

A LEADING INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

STRATEGY FOR INNOVATION





CONTENTS

Executive Summary	■	5
Principal's Introduction	■	7
Introducing Strathclyde's Innovation Strategy	■	9
Creating and Accelerating Innovation Partnerships	■	11
Building an Innovation Zone in the Heart of Glasgow	■	13
Developing Innovation Talent	■	17
Supporting Start-ups, Spinouts and Growing SMEs	■	19
Innovation Research Institute	■	21
Networks for Support, Expertise and Investment	■	23



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Our innovation strategy sets out how Strathclyde, as a leading international technological university, provides dynamic innovation leadership to generate real economic and social impact for Scotland. Our strategy resonates strongly with the Scottish Government Economic Strategy and its key elements of investment, innovation, inclusive growth and internationalisation.

Our strategy also connects with the growth and innovation agendas of the UK government, the wider EU community, international policy-makers and multiple sectors from across business and industry. The success of this strategy requires institutions such as Strathclyde that are committed to actively seeking and creating partnership opportunities to drive forward innovation, which have a reputation for delivery, and which have a vision that brings together international collaboration with local economic impacts.

Our track record, as demonstrated by establishing the first UK Fraunhofer Centre, bringing several Catapult Centres to Scotland, creating deep and trusted industry partnerships, and creating a unique Technology and Innovation Centre in the heart of Glasgow, shows that we are uniquely placed to help national and international governments deliver their commitments.

Strathclyde's strategy for innovation will achieve economic and societal impact through six essential components:

Creating and accelerating innovation partnerships with private and public sector organisations

Building on our success in developing new large-scale industry demand-led collaborative Research & Knowledge Exchange centres using the Triple Helix approach – partnerships between universities, government and business – to develop technologies of the future. Our success with the Advanced Forming Research Centre, the Continuous Manufacturing and Crystallisation Centre, the Power Networks Demonstration Centre and the Technology and Innovation Centre will be extended with new Centres planned in Medicines Manufacturing and Medical Technologies and Aero-electrical Systems.

Building a Technology and Innovation Zone in the heart of Glasgow, with associated full-scale R&D Centres

Developing beyond the Technology and Innovation Centre (TIC) and Inovo buildings with a vision for new facilities for a National Physical Laboratory Scotland Hub and a new SME Innovation Cluster adjacent to TIC in Glasgow's George Street with applications in Health, Energy, Advanced Manufacturing and Future Cities. We will actively seek to attract new inward investments by major companies to further strengthen and expand this zone, creating a robust and attractive location for knowledge-intensive companies.

Developing and nurturing innovation talent among our staff, students, alumni, our partner organisations, and the local community

Increasing and extending access to innovation learning so that all Strathclyde students ultimately receive skill sets to drive innovation, and ensuring via new short courses and executive development programmes that partner companies, especially SMEs, understand where and how they can benefit by upskilling for innovation. Encouraging future generations of students to 'give back' to their communities, we are expanding our successful Business Clinic with Jobs and Business Glasgow and Clyde Gateway to support businesses in our poorest communities.

Supporting start-ups, spin-outs and innovative SMEs

Providing a comprehensive support environment locally, from pre-start-up through a new SME Acceleration Programme (based on our partner New York University's practice) to the Hunter Centre for Entrepreneurship/ Santander-supported Growth Advantage Programme aimed at SME leaders; extending the scope of our commercial investment activities to accelerate the growth of selected high potential SMEs; as well as collaborating productively with innovative SMEs in our fields of specialism, wherever they are located

Applying the best innovation practice and policy, through our new Innovation Research Institute

Launching a new Innovation Research Institute that brings together academics and practitioners to study and inform our understanding of how companies, public sector agencies and academia work best together to support innovation. The Institute will work with leading academic and business partners from across the world, helping the Scottish and UK Governments develop the innovation ecosystem.

Forming and leveraging national and international networks to attract support, expertise, knowledge and investment

Using the networks of researchers, innovative companies and investors that we are developing through international strategic partner universities, such as Stanford, New York University, Hong Kong UST and Nanyang Technological University (Singapore), and other international partnerships, such as our European preferred partner status with South Korea's innovation agency KIAT, we will attract innovative talent and R&D-intensive companies to Scotland, and provide routes to international growth for our own new knowledge-intensive companies.



