
UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD
ANNUAL
REVIEW
2016/17
PUSHING AT
THE FRONTIERS
OF KNOWLEDGE

Portrait of Dr Henry Odili Nwume (Brasenose) by Sarah Jane Moon – see ***The Full Picture****, page 17.*

FOREWORD

2016/17 has been a memorable year for the country and for our University. In the ever-changing and deeply uncertain world around us, the University of Oxford continues to attract the most talented students and the most talented academics from across the globe. They convene here, as they have always done, to learn, to push at the frontiers of knowledge and to improve the world in which we find ourselves.

One of the highlights of the past twelve months was that for the second consecutive year we were named the top university in the world by the Times Higher Education Global Rankings. While it is reasonable to be sceptical of the precise placements in these rankings, it is incontrovertible that we are universally acknowledged to be one of the greatest universities in the world. This is a privilege, a responsibility and a challenge.

Other highlights include the opening of the world's largest health big data institute, the Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Information and Discovery, and the launch of OSCAR – the Oxford Suzhou Centre for Advanced Research – a major new research centre in Suzhou near Shanghai. In addition, the Ashmolean's success in raising £1.35 million to purchase King Alfred's coins, which included support from over 800 members of the public, was a cause for celebration.

The pages that follow detail just some of the extraordinary research being conducted here on perovskite solar cells, indestructible tardigrades and driverless cars. Meanwhile our range of colleges, both ancient and modern, provide intellectual and social homes in a naturally multidisciplinary setting for our students to learn, to cultivate their curiosity, and to thrive.

In an era in which the value of a university education is increasingly being called into question, the pages that follow attest to the enduring value of what we do.

PROFESSOR LOUISE RICHARDSON
VICE-CHANCELLOR

Front cover image: *Glowing gas and dark dust within one of the Milky Way's satellite galaxies – see the* ***Hintze Centre for Astrophysical Surveys****, page 12.*

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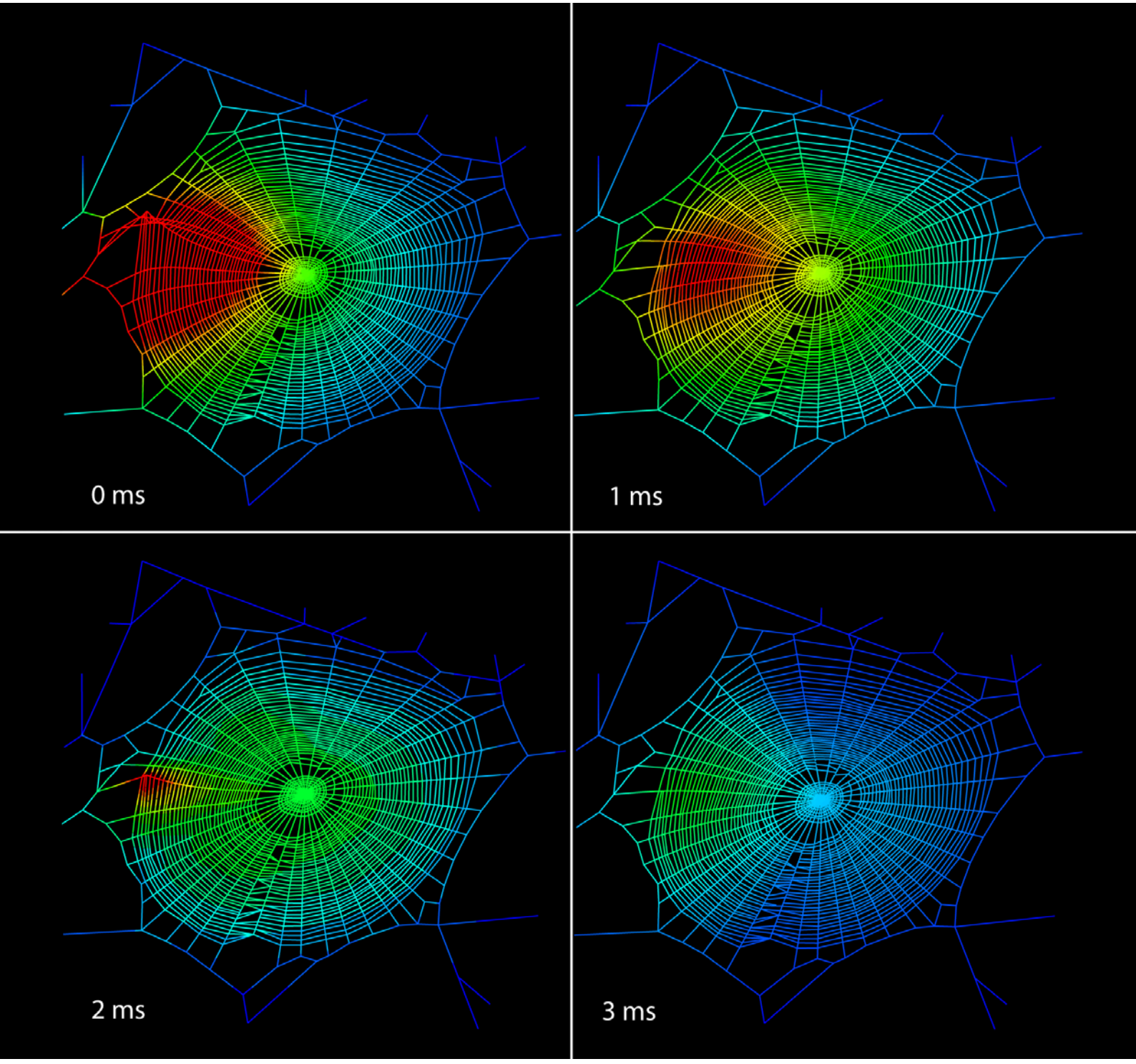


High-powered lasers were able to experimentally measure the ultra-small vibrations.

Web-dwelling spiders have poor vision and rely almost exclusively on web vibrations for their 'view' of the world. Spider silk, when plucked like a guitar string, transmits vibrations across a wide range of frequencies, carrying information about prey, mates and even the structural integrity of a web. A collaboration between engineers and scientists at Oxford and the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid has found that webs are superbly tuned instruments for vibration transmission, and that the type of information being sent can be controlled by adjusting factors such as web tension and stiffness. It is an important insight, which could contribute significantly to the development and refinement of 'virtual vision' systems.

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

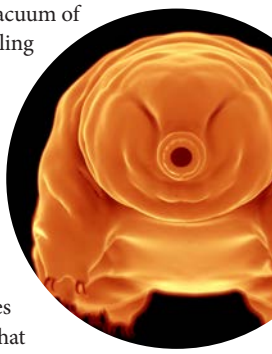
This year the University of Oxford opened the Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Information and Discovery, including the Big Data Institute and the Target Discovery Unit. The centre provides a base to more than 600 scientists from a wide range of research areas, all working to define disease more accurately, identify targets for new drugs, and help society to understand how disease responds to treatment. Molecular and cell biologists, chemists, epidemiologists, statisticians, computer scientists, informatics specialists, engineers and clinical scientists are housed under the same roof, improving the collaboration between different teams. The Institute will also include social scientists and academics from the humanities, with a new Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities addressing the challenges to ethics posed by developments in data science, neuroscience and genomics.

A self-driving vehicle equipped with Oxford-developed autonomy software was tested successfully in public for the first time in the United Kingdom. The demonstration in Milton Keynes marked the conclusion of the LUTZ Pathfinder project, which has been running for the past 18 months. The autonomy software running the vehicle, called Selenium, originated in Oxford University's Oxford Robotics Institute with funding from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC). Selenium uses data from cameras and LIDAR systems to navigate its way around the environment. Selenium is being commercialised and was integrated into an electric vehicle by Oxford University spinout company Oxbotica.

