

# Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd  
*Press Release*



**\*Please scroll down for English Version\***

## OILTHIGH NA GÀIDHEALTACHD IS NAN EILEAN GA STÈIDHEACHADH

### 02 An Gearran 2011

Chuir Sabhal Mòr Ostaig UHI fàilte air an naidheachd gum biodh Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd is nan Eilean (OGE) ga stèidheachadh mar an oilthigh as ùire an Alba.

Chaidh ainmeachadh leis an Ollamh Mata MacIomhair CBE, Cathraiche Cùirt OGE agus le Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Foghlam is Ionnsachadh Fad-beatha, Mìcheal Ruiseal BPA, an dèidh dearbhadh bhon Chomhairle Dhìomhair.

Tha OGE air a dhèanamh an àirde de thrì colaistean deug, ionadan speisealaichte agus ionadan rannsachaidh a tha sgapte air feadh na Gàidhealtachd is nan Eilean. Tha Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, a tha suidhichte san Eilean Sgitheanach, a' tairgsinn foghlam àrd-ìre uile tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig.

Thuirt Cathraiche Bòrd Stiùiridh Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Ruairidh Iain MacLeòid: “S e latha eachdraidheil a tha seo dhan Ghàidhealtachd agus dha na h-Eileanan; crìoch strì a tha air a bhith an dà chuid fada agus cruaidh agus anns a bheil iomadach neach air a bhith an sàs. Tha e iomchaidh gun dèanainn-sa, gu h-àraidh, luaidh air a’ phàirt a bha aig an fhear a bha romham mar Chathraiche air an t-Sabhal Mhòr, an Dr Fearchar Mac an Tòisich nach maireann, anns an t-strì a bha sin. Bha Fearchar an sàs anns an iomairt oilthigh fhaotainn dhan Ghàidhealtachd bho na Seasgadan, nuair a chaidh Sruighlea a thaghadh mar an t-àite anns am bu chòir an ath oilthigh ann an Alba a bhith. Bhiodh Fearchar air a bhith moiteil an latha seo fhaicinn agus tha e an urra rinne a tha a’ tighinn às a dhèidh dèanamh cinnteach gum bi an oilthigh ùr a rèir a lèirsinn-sa. “Bu mhath leam cuideachd meal-an-naidheachd a chur air Bòrd Riaghlaidh an Oilthigh, fon Ollamh Mata MacIomhair mar Chathraiche, agus gu seachd àraidh, air Seumas Friseal, Prionnsapal an Oilthigh, agus an sgioba aige, a tha air a’ cheann-uidhe eachdraidheil a tha seo a thoirt a mach.

“Tha sinne aig an t-Sabhal Mhòr a’ dèanamh fiughar ri ar cuid fhèin a dhèanamh ann a bhith a cruthachadh ionad foghlaim aig an ìre as àirde agus is fheàrr agus a bhios airidh air an ainm Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean.”

Thuirt an t-Oll Boyd Robasdan, Prionnsapal na Colaiste: “Bha Sabhal Mòr Ostaig aig tùs na h-iomairt airson Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd is nan Eilean a stèidheachadh agus ‘s e adhbhar riarachais is toileachais a th’ ann gu bheilear a-nis air an ceann-uidhe sin a ruighinn.

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“Tha Sabhal Mòr air aon de chòig cholaistean taobh a-staigh OGE a tha stèidhichte air eilean, agus sin aon dhe na nithean a tha a’ comharrachadh Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd is nan Eilean a-mach bho oilthighean eile ann am Breatainn. ‘S e nì eile a tha a’ dèanamh OGE sònraichte gu bheil Sabhal Mòr Ostaig na Ionad Nàiseanta airson Cànan is Cultar na Gàidhlig, agus gu bheil e buileach àraidh aig ìre àrd-fhoghlaim seach gu bheilear a’ liubhart gach cùrsa tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig agus gu bheil a’ Cholaiste air a ruith tron Ghàidhlig.”

