Introduction

Dear Wolfsonians,

There is a buzz about Wolfson College that is hard to quantify. The breadth of academic, cultural and social activity in the College continues to grow. Our objective with Plans and Prospects is to share with you some of the elements that make Wolfson College of 2014 the exciting place that it is, both from the point of view of the interdisciplinary research culture we encourage and the quality of student life and support.

The new Leonard Wolfson Auditorium is the centre of much of the College’s academic activity. It is not yet a year old and is already a great success. It is viewed by many as one of Oxford’s finest new facilities.

The clatter and bang of builders returns in October as the last round of renovations and construction of phase two of the academic wing get underway. Through this past warm and wet winter, I have watched the College gardeners outside my window rework the gardens to the south of the College. A major redesign and replanting of that garden will take place over the next months.

The 50th Anniversary year of 2016 will soon be upon us. There will be a year-long schedule of outstanding events and activities. Mark your diaries for the anniversary party to take place in Oxford over the weekend of 8–10 July, 2016. Arrangements are being made to make College rooms available for extended periods around the anniversary event to meet demand for alumni and their families wanting to come back to Oxford for family holidays.

I meet many alumni who haven’t returned to Wolfson in decades. We should be in wonderful shape for 2016 and will be looking forward to greeting old friends and to reacquaint you with your College.

William J Conner
Development Director
A new Fellow of Wolfson recently challenged me to define what the College was for. Since we aren’t a teaching College, with a built-in academic purpose, what makes us coherent, and special, and useful? What’s our vision? The question comes at a time when expansion of graduate numbers is a subject of urgent debate. The heretical thought is beginning to be voiced that perhaps not all graduate students need to belong to a College. Isn’t all they need well-delivered courses, transparent and efficient feedback, attentive and inspiring supervision, top-quality lab and library facilities, fellow-students or post-docs in their own specialism to share their experiences with, and accommodation? So what, beyond all that, can Wolfson provide?

For an answer to these challenges I turn to the Wolfson students, whose opinions I listen to all the time. In my one-to-one meetings with our six hundred or so graduates, this is what I hear: “Coming from abroad, without Wolfson I would be lost in Oxford.” “Wolfson is a home for me and my family.” “Wolfson takes me out of my own discipline and puts me in contact with so many other interests.” “There’s so much going on at Wolfson, for everyone.” “Wolfson isn’t like other colleges – I feel it belongs to me.”

Of course I hear some grumbles too. This winter they included worries about whether the flooding was going to reach the buildings. But the positive things I hear convince me that the College does provide something vital and distinctive for Oxford graduate students – and that the floods of change and time aren’t going to engulf us.

What we offer to Wolfsonians is another dimension to their post-graduate experience beyond what’s provided by faculties, departments, and training centres. Part of that is the domestic environment, but there’s more to life at Wolfson than a well-functioning, well-managed and comfortable home for our students. There’s an ethos to the College, immediately felt by all who are part of
it, a refreshingly unstuffy, grown-up, friendly and alert spirit which adds a distinctive quality to all our academics’ lives. And we are adapting to the future. Wolfson was founded by Isaiah Berlin as an egalitarian, democratic, open-minded and forward-looking institution, and we continue to keep pace with a changing educational environment as we move towards our 50th anniversary in 2016.

At a time when many talented graduate students can’t afford to study at Oxford, we are massively enhancing our scholarship support. At a time when the knock-on effect of the £9,000 undergraduate fee is not as yet well understood, and when UK Research Council funding has been slashed, particularly in the Humanities, this is crucial. Last year we received a welcome legacy from the late Dr Francis Marriott. We have invested £2.79 million of the legacy in the University’s new Oxford Graduate Scholarship Matched Fund, which has secured us a further £1.86 million, providing us with eight new fully-funded scholarships. These are made in partnership with a number of faculties and doctoral training centres in a wide variety subjects that reflect the diversity of Wolfson’s disciplines.

In 2010–11 our scholarship budget was £65,574; in 2013–14 it has risen to £157,492. For the academic year 2014–15, we expect to support 34 partial or full scholarships, including at least 17 partnered scholarships. I am working with our new Senior Tutor, Gillian Hargreaves, in aiming to increase the number of College scholarships to 50 by the College’s 50th anniversary in 2016.

Support for our students is one of the main pillars of my vision for the College; and with that goes a commitment to making Wolfson the most exciting and inspiring of environments for all our members, in ways that enhance, and go beyond, individual disciplines. That was my motive in developing our Academic Clusters, in a range of fields from the Ancient World to Quantum Foundations, whose activities are thriving and increasing; and that was the drive behind the construction of our new buildings.

We are proud of College members’ individual successes, from high-profile media achievements such as Bryan Sykes’s quest for the Yeti in “The BigFoot Files” and Stephanie Dalley’s historical reconstruction of the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, to university teaching awards for our colleagues Ulrike Roesler, Nikita Sud, and Marc Ventresca.

Wolfson faces outwards, as well as celebrating and looking after its own members. It is well-known for its openness and lack of formality. Members of the public often tell me how pleased they are to find such a welcome within an academic institution. We’ve become known for attracting world-famous speakers such as (this year) Alfred Brendel, Steven Pinker, and J M Coetzee. Our memorial ceremony for the late Geza Vermes was attended by scholars and dignitaries from all over the world; the designer of London’s famous modern landmark The Gherkin described the evolution of the building to us; and the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the Epstein-Barr virus was marked by a lecture by Sir Tony Epstein himself, one of our most distinguished Emeritus Fellows.

But big-name lectures are not all we do. Wolfson’s activities this year range from the presentation of a fascinating Wolfson soundscape constructed by our resident Creative Arts Fellow, the composer John Duggan, to the WIN (Wolfson Innovation Network) initiative masterminded by our supernumary Fellow, Professor Pat Nuttall. From the creative arts to the deployment of transferable skills, from the interdisciplinary activities of
our Academic Clusters to initiatives such as a new poetry society, a photography competition, a History of Ideas group and regular lunch-meetings for scientists, classicists, life-writers, and retired Fellows (the “Old Wolves”), Wolfson is humming with activity.

