Introduction
Alumni networks are an invaluable resource serving over 250,000 alumni around the world. Their support and devotion play a crucial role in the success of our university’s global community. Alumni networks provide a platform for alumni to connect with each other and maintain a lifelong connection to their alma mater. Alumni networks vary in sizes and scope, they are led and managed by alumni volunteers, and are inclusive to all Newcastle University alumni.

What is an alumni network?
Alumni networks (often referred to as societies/chapters/associations) are social and/or professional networking groups led and organised by alumni volunteers, for Newcastle University alumni. They bring together individuals who share a common connection and wish to associate with one another to take part in local and virtual activities and events. They can create opportunities for intellectual, professional, and social networking, and also enable experiences and memories to be shared.

Networks can be formed around multiple themes and we typically find that alumni establish a group network around the following areas:
- Location
- Shared interest
- Sport
- Course subject
- Industry

We are aware that each network will have different ambitions and goals and we welcome networks in all shapes and sizes, formal or informal.

Why create an alumni network?
Alumni networks provide a platform to build professional and social connections with your fellow alumni, bring like-minded individuals together and connect you with your alma mater. As a network leader, you will be able to:
- Develop supportive social and professional networks.
- Create activities that are relevant to your community.
- Inspire future cohorts of Newcastle University students.
- Act as an advocate for your network and provide advice/feedback/support to Newcastle University.

You can find a list of existing alumni networks here: www.ncl.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-community/alumni-societies/
What support can alumni networks expect from the University?
We want to support you in making your network as thriving as it can be! We are committed to supporting you by:

- Ensuring all networks have a dedicated point of contact at the University.
- Providing a toolkit which gives advice and support on the running of a network.
- Providing branded Newcastle University assets to support your network activity.
- Providing training to you and your network leaders to ensure you have the tools and knowledge to fulfil your roles.
- Official recognition for your network and a presence on Newcastle University’s website.
- Support communicating with your members and promoting your network’s news, activities, and events.
- Support in sourcing alumni speakers if needed for your activity.
- Ensuring you are the first to know about Newcastle University news and opportunities that are relevant to you.
- Providing demographic information on your target alumni audience if required to help you organise relevant activities.

What is expected from alumni networks?
All alumni networks are encouraged to define your own role and objectives based on the interests of the network members. The Alumni Engagement team will ask you to sign the Alumni Volunteer Agreement and network leaders should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Have at least one network leader who acts as a point of contact between the network and Newcastle University.
- Be willing to make a long-term commitment to the network.
- Organise regular events and initiatives.
- Develop and share an annual activity plan with the alumni office.
- Organise an annual meeting between the Network leaders and the Alumni Engagement team to review the year’s work and make plans for the following year.
- Provide support to the University in organising and promoting relevant activities to their members.
- Operate under the name of Newcastle University (Location/Subject/Interest) Alumni Network and align with the University’s brand guidelines.
- Be inclusive to all Newcastle University alumni.
- Give admin permissions to the Alumni Engagement team for any social media platforms and groups that may be used.
- Be listed as a main contact for the network on Newcastle University’s website.

Find out more...
For more information or to arrange an informal chat with a member of the team, please contact the NU Alumni Engagement team via email: alumni.volunteer@newcastle.ac.uk