Oxford's contribution to the development of penicillin treatment was celebrated in September 2016, 75 years on from the first discovery of its potential to combat bacterial infections. Few discoveries have impacted human life across the globe as fundamentally as antibiotics. As staples of modern medicine, they are used to treat a wide range of illnesses and infections. Their discovery has rendered previously life-threatening conditions benign, changed our attitude towards illness and mortality, and made possible ever more complex surgical advancements. Alexander Fleming famously discovered penicillin in 1928, but it wasn't until 1941 that it was first put to the test in a human patient. Three researchers at the **Sir William Dunn School of Pathology** in Oxford – Howard Florey, Ernst Chain and Norman Heatley – had been investigating the use of penicillin to treat bacterial infection in mice. The researchers then started looking into ways of mass-producing the drug, at first using large bathtubs in their Oxford laboratories. They later collaborated with US-based pharmaceutical firms to produce industrial quantities of the drug, which was widely used by Allied forces during World War II. Florey, Chain and Fleming were later awarded the 1945 Nobel Prize in Medicine in recognition of their work. The research that started in Oxford continues to this day across the Medical Sciences Division.

Researchers found that huge pulses of volcanic activity are likely to have played a key role in triggering the end-Triassic mass extinction, which set the scene for the rise and age of the dinosaurs. The Triassic extinction occurred approximately 200 million years ago. Its casualty list included large crocodile-like reptiles and marine invertebrates, and it provoked huge changes in land vegetation. Why the dinosaurs survived remains a mystery, but they went on to fill the gap left by extinct species, alongside early mammals and amphibians. This mass extinction has long been linked to a large and abrupt release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, but the exact source of this emission had until now remained unknown.

Oxford scientists this year declared the tardigrade the world's most indestructible species, predicting that the eight-legged micro-animal (also known as the water bear) will survive until the sun dies. Tardigrades are the toughest, most resilient form of life on earth, and are able to survive for up to 30 years without food or water. They can endure temperature extremes of up to 150 degrees Celsius, the deep sea, and even the frozen vacuum of space. The water-dwelling micro-animal can live for up to 60 years but grows to a maximum size of just 0.5mm, and is best seen under a microscope. An Oxford study published in *Scientific Reports* with colleagues from Harvard stated that the tiny creatures will survive the risk of extinction from all astrophysical catastrophes and be around for at least 10 billion years – far longer than the human race. The research implies that life on earth will go on as long as the sun keeps shining. It also revealed that once life emerges, it is surprisingly resilient and difficult to destroy, opening the possibility of life on other planets.

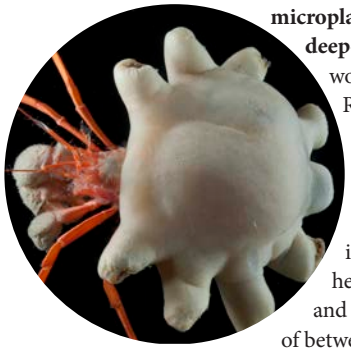


A synthetic soft tissue retina developed at Oxford could offer fresh hope to visually impaired people. Until now, all artificial retinal research has used only rigid, hard materials. The new research was the first to successfully use biological synthetic tissues developed in a laboratory environment. The study could revolutionise the bionic implant industry and the development of new, less invasive technologies that more closely resemble human body tissues, helping to treat degenerative eye conditions such as retinitis pigmentosa.

RESEARCH & INNOVATION CONTINUED

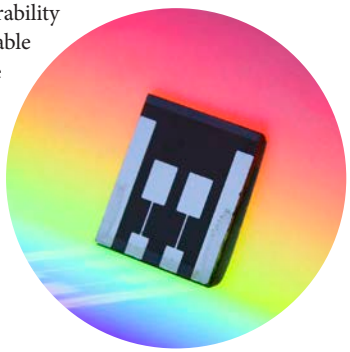
Scientists from the University of Oxford Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU), the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority and the UK Animal and Plant Health Agency worked in the Bale Mountains of Ethiopia in an effort to protect Africa's most threatened predator and the world's rarest canid. They were overseeing field trials of the oral rabies vaccine SAG2 in Ethiopian wolves – the first ever to be conducted in wild populations of an endangered carnivore. The researchers tested various types of baits and ways to deliver the vaccine, trialling SAG2 in three wolf packs. Of 21 wolves trapped after vaccinations, 14 tested positive for a biomarker, indicating that the animal had ingested the bait; of these, half showed antibody titers in blood above the universally recognised threshold, and 86% had levels considered sufficient to provide protective immunity. Oral vaccination proved to be the answer to controlling rabies in wild populations of red foxes and northern raccoons in Europe and North America, but the approach has never been tested in wild populations such as Ethiopian wolves and African wild dogs, which are at risk of extinction because of outbreaks of infectious diseases. Rabies kills people, domestic livestock and wild animals worldwide, and is particularly prevalent in the highlands of Ethiopia, where the virus recurrently jumps from domestic dogs to their wild relatives, the charismatic Ethiopian wolves. With fewer than 500 adult wolves left in half a dozen mountain ranges, and no captive populations, Ethiopian wolves are much rarer than giant pandas and unlikely to overcome the immediate and present rising threats from growing numbers of dogs and people living in and around their mountain enclaves.

Following the news that the UK government is to ban plastic microbeads by the end of 2017, a team of scientists led by the University of Oxford discovered the first evidence of microplastics being ingested by deep-sea animals. Researchers working on the Royal Research Ship (RRS) *James Cook* at two sites in the mid-Atlantic and south-west Indian Ocean found plastic microfibres inside creatures including hermit crabs, squat lobsters and sea cucumbers at depths of between 300m and 1,800m. This is the first time microplastics – which can enter the sea via the washing of clothes made from synthetic fabrics – have been shown to be ingested by animals at such depths. The results were published in the journal *Scientific Reports*.



'Benevolent bots', otherwise known as software robots designed to address articles on Wikipedia, can often end up having online fights that last for years. A research paper by the University of Oxford and the Alan Turing Institute explained that although the online world has become an ecosystem of bots, our knowledge of how they interact with each other is rather poor. Researchers found that editing bots on Wikipedia undo vandalism, enforce bans, check spelling, create links and import content automatically, whereas other bots (which are non-editing) can mine data, identify data or identify copyright infringements. The team looked at how much disruption they caused on Wikipedia sites, and assessed how they interacted on 13 different language editions over the course of a decade. They found that bots interacted with one another, whether or not this was by design, which led to unpredictable consequences. The paper said the findings are a warning to those using artificial intelligence for building autonomous vehicles, cybersecurity systems or for managing social media, and suggested that scientists may have to devote more attention to bots' diverse 'social life' and their different cultures.

Researchers from Oxford and Stanford universities created all-perovskite tandem solar cells that convert sunlight to electricity at efficiencies above 20%, with the potential to go much higher. These solar cells could rival and even outperform conventional cells made of silicon – potentially exceeding 30% efficiency. Writing in the journal *Science*, the researchers described using tin and other inexpensive materials to create novel forms of perovskite – a photovoltaic crystalline material that is thinner, more flexible and easier to manufacture than silicon crystals. The next step is to optimise the composition of the materials to absorb more light and generate an even higher current. It is hoped that the versatility of perovskites, and the low cost of materials and manufacturing, coupled with the potential to achieve very high efficiencies, will be transformative to the photovoltaic industry once manufacturability and acceptable stability are proved.