STRATHCLYDE'S INNOVATION VISION



Twenty-first-century society is critically dependent on Innovation; innovation that will drive technology, infrastructure and systems, cities' evolution, public services, business models and economic growth strategies. A common collaborative vision and approach to the delivery of such innovative solutions will support society to tackle global problems, to enhance the quality of life for future generations, and to ensure that we have a strong and expanding economy that competes successfully in world markets.

Strathclyde is the 'place of useful learning' and is acknowledged as a leading international technological university. We are committed to creating and applying the highest quality research in order to drive innovation for the benefit of society and economy. Strathclyde is explicitly differentiated by the highly successful strategic leadership role we play in building dynamic and growing innovation ecosystems and in actively pursuing new opportunities and investments in partnership with the private and public sectors.

Strathclyde is a leading exponent of 'open innovation' in which we partner with businesses – large and small, local and international – and in which we strongly support entrepreneurs, including those from our own vibrant staff and student communities, to bring new ideas to market. In close collaboration with government and its innovation agencies, we channel support for pre-competitive R&D in order to rapidly move new technologies, business models and systems to market.

Building on our broad spectrum of methods and enabling technologies across many individual disciplines and university-wide expertise, and our intense commitment to innovation, we have created novel multidisciplinary and multi-institution collaborations. This integrates leading researchers, businesses and public bodies, particularly in the priority domains of Energy, Health, Manufacturing, and Future Cities, in order to address societal needs through the acceleration of innovative business approaches.

Alongside these exciting developments, Strathclyde's innovation vision goes much further. A strong innovation ecosystem requires a concentration of innovating organisations, optimal physical infrastructure, as well as strongly-engaged networks of people who share vision, knowledge, purpose and resources. Strathclyde stands out due to its successful strategy of actively and continuously developing such innovation ecosystems, attracting new innovation partners such as Fraunhofer, UK Catapult Centres and Scottish Innovation Centres. We are investing, with our public sector partners, in excellent research and innovation facilities, building international connections that put us at the cutting edge, and developing the networks of talented people who bring our innovation vision to life.

Our new £89 million Technology and Innovation Centre (TIC) lies at the heart of what we are about and epitomises this innovation vision. More than just a globally-important physical environment, the Centre provides unique collaboration opportunities for our innovation partners, training for the next generation of innovators, and a dynamic hub for networks to inform, exchange and generate new ideas. TIC is catalysing an 'Innovation District' in the centre of Glasgow – a key development in the mould of US experience as identified by the Brookings Institute.

Our strategy is to escalate the impact and reach of this new innovation ecosystem, bringing in new partnerships, such as with the National Physical Laboratory, creating new centres of expertise to address industry needs and building new physical innovation assets. This includes a high-quality environment for SME acceleration, a new Medicine Manufacturing Innovation Centre, establishing a National MedTech Institution and positioning our Innovating Works Centre for maximum impact on government, employers and employees. We also seek to develop tomorrow's entrepreneurial talent and build the national and international networks that will drive future opportunities, reputation and growth.

Strathclyde's authentic promotion of innovation, inspired by our world-class research, teaching and talent, will be a defining characteristic of our institution in the coming years and we look forward with great optimism to translating our mission for 'useful learning', as forged in the Enlightenment era, and consistently evolving this to the benefit of our students, society, and our national and international partners.

Professor Sir Jim McDonald
Principal and Vice-Chancellor



Introducing Strathclyde's Innovation Strategy

The world economy is changing rapidly and our society's prosperity depends critically on our ability to adapt and participate at the highest level. Strathclyde is rising to the challenge by simultaneously boosting our research quality (we are now in the top 20 of the most research-intensive UK universities) and through a step change in the quantity and quality of our industrial collaboration.

Our international activity is creating new partnerships with major businesses and other world-leading technological universities, making Strathclyde a vital connector between our regional economy and the global economy in which we must compete.

