Mentions of Oxford and Oxbridge in Parliament

Date: March 17

- Commons: Legislation, mention of autonomous navigation
- Commons: Committee, Evidence
- Commons: Committee, Evidence
- Lords: Question for short debate, mention of University ranking and Professor Dame Kay Davies
- Lords: Committee report debate, mention of research and Sir John Bell.
- Lords: Legislation, mention of Culham and Brexit impact
- Lords: Legislation mention student registration
- Lords: Legislation mention OUP
- Lords: Legislation, mention of Times’ letter and declaration of interest

Commons Research

Commons Second Reading - Vehicle Technology and Aviation Bill
Mon, 6 March 2017 | Second Reading Debate

Carol Monaghan...to develop this technology. We have a world-leading photonics industry. In particular, I wish to highlight the photonics companies across the central belt of Scotland. I also want to mention a group at Oxford University that is developing a low-cost autonomous navigation system. A robot car will navigate using lasers and cameras linked to a computer. A horizontal laser on the number plate detects obstacles and halts...

Defence Committee - Oxford University; Queen’s University Belfast; Lancaster University; UCL - Investigation into Fatalities Involving British Military Personnel
Tue, 7 March 2017 | Parliamentary Committee
The Committee heard from:

- Professor Richard Ekins, Tutorial Fellow in Law, Oxford University, and Head of Policy Exchange’s Judicial Power Project
- Professor Kieran McEvoy, Professor of Law and Transitional Justice, Queen’s University Belfast
- Professor Peter Rowe, Professor Emeritus of Law, Lancaster University
- Professor Philippe Sands QC, Professor of Law, UCL
The Committee heard from Professor Sir Mike Stratton, Director, Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, and Chief Executive Officer, Wellcome Genome Campus; and Dr Jean Abraham, Academic Honorary Consultant in Medical Oncology, University of Cambridge.

CONTENTS
Members present: Stephen Metcalfe (Chair); Victoria Borwick; Dr Tania Mathias; Derek Thomas; Matt Warman.

Questions 106 - 187

Witnesses

I: Dr Edward Hockings, Founder, Ethics and Genetics; Professor Michael Parker, Director, Ethox Centre, University of Oxford, and Non-executive Director and Chair, Ethics Advisory Committee, Genomics England; Peter Counter, Chief Information Officer and Project Manager, Genomics England; and Alison Hall, Head of Humanities, PHG Foundation.

Lords

Research

Question for short debate
Tue, 28th March

Lord Sharkey

To ask Her Majesty’s Government what plans they have to help maintain the United Kingdom’s position in medical research

Baroness Buscombe

“The Government is committed to building on the UK’s world-leading science base—including more Nobel Laureates than any country outside the United States—and making the UK the go-to nation for scientists, innovators and investors in technology”.—[Official Report, 24/3/17; col. 310.]
That was said by my noble friend Lord Prior last Thursday in a debate on EU withdrawal and science. Our focus this evening is on the importance and value of medical research to this country as part of our science.

I am sure all those present would agree that the UK research base is world-class. With just 0.9% of the global population and 4.1% of researchers, the UK accounts for 11.6% of citations and 15.9% of the most highly cited articles. *Times Higher Education* ranks three UK universities in the top 10, and 12 in the top 100, with the University of Oxford in first place overall.

...ents will, in future, be able to get the treatments that they need at a much earlier stage of the process.

Professor Dame Kay Davies of the department of physiology, anatomy and genetics at Oxford University is leading the development of a potential treatment for Duchenne muscular dystrophy, which is currently in early clinical trials. She said:

“The introduction of a ‘fast-track’ system offer...

**Education**

**Access and Influence**

*Lords debate a Science and Technology Committee Report on EU membership and UK science*

Thu, 23 March 2017 | Debate - Adjournment and General

Earl Selbourne

That this House takes note of the report from the Science and Technology Committee *A Time for Boldness: EU Membership and UK Science after the Referendum* (1st Report, HL Paper 85).

...China and Singapore doing away with barriers for text mining. Why not the UK also?“.

More generally, we should listen to the wise words of Sir John Bell, the Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford University. Writing in the Financial Times last August, he said:

“Britain is more inclined towards a relatively liberal risk-based regulatory environment that allows fields to move quickly—to reflect...

...iversity is doing in robotics. We have some world-class technology still in the UK. If we want evidence of recent investments, we can look at the £60 million Novo Nordisk investment around diabetes at Oxford University, or the new investments that GSK and Apple are making in this country. Google has made huge investments, through DeepMind, in artificial intelligence in this country. So let us not be too depressed a...
Other

European Union (Notification of Withdrawal Bill)
Committee Wednesday 1st March

Lord Bradshaw
My Lords, I live in the shadow of Culham. Like the noble Lord, Lord Hayward, I am well aware of the problems that this debate is already causing. I met a number of people from Culham last Thursday. A number are already discussing the opportunities that exist outside this country to move away, because they are uncertain. Many are married to EU nationals who do not know what their position is.

Also, from my association with Oxford University, I can assure noble Lords that not only are we in danger of losing some of the best scientists in medical science, energy and technology, but applications for post-doctoral fellowships for PhDs are declining because people are afraid of what is going to happen. Reference was made to our shortage of nuclear technologists: if those who are there at present were to go away, we would be even shorter—almost bereft—of them.

Baroness Royall
...oint of enrolment or re-registration. I know that a few universities are already doing this and I am particularly proud that this includes the University of Bath, of which I am pro-chancellor, and the University of Oxford, where I have been elected the next principal of Somerville. I understand that the Minister, Mr Chris Skidmore MP, has recently been at the University of Bath to discuss the issue.

The ame...

Lord Brown of Eaton-under-Heywood
...ion to criticise, but I regret the Bill’s length and complexity at 171 pages. This is in the context of an existing regime essentially based on the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, the subject of a leading Oxford University Press textbook, which itself is more than 700 pages. There have been a large number of reported cases on POCA over the last 15 years, all of which resulted in lengthy judgments—alas, not all easily r...
signed by the vice-chancellor of Oxford University and the heads of 35 colleges. You may say—and you may be right—that some of their fears are exaggerated and misplaced. I sincerely hope they are, but they are nevertheless real. Anything that we can ...

...lace in the global business community.

Lord Krebs (CB)
My Lords, in supporting Amendment 150 I declare an interest as having, for many years in the past, led a large research group at Oxford University that was heavily dependent on international students, not just from the European Union but from all over the world, from Argentina to the far eastern corner of what was then the Soviet Union.

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