A collaboration with scientists at the University of Copenhagen found that the Greenland shark has a life expectancy of at least 272 years, making it the longest-living vertebrate known to science. The longevity of the Greenland shark has been a particular mystery for marine biologists for decades. Traditionally, the age of sharks and rays is determined by counting the seasonally deposited growth layers in hard calcified structures such as fin spines. However, such techniques cannot be applied to the Greenland shark because it lacks such 'hard' structures. To solve the puzzle, researchers analysed the eye lens nucleus of female sharks, which is composed of metabolically inactive tissue that does not change significantly from the time of birth. The researchers were able to measure the radiocarbon content of these lenses to calculate the estimated life span of a fully grown Greenland shark.

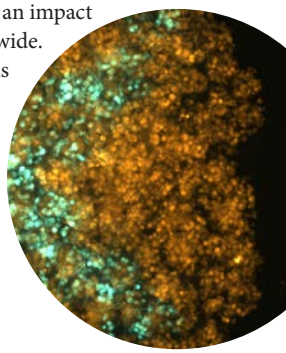
An Oxford collaboration discovered that a prototype gadget that sends quantum encryption keys could answer public concerns around the security of contactless and wireless transactions. Consumers in the United Kingdom have been slower than expected in using smartphone apps to pay for their purchases, citing safety concerns and fear of theft as the main reason for insecurity. In partnership with Nokia and Bay Photonics, researchers from the Department of Physics devised a system for transmitting quantum keys to ensure data security. Quantum technology uses millions of single particles of light to send encryption keys. The prototype system uses movable mirrors and ultrafast LEDs to send a secret pin-code at a rate of more than 30 kilobytes per second, over a distance of 0.5 metres. The protocol can detect unusual activities such as eavesdropping, and then shuts down the communication to prevent further hacking.

Oxford University spinout company Argonaut Therapeutics is working to develop drugs that reprogramme cancer cells to undergo the body's natural process of cell death. The company is focusing on treatments for colorectal cancer – the second most common cancer, which affects 40,000 new patients in the United Kingdom each year. Argonaut raised seed funding from investment company Oxford Sciences Innovation to develop and test a set of drug candidates, as well as biomarkers that can allow physicians to determine which patients are most likely to respond well to the new drugs.

Researchers developed a new type of imaging test to provide an early warning of coronary artery disease and risk of heart attacks. The new technique will improve the diagnosis and management of heart disease, enabling timely prevention strategies and improving the treatment of thousands of people living with the condition. The findings were published in the journal *Science Translational Medicine*. The team identified two-way communication between the heart arteries and the fat surrounding them, which 'senses' inflammation and results in altered fat composition. A new imaging technology called 'perivascular fat attenuation indexing' tracks the changes in the fat surrounding inflamed arteries, even where narrowings are not visible. The technology can also help highlight vulnerability to sudden blockages in arteries, flagging those individuals at highest risk of heart attacks.

Religion has long been thought to be a solution to the fear of death. Notions of an afterlife are nearly universal, though there is great diversity in the details. A study led by Oxford researchers painted a much more complicated picture. It showed that both the very religious and atheists are the groups who do not fear death as much as those in between. The paper was published in the journal *Religion, Brain and Behaviour.*

Oxford scientists developed a new method to 3D-print laboratory-grown cells to form living structures. The approach could revolutionise regenerative medicine, enabling the production of complex tissues and cartilage that would potentially support, repair or augment diseased and damaged areas of the body. Printing high-resolution living tissues is hard to do, as the cells often move within printed structures and can collapse in on themselves. However, an Oxford team devised a way to produce tissues in self-contained cells that support the structures to keep their shape. The researchers hope that, with further development, the work could have an impact on healthcare worldwide. Potential applications include shaping reproducible human tissue models that could take away the need for clinical animal testing.



ALSO...

Sociologists demonstrated that British people grew during the Roman Empire, shrank during the Middle Ages and Industrial Revolution, and are now growing faster than ever.

Oxford psychiatrists called for ketamine – better known as a horse anaesthetic and illegal party drug – to be prescribed to patients at specialist clinics, as they have found it to be so effective in treating depression.

Archaeologists suggested that chickens entered our diet in around AD 1000 as a way to circumvent religious regulations banning the consumption of four-legged animals during fasts.

FUTURE MAKERS

According to a report, 'The Economic Impact of the University of Oxford' published by BiGGAR Economics in 2017, the University of Oxford adds £7.1bn a year to the global economy, £1.2bn of which is a result of its commercialisation and enterprise activities. The report noted that spinouts launched by Oxford University Innovation (OUI) sustain 1,886 jobs and add £132m to the city and regional economy.

Oxford University has launched 150 spinout companies, and in the past year alone a further 25 companies were launched. Spinouts formed in recent years are becoming major names within the innovation ecosystem.

Global University Venturing awarded OUI the accolade of Technology Transfer Unit of the Year, declaring it:

> "...a worthy winner that has managed to stand out among a group of highly driven and successful peers."

The vision of an innovation-led future for Oxfordshire is shared by the University's key partners, which include the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, Oxford Brookes University, the Harwell and Culham campuses, knowledge-intensive companies based in Oxfordshire and the business parks that host them.

Through its work in the creation of spinout companies, OUI is helping to drive the development of an Oxford innovation ecosystem. Some of the biggest high-tech companies in the region – NaturalMotion, Oxford Nanopore and Adaptimmune – trace their roots to research commercialised by OUI.

Seed and growth stage investments in the past year remained healthy, with a 454% increase in seed stage funding over the preceding two years, and Oxford spinouts collectively raising £1.5bn since 2011.

Oxford Saïd Business School launched the Foundry, a pan-institutional beacon for student entrepreneurial activity.

Novo Nordisk is investing £115m into Oxford for a new research hub focused on treating diabetes.

OxStem, which is harnessing stem cell research to treat a number of diseases, has developed rapidly since its £17m seed round in 2016, launching a number of smaller 'stem' companies that are targeting neurological, ocular and cardiac conditions, among others. Artificial intelligence spinout DiffBlue went from a spinout to an employer of 50 people in a single year. Nightstar Therapeutics, which is commercialising gene therapies for rare retinal diseases, has gone from spinout to NASDAQ-listed company in just four years.

Building on this success, the recent Science and Innovation Audit for Oxfordshire identified **four key innovation focus areas** for the region:

AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

Oxford's robotics research is leading in the field, exemplified by Oxbotica, a spinout that is leading a consortium trialling driverless cars on the roads between Oxford and London.

DIGITAL HEALTH

Oxford's Medical Sciences Division and Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (OUH) are world leading, and a key source of health-focused innovation. Three technologies developed at OUH, including the vital-signs monitoring programme SEND, were licensed to Drayson Technologies by OUI in a landmark deal to facilitate more effective commercialisation across the NHS.