Our innovation strategy focuses on six components that will enable us to drive impact at pace:

- Creating and accelerating innovation partnerships with private and public sector organisations
- Building a Technology and Innovation Zone in the heart of Glasgow, with associated full-scale R&D, test and pilot plant centres within easy reach
- Developing and nurturing innovation talent
- Supporting start-ups, spin-outs and SMEs
- Applying the best innovation practice and policy, through our new Innovation Research Institute
- Forming and leveraging national and international networks to attract support, expertise, knowledge and investment

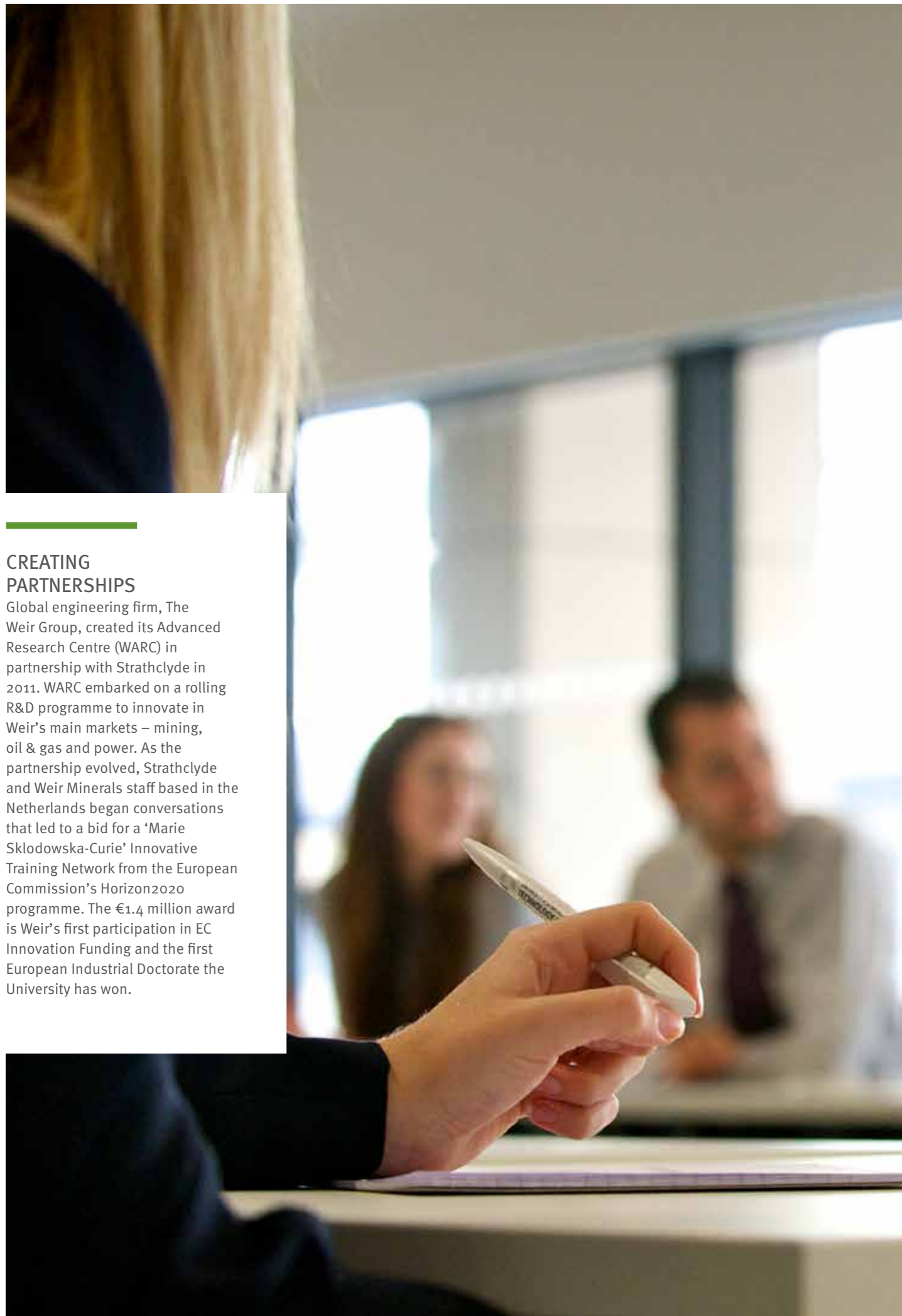
Together, these strands will establish a dynamic open innovation ecosystem in which new and existing companies can co-create the innovations they need to be successful.

Partnership with innovative small enterprises is woven through all elements of our strategy, recognising the vital role that such companies play in creating our future successful economy. Internationalisation is also embedded throughout, recognising that to be competitive we have to be completely open to the best in the world.

