



China Oxford Scholarship Fund

Summer Luncheon Highlights COSF's 20th Anniversary

Summer 2012

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The China Oxford Scholarship Fund's International Chairman, Timothy Beardson and his wife Clair, kindly hosted the annual Scholars' Summer Luncheon in Hailey near Oxford on June 17th. This year's event was extra special with the Fund celebrating its 20th anniversary. 19 Scholars were able to attend this festive gathering with the Principal of St Anne's College, Tim Gardam, addressing the guests and wishing the Scholars all the very best with their endeavours. This year's student guest speaker was Wan Xiao who is studying for a DPhil in Biomedical Engineering and is at Linacre College. Some of the guests included the Provost of The Queen's College, Prof. Paul Madden, the Director of Oxford's China Centre, Prof. Andrew Goudie, the President of Trinity College, Sir Ivor Roberts, the Rt Hon the Lord Wei of Shoreditch, renowned photographer Michael Freeman and the founder of the Oxford Internet Institute Derek Wyatt. Please go to pages 4 to 7 for a pictorial of the luncheon and Wan Xiao's full luncheon address.



"In spite of the roaring of the young Lions at the Union, and the screaming of the rabbits in the home of the vivisect, in spite of Keble College, and the tramways, and the sporting prints, Oxford still remains the most beautiful thing in England, and nowhere else are life and art so exquisitely blended, so perfectly made one."

Oscar Wilde 1854-1900

International Chairman's Letter

Dear Friends,

- Clair and I always look forward to hosting the Scholars' Summer Luncheon and we were delighted so many past and present Scholars were able to attend the celebration which also marked COSF's 20th anniversary. The festive event allowed us to welcome new supporters of the China Oxford Scholarship Fund. We all enjoyed the excellent speeches given by the Principal of St Anne's College, Tim Gardam, and COSF Winkler Oxford Scholar Wan Xiao.
- I am pleased that the Scholars' academic achievements continue to be recognised by both the University of Oxford and prestigious organisations. The Fund is happy that it can share these updates with the COSF community as they are testimony to the Fund's successful and rigorous awards selection process.
- The Fund's Distinguished Speaker's programme continues to gather pace with 3 events taking place in Hong Kong so far this year. I look forward to more gatherings such as these in Beijing, Shanghai, Oxford and London.
- Most of our events also serve as an opportunity to fundraise and COSF is looking to establish new and exciting partnerships. If you or your company are interested in sponsoring any of our activities, please do get in touch with us at info@chinaoxford.org or if you wish to make a gift to COSF, please go to page 10 for more information or to our website where donations can be made online via PayPal.
- It is wonderful to know that COSF's online presence continues to grow. Friends and supporters can now find us on Facebook, LinkedIn, Youtube and Flickr. The social media also allow for us to keep in touch with past and present Scholars too so it is satisfying to know past Scholars have re-connected with us this way.
- Lastly, I would like to congratulate COSF Scholars Jerome Hui and Lo Yuen Yi on their summer wedding at Oxford University and wish them well.

Timothy Beardson
International Chairman



COSF News

Another COSF Distinguished Speakers' Event took place over the summer in June with Prof. Peter Tufano headlining the event in Hong Kong. Prof. Tufano was appointed Peter Moores Dean and Professor of Finance at Saïd Business School (SBS) in 2011. Prof. Tufano shared his thoughts on the topic of "Money and Consumer Finance" and engaged with guests with



a question and answer session. The event took place at The China Club in Central. Prof. Tufano is a Professorial Fellow at Balliol College at the University of Oxford. Prior to joining Oxford, Professor Tufano was a faculty member at the Harvard Business School for 22 years. His research has focused primarily on consumer finance. Prof. Tufano has been at the forefront of advancing this academic field and bringing ideas from research into practice by working with businesses and policymakers.



Awards Panel members (L-R) Gao Jinhua, Kenneth Fok, Rupert McCowan and Ashton Lee pose for a photo after finishing their rigorous interviews of shortlisted candidates in Shanghai on July 21st. This Fund received 113 applications from eligible students by its closing date on April 15th. Of this number, 47 were shortlisted for interviews in Oxford, Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong. This year the Fund received a record number of applications from existing postgraduate Chinese students at Oxford. The 2012 award winners will be announced in our Autumn Newsletter.