QUANTUM COMPUTING

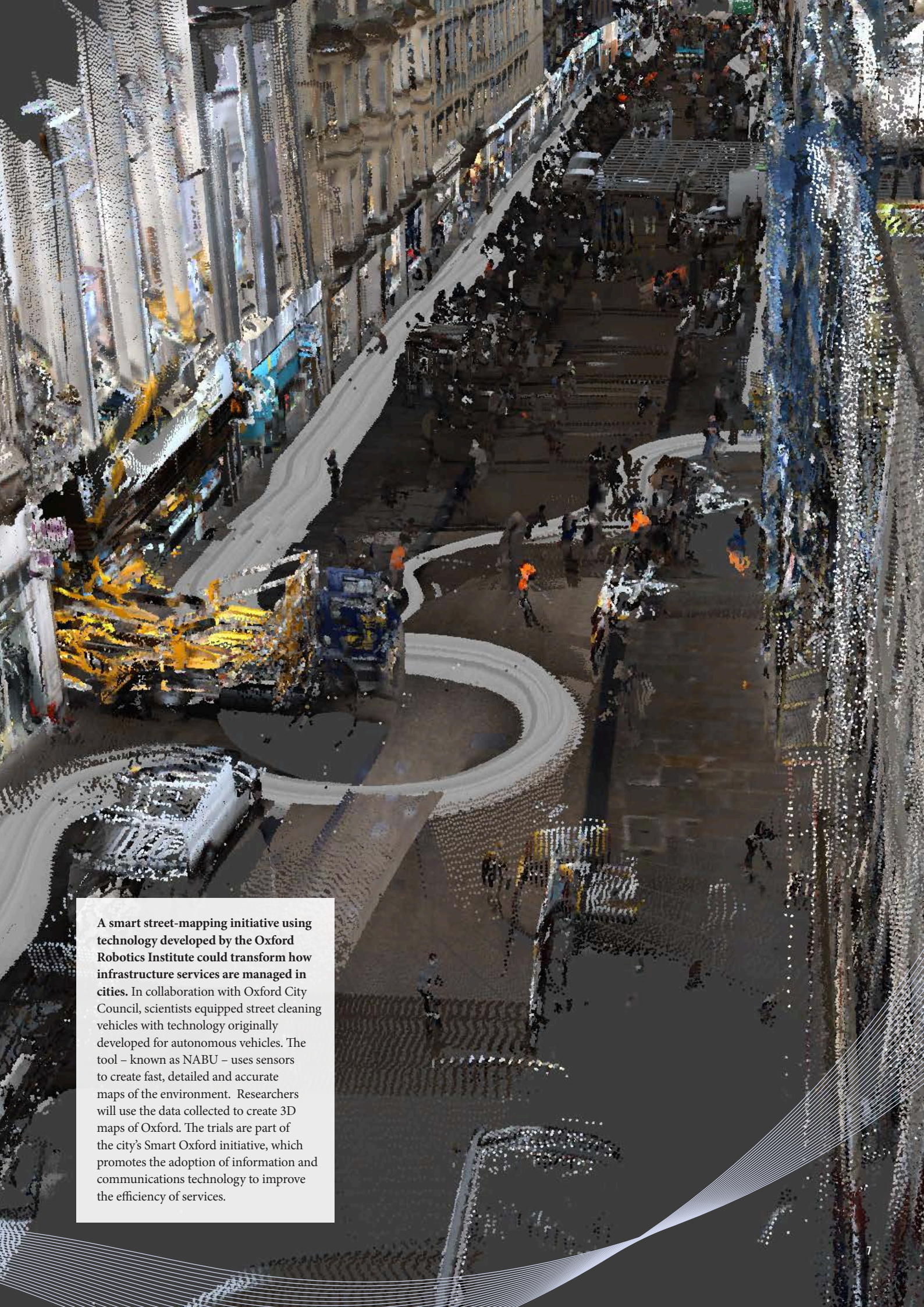
Home to the Networked Quantum Information Technologies (NQIT) hub, part of the £270m National Quantum Technology Programme, Oxford University is working on the hardware behind quantum technologies. The technology is being rapidly commercialised, with three quantum spinouts launched in the first three months of the 2017/18 year.

SPACE AND SATELLITE APPLICATIONS

The Harwell Campus Space Cluster is home to the UK's space industry. Members of the space cluster include the STFC's RAL Space Centre, the Satellite Applications Catapult, and the European Space Agency's satellite applications and tech transfer offices, as well as many other complementary companies and organisations.

Focus on these areas and other core strengths of the Oxfordshire region – such as robotics, life sciences, machine learning and artificial intelligence – is helping Oxfordshire to become synonymous with innovation and enterprise.

OUI this year pioneered the creation of a new fund, LAB282. As a £13m drug discovery partnership between Oxford University, OUI, Evotec and Oxford Sciences Innovation (OSI), LAB282 is making translational funding available to researchers developing promising drug discovery projects that are ripe for rapid commercial development. OSI, which manages a £600m fund for Oxford University spinouts, has continued to be a critical catalyst. OSI invested £24.6m in 29 companies during the past financial year, and a total of £57.9m in 40 companies since its creation in 2015.



A smart street-mapping initiative using technology developed by the Oxford Robotics Institute could transform how infrastructure services are managed in cities. In collaboration with Oxford City Council, scientists equipped street cleaning vehicles with technology originally developed for autonomous vehicles. The tool – known as NABU – uses sensors to create fast, detailed and accurate maps of the environment. Researchers will use the data collected to create 3D maps of Oxford. The trials are part of the city's Smart Oxford initiative, which promotes the adoption of information and communications technology to improve the efficiency of services.

EDUCATION

UNIQ SUMMER SCHOOL

Our UNIQ summer schools continue to welcome hundreds of students to the University each year. These events, for students from groups that are under-represented at Oxford, give sixth-formers the chance to experience student life, complete with lectures and tutorials. Of those students who attended in 2017, nearly 500 applied to Oxford for undergraduate study, with a success rate of almost double the overall average for all applicants. The application deadline for UNIQ 2018 has just closed, with a record 5,000 applications for the next summer schools.

STORMZY HONOURED BY BLACK OXFORD STUDENTS

Grime star Stormzy was a surprise guest at the Oxford African and Caribbean Society's Annual Access Conference this year. Stormzy has been a high-profile supporter of young black people in higher education, giving his backing to the recent #BlackExcellence campaign. He was recognised by the Oxford African and Caribbean Society (ACS) for his 'amazing contributions to our society and the wider black community'. Stormzy told students at the conference in London: 'I think it's easy for the public to look at footballers, rappers and entertainers and see us as the epitome of black excellence, but I feel that it's actually you guys. At the end of uni, you lot are becoming the doctors and lawyers, the medical scientists.' The Annual Access Conference is for high-performing Year 12 state school students with African and Caribbean heritage, and is organised by the ACS in partnership with Oxford University's Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach office.

