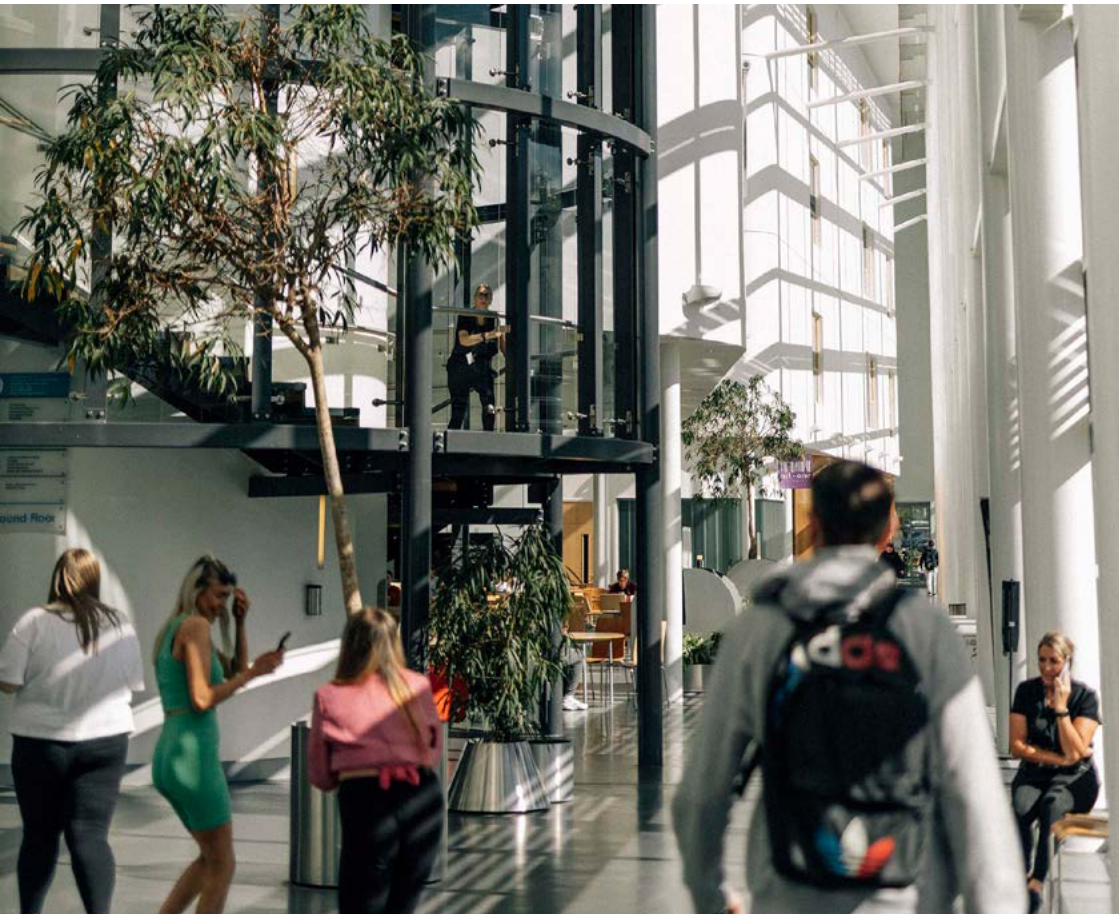


Undergraduate School

An education revolution

Undergraduate School Quarterly
Spring 2025 Edition



Hello & Welcome

to the inaugural edition of our Undergraduate School Quarterly, a vibrant platform to celebrate the achievements, aspirations, and innovations of our dynamic Undergraduate School community.

I am so passionate about the school, because we know North Lanarkshire has one of the lowest rates of degree attainment in the country. We need to change that and with your help we will.

This issue proudly profiles Martin McCrum, one of our distinguished honorary appointees. A leading figure in the Lanarkshire business community, he will bring the entrepreneurial spirit into the classroom for all those on our Business and Marketing degree programme.

Equally remarkable are the accomplishments of our staff. This quarter, we shine a spotlight on the exceptional creativity and dedication of our Computing, Technology and Engineering department. Claire McRae is one of our more passionate lecturers, and you will see how that goes beyond the technological.

