





OXFORD THINKING AND DOING ...

Thank you to all those who have supported the Oxford Thinking Campaign since it began in 2004. We hope you enjoy the stories in this year's report which show a few of the ways in which such gifts are making an impact and the tangible difference that can be made when you bring extraordinary minds together. You can also see more examples and hear directly from some of those who are turning philanthropy into action at www.campaign.ox.ac.uk

THE BLAVATNIK SCHOOL of GOVERNMENT

£75 million from Leonard Blavatnik.

This historic gift to establish Oxford's first School of Government includes the provision of unique training for the Master of Public Policy degree for graduates from around the world, who will be future leaders in government and the private sector, in the skills and disciplines they will need. The world's regions and nations are becoming increasingly intertwined. Future leaders will need to meet global as well as local challenges. They must find solutions not only to regional conflicts and other security threats, financial crises and trade pressures but also to energy demands, water and other commodity needs, demographics and pandemics. Starting in September 2012, the School will welcome outstanding graduates from across the world to learn the practical skills and responsibilities of government from policy-makers, private sector leaders, and academic specialists in government issues. Among those teaching them will be scientists, lawyers, economists and experts in international affairs. Those who graduate from the Blavatnik School of Government with the Master of Public Policy degree will have received a very special and highly practical training. They will also become part of a growing network of fellow students throughout the world.

For over a century, Oxford has sought to create a community of leaders around the world based on mutual trust and similar values. shared understandings of global challenges, and the determination to work towards common solutions. Leonard Blavatnik's donation will enable this vision to be realised at last, and in a global context. In his own words: "This School, with which my family and I are proud to be associated, will bring distinguished teachers and leaders together with the best students, from across the world, to address in highly practical ways the current and future challenges in public affairs." The University in its turn is grateful to acknowledge his generosity.

GROVES of ACADEME

£1,000 from an alumnus of Oriel.

Mr Anthony Comfort (Oriel 1939) is a sprightly 90-year-old who lives in Oxford. He responded to last year's Campaign Report with a gift of £1,000. He has enjoyed the trees of Oxford over the years and wanted to give them a helping hand. "Quite frankly, I prefer trees to people and can still do the one kilometre walk along the top of Shotover which I remember as a much more open, bracken-covered space in the 1940s. Over the last 50 years large numbers of young oaks have seeded themselves and grown to quite tall trees." Mr Comfort's contribution is helping to maintain 250 varieties of tree set in the 70 acres of the University Parks.

A BREATH of FRESH AIR

Gifts totalling £145,000 from two alumni of University College to establish the post of Access and Schools Liaison Officer at the college. Generous funding from the Helsington Foundation for the University to launch a new programme of residential summer schools and teachers' initiatives, including regional conferences and training sessions to help them support their students in applying to Oxford.

The University is committed to attracting the very best students. Philanthropic support at both college and university level has enabled the further development of an array of programmes to encourage bright students from disadvantaged backgrounds to come to Oxford to study.

Donations from two 'Univ' alumni made it possible to appoint Anne-Marie Canning to a new three-year post of Schools Liaison Officer at the college. "Meeting bright students from non-traditional backgrounds in their own schools and communities is key to the work we do. We run over 100 events a year and current students are key to convincing applicants that they should give Oxford a try! And it's not just about encouraging applications but about helping those students once they arrive. We provide subject mentoring and a college-based bursary scheme which relieves the financial pressure on our students.

It's about making sure they succeed academically and are happy."

With support from the Helsington Foundation the University launched the UNIQ residential summer schools programme in 2010. High-achieving state school students are given the opportunity to come to Oxford for a week in July or August to experience what life is like for a new Oxford undergraduate. Of the 507 participants in 2010, 347 students subsequently applied to the University of Oxford. 137 of these students were made conditional offers. This is a 40% success rate for those who applied, compared with a 23% success rate for all UK applicants.



£31,704 from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

The Corsi Collection, housed in the University Museum of Natural History, consists of 1,000 polished blocks of marble, granite, serpentine and other decorative rocks obtained by Faustino Corsi from the ruins of ancient Rome and from working guarries. It was given to the University in 1827. Over many years, Monica Price, Assistant Curator of the Mineral Collections, has been checking and updating Corsi's information about the stones. "The collection is highly prized because it's a wonderful bridge between the arts and the sciences, and is the first of its kind to be organised in a geological manner. It is an invaluable identification aid for architects and archaeologists." The donation will enable Monica to collaborate with the Computing Service's Web Design Consultancy to put the stones and their historic catalogue on the Museum's website, a beautifully illustrated resource for users worldwide. This project is just a small part of the University's long-term mission to make collections more accessible to the public.



£500 each from The Robert and Margaret Moss Charitable Trust and The Ammco Trust, with donations in kind from Crawley Creatures for 20 new dinosaur backpacks.