Through its strategic leadership role, Strathclyde will work with its business and public sector partners to scale up and accelerate the development of this unique innovation ecosystem, looking to take maximum advantage of national and international investment opportunities.

The success of the Triple Helix approach – partnership between universities, government and business – relies fundamentally on dynamic leadership and a focus on delivery, qualities for which Strathclyde has an enviable track record.

On the following pages, we set out our strategic approach for each of the six essential components described above.



CREATING PARTNERSHIPS

Global engineering firm, The Weir Group, created its Advanced Research Centre (WARC) in partnership with Strathclyde in 2011. WARC embarked on a rolling R&D programme to innovate in Weir's main markets – mining, oil & gas and power. As the partnership evolved, Strathclyde and Weir Minerals staff based in the Netherlands began conversations that led to a bid for a 'Marie Sklodowska-Curie' Innovative Training Network from the European Commission's Horizon2020 programme. The €1.4 million award is Weir's first participation in EC Innovation Funding and the first European Industrial Doctorate the University has won.

Creating and Accelerating Innovation Partnerships

Partnership and collaboration is fundamental to our approach to innovation. Our objective is always to build up long-term relationships with our partners through the establishment of trust and a common vision that is rewarding for both sides. Industry brings us its technical challenges, but also its own experience and insights that can raise new fundamental research questions, as well as helping to solve existing problems.

The University invests in partnerships through the appointment of staff with a track record of industry innovation management, who help company and university researchers to develop programmes based on the strategic priorities set by industry. We liaise with company partners at the highest level to identify future challenges, using this information strategically to inform our own planned appointments and priorities for new research centres.

Across each of our priority domains of Energy, Health, Manufacturing, and Future Cities, we will continue to develop new partnerships with 'anchor organisations'. Our existing partners include Rolls-Royce, Boeing, Siemens, SSE, Iberdrola, GlaxoSmithKline, AstraZeneca,

The Weir Group, and public sector organisations such as the NHS, with whom we work to map out future needs and challenges, and establish new R&D programmes. We look to develop collaborations with multiple partners to help share knowledge and provide financial leverage. Our strategy for collaboration with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) is designed to provide a range of support mechanisms – discussed later – and to identify those who can particularly benefit from R&D linkages with the large company base.

A key differentiator for Strathclyde is its commitment and track record in collaborative R&D with its partner companies through the whole pre-commercial R&D spectrum. To do this effectively we have created a special category of staff – unique among UK universities – dedicated to collaborative translational research (R&D that translates academic outputs into near-market outputs). We shall further grow the number of staff working in translational research to increase capacity and expertise.

Our ability to attract both research and translational funding is demonstrated by the fact that we are a framework partner of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, and are in the UK top five of

universities for Knowledge Transfer Partnerships from Innovate UK. An important differentiator and signal of our success will be the proportion of our research funding that comes from translational research, for example through the EU, Innovate UK, Scottish Enterprise, and the Scottish Funding Council Innovation Centres.

Partnership with the public sector is also vital to develop our innovation ecosystem. Strathclyde's joint leadership, with Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the University of Surrey, of the UK's National Physical Laboratory (NPL), announced in 2014, is recognition of our track record in strategic leadership, and provides us with a unique opportunity to strengthen the innovation zone around the University. We are committed to creating an NPL Hub in Glasgow to further strengthen the expertise and international connectivity in measurement and enabling technologies.

We shall continue to look for other inward investment opportunities that will further enhance the existing innovation ecosystem, ensuring that there is an even stronger concentration of world-leading expertise and the company base to reap the benefits.



Creating a Dynamic Technology and Innovation Zone in the Heart of Glasgow

Our Innovation Strategy positions the University to play a vital connecting role between the global and the regional economy. By driving and delivering on collaborative research at the forefront of a broad spectrum of disciplines in an international context, we are able to be truly world-leading in our chosen areas of expertise, but to have economic impact regionally we collaborate with companies based in the region that will benefit and create jobs.

Our vision for a Technology and Innovation Zone in the heart of Glasgow is to strengthen the local company base with innovative high-growth SMEs, spin-outs and start-ups that can benefit significantly from the innovation, talent and international connectivity that Strathclyde brings, while at the same time making the whole area more attractive for new companies, both large and small.

The new Technology and Innovation Zone will focus on the application of enabling technologies and know-how to the University priority domains of Health, Energy, Manufacturing, and Future Cities.

