



Development Trust Impact Report 2021-22



"With your encouragement and support, you helped 43 students graduate this summer and supported a further 158 who continue their studies. Because of you they are fulfilling their ambitions and potential."

Reflecting on the past year and how your support has helped students in need.



Dear Supporters, Friends and Alumni,

I want to take the opportunity of sharing this 2021/22 Impact Report to thank you all for your kind and generous support.

The past year has not been without significant challenges, the ongoing effects of Covid, the rise in the cost of living and a difficult accommodation market have all led to another difficult year for people. Sadly, our students have not been spared from these challenges.

The average student's living costs are £810 a month, surpassing the average maintenance loan by £340¹. Financial fears have impacted the mental health of 67%² of students and 35%¹ consider dropping out of university over financial issues. Disturbing statistics show that 12%³ of students in Scotland have experienced homelessness, far higher than the general population - 0.57%⁴.

For talented Edinburgh Napier students with no other means of financial support, a scholarship or bursary offers critical support to help alleviate this burden, allowing them to continue their studies so they can go onto fulfil their potential.

Last year 178 donors like you answered the call for help, supporting the ENCourage21 campaign and guaranteeing support to 21 students for up to four years. Thank you.

Your help as an Edinburgh Napier alumni or friend is making a real difference to the students you support. Your donation, alongside the sharing of your networks, time and experience, benefits new Edinburgh Napier students every year. Many research projects and scholarships are only made possible through your continued support. It is because of you that the students in this report, and many others, are able to graduate and go on to make a difference.

We hope this will leave you feeling inspired and proud of what your support has achieved, and that you continue to support Edinburgh Napier students. Your support changes lives and paves the way to university for many students to help them become true 'difference makers'.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrea Nolan'.

Andrea Nolan
Principal & Vice Chancellor

THANK YOU !

This year you helped us support
Edinburgh Napier students with

152

Scholarships

29

Project Grants

20

Internships

In 2021, you helped establish
new ENCourage Scholarships

- 21 four-year scholarships
- £76k total awarded so far
- 178 donors



YOUR IMPACT

NIAMH KELLY

Niamh started at Edinburgh Napier in September 2021, and recently received Merits in all her modules. She explains the impact being awarded an ENCourage scholarship had on her good results, physical and mental health.

“Getting the ENCourage scholarship meant I could leave my job in retail and pursue my dream of studying to become an accountant. Growing up, I always loved working with numbers. I have chronic pain and the retail job I had was very physical. I was struggling to cope with the physical demands but couldn’t afford to quit my job and study full-time. The scholarship funding has been critical to enable me to come to university. It has given me the confidence and financial support I needed. My mental health has also improved significantly. I’m really excited for the next three years. Without this scholarship I couldn’t have pursued my ambition”



DILLON KING

Dillon moved from Aberdeen to Edinburgh four years ago to study at Edinburgh Napier. He recently graduated with a BA in Television, hopeful about his future.



"After my third year, I considered dropping out. I was struggling to pay rent, the cost of living was simply too high for me to keep up, I didn't know if I'd be able to do it for another year. The ENCourage scholarship helped me finish my degree in much better conditions, it was one less thing to worry about. I'm looking forward to starting my career and my post-university life here in Edinburgh."

CARA MAGENNIS

Cara received the Carnegie Trust Vacation Scholarship and recently graduated with a Law degree from Edinburgh Napier.

"The scholarship supported me through writing my dissertation more than anything. I had a lot more confidence going into it, it gave me the push I needed to finish my time at Edinburgh Napier on a high note. I cannot thank enough those who support the scholarship fund."



GIVING BACK



PAUL SMITH

Paul is an Edinburgh Napier alumnus, and a regular donor to the Development Trust. His monthly contribution goes directly towards supporting students like Niamh, Cara and Dillon.

"My time at Edinburgh Napier has really helped me in my career. I am passionate about education and people's development. When Edinburgh Napier contacted me about becoming a regular donor to support students, I did not hesitate. I believe that people should have the opportunity to become the person they can be, and education helps so much in doing that. I wanted to give Edinburgh Napier students the opportunity to study in the best conditions possible."

Like Paul, 109 of our donors choose to give regularly to the Development Trust. Every 14 regular donors giving £20 a month (plus gift aid), means we can award an additional four-year-scholarship to an Edinburgh Napier student.



BEAR SCOTLAND

BEAR Scotland have launched a scholarship for civil engineering students at Edinburgh Napier University in memory of former chairman, Bill Taylor. From academic year 2021/22 onwards, the Bill Taylor Scholarship (BEAR Scotland) will provide £3,400 to support an undergraduate through the latter years of their degree. As well as financial support, the scholarship will see each year's successful student offered work placements and a place on BEAR Scotland's graduate training programme after completion of their degree.

"The new Bill Taylor Scholarship is allowing us to support an Edinburgh Napier undergraduate to let them fulfil their potential as they complete their degree programme and transition into their career. We are committed to investing in future talent. It will be great to award the first recipient and get to know them initially through work experience and then as they join us as a graduate."



APPIN ENTREPRENEURSHIP PRIZE

Damien O'Looney and Bing Li, who met at Edinburgh Napier while studying marketing and entrepreneurship, co-founded their successful international trading company in late 2010. This year, they have established the Appin Entrepreneurship Prize, a ten-year commitment to encourage and support the development of entrepreneurial ideas and concepts.

"We are both very much looking forward to hearing all the new business ideas coming out of Edinburgh Napier. The Centre for Entrepreneurship was instrumental in bringing Bing and I together and gave us the knowledge and confidence we needed to try and run a business ourselves. It also gave us practical tools which are needed in every business. We hope our Appin Entrepreneurship Prize can help fledgling businesses with the cash they need to start their business."

Our goal is to grant support to every Edinburgh Napier student who needs it. With the cost of living rising, students are at the forefront of the crisis. We expect more demand than ever in the coming year.

Every year, we receive over a thousand funding applications, but are only able to support one in six of them.

To support more students like Niamh, Cara and Dillon, visit our website using this QR code, or heading to <https://giving.napier.ac.uk/>

With your help, we can ensure that those who want to study can go on to make a difference.

Keep in touch at development@napier.ac.uk



With significant increase in the cost of living many students are expected to need help. We welcome your sustained support to help those who need it most in the year ahead.

Through Edinburgh Napier Development Trust, Charity Reg No. SC030225, you can support students and their research so they can achieve even more for the benefit of society and the environment we live in.

¹[National Student Money Survey 2022 \(Save the Student!\)](#)

²[Money and mental health: how financial wellbeing impacts students \(Blackbullion\)](#)

³[Broke: How Scotland is failing its students \(NUS Scotland\)](#)

⁴[The Homeless Monitor: Scotland 2021 \(Crisis\)](#)