



# China Oxford Scholarship Fund

Winter 2011/2012

[www.chinaoxford.org](http://www.chinaoxford.org)

## Chancellor Welcomes COSF Scholars



The University of Oxford's Chancellor, Lord Patten, gave a warm welcome to the 2011 COSF Scholars at Rhodes House on the 26th November. The Scholars also had the chance to meet Trustees, benefactors and Fund supporters during the luncheon. Lord Patten spoke of Oxford as an increasingly important destination for the growing number of students from China. COSF's International Chairman Timothy Beardson made a speech thanking all of those who have supported COSF's scholarship programme. The autumn gathering was attended by 45 guests which included COSF's UK Board Chairman Nick Dennys QC and Trustees Anne Lindsay, Xiaodi Bell and Dyan Sterling. Also present were benefactors Alexander Hoare, Araceli and Geordie Keelan, Rhodes House Warden, Dr Donald Markwell, Oxford China Centre Director, Prof. Andrew Goudie, Law Faculty Director of Graduate Studies, Prof. William Swadling, Oxford Today Editor, Dr Richard Lofthouse and James Hambro & Partners Investment Manager, Charlie Underwood. For a pictorial of the event, please go to pages 5 and 6. The luncheon was made possible by a generous donation. If you or your company would like to sponsor this event or any other gatherings for COSF Scholars, please contact us for donation details at [info@chinaoxford.org](mailto:info@chinaoxford.org).

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# International Chairman's Letter

Dear Friends,

- A good time was had by all at the autumn Welcome Luncheon at Rhodes House. The Scholars and guests were delighted that the Chancellor, Lord Patten, was on hand to officially welcome our Scholars to Oxford and wished them well with their studies. It is hoped this event can be fully sponsored again for the 2012 Scholars. On behalf of COSF, I would like to thank the donor who made the luncheon possible.
- I am sad to see Sir Stephen Sherbourne step down as a Trustee of the Fund in the United Kingdom. His guidance on the Board of Trustees has been invaluable for the past five years. The Fund wishes him all the very best. I would also like to wish the Fund's China Administrator Stephanie Lau all the very best too. Stephanie has worked for COSF since 2007 and has played a major role in the Fund's annual awards process.
- It is with great pleasure to inform our friends and supporters that we have new members joining COSF in the United Kingdom and in Hong Kong. On behalf of COSF, I would like to give a warm welcome to UK Trustees Xiaodi Bell and Dyan Sterling and Hong Kong Development Committee member Laura Weeks and China Administrator Irene Lee.
- The updates on the COSF Scholars have become a regular highlight for our newsletters. It is with great satisfaction knowing that the Scholars have excelled in their areas of studies during and after their time at Oxford. It is also very encouraging and exciting to know that COSF has received a generous donation from one of our COSF Scholars. I hope that more Scholars like Jingmin Huang will be able to make a contribution.
- Lastly, I would like to wish all our friends and supporters a very Happy Chinese New Year. 2012 marks both the Year of the Dragon and COSF's 20th anniversary. I hope that friends will make this year even more special by continuing to support COSF.

Timothy Beardson  
International Chairman



## COSF News



*Photo courtesy of Taylor Sloane*

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Laura Weeks has joined COSF in Hong Kong as member of its Development Committee. Laura has over twelve years of experience in strategy development, fundraising, marketing and communications for conservation and science-based organisations. She earned an MSc in Environment and Development from Imperial College London and also an MA in Geography from the University of Oxford. Laura was at Keble College. After her time at Oxford, she started her career at Earthwatch in the United Kingdom and eventually became its Head of Development. In 2003, Laura moved to the Natural History Museum in London as Head of Corporate Development and subsequently, Head of Development. In 2005 Laura relocated to Sydney where she joined WWF as the Project Manager for the first Earth Hour – a global initiative calling on personal action for climate change. Since moving to Hong Kong in 2007, Laura has been the HK Director of Development at the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). She is also a Board member of the Royal Geographical Society in Hong Kong.

