Social enterprise and innovation – the business of higher education?

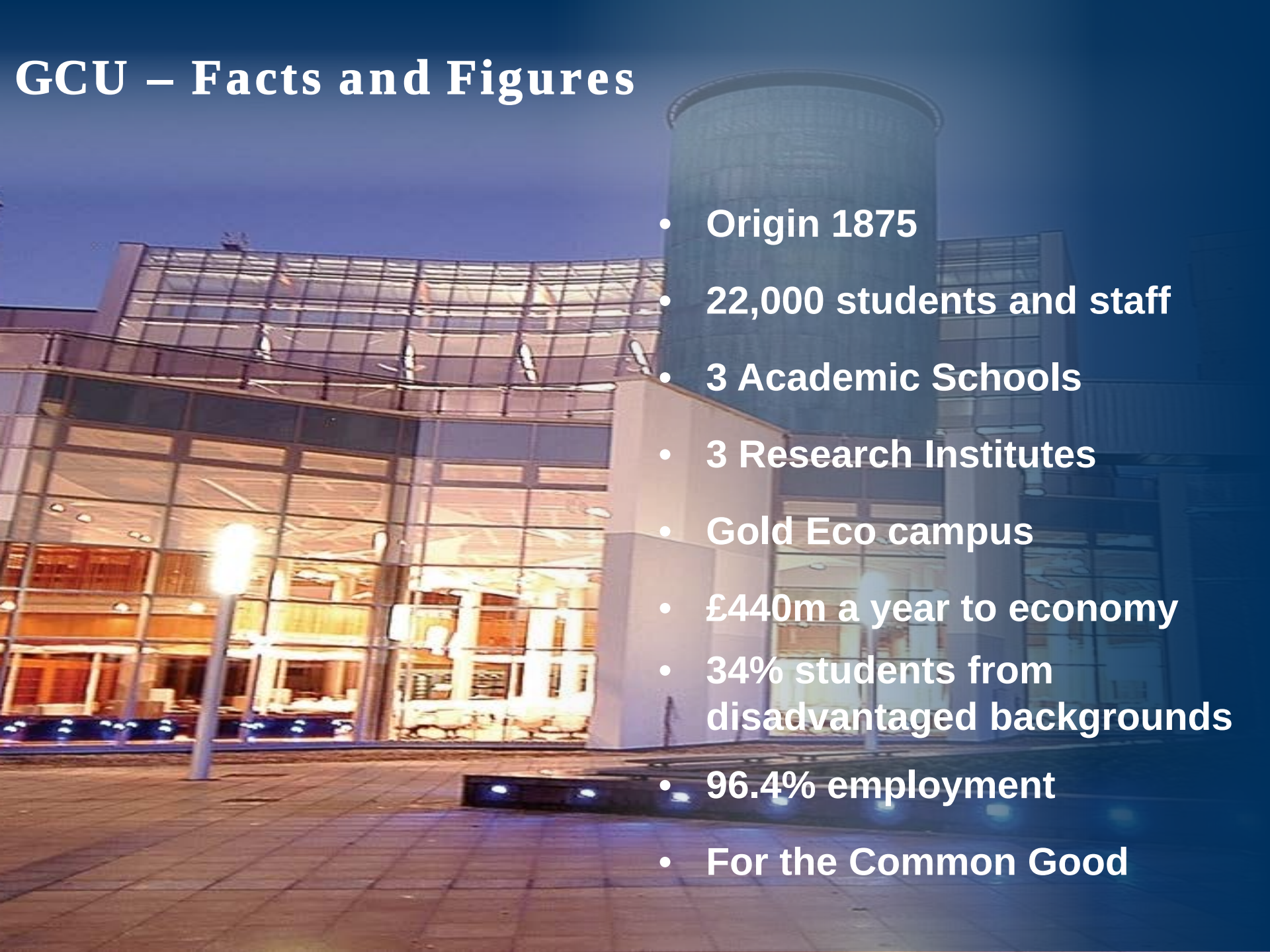
Professor Pamela Gillies CBE

Principal and Vice Chancellor

Glasgow Caledonian University

GCU: A Globally Engaged University

GCU – Facts and Figures



- Origin 1875
- 22,000 students and staff
- 3 Academic Schools
- 3 Research Institutes
- Gold Eco campus
- £440m a year to economy
- 34% students from disadvantaged backgrounds
- 96.4% employment
- For the Common Good