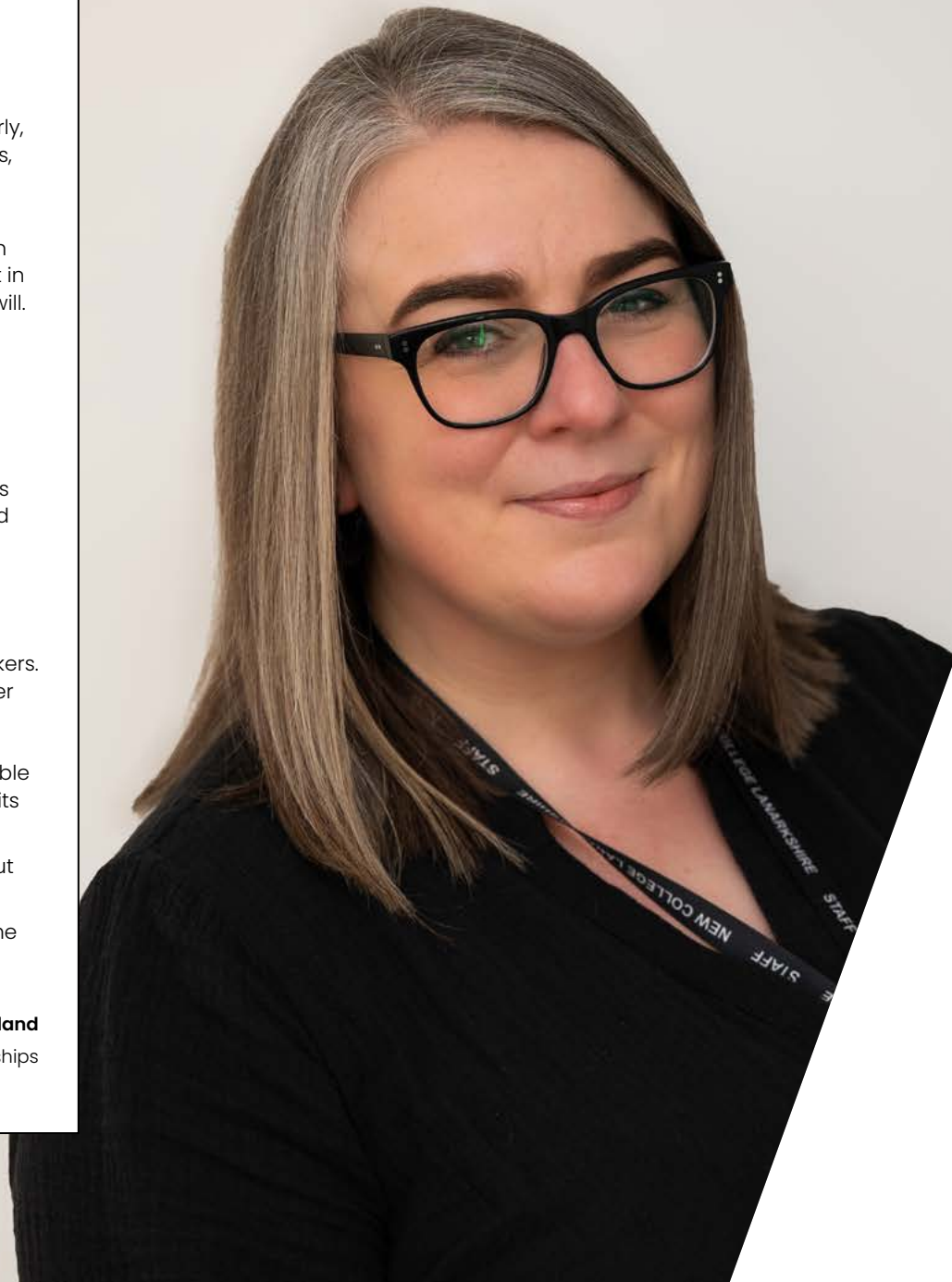
Beyond academics, our students are passionate changemakers. Their enthusiasm and energy inspire us all and are a reminder of the bright future they are shaping. In this edition, we are highlighting Amy McLoughlin, who is on our Social Science degree and is one of our Student Presidents. She's a remarkable young woman, who is extremely passionate about the benefits of doing a degree right here in her native Lanarkshire.

This quarterly is not only a reflection of past achievements but also a glimpse into the promising future of our school.

