

THE ENGINEERING INNOVATION CENTRE



THE ENGINEERING INNOVATION CENTRE (EIC)

Opening in 2018, the EIC will be an internationally competitive facility at the Preston Campus. Its aim is to exploit the location of the University at the centre of one of the most intensive engineering and manufacturing areas in the UK and establish UCLan as leader in engineering innovation. The EIC will help address demand for engineering graduates and respond to known skills gaps, as well as boosting levels of innovation which is key to economic prosperity. The new centre is part of an engineering transformation programme already underway at the University that is driving a step change in UCLan's industry engagement and delivering a fully integrated approach to teaching, research and knowledge exchange.

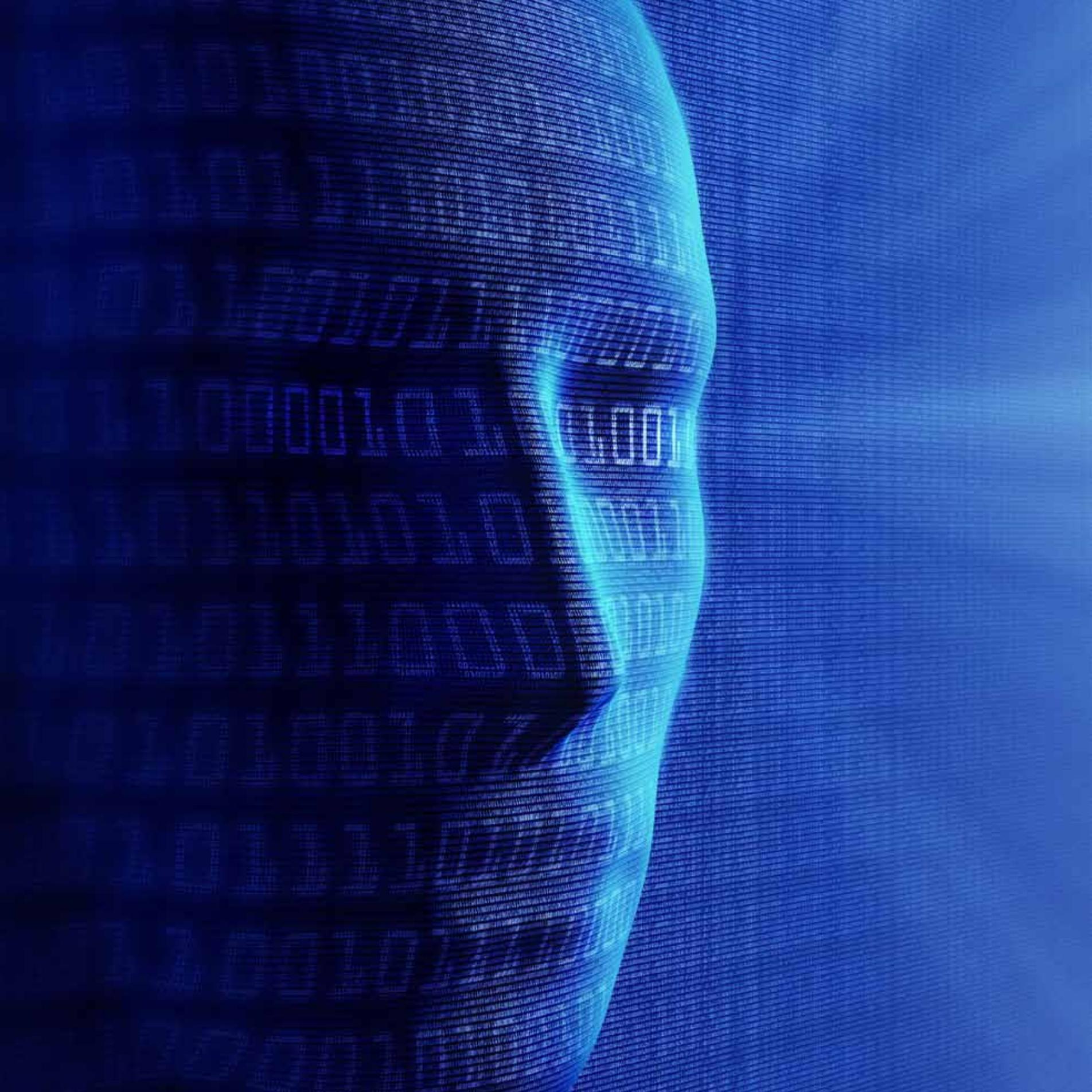


The EIC will establish UCLan as a leading university for engineering innovation and will lead to an increase of 500 locally trained graduates per year.



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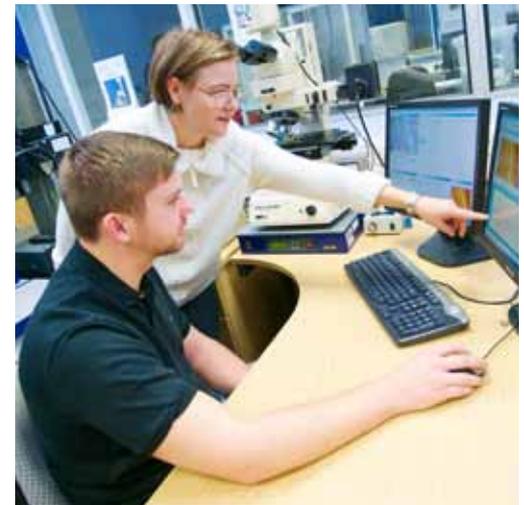




INSPIRING A GENERATION

**Did you know that by 2020
one in five young people will
need to become an engineer?**

The Engineering Innovation Centre at UCLan will help to close the skills gap by developing a competitive workforce with broad based skills, adaptability and critical thinking to solve real world challenges. Working with local schools and colleges we aim to inspire a generation, encouraging more students to enter the field of engineering, particularly the proportion of females, and take up the exciting career opportunities on offer in emerging engineering fields such as oil and gas safety engineering and aerospace engineering.



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INVESTING IN INNOVATION

UCLan is currently ranked 7th for the number of interactions with SMEs since 2008 (HE-BCI Survey 2008-2012).

The Engineering Innovation Centre will boost levels of innovation through increased knowledge exchange activity with business. The EIC will support growth in industry relationships, both with SMEs and larger organisations operating throughout the region, to become the local engineering innovation hub for Lancashire. Local companies will be able to access industry aligned innovation workspaces and state-of-the-art equipment and testing facilities, also providing increased opportunities for students to work on “live, real world projects”.