Our Chancellor Yunus – Social Business Pioneer

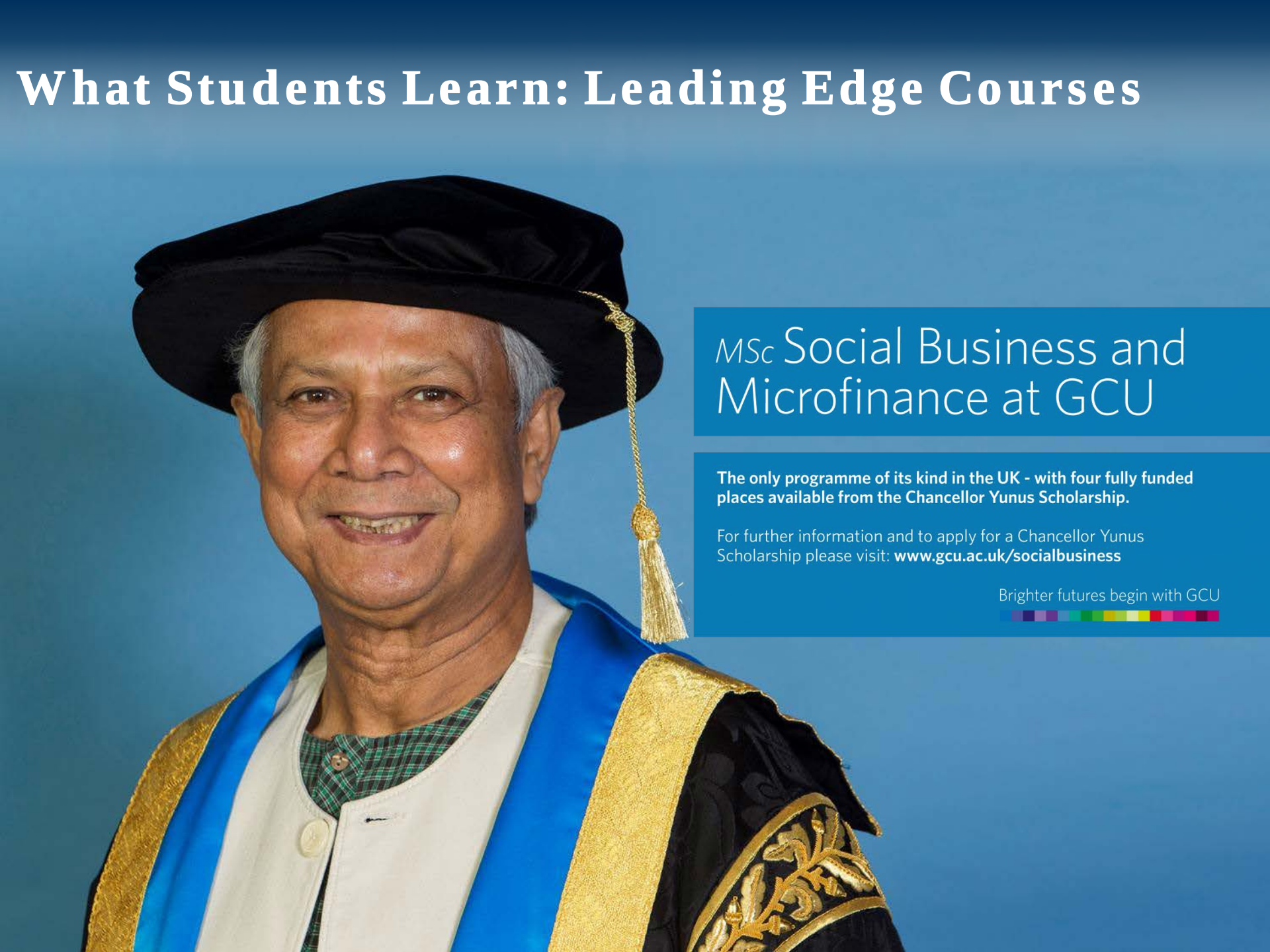
What Students Learn: Global Graduates and Citizens

- Culturally diverse and mobile
- Volunteer for the Common Good
- Socially Responsible and Entrepreneurial

What Students Learn: Glasgow School *for* Business and Society

- Principles of Responsible Management Education
- PRME champion
- Global Compact

What Students Learn: Leading Edge Courses



Working with Business Entreprenuers: Entrepreneurial Spark at GCU

GCU U-Hatch 'Start Ups'