Stay tuned for more stories of excellence and innovation in the next edition!

Nicola Mulholland

Dean of the Undergraduate School & Academic Partnerships



Claire McRae

Academic Leader



I've had the privilege of working at New College Lanarkshire for over 14 years in the Computing, Engineering and Technologies Department.

The computing industry is one of constant change, and that's what makes it such an exciting field to be a part of—there's always something new and ground breaking to dive into.

What's even more thrilling is that our students graduate and often step into job roles that didn't even exist when they started their studies—talk about an adventure!

At New College Lanarkshire, we work tirelessly to prepare them for these ever-evolving opportunities.

Outside my role as an Academic Leader, I'm an avid marathoner—I've completed 14 marathons across the globe! I'm also a proud volunteer with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, where I'm part of the lifeboat crew in Largs, alongside a strong team who share my passion for making a real difference.

Live the impossible.

Amy McLaughlin

Student President at Coatbridge



Q: What made you choose to study at New College Lanarkshire Undergraduate School?

A: It was a great choice because it's closer to home – I didn't have to travel far. I'm currently studying in my third year at BA Social Sciences, and the lecturers, including Shaheen Tariq, Levi White and Elaine Wilson, are all very passionate about their subjects. The course is new to them too, so they are excited as well!

Q: When did you first come to NCL?

A: I left school in fifth year after failing Nat 5 Math. My mum encouraged me to look into social sciences at college. It really brought me out of my shell – The best part was being treated like an adult at age 17. The lecturers speak to you as equals; there's no talking down.

Q: What inspired you to become Student President?

A: I saw the position advertised in an email and, although it was outside my comfort zone, I decided to apply. I was surprised when I got it! I'm really interested in social change and giving students a voice. In colleges especially, young people often aren't heard, but things are constantly changing, and their opinions matter.

Q: What message would you share with potential students about New College Lanarkshire?

A: College isn't just a backup option – it opens so many doors. I used to think college was the only path for some people, but now I see it offers incredible opportunities. The knowledge you gain here is powerful, especially in subjects like politics and social sciences. It's helping me understand how to make real change in society.



Martin McCrum

Honorary appointee spotlight

Martin McCrum, Joint Managing Director of Aspirare Recruitment Scotland and Made in Scotland, believes New College Lanarkshire's Undergraduate School can be a transformative force for the region.

With over 20 years of specialist experience in recruitment and digital solutions. His enthusiasm for the new educational facility stems from his deep-rooted commitment to Lanarkshire.

A Motherwell native he remembers when "the blast furnaces at Ravenscraig would light up the night sky" and thousands of local jobs sustained the community and believes those days can return.

"It's time for a Lanarkshire renaissance, we have got a lot to offer and there are opportunities", McCrum asserts, "But for my business, and a lot of businesses, in the past there haven't been the candidates here, ready to fill the jobs available."

"That's why I'm excited about the Undergraduate School, he goes on. "Because it's the academic world and business world working together to make sure the talent here in Lanarkshire has the training and preparation needed to take the opportunities that are there."

Upcoming Events

February 11-13, 2024: Timeless to Me

Coatbridge Campus, can you remember your first day at school? The moment you took a bold risk? Or the first time you fell in love? These defining moments shape who we are and who we're destined to become. Our HNC Musical Theatre students bring "Timeless to Me" to the stage, performing songs and scenes from across the decades that celebrate the journey of life.

March 4, 2024: NCL's International Gala Coatbridge Campus

International partners from around the world are joining us for a special dinner to celebrate the College's international connections.

March 6, 2024: NCL Apprenticeship Awards Coatbridge Campus

Some of the most talented young people in Lanarkshire will be recognised in this special ceremony.

March 25, 2024: BA Music Student Solo Recitals

The BA Music Performance student recital showcase offers a variety of solo performances encompassing different styles and genres. Our music students have been working on recitals tied to themes/concepts of their choosing.

Special Note: We are delighted to share that this year marks the 160th Anniversary of the establishment of Coatbridge Campus. As part of our celebrations, we will be putting together a range of events throughout the year. A schedule of events will be shared in due course.

Email events@nclan.ac.uk if you would like to attend any of the above events.



**NEW
COLLEGE
LANARKSHIRE**

Undergraduate School

Spring 2025 Edition