



# RGU Alumni Bulletin

Welcome to the Alumni Bulletin, a monthly catch up on alumni news, opportunities and events

## Alumni in Focus

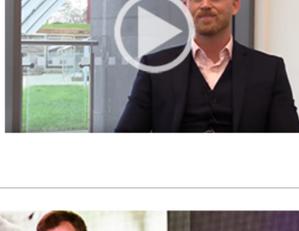


### Jade Gilbert

Gray's School of Art alumna, Jade Gilbert, discusses her contemporary installation "Borrowed Existence", currently on display at the newly refurbished Aberdeen Art Gallery, which examines the existence of people, their individuality and the narratives that exist alongside them.

### Kris Lindahl

Kris Lindahl, MBA alumnus and Co Founder of the cryptocurrency hedge fund Digital Future Capital, talks to us about his development journey, the challenges he faced and his recent nomination for the Global MBA Entrepreneurial Venture of the Year Award.



### Dr Alla El-Awaisi wins RGU's first British Council Alumni award

We are delighted to announce that RGU alumna, Dr Alla El-Awaisi, has been awarded the Professional Achievement Award at the British Council Study UK Alumni Awards held on Saturday evening in Doha. This award recognises alumni who have distinguished themselves through exemplary leadership within their professional field.

Dr Alla is the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs at Qatar University College of Pharmacy where she provides guidance and leadership to enhance students' learning experience. Since 2014 she has also been the Chair of the Interprofessional Education (IPE) Committee.

Dr Alla's Masters from The University of Strathclyde and her PhD from RGU had a major influence on her approach to the promotion of 'interprofessionalism' and has contributed to the development of IPE in Qatar with many successful IPE initiatives since 2014.

On behalf of us all here at RGU, we wish Dr Alla congratulations on her well-deserved professional recognition and success.



### Erin Ingram

RGU alumna and fledgling star at Taqa, Erin Ingram, received OGUK Graduate of the Year for her efforts in saving the firm £20m through innovative commercial deals. Erin talks to us about her professional journey at Taqa and how it felt to win the award.

### Dean Douglas

Behind the word mountains, far from the countries Vokalia and Consonantia. Dean Douglas, RGU Construction Project Management alumnus, discusses his development journey since graduating, his research in Building Information Modelling (BIM) for facilities management in the NHS and presenting his research to an international conference.



### Poco Coffee on Campus

RGU Accelerator start-up, Poco Roast has opened its first outlet on campus, bringing independent coffee roasters and their coffee to new consumers. Poco is the brainchild of RGU alumni Ross McLean and David Porteous, who have taken their own love of coffee and turned it into a growing subscription based business and the newly opened coffee house within RGU.

## RGU News



### Alumnus innovation will save lives in remote communities

A new startup business founded by Nick Dillon, alumnus and Associate Lecturer Remote Healthcare here at RGU, could fundamentally change the way critical illness is identified and responded to in remote communities to improve survival rates.

Nick's company, Evolved Monitors, seeks to literally save lives in remote areas by using clinical algorithms built into remote-patient monitoring systems to analyse raw data - such as blood pressure, pulse rate and oxygenation levels - and allow minimally trained users to identify critical illness through its user interface. Armed with this knowledge, people can direct remote medics to where the resource is needed most.

Nick's expertise and experience in remote medicine has been deployed in diverse global environments that include the Rumala Oil Field Iraq, Libya, Kilimanjaro and the jungle and cloud forest areas in Costa Rica.

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### LINA launches two libraries as first centres for rural entrepreneurship

The first public libraries to support rural entrepreneurship in the North-East have opened their doors to local entrepreneurs and those with ideas for potential ventures.

Banff and Peterhead libraries are the first locations to launch Library Innovation Network Aberdeenshire (LINA), a partnership between the University and Aberdeenshire Council, providing modern co-working spaces and resources to support business creation and drive economic growth.