Embedding Social Entrepreneurialism in Higher Education: Ashoka U

Structural Social Innovation: Grameen UK

First Glasgow Grameen Borrowers Group, April 2014

Measuring Impact of Intervention:

Yunus Centre for Social Business and Health at GCU

Medical Research Council funding

Creating our own HE Social Business: Grameen Caledonian College of Nursing

Unilever BITC Responsible Business 'Big Tick'

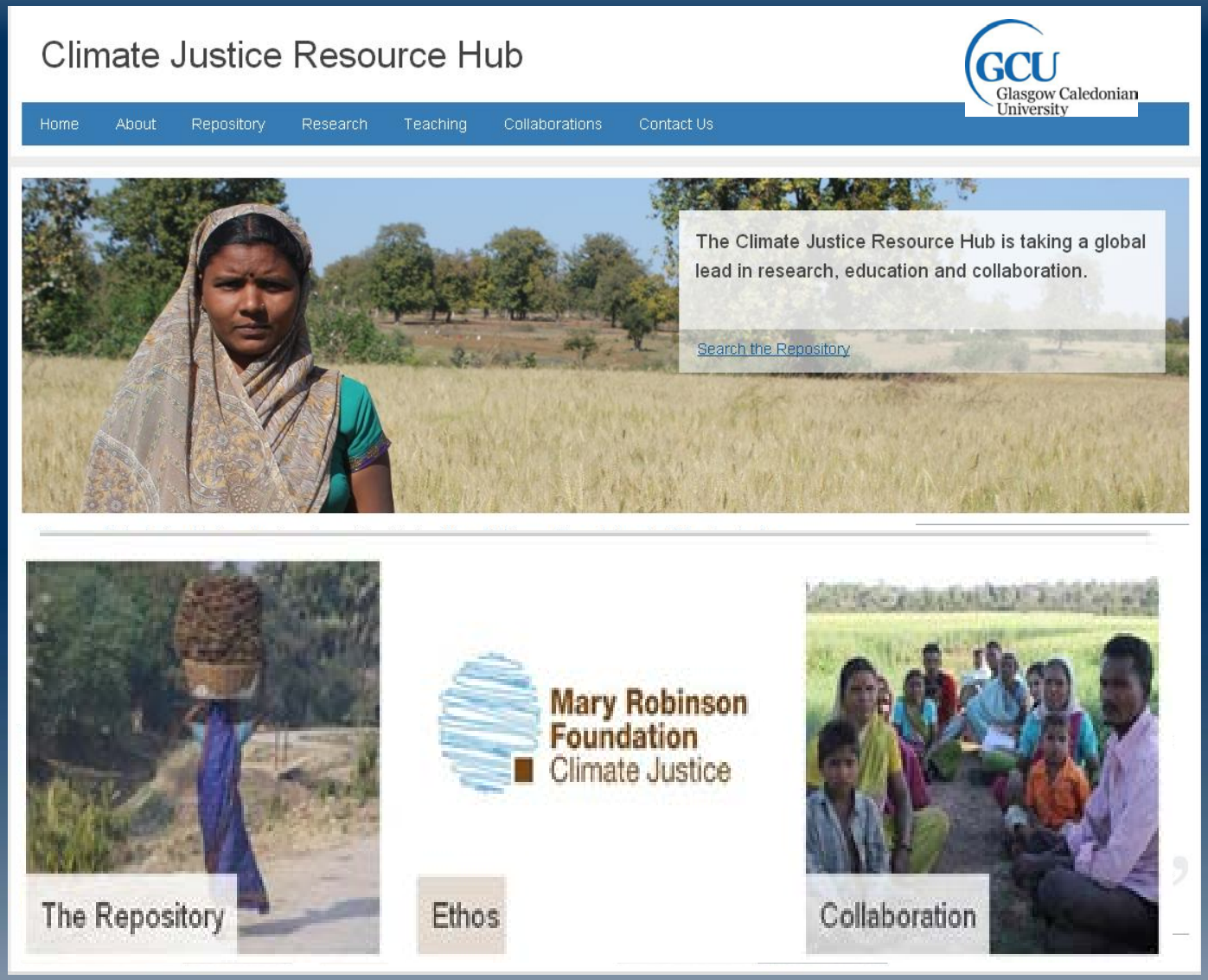
Co-creating with Business and Higher Education