COSF News



(L-R) Zhang Zhe, Sue Lau, Annie Bentley, Li Wenyi, Ze Dai and Yi Duan

The China Oxford Scholarship Fund's Hong Kong Trustees Sue Lau and Annie Bentley co-hosted an intimate dinner in Beijing with several Scholars in June. The event coincided with the Awards Panel's interviews of short-listed candidates in Beijing which usually take place during the second or third weekend of June. The evening gathering took place at The Grand Hotel and has become a yearly summer event in the Chinese capital. Hong Kong Trustee William Louey was also present for the dinner. If you are a COSF Scholar and would like to attend this Beijing event in future, please do contact us at hk@chinaoxford.org and don't forget to note the rough date in your diary. Meanwhile, the Fund's Beijing Committee will



be holding its first Oxford Debate event on Sunday, September 16 from 2pm to 5pm at the Western Returned Scholars Association (WRSA) located at 111 Nan He Yan Street. The topic of the debate will be "How Can China Grow Without Upsetting the Rest of the World?". The debate is being

organised as part of the 20th anniversary celebrations of the China Oxford Scholarship Fund. The event is open to all Oxford alumni, COSF Scholars and supporters. If you would like to attend and would like more information about the programme, please contact organisers Yi Duan at busyduan@gmail.com or Li Wenyi at silvermoonlee@yahoo.com.cn.

新闻

Scholars' Updates



The China Oxford Scholarship Fund would like to congratulate Jerome Hui (COSF Scholar 2005) and Lo Yuen Yi (COSF Scholar 2006) on their recent wedding at the Bodleian Library at Oxford University on the 3rd August, 2012. Jerome earned his DPhil in Zoology and was at Merton College while Yuen Yi earned her DPhil in Linguistics and was at St Hilda's College. Yuen Yi will be taking up an Assistant Professorship at the University of Hong Kong while Jerome will take up an Assistant Professorship at the Chinese University later this year. The Fund wishes the couple all the very best and a very happy and brilliant future together.



學者

Scholars' Updates



The China Oxford Scholarship Fund is delighted to inform its supporters that its Scholar Wu Yimin has won the prestigious Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council's Doctoral Prize. The EPSRC Award is only for the top PhD students in the United Kingdom. The Prize is organised by the British Research Council which provides government funding for grants to undertake research and postgraduate degrees in engineering and the physical sciences which include mathematics, artificial intelligence and computer science. Yimin has completed his doctorate in Materials and was the 2008 and 2009 Wolfson China Scholar. Yimin was at St Anne's College.

We would also like to share more good news about some of our Scholars. COSF Scholar Wu Boshen (Anthony) has completed his DPhil studies in Chemistry. He worked in the Jeremy Robertson Research Group and has been awarded an "exceptional thesis" commendation from the Graduate Studies Office of the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division (MPLS). The commendation includes a £180 prize for Anthony who was the only DPhil student to be awarded for having received exceptional examiners' comments. Anthony's thesis was on



"Synthesis of Taurospongins A and Other Biologically Active Natural Products". Anthony is now back in China working for the United Nations. He has joined the United Nations' Beijing Office as an intern. He will be working in Wuhan on a biomedical technology transfer project, which started early this summer. "Thanks to COSF for all the support and help for the last couple of years. It is much appreciated and I hope in the future I can do something to thank COSF" says Anthony. In 2008, Anthony received a £20,000 China Oxford Award for the first year of his DPhil studies. Anthony was at Jesus College. The China Oxford Scholarship Fund congratulates Yimin and Anthony for their impressive accomplishments and looks forward in sharing more outstanding news of its Scholars with the COSF community.

学者

Scholars' Summer Luncheon Pictorial



Wu Yimin, Timothy Beardson, Wan Xiao, Clair Beardson and Lord Nat Wei



Song Liya and Qiao Fengqi



Gong Wei, Jiang Xueyuan and Liu Yingqi



Xu Shuo, Deng Feifei, Simon Case, Fang Linhao and Peng Chun



Guests enjoying refreshments in the gardens



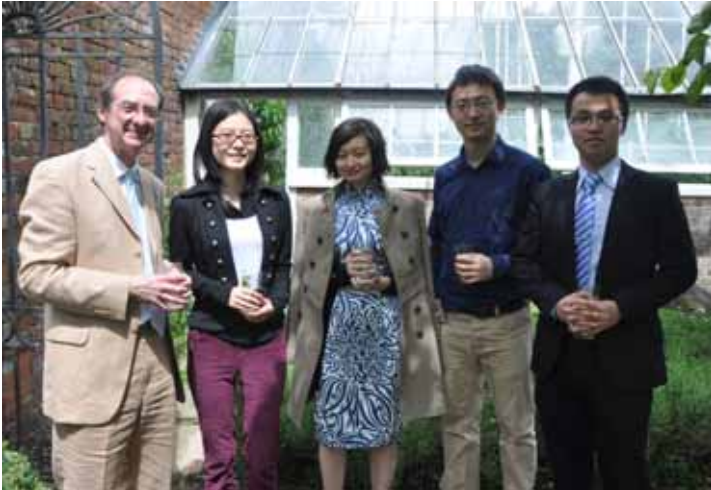
Neyla and Michael Freeman with Diane Maclellan



