



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
27 November 2008

ASC Response to the launch of "A Framework for Science in Scotland"

Scotland's Colleges today strongly welcomed the launch of Scotland's refreshed Science Strategy, "A Framework for Science in Scotland".

Sue Pinder, Convenor of the Principals' Convention of Scotland's Colleges said: "Scotland's Colleges are delighted that their roles in providing the crucial technical, managerial and commercial skills supporting Scotland's science-based industries are recognised in this vital Framework. Colleges also look forward to involving Scotland's young people and adults in exciting learning experiences, raising understanding of the vital role of science in taking Scotland out of economic downturn and improving the quality of all our lives."

Colleges in Scotland already play an important role in providing access to science education at all levels, and industry-relevant, technician-level training. For example, Dundee College has supported a local electrical company to move into supplying and supporting renewable energy systems through customised training of their technical staff, and Forth Valley College and Heriot Watt University run a programme in partnership with the chemical company INEOS to deliver a combined industrial Master's Degree and Modern Apprenticeship.

A number of Scotland's Colleges will also work with schools to deliver the new Science Baccalaureate – offering choice to those seeking to enhance their results, enabling them to compete for the most competitive subjects in Higher Education.

The different learning styles and applied contexts offered by Colleges in Science, Engineering, Technology and Maths, offer routes to achievement for students, who might not otherwise consider working in these sectors. As a result, additional resources of skilled and knowledgeable people are available to the workforce of the science based industries that will be crucial for the success of Scotland's economy.

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For more information, contact:

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Catriona also hold details of contacts in the following Colleges which have offered to provide photo-opportunities for journalists who wish to refer to Colleges work in their reports.

Aberdeen College; Adam Smith College (Fife) ; Banff and Buchan College (Grampian); Dundee College; Edinburgh's Telford College; Forthvalley College; James Watt College (Inverclyde); Stow College (Glasgow).

These contacts can also give further details of science related work in those colleges, some of which is quoted above.