MARITIME50: HISTORY

The Merchant Shipping Act in 1855 provided instruction of navigation leading to Master and Mates qualifications, and paved the way for Leith Nautical College in 1903. Courses were also offered in Marine Engineering and Naval Architecture and the then 'modern' wireless telegraphy, including classes for fishermen, deck boy's courses, along with catering, radar and electronics.

The Glasgow School of Navigation was established in 1910 to provide seamen with the technical knowledge necessary to advance their career prospects. Models and apparatus were provided to demonstrate the principles of seamanship, navigation and nautical astronomy and its qualifications were recognised by the Board of Trade. In 1963 a revision of nautical education across the Strathclyde region concluded that all training should be concentrated at one site, and so the Glasgow College of Nautical Studies was born.

1969: Nautical and So Much More
Construction of the Glasgow College of Nautical Studies began on the banks of the Clyde in 1967. It brought Merchant Navy cadets who previously attended the School of Navigation at the Royal College of Science and Technology, the Marine Engineering Department of Stow College, and the Communications Department of the Watt Memorial College in Greenock, together on one site. The college was formally opened by the Admiral of the Fleet, the Earl of Mountbatten, on 4 October 1969.

1985: In February, the Secretary of State for Scotland announced that the provision of nautical education in Scotland should be centralised at Glasgow College of Nautical Studies. The Navigation department obtained a real–time, full mission simulator and developed into a comprehensive maritime studies provider, embracing ship and fleet management, port operations and maritime law.

1992: Securing International Partnerships

Glasgow College of Nautical Studies laid the foundation for international partnerships forging strong relations with the Academy of Maritime Education and Training (AMET) in Chennai, India. The importance of these education partnerships has been maintained and built upon and includes Maritime Training Institute Karachi, Pakistan; BP Marine Academy, India; and Vels University, India.

1998: Brian Wilson, Minister for Education and Industry, officially opened the Adelphi Centre at Glasgow College of Nautical Studies. This new building housed the Faculty of Care and Social Science and provided flexible learning space for the local community.

2004: Onwards and Upwards
On 4 October, 35 years of nautical education was celebrated with the opening of the £1.8million Gateway building at Glasgow College of Nautical Studies. The aim of the new facility was to train extra recruits for the Merchant Navy, while providing greater access to students with disabilities.

2010: A New Era
The Glasgow College of Nautical Studies was merged with Glasgow Metropolitan College and Central College Glasgow to form the dynamic City of Glasgow College. Its £228 million state of the art twin site super campus development, comprising Riverside on the banks of the Clyde, and City on Cathedral Street in the heart of Glasgow's Learning Quarter, has transformed the Glasgow skyline and the provision of technical and professional education across Scotland and the UK.

2015: Riverside Campus
Home to the Faculty of Nautical and STEM, this architecturally award winning building was opened to staff and students. It represents a multi-million pound investment in maritime education and training; marine engineering and science; technology, engineering and mathematics. It features the first 360 degree full mission bridge shipping simulation suite in Scotland, and a marine skills centre with its own classrooms, jetty, rescue lifeboats and free fall lifeboat. As the most modern, most technologically advanced maritime campus in the world it demonstrates a significant contribution towards to the renaissance of Glasgow's maritime industry.

Engineering Excellence
Riverside campus has a dedicated engineering block of 1652msq capable of training students in all areas of engineering including marine, electrical, mechanical and electronic. The students learn welding, fitting and turning skills; they are taught four main types of welding; develop hand fitting skills with hacksaws, files, drilling and threading; and progress from producing basic turned components to precision screw cutting and offset exercises.

The engineering block houses a MAK designed 20 tonne ships engine which can be used as the main engine for a coastal vessel or as a diesel generator for a large marine vessel. It is the centre piece of one of the most modern working engine rooms in a college in the UK

and gives trainees access to a real marine diesel engine in full working order. Subject to the same routines as on board a ship, the students can carry out preparations for starting the ship’s engine ready for sea going duty.