



# 10 YEARS



Queen Margaret University  
EDINBURGH

**Santander's commitment to higher education in the UK and around the world, is simply remarkable and Queen Margaret University is proud to have been the first university in Scotland to become a partner.**

Ten years on since establishing this partnership, we celebrate the tremendous support we have received, which comes at a time when we are also celebrating 10 years on campus. I am delighted that Santander Universities became a partner, supporter and collaborator at that time, marking our joint commitment to enhancing our student's employability, increasing the university's international reach, developing our links with the local community, encouraging innovation and promoting entrepreneurial qualities.

Support from Santander makes a huge difference to our students, our staff and our community every single day, and I am so privileged to have witnessed the transformational effects that this support has had on the University over the past 10 years.

Santander has played a key role in shaping QMU now and in the future, ensuring we continue to make progress in our core goals of social justice, outstanding research and teaching and providing an excellent student experience.

Thank you for 10 years of funding and support and long may our partnership go from strength to strength.

Professor Petra Wend PhD, FRSA, FRSE  
Principal & Vice Chancellor



# Scholarships

Attracting



from 23 countries with the help of International Scholarships and Formula Santander Scholarships.

Supporting 17 students in financial need to continue with their studies.

Strengthening the workforce supporting cancer patients in the UK with 9 Radiotherapy & Oncology Scholarships.

## Keven Bermudez

Keven Bermudez has a PhD in Global Health Research from the Institute for Global Health and Development (IGHD) at QMU.

He enrolled as a part-time IGHD student at QMU in 2009, having already completed a Master's degree in Education from Cambridge College in Massachusetts, USA.

Keven has extensive field experience in several humanitarian settings, including Guantanamo Bay Cuba, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, DRC, Republic of Sudan and South Sudan, Rwanda, Central African Republic, Niger, Palestine, Afghanistan, East Timor, Ukraine, Greece and

the Western Balkans. In these locations, Keven has acted as a protection specialist as part of international humanitarian projects, with an emphasis on building local human resources with capacity to address the psychosocial consequences of war and armed conflict.

In 2009, Keven received a Santander Universities Scholarship and Research Award to conduct research with undocumented migrants and asylum seekers residing at an emergency shelter in Barcelona, Spain: 'Social connections and trust among destitute, undocumented African migrants in Barcelona, Spain' was his thesis title.

Keven said: "Support from Santander Universities has allowed me to expand my theoretical understanding of different mental health and psychosocial support intervention models in humanitarian settings, and apply this understanding to real life situations affecting people on the move worldwide. I am now involved in post-doctoral research at IGHD aiming to strengthen programmatic responses to needy populations."



# Research Grant funding

**£96k investment**

in international research and  
study opportunities enabling



over 60 students



over 30 members of staff

## Professor Claire Seaman

Professor Claire Seaman is QMU's expert on family business and enterprise research. In 2014, she received £1,000 from Santander Universities to help fund her visit to the University of Extremadura in Spain.

The visit formed part of Professor Seaman's ongoing research into family businesses, including research that compares the working of family business associations in the UK and Spain.

As well as conducting a series of interviews with Spanish family business leaders, Professor Seaman conducted two seminars for staff and students at the University of Extremadura, which highlighted the ongoing

family business research at QMU.

This distinct research project has built on an existing relationship between QMU and the University of Extremadura and raised the international profile of QMU and the School of Arts, Social Science and Management.

The project has developed Professor Seaman's personal understanding of evidence-based practice around the consultancy and knowledge transfer interventions that currently exist for family businesses. This has been helpful for her role as Knowledge Exchange Lead for the School of Arts, Social Science and Management at QMU.

Professor Seaman commented: "A crucial part of my research is to continue developing partnerships with institutions like the University of Extremadura. Building networks and sharing best practice between the different family business associations offers opportunities to benefit both the associations and the businesses themselves.

"A key part of my role is to talk to both businesses and academics, identify partnerships and ways of working together that suit both parties and ideally identify and bid for funding to help both parties achieve their goals."

Professor Seaman has now presented a paper, following

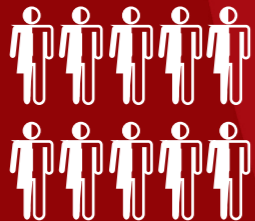
her work with the University of Extremadura, at the Institute of Small Business and Entrepreneurship Conference and delivered a keynote speech on family business associations at the University of Finance and Economics in Warsaw. The International Journal of Business Innovation and Research have accepted a subsequent paper, building on the work in Spain, for publication, and the team have developed the Entrepreneurship and Family Enterprise Research Conference, held in Spain during 2017 and currently under development in Edinburgh for 2018.



visit **30** countries around the world.

