Edinburgh Napier
UNIVERSITY

above & beyond

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Welcome to the 2023 Above & Beyond Awards Ceremony

Above & Beyond is now in its' seventh year! And, after three very long years, we're delighted to be able to bring the awards ceremony back to the Chapel at our Craiglockhart campus.

Tonight, we are thrilled to recognise significant achievements, successes, great teamwork and sheer determination to uphold our Edinburgh Napier values – it's time to celebrate those colleagues who play a huge part in making Edinburgh Napier University home of the difference makers!

Thanks to everyone who took the time to submit a nomination this year, we received over 200 nominations and, this evening, we welcome our shortlisted nominees. We wish them all the very best of luck in each of their respective categories. You can find details of each shortlisted nominee later in this programme.

And, along with our shortlisted nominees, we are delighted to welcome and congratulate individuals with 25 years' service and those who achieved HE accreditation over the previous academic year.

Thank you for attending the Above & Beyond Awards Ceremony, good luck and have a great night!

The Above & Beyond Team



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Geoff Day

Master of Ceremonies

Edinburgh Napier University's signature event, Above & Beyond, just wouldn't feel complete without Geoff Day, our very own homegrown difference maker.

Geoff has become a regular fixture at the Awards Ceremony, this will be the fifth consecutive year that he has been the host of this annual celebration, and he never fails to impress! He's a top-notch master of ceremonies who keeps the event running like a well-oiled machine.

With his captivating presence, unpredictable charm and sharp wit, he brings an energy to the ceremony which makes it a memorable experience for all delegates!

We're eternally grateful to Geoff for his unwavering dedication to this role and for performing it with such exceptional skill.



Geoff Day



Andrea Nolan

Andrea Nolan

Ceremony Co-Host

As Principal and Vice-Chancellor for Edinburgh Napier University, Andrea has presented at every Above & Beyond event since its' debut at our Sighthill campus back in 2017.

As the event has grown and become a prominent fixture in the academic calendar, Andrea looks forward to this occasion as a time for us to come together, to recognise

and celebrate our colleagues' accomplishments. And after three years, Andrea is particularly excited to welcome delegates back in-person to the chapel at Craiglockhart.

Andrea's unwavering enthusiasm, dedication and passion since the Above & Beyond recognition scheme began six years ago, continue to be truly valued and appreciated.

Agenda

5.30pm Welcome drinks and registration

6.30pm
Evening meal and ceremony begins

9pm
Post-ceremony
celebrations

10.30pm Carriages

The **Panel**

In this, our seventh year of running the Above & Beyond Awards, we were thrilled to receive over 200 nominations, all of which were thoroughly reviewed and evaluated by our Above & Beyond Panel.

Our nominees received nominations from their peers who took the time to recognise and appreciate the outstanding way they performed their roles here at the University. In this brochure, we have provided a brief summary of the nominations for each of our shortlisted nominees — with the winners to be announced this evening during the Awards Ceremony.

Our panel, from both our Academic and Professional Services Departments, has a few new members this year and faced a daunting challenge in selecting the shortlist. We are truly grateful to the following panel members for all their hard work and invaluable contribution.

Christine Cross - Panel Chair The Business School

Abdelfateh Kerrouche School of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment

Richard Whitecross
The Business School

Derek Livesey School of Arts & Creative Industries Fiona Mason Research, Innovation & Enterprise

Sharron Vass School of Applied Sciences

Catriona Cunningham
Department of Learning &
Teaching Enhancement

Shona Montgomery School of Health & Social Care Helen MacDonough Information Services

Alistair Bonthron
Property & Facilities



Designer of this year's awards

We are delighted to collaborate, for the second year in a row, with our colleague Richard Firth from the School of Arts & Creative Industries.

Richard commissioned two second year Product Design students; Kyle Farquhar and Gregor Drummond, to design and produce this year's award.

The focus of this year's design was to produce an award from one material using our digital fabrication laboratory.

Kyle and Gregor designed the award to represent Edinburgh Napier's three main campuses which symbolises the University's commitment to inclusive, diverse, and collaborative teaching and learning.



a&b The nominees: Ambitious Award

Alister Robertson: Management Accountant, Finance

Alister has been a vital member of the Accounting Team since joining the University a year ago. He took on additional responsibilities during a period of change in Finance and provided support to Schools without a dedicated Finance Business Partner, including complex areas such as BE-ST and the Robin Mackenzie Partneship (RMP). He played a key role in the year-end audit process and managed Barclaycard spend management, competitor analysis and university spin outs. Alister is currently improving the accounting, budgeting and forecasting process for BE-ST, all this whilst passing his Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) exams.