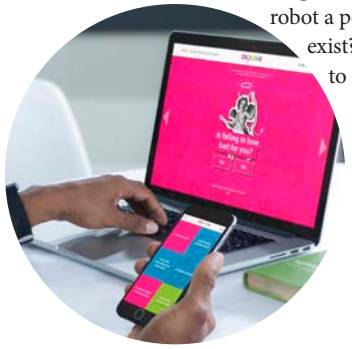
TARGET OXBRIDGE

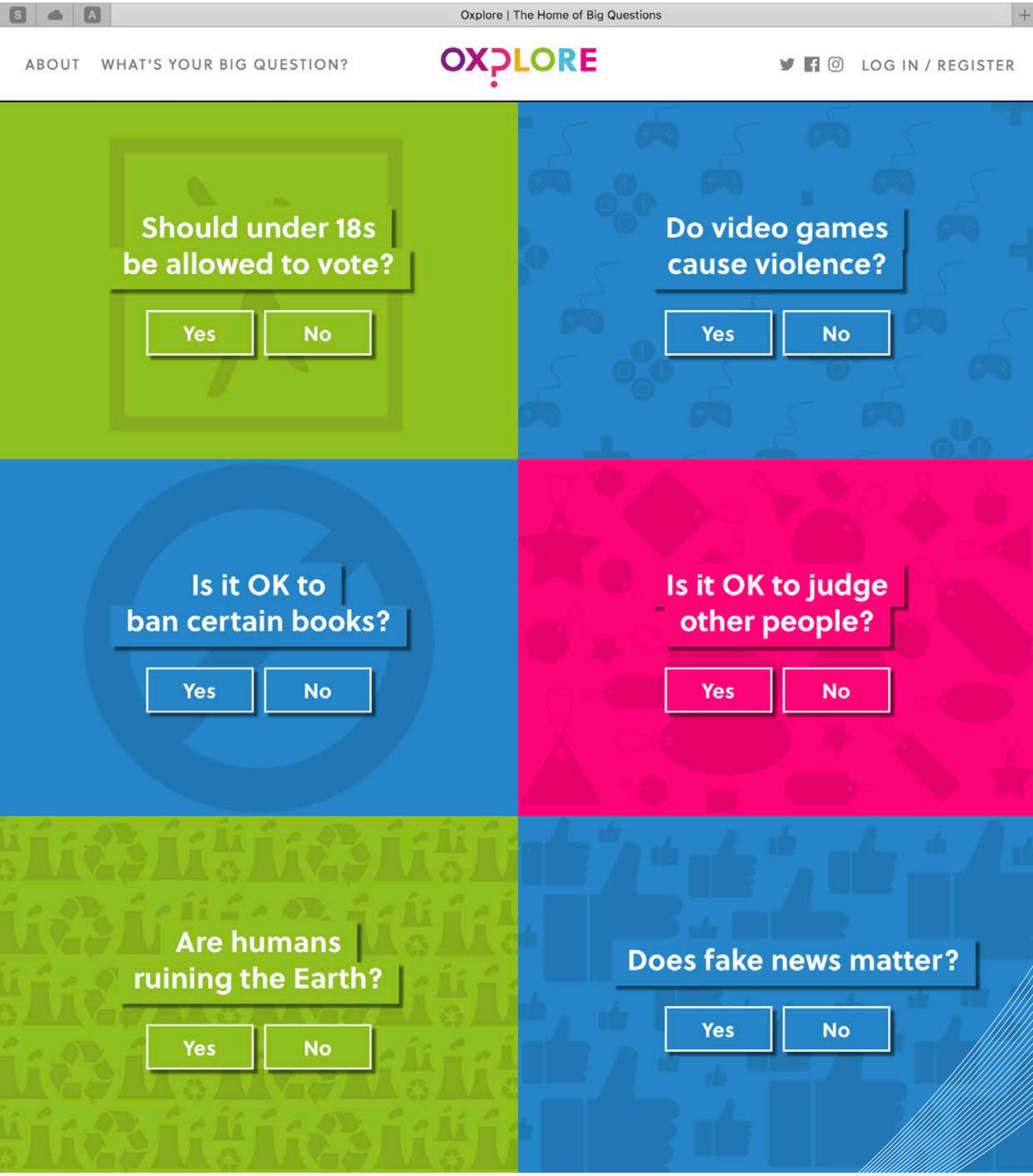
Oxford University continues to work closely with Target Oxbridge in inspiring students to apply to Oxford and Cambridge, and supporting them in making the best possible applications. This year 35 Target Oxbridge students have secured Oxford and Cambridge offers: 24 for Oxford and 11 for Cambridge.

DEVELOPING DIGITAL OUTREACH

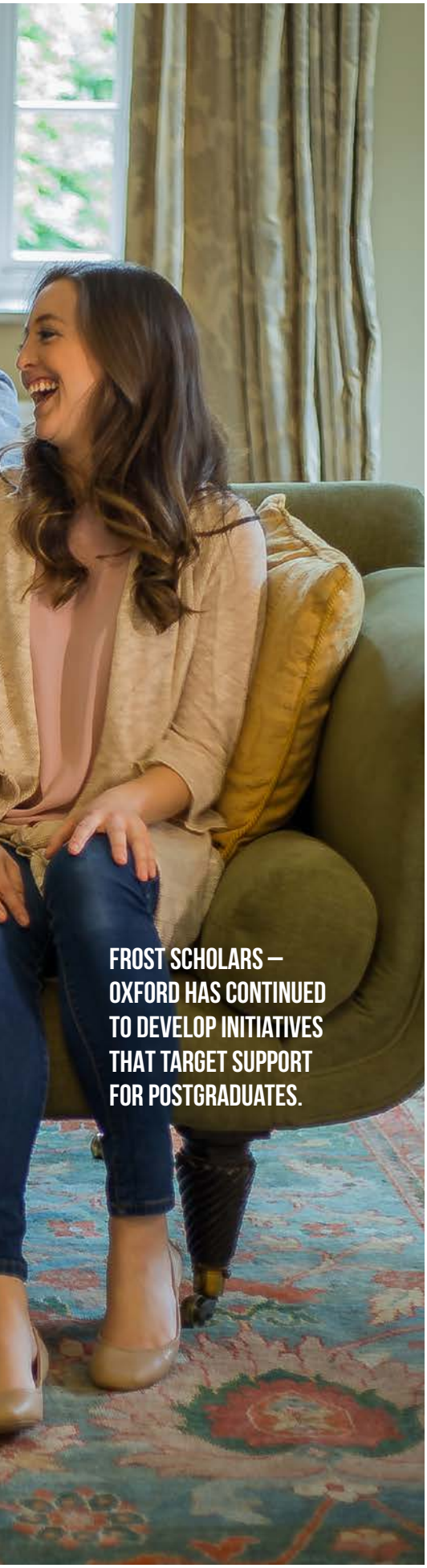
Oxford has developed an innovative new digital outreach portal aimed at engaging school students aged 11–18 with debates and ideas that go beyond what is covered in the classroom. As the 'Home of Big Questions', **Oxplore** tackles complex ideas across a wide range of subjects and draws on the latest research carried out at Oxford.

The portal at www.oxplore.org was developed by Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach with input from young people from groups currently under-represented at Oxford. During the pilot phase in 2017/18, the team worked with over 220 young people to make decisions on the Oxplore concept, usability and content. This consultation took the opinions of young people from the North East, Wales, the East Midlands, and Yorkshire and Humber, to inform the 108,056 lines of code that make up the portal. The young people also suggested the 'Big Questions' the site explores, which include 'Is a robot a person?', 'Does truth exist?' and 'Would you want to live forever?'





Oxplore aims to realise aspirations, promote broader thinking and stimulate intellectual curiosity.



EDUCATION CONTINUED

TARGETED SUPPORT FOR POSTGRADUATES

The University of Oxford has almost as many postgraduates as undergraduate students. The postgraduate population is highly diverse, with talent drawn to Oxford from more than 150 countries and territories. The number of applications received by the Graduate Admissions Office has nearly doubled over the past decade, with new courses added each year and an increasing number of part-time study options available.

Oxford has continued to develop initiatives that target support for postgraduates – a key strategic priority for the University.

In July 2017, graduate scholarships benefited from an extremely generous £9m donation from the Hoffman Foundation, supporting the Oxford Weidenfeld-Hoffman Scholarships and Leadership programme. This distinctive programme identifies and supports future leaders, combining fully funded graduate scholarships with a specially created programme of leadership development, long-term mentoring and networking. The latest donation will enable the programme to almost double the scholars supported.

In the closing months of the 2016/17 academic year, a final tranche of funding enabled a further call for bids to the Oxford Graduate Scholarships Matched Fund. This call was met enthusiastically by a broad range of donors from across colleges and divisions, all seeking to create new graduate scholarships jointly with the University, further strengthening support for graduate students. The Oxford Graduate Scholarships Matched Fund has already supported over 330 students, of whom 140 started their courses in 2016. Over 1,100 graduate scholarships are now available across the collegiate University. This is the highest ever number provided.

A donation from Lord Laidlaw allowed the Careers Service to run the inaugural Laidlaw Research and Leadership Programme for up to 25 undergraduates this year. A total of 38 students submitted professional research applications, including the study of the effect of elephants on the environment in southern Africa, the behaviour of central banks, whether birds use quantum mechanics to migrate, and the application of Thucydides' ideas in the teaching of modern politics. A total of 18 students were selected for a formal leadership programme and a generously funded summer of research, which took many of them to leading academic institutions around the world. The programme is funded for at least three years, and almost 60 have applied in the second year.