This zone already includes key innovation organisations, including the Weir Advanced Research Centre, Fraunhofer UK, the Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre, the Centre of Excellence for Sensor and Imaging Systems, as well as the UK's Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult, the Satellite Applications Catapult Hub, and the Future Cities Demonstrator City Observatory.

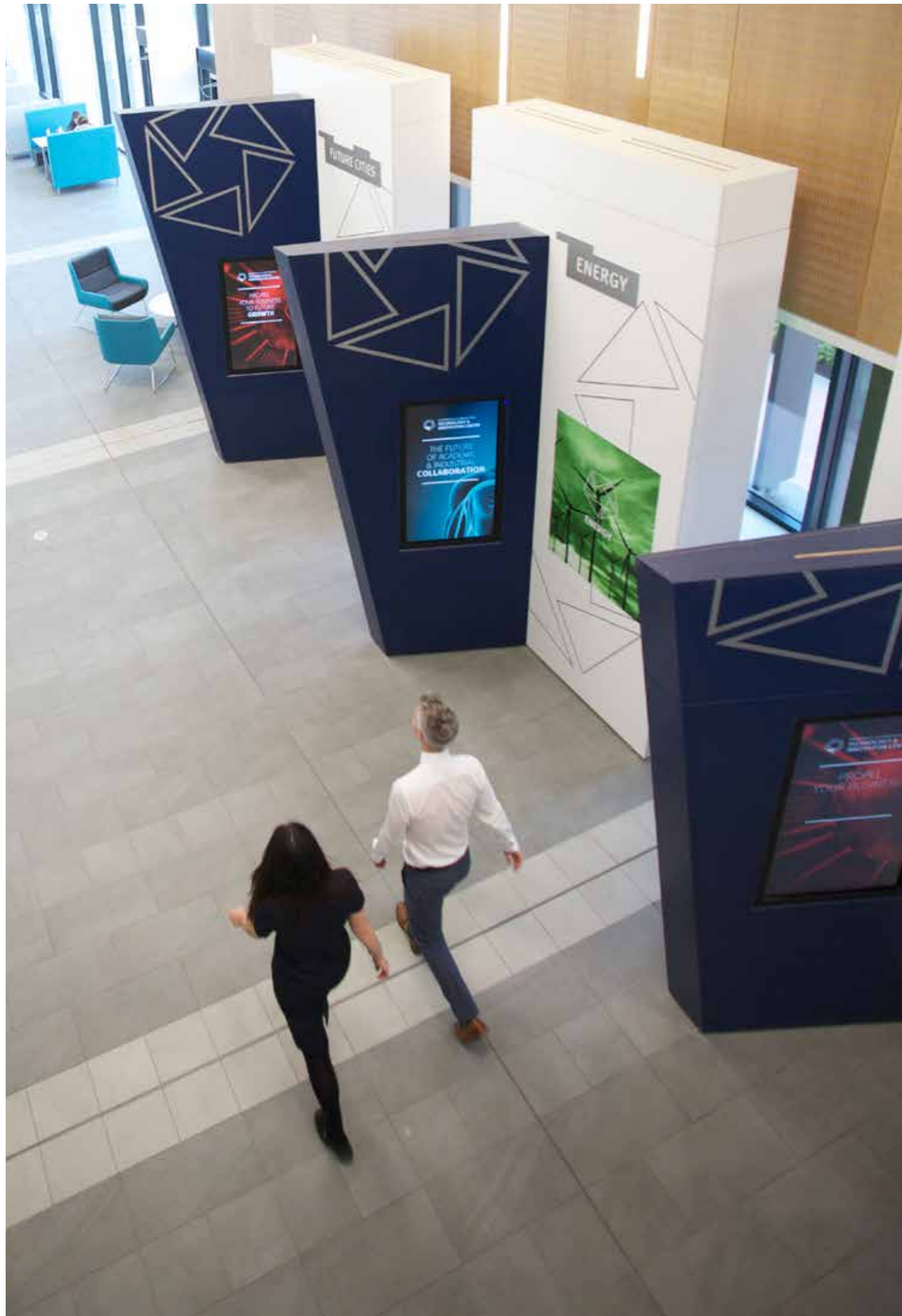
A recent report from the Brookings Institute on Innovation Districts identified a new trend in the US in which geographical districts with concentrations of innovation organisations – especially in 'down-town' locations – become drivers of economic growth.