SCEBE Built Environment Team & School Support Service: School of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment and School Support Service

This team's ambition to deliver an excellent taught experience to students and to continue to push the boundaries of associated research fields was undeterred by the merger of the School of Computing and the School of Engineering & the Built Environment.

As well as delivering over 200 modules per academic session, the group also produced a number of high calibre publications and generated a significant amount of income for the University.

Jesus Pena: Finance Assistant, Finance

Jesus joined the Finance Team in 2022 and, during his initial training, faced the challenge of managing the complex debt collection process for students and commercial customers. He took full responsibility and collaborated with colleagues to gain knowledge and ensure no loss of service. Despite a policy change, he took the initiative to redesign the process and developed a new solution that met requirements for all teams. Jesus has shown an ambitious and self-directing approach, demonstrating an enthusiastic and positive 'can do' attitude.

The nominees: Professional Award

Curriculum Management Team: School Support Service, Information Services, School of Arts & Creative Industries, Strategy Hub, Department of Learning & Teaching Enhancement, The Business School

This team has demonstrated professionalism, resilience and determination in delivering the new Curriculum Management Environment, a flagship project of the University. They showed exceptional leadership and collaboration with colleagues across the organisation, including the five Schools and peers from Professional Services. The team recognised the importance of creating a holistic environment of systems, processes and workflows, as well as the cultural change required for long-term success. Their approach has shown the University in the best light both internally and with others in the sector.

Matthew Bonnett: Lecturer, The Business School

Matthew, as SAL for Quality, has played a key role in supporting three Business School Institution-Led Reviews (ILR), he has also convened an ILR within SACI and convened a complex approval event for programmes in partnership with a regulator. Matthew has also made significant contributions to the development of the

Curriculum Management Environment, prioritising engagement in the User Acceptance testing phase as a result, identifying problems that were resolved prior to launch. His expertise and contribution to the project has been essential to its success.

Student Accommodation & Security Team: Property & Facilities

This team dealt with a major incident ensuring the safety of over 770 students. In November 2022, a fire broke out in Bainfield student accommodation, this required a response from the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS). The Student Accommodation and Security Teams acted promptly by evacuating over 770 students from the building. The team demonstrated empathy and care for student safety, some students were anxious about going back into their accommodation, the team took time to reassure them and walked each group into the building once allowed back in. The team's professionalism, support and conduct was recognised through a letter to the University from the SFRS.



The nominees: **Q&b**Inclusive Award

Natasha Spassiani: Lecturer, School of Health & Social Care

Natasha prioritises and takes a proactive approach to inclusivity in both her teaching and research practices. Her teaching approach reflects the diversity of her learners, and through her research Natasha has established strong relationships with local self-advocacy groups for people with disabilities. These groups now contribute to recruitment, curricula design and delivery across the Learning Disability Nursing Programme.

Istvan Kovacs: School Support Administrator, School Support Service

Istvan goes out of his way to make colleagues feel welcome, he created his own guides to explain the various systems and processes used. Istvan is always willing to help, no matter how big or small the problem is. He treats everyone, including colleagues, students and external visitors with the same respect and goes above and beyond to support them. Istvan listens carefully and takes the time to find solutions, which he willingly shares with the rest of the team.

Jon Mortimer: Associate Lecturer, School of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment

Jon actively promotes the deaf community and British Sign Language (BSL). His work highlights the language gap in animations, he created an animated short film 'New Signs for Animation' which highlights the language gap of animation terminology available to BSL users - this will be added to the National Library's moving image archive. He is contributing to Encyclopaedia of Animation Studies, which is focused on Deaf representation in animation. His animated short film has been nominated for awards at Manchester Animation Festival and Creative Edinburgh.

ɑ̃&b The nominees: Innovative Award

Bernie Critchley: Career Development Consultant, Student Futures

Bernie helped to build a feedback form for students to understand the impact of Student Futures' appointment offering. Bernie has also been integral in developing the Business School's highly innovative and impactful Mastership series, providing high-level postgraduate students to learn from professionals across different sectors. He has also helped develop a Student Futures promotional video and worked with colleagues in Marketing and External Relations to develop TikTok videos to promote Graduate Futures.