The University is increasingly keen to support DPhil and Early Career Researchers as they explore their professional careers. This year, the Careers Service and divisions came together to run the first all-day Researcher Career Conference, with speakers from industry, academia and the public sector. More than 200 people applied to attend.

DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI

"The world will be what we make of it; this is our charge, our calling. With the support of our honoured friends – and their inspiration to other donors, leading by example – Oxford will answer that call as it has always done: with vision, vigour and an unwavering commitment to achieving the highest standards of excellence for the greatest common good."

The Rt Hon Lord Patten of Barnes, CH, Chancellor, University of Oxford

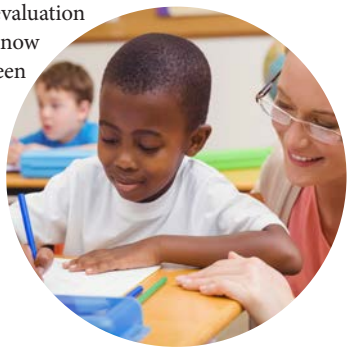
DEVELOPMENT

Across the University in 2016/17, the generosity of donors has continued to support a remarkable range of activity. From furthering innovative and impactful research across the academic divisions to creating opportunities for students at both undergraduate and graduate level, philanthropy at Oxford is bringing real benefit across the world.

2017 saw the announcement of further philanthropic support for Astrophysics at Oxford from the Hintze Family Charitable Foundation. The University recognised this support through the naming of the University of Oxford Hintze Centre for Astrophysical Surveys. Senior academics, Hintze fellows and Hintze scholars are now focused on three strands of activity: galaxy evolution, the dark universe and the transient universe.

More than 30,000 children in Africa are born with clubfoot each year. Without treatment, the condition becomes a painful and severely disabling deformity. However, in up to 95% of cases, clubfoot can be treated successfully if initiated early. The Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences led a crowdfunding campaign to expand training in the treatment of clubfoot in Africa, which was launched in 2016. A total of £83,000 was raised to support the rollout of three courses, including basic and advanced clubfoot treatment provider training courses, and a clubfoot 'train the trainer' course. The first 'train the trainer' course supported by donors took place in September 2017. People from a number of clubfoot organisations working in the region also attended to help strengthen links towards scaling-up training in the region using the new resources.

Despite ongoing concern from policy makers, practitioners, foster carers and teachers, the educational attainment of children in care has for many years languished well below the national average. Oxford's Rees Centre for Research in Fostering and Education is renowned for the quality of its research, and for the impact that its findings are having on vulnerable children and young people in care. It was established five years ago to help improve the life chances of children and young people in care. Based within the Department of Education, the centre's research team operates at the interface between social care and the education of looked-after children, conducting reviews of existing literature as well as running new studies in order to address issues raised by those involved in the care system. The Rees Centre has embarked on a five-year research project, which draws upon the theory that a strong emotional and physical attachment to at least one primary caregiver is critical to a child's personal development. Supported by a gift of £750,000 from the services retailer Timpson, the programme is targeting 300 schools, providing the type of robust national evaluation that until now has not been possible.



IN 2016/17, £275.6 MILLION WAS RAISED THROUGH THE OXFORD THINKING CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY, THE COLLEGES AND THE RHODES TRUST

£2.7 BILLION HAS BEEN RAISED SINCE 2004 TOWARDS THE CAMPAIGN TARGET OF £3 BILLION

The Bodleian Library has been actively pursuing a programme of digitisation for more than 30 years, in a concerted effort to open up its vast and extraordinary collections to users around the world. By making precious materials freely available, the library is not only helping to transform teaching, research and conservation, but also providing huge opportunities for access by the library's non-scholarly readers. Donors have long played a critical role in driving forward digitisation projects at the library. Generous funding from The Polonsky Foundation has made possible a ground-breaking collaborative initiative with the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana. This is making more than 1.5 million pages from the two collections available in digital format. The Bodleian is also undertaking two pioneering projects that seek to manage the growth of today's digital cultural heritage. Thanks to philanthropic support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the library is now able to offer paid traineeships that will provide graduates with the skills required to become digital archivists, and to meet this challenge head on.

A £12.6 million gift from a group of anonymous donors is set to transform rowing at Oxford. This support, comprising a gift of £10.6 million and an additional £2 million in matched funding, is a major step toward the creation of a £20 million endowment for the sport across all the teams. Named in honour of former Oxford rower and coach Dan Topolski, who passed away in February 2015, the Topolski Fund will underpin Oxford rowing for both the men's and women's teams as well as the lightweight teams, putting them all on an equal footing. Once the £20 million target is met, the Topolski Fund will be sufficient to fund all four of the University's rowing clubs in perpetuity, enabling them to have the best possible coaching and training programmes without being dependent on external funding. Rowing has grown to become one of the University's biggest and most successful sports. It has produced no fewer than 120 Olympians and 78 medallists.

ALUMNI RELATIONS

The University's alumni community is as vital as ever, participating in a number of engaging events in the UK and abroad. In March, University academics and leaders from across the wider University convened a robust audience of alumni in Hong Kong followed by a full weekend of programmes and social events in Singapore. This was followed a few weeks later by alumni gatherings in the USA hosted by the Vice-Chancellor. In September, over 1,700 alumni and guests returned to Oxford for the annual Alumni Weekend. Most of the participants travelled from within the UK, but others came from as far away as Venezuela, Nigeria, India and Australia. They took part in a rich array of lectures, exhibitions, workshops and tours showcasing the breadth of Oxford's expertise. At the time of printing, the Oxford Alumni Weekend in Rome will have just finished, and the finishing touches will be being added to the North American Alumni Weekend – both are expected to draw robust crowds.

The University's network of 213 alumni groups located around the world is key to maintaining relationships with alumni. In addition to their ambitious schedule of events, many of these groups also contribute significantly to the University's strategic priorities, especially in their support of the student experience. This past year, the Gloucestershire group paired up with Lady Margaret Hall and hosted an admissions event attended by 600 pupils from over 20 local schools, along with parents and teachers. Five UK-based groups now offer bursaries and awards for students from their regions, and 23% of the groups provide guidance to students applying to Oxford. More and more, alumni groups are expanding their offerings to include this critical support to prospective applicants and current students, extending the alumni community in a most positive way.

This year, the Watlington Hoard was saved for the nation. The Ashmolean Museum succeeded in raising £1.35m to acquire King Alfred's coins. More than 800 members of the public supported the appeal to give the treasure a permanent home. A lead gift was provided through a Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £1.05m. The grant helped to acquire the hoard, as well as assisting with its conservation, display, touring and related educational programmes. Dating from the end of the 870s, the Watlington Hoard contains more than 200 Anglo-Saxon coins. These coins can potentially shed light on how the once-great kingdom of Mercia came to be absorbed into the emerging kingdom of England by Alfred and his successors.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The University of Oxford continues to foster an inclusive culture that promotes equality, values diversity and maintains a working, learning and social environment in which the rights and dignity of all staff and students are respected.

This year Oxford helped further the work of two networks – LGBT+ Role Models and LGBT+ Allies – supporting both with tailored training and advice as they gain members and extend their influence.

Taking inspiration from the Stonewall Allies programme, the Oxford Learning Institute developed its own LGBT+ Allies workshop. This provides non-LGBT people with an opportunity to explore what it means to be an ally, with time to ask questions, and practical advice on how they can provide effective support. One LGBT+ Ally, Kirsty Allen, Head of Research Evaluation and Impact, said: 'I wanted to understand more about challenges faced by the LGBT+ community at work. I discovered surprising and sometimes upsetting statistics about how people can feel unsupported, even in environments committed to equality and diversity. Whenever I recruit or welcome someone to the team, I explain that Oxford is an inclusive workplace and everyone can feel free to be themselves.'