The Innovation Zone around the University, the Technology and Innovation Centre, and the Inovo Building already contains many of the features identified in the Brookings Institute report, which highlights the following success factors:

- Economic assets – firms, institutions, and organisations
- Physical assets – public and privately-owned spaces for innovators
- Networking assets – ensuring knowledge exchange

In addition, as an entrepreneurial university, we will continue to develop new talent – the new entrepreneurs and innovators capable of bringing an innovation district to life.





Creating a Dynamic Technology and Innovation Zone in the Heart of Glasgow

continued

Strathclyde's Innovation Strategy aims to ensure that the growing Technology and Innovation Zone around the University quickly evolves into a wider city-centre Innovation District with features comparable to those identified by the Brookings Institute in the US and elsewhere.

The University will play a leadership role, providing this zone with the global connectivity and talent required to produce internationally competitive businesses.

The completion of the Technology and Innovation Centre and Inovo alongside the University are key physical assets in the developing Innovation Zone. This is enhanced by the University Incubator and will be helped further by the development of a Glasgow City Council Grow-On space for early stage companies.

The expansion of this Innovation Zone will include the further development of key physical assets including:

- a building to house the new NPL Scotland Hub – giving Scotland direct access into the network of international measurement institutes; measurement is a critical stage in the commercialisation of new technologies, and together with the development of Industry Standards, provides the basis for commercial application and the creation of new markets
- an SME Innovations Centre for small companies working in sensing, data, and decision support with application to Health, Energy Manufacturing, and Future Cities

Alongside the city-centre development, we also see the need for further development of centres which offer full-scale R&D, test, and pilot plant facilities, such as the University's Advanced Forming Research Centre at Inchinnan and the Power Networks Demonstration Centre in Cumbernauld, both of which have attracted significant industrial partnerships.

In particular, in order to ensure that the benefits of the research led by the Continuous Manufacturing and Crystallisation Centre* are both retained and exploited, it is vital that a centre with full-scale testing and scaled-up research facilities is built in conjunction with industry partners.

Finally, Brookings' identification of network assets as vital to the development of an Innovation Zone underlines the value of the Technology and Innovation Conference Centre and as a hub for knowledge exchange and networking, which is discussed on subsequent pages.

*The Continuous Manufacturing and Crystallisation Centre (CMAC) develops new ways to manufacture pharmaceuticals to enable personalised medicines and dramatically reduced production costs



DEVELOPING & NURTURING INNOVATION TALENT

Since 2013, Strathclyde Business School (SBS) and Jobs and Business Glasgow have collaborated to explore opportunities for student-led support for local organisations. Through the Business Clinics pathway of the third-year undergraduate programme, 26 organisations and 119 students have been involved in year-long consultancy projects. These provide the organisations with access to new skills and fresh insight and the students gain valuable experience in the practical application of their learning. This innovative partnership has been expanded to include Clyde Gateway, with Strathclyde staff located in their Olympia building facilitating the expansion of the scheme to include all SBS taught programmes as well as students from other faculties, helping to support enterprise within the local community.

Developing Innovation Talent

Innovation success depends critically on the development of individuals with the innovation and entrepreneurial skills that can make the open innovation approach work. We believe that the pace of change in the economy will continue to accelerate, and that it is essential that university students should understand the value of innovation and entrepreneurship.

Our strategy for the development of innovation talent provides dedicated pathways for our undergraduate and postgraduate students:

