



The University of Strathclyde was founded 200 years ago as a “place of useful learning”, and its modern leadership takes that purpose very seriously.

The university’s Enterprise Academy teaches entrepreneurial skills to its researchers while its Student Entrepreneurs over two semesters – and two such teams have already successfully commercialised their ideas.

Strathclyde has also launched a £3 million fund to support selected spin-off companies over their first three years. Its 10-year-old network of alumni and businesses that supports emerging local entrepreneurs recently opened a new chapter in Dubai. A formal mentoring scheme for early-stage entrepreneurs also exists, and the university has built an Enterprise Hub staffed by advisers. A specific career pathway has been created for staff who want to advance by concentrating on knowledge transfer.

The university has spun off more than 50 companies employing over 700 people. Principal Sir Jim McDonald chairs the Glasgow Economic Leadership group – a business-led body charged with driving regeneration.

Keith Burnley, chief executive of NCEE and a member of its judging team, was impressed by the university’s commitment to “challenging tradition boundaries”, “questioning our own approaches” and “encouraging innovation in all that we do”.

What made it stand out in particular was its “commitment to developing an environment that fosters entrepreneurial thinking and delivers significant entrepreneurial impact”.