Much of this now centres on our much-admired new Leonard Wolfson Auditorium. The building was featured in RIBA and has been short-listed for a distinguished architecture prize. One visitor told me: “I think it beats every other college lecture theatre I’ve ever seen! It is exhilarating and ingenious.” It has been used for concerts given by the wonderful Fournier Trio (using the piano generously loaned to us by Erich Segal’s widow Karen Segal, to mark their happy years at Wolfson). It was the venue for my Oxford Centre for Life-Writing’s three-day international conference in September 2013 on “The Lives of Objects”, and for talks, conferences and seminars, many organised by our Academic Clusters. It has attracted conferences from a wide range of other organisations, from the Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine to the Department of Oncology and the University Russian Society, and is a favourite space for Wolfsonians to use for their everyday activities.

This was the first phase of our building plans, plans for which we’ve received major support from the Wolfson Foundation, from a generous anonymous donor, and from our loyal and devoted alumni. And more help is always welcomed! Phase II of the new building will consist of a library extension fit for the 21st century, with mixed work-areas, a media space and an Isaiah Berlin Legacy Room. With the completion of our new buildings in 2015, Wolfson’s outward-looking face to the world, and its provision for all who use the College, will be dramatically enhanced.

On our way to our 50th anniversary, I am proud to say that Wolfson is playing a much-admired role in graduate and post-doctoral provision, and is increasingly known as one of the most energetic, innovative, and welcoming scholarly communities in Oxford.
Myth 1: We live in an age of unprecedented mass immigration

The estimated total number of migrants around the world almost doubled between 1960 and 2000 (according to the Global Bilateral Migration Database), but the world population has also grown. So, in percentage terms, the level of migration worldwide has remained pretty stable – in a range of approximately 2.75%–3.25% over the period since 1960. However there have been significant changes in the nature and direction of migration. Over more than four centuries, it was mainly Europeans who moved to all continents and occupied and settled in foreign lands. Between 1846 and 1924 some 48 million Europeans moved out, which represents about 12% of the European population in 1900. In the same period, about 17 million people left the British Isles, which is equal to 41% of Britain’s population in 1900.

Since World War Two, these patterns have been reversed: with decolonisation, high levels of economic growth and a drop in birth rates, European emigration has dropped. Instead Europe has evolved into a major migration destination. Another change has been the increasing political salience and ‘securitisation’ of migration. After the end of the Cold War, there arose a political need to create new external threats. Since the early 1990s, government agencies and the military have increasingly represented migration as a threat to economic and physical security as well as national sovereignty. A map produced by the Netherlands Ministry of Defence shows a new ‘insecurity belt’, in which poverty, violence and
Myth 1: Environmental degradation is expected to give rise to mass immigration into Europe. The portrayal of migration as a security threat provides a justification for continued or increased funding of the military and government agencies dealing with migration.

Myth 2: Immigration restrictions reduce migration
The evidence suggests that attempts to restrict immigration often achieve the opposite, as they can interrupt circular migration and push migrants into permanent settlement. For example, in the past Moroccans moved backwards and forwards between their origin country and countries like Spain and Italy. Many would come to Europe for a few months or years to earn some money and go home afterwards. Then Spain and Italy introduced visas in the early 1990s, which created an incentive for migrants to settle in Europe.

As the EU has increased border controls, migrants developed counter-strategies, resulting in a massive increase in the number of migration routes and making borders more difficult to control. There has also been a human toll with at least 20,000 people dying while crossing European borders over the last two decades.

Myth 3: Poverty is the main cause of South-North migration
Migration requires considerable resources so the real victims of poverty do not generally have the option to migrate, particularly over long distances and across international borders. One researcher calculated that to cross the Sahara, you would on average need a year’s salary from the country of origin – a significant amount of money.

Conversely, migration can bring benefits to origin countries. The level of remittances from migrants has been soaring since the mid 1990s and now dwarfs development aid. If conditions are favourable in origin countries, many migrants also invest there. Overall, it would be misleading to see migration either as the cause of...
underdevelopment or the solution for structural development problems which migrants cannot tackle.

Myth 6: Migrants take away jobs and threaten the welfare state
This is inherently contradictory – migrants cannot be welfare scroungers and take all the jobs at the same time. Much migration is primarily driven by the demand for labour, so if an economy is doing well, migrants will be drawn in, often to do jobs locals refuse to do. This is a worldwide phenomenon. If we look at the overall impact of migration on economic growth, we find the effects are small but on the positive side, although the benefits mainly accrue to the wealthy and the middle classes.

Myth 7: There is a quasi-unlimited supply of migrant labour
There is a common assumption that there will always be masses of people ready to come to Europe. This assumption seems naïve, if we take into account the global decline in fertility levels, the slowing down of population growth in major emigration countries and the rise of new economic powers that are starting to attract an increasing number of migrants – such as China, Brazil or Turkey.

Conclusion
So, the key question for the future is not whether there will be more or less migration, but where migrants will come from and go to. These patterns are bound to change, although the way in which they do so crucially depends on future economic, demographic and political change in different world regions. In the future the question might no longer be how do we prevent migration, but increasingly how do we attract migrants.

In this short article, I have tried to illustrate that much ‘common-sensical’ thinking about human migration is based on flawed assumptions on its nature, causes and consequences. Recent insights from research demonstrate that migration is inevitable and that wealthy countries will always attract migrants. This partly explains that most immigration policies are ineffectual and potentially counter-productive.

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Hein de Haas
Hein de Haas is Co-Director of the International Migration Institute (IMI) of the Department of International Development and the University of Oxford, Associate Professor in Migration Studies and a Governing Body Fellow of Wolfson College. His research focuses on the linkages between migration and broader processes of development and social transformation, primarily from the perspective of migrant-sending societies. He has a background in cultural anthropology and geography and carried out extensive fieldwork in the Middle East and North Africa, particularly Morocco.