Transnet Freight Rail and Johannesburg University, South Africa

Co-creating with Business and Higher Education: Phelophepa Health Train

Student and staff volunteers

Providing Evidence for Social Innovation: GCU and Mary Robinson Foundation

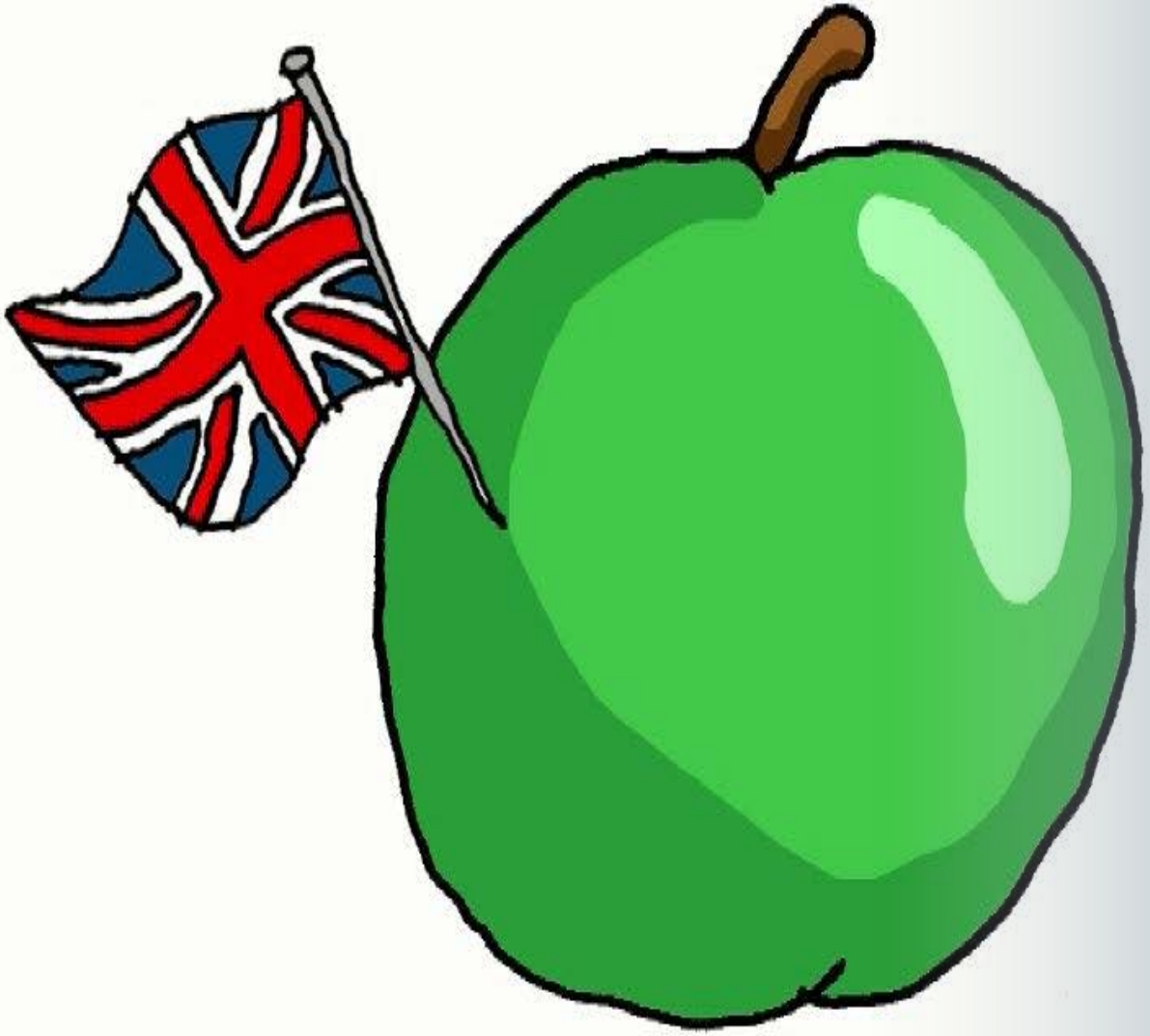


Co-creating with Business: British School of Fashion

M.Sc.'s in Fashion Business

Co-creating with UN and Business Leaders: Fair Fashion Toolkit

United Nations



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University for the Common Good

A University as a Social Business?