We currently work with a broad range of companies on innovative and exciting programmes and projects including United Utilities and BAE Systems.





COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CASE STUDY: aeroSee (UAV)

Research is at the heart of UCLan's mission to work in partnership with businesses, the wider community and other educators. We actively promote research innovation, creativity and a research culture based on quality and excellence.

UCLan has a growing community of researchers who are respected by their academic peers, tackling real-world issues and challenges. An example of this is a recent trial, known as aeroSee.

This was a collaborative research project between UCLan's Schools of Journalism and Media, and Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences together with commercial partner eMigs. In collaboration with Patterdale Mountain Rescue Team, the project aimed to discover how the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) or drone technology, together with crowd-sourced help via the internet, could reduce the time taken to locate and rescue a person in distress.

The research project was successful in demonstrating how powerful this type of technology can be.

Over the next couple of years, the research team will be working with partners to continue to examine the opportunities for UAV technology.

CATALYST FOR REGENERATION



The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) plans to invest in the region of £150m - £200m over the next 10 years in the expansion and renewal of its estate.

The creation of the Engineering Innovation Centre will form an early element of the implementation of the University's Masterplan for the Preston Campus and will form a focal point for Preston's city centre regeneration. The EIC will provide a long-term economic asset for the area, supporting the industries that underpin the Lancashire economy and play an important role in the UK's Industrial Strategy.



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For further information and how you can be involved please email eic@uclan.ac.uk