You can find out more about Hein’s work on his departmental website, www.imi.ox.ac.uk/about-us/people/hein-de-haas or on his blog heindehaas.blogspot.co.uk
When, in the 1980s, I started to research the early Cold War and Britain’s role in it, the Cold War was real politics, insecure, sometimes dangerous, and observable in the daily press. By the 1990s, I was being asked to give talks on the cold war as history. For the Soviet Union’s east European empire had collapsed in 1989, and the Soviet Union broke up by the end of 1991.

The questions we asked changed as events moved on: In what ways did the Cold War as history matter? How had ideology been important? How did the ending of empires fit into the Cold War story? Where were the borders of Europe?

My own research – like all doctoral research – had been shaped by the need to have a small research question that had significant resonance. I worked on Britain’s policy towards Germany after the end of World War II in 1945. The reason for my emphasis upon Britain? We had two small children and there was no way I could tramp off to distant archives – the drive along the M4 to the National Archives in London was all the travel that could be fitted in to a day’s work. (These were the days before digital photography. Now a researcher can collect more material in a day than can be read in a month.)

Now, after researching and writing about Britain and Europe across most of the second part of the 20th century, I have returned to the most fascinating half decade of the 20th century for international historians – from 1945 to 1950. I am currently working on Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary from 1945 to 1951. The challenges are formidable, not least as Alan Bullock’s three-volume biography has been seen as the last word on the subject.

Yet, to me, Bevin still remains an extraordinary and enigmatic figure. He was a man of very humble origins, with no formal education (he used to brag that he had all his education “in the ‘edgerows of experience’”), but with a massive ego. He had three careers – first, as one of Britain’s most important trade union leaders. Then, as Minister of Labour, he worked alongside none other than Prime Minister Winston Churchill in the Wartime Coalition Government. Last, despite hoping to be Chancellor of the Exchequer if the Labour Party won the postwar general election in 1945, he was instead made Foreign Secretary, staying in that post until he was summarily sacked in 1951, dying six weeks later at the age of 70. Under his watch, the great international institutions of the early cold war were created – the UN, IMF and World Bank, OECD (then called OEEC), to the Council of Europe and its European Convention on Human Rights, NATO. Major decisions about Germany, Palestine, China, Korea, Malaya and more, were made during these seminal years. Bevin’s legacy is still with us today: this history constantly seeps into contemporary politics.

Political biography is similar but also different from literary biography. I have learned this from the extraordinary stream of lectures and events on biography – or life-writing as we are learning to call it – that the proactive leadership of the current President has brought to Wolfson. A political biography must stand up to the judgment of fellow historians and political scientists for whom institutions and structures are normally more important than individuals.

I have been writing in the way one might try to do a vast jigsaw, constantly asking questions as I fit the puzzle together: how did Bevin become such an internationally-minded trade union leader? How did he manage to get on with Winston Churchill during the War: two men so physically similar, but so different and from time to time in such vicious disagreement? What was his mental map of the world, as empire dissolved around him? Why was he so suspicious of the Labour Party? Did the Foreign Office civil servants adore him because they had actually got the better of him and his often-quirky view of the world? Did his deep suspicion of continental European elites reflect a national, British view? One thing is certain: my biography will not look like Alan Bullock’s Victorian-style heavyweight biography – it will only be one volume. I hope it will distill at least some of the parts of the activities of this often irritating, but important, relevant, yet now nearly forgotten politician.

Anne Deighton, Professor of European International Politics, takes a personal look at the issues that have shaped her research and gives us a brief insight into her current work: a new biography of Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary from 1945 to 1951.
Independent living in old age championed by winners of Wolfson Innovation Competition

A wearable sensor that aims to support people in remaining healthy, independent, and safe into old age was named as Innovation of the Year at the inaugural Wolfson Innovate competition on 28 April. The winning team, Sentimoto, has developed a wearable sensor that captures and sends key physiological and environmental data to the user’s smartphone. The team will receive support from experienced mentors and £4,000 to develop their groundbreaking idea.

The Wolfson Innovation Network was the brainchild of Professor Pat Nuttall, a Wolfson Supernumerary Fellow who has extensive experience of the process of commercialising research. She saw the competition as a ‘chance for Wolfson associates like me to share their experiences with students and others on how to turn ideas into opportunities that can make a difference in this world, and maybe open up a new career’.

The competition saw successful alumni and friends of Wolfson come together to share their expertise and experience, and support the entrepreneurs of the future. Professor Marc Ventresca, chair of judges and Wolfson Governing Body Fellow, praised the innovative technological ideas presented by all of the teams, commented on how well the teams worked together, and emphasised how important networks and collaborations such as these would be in developing all of the ideas presented.

Three other finalists were Highly Commended by the judges: Vibewrite, a pen that vibrates when spelling or grammatical errors are made; Ohmcare, which aims to provide smartphone-based sensors and evidence-based decision support tools to local primary care providers to enable screening and management of common non-communicable diseases in developing countries; and Harvest Wild, a team that aims to help tackle the problem of deforestation in Odisha, India, through supporting the sale of non-timber forest products, including the soap berry.

Wolfson’s President, Professor Dame Hermione Lee, presented the certificates to the highly commended and winning teams, and thanked Professor Nuttall, the judges and Bill Conner, the Development Director, for all of their hard work. She particularly thanked, on behalf of the College, the two generous donors who provided the prize money for the event: Ira Lieberman and Dr Gerald Chan.

Further information on all the short-listed ideas and the team members can be found on pp 12–15. You can also visit: www.wolfsoninnovate.com

A good year for the President

Professor Hermione Lee was invested as Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire at a ceremony at Buckingham Palace on 6 December. Dame Hermione, who was recognised for her services to Literary Scholarship in the Queen’s Birthday Honours in 2013, was presented with the honour by The Prince of Wales.
Meanwhile, Dame Hermione’s book, *Penelope Fitzgerald: A Life* met with widespread praise and appeared in the *Sunday Times*, *Guardian*, and *Observer* 2013 Books of the Year lists. Robert Collins of the *Sunday Times* wrote: “With this superb, painstaking study of Penelope Fitzgerald… Lee here combines a deft light touch of humanity with her peerless critical eye to bring this British literary treasure back into the limelight.”

