

Q&A from Keynote Professor Pamela Gillies

Glasgow Caledonian University – ‘University for the Common Good’

Question 1: What advice would you give to other institutions?

Pick a few things as a community to commit to and find the best partners to engage with to make it happen. Invest in these projects to attract exciting people and new opportunities. Incorporate corporate social responsibility into your business model.

Question 1: How do you ensure students are exposed to the Common Good ethics?

The curriculum is now the Common Good Curriculum, with the ideas woven throughout all courses and complemented by a very active volunteering programme which 1/3 of students engage with each year. Also ensure students have an opportunity to see the world as part of their courses, and learn from other perspectives.

Question 1: What opportunities exist for staff to engage with the Common Good ideas?

HR development opportunities and training support engagement, but also by linking with other academics within the institution. Values work within GCU is being led by an academic who is gathering and sharing information on the research and case studies going on at GCU, and supporting the sharing of ideas and contacts to enable more collaboration.

Question 1: How do you deal with agriculture – do we need to escape from the land or can it deliver a solution?

Agriculture can very much be part of the solution. People working on the land in the heart of Africa, which tend to be women in small groups, need help to skill up and develop. This is best supported in collaboration between a range of different groups.