



**Forth
Valley
College**

Making Learning Work

in touch

BUSINESS NEWSLETTER

ISSUE

13

NOV 2018

New Falkirk Campus Update

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Training Calendar

SP ENERGY NETWORKS STEM SUMMER SCHOOL SUCCESS

SP Energy Networks recently sponsored a STEM Summer School at Forth Valley College for children between 8-14 years of age.

The Stirling Campus (6-10 August) was the venue for a fantastic mix of hands-on practical workshops and project-work, led by a combination of lecturing staff, alumni and industry experts.

The overall aim of the STEM Summer School was to give young people a fun, interactive, hands-on experience that would encourage them to continue with their STEM learning.

During the week the young people also worked towards achieving the Bronze

Crest Award (a highly regarded project-based scheme run by the British Science Association) – this gave them a chance to develop core and key skills such as problem solving, numeracy, literacy, team working and communication skills.

Kenny MacInnes FVC's Head of Engineering and Science and Caryn Jack from SP Energy Networks visited the group (pictured here) when they received their certificates.



EVENING COURSES

PROGRESS YOUR CAREER
TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE
FIND A LIFELONG PASSION

www.forthvalley.ac.uk/evening



NEWS IN BRIEF

FVC WINS CDN INNOVATION AWARD

Forth Valley College was presented with the Innovation prize at this year's College Development Network awards ceremony which was held in the Radisson Blu Hotel in Glasgow on Thursday 25 October. The submission focused on the unique partnership they have with South East Regional College (SERC) in Northern Ireland. FVC were shortlisted in the category along with Glasgow Clyde and Ayrshire Colleges.

AMBASSADORS CHOSEN FROM FVC HOSPITALITY COURSES

Scottish Food & Drink Fortnight was aided this year by three ambassadors from Forth Valley College's Hospitality courses. This year's Scottish Food & Drink Fortnight has been tying in closely with the Year of Young People and focussing on the future of the industry in Scotland and how young people will be instrumental in its continued growth and success.

TIME4ME MENTORING PROGRAMME

A total of 30 Forth Valley College staff are now fully trained mentors and ready

to support young students from the start of the 2018/19 academic year. As part of the 'Time4Me' initiative – a new mentoring support scheme funded by a £143,000 donation from The Robertson Trust and run through Forth Valley College - the mentoring programme will initially run for two and a half years and be based within the FVC Student Services Department.

GALLERY RESTAURANT SERVED UP TOURISM AWARD

Forth Valley College's Gallery Restaurant has become the first college training restaurant to be awarded a prestigious Taste Our Best Award by VisitScotland. Based at the College's Stirling Campus, the restaurant is operated by students in various roles including chefs and front of house while being supervised by the Colleges' hospitality team. The Gallery is open to the public as well as staff.

To read the full stories, please visit www.forthvalley.ac.uk/news-events

TOP TWEETS

Richard Lochhead MSP
@Richard Lochhead

A big highlight of my first few weeks in the job was presenting the certificates at the @FVCollege graduation ceremony tonight at the spectacular @stirlingcastle and delivering my speech praising the talented graduates and their achievements & Scottish education.

Forth Valley College @FVCollege

We have won the prestigious Innovation prize at the @ColDevNet awards which were held in the Radisson Blu Hotel in Glasgow on Thursday 25 October. <https://bit.ly/2AtPSZO> #MakingLearningWork @S_ERC

Mindful Education @Mindful_Edu_UK

We had a fantastic evening at last night's @ColDevNet #collegeawards and we were proud to sponsor the Innovation Award Category. Big congratulations to winners @FVCollege and @AyrshireColl and @Glasgow_Clyde for their highly commended and commended awards!

