

Development Committee

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 8 February 2023
Paper No.	DC3-L
Agenda Item	5.5
Subject of Paper	Skills Academy Activity - January 2023
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	Roy Gardner (Vice Principal, Corporate Development & Innovation)
Date of production	7 February 2023
Action	For Noting

1. Recommendations

That the Development Committee note the College's activity to date and continued plans for Skills Academies.

2. Purpose of report

- To update the BOM about related activity to date
- To detail next steps, for the further expansion and reportage Skills Academy activity

/3. ...

3. Context

Skills Academies are designed to integrate the College curriculum with the industry experience of staff to meet the needs of both learners and employers.

The model also exists to address the ongoing skills gaps that industry face, through working collaboratively with employers to develop a range of pathways supporting learners into specific industries, upskilling existing employees and retraining staff.

In short, the Skills Academy model enables innovative collaborations with industry and employers. It not only develops fit for purpose curriculum, but identifies sustainable employment opportunities that students can access and within which they can flourish. This provides students with the necessary vocational and employment skills demanded by industry.

Even though the College is facing significant financial challenges, the Faculties have been undertaken a range of activity from the start of the academic term. Students are continually working on industry led projects, undertaking work experience 'on and off campus' and strategic partnerships being procured continually.

A recent example, was the launch of IP Hatch, an internationally recognized event and for the first time outside of Asia, took place in the College. Students from Creative Industries, helped plan, compare and record the event which was broadcast across various social media channels. This provided students with insight into an internationally recognized event with key speakers from Nokia and Panasonic.

<https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/news-events/news/new-innovation-competition-unlocks-potential-start-ups>

Additional examples from August 2022 onwards are detailed below:

<https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/news-events/news/winterfest-2023-featuring-albert-watson>

<https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/news-events/events/hnc-hairdressing-industry-awareness-day-mon-13-march>

<https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/news-events/news/climate-emergency-front-mind-next-generation-jewellery-competition>

<https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/news-events/news/horror-film-valuable-work-experience-make-students>

<https://youtu.be/PIADuOtoU-o>

<https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/financial-services>

/4. ...

4. Impact and implications

Regardless of the ongoing financial pressures the College is naturally placed to continually work with industry and grow partnerships. Through our unique location and reputation within key sectors, we will continue to enhance the model for the benefits of students and staff. Whilst the College will experience a period of change through voluntary severance and changes to the structure of certain areas, senior staff will remain focused on achieving objectives set out in departmental operational plans. Throughout January and February, all areas of the College are undertaking Directorate Reviews, organized by Performance Team and Chaired by the Principal, departments are asked about their performance against objectives contained within their operational plans. Staff from the Performance Team are assisting the Faculties to enhance reportage and raise awareness of wider student led Skills Academy activity that is undertaken on a regular basis. It is anticipated that the introduction of a new CRM system will assist in this process and provide a College Dashboard specifically for Skills Academy activity.