



**CITY OF GLASGOW
COLLEGE**

Maritime 50: Then and Now

'Cadets, as potential officers, must be neat and tidy at all times. Comment on this will be made in reports to employers. Blazers with a company or M.N. badge and flannels will be worn within the College, except when in workshops when protective clothing will be worn. Hair must be kept short in the interests of safety.'

This text was taken from the prospectus for the new Glasgow College of Nautical Studies which opened to students in 1969.

Fast forward to 2019 and a new era that witnessed the successful merger of the Glasgow College of Nautical Studies with Glasgow Metropolitan and Glasgow Central Colleges to form the world class City of Glasgow College super campus.

The college has now been delivering world class nautical training for 50 years which, since August 2015, has been Riverside campus. This architecturally multi-award winning building is the most modern and most technologically advanced maritime campus in Europe. Located on the same site as its predecessor college, it overlooks one of the world's great global waterways, the River Clyde, maintaining the link to Glasgow's maritime and shipbuilding heritage.

Now home to the Faculty of Nautical and STEM, Riverside has well and truly brought marine and engineering studies into the 21st century. It has moved on from the *'main teaching block, modern classrooms, dining halls and common rooms'* to a state of the art learning environment with technologically advanced, industry standard facilities which are geared to providing real-world skills where students are given experiences as close as possible to those they will encounter in their chosen field.

This impressive building was the first phase of the college's new twin site super campus and represents a significant investment in maritime education and training; marine

engineering and science; technology, engineering and mathematics. It is a bold statement of intent by the college to lead the global maritime college community and spearhead STEM innovation.

The college now supports one in five of all Maritime UK jobs, works with the top ten shipping companies in the world and is responsible for training one third of all UK Merchant Navy Officers from Chief Engineers to Captains. Digital engine rooms and a series of simulation suites now complement the paper navigation charts and Sperry and Brown Gyro Compasses, while innovative curricula includes pioneering Polar Ice Navigation simulation and Super Yacht training.

While some of the core subjects remain unchanged, teaching methods have moved from the traditional all-lecturing style to a more holistic approach that includes personalised guidance and analysis of individual learning styles. It is now standard practice for new students at the college to take a test that helps them understand what kind of learner they are.

Visits to industries such as steel works, foundries and shipyards of course no longer take place. Instead students are put through their paces in the college's suite of modern simulators that have multiple vessel types, including LNG carriers, as well as crisis scenarios such as very rough seas and on-board fires.

Much has of course changed in the 50 years since the College of Nautical Studies opened its doors. At the time the nine storey college building was the biggest in Scotland with accommodation for 680 students and an initial enrolment of 400 while today, Riverside campus is home to almost 3,000 students. The college prospectus no longer includes instruction in the care and maintenance of the Gyro Compass and course fees are no longer paid in pounds, shillings and pence.

However, what remains unchanged is that a college still offers the best value in professional and technical further and higher education. Riverside's impressive facilities go a long way to keep Scotland and Glasgow at the forefront of maritime and engineering training and this 21st century super college, on the banks of the Clyde, continues to inspire future generations of seafarers and engineers.