

College of Science and Engineering IT Strategic Plan 2022-2027

“As a world-leading research-intensive University, we are here to address tomorrow’s greatest challenges. Between now and 2030 we will do that with a values-led approach to teaching, research and innovation, and through the strength of our relationships, both locally and globally.”¹

College Vision and Mission

We deliver impact for society. As part of a truly global university, rooted in Scotland’s capital city, we make a significant, sustainable and socially responsible contribution to the world.²

As a centre of academic excellence, we aim to:

- provide the highest-quality research-led teaching and learning;
- challenge the boundaries of knowledge, research and disciplines;
- enable our graduates and staff to be exceptional individuals equipped to address global challenges;
- promote good health, economic growth, cultural understanding and social well-being.

Strategy Statement

The College of Science and Engineering supports the principles of the University Strategy 2030, and recognises the important role that Information and Digital Technologies play as enablers in supporting excellence across the s four key values.

The College has experienced a period of significant disruption due to the two preceding years Global Health crisis, the result of which is a deepening of our reliance on technology and digital services, when by necessity we decoupled our physical estate and leant entirely on digital services to deliver learning, teaching, research and knowledge exchange.

We have shown our technical resilience and ability to adapt at scale, the following five year College Library and Information strategy will focus on the benefits derived from our rapid digital pivot and the expectations of more digitally enabled and confident staff and student population.

The College works in partnership with Information Services Group (ISG) and Estates and Buildings (E&B) to provide both the physical and virtual infrastructure, through partnership, close collaboration and communication so that the full potential of our IT estate can be realised, now and into the future.

¹ [Strategy 2030](#)

² [College Vision and Mission](#)

1. People:

Our students, staff, alumni and friends are our lifeblood

- 1.1. We aspire to deliver flexibility of choice work through our physical and digital spaces; which offers staff, students and collaborators equitable experiences independent of the need for physical co-location and enabled effective work, study and collaboration opportunities.
- 1.2. Through training and support services staff, student and collaborators will feel well supported to develop their key digital and technology skills and will confidently engage in their work and study activities.
- 1.3. Through representation and technical contributions ensure that university business services support the needs of the diverse College community, and deliver intuitive systems, which support without hindrance the aims of the individual.
- 1.4. Contribute to planning at Institution, College and School levels to deliver a modern technology enhanced physical estate, which supports research, teaching and collaboration activities.
- 1.5. Recruit and develop excellent library and technology professionals to drive forward the aims of the College Library and IT strategy across all levels of the Organisation.

2. Research

Our ethos of working without boundaries will deliver a step change in innovation and research.

- 2.1. Present to the Research community a well-supported portfolio of digital research services which support modern computational research.
- 2.2. Facilitated access to services through university service partners, which support and enable researchers to engage with modern technologies and research methods.
- 2.3. Evaluate and implement digital research technologies e.g. digital labbooks which enhance the research activities in and outwith the lab environment.
- 2.4. Excellent support at institutional and local level for sustainable software developments for research.
- 2.5. Contribute to institutional planning activities on research compute facilitates and technologies which enable and support seamless global collaborations.

3. Teaching and Learning

Our teaching will match the excellence of our research. We will improve and sustain student satisfaction and wellbeing.

- 3.1. Developing, delivering and integrating excellent technologies which enhance and support sound pedagogy throughout the learning and assessment landscape in partnership with the College Education Committee.
- 3.2. Digital assessment technologies, which enable and support authentic assessment experiences across all disciplines within the college.
- 3.3. High quality compute facilities and services which support experimental instruments and laboratory learning that deliver authentic learning experiences and assessment opportunities.

- 3.4. Embracing mobile technologies and devices that allow flexible, transformational teaching and learning to take place to the benefit of both staff and students.
- 3.5. Contribute to institutional planning activities to ensure provision of self and group study spaces which support deep and slow leaning opportunities as appropriate.

4. Social and Civic Responsibility

Our vision is to make the world a better place, so we will ensure that our actions and activities deliver positive change locally, regionally and globally.

- 4.1. Champion effective communication and web technologies that supports college and school based communication strategies to support excellent knowledge transfer through our teaching and research programmes to the global community.
- 4.2. We will look to protect our university community by setting a high standard of information security compliance, through training, information sharing and a security by design as standard for all technology implementations.
- 4.3. Apply our considerable expertise from across the college to ensure our library and technology solutions have sustainability, accessibility, security and resilience as core considerations throughout their entire lifecycle.
- 4.4. Enable and drive forward open access research publishing and strategy to maintain research communications and impact.

Draft prepared for consideration by:

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