**Introducing Wolfsonians to new music**

John Duggan, Wolfson’s Creative Arts Fellow, is introducing Wolfsonians to music that they may not have heard – or appreciated – before. He has instigated a project called ‘Innocent Ear’, posting three tracks each week during term without any information as to the composer, style or genre. A week later, he posts information on the three tracks, together with new ones. “Listening with an innocent ear allows us to hear without preconception or prejudice and to bypass temporarily the reasons why we don’t like certain styles or genres of music, be that jazz, opera or death metal,” says John.

John is having an impact at Wolfson in other ways. Last year he completed Wolfscapes, a set of audio/visual collages which explore College life over the course of three terms. The first two parts were played at the opening of the Leonard Wolfson Auditorium in June 2013 and the entire multimedia piece was broadcast for the first time the following November. His new piece for the Isaiah Choir – which he runs – *The Wondrous Bells*, premiered at the Choir’s December concert. His latest project is *Nine Choral Tweets*, based on a series of poem tweets by graduate student Leo Mercer. John is also writing a piece for the Fournier Trio, to be premiered at the end of Trinity term.

John was appointed Creative Arts Fellow in 2012. His varied musical background ranges from sound engineering for the likes of Radiohead and the Manic Street Preachers, to playing drums in jazz and pop bands, and composing for a number of local and national choirs. In 2006, John co-founded the Oxford-based choir Sospiri and is now their official composer-in-residence.

To read more about John Duggan and listen to some of his work, go to [www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk/creativearts](http://www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk/creativearts)

**Scholarship funding for Korean studies**

Wolfson College has obtained annual funding of £25,000 for an indefinite period to support a postgraduate student of Korean studies. The gift is from the International Communication Foundation based in Seoul, which is the philanthropic wing of YBM-Sisa, a major Korean educational publisher. The scholarship will be named the Min Sunshik Scholarship in Korean Literature after the President of the Corporation who has expressed a preference that the recipient be a student of Korean literature.

This latest gift from the International Communication Foundation was agreed following the visit to Seoul in 2013 by Wolfson Fellow James (Jay) Lewis and Dame Hermione Lee. It builds on existing support for Dr Jieun Kiaer, Young Bin Min-KF University Lecturer in Korean Language and Linguistics in the Faculty of Oriental Studies, where Jay Lewis is University Lecturer in Korean History.

Jay Lewis’s research interests range across regional interaction and comparative national histories, and link to concerns of world history (environment, epidemiology, urbanisation, development and global trade). To find out more about his work, visit: [www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/staff/ea/korean/jlewis.html](http://www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/staff/ea/korean/jlewis.html)

**Wolfson Fellow to lead major Russian healthcare project**

Christopher Davis has been appointed Head of the International Research Laboratory on the Economics of Health Reform at the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPAA). The Laboratory, established in 2013, will develop five research
themes with the aim of contributing to policy making and reforms in Russia, as well as to supporting the younger generation of Russian scholars working on health issues.

The project’s research agenda was developed by Christopher in collaboration with Christopher Gerry, Senior Lecturer at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London. Dr Gerry will be a Deputy Head of the research laboratory, as will the talented health finance scholar, Dr Vladimir Nazarov of RANEPA, the Gaidar Institute, and the Scientific Research Finance Institute of the Ministry of Finance. They will be joined by early- and mid-career Russian scholars, who will play important roles in the project as Research Fellows.

Christopher’s ambition for the project is to produce academic publications, and to create sustainability and impact. His aim is to produce high quality academic studies that can be published in international and refereed journals. He also wants to ensure that when he and Christopher Gerry complete their involvement, there will be a highly qualified and competent team of Russian scholars that can continue working productively in a field that RANEPA has identified as strategically important. This means training and engaging a younger generation of scholars in this work. A third output will be measured by the socio-economic impacts of the project; in particular, Christopher would like to see the Laboratory’s work influence future reforms of Russia's healthcare system.

Christopher has had a long-term interest in Russia and its healthcare system, having written his PhD dissertation on The Economics of Health in USSR. He subsequently spent a year as a doctoral graduate student in the Department of the Economics of the Non-Productive Sphere in the Faculty of Economics at Moscow State University, under the supervision of one of the first Soviet health economists, Professor Georgii Alexeevich Popov.

Christopher Davis is University Lecturer in Russian and East European Political Economy and Reader in Command and Transition Economics (jointly with the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies).

To find out more about Christopher’s work, go to: www.rees.ox.ac.uk/dr-christopher-davis

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Investec sponsorship for Wolfson boats

Investec, the international specialist bank and asset management company, is sponsoring the Wolfson Boat Club for a period of three years. The sponsorship of £5,000 per year will be invested in faster boats and better training for the Club, which has been rising in the ranks of the University’s college boat clubs in recent years.

The sponsorship was facilitated by Allen Zimbler, Executive Director at Investec Bank and a member of the Wolfson Strategy Group. Commenting, Dr Zimbler said: “Supporting sport is an important part of Investec’s sponsorship strategy but we are particularly pleased to be supporting post-graduate sport at a College we respect.”

This year’s Boat Club President, Laura Hawkins says the sponsorship will put the Club in a stronger position. “In the past, we have not been able to have coaches at all our sessions but this funding means we can have more and better coaches. We will also be able to train outside of Oxford when there is flooding on the river, as has happened this year. The richer clubs already have these advantages, so the sponsorship will put us in a much stronger position to compete.”

In return for the sponsorship, the Investec logo will appear on the boats, the team’s racing kit, on Facebook and on WBC emails.
Art collection emphasises College’s modern feel

As it embarks on Phase II of its building programme, the College is considering how to complement its exciting, modern buildings with displays of contemporary art and design. As an important first step, the architects, Berman Guedes Stretton, have been given the brief of ensuring that the Phase II development has more well-lit wall space available for art works to be displayed.