Clair Beardson with Gill and Peter Sunderland



Ng Yuk Hang, Xu Chu, Huang Shan and Chantal Doerries



Prof. Bill Swadling, Wan Xiao, Joey Li, Zhang Hao & Xi Jiahe



Huang Shan, Xiaodi Bell, Wan Xiao and Xu Chu



Feng Qin, Wu Yimin and Simon Case



Clair Beardson, Liang Rui, Duncan Neilly, Dr Jilly Pattison, Tim Gardam and Derek Wyatt



Wan Xiao, Robbie Lyle, Dr Jilly Pattison, Duncan Neilly, Jerome Hui and Anne Lindsay



Prof. Heather Viles and Carl Muller



Timothy Beardson welcomes guests to luncheon



Guests enjoying the luncheon under the marquee



Simon Case, Wan Xiao, Michael Freeman, Dyan Sterling, Neyla Freeman and Joey Li



He Jinhong and Yu Jing



Xiaodi Bell, Jiang Xueyuan, Feng Qin and Fang Linhao

YouTube

flickr

The videos of Tim Gardam and Wan Xiao's luncheon addresses can be seen on COSF's "China Oxford Videos" Channel on YouTube. Additional photographs of the luncheon are also available online via Flickr on the "China Oxford Scholarship Fund" membership page.

Scholar Wan Xiao's Luncheon Address

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am the Winkler Oxford Scholar of 2011, and I am doing a doctor's degree in Tissue Engineering. Briefly, my work is to culture small tumours in a flask, to be used in drug testing, instead of using animals. The benefits of this is that we can use human cells and can get the right information we need, instead of testing animals which have totally different genes from humans. Based on my point of view, tissue engineering might be one of the biggest green industries in the near future. We are talking about recycling every day, but what is more significant than the recycling of human tissue? There is an old saying in medicine – nobody is cleverer than the human body itself. Instead of making something from scratch to mimic human organs, we can use existing materials from clinical samples, or wastes, to reconstruct them, and then use them as the replacement for real human tissues. That is the basic idea of tissue engineering.



Before I came to Oxford, I spent six years in one of the best medical colleges in China. Before that, I went to one of the best high schools in China. During that time, my typical day was studying in the library, playing the piano and the accordion, doing some illustrations for my little poems. My parents are good representatives of Chinese parents. They have saved every penny from their basic living costs to support me in getting the best education, and I didn't know during that time that my top quality education had already exhausted all their savings. My first year in Oxford was struggling between studying hard and finding part-time jobs to help my parents live better back in China. I found an interesting thing – I was always rejected by being 'overqualified'. Then after a few rounds of interviews, the first lesson I learned here is that 'overqualified' is a polite way of saying 'not qualified in the right way'. I never told my parents all of the stories of my part-time jobs because I know distance will make a not-so-good story sound worse and the best thing for me to do is to keep trying. Once I was on a waiting list, and because I was doing an engineering degree, people usually think engineers are good at maths. I was chosen to replace a maths tutor, to give some professional tutorial advice on a university application. When I arrived there, just ten minutes before my work, I got to know it was about theoretical maths, and I was going to face a genius young mathematician applying to Oxford University. You will never imagine, the maths I learned in that ten minutes was more than all I've learned in all my life. I checked my mobile phone to find three friends with maths background, and I talked for three minutes with each of them, and then I spent the last minute organizing their advice, and I was ready to face the challenge. It turned out to be a super success, and that student said: 'Thank you. I've never met a mathematician who can help me from the perspective of biology'. Of course! I'm not a mathematician, and I am exactly a biologist!

This year, my paper has been accepted by two top conferences at the same time. The financial and spiritual support from COSF is important for young people like me, who still might not know how to transform their degrees into other values. There was once I didn't have any income for three months, my dad lost his position in the company, and my mom was ill. Every night before I went to bed, I was thinking: 'the COSF community is there for its scholars, in case of emergency'. That reassurance has given me confidence to keep looking towards the next day, and doing experiments in the lab at the same time. Also, I and other scholars have had opportunities to attend interesting dinners with Mr and Mrs Beardson, and I have gone to a play with Mrs Araceli Keelan. These activities remind me of the resources the whole Oxford experience can provide to me, and has given me confidence in my future, and to encourage me to look at things from the height, but also do things at the ground. I hope one day, maybe ten years or fifty years later, I can come back again to COSF, and share more of my life stories with you, and hope these stories will be more interesting and successful. Thank you very much!

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