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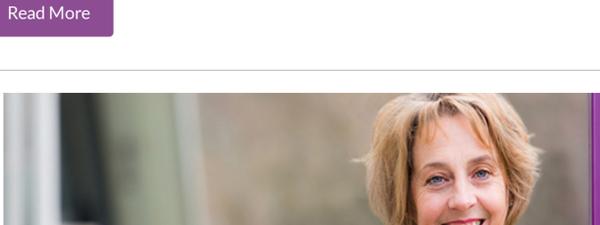
### Study explores the mental wellbeing of Scottish farmers

A research project that explored the mental wellbeing of Scotland's farmers has found that stress and lifestyle are key factors affecting farmers from Aberdeenshire and Orkney.

The team - led by Professor Kay Cooper and Professor Liz Hancock, Vice-Principal, conducted a number of interviews based around farmer experiences of mental wellbeing which highlighted four key themes: stress, lifestyle, awareness and perceptions of mental ill-health, and experiences of mental ill-health.



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### Aberdeen Business School achieves a world first with joint accreditation

Aberdeen Business School has achieved joint accreditation from the Association of MBAs and Business Graduates Association, two of the world's leading authorities on post-graduate business education.

AMBA & BGA believes accredited schools should be of the highest standard and reflect changing trends and innovation in post-graduate management education. The accreditation process reflects this commitment to fostering innovation, and challenges Business Schools to perform at the highest level continuously.

Head of School, Professor Elizabeth Gammie, comments on how proud she is of this achievement: "In a global economy facing rapid transformation, Business Schools need to be more flexible and adaptive than ever before. This requires innovative approaches to teaching, stronger ties to companies, and extensive knowledge about entire industries and markets.

Andrew Main Wilson, Chief Executive of AMBA & BGA, adds: "The commitment of the School's leadership and staff to championing and teaching sustainability, corporate social responsibility and ethical awareness is extremely impressive. This aligns closely with BGA's vision of being a global leader in the promotion of responsible management, positive impact and lifelong learning."

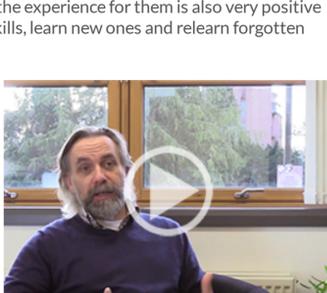
Earlier this month ABS also made the shortlist for Business School of the Year by The Times 2019 Higher Education Awards; the only Scottish university to receive a nomination in this category.

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## Spotlight on Mentoring

The RGU Professional Mentoring Programme was launched in 2017 to enable alumni to provide guidance to our postgraduate students, helping them to maximise their full career potential. The programme has flourished and in the New Year 82 mentees will be matched with alumni based all over the world and benefit from their knowledge and experiences. Our mentors tell us that the experience for them is also very positive too, enabling them to develop their own skills, learn new ones and relearn forgotten ones.

In this video, RGU alumnus and mentor Innes Auchterlonie, shares his experiences of mentoring Gee Gatabaki. Innes studied both an MSc Asset Integrity Management degree and an MBA here at RGU and is the Founder and Managing Director of IMRANDD. Gee has just successfully completed his MSc Asset Integrity Management degree (online) and is a Maintenance Manager at Oilfield Movers Ltd in Kenya.



The Alumni Team would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our mentors, old and new, for their generosity in giving of their time and helping our alumni to realise their full potential.

If you would like to find out about future alumni mentoring opportunities here at RGU, please contact [mentoring@alumni.rgu.ac.uk](mailto:mentoring@alumni.rgu.ac.uk).

### Keep in touch

To help us keep you informed about all the latest news from the University as well as ways to continue your involvement, please remember to let us know when you move home, change jobs or change your email address. You can easily update your details online [here](#).

You can also find out about the range of benefits and services that are available to you [here](#).

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