

THE AWARDS 2021

Outstanding Support for Students

Institution name	Glasgow Caledonian University
Submission title or project name	MINT (Mentoring, Internships, Networking & Talks) Supporting the Class of 2020 and beyond.
Nominee/key personnel	Developed by Director of Foundation (Jill Watt), Alumni Engagement Manager (John Taylor) and Foundation Manager (Nina Campbell) and delivered by the full GCU Foundation, Alumni & Events team.
URL	www.gcu.ac.uk/alumni/mintprogramme
Submission	<p>GCU's award-winning MINT Programme (Mentoring, Internships, Networking & Talks) was established as a direct response to the pandemic. With more than half of final year students in the UK having lost jobs or internships during the pandemic (Prospects, May 2020), MINT was the first initiative of its kind to take the lead on increasing the employability of new graduates and final year students.</p> <p>Launched with £200,000 of philanthropic funding from Sir Alex Ferguson CBE, the ground-breaking initiative mobilises the support of GCU's community of alumni, honorary graduates, donors and friends in a bid to give our upcoming graduates the best possible chance of securing employment at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>To date, over 1400 new graduates and final year students have benefitted from the programme which provides access to opportunities, sector guidance and advice, as well as growing the participants' networks by connecting them to business leaders and alumni.</p>