# Research Scholarship funding

£50k supporting



**10** post  
graduate

students and members of staff pursue their outstanding research and teaching goals.

8 countries across 4 continents visited.

## Isabelle Uny

Isabelle Uny, from France, is a PhD graduate from the Institute for Global Health & Development (IGHD) at QMU and has worked for a number of international development organisations in Scotland, including NIDOS (Network of International Development Organisations in Scotland) and the UK National Commission for UNESCO.

Isabelle's PhD thesis enabled her to deepen her knowledge of maternal health policy issues, both in Malawi and worldwide. This involved field work for a number of months and the collection of significant qualitative data. This type of research can be costly, but Isabelle was fortunate to receive a £5,000 Santander Research Scholarship in 2013 to support this.

The Scholarship allowed Isabelle to travel locally to the three different sites where she collected data, and most importantly to support the cost of transcribing and translating 62 interviews and focus groups, which she had undertaken with 149 participants.

Commenting on how funding from Santander Universities helped her PhD research, Isabelle said: "This funding was an incredibly important part of the research, as it ensured the quality of the data on which my whole thesis is based. Qualitative research depends on the quality and readability of collected data, from recording to transcribed text.

"Thanks to the Santander Scholarship, I was able to hire a number of local student transcribers, and to return to Scotland with all my data ready for analysis. This Scholarship also indirectly supported these young students in their country, in turn enabling them to achieve some of their own personal goals."

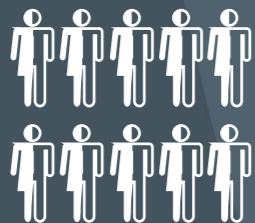
The research Isabelle has undertaken as part of her PhD is now acting as a platform to launch her academic career as a global health researcher in Scotland. Isabelle hopes that her future career will take her in the direction of research and potentially teaching in academia.



# Widening Access funding

## *Celebrating 10 years*

of our strategic partnership  
with Santander by providing  
life-changing experiences for



**10** students

### Liz Deeming

Liz Deeming is a mature student studying BSc (Hons) Public Sociology at QMU.

In summer 2017, funding from Santander Universities gave Liz and nine other QMU students the opportunity to embark on a unique overseas study opportunity in Venice.

The group of Psychology, Psychology & Sociology and Public Sociology students spent a week in the iconic Italian city, where they took part in a series of lectures and workshops at Ca' Foscari University of Venice.

As well as learning about the history and culture of Venice, Liz and other QMU students got the opportunity to hear from world-class academics and experts in sociology and psychology, covering topics such as health inequalities

and social care in Italy, as well as taking part in discussions about the collaborative work between QMU and Ca' Foscari, comparing social community planning in Italy and Scotland.

The students also visited San Servolo Insane Asylum Museum, where they were given a guided tour of an exhibition entitled 'Madness Locked Away'. This is comparative to the famous London asylum "Bedlam" and gave students an insight into historical aspects of mental health care with a particular focus on segregation and marginalisation of the patients within this hospital.

This was this first overseas study visit of its kind that has been made possible for QMU students thanks to the generous support of Santander Universities.

Commenting on her study visit to Venice, Liz said: "This was a trip of a lifetime for me and the first time I'd travelled outside the UK in over 20 years. The experience has helped me to focus on my studies at QMU, as well as how I look at the world. The experience has also given me more self-confidence and helped me make new friends with other QMU students outside the discipline of sociology.

"As a result of the trip, I now want to go on to postgraduate studies in Public Sociology at QMU and ultimately become a lecturer in Public Sociology, specialising in veterans of the armed and emergency services."



**Mobility  
funding** **£27k** supporting  
international travel  
opportunities for



**17**  
students

and



**9**  
staff

**10** countries across **4** continents visited.

## Greg Stark

BSc (Hons) Public Sociology student, Greg Stark, received mobility funding from Santander Universities in 2016, which allowed him to embark on a study exchange programme at Slippery Rock University in the United States.

This unique experience offered a perfect fit with Greg's studies at QMU, giving him the opportunity to learn about Public Sociology in a different society and from a different perspective.

During his study exchange, Greg also worked with a disability charity to carry out research into the relationship between those with disabilities and access to work. This role gave Greg first-hand insight into how another society treats people with disabilities.

Greg said: "Studying at Slippery Rock University really helped add value to my Public Sociology studies at QMU. I took modules I felt would benefit my course, including international relations, social justice, equality and 'American history from 1920'.

Greg now hopes to continue his research into the disability rights movement and the social structure of disability from an American perspective.