Engineering Construction Industry Training Board @ECITB Skills

A record number of female #Engineering #apprentices have enrolled at @FVCollege @TheScotsman #womeninSTEM



TEAM UK RETURN FROM EUROSILLS FINALS IN BUDAPEST

Team UK the nation's top young apprentices and students - including Forth Valley College's very own Callum Bonner – have returned from the EuroSkills Finals in Budapest covered in precious medals and glory. The 22 women and men, who competed against their peers from across Europe won one gold, three bronze and seven medallions of excellence.



FIRST EVER DYW FORTH VALLEY CONFERENCE IS HAILED A SUCCESS

More than 150 attendees joined Developing Young Workforce (DYW) Forth Valley at their first ever conference on Thursday 22 November.

Delegates heard about DYW's success stories, their future plans and took part in a series of interactive 'Focus On' sessions at the Macdonald Inchyra Hotel in Polmont.

The conference was specifically designed to energise attendees to consider the challenges and opportunities associated with developing the area's young workforce to their full potential.

DYW Forth Valley's 'Be Inspired' Conference brought businesses, local authorities, 3rd sector organisations and educators together to inspire innovative partnerships to better prepare young people for the world of work. The local businesses were also encouraged to consider how they could offer exciting, educational and effective employment opportunities for the area's young people.

Graeme McEwan, Chief Communications Officer, Standard Life Aberdeen plc delivered the motivating opening speech which clearly laid out the national priorities of the DYW Regional Groups network whilst also highlighting the successes achieved so far in Forth Valley and beyond.

Keynote speaker at the event was Forth Valley College Principal Dr Ken Thomson who discussed how the benefits delivered to our young people, when the Educational and Business sectors collaborate to develop the young workforce, can be truly life changing.

Other key DYW Forth Valley partners The Robertson Group, Drummond Laurie and Falkirk, Stirling & Clackmannanshire Councils were also in attendance and led the pivotal "Focus On" sessions with attendees. These hands-on sessions got everyone interacting and covered themes, critical to both young workers and employers alike, such as Standing Out From The Crowd, Skills for Success, The Impact of Partnership, Improving Equalities and Being Inspired.

Jen Henderson, DYW Programme Manager, said: "It's wonderful to see local business leaders from so many industries, and the 3rd sector, meet up with representatives from local schools plus further education and training providers to create new partnerships and platforms from



which to help further develop the young workforce across Forth Valley. We can't thank everyone enough for coming along. Our inaugural conference has been such a success that we're already working on ideas for next year!"

DYW Forth Valley Chair, Margaret Mary Rafferty added: "We hope that delegates will take away at least one key message from the 'Focus On' sessions and use it to inspire and prepare young people for the world of work. Judging by the number of pledge cards that have been filled in, we can see that those who attended have been galvanised and intend to commit to making a difference to our young people. Further to this, the launch of our DYW Innovation Fund will help to support putting some of the pledges and innovative ideas into practice for Forth Valley's young people."

Forth Valley College Principal, Dr Ken Thomson, said: "I was delighted to give the keynote speech at DYW Forth Valley's 'Be Inspired Conference' and contribute to what was a very important event to help improve the opportunities available to young people in this area. DYW Forth Valley are carrying out excellent work in this regard and Forth Valley College take great pride in supporting them in their efforts."

To find out how you can get involved please call 01259 726690, e-mail getinvolved@dyw.forthvalley.ac.uk or visit dywforthvalley.com. Follow on Twitter @DYW_forthvalley



BACK CARE PROGRAMME STRETCHES BALFOUR BEATTY WORKERS ON SITE

I am the Machine – a Forth Valley College developed back care and stretching programme – was introduced to Balfour Beatty employees working on the new campus recently.

The 'I am the Machine' back care programme - a team effort between the staff and students of the Departments of Care, Health and Sport and Construction – was recently shortlisted in the Best Teaching and Learning Initiative category of the 2018 TES FE Awards.

The initiative aims to change the mind-set of tradesmen and women so they recognise that pre-work warm-up and post-work cool-down

- along with back care exercises - are vital to reduce the amount of back or joint injuries to modern apprentices (MAs) and young people working in labour intensive industry.