- Undergraduate and postgraduate students should understand the need for innovation and entrepreneurship within the organisations they will work in, and understand strategies to deal with barriers to innovation; Strathclyde will ensure that its students can access innovation and entrepreneurship education and can get hands-on experience through its Vertically Integrated Projects initiative that links students with researchers
 - In collaboration with Clyde Gateway we will launch a student-led Business Clinic, building on existing work with Jobs and Business Glasgow, to support residents of the Clyde Gateway region in creating new social enterprise and business organisations
 - We will focus our investment in PhD places on collaborative programmes with industry, business and government agencies, including further programmes such as our award-winning collaboration with GlaxoSmithKline, to support business, social and policy innovation
 - Postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers at Strathclyde will become the innovators of the future and by growing our Technology and Innovation Zone we hope to provide them with a rich variety of local career options; through our Researcher Development Programme we will provide training for early career researchers to facilitate the establishment of future careers leading open innovation programmes with industry, complementing our award-winning entrepreneurship programmes
- For companies and public sector bodies, Strathclyde is committed to supporting companies through innovation training and development at all levels. Alongside executive development provided through Strathclyde Business School, and credit-bearing programmes in Engineering and Science, the University will develop new targeted training programmes:
- We will offer a comprehensive programme of short courses designed particularly for SMEs to equip businesses with essential knowledge designed to boost their effectiveness and market position
 - For companies starting out on open innovation, we will offer executive development programmes that enable them to understand the potential benefits of open innovation, and the adaptations needed within companies to translate those benefits into future growth
 - Building on our UK top five position for Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) we will extend our KTP programme as a key route to support SMEs developing their own innovation programmes



SUPPORTING BUSINESS GROWTH

Cascade Technologies Ltd has its origins in Strathclyde's Physics Department, which was rated No 1 in the UK in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework – more than 10 years ago, EPSRC-funded PhD student, Erwan Normand saw the commercial potential of quantum cascade lasers. Stirling-based Cascade was Strathclyde's first student-led spin-out. It has grown steadily to its current staff complement of 54 and has become a leading manufacturer of gas analysers and monitoring systems. In 2014, US giant Emerson Process Management acquired Cascade for a reported £40 million, and is committed to supporting continued growth of the business in Scotland.

Supporting Start-ups, Spin-outs and Growing SMEs

To create a dynamic innovation-led economy in Scotland and the wider UK, we need to increase the rates of new business formation and of growth of existing companies, addressing our critical weakness as compared to many competing developed economies.

Strathclyde already operates one of the UK's most dynamic and successful start-up and spin-out initiatives through the Strathclyde Entrepreneurial Network, and this has been extended through Scottish Funding Council funding to provide support to postgraduate students across the West of Scotland as part of the Enterprise Campus programme.

We now intend to extend our business start-up programme in a number of ways. Exemplars are:

- Bringing together computer science and entrepreneurship expertise in a new programme called AppCity to stimulate a new stream of App-based start-ups

- Using the expertise and rapid prototyping facilities of the Design, Manufacturing and Engineering Management Department, together with the University FabLab – part of the international network of digital fabrication labs led by MIT – to stimulate international connectivity and exchange of ideas, and to support the creation of new businesses with innovative products
- Developing a programme for corporate start-ups in which we work with our larger partners to identify future demands that are best addressed by new start-ups outside the conventional corporate structure.

Our new SME strategy is designed to provide flexible pathways to escalate innovation by:

- establishing an SME Clinic, supporting small companies through a structured programme of student and graduate internships, including our Clyde Gateway Business Clinic (see page 14).

- Supporting early-stage innovation, in particular through focused use of innovation vouchers and other government support, and through follow-up projects designed to ensure that innovation is embedded and supports profitability and growth
- Identifying and introducing new SME partners to R&D collaborations within our strategic research centres alongside large company partners
- Supporting the development of SMEs with high growth potential through the Hunter Centre for Entrepreneurship/Santander-supported Growth Advantage Programme

We are dedicated to ensuring that all companies can get access to University facilities and equipment, and we will soon launch our new U-Lab internet-based booking facility to simplify access to high-value specialist equipment and related know-how.



INNOVATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Innovating Works ... is an industry-facing workplace innovation consortium supporting employers to improve work and workplaces by adopting innovative practice in managing people, processes and networks. Drawing on expertise in human resource management, entrepreneurship and operations management at Strathclyde Business School and an expert Advisory Group of industry and policy leaders, *Innovating Works ...* has recently engaged more than 65 businesses/organisations across all sizes and sectors in workplace innovation events, worked closely with 16 case study companies, provided an online open-access diagnostic tool and disseminated findings to more than 400 stakeholders.

Innovation Research Institute

Strathclyde's Innovation Strategy is based on the concept of Open Innovation in which businesses work together with universities and other companies to co-invest in R&D and accelerate the rate of innovation. Coincident with realising these potential benefits, companies are required to adapt their own processes to take advantage of such approaches and ensure that they get direct financial value from open innovation.