The College has a strong tradition of interest in and promotion of the arts, and possesses a fine collection of paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, textiles, sculptures and ceramics. This outstanding collection is managed by the Arts Sub-Committee and works are displayed to good effect with their advice throughout the College. The present Chair is Mark Norman, who is also head of Conservation at the Ashmolean.

Jan Scriven, the College Arts Administrator says: “Wolfson is a modern college with a very modern feel. Its Powell and Moya building marks it out from Oxford’s more traditional colleges; the new Academic Wing retains this sense of modernity, as will the buildings to be completed during Phase II. Our goal is create an exciting environment in which to display contemporary art, with new commissions, loans, and purchases to complement our present collection and to further the College’s commitment to the arts and to their advancement.”

“River” by Sarah Cawkwell

A “Still Life of Flowers in a Vase” by Anne Redpath (on loan to the College)
INNOVATION AT WOLFSON
Introducing the Wolfson Innovation Network

by Pat Nuttall
Professor of Arbovirology and Fellow of Wolfson College

The Wolfson Innovation Network (WIN) is a new initiative for Wolfson College. Its aim is to foster innovation and social entreprenueering among our community: to help Wolfsonians turn their smart ideas into opportunities that can benefit others. The opportunities need to make money so they can become self sustaining; however, the vision of WIN is Wolfsonians helping make the world a better place, rather than of Wolfsonians becoming rich (though it would be nice if that happens too).

The Wolfson Innovate Pitch Event is designed to bring together a diverse group of people – current and past associates of the College: students, fellows, members of Common Room, alumni and anyone else who is part of our community – and to give people with ideas the chance to pitch them to a group of judges. Ideas can come from individuals or teams, as long as the idea is associated with at least one Wolfsonian. To give an extra fizz, we raised some prize money from Wolfson associates.

We were delighted with the response to this first Wolfson Innovate competition. We received 32 entries: 24 involved current students, 2 involved College fellows, and 6 were from alumni. The ideas were remarkably diverse and imaginative, reflecting the richness of the Wolfson community. In addition, 16 Wolfson associates kindly agreed to act as judges and mentors. This group short-listed seven of the entries – rather than the five we had envisaged because it was too difficult to choose. Wolfson Innovate has already achieved what we hoped – it has grown a network of Wolfsonians contributing to innovation and social entreprenueering. Who knows, in a few years time, one or two of the WIN ideas may become success stories, and the innovators may themselves become judges and mentors. We hope so!

To find out more about Wolfson Innovate, go to www.wolfsoninnovate.com

Pat Nuttall
Professor of Arbovirology and Fellow of Wolfson College
Wolfsonian innovation teams

The following teams presented at the WIN Pitch Event on 28 April

**BEHIVE: SOCIAL AUDIO SYSTEM**

The Behive Social Audio System allows people to share music with friends. It uses a pair of over-ear headphones which, once disconnected from the headband, becomes a fully functional set of speakers. The team believes this will change the way people listen to music, and potentially revolutionise the way everyone shares songs and videos in social gatherings. The team has identified China as a particularly important market.

**Current stage**

The team is finalising its prototype and will shortly file a patent. They plan to raise money to fund mass production via the crowd-funding platform, Kickstarter. They have already won a business competition at Saïd Business School.

**The value of Wolfson Innovate**

The opportunity to raise Behive’s profile and thereby to attract investment. Winning the prize itself would enable the team to complete the prototype and give the website a more professional look.

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**Team**

Wolfson College member: Dr Yi Samuel Chen, Research Fellow in Ancient Near Eastern Studies; Samuel is also an entrepreneur and founding Director of Oxford Sustainable Enterprise. Other: Anna Apsit (Project Manager) and three other sixth formers from Magdalen College School, Oxford.

“I’m bringing this project to the Innovation Network to highlight the fact that innovation and entrepreneurship is not limited to the university community. It’s really inspiring to see so much talent at the high school level: these students are highly talented and I want to help them.” (Samuel Chen)

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**Harvest Wild**

The impoverished forest-dwelling communities in Odisha, India, derive half of their income from the sale of chopped forest timber, leading to a rapid rate of deforestation. This has led to frequent droughts and crop failures, thus worsening the communities’ living and economic conditions. Harvest Wild will incentivise local communities to conserve forest by enabling them to earn a livelihood through the sale of non-timber forest products (NTFP). It will provide access to capital, technical know-how, and sales and distribution. The team has identified the soap berry as a promising raw material for the production of hypoallergenic personal and home-care products and will engage local communities in their collection and subsequent production.

**Current stage**

The Harvest Wild team is exploring the potential to collaborate with specialist high-profile international retailers for whom environmentally friendly products would fit with existing product ranges. They are also developing a website for the sale of their products.

**The value of Wolfson Innovate**

The Pitch Event provides an opportunity to get expert feedback on their plans, enabling them to improve their business idea. Should they win, they will most likely use the money to travel to India to meet with local people.

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**Team**

“Building a brand for our company is not our main focus; we will be perfectly satisfied if we can identify companies that will take our product on and distribute it. The main objective is to prevent further degradation of forest and subsequently improve the economic opportunities for communities that are suffering from drought and crop failure.”

(Takeshi Chino)

Current stage
The team has a functioning prototype and is looking for proof of concept trials, to enable them to go on to develop subsequent prototypes and carry out user trials. In the meantime, they have been in touch with a provider of fitness programmes to care homes and to Oxfordshire Council Wellbeing Centres about its potential use.

The value of Wolfson Innovate
Winning the £4,000 prize money would enable the team to complete work and expand their medical sensors portfolio. As a team of mainly engineers, they are also interested in the mentorship that winning would provide.

Team
Wolfson College member: João Domingos, DPhil student in Healthcare Innovation. Others: Ali Maraci Carlos Arteta; Marco Pimentel; Mauro Santos, all of whom are from other Oxford colleges, studying biomedical engineering.

“Our ambition is to enable community health workers to perform accurate clinical diagnosis through smartphones.”