Developed jointly by Sports and Fitness Lecturer Michelle Hamilton with the help of Construction colleagues Peter Nally, Colin Scott, Graeme Williamson and Kevin Bonner – the scheme has now been successfully rolled out to bricklaying, painting and decorating MAs and full-time students. In addition to this 'I am the Machine' workshops have been delivered to staff throughout the College and to staff at NHS Forth Valley (Bellsdyke).

Stewart MacPhail, Senior Project Director, at Balfour Beatty, said: "I am the Machine is a great example of innovative thinking from Forth Valley College, which has the potential to make a positive impact on our workforce. At Balfour Beatty, safety is our license to operate and this initiative takes our commitment to 'Zero Harm' a step further, by supporting our workforce to avoid occupational injuries and helping them keep fit."



RECORD NUMBER OF FEMALE ENGINEERING MAs AT FVC

Forth Valley College has registered a record number of female engineering modern apprentices (MAs) for an academic year. A total of 19 women MAs – covering areas such as welding and fabrication, instrumentation, power distribution and mechanical engineering – have begun their apprenticeships at the FVC Falkirk Campus.

Dunfermline based TechnipFMC have even recorded parity in the newstart MA group with eight women MAs and eight men beginning their journey at the same time.

All will spend their first year at college, while being employed by various companies such as TechnipFMC, Petrofac, Scotrail, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), Aker Solutions, WorleyParsons, Ineos and Petrolneous, Dupont and Scottish Power.

Chris Claydon, Chief Executive of the ECITB, who have four of their MAs in the group, said: "If we are to meet the skills needs of the industry it is vital that we have a diverse workforce. But women make up just nine percent of engineers in the UK and only three percent of the workforce on the average engineering construction site. So we know we need to do more to make engineering jobs more appealing to women."

Hazel Smith, HR Director, Petrofac EPS West, said: "We're delighted to see an improvement in the gender balance amongst this year's modern apprentices. At Petrofac we are committed to promoting diversity and inclusion in the workplace because greater diversity builds a stronger business."

TOPPING OUT CEREMONY



Forth Valley College and Balfour Beatty celebrated the halfway point of the new-build Falkirk Campus with a special 'Topping Out' ceremony on Friday 28 September 2018.

This landmark point in the construction of the new campus also gave an opportunity for Balfour Beatty to reveal the positive social value statistics showing the benefits the project has provided for the local community, through various initiatives.

Forth Valley College Principal Dr Ken Thomson, Ross Martin Chair of the Forth Valley College Board of

Management and Trudi Craggs FVC Board Member, joined Hector MacAulay, Balfour Beatty's Regional Managing Director for Scotland and Ireland and around 80 invited guests for the ceremony.

Stewart MacPhail, Balfour Beatty's Senior Project Manager on the site led the proceedings which saw a short final concrete pour, a small local evergreen tree attached to the highest point of the metal structure and a toast taken from the specially engraved quichs, all as a piper played."

SOCIAL VALUE ADD

Balfour Beatty

Forth Valley College



Social enterprise running on-site catering

Total Social Value delivered to date: £6,248,304.

£4.4m

social value spend on local labour

3,133

apprentice hours worked to date

111hrs

spent in local schools



108

weeks worked by graduates



NEW CAMPUS UPDATE

WHAT'S GOING ON?

As the project moves into winter, the works on site have progressed well, despite the recent inclement weather. The superstructure has now reached completion and this key milestone on the build was celebrated on site. The topping out ceremony was organised to thank the construction team for their hard work as they reach the midway point in the build, and focus their efforts on safely delivering the remaining works.

The completion of the superstructure has enabled the external envelope (roof and walls) to progress well, meaning that the build is now able to move onto another important phase where the internal works can begin.



VIEWING WINDOW

A community viewing window has been installed at the construction site on Middlefield Road. Members of the public are encouraged to use this viewing facility to keep up-to-date with the progress of the build.

