



**News Release**

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## **INTO Scotland launches partnership with Glasgow Caledonian University**

INTO University Partnerships and Glasgow Caledonian University have joined forces in a partnership to establish a new international study centre.

The contract was formally signed today (Wednesday May 28) and the first students will begin their studies in June. INTO foundation colleges are designed to prepare international students for undergraduate and postgraduate study at UK universities by giving them intensive English language training alongside normal university level coursework in their chosen subjects. Students who pass all their coursework can then progress into specific second year undergraduate courses in the same way that they do from traditional further education colleges.

Not only is this partnership the first of its kind in Scotland, it is also the first ever INTO initiative with opportunities for professional career based learning which is important to many international students.

INTO Chairman Andrew Colin said: "International students are looking for high quality pathways, sophisticated learning and living environments and most of all a university qualification that will launch their career. Glasgow Caledonian University is clearly exceptionally popular with its

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international student community and it has an accomplished track record in combining academic study with career orientation and industry links.

"I believe Scotland, and Glasgow in particular, offers international students a wonderful opportunity for personal development. To support this, the new INTO Centre will offer students a world-class experience."

University Principal and Vice-Chancellor Professor Pamela Gillies said: "This is good for our university, its good for the city of Glasgow, and it's good for Scotland. Bringing more international students into the country is a positive move, which fits well with the Scottish Government's Fresh Talent strategy and adds to the economic and cultural vibrancy of the country. International students will find Glasgow an exciting city to base themselves in. The joint venture partnership is good for our home based students as well, broadening their horizons and giving them the opportunity to meet and build relationships with other students from across the globe. It also means we join a prestigious network of institutions including the universities of Newcastle, East Anglia, and Exeter, all of whom are looking forward to working with us."

In the first year the university anticipates a relatively small number of 'INTO Scotland' students but numbers could rise to 500 students by years five and six when new teaching and residential accommodation is completed.

INTO's Academic Director, Lawrence Denholm, said: "We are delighted to be launching this Scottish foundation college in partnership with Glasgow Caledonian University. INTO prides itself on offering international students a first class experience and we believe partnering with Glasgow Caledonian will help us provide this. The university has an excellent international reputation and is widely recognised for successfully pursuing a strong internationalisation agenda for the benefit of all its students."

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## Notes for editors

INTO Centres prepare international students for undergraduate and postgraduate study by giving them intensive English language training alongside academic preparation for their university study.

Students who pass all their coursework are assured a place on their chosen undergraduate or postgraduate programme. INTO launched in February 2006. In addition to INTO Scotland it has centres at the Universities of East Anglia, Exeter and Newcastle.

INTO plans to invest up to £1 billion in higher education as the company continues to build its network of partnerships in the UK and overseas over the next five years. Each INTO partner university defines, assures and is responsible for the quality of the courses.

INTO partnerships do not fall into the category of privatisation. The company establishes joint venture partnerships with universities, with shared board and management responsibilities and provides marketing infrastructure, working closely with its partners' International Offices. New living and learning assets are created for each joint venture rather than publicly-owned assets being transferred away from public ownership. INTO centres can run alongside existing university pathway operations or integrate them within a single unit.

Glasgow Caledonian University was founded in 1993 through the merger of Glasgow Polytechnic and Queens College, Glasgow.

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