been available, and your donations continue to make that happen. To acknowledge particularly generous donors, those who donate a total of £1,000 or more annually are invited to join our **Walter Scott Circle**, while those who make a total contribution of £25,000 or more are invited to join the **Principal and Vice Chancellor's Circle**.



Student beneficiaries

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Visit www.hw.ac.uk/alumni/giving-back.htm

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