MICHAEL MATHESON VISITS NEW CAMPUS SITE

An electronic map showing some examples of the investment in infrastructure projects since 2007 - including Forth Valley College's new Falkirk Campus - has been launched by Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity Michael Matheson.

It comes after the Programme for Government set out the most ambitious long-term level of infrastructure spend ever in Scotland, with a commitment to invest an additional £7 billion - over and above existing plans - on schools, hospitals, transport, digital connectivity and clean energy by 2026.

To highlight the Scottish Government's infrastructure commitments, Michael Matheson visited Forth Valley College's new Falkirk Campus on Thursday 6 September. The College has received £65 million Scottish Government investment to help with construction and is one of a number of projects listed on the Infrastructure Projects 2007-2018 map.



HONG KONG APPRENTICES SURVEY SCOTLAND'S CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

A NEW PURPOSE-BUILT HIGH SCHOOL UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN PERTH HAS PLAYED HOST TO A GROUP OF MODERN APPRENTICES FROM HONG KONG - WHO HAVE BEEN MENTORED BY FVC STAFF

The site team from Robertson – which is delivering the new school at Bertha Park – welcomed the group of 15 apprentices from the Vocational Training Council (VTC) in Hong Kong during their August trip to Scotland.

The group visited the site as part of a training programme delivered in partnership with Forth Valley College. They are studying a number of specialisms across the built environment industry and learning about innovations, technologies, building techniques and apprenticeships across

Scotland's building and engineering industries.

FVC Construction lecturer Stephen Stirrat led the group on special surveying workshop and demonstration at FVC's Falkirk Campus during the visit. As well as Bertha Park, the group also visited two Robertson sites in Edinburgh – the new £12m training centre for the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service at Newbridge and the £12.8m refurbishment of 10 George Street ahead of Standard Life Aberdeen's move into the building.



FALKIRK PUPILS ARE ENGINEERS IN THE MAKING

INEOS and their staff supported the award-winning Primary Engineer and Secondary Engineer programmes at Forth Valley College's Falkirk Campus recently. The programme is designed to promote engineering skills and careers to pupils, their parents and teachers and will be delivered in 10 Falkirk schools.

On Thursday 13 September, primary and secondary school teachers teamed up with engineers from INEOS O&P UK at Grangemouth to take part in a Primary Engineer training day ahead of delivering in the classrooms. Primary Engineer is a not-for-profit organisation working with

local authorities, teachers, industry and government to promote engineering skills and careers with children as young as three years old, through primary and into secondary phase education.

INEOS O&P UK owns and operates petrochemical plants in Grangemouth, producing key products used in a wide range of everyday items that enhance and improve our ways of life. Employing more than 900 highly skilled people, it is vital for the long-term future of the industry and for manufacturing, that there is a pool of talent interested in science, technology and engineering. Each year the business recruits

graduates and modern apprentices into its engineering training programmes.

John McNally, CEO O&P UK said, "Engineering is at the heart of our industry. It is therefore important that we work in partnership with teachers to enthuse young people to take up Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects at school. The Primary Engineer Programme is a great way to utilise the expertise and harness the enthusiasm of our employees to inspire the next generation of engineers, technologists and scientists."



TRAINING FUND FOR FORTH VALLEY BUSINESSES HAS BEEN INCREASED

More than 700 companies in Forth Valley may be eligible to access up to £15,000 for training thanks to an update to the Flexible Workforce Development Fund (FWDF).

Created by the Scottish Government in 2017 the fund has proved to be popular and with an extra £5,000 worth of training being offered this year, the programme is expected to be even more attractive with businesses in the Forth Valley College area.

FWDF is open to applications from all organisations across the private, public and third sectors in the Forth Valley area who pay the UK Government's Apprenticeship Levy if they pay more than £3million in salaries a year.

Those who meet this criteria, are eligible to apply for vocational and professional development training offered by Forth Valley College – their regional college – in areas such as people skills, human resources and digital skills.