(João Domingos)

OHMCARE: AFFORDABLE PRIMARY HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGIES
Limited access to affordable and accurate medical devices, lack of trained personnel and lack of clinical data are all barriers to the prevention and treatment of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in resource-poor settings. OhmCare has developed a package including smartphone-based sensors and evidence-based decision support tools to be offered to local primary care providers on a subscription-based model to enable screening and management of common NCDs (cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and chronic airways disease). These medical sensors process and transmit data via mobile networks to an OhmCare cloud-based Electronic Medical Record system. With the good quality clinical data, health workers can intervene where individuals are at risk and refer them to clinics or provide lifestyle advice.

Current stage
OhmCare has been awarded the Best Innovation Leveraging Technology at the Dell Social Innovation Challenge (2012) and was the winner at the Engineering World Health Design competition (2011). These have enabled the team to build early prototypes of their smartphone-based medical sensors and cloud platform. The next step is to obtain medical regulatory approval; meanwhile they hope to start testing their system with partners in India and Nigeria.

The value of Wolfson Innovate
Winning the £4,000 prize money would be enormously helpful to Sentimoto in developing second generation prototypes. It’s also a great opportunity to profile the concept and get feedback.

Team
Wolfson College members: Lisa Stroux and Maxim Osipov, both DPhil students in biomedical engineering. Others: Tasos Papastyleianou and Alessandro Guazzi, DPhil students in biomedical engineering.

“We have a shared passion – we wanted to develop an application with a social focus and we particularly want to make an impact on this population that is on the verge of dependency, to help them, their families and carers.”

(Lisa Stroux)

SENTIMOTO – WEARABLE SENSORS FOR HEALTHY AGEING
Sentimoto aims to support people in remaining healthy, independent and safe into old age. The team is creating an open-source wearable sensor device that senses heart rate, activity, temperature and humidity, and transmits this via Bluetooth to a phone and web dashboard. Once the data has been analysed, it is sent back to the user to provide an insight into daily patterns of life and overall well-being. Users may also decide to share the information with their support network, providing carers with the information to enable them to take action when necessary.
VIBEWRITE, FORMERLY LERNSTIFT
Vibewrite (German for Learning Pen), is a unique edutech pen that helps people learn how to write and spell. A smartphone in a pen, it gently vibrates when the writer makes a mistake. It has a built-in wi-fi and there will be an app for teachers and parents to collect data, enabling them to understand their children’s mistakes and help them learn better. Its special motion sensor technology recognises words, gestures and symbols even if you simply ‘draw them in the air’, which opens further possibilities for white board applications.

Current stage
VibeWrite’s prototype has already been seen on BBC World News’s flagship technology programme Click and the first Shakespeare edition launched online on April 28. The company is using Seedmatch – a crowd investment platform – that allows investment from Germany. It was also beta testing its product in schools during April and May, to see it can be integrated into lessons. The second, Jules Verne edition will be available in the summer.

The value of Wolfson Innovate
Jessica White started to see how to integrate anthropology, innovation and technology while she was at Oxford and she sees Wolfson as good at bringing back traditional knowledge into a modern, contemporary context. These associations, together with the opportunity for profile raising, made the competition attractive.

Team members
Wolfson College member: Jessica White, Alumna (MSc in Visual Anthropology 2002-3) and Education Project Manager with VibeWrite.
Others: Falk Wolsky, Chief Executive Officer and colleagues from VibeWrite.

“Joyce said ‘Mistakes are the portals of discovery’. We are providing a product that doesn’t just correct what people – especially children – do, we are helping them learn. I see this as revolutionising education.” (Jessica White)

WOXFORD ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES
Woxford aims to create an integrated EU-China business to provide professional engineering and technical services on industrial wastewater treatment in both markets. One element of the business involves their High Performance Upflow Anaerobic Sludge Blanket (UASB) reactor system, which provides a solution to the disposal of organic industrial wastewater. Its ability to efficiently remove pollutants whilst recovering bio-energy, combined with low-cost manufacturing in China, makes it very competitive. Woxford will also provide technical and management consultancy to the increasingly regulated Chinese market, which has limited access to sophisticated know-how in relation to environmental issues.

Current stage
Woxford has limited funding from the team members and a number of mentors. They have developed a new UASB system for the disposal of petroleum wastewater using a home-built demonstrator, and are working on the R&D for larger-scale application. Otherwise, the team’s focus is on networking within the EU water industry and at universities with relevant areas of expertise as part of its marketing strategy.

The value of Wolfson Innovate
Winning would enable the team to develop their new UASB system for larger-scale industrial application.

“We want to build a bridge between the EU and China. China can learn a lot from the industry here in the UK, which is very efficient, and also from the way industry and academia interact. But markets here can benefit from our ability to manufacture very cost effectively in China.” (Qiong Lu)

Congratulations to the Eureka Medica team on reaching the Finals of the OneStart Europe Competition 2014. Unfortunately, the dates clashed and they had to withdraw from the Wolfson Innovate Pitch Event. Find out more about Wolfson Innovate and the Pitch Event by visiting www.wolfsoninnovate.com
Professor Hein de Haas, Wolfson Governing Body Fellow and Co-Director of the International Migration Institute, treated the audience at the recent Wolfson London Lecture to a series of fascinating research insights which serve to counter common myths about migration. The event, which took place at the Museum of London, was hosted by Professor Dame Hermione Lee and attended by over 60 Fellows, alumni and friends of Wolfson. (To read more about Professor de Haas’s work, see p 4)
New Auditorium

A magnificent venue for Wolfson events

Since its unveiling in June 2013, The Leonard Wolfson Auditorium, which forms the centrepiece of the new College development, has provided an outstanding venue for many of the College’s events.

One such occasion was the lecture by Professor Sir Anthony Epstein, who holds a Royal Medal from the Royal Society and is an Honorary Fellow at Wolfson, who marked the fiftieth anniversary of his pioneering research at the College on 24 February 2014. The Epstein-Barr virus has been recognised as the first cancer-causing virus detected in humans. It is estimated that this discovery led to the creation of vaccines to lower cancer rates worldwide.

