

## Alumni Societies

### A guide to launching your own alumni society

#### What is an alumni society?

Alumni societies are social and/or professional networking groups organised by and for the Newcastle University alumni. They help to bring fellow graduates together to participate in local activities and events, in a positive and friendly environment. Societies can be formed around multiple themes and we typically find that alumni establish a society around the following areas:

- Location
- Special interest
- Sport
- Course/subject
- Industry

We are aware that each society will have different ambitions and goals and welcome societies which are both formal and informal.

#### What are the benefits of creating a society?

Being a member of an alumni society can be a great way to stay connected with classmates, friends and like-minded individuals. Societies enable you to:

- Develop supportive social and professional networks.
- Create activity that is relevant to your community.
- Inspire future cohorts of Newcastle University students.
- Act as an advocate for your network and provide advice/feedback to Newcastle University.

#### How do you start a society?

It is great news that you want to start a society! Societies come in all shapes and sizes and typically start with one individual who is happy to take on a leadership role. For more formal groups, we suggest starting with a group of three alumni who take on specific positions such as Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

We're happy to support you in gaging interest for your society and can contact the wider community to see who would be interested in joining. If your network is dispersed across the globe you may consider a digital group on our platform NCLspark.

Typically, we ask a society to:

- Have at least one alumnus who acts as a point of contact between the society and Newcastle University.
- Be inclusive to all Newcastle University alumni.
- If the group maintains its own bank account, it should have a Treasurer, who is responsible for the finances of the group and financial reporting.
- Organise at least one event/activity per year.
- Be listed on Newcastle University's website.

## How we support you

We want to support you in making your society as thriving as it can be! We are committed to supporting you by:

- Ensuring the society has a dedicated point of contact at the University.
- Providing you with an alumni toolkit which provides advice and support on key activity such as: event planning, terms of reference, constitutions.
- Highlight your society's activity on Newcastle University's main alumni communication channels. Offer your society an online presence through NCLspark and Newcastle University's website.
- Provide support in sourcing alumni speakers and volunteers if required for your activity.
- Ensuring you are the first to be know about Newcastle University news and opportunities that you may want to be involved.

The most successful societies are those which are led and organised by alumni and not NU Advancement, therefore while we are happy to support your vision, we ask that activity is driven by the society. After all, you are the experts!

## Find out more...

To find out more information contact NU Advancement via [alumni.volunteer@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:alumni.volunteer@newcastle.ac.uk) or phone +44 (0)191 208 7250.