We regret to announce the departure of Stephanie Lau who has been COSF's Administrator for Asia for the past four years. Stephanie has been an invaluable member of the COSF team as she was responsible for overseeing the processing of awards applications. This was in addition to her contribution in supporting the Chairman, Treasurer and Trustees as well as COSF's Investment, Awards and Committees in Hong Kong. COSF wishes her all the very best. Meanwhile, we are delighted to welcome



Irene Lee as Stephanie's successor. For the past three years, Irene has been playing a key role for the Oxford & Cambridge Society of Hong Kong. She oversees its administration and myriad fundraising events for the organisation's 500-plus Oxford and Cambridge alumni members. Irene's solid administrative experience will certainly stand COSF in good stead.





COSF would like to thank former UK Trustee Sir Stephen Sherbourne CBE for his contribution to the Fund. Sir Stephen resigned as Trustee after being involved with COSF since 2006. Sir Stephen served as Political Secretary to Edward Heath as Prime Minister, Chief of Staff to Margaret Thatcher as Prime Minister and Chief of Staff to Michael Howard as Leader of the Conservative Party. He has also been a director of Bell Pottinger. Sir Stephen was at St Edmund Hall.



Meanwhile, the Fund would like to welcome new members to its UK Board of Trustees. Xiaodi Bell has been a long-time supporter of COSF. Xiaodi is a Beijing native and studied at the Shanghai International Studies University graduating with a BA in Journalism and English Literature. She also attended the Beijing Diplomatic College where she studied World Economy and International Public Law. From 1982 to 1988, Xiaodi worked in various divisions of the Information Department of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This culminated in her position as the Head of Britain, Hong Kong and Macau Desk. In 1988, she came to London to work for Lowe Howard Spink & Bell Ltd and later worked for Lowe Bell Communications. She moved on to Shandwick PLC as China Projects Development Manager both in the UK and in Hong Kong from 1991 to 1993. She is the founder of China Gateway Ltd. Which provides consultancy services to UK companies entering the Chinese market. Xiaodi is also involved with a number of charitable causes.



Dyan Sterling has been involved with COSF since 2004. She was also COSF's key liaison person for the University of Oxford where she was the Head of Development for its Life and Environmental Sciences Division. While working at Oxford, she was responsible for major donor relations and substantial development projects. In 2007, Dyan joined the Royal Institution of Great Britain (RI) as its Director of Development. She later joined the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and served as its Director for Development until 2011. Dyan is Managing Director of Oxford Philanthropy. She is also a management consultant on global projects and co-founded a tech start up listed on NASDAQ. Dyan read Human Biology for her MSc degree at Oxford. She attended Linacre College.

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# Rhodes House Welcome Luncheon Pictorial



L-R Pauline Fiennes, Peter Sunderland and Xiaodi Bell



L-R Sha Zhe, Wei Gong, Prof. Nick Rawlins and Xu Lei



L-R Clair Beardson, Dr Richard Lofthouse and Yimin Wu



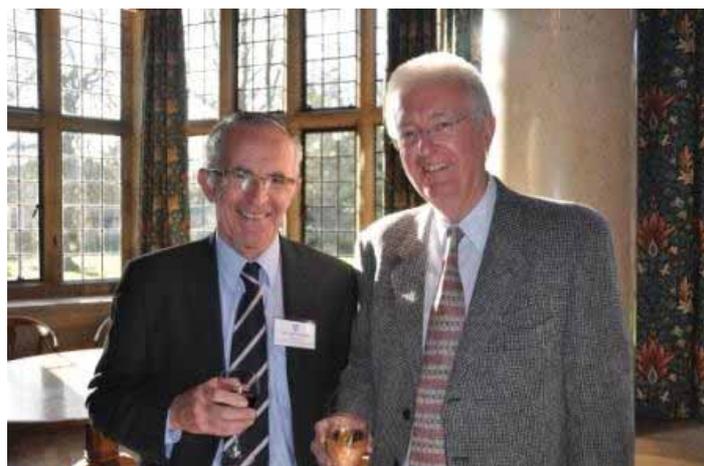
Lord Patten and Timothy Beardson



L-R Shan Huang, Charlie Underwood and Vicky Ip



Anne Lindsay and Fei Yan



Prof. Andrew Goudie and Prof. Derek Siveter



L-R Pauline Fiennes and Geordie and Araceli Keelan



Dyan Sterling and Lei Xu



Pam Goddard and Vicky Ip



Xiao Wan and Lord Patten



Xiao Ma, Nicholas Dennys QC and Chu Xu



Nan Zhang and Iain Goddard



Lord Patten and Yu Tao



L-R Zhan Wang, Alexander Hoare and Shan Huang

## COSF Scholar's Updates



Congratulations to Anthony Boshen Wu (COSF Scholar 2008) who won the "Best presentation" prize for their research in the "2011 AstraZeneca Graduate Seminar Programme" competition for 3rd year students in the Chemistry Department at the University of Oxford. This event is held every year within the department and sponsored by the UK pharmaceutical giant AstraZeneca. Anthony's presentation was voted the best out of the 56 talks given in October 2011. He was one of 4 prize

winners and the first Chinese student to win a prize in the past 10 years. Anthony is at Jesus College and pursuing a DPhil in Chemistry.