Academic Practice Team: Department of Learning & Teaching Enhancement

The Academic Practice Team has met teaching demands and responded to challenges with ingenious creativity. Their innovative approaches include learning and teaching ENssentials programme, sector-leading dialogic approach for Enroute and PGcert, creating a centre for Higher Education Research, rapid response to sector-leading Al and ChatGPT and developing a new Enhancing Inclusion series at short notice.

Paul Langford, Lecturer, The Business School; Peter Cruickshank, Associate Professor, School of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment; Georgina Gilmer, Head of CPD & Consultancy, Research, Innovation & Enterprise, Alistair Wallace, Research & Innovation Contracts Officer, Research, Innovation & Enterprise, Matthew Burdge, Business Development & Relationship Manager, Research, Innovation & Enterprise

This team worked collaboratively across departments and with an external partner to develop a new Digital & Business Risk Management MSc programme which is unique in the marketplace. This new product has resulted in a three-year contract to deliver the programme to Deloitte graduates UK-wide generating significant income for the University. There are plans to replicate this new programme to graduate intakes in other large organisations.



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The nominees:

Research & Innovation Award

Luca Mora: Professor, The Business School

Luca has become a key international expert in the field of urban innovation, he has been appointed as academic consultant by two UN agencies; UN-Habitat and the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The results of these collaborations are income generation, two UN reports and multiple articles in top-quality academic journals. Luca has also developed a partnership with the University of Notre Dame and NLC - a US non-governmental organisation, resulting in an international report on public sector innovation management. As well as this, he has set up the University's Urban Innovation Policy Lab and is leading a multidisciplinary team of 16 researchers.

Kasi Siemienowicz: Specialist Lecturer, School of Applied Sciences & **Mick Rae:** Professor, School of Applied Sciences

Kasi and Mick's innovative studies on polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) have established that around 80% of women suffering from this condition are unable to lose weight. Through their research and model system, they have demonstrated that exposing individuals to intranasal insulin had positive effects on the metabolic outcome of the disease state. In collaboration with the University of Edinburgh, this work led to a human clinical trial investigating the therapeutic potential of intranasal insulin on women suffering from PCOS. The impact and significance of this research goes further in understanding obesity and metabolic syndrome which affects more than 28% of the UK population.

Nikolaos Pitropakis: Associate Professor, School of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment

Despite the challenging funding landscape caused by changes in Horizon 2020, Nik has played a crucial role in securing EU funding for the University. His efforts have led to successful funding for projects such as GLASS and TRUSTEE, with three other applications in the pipeline. Along with leading teaching in Cybersecurity and Systems Engineering, Nik supports a growing and impactful research environment, including a forthcoming spin-out company (TrueDeploy) and publishing 14 research papers in 2022.

The nominees: **a**&**b Partnership Award**

Kirsty Connell-Skinner: Partnerships Manager, School of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment

Kirsty effectively establishes and leverages partnerships with numerous external organisations including Trimble, Timber Development UK, the New Model Institute for Technology and Engineering and Built Environment - Smarter Transformation (BE-ST). These partnerships have resulted in the University having the only Trimble Technology Lab in Scotland, and a rolling commercial contract with TDUK to develop a knowledge library for their membership base of 1,500 organisations. As well as this, the partnership with BE-ST has included the recently completed Transforming Timber project which has been nominated for Scottish Knowledge Exchange Award for 'Making an Environmental Difference'.

Pauline Gordon: Lecturer, The Business School & Sybille Ratz: Lecturer, The Business School

To replace the MSc Flexibly Managed Programme, Pauline and Sybille worked collaboratively with our Quality, International Operations and Professional Services Teams, as well as 15 European partners and students to launch the new MSc Dual Degree Programme. As a result of their work, they have built post Brexit academic connections with partners in Europe and through their sheer determination and commitment, this programme has led to an increase in the number of European students in the Business School which has been declining since Brexit.

