



# China Oxford Scholarship Fund

## COSF Welcomes New Trustees

Summer 2015

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We are delighted to have Prof. Paul Tam and Rachel Cartland as members of the Hong Kong Board of Trustees. Prof. Tam is Vice-President & Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Hong Kong. He was a Reader and Director of Paediatric Surgery at the University of Oxford. "I am honoured, flattered and excited by the appointment to become a HK Trustee of COSF. My six years as an Oxford don (1990-1996) were not only a highlight of my academic career but also a transformative holistic experience. I hope many more young Chinese talents can benefit from a period of scholarly and whole-person development in Oxford through the support of COSF." said Prof. Tam. Mrs Cartland is an Oxford alumna and the former Asst Director for Social Welfare for the Hong Kong Colonial Government. "I am also honoured to be appointed a COSF Trustee, thus bringing together interests in Oxford and China, which are both so important to me. It is a privilege to do anything that I can to help some of China's most outstanding students to avail themselves of the opportunity of post-graduate study at Oxford. This can be of nothing but benefit to both parties." said Mrs Cartland.





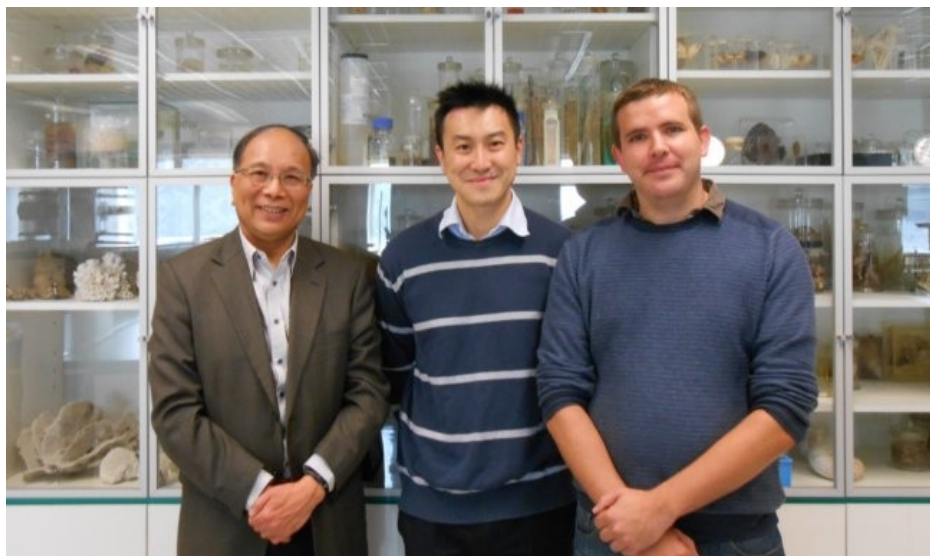
## China Oxford Scholars' Spring Conference

Scholars had the chance to present their work at the China Oxford Scholars' Spring Conference at Christ Church on the 9th May. The event was kicked off with a personal video message from the Chancellor, Lord Patten. Scholars were also honoured to have the Chairman of the All Party Parliamentary China Group, Richard Graham MP as their guest speaker. The students gave a warm "welcome back" to Richard who is an Oxford and Christ Church alumnus.

The afternoon event at the Blue Boar Lecture Theatre was introduced by Scholar Yingqi Liu. Six Scholars made 20-minute presentations on their academic work followed by a brief Q&A session. This year's programme featured Qiong Lu, a DPhil student in Environment and Geography at Wolfson College, who spoke about the River Thames and its pollution problems in catchment areas; Kevin Kun Liu, a DPhil student in Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics at Merton College, who spoke about improved research into treatments for cardiovascular diseases; Shengyu Wang, an MPhil student in Archaeology at Merton College, who touched on the fabled Silk Road and the dynamics behind this ancient trade route; Zhengyu He, a DPhil student in Materials at St Anne's College, he introduced the audience to his work on 2D materials beyond graphene in the opto-electronics area; Alan Xiang Liu, a DPhil student in Engineering at Jesus College who complemented Zhengyu's talk with his presentation on microscopic 3D imaging of embedded optical structures; and Qingyu Wang, an MSt student in English Language and Literature at Trinity College, who discussed her work on the Wycliffe writers and the medieval interpretation of the Bible.

You can watch their presentations on our *ChinaOxfordVideos* Channel on YouTube and YouKu. Photos of the event are also available on Flickr so do look us up at *China Oxford Scholarship Fund*. If you'd like to support this Scholars' event for 2016 with a donation or if you are interested in sponsoring the event, please contact us at [event@chinaoxford.org](mailto:event@chinaoxford.org).