Over the year a collaborative team from the Department for Primary Health Care Sciences and the Equality and Diversity Unit interviewed 24 colleagues across the University. All have a long-term condition or disability, and the aim of the project was to identify, share and promote good practice for supporting staff. The project, titled 'Disability Narratives', was funded by the Vice-Chancellor's Diversity Fund and Van Houten Fund, and has provided substantial digital learning resources and advice. Staff talked about a range of issues, including what kinds of support were helpful and why, guidance on telling colleagues about their condition, and what advice they would give to those who are newly disabled.

The Women of Achievement Lecture Series across 2016/17 sought to increase the range of role models accessible to women at Oxford, challenging and inspiring the entire Oxford community. Speakers this year were:

Marin Alsop, the first woman to head a major American orchestra. As the Music Director of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra she is an inspiring and powerful voice in the international music scene.

Baroness Valerie Amos, who joined the School of Oriental and African Studies as Director in September 2015. From 2010 she served as Undersecretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator at the United Nations, and she was previously Foreign Office Minister, Secretary of State for International Development, Leader of the House of Lords, and Lord President of the Council.

Helen Clark, the former New Zealand premier, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme from April 2009 until April 2017.

Dame Sally Davies, the first woman appointed Chief Medical Officer for England, who also chairs the UK Clinical Research Collaboration, and is a member of the World Health Organization Global Advisory Committee on Health Research.

Katharine Viner, Editor-in-Chief of Guardian News and Media and a past winner of Newspaper Magazine Editor of the Year. She is only the twelfth editor-in-chief in the newspaper's nearly 200-year history, and the first woman to hold the post.

More than 20 paintings, drawings and photographs were commissioned in the second phase of the University's Diversifying Portraiture project, which culminated in an exhibition, *The Full Picture*, at the Weston Library. The initiative aims to broaden the range of people represented around Oxford, and features current and recent Oxonians including BBC journalist Reeta Chakrabarti, eminent astrophysicist Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell, human rights activist Kumi Naidoo, film and television director Ken Loach, and the broadcaster and charity campaigner Dame Esther Rantzen.

Sitters were selected from over a hundred nominations, and the newly commissioned works will add to, and complement, Oxford's rich collection of existing portraits.

Dr Rebecca Surender, Advocate and Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Equality and Diversity at Oxford University, said: 'It is hugely important for students and staff to feel at home at Oxford, and to feel inspired by people they can relate to. This series of portraits, created by a talented group of artists, is a celebration of the diversity and talent in today's University. All of those nominated and selected to take part have made enormous contributions to Oxford life and to society more widely.'

A photographic portrait of the novelist and cultural critic Diran Adebayo was taken by Rory Carnegie in the seventeenth-century dining hall of Wadham College, with a portrait of alumnus Sir Christopher Wren clearly visible behind him.

Speaking when the project was launched, BBC journalist Reeta Chakrabarti, who studied at Exeter College, Oxford, said: 'I loved my time at Oxford. There weren't – then – many people from my background at university, but that didn't stop my experience from being overwhelmingly good. I hope this project will show that Oxford is open to everyone, and that it wants to be more so. I hope too that it reflects present-day Oxford back at itself, and that it encourages an ever more diverse range of people to study there.'

Professor Patricia Daley, Professor of the Human Geography of Africa at Oxford University, said: 'This project is a bold attempt by the University to make a statement about inclusivity, and I was happy to be part of it. Having my portrait painted by Binny Mathews was a wonderful experience and gave me plenty to think about – what it's like to be an educator at Oxford, the importance of my contribution as a woman racialised as black, and the ways in which our physical features are perceived by others.'

Jan Morris (writer)

Anne-Marie Imafidon (scientist)

Hilary Lister (sailor)

Dr Henry Odili Nwume (Winter Olympian)

Professor Dame Valerie Beral FRS (epidemiologist)

Diran Adebayo (novelist)

Professor Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell (astrophysicist)

GARDENS, LIBRARIES AND MUSE

The University's gardens, libraries and museums are places that ignite inspiration and learning, and that inspire passion for art, science, history and natural history.

IN 2016/17:

- **3.2 MILLION VISITORS WERE WELCOMED**
  A 7% INCREASE OVER 2015/16
- **FOUR INSTITUTIONS RECORDED THEIR HIGHEST EVER ANNUAL VISITOR NUMBERS:**
  BOTANIC GARDEN +25%
  MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE +15%
  PITT RIVERS MUSEUM +13%
  MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY +10%
- **40,000 CHILDREN AND 65,000 ADULTS TOOK PART IN ON-SITE EVENTS**
- **5,000 CHILDREN AND 15,000 ADULTS WERE ENGAGED THROUGH OUTREACH**
- **120,000 SCHOOLCHILDREN RECEIVED FORMAL LEARNING SESSIONS**
- **5,000 ADULTS WERE TAUGHT BOTANY, GARDENING AND HORTICULTURE**

Curiosity Carnival, on 29 September 2017, was the University of Oxford's largest ever public engagement with research event. Around 5,000 people attended events across the Gardens, Libraries and Museums; 4,500 people visited the research stalls on Broad Street and tried out different activities; and over 500 University researchers were involved in discussing, explaining and showcasing their research. The event was also popular on Twitter – #curiositycarnival was trending in Oxford all afternoon.

The event was a one-day celebration of academic research and the way it impacts all our lives. Funded by the European Commission under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, it comprised a wide programme of activity across the Gardens, Libraries and Museums, from bug tasting at the Botanic Garden to a living library of researchers at the Weston Library and a talk about claustrophobia in the lift at the Ashmolean.

February 2017 saw the launch of the University's first cross-collections trail, Out in Oxford. Designed to celebrate diversity and LGBTQ+ History Month, the trail was created with the help of nearly 50 volunteers who identify as LGBTQ+ and who were involved in writing new interpretations for some of the fascinating items in the University's collections. Their research offers personal insights into the often buried queer histories within the collections.

The trail, which was funded by Arts Council England via the Oxford University Museums Partnership, was shortlisted for a Museums & Heritage Award in 2017 in the 'Project on a limited budget' category.

UMS

Curious Curators was a cross-curricular project delivered between July 2016 and March 2017 by the education teams across the four University museums for seven local primary schools. The project, which saw 28 taught sessions delivered to 420 children from Years 4 and 5, placed objects and paintings at the heart of the learning experience to help build and develop literacy, research and presentation skills.

The local schools who partnered with the project were: Rose Hill, Baynards Hill, New Hinksey, Cutteslowe, West Oxford, St Andrews and St John Fisher.

In February 2017 the Ashmolean acquired the Watlington Hoard, a Viking hoard dating back to Alfred the Great, King of Wessex, which was discovered in Oxfordshire in 2015. The £1.35m purchase was supported by the National Lottery, Art Fund and over 700 members of the public.

Discovered on private land near the town of Watlington by metal-detectorist James Mather – just as he was on the verge of giving up after a frustrating day of turning up ring-pulls and shotgun cartridges – the collection contains over 200 Anglo-Saxon coins, 7 items of jewellery and 15 ingots. The find is not particularly large, but it is hugely significant because it contains so many coins of Alfred the Great, King of Wessex (reigned 871–899), and his less well-known contemporary, Ceolwulf II of Mercia (reigned 874–*c*879).

This is the first large Viking hoard discovered in Oxfordshire, which once lay on the border of Wessex and Mercia. The Watlington Hoard therefore has enormous relevance to the county as well as being of national importance, as it provides a major new source of information about this tumultuous time in the history of the nation.