He believes that his exchange experience at Slippery Rock University is now helping him in his role as a disability employment advisor, which includes helping local people with disabilities looking for employment in Edinburgh.



# Community Awards

£26.5k developing

new community partnerships by rewarding student volunteering

57 local charities and community projects

60 students

## Iain's work with DadsWork help fathers improve parenting skills



**Iain Scott is a student on the BSc (Hons) Dietetics and a father of four children.**

He is a passionate community volunteer and uses his skills to help local people improve their health outcomes and overall quality of life. When Iain was a single parent of three children, and Chair of the Prestonpans Infant School parent council, he was introduced to DadsWork, a community project in East Lothian which works with fathers and male care givers. The charity helps men deal with feelings of isolation and assists them in developing healthy parenting skills. The group offers dads access to support groups, parenting classes,



workshops on the role of fathers, counselling, as well as outings for fathers and their children.

With support from the Santander Community Awards, Iain was able to access £500 of funding to help DadsWork develop a community garden project.

Having gained much from DadsWork himself, Iain was keen to help the group develop its services and offer new opportunities to fathers who may be experiencing isolation, poverty and stress.

He helped the group develop the DadsWork Community Garden in Musselburgh, which is designed for families to be part of the community. The £500 funded the purchase of



gardening equipment and part-fund the DadsWork greenhouse. Iain said: "DadsWork is an amazing service which helps fathers develop their confidence, sense of purpose and parenting skills. This ultimately helps to strengthen family bonding and resilience and improves quality of life.

"Aside from progressing the garden developments, I have led cooking skills workshops for some of the fathers. This is helping me develop knowledge and communication skills which is assisting me in my progression to becoming a professional dietitian. I have enjoyed the



opportunity to make a difference to people's skills and nutritional knowledge, knowing that my work will improve the health and wellbeing of young families.

Iain concluded: "I am proud to now be a committee member of DadsWork. I am pleased that the community garden is proving a success and that my help with the charity's service expansion is allowing DadsWorks to positively influence the lives of more fathers and their families."





# Internships

**£114k enhancing**

student and graduate employability through paid internships and work opportunities.



63 SMEs



86 interns

## Beth Crockett

An innovative partnership between Santander Universities, QMU, Alzheimer Scotland and Scottish Dementia Working Group has supported nine occupational therapy interns from QMU over the last five years, including MSc (Pre-Registration) student, Beth Crockett, from Canada.

The partnership has allowed interns, like Beth, to develop projects that influence the education of occupational therapy students and allied health professionals. The projects have aligned with the objectives of the Scottish Dementia Working Group to ensure that people living with dementia are supported, allowing them to live positive and fulfilling lives as part of our communities.

Just a few of the different projects, that the nine occupational therapy interns, have worked on over the last five years, include the development of two support toolkits offering practical advice to people who have received a diagnosis of dementia and help people live well with dementia, a film called 'This is me' featuring a member of the Scottish Dementia Working Group, and a photo voice project capturing the voices of people experiencing dementia.

The outcomes of the internships projects have also influenced the development of policy at a national level as evidenced in the 'Connecting people, connecting support' (Alzheimer Scotland, 2017) document.

Commenting on her internship opportunity with Alzheimer Scotland, Beth said: "If I could summarise my experience as an occupational therapy intern in three words, it would be diverse, autonomous and inspiring."

Not only have the internships allowed the interns to enhance their knowledge, skills and experience of dementia and occupational therapy, they have also supported alternative career paths within the third sector.



# Childrens University

supporting the QMU Children's University  
summer school programme



55 Dragon's Den children

## QMU's Children's University (QMCU)

QMU's Children's University (QMCU) is a social mobility initiative created to inspire children aged 5-14 to acquire a love of learning which will help them develop as successful, confident learners who can contribute positively to their communities. The initiative offers children innovative learning experiences outside normal school hours and over the last two years staff from Santander have played a key role in supporting the delivery of a Dragon's Den themed day as part of the QMCU Summer School.

QMCU Summer School offers 30 local pupils, who wouldn't normally

be able to take part in such activities due to financial or social barriers, the opportunity to spend a week on campus taking part in a range of fun and engaging learning experiences. In August 2016 and 2017 Santander staff joined Principal Petra Wend to play the role of the 'Dragons' when, in teams, pupils devise a business idea and pitch it to the panel of (friendly!) dragons who then decide which team's idea they would invest in – the day has quickly become the highlight of the programme and we are incredibly grateful to all the Santander staff who contribute to what is a great learning experience for the participating pupils.



# 10 YEARS

Total commitment from Santander Universities **£766k**



**Santander**  
UNIVERSITIES



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