Jennifer Tempany, Forth Valley College's Director of Business Development, said: "There could be as much as £500,000 worth of funding available in the Forth Valley area and it is understood there are at least 700 firms who meet the criteria to apply.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO GET IN TOUCH VISIT:
[HTTPS://WWW.FORTHVALLEY.AC.UK/ABOUT-US/FWDF/](https://www.forthvalley.ac.uk/about-us/fwdf/)**

"All they need to do is contact us here at Forth Valley College – their regional college – and we can help them in their application to claim the training grants, which could be up to a maximum of £15,000.

"It is an excellent opportunity for our local businesses to upskill their workforce in key areas and here at Forth Valley College they can be confident they will receive the best and most professional training possible to help their employees enhance their professional ability."

**AN EXTRA
£5,000 PER
COMPANY
WORTH OF
TRAINING BEING
OFFERED
THIS YEAR**





COLLEGE JOINS THE FUJITSU AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME

Forth Valley College's Stirling Campus is set to welcome the installation of a new facility to help encourage and enhance digital learning and teaching among students and staff.

After a successful bid to become an Ambassador for the Fujitsu Education Ambassador Programme Scotland 2018, Fujitsu and its partners 'Intel, Ruckus and NetApp' are investing in a new dedicated space within the College, which will be designed and equipped with the latest devices to enhance the teaching and learning experience.

In addition, the College will provide equipment such as virtual reality headsets, a smartboard and desktop scanner ensuring the hub is a place to explore technology and discover its potential. There are plans to also incorporate a Moodle Bar at the new facility and allow staff more opportunities to learn about, and experiment with, technology to enhance their teaching practice. There is also potential for community use through, for example, STEM and Coding Clubs.

The College's Learning and Quality team are leading the project and they

are currently working with Fujitsu and their design team, to finalise the exciting plans. Fujitsu are aiming to create 10 new hubs in Scotland by 2019 and the overall goal is to place technology at the heart of education to enhance the learning experience. FVC will become the third college in Scotland to join the Fujitsu Ambassador Programme – with Fife (pictured) and Borders already part of the scheme.



FVC EXPERT ARE PRIONEERS FOR NEW SCOTTISH HOUSING PROGRAMME

A team of expert Forth Valley College staff are working on a Scottish Funding Council (SFC) pilot programme to create the best new age housing for Scotland.

Led by Care, Health, Sport and Construction Curriculum Manager Sarah Higgins - with help from fellow CM Charlie Cameron, lecturers Stuart Taylor (Construction) and Robin Young (Social Care) and William McRae (Computing and IT) from the Department of Creative Industries, Hospitality and Tourism, are representing Forth Valley College on the national FUTUREquipped Project.

They are part of a group of 50 lecturers, mainly from the eight top tier colleges in Scotland, to develop how the care, construction and IT professionals of the future, are taught how new technology will be incorporated into the housing needs of tomorrow.

The need for improved innovative housing has emerged through the progress made on healthcare and advances made in digital technology and construction methods and materials. This can give homeowners, with or without special needs, a better quality of life in their own

home and limit the amount of medical treatment needed in hospitals. This pilot project provides an opportunity to increase the college value to industry in the priority area of future housing and health needs. It will focus on the future skills required to meet greater levels of automation and digitisation in the delivery of new housing and the integration of supporting digital healthcare technology into homes.

MEET THE TEAM

Each issue, In Touch will introduce a member of the college team offering an insight into what their job involves.

Caroline Cook

Commercial Administrator - Flexible Work Development Fund

Describe your role

The Flexible Workforce Development Fund (FWDF) is a scheme that was developed by the Scottish Government and gives companies that pay the apprenticeship levy, up to £15,000 for staff training. My role is to liaise with the company to organise the training package that has been agreed, dates for training to take place, the venue, which is often at the client's premises and trainers to deliver the courses. We organise all the training materials for each course and delivery of the materials to the client premises for the course commencing. After the course has been delivered, we have to deal with the enrolment forms, and ensure the course is certificated. I also provide customer service.

