



China Oxford Scholarship Fund

Winter 2016
www.chinaoxford.org

Scholars' Welcome Reception



Friends and supporters of the China Oxford Scholarship Fund gathered on the 4th November to welcome the new group of 2016 Scholars at Brasenose College. The welcome event took place at the College's Medieval Kitchen. While the Chancellor, Lord Patten, was not available to attend the drinks reception, he passed on a personal message to the Scholars and guests. Trustee Anne Lindsay had the honour of reading out Lord Patten's letter to the more than 50 scholars and guests present. The Fund was also delighted that current DPhil student and Scholar Yingqi Liu, who received a COSF scholarship in 2011 and a Tang Oxford Award in 2012, was on hand to pass on some of his personal experiences and advice about his time studying at Oxford. The Oxford Character Project's Edward Brooks and Luna Wang also had the opportunity to introduce the Scholars to the Oxford Global Leadership Initiative, a programme aimed at graduate students at the University of Oxford. The China Oxford Scholarship Fund thanks Brasenose College and the Oxford Character Project for sponsoring this welcome event. You can watch the speeches on the Fund's YouTube Channel. The full text of Lord Patten's message is featured on the following page.

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£1.38 Million

Scholarship funds
awarded since
COSF was established
in 1992



Lord Patten's Message to Scholars & Supporters

Welcome Reception at Brasenose College 4th November 2016

Dear Scholars, COSF supporters and donors,

“Huānyíng gèwèi (欢迎各位)”. I would like to welcome you personally to the University. I hope all of you Scholars have settled in well at Oxford and have had a good start to the Michaelmas term. As the Chancellor or “Xiàozhǎng (校长)” of the University, I want you to know that you've been selected by Oxford, our Colleges and the China Oxford Scholarship Fund for two reasons. Firstly you have shown academic prowess, promise and leadership qualities. I hope you will benefit greatly from your experience at Oxford. Likewise, Oxford University hopes to benefit from your diverse experience and talents. Your presence is testimony of the continued important educational ties between Oxford University and China.

Over the summer, Professor Louise Richardson made her first visit to China and Hong Kong as our new Vice Chancellor. She received a very warm welcome and she had the opportunity to meet and speak with alumni. I hope that when you complete your studies, you will also become ambassadors for the University and also play an important role in China as its influence on the international stage grows.

I read with great interest your various areas of study. I am particularly impressed that there is such a large group of Scholars this year as well as the wide range of your studies, from biomedical engineering, law, to the growing number of Chinese students studying in the Humanities. I am in no doubt that you will be making meaningful contributions in your respective fields here at Oxford and when you return to China. I am sure that the contribution made by Chinese academics and students is one of the reasons why the University recently topped the global ranking of universities. Lastly, I'd like to express thanks to the donors who have made your scholarships possible and for supporting COSF and the University.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lord Patten'.

Lord Patten, CH, PC
Chancellor

Welcome Reception Pictorial



Trustee Anne Lindsay reads Lord Patten's message



Scholar Yingqi Liu offers his advice to his peers



Elyse Ding, Bonny Landers, David O'Rear & Amos Chan



Past and present Scholars' group photo



Scholar Clancy Zhijian iang with Iain & Pam Goddard



Reception in the splendid Medieval Kitchen



Yingqi Liu, Cecilia Cheuk, Luna Wang and Elyse Ding



Prof Andrew and Dr Diana Briggs



Huan Qi, Kelly Peiyu Chen and Trustee Dyan Sterling



Shengyu Wang and Peter Sunderland



Gregory Yu and Yan Tong



Mike Chao Jiang and Jason Jiashun Huang



Yingqi Liu, Yu Zhou, Hanyang Ye & Luofei Zhan



Iain Goddard and Bo Yang



Luna Wang and Bo Yang



Professor Eric Thun and Clancy Zhijian Jiang



Edward Brooks and Prof. Andrew & Dr Diana Briggs



Huan Qi and Trustee Anne Lindsay



Gregory Yu



Treasurer Iain Goddard & Pam Goddard



Kelly Peiyu Chen and Yu Zhou



The COSF banner is always a popular for photos!

Congratulations Hanyang and Xian!



