Conveners' Committee

Date of Meeting	**31 August 2026**
Paper No.	**CC1-C**
Agenda Item	**2.3**
Subject of Paper	**Fellowship Nomination**
FOISA Status	**Disclosable**
Primary Contact	**Dr Paul Little CBE DL Principal & Chief Executive**
Date of production	**14 August 2026**
Action	**For Decision**

1. Recommendations

1.1. To approve the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the College to Professor Sam Medhat in recognition of his outstanding contribution and longstanding support for the corporate and academic success of the College.

2. Consultation

2.1. The Principal consulted with the Associate Director of Governance and Risk ahead of the nomination being tabled, in accordance with the established procedure.

3. Key Insights

3.1. In January 2020, the Board's Performance & Nominations Committee approved a procedure for the award of Fellowships. Under this process, the Principal may submit nominations to the Board, which may award up to two Fellowships in each academic year.

3.2. A Fellowship may be awarded to an individual who:

- Has made a significant contribution to the corporate or academic success of the College, or a specific area of its work, typically over a period of more than five years; or
- Has achieved national and/or international recognition, where their exceptional accomplishments have delivered sustained benefits to the College or its students, generally over a period of at least five years; or
- In exceptional circumstances, has distinguished themselves in a field or discipline closely aligned to the College's mission and areas of expertise.

3.3. Current Fellows of the College are Douglas Baillie, David Caldwell, Peter Finch, John MacLeod, Debbie McNamara, Dan Olsson, Nigel Palmer, Ruth Silver, Eric Tottman-

Trayner, Alisdair Barron, Lesley Woolfries and Donal Burke.

3.4. I am pleased to formally nominate **Professor Sam Medhat** for the award of Honorary Fellowship of the College. Professor Medhat is a nationally and internationally respected leader in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and innovation management. His distinguished career encompasses senior academic leadership, the development of national policy, and major charitable initiatives that have advanced technological education throughout the United Kingdom.

3.5. Professor Medhat's achievements clearly meet, and substantially exceed, the Fellowship criteria approved by the Convenors' Committee.

3.6. As Founder of the STEM Foundation, Professor Medhat has led initiatives that have supported more than 250 colleges across the UK and positively impacted over 700,000 STEM students. He has also served as a Governor at eight colleges in Oxfordshire and Berkshire. His membership of the HEFCE Board's Quality Assessment Committee and the Foundation Degree Forward Board further demonstrates his longstanding commitment to improving educational quality, innovation and student outcomes across the sector.

3.7. Professor Medhat has maintained a highly valued relationship with City of Glasgow College since 2010. He played a pivotal role in supporting the establishment of the Scottish Institute of Knowledge Exchange (SIKE), which remains the only organisation in the UK accredited to both Digital Maturity Assured (DMA) and ISO 56002 standards.

3.8. Through SIKE, the College delivers accredited innovation programmes tailored to start-ups, SMEs, large employers and public sector organisations. Professor Medhat's expertise and guidance have provided significant strategic and governance benefits to the College throughout this time. Since 2017, SIKE has generated £3.7 million in revenue through course delivery and project funding, while professionally certified innovation programmes have been completed by more than 500 industry participants.

3.9. Professor Medhat's outstanding career, lifelong commitment to technological and higher education, and international influence in STEM innovation make him an exceptional candidate for this honour. Awarding him an Honorary Fellowship would recognise his remarkable achievements while further strengthening the College's links with national and international innovation networks. He continues to be an outstanding advocate for the College's innovation and STEM activities.

3.10. I strongly recommend that the Board approve the award of Honorary Fellowship to Professor Sam Medhat.

4. Impact and Implications

4.1. Subject to Board approval, the Honorary Fellowship will be conferred at the College's graduation ceremony in November 2026. Following the award, the recipient will be entitled to use the post-nominal letters FCoGC.

4.2. Honorary Fellowships recognise individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the College and its wider community. They also strengthen relationships with key stakeholders and partners. The Fellowship process is designed to be transparent and robust, ensuring that the award retains its prestige and significance.