Lives of Objects

Biographer Jenny Uglow OBE was just one of the speakers at the Lives of Objects conference organised by the Oxford Centre for Life-Writing in September 2013. The three-day conference, entitled Lives of Objects, was opened by the President. The opening plenary lecture was given by Neil MacGregor, Director of the British Museum, and the ceramic artist Edmund de Waal OBE. The conference attracted scholars from around the world interested in material culture, visual culture, and museums studies, as well as curators, biographer and historians.

Professor Liam Murphy

Liam Murphy, Professor of Law and Philosophy at New York University, delivered a lecture on Law and Social Illusion for Wolfson’s Law, Justice and Society Cluster on 13 June 2013.
The Syme, Haldane and Berlin Lectures

The Syme, Haldane and Berlin Lectures represent some of the key highlights of Wolfson College’s active programme of events.

**Syme Lecture**
In October 2013, Professor Walter Scheidel, Dickason Professor in the Humanities and Professor of Classics and History at Stanford University, delivered the Syme Lecture entitled The First Fall of the Roman Empire.

**Berlin Lecture**
In May 2013, the Berlin Lecture was given by Alfred Brendel, the world-renowned pianist, poet, painter and author, who spoke on the subject A Piano Alphabet.

**Haldane Lecture**
Harvard Professor Steven Pinker gave a compelling account of the unacknowledged worldwide decline of violence in the 2014 Haldane Lecture on 27 February. Over 400 people were welcomed to Wolfson to listen to the fascinating argument detailed in his most recent book *The Better Angels of our Nature: Why violence has declined*.

2014 Wolfson Lectures feature challenges for South Asian writing

‘New Challenges for South Asian Writing in the 21st century’ is the title of this year’s Wolfson Lecture Series, which commenced on 8 May with a lecture by Romesh Gunesekera, the British/Sri Lankan author of the Booker-prize nominated *Reef*. The series will also feature Michael Ondaatje, the Sri Lankan/Canadian novelist, in conversation with Hermione Lee; Kamila Shamsie, the Pakistan-born author; and Indian-born authors – mother and daughter – Anita and Kiran Desai in conversation.

Members, alumni and friends are welcome at all Wolfson College events. To find out what’s on, visit www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk/events
New York, New York

The President and Development Director participated in the University’s 2014 New York reunion. The College held a dinner at the Penn Club for friends, academic partners and alumni on one evening and a reception for all alumni on the second evening. We had an especially strong turnout this year of more recent alumni.

CELEBRATE WOLFSON COLLEGE AT 50
SAVE THE DATE: 8–10 JULY 2016

In 2016, Wolfson College will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of its founding by Isaiah Berlin. To mark the event, there will be a year-long schedule of exciting events and Wolfsonians are warmly welcomed to participate in these celebrations. Highlights will include dinner at the House of Lords. Look out for details on the website: wolfson.ox.ac.uk

A highlight of the year will be a Wolfson Reunion Weekend, taking place from 8-10 July. Over the weekend, there will be special deals for friends, alumni and their families to come and stay in College.

So, please Save the Date.
The camera never lies

The thriving sporting, musical, and artistic groups that contribute to life at Wolfson today show how Wolfsonians past and present are gifted with a wide range of talents. A desire to recognise and celebrate some of these gifts was the original impetus for the creation of the Hilary Term photographic competition. As we move towards the 50th Anniversary of the College, we encouraged entrants to share their images of day-to-day life at Wolfson, aiming to capture some of the multitude of experiences associated with Wolfson members past and present.

Submissions were received from over 25 staff, MPhil and DPhil students, junior and senior fellows, and alumni. The submissions were judged by Governing Body Fellow, Dr Julie Curtis; Arts Administrator, Jan Scriven; and MPhil student and outgoing Chair of General Meeting, Tabassum Rasheed. The winner, Phil Brown; who is studying for a DPhil in Healthcare Innovation CDT Engineering Science, received £100 in Blackwell’s vouchers for his wonderful bonfire scene. The two runners-up, Kim Wilkinson, MPhil in Modern Middle Eastern Studies, and Anne Hedegaard, MSc in Neuroscience, each received £25. Anne’s image was also taken at the fireworks, while Kim’s photo captured the atmosphere of one of Wolfson’s many social events.

The entries will be featured in a variety of College publications and online media.
Members’ talent on show at Leonard Wolfson Auditorium

A wide range of Wolfson talent was on show for the opening of the Leonard Wolfson Auditorium on 6 June 2013. Those present had the opportunity to enjoy music from The Fournier Trio, the College’s artists-in-residence; the Sospiri Choir, directed by John Duggan, the College’s Creative Arts Fellow; the Wolfson Middle Eastern Dance Society; Out of the Blue, a male a cappella group, which includes Wolfson graduate student Patrick Lee; and the Oxford University Brass Band. The architect Alan Berman from BGS Architects described the design of the building, and a poem was read by Wolfson Professor, the poet Jon Stallworthy. Meanwhile, John Duggan’s ‘sound-picture’ of College life was streamed through the building.
Student support is our fundraising priority. We are close to our target of 50 fully-funded scholarships for our 50th anniversary. The growth of our interdisciplinary research clusters – and their significant followings – has been a catalyst for much of our success in scholarship fundraising.

**Fundraising News & Aims in 2013–14**

**BERLIN SCHOLARSHIPS**
The Berlin Scholarships are made up from pooled donations from Wolfson alumni. Our annual participation rate of alumni giving remains on the low side but we also know that lots of Wolfson alumni support other colleges, which more than doubles our participation rate.