Entering the University Museum of Natural History is not just about being transported back in time, but rediscovering one's childhood. The magical light streaming through the lattice roof makes the exhibits sparkle with life. Every Sunday afternoon, the Museum provides free hands-on events for the whole family. With external support, the education team has developed a new dinosaur adventure backpack. They inspire children to explore dinosaur skeletons, compare dinosaur teeth, measure dinosaur feet and find out what dinosaurs liked for lunch. Museum Education Officer Rachel Smith explains. "For a small education team delivering day-in and day-out, this donation has allowed us to create a unique, high-quality family experience."

GREAT MINDS don't THINK ALIKE

£3m from an anonymous Magdalen College alumnus and his wife.

Mental health issues are damaging, disruptive and costly for society. Many adolescents suffer anxiety and depression, and although we are aware of the causes, we don't know how to help families through these difficult times. Positive intervention early in a young person's life can do wonders for their long-term development. Dr Jennifer Lau is the first director of the Calleva Research Centre for Evolution and Human Science. "Thanks to this generous donation we have been able to create a centre that bridges the humanities and the social, cognitive

and evolutionary sciences. In this first project, we bring together psychologists, anthropologists, zoologists and economists to study how social behaviour develops in young people and how difficulties in social understanding may affect anxiety and mood disorders." The interdisciplinary collegiate system is one of Oxford's many strengths and delivers counter-intuitive insights. "An economist tries to understand human behaviour from a monetary point of view; an evolutionary biologist is interested in why particular behaviours have evolved; a developmental psychologist questions why certain behaviours change with age. Our task is to explore the interface between different disciplines and pool our findings to develop practical outcomes."

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

Dr Thomas Kaplan and Mrs Daphne Recanati Kaplan have supported WildCRU, including a pledge of £2m over five years to establish the WildCRU Postgraduate Diploma in International Wildlife Conservation Practice.

With the threats to biodiversity increasing globally, there is an ever-greater need all over the world for trained conservationists who can effectively lead conservation projects based on sound science and sensitivity towards the needs of local communities.

Recognising this, and specifically with early-career conservationists in mind, David Macdonald, founder and director of the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU), part of the University's Zoology Department and a pioneering centre for wildlife conservation, developed the Postgraduate Diploma in International Wildlife Conservation Practice.

Course Tutor Christos Astaras explains, "This support from the Kaplan family has enabled us to create a course that explicitly targets conservation practitioners who are in a position to make a difference in wildlife conservation in their countries but lack the skills needed to make the leap beyond simple data collection. Our goal is to train self-sufficient conservationists who can confidently design, conduct and evaluate conservation projects."

Each cohort of 6–10 'WildCRU
Panthers', as the diploma students are known, lives and studies together for the duration of the course in the beautifully converted barns at the Recanati Kaplan Centre, WildCRU's headquarters at Tubney House. The 2011 cohort includes 'Panthers' from India, Russia, Brazil, Uganda, Cameroon and South Africa, who will return home to deliver conservation solutions, and to share their new skills with colleagues, cascading further the benefits of the course.

THE LOOK of LOVE

£750,000 over five years from the Barclay Foundation to fund research into the physical and psychological implications of craniofacial abnormalities which will lead to the development of a programme to support parents of children born with such conditions.

What do we see when we look at someone with a facial abnormality? Our innate response is to stare, but our learned response is to turn away. A team of craniofacial clinicians, scientists and psychologists at the University is conducting pioneering research into how parents relate to children born with cleft lips and palates. They use sophisticated digital imaging to map the parent's emotional reactions to the baby's face. Tim Goodacre is the craniofacial surgeon on the unit. "Understanding the neural side relieves the pressure to operate to solve perceived problems. The surgery isn't the only thing that matters. Our work is about understanding the interaction between the mother, father and child, and how can we change that. We might do it through guiding

them, almost communicating on behalf of their baby. So the parent moves away from the internal preoccupation and looks for the baby's clues. These early responses exert a huge influence over the parent and child relationship and the baby's later development. This gift has made an enormous difference in giving the team the opportunity to work with families and to help the children to help themselves."

VIRTUAL REALITY

£10m from Hong Kong-based philanthropist Dickson Poon.

China is a global powerhouse, but so much of its culture, society and economic intentions are still a mystery. It's essential for China and the rest of the world to understand each other better, and academics at the Oxford China Centre are stimulating thinking around areas such as Chinese business, history of art and public health. The Centre has been operating successfully as a virtual organisation but now, thanks to this significant donation, plans are progressing to construct a new state-of-the-art building, which will be its permanent home. The director, Professor Andrew Goudie, says "the approach is reflective but challenging. It will not just be a Department of Sinology past, present and future, but asking critical questions about contentious issues: How sustainable can China's growth be when it consumes two billion tonnes of coal a year, faces chronic overcrowding in its cities and looming water shortages? These are global health issues and we want to look at the epidemiology on a global scale. It's not just science, but the sociology and politics, and bringing all the disciplines together.'

