

IAJ/Cultural Ctte -- phase 2 consultation/LMHN



20 January 2005

Cultural Commission at Broughton High School  
Carrington Road  
Edinburgh  
EH4 1EG

Dear Sir/Madam

**Stakeholder Consultation: Phase 2**

I would like to make some personal comments on the current consultative document.

It is encouraging that this hugely important area is being addressed. From the view point of a University it is very important that our students develop a sense of time, place society and culture beyond their immediate subject discipline. This is especially needed in a University such as Glasgow Caledonian where many programmes of study have a relatively narrow vocation/professional focus (of course some courses here are contributing directly to cultural understanding and the creative industries, especially via design and the digital media).

Our students and staff represent about 17000 potential consumers of the arts and creative industries in and around Glasgow, and a minority will be performers or eventually employed in the sector. We would therefore desire that, to the extent development of the creative arts and public provision is planable, there is a strong local focus.

However most of the development of provision within universities, and much of the development within the creative industries themselves needs to be entrepreneurial, spontaneous, dynamic and unplanned if it is to retain its energy and dynamism, and indeed ultimately to preserve academic freedom and freedom of expression.

Yours faithfully

**DR IAN JOHNSTON CB DL**  
**Principal and Vice-Chancellor**