Robert Hairstans: Associate Professor, School of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment

Robert built and continues to maintain strong working partnerships with industry and others for teaching, learning and research purposes. Robert has a long track record of successful collaboration and inspires his colleagues to do the same. He has overcome challenges in partnership-working with new organisations such as NMITE, Trimble, TDUK and BEX, and has developed strong external networks. Most recently, he has been involved in the 'Timber in Construction working group' creating a policy roadmap for England.



Outstanding Student Experience Award

Ellis Urquhart: Lecturer, The Business School

Ellis successfully launched the 'Speakeasy' initiative that encourages colleagues to share and proactively solve any student engagement issues, fostering a culture of collaboration and good practice sharing. As Programme leader for Postgraduate Tourism, Ellis practices what he preaches, he organises events and holds drop-in surgeries to engage students outside of class. He has also been instrumental in transforming the personal support offered to students through his role as Personal Development Tutor (PDT) Lead for Tourism & Languages.

Laurie Bowman: Technician, School of Arts & Creative Industries

Laurie demonstrates a university-wide support for students through technical support and expertise. He is proactive, working with students on the Radio ENRG student journalism and media platforms and WordPress. As well as offering one-to-one support he has put together a series of 'how to' videos, he is responsive to student requests, providing quick and individualised support. His expertise is highly valued by students.

The Counselling & Wellbeing Team: Student Wellbeing & Inclusion

The team has responded to a significant rise in demand for their essential services, going from 840 registrations in 2020-21 to 1102 referrals in 2021-22. The Counselling and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) Team offers short-term trauma-informed therapy for students with low to moderate distress - this part of the service delivered an incredible student satisfaction rate of 93.5% over a four-year period. Our Mental Health Advice colleagues who work with students presenting a higher level of complexity and diagnosis, including ongoing safeguarding concerns, also achieved an incredible student satisfaction rate of 91.5% over the same period.

۵&b HEA Fellowship

Our purpose is to deliver high quality education and research to add value to the social, cultural and economic capital of our communities and shape their development. As part of that commitment, the University is accredited to award fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (HEA) at various levels.

Developed as practitioners, colleagues are provided the opportunity to identify their achievements, good practice and innovative approaches to learning and teaching. We are delighted to announce those colleagues who were successful in gaining their HEA fellowship status in the academic year 2021/22.

Mo Theruer

Associate Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Catriona MacInnes

Fellow School of Arts & Creative Industries

Zack Moir

Principal Fellow School of Arts & Creative Industries

Christine Haddow

Senior Fellow School of Arts & Creative Industries

Peter Chapman

Senior Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Pamela Calabrese

Senior Fellow Department of Learning & Teaching Enhancement

Jim Daly

Fellow Information Services

Maria King

Fellow Information Services

Francesco Aiello

Associate Fellow School of Applied Sciences

Chris Gillespie

Associate Fellow School of Applied Sciences

Beatriz Vale De Melo E Oliveira

Associate Fellow School of Applied Sciences

Nicole Payton

Senior Fellow School of Applied Sciences

Sharron Vass

Senior Fellow School of Applied Sciences

Coral Hanson

Associate Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Jane Sime

Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Steve Yorkstone

Senior Fellow Strategy Hub

Alice Strong

Associate Fellow Student Futures

Ben Adamolekun

Fellow The Business School

Laura Gerard

Senior Fellow The Business School

Juan Bernal-Sanchez

Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Jennifer Dodd

Fellow School of Applied Sciences

Cher-Antonia Khedim

Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Babis Koniaris

Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

David Lumsden

Fellow School of Arts & Creative Industries

Sean McKeown

Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Sophie Morrell

Fellow The Business School

Gesthimani Moysidou

Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Cathy Olusanmi

Fellow The Business School

Tayo Oluwadare

Fellow School of Applied Sciences

Viviani Onishi

Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Jenny Patterson

Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Jacqueline Taylor

Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Stuart Taylor

Fellow Department of Learning & Teaching Enhancement

Isam Wadhaj

Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

a&b HEA Fellowship

Emine Akgun

Associate Fellow The Business School

Kehinde Babaagba

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

David Brazier

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Libby Campbell

Associate Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Megan Crawford

Associate Fellow The Business School

Roshan Dhonju

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Balandino Di Donato

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Martina Fiori

Associate Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Bruce Forrest

Associate Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Kieran Gosnay-Warren

