



China Oxford Scholarship Fund

Lord Patten Meets COSF Scholars

Spring 2015

www.chinaoxford.org

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After the success of the China Oxford Scholars' Spring Conference last year, the Scholars are delighted that they will have the opportunity to stage this event once again at Christ Church on Friday 15th May. The Master of Ceremonies for the upcoming event will be Scholar Yingqi Liu who is reading for a DPhil in Geography and the Environment and is attending St John's College. Six Scholars will be presenting their work to the wider community at the University of Oxford and one of them will be Scholar Qiong Liu. She is also reading for a DPhil in Geography and the Environment and is attending Wolfson College. In preparation for the Spring Conference in May at the Blue Boar Lecture Theatre, both Yingqi and Qiong had the chance to meet the Chancellor, Lord Patten, at University Offices where he expressed his full endorsement of the student event. The Chancellor also had a brief chat with the Scholars about China's environmental challenges. As their visit coincided with the Lantern Festival, Yingqi and Qiong were able to present Lord Patten with some home-made Chinese egg custard tarts to mark the occasion.



*A year's harvest counts on
spring; a man's success counts on
his diligence*



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Double New Year Celebrations

Wolfson College and its Chinese Cultural Exchange Society provided University of Oxford students and visiting international students the chance to celebrate the Year of the Goat with back to back events. On the 8th February, a classical Chinese and Western music concert took place in the afternoon in the Leonard Wolfson Auditorium. Soon after, a pre-Spring Celebration reception in the Haldane Room welcomed Wolfson students and international students attending the College's Winter Programme. Guests were able to enjoy traditional Chinese teas and snacks such as lucky candy, White Rabbit candy, fortune cookies and Chinese custard tarts. The evening was completed with a fabulous Chinese buffet featuring traditional Chinese dishes. The over-subscribed event was a great build-up to the Chinese Cultural Exchange Society's Chinese New Year Celebration on the 18th February. On the eve of the Year of the Goat, guests contributed to the merriment by bringing along their own Chinese dishes to share while there were plenty of cultural activities taking place such as the chance to engage in Chinese calligraphy.

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Returning Home More than 900 students from the People's Republic of China are studying at the University of Oxford. And during the Chinese New Year, not all are able to make it back to China to celebrate the ushering in of the lunar new year with their families and friends. However, COSF Scholar Yishu Miao managed to return to his ancestral home in Ganzhou

in Jiangxi Province where time-honoured traditions in the countryside are very much alive and well. Yishu also had the chance to make a visit to Guangdong Province too. Yishu is a second-year DPhil student in Computer Science and is at St Hugh's College. Thank you Yishu for sharing these wonderful photographs with friends and supporters of the China Oxford Scholarship Fund.

Photos: Villager making a Hakka dish, a Ming dynasty tablet and little girl in smart clothing. Next page top to bottom: Brian's ancestral home, home-cooking with many local ingredients, view of a tea plantation, traditional feast and foraged wild mushrooms.

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Fang Zhaoling Centenary Exhibition

The Ashmolean Museum celebrated the life of renowned Chinese artist Fang Zhaoling with a rare exhibition featuring her works which were curated from private collections mainly in Asia and the United Kingdom. Some of the works were unveiled for public viewing for the very first time as they were from the Fang family's private collection. The exhibition was in the Museum's Khoan and Michael Sullivan Gallery from the 22nd October 2014 until the 22nd February 2015. Fang grew up in China where she was under the tutelage of celebrated artists Zhao Shao'ang and Zhang Daqian. She quickly established her own distinctive calligraphy, landscape paintings and figurative paintings. She and her family left China in 1948 for Hong Kong where Fang was able to continue to develop

her art which she practised well into her eighties. Fang attended Manchester University in 1937. She later attended the University of Hong Kong in the 1950s and studied at the University of Oxford from 1956 to 1958. The exhibition featured three paintings from the collection of David Hawkes who was one of Fang's tutors at Oxford. Fang was born in 1914 in Wuxi in Jiangsu Province. She passed away in 2006. Her daughter is Anson Chan, the former Chief Secretary of Hong Kong while under British rule.



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Scholars' Updates



I'm Yingqi Liu. I'm a third-year DPhil student reading Geography and Environment at Oxford. I'm also at St John's College. I'm happy to have the chance to update friends and supporters of COSF about my work for Shanghai. It's called the Demand-Side Response Project.