Strathclyde will launch an Innovation Research Institute that brings together all of its academic researchers with expertise in innovation processes. The Innovation Research Institute will conduct research into the most effective ways of stimulating and managing open innovation in order to advise government and business. It will work directly with Enterprise and Innovation Agencies and will also provide executive and postgraduate-level courses for those desiring a deeper understanding of the innovation process.

The key themes for the Innovation Research Institute include:

- Open Innovation – for example, open and distributed innovation, and dependable innovation; and R&D Innovation – fostering an innovation capability, and project and portfolio management
- Workplace Innovation – workplace technologies and work practices
- Digital Innovation – data analytics, digital technologies, IT-enabled innovation, and innovation technologies
- Intellectual Property Law and Management for Innovation
- Business Model Innovation and Performance – for example, business model innovation, and drivers of firm performance
- Product, Process, Platform and Service Innovation – product and process innovation, innovation platforms, and innovation in services
- Sustainable Innovation – innovative technologies and processes for the circular economy, and innovation in energy and the environment

The Innovation Research Institute will provide a key link between innovation researchers in Scotland and those at other leading international institutes, ensuring that Strathclyde is firmly embedded in generating and applying the latest concepts and practice surrounding innovation.

Alongside the new Innovation Research Institute, which is primarily focused on the practice of innovation, we shall continue to develop Innovation Policy as a theme within our International Public Policy Institute. By drawing on the experience of Strathclyde, its international partners and other leading institutions, we shall highlight the most effective ways in which UK and Scottish policy-makers can support and influence successful innovation and economic impact.



SUPPORT, EXPERTISE AND INVESTMENT

In 2010 Strathclyde created a Centre for Surgical Robotics in partnership with US venture-backed Mako Surgical Corp, which was introduced to Strathclyde via our US investor networks. The partners worked in close collaboration with Glasgow Royal Infirmary where Mako's RIO[®] robotic knee implant platform was the subject of a multi-year comparative research study involving NHS clinicians and patients. More than 50 patients benefited from the trial, and its success was one of the many factors that led to Mako being acquired by Stryker Medical for US \$1.65 billion in 2013.

Networks for Support, Expertise and Investment

Strathclyde's track record in industry engagement, innovation and entrepreneurship is founded to an appreciable extent on our ability to form national and international networks, and to drive distinct benefits from them.

Examples of such networks include:

- Strathclyde Entrepreneurial Network (SEN) which supports the Strathclyde 100 group of entrepreneurs, angel investors, venture capitalists and others, and the network of Enterprise Partners, who provide voluntary support to emerging and new businesses coming from the Strathclyde community – staff, students and alumni
- Also associated with SEN are the Commercialisation Advisory Panels and the Commercialisation and Investment Advisory Board, which provide advice to the University over business plans and investment opportunities for University spin-outs
- Within the HE sector we are strong supporters of Scottish Research Pools that provide network mechanisms for collaboration between excellent researchers, and collaborate extensively with other HEIs throughout the

UK – as demonstrated by our ability to collaboratively win Doctoral Training Centres and by our joint leadership of the National Physical Laboratory with the Department for Business Skills and the University of Surrey, supported by Cambridge and Huddersfield

- Our recently-developed international strategy involves the development of close collaboration with leading like-minded universities in the US, Asia and Europe, including New York University, Stanford, MIT, Tsinghua, Hong Kong UST and Nanyang Technological University. This is producing practical benefits, particularly for sharing commercialisation expertise

In order to benefit our Innovation Strategy, we will develop three new key strands of network development, focusing on national, domain-specific networks and on wider international networks:

- In order to take advantage of the potential in the Technology and Innovation Centre we will develop a new programme of networking events designed to stimulate exchange of ideas, strengthening of partnerships and acceleration

of new innovations. Strathclyde will work in conjunction with the Scottish Funding Council, Scottish Enterprise and Innovate UK to ensure that a programme of network events related to the priority domains is developed, building on the successful experience in the start-up community with Strathclyde Entrepreneurial Network.

- Strathclyde will actively develop collaborations with like-minded European technological universities with the objective of ensuring that our Innovation Zone is fully linked to similar initiatives elsewhere in Europe, allowing European funding opportunities to be more effectively accessed and facilitating influence of the agenda and priorities of the European Union.
- Working with Scottish Development International and UK Trade & Investment, we will engage with multinational corporations seeking inward investment opportunities to bring them into the Innovation Zone.

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