**ANNUAL GIVING**
The College has records going back to its founding of about 1,000 alumni and friends of the College who have made donations. More than half of these donations have been made in the past six years. We want to improve our alumni giving participation rates in order to continue to grow the pool of funding and, in turn, expand scholarship giving. Wolfson is already recognised as one of the most generous colleges in terms of student support and, in the current environment, students need all the help they can get. Please go online giving today and make a contribution by visiting: www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/wolfsonians/donate

**ACADEMIC CLUSTERS**
The academic clusters have created a distinctive and exciting academic profile for the College. Many of our new scholarships are associated with a specific cluster while others are associated with the donor’s original area of study at Wolfson. Other funding associated with the clusters has provided research support, prizes and travel grants to members of the College. Have a look at the College web-site where the current academic activities of the College are explained: www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk/clusters

**HALL CHAIR CAMPAIGN**
The College continues to invite Wolfsonians to ‘name a chair’, either for themselves or for a family member or friend who was at Wolfson. For a donation of £300, your chosen name or phrase will be inscribed on a small disc, permanently incorporated into the back of the chair. About half of the Hall chairs have been committed already so there is still time to have your name on one.
A NEW CONCERT PIANO CAMPAIGN
We would love to see the new Auditorium equipped with a first-class concert piano for use by concert pianists and talented students. The musical life of the College continues to expand as a result of the continuing residency of the Fournier Trio and the exciting programming of our composer in residence, John Duggan. In the interim, Karen Segal has kindly loaned us the piano used by her late husband for use in the Auditorium.

NEW ACADEMIC WING: PHASE II
Phase II of the Academic Wing includes a significant expansion of the College Library, together with new offices, a new Lodge, improved disabled access, a café and exhibition space. About £2 million is being sought to complete the project to provide an additional 400 square metres to the working area, with better storage for rare books, fully-wired work stations and stacks for our growing collection of scholars’ libraries.

WOLFSION INNOVATE
Wolfson Innovate is a new venture for Wolfson College and involves learning more about the growing field of social enterprise. It’s about capturing some of the ideas we have, maybe from our academic studies or maybe something very different, and turning those ideas into opportunities. Perhaps there’s an opportunity for a cool widget, a smart App, a neat financial model, a new way of bringing life-writing to schoolchildren – anything that can help others and make some money at the same time.

Even if ideas don’t turn out to be opportunities, Wolfson Innovate can be a great learning experience. It’s not easy to put an idea across in a few words or a video – but if you can learn to do it, what a help it can be in life. Wolfson Innovate in 2014 captured the imagination of many in the College and we hope to expand the idea in the future.

STUDENT/ALUMNI SPORTS
The Boat Club now has a sponsor in Investec. Student sports remain very important and there are continuing efforts to bring alumni back to College to join in student/alumni events. Support for sports gear and events is always welcomed.

ART AND DESIGN AT WOLFSION
Since Wolfson College became a listed building in 2010, we have come to appreciate just how wonderful and well-preserved our 1970s building complex is and how important it is as part of the output of the architectural firm Powell and Moya. With the design thinking of the time came a commitment from the College to build a collection of contemporary art suitable to the style of the new College. Today we have benefitted from our founder’s forward thinking and wish to enhance and grow the College’s commitment to good contemporary art and design. For the 50th Anniversary, we plan to reinvigorate our efforts to bring new and interesting art to the College both by loans and additions to the Collections. We also plan to review our commitment to good design and the College’s presentation to the public.

MATCHING FUND SCHEMES FOR DPHIL ENDOWMENTS AND ONE-YEAR MASTERS DEGREES
The Graduate Matching Scheme, where permanent endowment funds are created on a 60:40 donor matching scheme basis, has made a significant difference to the College and was used to augment the extremely generous legacy from Emeritus Fellow Francis Marriott. The same scheme was used to augment gifts for a new scholarship in Jewish Christian Studies in Late Antiquity recently set up in memory of Emeritus Fellow Geza Vermes. Another matching scheme for one-year masters degree scholarships has recently been established where matching funds are available on a 50:50 basis.

LEGACIES
Please remember that legacy giving has been the great strength in building Wolfson College’s – and much of Oxford University’s – collective wealth. It is part of what has funded the excellence at this great University. If you are thinking about giving a legacy to Wolfson College, please contact the Development office or follow this link: www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/wolfsonians/donate
Methods of giving

**Online giving**
Our recommended method – if you are resident anywhere except the USA, please donate online at our special website www.giving.ox.ac.uk/wolfson_college. You can set up regular giving there, or make a single gift with a credit or debit card.

In the USA, you can donate tax efficiently through Americans for Oxford at www.oxfordna.org/giving_how.htm

**Telephone giving**
If you live in the UK or anywhere except the USA, call the Wolfson College Development Office on + 44 (0) 1865 611041 for secure, single gift card payments. If you live in the USA, please call the team at Americans for Oxford on (212) 377 4900 to make a secure, single gift card payment or to set up a regular giving plan using a credit card.

**Giving by post**
You can use the donation form and reply envelope enclosed at the back of this magazine or download the form at www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/wolfsonians/donate. Please send the forms to the Wolfson Development and Alumni Relations Team, Wolfson College, Linton Road, Oxford OX2 6UD. You can also call us on +44 (0) 1865 611041

Tax efficient ways of giving

Depending on where you live and whether or not you are a taxpayer, there are several ways you can increase the value of your gift to your College beyond what it costs you.

**UK taxpayers**
Please make sure to cover your donation under the Gift Aid scheme to increase the value of your gift by 25%, courtesy of HM Customs and Revenue. Higher rate tax payers will get a further deduction from their taxes.

**USA taxpayers**
Please use the online giving method offered by Americans for Oxford, an American 501c3 charity by visiting: www.campaign.ox.ac.uk/contribute/worldwide_giving/usa.html

**Continental European Residents**
Tax efficient giving is available through the Transnational Giving Europe Scheme. For full information, go to www.campaign.ox.ac.uk/contribute/worldwide_giving/europe.html

**Canadian taxpayers**
The University of Oxford is recognised by the Canadian Revenue Agency as a prescribed institution under Section 3503 of the Canadian Income Tax Regulations. On receipt of your donation, we will ensure that you are sent a receipt for Canadian tax purposes. For full information, go to www.campaign.ox.ac.uk/contribute/worldwide_giving/canada.html
No matter how small or large, a bequest will help to secure the future of Wolfson, as well as that of generations of Wolfsonians to come.
Cover photograph:
One of the breeding pair of swans with cygnets in the punt harbour, Spring 2013; taken by Phil Brown, DPhil student in Healthcare Innovation.