We are pleased to inform you that 2003 COSF Scholar Fan Bai has started his position as an Assistant Professor at Peking University at its Biological Sciences Department. He is working on single-molecule biophysics studies with specific aim to examine bacterial antibiotic resistance and persistence. He is also doing next generation gene sequencing work of human, bacteria and other model systems. Fan was at Wolfson College and earned his DPhil in Biophysics and Soft Matter.



A huge thanks goes to COSF Scholar (2001 and 2002) Jingmin Huang for her recent donation to the China Oxford Scholarship Fund. Jingmin is currently working for the Asian Development Bank and is based in the Philippines. She earned her DPhil in Engineering as was at St Edmund Hall. She was also COSF's guest speaker at its UK gala launch at Kensington Palace in 2006. COSF

hopes her generous gift will inspire more Scholars, friends and supporters to help raise much-needed funding to keep our modest operations going in the United Kingdom and Hong Kong. If you would like to make a contribution, please go to page 8 or our website at [www.chinaoxford.org](http://www.chinaoxford.org) for more information on how to make a donation. Please remember that whatever the amount you give, it will make a huge difference for the China Oxford Scholarship Fund and future Scholars.

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# Support COSF - Make a Donation Today

**Online Donation** You can make a donation online securely with your credit or debit card via PayPal on our website at [www.chinaoxford.org](http://www.chinaoxford.org). Please indicate the intention of your gift in the special instruction box for the seller if for instance you wish to support a specific award, COSF in Hong Kong or COSF in the United Kingdom.

**Donation By Cheque** A cheque can be made payable to the *China Oxford Scholarship Fund*. Please indicate the intention of your gift with a note accompanying your cheque.

In Hong Kong, cheques can be sent to:

China Oxford Scholarship Fund, G.P.O. Box 2755, Central, Hong Kong

In the United Kingdom, cheques can be sent to:

China Oxford Scholarship Fund, Administrative Office, Meadowside, Welcombe Hills, Warwick Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV37 0NR

**Direct Bank Transfer** Please contact us at [info@chinaoxford.org](mailto:info@chinaoxford.org) for our bank details in Hong Kong or in the United Kingdom.

**Legacy Gift** Please contact us for further information.

**Tax Benefits** In the United States, donations can be made via the University of Oxford's North America office. Gifts can be made by credit card or by cheque to the Americans for Oxford, Inc. by completing its donation form available on our website. Gifts made by US income taxpayers are tax deductible. In Hong Kong, there are tax benefits as COSF is a registered charitable organisation with the Inland Revenue Department.

**UK Gift Aid** If you are a UK taxpayer and you have made your donation by cheque, direct bank wire transfer or online credit card payment via PayPal, you can claim Gift Aid and make your donation worth 25% more for COSF. Just complete the Gift Aid form available on our website at [www.chinaoxford.org](http://www.chinaoxford.org) and post it to our United Kingdom address.

**Sponsorship** The China Oxford Scholarship Fund has been able to organise activities for its China Oxford Scholars in China, Hong Kong and the United Kingdom through the generosity of sponsors. Sponsors are recognised in all of COSF's media as a valued partner. If you or your company would like to sponsor an event or donate your goods or services to COSF, please contact us.

All donations to the China Oxford Scholarship Fund are eligible for income tax deductibility. The Fund will issue an official receipt to all donors who supply their name and postal address with their gift. The China Oxford Scholarship Fund fully abides by the Data Protection Act 1998. For any further information, please contact us at [info@chinaoxford.org](mailto:info@chinaoxford.org)

*Happy Chinese New Year*

*Best Wishes for the  
Year of the Dragon*



1992 - 2012

*China Oxford Scholarship Fund  
20th Anniversary*