Associate Fellow School of Arts & Creative Industries

Jane Gregson

Associate Fellow Department of Learning & Teaching Enhancement

Pierre Le Bras

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Mouad Lemoudden

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Zhilun Lu

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Malcom McGregor

Associate Fellow The Business School

Ashley Morton

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

David Muggeridge

Associate Fellow School of Applied Sciences

Giacomo Russo

Associate Fellow School of Applied Sciences

Adrian Smales

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

David Tanner

Associate Fellow School of Arts & Creative Industries

Craig Thomson

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Petros Tsaftaridis

Associate Fellow School of Arts & Creative Industries

Tathis Tingas

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Dean Whittaker

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Gosha Wojcik

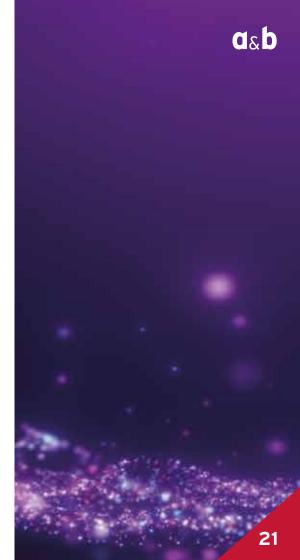
Associate Fellow School of Health & Social Care

Leo Woods

Associate Fellow International Operations & Student Recruitment

Yanchao Yu

Associate Fellow School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment



asb The nominees: Learning & Teaching Award

Lindsey Carruthers: Lecturer, School of Applied Sciences

Lindsey provides a teaching experience that is original, challenging, inspiring and motivating for both students and colleagues. Lindsey created a fourth-year module that features external speakers to discuss current topics in Psychology, this has positively affected student satisfaction and performance. Across the many modules Lindsey leads and teaches, she consistently ensures that the content is modern, topical and engaging.

Tanis Grandison: Lecturer, School of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment

Tanis excels as programme leader for MSc User Experience Design. Her module, Practical Interaction Design, received exceptional student feedback and, as a new programme, she has supported students and members of staff to ensure this is delivered successfully. Tanis is keen to support students coming from non-technical backgrounds into computing related programmes. She works with colleagues to update hardware components to ensure students have a hands-on interactive experience.

Carolyn Scott: Lecturer, School of Arts & Creative Industries

Carolyn brings energy to her learning and teaching, she engages with her students and displays incredible talent and enthusiasm. Carolyn delivers additional workshops, tutorials and one-to-one sessions with her students, all of which have received exceptional feedback from students. Carolyn has specialisms in InDesign and cutting-edge digital knowledge. She has organised four additional InDesign workshops this academic year and dedicates time to the student-led Radio ENRG, her involvement and dedication has been transformational for students playing an important role in the learning and teach aspect of the Journalism Department.



Q&b The nominees: **Leadership Excellence Award**

Andrew McKendrick: IT Business Change Consultant, School Support Service

Andrew has effectively managed the strategic Curriculum Management Project since 2019, demonstrating strong leadership and inspirational qualities. Through this project Andrew brought together a very wide range of stakeholders, created 'curriculum corner' and guided the team through an intense procurement process, all of this whilst tackling challenges head on and role-modelling positive, motivational and healthy working practices.

Deborah Callister: Placement Manager, Student Futures

Deborah has a passion for student placements and employability and leads her team to develop and improve its processes and student support. She demonstrates strong caring leadership and leads with integrity. Deborah is also supportive of continuous professional development and, as a board trustee for ASET, the work-based learning and placement learning association, Deborah promotes openings for the team by signposting them to learning opportunities. Deborah is inspiring, professional and transparent.

Claire Garden: Senior Lecturer, School of Applied Sciences

Claire is well known across SAS for her supportive and compassionate leadership. In her role as Head of Learning and Teaching she is dedicated to improving students' learning experience and has introduced a number of initiatives to boost student engagement and retention such as; a School level representative programme forum and Student Success Group. Claire is clear on her expectations as a leader and is collaborative in her approach to all learning and teaching initiatives.



The nominees: University Enterprise Award

Jane Ali-Knight: Professor, The Business School

Jane has increased the University's enterprise profile through the Destination Leaders Programme and her strong relationship with Scottish Enterprise. She has delivered short courses through the Scottish Government's Upskilling Fund and for the British Council in Mexico. Jane mentors colleagues and fosters entrepreneurial mindsets, leading to several commercial contracts with the British Council and Scottish Enterprise. Her Partnership with Counterculture led to a high-profile commercial strategic review of Lincoln Performing Arts Centre, which has since transformed that organisation.

