## Working in the Gaelic sector

**Neil Simco:** Gaelic is important to me. I enjoy learning the language and it helps me understand the culture of the Highlands and Highlands and I use the language each day at my work. I have made many new friends including both learners and traditional speakers.

**Donald J. MacIntyre:** There are places in Scotland that are suitable for you attend in order to improve your Gaelic and move it forward. We have Scotland`s Gaelic College in Sleat, Skye, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig which is part of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI).The majority of School leavers would go to Sabhal Mòr Ostaig to learn but there are other universities and colleges where you can learn Gaelic and again you can attend these if you are already fluent and competent in reading and writing Gaelic but also if you are a learner. There are opportunities for you to start from scratch in order to climb the ladder to a Gaelic career.

**NS:** I have been living in the Highlands for many years, but I am not from the Highlands. I think that Gaelic is at the heart of many communities, but you don`t hear it being spoken. There are traditional ceilidhs and concerts held each month in the local town hall where I live, and they are indeed from a Gaelic cultural background.

**NS:** Gaelic is important for business in parts of Scotland. The Highlands and Islands Enterprise wrote a report on this and the language is particularly important in the music, arts and tourism industry, for example. If you work in the Highlands, the Western Isles, Glasgow or Argyll it is good to have a little bit of Gaelic. Many people are interested in the language and culture around Scotland.

**DJ:** There are many ways to get work through Gaelic as there are opportunities especially if you are fluent but also as a learner there are pathways you may take and don`t worry if you are beginner, there are the same opportunities as there are for fluent speakers including through universities and colleges and also through communities. If you are really interested in a career in Gaelic, there is plenty support out there for you to have a career through Gaelic.

**DJ:** When you are a Gaelic Officer you need to make sure that, at the university, Gaelic has the same status and exposure as English. This is in relation to communications, marketing, and the day to day work of the university and the partnership. This is not easy to do however the university has a Gaelic Plan and it is through the Gaelic Plan, which is directly linked to the National Gaelic Plan, that we try to make sure that we look at Gaelic as part of the day to day business throughout the university. This is important for the culture and heritage of Scotland as it is institutions such as the university that develops it from day to day thus keeping it alive. From day to day I try to make sure that there are opportunities for staff to access Gaelic, see Gaelic and use Gaelic. I believe this is the way forward in trying to make sure what we have in our plan is implemented and that will ensure Gaelic is kept alive throughout the university but also in the communities and around Scotland.