Future funding: increasing support for new UK undergraduates who need it the most

The University has announced plans to increase funding from 2020 to new UK undergraduates who need financial support the most. More bursary funding will be set aside for UK undergraduates from lower-income households for those starting their courses in the 2020/21 academic year, and record numbers will have access to the Moritz-Heyman scholarship programme. A non-repayable support package up to a maximum of £7,200 a year will be made available to UK students who have been in care and to estranged undergraduates from the UK who are studying without the support of their families. Further information can be found on the University website. Current students, and those starting in 2019, will continue to receive funding through existing financial support arrangements. If you are currently facing financial difficulties,
you should contact your college in the first instance, to find out what support might be available to you.

**Academic Life**

**Book a place at a Stress Less event**

If you're worried about your exams, you can familiarise yourself with exam venues and regulations at one the [Stress Less](#) mock exam sessions. A three-hour invigilated exam sitting will be held each day this week, from tomorrow. Visit Weblearn to book a space. If you have approved alternative arrangements, these can also be trialled at the mock exams. Simply email exam.services@admin.ox.ac.uk in advance of booking. For more information on venues and times, visit the [mock exams page](#) of the Oxford Students website.
Have your say on the future of technology at Oxford

Want to have your say on how we could improve IT at Oxford? Interested in sharing your technology likes and dislikes? Provide your feedback via an online discussion forum and take this opportunity to help develop the new University IT Strategic Plan for 2019-2024.

Meet your new Sabbatical team

This year’s Oxford SU election saw a record number of students vote, with 4792 casting their vote. The previous record was 4494, set in Michaelmas Term 2013. Thank you to everyone who took the time out to vote. To find out who your new Sabb team is for 2019/20, visit the Oxford SU website.
**Become a Social Change Leader with Oxford Hub**

The Oxford Hub is offering ten social change student champions a chance to join its inaugural Become a Social Change Leader scheme this summer. The programme puts you through a multifaceted, six week internship and volunteering opportunity, with training and learning hand-in-hand. Successful candidates will join a local charity, face their on-the-ground challenges and head office headaches, and meet and learn with like minded peers to progress their social action journey. The placement portion of this scheme will typically offer candidates experience in research, communications, marketing, event organisation, and more. If this sounds like something that interests you, visit the Oxford Hub website or email summer@oxfordhub.org.

**An update on Brexit**

Don't forget that you can visit the Oxford and the EU page if you have any questions about Brexit. The page gives answers on a range of topics from travel and immigration to fees and funding. This Thursday, Vice-Chancellor Professor Louise Richardson will host a special event for students on Brexit. There are no more places available but a transcript will be uploaded to the Oxford and the EU page after the event.
Annual Varsity Swimming Match

The Annual Varsity Swimming Match will be taking place in Cambridge on Saturday 2 March. The event is the highlight of the year for Oxford University Swimming Club (OUSC) and is what all training is focused towards. Two swimmers from Oxford and two from Cambridge compete in seven individual events and each university puts forward a team to compete in each relay event. For more information, visit the OUSC website.

Read more

Welfare & Wellbeing

#ActiveatOxford New Year Challenge winners

Active at Oxford is about getting active your way - even if it's getting off the bus a stop earlier, cycling to your tutorials, or taking an evening walk. In January, we decided to run the
#ActiveatOxford New Year Challenge competition, and asked to see photos and videos of you achieving your active new year's resolutions. Thank you to everyone who took part. Congratulations go to: @ndjodi_ml, @NamedreMR, karina_look_for_beauty, @saranelainfflur, @zoo.acl, @hanianow, @jill.f.betts, @FHillemann, @lucymartin180 and @katiekapodistria. If you haven't already collected your prize, please email academicadmin.comms@admin.ox.ac.uk from your University e-mail address.

Oxford Against Sexual Violence

The University of Oxford has a zero tolerance approach to sexual harassment and violence. If you have been affected by sexual harassment or violence in any form, the Sexual Harassment and Violence Support Service provides a safe place for you to be heard - independent of your college or department. All specialist advisors at the service are trained to support you at your pace. Watch the 'Oxford Against Sexual Violence' video or visit the support service website to find out more.

Bursaries & Scholarships

Postdoctoral research grants to study at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)

The Philippe Wiener-Maurice Anspach Foundation is offering awards to postdoctoral research students interested in conducting research in any department for up to one year. A grant will be provided and part of the laboratory and registration fees could also be covered. Further information and an application form can be found on the Wiener-Anspach webpage. The application deadline is Monday 18 March.
Careers & Entrepreneurship

The Springboard programme for women

Want to learn how to take the steps to develop your skills and confidence? The two day Springboard programme provides female students (including students who identify as female) with interactive and immersive workshops, talks from inspirational female guest speakers, and an opportunity to build a development community. Topics covered during the programme include dealing with change, assertiveness, putting yourself across positively, goal setting and more. To find out how you can apply to this free programme, visit the [Springboard webpage](#) on the Oxford Careers website.

Read more
UK internships available through the Summer Internship Programme

UK internships offered through the Summer Internship Programme will be advertised on CareerConnect from Tuesday 19 February. The programme offers summer research and professional experiences, in a huge variety of sectors. Students can apply for up to two UK internship placements until Monday 11 March. If you need help with your application, the application support guide outlines how to get support. You can also book a one to one support session at the Careers Service through CareerConnect.

International Students

Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur) Visa Endorsement Information Session

If you are interested in establishing your own business in the UK and require a visa to do so, the Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur) visa endorsement programme will be running on Thursday 28 February from 9.15am-10am at Careers Service, 56 Banbury Road. Please see the Careers Service webpage for more information.

Research & Innovation

Research highlight: Seven moral rules found all around the world

Anthropologists at the University of Oxford have discovered what they believe to be seven universal moral rules. The rules: help your family, help your group, return favours, be brave, defer
to superiors, divide resources fairly, and respect others’ property, were found in a survey of 60 cultures from all around the world.

**Jenner Institute trials**

The Jenner Institute, part of the Nuffield Department of Medicine, is looking for healthy volunteers to take part in a trial testing a new vaccine (ChAdOx1 Chik) against Chikungunya fever. If you are aged 18-50 and are in good health, you may be eligible to participate. The trial will involve seven visits over a period of six months. Participants will receive up to £370 on completion of the study. To find out more, email the Volunteer Co-ordinator or visit the website.