What's your background?

I come from a background in administration and completed my SVQ Level 3 in Administration when I left school at 17 and was working in a recruitment agency. I have worked in admin based roles ever since. I joined the College as an Information Assistant based at reception in 2012, but felt I needed a new challenge, so I updated my skills whilst looking for a new opportunity within the College.

Describe a typical day at work

A typical day at work will involve emailing and speaking to the companies I deal with for a multitude of reasons and trying to accommodate their business needs, whilst organising the courses. I also speak to trainers and book them in for courses, passing on further information regarding the training required. You can also find me fast enrolling candidates onto courses and generating certificates.

What's been your biggest achievement so far?

I have four kids and I work full time whilst doing my HNC as an evening course. In amongst all of this, I managed to master advanced spreadsheets.

Best thing about your job?

I love the variety of the work involved, as it is all new. We are developing the role as we go, and I love the team.

Describe your job in three words?

Exciting. Challenging. Stimulating.

Why choose training at Forth Valley College?

Everyone wants the highest quality of training for their staff, and at FVC that's exactly what they will get. From the trainers conducting the training to the customer service experience - it is making learning work.



TRAINING COURSES - December to February 2019

City & Guilds Level 3 Award in Education & Training

17 December 2018
£495

COMPEX Foundation

14 – 15 January 2019
£295

COMPEX EX14

25 – 28 February 2019
£1550

COMPEX EX05 & EX06 - Dust

4 – 6 February 2019
25 – 27 February 2019
£695

COMPEX Dust Practical Resit Fees

EX05 – **£125**
EX06 – **£55**

COMPEX 01-04

7 – 11 January 2019
21 – 25 January 2019
28 January – 1 February 2019
18 – 22 February 2019
£995

COMPEX EX01-04 Practical Resit Fees

EX01 – **£125**
EX02 – **£55**
EX03 – **£125**
EX04 – **£55**

COMPEX 01-04 Online Exam Resit Fee

(Please note if you fail one section of the online exam you will need to re-sit the full exam)

Please get in touch with Business Development for all re-sit dates
£45

COMPEX Refresher

12 – 13 December 2018
16 – 17 January 2019
28 – 29 January 2019
£525

COMPEX EX12 Design

18 – 22 February 2019
£1600

PAT Testing

9 – 10 January 2019
Exam: 11 January 2019
8 – 9 May 2019
Exam: 10 May 2019
£345

City & Guilds 18th Edition (3 day)

14 – 16 January 2019
Exam: 17 January 2019
28 – 30 January 2019
Exam: 31 January 2019
4 – 6 February 2019
Exam: 7 February 2019
25 – 27 February 2019
Exam: 28 February 2019
£395

City & Guilds 18th Edition (1 day update)

13 December 2018
Exam: 14 December 2018
17 January 2019
Exam: 18 January 2019
7 February 2019
Exam: 8 February 2019
£395

City & Guilds 18th Edition (Evening Course)

January: 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29
Exam: 31 January or 5 February 2019
£395

First Aid at Work

9 – 11 January 2019
6 – 8 February 2019
£195

First Aid Refresher

31 January – 1 February 2019
£165

First Aid Emergency

9 January 2019
6 February 2019
£99

First Aid Paediatric

Call for future dates
£99

IOSH Managing Safety

22 – 25 January 2019
£410

IOSH Working Safety

18 December 2018 - *Stirling Campus*
19 February 2019
£130

NEBOSH General Certificate

NGC1

11, 17, 18, 24, 25 January 2019

GC2

1, 7, 8, 14, 15 February 2019

Revision (NGC1, 2 & 3)

28 February, 1 & 4 March 2019

Exam

6 March 2019

£1500



Forces Friendly Training Provider

Call: 0845 634 4444 or
email businessdevelopment@forthvalley.ac.uk
for more information or to book a course.