Antoine Reguis: Research Associate, School of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment

Antoine has a proven track record of delivering successful projects and securing external funding for SCEBE. Antoine has engaged with national and international industry partners, universities, local communities. Antoine is also helping to set up a research centre that would place the University at the forefront of the emerging district heating sector in Scotland which is expected to grow by 28% per year over the next 10 years in Scotland.

Bill Buchanan: Professor, School of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment; Aoife O'sullivan: Business Engagement & Communications Manager, Research, Innovation & Enterprise & Cathy Higginson: Business Development & Relationship Manager, Research, Innovation & Enterprise

This team led the creation and delivery of the highly successful 'Symposium on Technology, Innovation and Collaboration' to develop entrepreneurial mindsets and raise the University's profile. This event played an important role in positioning the University at the heart of the growing Tech Community in Scotland, increasing the external profile of the enterprise activity and showcasing the economic, social and cultural impact of their work.



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25 years

Length of Service

The long service award is given to those who have achieved 25 years' service at the University. Congratulations to the following colleagues on achieving this key milestone in 2022:

Julie Dickson

School Support Service

Jacqueline Armstrong

Property & Facilities

Brigitte Harris

School of Arts & Creative Industries

Felix Jarvis

School of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment

Carolyn Beattie

International Operations & Student Recruitment

Jennifer Moxey
Information Services

Shane ThomsonProperty & Facilities

Joan Busby

School of Arts & Creative Industries

Linda MackinnonProperty & Facilities

Anne Brotchie School Support Service Alan Mumford
Information Services

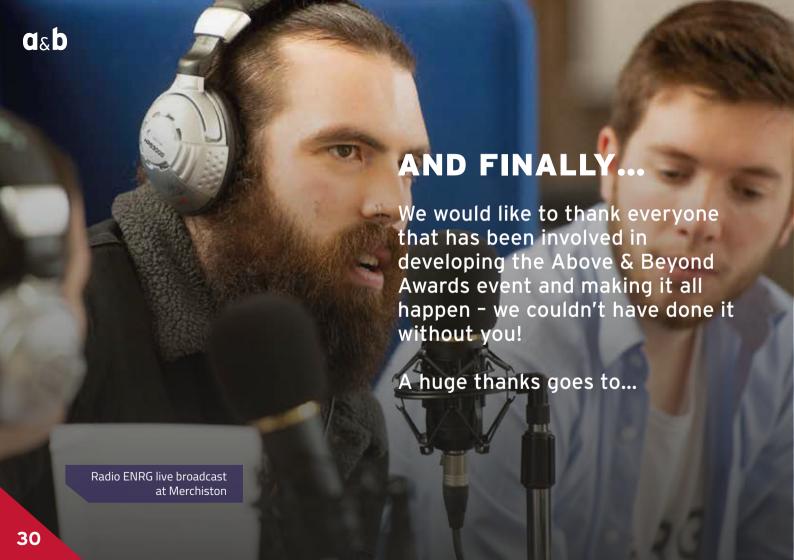
Richard MackenzieRobin Mackenzie Partnership

Louise Outerson School Support Service

Malcolm Bornowski Information Services

Cheryl Thomson School Support Service





Geoff Day

for his role as Master of Ceremonies

Andrea Nolan and the Senior Leadership Team

for their role in presenting the awards this evening

The Above and Beyond Awards panel

for their time and commitment in judging all nominations

The Print Services Team

for their support in delivering all printed materials

The Portering, Conferencing, Catering, Cleaning, Maintenance and Security Teams at Craiglockhart Campus

Richard Firth

for his support and facilitation in producing the Above and Beyond trophies

Craigmac design services

for his work on all aspects of Above and Beyond design

Gus Harrower and band

for providing the music for the event

Neil Hanna

for providing the photography at this event

Tony Docherty, the Kilted Caricaturist

for contributing to this evening's entertainment

Beautifully Covered

for the room decor in the Rivers Suite and the Chapel

Encore Global

for their event production support and professionalism

The Above & Beyond Project Team

for all their hard work throughout the award nomination process and the delivery of tonight's event

