



CITY OF GLASGOW
COLLEGE

Rethinking Skills Symposium

Thursday 7th February 2019

City Campus

#cogcskills



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Welcome

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to City of Glasgow College's International Education Symposium and to our award winning City campus. This state of the art facility is the larger of our twin site college estate which is designed for 40,000 students and which proudly stands tall in the heart of Glasgow's Learning Quarter.

We are honoured to be joined in person and indeed virtually by some of the most influential industry leaders and eminent academics from across the education sector joining us to take part in this, our third Education Symposium, following a highly successful launch in 2016.

The focus for this year is on rethinking skills and in particular on the knowledge and skills today's students will need to thrive and shape their world; and how best we can help them develop that required knowledge and those skills.

In the face of an increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous world, education can make the difference as to whether people embrace the challenges they are confronted with or whether they are defeated by them.

City of Glasgow College has embraced disruption with new 4.0 teaching practices which are ushering in exciting new pedagogies. As new technology presents opportunities to boost social mobility and improve access, we ensure that our curriculum is innovative and responsive to the growing demand for science, technology, engineering and digital skills. Importantly, that is matched with a focus on developing essential soft skills such as problem solving and creativity – vital to securing a future job, many of which do not yet exist.

This valuable Symposium provides us with an opportunity to discuss and debate the challenges ahead and how tertiary education in particular offers an inclusive learning pathway as well as a pipeline of talent to meet the UK's economic needs and lifelong learning for the many, not the few.

I look forward to what will no doubt be a stimulating and thought provoking symposium and to meeting you all in person over the course of the day.

*Paul Little, Principal & Chief Executive,
City of Glasgow College*

Agenda

0900hrs	Registration and coffee
0930-0935hrs	Welcome - Principal Paul Little, City of Glasgow College
0935-0950hrs	Professor Alison Wolf, Kings College London <i>Skills and vocational education and training in the 21st century</i>
0950-1030hrs	Principal Paul Little, City of Glasgow College <i>Rethinking Skills</i>
1030-1110hrs	Professor Ewart Keep, University of Oxford <i>Skills Challenges for C21 - three big issues</i>
1110-1130hrs	Morning break
1130-1210hrs	Olly Newton, Director of Policy & Research, The Edge Foundation <i>Skills Shortages – Size, Shape and Solutions?</i>
1210-1250hrs	Professor Ken Spours, UCL Institute of Education <i>Building education and employer partnership working at local and regional levels: key challenges in differing UK national contexts</i>
1250-1330hrs	Lunch
1330-1410hrs	Russell Gunson, Director of IPPR Scotland <i>A Skills System for 21st Century Scotland</i>
1410-1450hrs	Professor Thomas Deissinger, University of Konstanz <i>The German VET system: opportunities for policy learning in the UK?</i>
1450-1510hrs	Afternoon break
1510-1600hrs	Panel session
1600-1610hrs	Conclusions

Our Speakers



PRINCIPAL PAUL LITTLE
City of Glasgow College

Paul Little is the founding Principal and CEO of Scotland's leading college ranked No.1 in the UK for the standard of its technical and professional skills (WorldSkills). Principal Little has a global reputation as one of the foremost Thought Leaders and Change Innovators bringing a wealth of experience in Tertiary Sector transformation and redefinition, curriculum innovation and performance excellence. A graduate of Harvard Business School and distinguished academic, he has successfully aligned his 30-year career with his duties working part-time with the HM coastguard for which he was decorated three times by HM The Queen.



PROF ALISON WOLF
Kings College London

Alison Wolf is the Sir Roy Griffiths Professor of Public Sector Management at King's College London. She directs its International Centre for University Policy Research, and the MSc in Executive Management. In 2011 she completed the Wolf Review of Vocational Education; her recommendations were implemented in full. Alison sits in the House of Lords as a cross-bench peer and is a member of the government's Review of Post-18 Education and Funding (2018). Publications include Does Education Matter? Myths about Education and Economic Growth; and, The XX Factor: how working women are creating a new society.



PROF EWART KEEP
University of Oxford

Professor Keep is also Director of the Centre on Skills, Knowledge & Organisational Performance (SKOPE). He has been researching skills issues for 34 years, writing extensively on employers' attitudes towards skills; on skills policy across the UK; and about the links between workforce skills, productivity and economic performance. He has advised the governments of Scotland, Wales, New South Wales, Queensland and New Zealand and served on the Scottish Funding Council and Higher Education Funding Councils for England and Wales. He is currently a member of the Scottish Government's Labour Market Strategy Group.

Our Speakers



PROF KEN SPOURS
UCL Institute of Education

A Professor of Post-Compulsory Education and a Director of the Centre for Post-14 Research and Innovation, Ken Spours specialises in post-14 curriculum and qualifications, organisation and governance, and further education and skills. His most recent research includes a study of further education and skills across the UK; skills development to support an expanded London Heathrow Airport and social ecosystem theory that links working, living and learning to promote inclusive educational, social and economic growth. A Distinguished Visiting Professor at Capital Normal University, Beijing, Ken will undertake an academic residency in China during 2019.



OLLY NEWTON
The Edge Foundation

Olly is the lead author of Edge's research and policy reports. His job is to understand the latest education research and practice here in the UK and worldwide. He oversees a programme of primary research and runs the Edge Future Learning delivery programme for schools and colleges. Before joining The Edge Foundation, he spent 12 years with the Department for Education, working on policies including 14-19 diplomas, raising the participation age and most recently as Head of Apprenticeship Strategy. Based in Sheffield, he volunteers with the Scout Association and helps run a community theatre.





RUSSELL GUNSON
IPPR Scotland

Russell set up IPPR in 2015 and has developed it into one of Scotland's leading policy organisations. Prior to this he worked across government, parliament, and the voluntary and private sectors. He was director of the National Union of Students (NUS) Scotland and was a commissioner on Scotland's independent Commission on Widening Access. He was a founding director of Safe Deposits Scotland, the only non-profit tenancy deposit protection scheme based in Scotland. Russell has experience across a range of public policy issues particularly in education, skills, fiscal analysis and the economy.



PROF THOMAS DEISSINGER
University of Konstanz

Thomas Deissinger is Professor of Business and Economics Education at the University of Konstanz in Germany. He gained his Diploma in Business and Economics Education at the University of Mannheim in 1985, where he also received his doctoral degree (Dr. phil.) in 1991. He specialises in vocational training policy and comparative research in the area of Vocational Education and Training (VET), and his interests also cover didactical issues such as modularisation, the history of VET and school-based VET. A number of his publications are devoted to the VET systems in the UK, Australia, and Canada.





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