## Scholars' Updates



L-R Prof. Ka Hou Chu, Prof. Jerome Hui and Dr Nathan Kenny

*Photo courtesy of CUHK*

### “Junk DNA” Discovery at CUHK

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) announced in March that a team of its scientists has made a breakthrough in understanding the evolutionary relationship between different animal species. This news is all the more exciting for the China Oxford Scholarship Fund community as the team leader is COSF alumnus Jerome Hui (2005) who is currently a professor at CUHK.

Historically known as “junk” DNA, Jerome’s team learned that non-coding RNA such as microRNA (miRNA) can be useful in revealing the connection between various animals. “Everyone in the field seems to be focusing on the meaningful microRNAs themselves, and did not pay too much attention to other ‘junk’. So this discovery is fortunate. Certainly the utilization of these regions to resolve relationships as a new method is just the beginning,” Hui was quoted in the *Asian Scientist* publication. “Understanding how they function is of extreme importance from fundamentally discover how the nature of these “dark matter”, which can potentially be useful from increasing aqua- or agricultural productions, combating pests, to diseases treatment.” Jerome added.

Congratulations to Jerome and his team at CUHK and we wish you further success with your research.

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## Scholars' Updates



L-R Gillian Hamnet, Yuge Ma, H.E. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming, Prof. Barbara Harriss-White and Jiming Zhu

### China's Outstanding Overseas Students

We are delighted to inform supporters that on the 24th April, the Chinese Government recognised a COSF Scholar as one of its "Outstanding Overseas Students". Scholar Yuge Ma, who is a 3rd year DPhil student in Geography and the Environment, was honoured along with a number of other Chinese students studying for a doctorate degree in the United Kingdom at a ceremony at the Chinese Embassy in London. Officiating the awards ceremony was His Excellency, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming. The prestigious *Chinese Government Outstanding Overseas Student Award* recognises academic excellence as well as the importance and impact a student's work will have on the wider community. Yuge is at Wolfson College and was a Wolfson China Scholar in 2011 and a China Oxford Scholar in 2010. Joining Yuge for the awards ceremony at the Embassy were Wolfson College tutor Gillian Hamnet and senior tutor and supervisor Prof. Barbara Harriss-White. Yuge's husband and DPhil China Scholarship Council Scholar Jiming Zhu was also present. Past COSF Scholars recognised by China as an "Outstanding Overseas Student" were Yimin Wu and Chun Peng.

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## Scholars' Updates



### Alex Xuan Wang

Alex earned his MPhil in Economics and was at Wolfson College. He was a 2012 Wolfson China Scholar. After working for the Bank of England as an assistant analyst, Alex will start his DPhil studies in Economics in October and he will be attending Exeter College.



### Qingyu Wang

Qingyu completed her MSt in English Language and Literature and was at Merton College. She was also a Brian Keelan Scholar. In September, Qingyu will be reading for an MA in Comparative Literature at Dartmouth College in the US. The curriculum stresses intensive language study, broad-based theory and methodology courses, research tools.



### Amos Hong Ming Chan

Amos completed his MSt studies in Philosophy of Physics and was also a Brian Keelan Scholar at University College. He will continue to be at Oxford after being offered a DPhil place in Theoretical Physics. His supervisor will be Prof. John Chalker and Amos will be part of the Condensed Matter Theory Group. Amos will remain at University College.

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## Scholars' Updates



### Guowei Tao

Guowei was a Zee Award Scholar and he completed his MScR in Engineering Science. In October, he will begin his DPhil studies also in Engineering. He will continue attending Pembroke College. Guowei has been awarded full DPhil funding from the Chinese Government's China Scholarship Council.



### Shengyu Wang

Shengyu is an MPhil student in Archaeology and is at Merton College. She is the Hoare Family Award Scholar for 2014. In June, Shengyu had the chance to meet benefactors Alexander Hoare and Charles Hoare Nairne at C. Hoare & Co on Fleet Street in London. Shengyu also was given a rare tour of the private bank's museum courtesy of Alexander and Charles.



### Jiahao Sun

Jiahao is an MSc student in Computer Science and is at St Anne's College. He is a China Oxford Scholar and was awarded the scholarship in computer science sponsored by the B&J Lloyd Family Trust. Jiahao had the opportunity to meet sponsor Adrian Lloyd in May.

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