Environmental issues have become increasingly topical in China and it is very encouraging that innovative solutions are being explored of their potential in promoting the low-carbon, sustainability transformation. Recently, I have been very excited about the opportunity of working with world-renowned academics and experts at the Environmental Change Institute of the University of Oxford, the U.S.-headquartered Natural Resource Defence Council and Oxford Institute of Energy Studies on a policy project for the development of demand-side response in Shanghai. In the utility industry, demand-side response is a market-based mechanism that uses pricing or economic incentives for inducing changes in how people use electricity.

It has been hailed as a promising solution to reducing the envir-

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Scholars' Updates

onmental impacts and improving the economic efficiency of electricity systems, and to promoting the integration of intermittent renewable energy. While demand-side response has been utilised in the U.S. and Europe for some time, its infancy in China. With the emerging changes in the energy sector and the pace of urbanisation, the importance of demand-side response is more pronounced. Moreover, the ongoing electricity reform also opens up more opportunities for its potential development in China. This demand-side response pilot in Shanghai is the first municipality-level trial as endorsed by National Development and Reform Commission, with its intention to explore the feasibility of market-based model to encourage innovation and wider efficiency. As main parts of the policy project, I will be working with the team in synthesizing experiences of demand-side response in the markets of the U.S. and U.K, and analysing the potential of demand-side response as well as considering its costs and benefits in Shanghai. I am very excited about being able to engage in and contribute to the policy design process in this area in China. I look forward to updating you again with my work. Thank you for all your support.



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Scholars' Updates



Hi. I'm Qiong Lu and I am at Wolfson College. I am a third year DPhil student in School of Geography and the Environment. My research investigates the use of integrated catchment models and applies them to evaluate the environmental quality of river basin systems. Currently, I focus on the POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants) issues in the Thames catchment. I also look at the effects of climate change and land use change issues on the fate of POPs in the Thames catchment and predict how environmental policy and catchment management practices would help with protection. There is limited measured environment quality data for POPs available for the Thames catchment. Therefore, I started fieldwork last year to collect my own data. I cooperated with the CEH (Center of Ecology and Hydrology) in sample collection and Lancaster University in sample analyses. The field work is time consuming but it provides me a great chance to visit different sites of along the Thames. I'm very glad as the results have come out to be quite good. Hopefully the output of my research will be of helpful to inform policy and management strategies-making.



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Scholars' Updates



Hong Kong Trustee William Louey is always on the go but he recently had the chance to meet Scholar Guoquan Liu in Germany. Guoquan was a William SD Louey Educational Foundation Scholar in 2008 and 2010 as well as a Tang Oxford Scholar in 2007. He is currently working at the Max Planck Institute with a Humboldt postdoctoral fellowship in Göttingen. William met Guoquan, his wife Zhidan and their two-year-old son in Munich where Guoquan updated William about his work and experiences in Germany. Guoquan was at St Anne's College and earned his DPhil in materials. Meanwhile, Scholar Yu Tao recently had his first English-language work published and peer reviewed in the Cambridge Journals Online. His article, "Unlikely Friends of the Authoritarian and Atheist Ruler: Religious Groups and Collective Contention in Rural China", is receiving an enthusiastic response. Yu has just started as a lecturer at the University of Central Lancaster. Yu earned his DPhil in Politics and was at Merton College.



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Why I Support COSF



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Leslie Bland (far right) with the China Oxford Scholars and friends of COSF

Q&A with Leslie Bland, Chairman of Making Dreams Come True

How did you know about the China Oxford Scholarship Fund?

UK Trustee Dyan Sterling introduced me to COSF.

What are your views or feelings about its scholarship programme?

Very good. The quality and intellectual ability of the students are very impressive and the presentations from the participants are excellent.

Are there any particular issues in China which interest you and if so, why?

Women's rights in China and the importance of women to the economy.

Do you have any particular views about the University of Oxford or the British educational system in general? It is a world class university with an excellent reputation.

Have you had the chance to meet any of the China Oxford Scholars?

Yes. I have attended some events and the students command of the English language and the quality of their work in presentations are generally outstanding.

What motivated you to make a donation to the China Oxford Scholarship Fund?

As an entrepreneur and successful businessman, I believe it is important for the United Kingdom, as a trading nation, to build and maintain relationships for both nations for the future.

What kind of message might you have for people who are thinking about supporting the China Oxford Scholarship Fund?

To view it as an investment in the United Kingdom and China for the future by establishing potential long-term relationships with future leaders to support the economic well being of both nations.

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

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