B’ e an Dr Donnie Rothach a’ chiad Reachdair aig OGE, nuair a chaidh a thaghadh ann an 1998, agus chuir e fàilte air an naidheachd an-diugh: “‘S fhada on bu mhiann le muinntir na Gàidhealtachd an oilthigh aca fhèin a bhith aca agus tha e na thoileachas mòr dhomh gu bheilear air a’ chlach-mhìle chudromach seo a ruighinn. Tha e dha-rìribh ceart gum bi an aon chothrom aig òigridh sa Ghàidhealtachd leantainn orra gu foghlam àrd-ìre agus gum b’ urrainn dhaibh fuireach anns na coimhearsnachdan far an do thogadh iad agus cur ri beatha na coimhearsnachd.

“Tha cothrom air leth aig Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd is nan Eilean, leis an structair sònraichte a th’ air, sàr ionadan speisealta a chruthachadh agus cliù a chosnadh gu h-eadar-nàiseanta mar oilthigh a tha a’ taisbeanadh beartas na sgìre, a’ chultair, an dualchais agus na h-àrainneachd.”

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## UNIVERSITY OF THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS BECOMES SCOTLAND'S NEWEST UNIVERSITY

**02 February 2011**

Sabhal Mòr Ostaig today welcomed the establishment of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) as Scotland's newest university.

Following confirmation from the Privy Council, the achievement was announced by Professor Matthew Maclver CBE, Chair of the UHI Court and by Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, Michael Russell MSP.

UHI comprises thirteen colleges, specialist institutions and research centres spread across the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, which is located on the Isle of Skye, offers higher education provision taught entirely through the medium of Scottish Gaelic.

Chair of the Board of Directors at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Sherriff Roddy John Macleod said: "This is an historic day for the Highlands and Islands and the culmination of what has been a long, hard campaign, fought with distinction by many people. It is appropriate that I, in particular, should acknowledge the role of my predecessor as Chair of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the late Dr. Farquhar Macintosh, in that campaign. Farquhar was involved in the campaign for a University of the Highlands and Islands since the 1960s, when Stirling was preferred as the location for the next Scottish university. He would have been proud to see this day and it is up to those of us who have succeeded him to ensure that the new university lives up to his vision.

"I would also like to pay tribute to the current Board of Governors of what is now, officially, the University of the Highlands and Islands, under the chairmanship of Professor Matthew Maclver, and, very especially, to Professor James Fraser, Principal of the University, who, together with his team, has been hugely instrumental in getting this project over the finishing line.

"Sabhal Mòr Ostaig looks forward to playing its role in the success of the UHI and in ensuring that it turns out to be a place of learning of the highest standard which does justice to the area which gives it its name." Professor Boyd Robertson, Principal of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig said: "Sabhal Mòr Ostaig was at the forefront of the campaign to create a University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) and the realisation of that aspiration today is gratifying and pleasing.

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“Sabhal Mòr Ostaig is one of five colleges within the UHI partnership that is island based, a feature of the University of the Highlands and Islands that makes it distinctive within the university sector in the UK. Another aspect that distinguishes UHI is the fact that one of the thirteen partner colleges, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, is the National Centre for Gaelic Language and Culture and is unique in higher education in delivering all courses and being run entirely through the medium of Gaelic.”

Dr Donnie Munro, who was elected as the first Rector of UHI in 1998, welcomed the news: “The communities of the Highlands and Islands have long aspired to have a university of their own and I am thrilled to see that aspiration met. It is only right that the young people of the Highlands have the opportunity to progress to higher education and to stay in their communities and to contribute to them.

“The new University of the Highlands and Islands has enormous potential, through its unique dispersed collegiate model, to create real centres of excellence and become an institution of international significance reflecting the wealth and diversity of the region's vast human, cultural, environmental and ecological resource.”

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