Construction begins in 2012 within St Hugh's 14-acre site. Facilities will include student accommodation, a lecture hall, language lab, library, green roof terrace and Chinese garden. Two-thirds of the total funds required to construct the new building have now been raised,

but opportunities are still available to name prestigious parts of the building.

NEW HORIZONS

Over £500,000 pledged by Pacific Alliance Group.

The University has a long-standing relationship with China, dating back to 1604 when the Bodleian Library acquired its first Chinese manuscript. The Pacific Alliance Scholarships aim to give outstanding students from China the opportunity to study at Oxford, with a view to applying what they have learned to the benefit of their country. Peidong Yang is studying for a DPhil in Education. He says of his scholarship: "I hope my research at Oxford will enable me to make contributions to policy-making in the higher education sector of China." Kun Luo is undertaking a DPhil in Inorganic Chemistry and is investigating the crystal structure of superconductive materials. "The way research is done in China is completely different. This scholarship is a fantastic opportunity for me, and the supervisors are very encouraging."



Scholarships funded by the Charlie Perkins Trust.

Charlie Perkins was the first
Indigenous Australian to graduate
from university and the first
Indigenous head of an Australian
government department; a radical
activist and fearless spokesman
who dedicated his life to justice and
human rights. It was whilst playing
professional football in the UK, after
a game in Oxford, that Perkins was
inspired to return to Australia to
undertake university study.

The Charlie Perkins Trust provides two scholarships a year for Indigenous Australians to undertake postgraduate study at the University of Oxford. Christian Thompson is one of Australia's most inventive conceptual, photographic and installation artists. "My work is about the references and language that exist just beneath the surface of popular culture and I am using the Pitt Rivers Museum as a source of inspiration. The scholarship is affording me the time and space at Ruskin College to explore the mapping of identity and imbuing a sense of Australia into the world."

Paul Gray is studying for a DPhil in Experimental Psychology. "I am investigating the impact of early traumatic experiences on cognitive, affective and social functioning and associated outcomes for children in out-of-home care. These young people face many challenges, and Oxford is giving me the opportunity to learn from experts in these various fields and apply these insights to my work with cared-for children."

STRIKING THE RIGHT NOTE

£25,000 generated for the Music Faculty.

In January 2011, world-renowned pianist Dame Mitsuko Uchida gave a spellbinding recital in the Sheldonian Theatre to raise funds for the Music Faculty. The money was used to buy six new pianos for the recently refurbished practice rooms. The transformed facilities have become a focal point for the faculty, and will help to ensure that the best music students from around the world continue to come to Oxford. Ben Holder is in his second year: "Thanks to the money raised by Mitsuko Uchida's concert, we now have top-quality pianos to replace their clapped-out predecessors. Combined with the soundproofing of the newly refurbished rooms, this means that you can really get on with serious practice. The controlled heat and humidity maintains the pianos in perfect condition, and with many more students now using the practice block, the sense of group activity generates a wonderful feeling of camaraderie."



Amount raised since start of Campaign, August 2004 to 31 January 2011

£583,670,962 (University) £481,641,085 (Colleges)

£1,065,312,048 Total

Amount raised 2010/11 £248.312.047

Total number of gifts to 31 January 2011 (University) 30,394

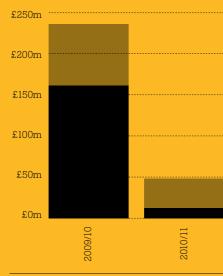
Endowment figures 2009/10

University: £629 million

In 2009/10 the value of the Oxford Endowment Fund increased by 14%

Colleges: £2,687 billion

Year-on-year income



- Colleges
- University

Campaign income split at 31 January 2011

University 55% College 45%

Income according to Campaign priority area (University only)

Endowment	30%
Capital	23%
Revenue	47%

Campaign income by UK and the Rest of the World

A	UK	49.4%
В	Rest of the World	50.6%

Did you know?

£8,000 per annum is the gap between the average cost of educating an EU/UK undergraduate at Oxford and the funding available.

£7,500 is the level of bursary and fee-waiver support that the University will provide to 1,000 undergraduates coming from the lowest-income households.

£29,000 is the average annual cost to fully fund a scholarship for an arts or science postgraduate.

£43,000 is the average annual cost to fully fund a scholarship for a medical sciences postgraduate.

15.6% is the percentage of alumni who made a gift in the last year.

75 is the number of key teaching posts that will be endowed through a £60 million Teaching Fund.

Cover: New Horizons

A Pacific Alliance Group scholarship is offering Kun Luo the opportunity to bring frsh perspectives to his research.

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For further information please contact:

University of Oxford
Development Office
University Offices
Wellington Square
Oxford OX1 2JD
T: +44 (0)1865 611530
Email: enquiries@devoff.ox.ac.uk

Read more about how the Oxford Thinking Campaign is making a difference at www.campaign.ox.ac.uk