As leadership quality is an essential part of the awards criteria for our scholarships, the China Oxford Scholarship Fund is pleased to inform friends and supporters that two Scholars have been chosen to participate in the Oxford Global Leadership Initiative's 2016–2017 programme. Scholars Hanyang Ye and Xian Guan will be 2 of 14 post-graduate students at the University of Oxford to take part in this exciting initiative organised by The Oxford Character Project. Hanyang and Xian will be part of a global leadership learning community and will be involved in a select group which will have the benefit of a tailored programme of discussions, guest dinners, and personal mentoring from senior leaders in their vocational field. Hanyang was a 2015 China Oxford Award recipient. He is currently a 2nd year DPhil student studying in Condensed Matter Physics and is at St Hugh's College. Xian is this year's Hoare Family Award recipient. She is studying for an MSc in Social Policy and is at St Antony's College. They will be following in the footsteps of Scholar Yuge Ma who was chosen as one of 13 graduate students at Oxford to take part in the inaugural cohort of the Oxford Global Leadership Initiative in 2014. Yuge was a China Oxford awardee in 2010 and a Wolfson China Scholar in 2011. Yuge earned her DPhil in Geography and the Environment and was at Wolfson College.

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*A leader is best
when people barely
know he exists,
when his work is
done, his aim ful-
filled, they will say:
we did it ourselves.*

Lao Tzu
605 BC—531 BC

The Oxford Global Leadership Initiative



The 2015 –2016 cohort of the Oxford Global Leadership Initiative programme

Q&A with Edward Brooks - Head of the Oxford Global Leadership Initiative

What is the main motivation for setting up the Oxford Global Leaders Initiative?

Over the centuries the University of Oxford has produced thinkers and leaders who have held positions of responsibility around the world, and this continues to be the case today. The ten thousand students studying for postgraduate degrees at Oxford are the elites of more than 120 nations, and they can be expected to go on to careers of great influence. It is also true, however, that these students will take up positions of responsibility at a time of significant global uncertainty, when there is a marked lack of confidence in leadership worldwide. How can Oxford students be prepared to contribute positively in this global context, learning to think in a way that is not only clever but wise, learning to lead in a way that not only furthers personal ambition but actively seeks the wider good of society? This was the question that engaged a group of senior Oxford academics in extended discussion some three years ago. They came to the conclusion that this kind of preparation for leadership wasn't naturally met through post-graduate programmes of study, so, with the generous support of the Templeton World Charity Foundation, the Oxford Global Leadership (GLI) was established.

How is this different from other leadership programmes at Oxford and other institutions?

Our distinctive focus is on the relationship between *leadership* and *character*, highlighting the centrality of personal character for the exercise of leadership that serves the common good. This stands the GLI apart from the majority of leadership programmes that focus on management strategy or practical skills. There is no doubt that strategies and skills are important, but

it is increasingly evident that these cannot guarantee good leadership, nor can supplementary leadership modules on ethics. Our approach seeks to understand leadership as a personal category before it is a professional one, placing values and virtues at the heart of good leadership.

Oxford graduates come from various parts of the world where “leadership” might have a different connotation. Is this taken into consideration when reviewing applicants?

Absolutely! In fact the different understandings of life and leadership that students bring with them—based on their nationality, academic background, or life experience—are central to our work, which seeks to prepare students for leadership in a globalised world. Rather than minimising these differences to impose a model of leadership, the aim of our 'learning community' is to hold an open discussion where students can share their various perspectives and come to an understanding of what good leadership will mean in a diverse yet interconnected world.

What do you look for in successful candidates?

It is a privilege to work amongst the gifted and motivated community of Oxford postgraduates, and it can almost be taken for granted that these students will make important contributions through their careers in the years ahead. In seeking to focus our work on a small group of postgraduates we look for two things: students who will engage reflectively and positively with others, and a diverse group in order to further our aim of learning from global perspectives for leadership in a globalised world. The current learning community is made up of 14 students from 10 nationalities and 11 different Oxford degree programmes, from cyber security, to neuroscience, to Islamic history and political theory.

What is the main challenge in your selection process?

The number of excellent applicants. Over the last three years, we could have filled each GLI cohort five times over with excellent students.

Why is the number of participants kept at a relatively small number?

Part of the answer is that the GLI is a new initiative just coming to the end of its pilot phase. We would love to include more students in the years ahead. However, we are also eager to keep working with small groups of students, enabling them to engage in deep discussions with others from different perspectives and talk personally with an incredible group of guest speakers and mentors, offering what we hope is a transformative experience.

What is the short-term and long-term goal for the Initiative?

Our immediate aim for this academic year is to invest in another excellent group of students including two COSF scholars, Xian Guan and Hanyang Ye. Beyond this year we are eager to be able to offer similar opportunities to a larger number of Oxford postgraduates and are actively seeking partners who might be interested to invest with us both in developing a new generation of leaders here in Oxford, and also in taking up invitations to establish partner projects at other leading universities worldwide.

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

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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

Season's Greetings
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