During spring 2017, the hoard went on a regional tour, including to the Oxfordshire Museum in Woodstock, Bicester, Faringdon and of course Watlington, where over 550 people came to the library to view parts of the treasure trove.

2017 marks the 400th anniversary of the birth of the founder of the Ashmolean Museum, Elias Ashmole (1617–92). The founding collection that Ashmole bequeathed to the University in 1677 had been largely assembled by the noted gardeners and collectors John Tradescant and his son, who displayed their treasures – including ethnographic objects from Asia, Africa and the Americas – at their house in Lambeth, known as 'the Ark'. Ashmole then combined it with his own collection of coins, books and manuscripts and sent it by barge to Oxford to be installed in a custom-built museum in Broad Street. When the Ashmolean was opened in 1683, it was not just a repository and place for research and teaching, but also a public museum. Ashmole's vision ultimately laid the foundations for museums as we know them today.

To mark this important milestone and share this story more widely, the Ashmolean created a dramatic permanent display at the heart of the museum, the Ashmolean Story Gallery, which not only allows a far greater proportion of the collection to be displayed but also tells the story of how the world's first museum was created. The gallery opened in October 2017.

Earlier in the year, the Ashmolean celebrated the 400th birthday of Elias Ashmole, seventeenth-century style. On 19 May 'King Charles I' led a parade of cavaliers and courtesans down Broad Street, culminating in a LiveFriday birthday party at the Ashmolean, where a magnificent group portrait by William Dobson (1611–46) was unveiled, which had been acquired by the Ashmolean through the Acceptance in Lieu scheme.

Commissioned by John Russell in the winter of 1645/46, the painting is a unique artefact of the English Civil War. It shows a meeting between three Royalist commanders who were then based in Oxford, home to the royal court in exile.

5,000 people attended Curiosity Carnival events across the Gardens, Libraries and Museums; 4,500 people visited the research stalls on Broad Street and tried out different activities; and over 500 University researchers were involved in discussing, explaining and showcasing their research.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Pictured, from top left to bottom right: Catriona Seth, Nigel Shadbolt, Philip Maini, Anne Trefethen, Hilary Boulding, Alison Noble, Susan Lea, Roger Reed, Charles Godfray and Kim Nasmyth

FELLOWS OF THE BRITISH ACADEMY

Professor John Armour, Hogan Lovells Professor of Law and Finance, and Fellow of Oriel College

Professor Sir Paul Collier CBE, Professor of Economics and Public Policy at the Blavatnik School of Government, and Fellow of St Antony's College

Professor Mary Daly, Professor of Sociology and Social Policy, and Fellow of Green Templeton College

Professor Jaś Elsner, Professor of Late Antique Art and Payne Senior Research Fellow at Corpus Christi College

Professor Charles Hulme, Professor of Psychology and Education, and William Golding Senior Research Fellow at Brasenose College

Professor Eugene Rogan, Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History, Director of the Middle East Centre, and Fellow of St Antony's College

Professor Catriona Seth, Marshal Foch Professor of French Literature, and Fellow of All Souls College

Professor Sir Hew Strachan, Emeritus Fellow of All Souls College.

An honorary fellowship was awarded to playwright **Sir Tom Stoppard**, who was recently appointed as Cameron Mackintosh Visiting Professor of Contemporary Theatre at St Catherine's College.

FELLOWS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY

Professor Tony Bell, Professor of Physics.

Professor Yvonne Jones, Deputy Director of the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics in the Nuffield Department of Medicine, and Fellow of Jesus College.

Professor Alison Noble, Technikos Professor of Biomedical Engineering in the Department of Engineering Science, and Fellow of St Hilda's College.

Professor Yadvinder Malhi, Professor of Ecosystem Science, and Jackson Senior Research Fellow at Oriel College.

Professor Sir Nigel Shadbolt, Principal of Jesus College, and Professorial Research Fellow in Computer Science.

Professor Hugh Watkins, Head of the Radcliffe Department of Medicine, Honorary Consultant in Cardiology and General Medicine, and Fellow of Merton College.

FELLOWS OF THE ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Professor James Berkley, Professor of Paediatric Infectious Diseases at the Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health, based at the KEMRI Wellcome Trust Research Programme, Kenya.

Professor Susan Lea, Professor of Microbiology at the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, and Fellow of Wadham College.

Professor Philip K Maini, Professor of Mathematical Biology, Director of the Wolfson Centre for Mathematical Biology, and Fellow of St John's College.





FELLOWS OF THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

John Haskey, Senior Research Associate in the Department of Social Policy and Intervention.

Professor Luciano Floridi, Professor of Philosophy and Ethics of Information at the Oxford Internet Institute.

FELLOWS OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING

Professor Eleanor Stride, Professor of Engineering Science, and Fellow of St Catherine's College

Professor Roger Reed, Professor of Engineering Science and Materials, and Fellow of St Anne's College.

Professor Ursula Martin, Professor of Computer Science, and Senior Research Fellow of Wadham College.

Professor Anne Trefethen, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Academic Services and University Collections, Professor of Scientific Computing, and Fellow of St Cross College.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Professor Sir Charles Godfray FRS, Hope Professor of Zoology, Director of the Oxford Martin Programme on the Future of Food, and Fellow of Jesus College, knighted for services to scientific research and for scientific advice to the government.

Professor Sir Simon Lovestone, Professor of Translational Neuroscience, knighted for services to neuroscience research.

Professor Sir David Weatherall FRCP FRS, Regius Professor Emeritus of Clinical Medicine, Emeritus Fellow of Magdalen College, and Honorary Fellow of Green Templeton College, appointed Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire for services to medicine.

Professor Jonathan Gershuny CBE, Professor of Economic Sociology, Co-Director of the Centre for Time Use Research in the Department of Sociology, and Senior Research Fellow of Nuffield College, appointed CBE for services to the social sciences and sociology.

Professor Katherine Blundell OBE, Professor of Astrophysics, and Fellow of St John's College, appointed OBE for services to astronomy and the education of young people.

Professor Alison Etheridge OBE FRS, Professor of Probability at the Mathematical Institute and the Department of Statistics, and Fellow of Magdalen College, appointed OBE for services to science.

Dame Hilary Boulding, President of Trinity College, and former Principal of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, appointed DBE for services to education and culture in Wales.

Dame Stephanie Shirley, FREng, founding donor of the Oxford Internet Institute, appointed Companion of Honour for services to the IT industry and philanthropy.

Sir Leonard Blavatnik, founding benefactor of the Blavatnik School of Government, knighted for services to philanthropy.

Bernard Taylor CBE DL, Deputy Steward of the University, appointed CBE for services to business, education and the arts.

ACCOLADE

Professor Kim Nasmyth FRS, Whitley Professor of Biochemistry, and Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford, was awarded the 2018 Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences for 'elucidating the sophisticated mechanism that mediates the perilous separation of duplicated chromosomes during cell division and thereby prevents genetic diseases such as cancer.'

HONOURS AND AWARDS CONTINUED

Pictured, from top left to bottom right: Bryan Stevenson, Shirley Williams, Robert Darnton, Peter Shone, Joan Steitz, Judith Weir and John McCall MacBain with Dr Marcy McCall MacBain

ENCAENIA

Doctor of Civil Law, honoris causa

Bryan A Stevenson is a lawyer and social justice activist who has campaigned for the fair treatment of children and minorities in the US criminal justice system. He is the founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative, which provides legal representation to those who may have been denied a fair trial. He has been awarded the Olof Palme Prize for international human rights, the Gruber Justice Prize and the Four Freedoms Award.

Shirley Williams, Rt Hon Baroness Williams of Crosby CH PC, has had a distinguished career in both politics and academia. Elected as a Labour MP in 1964, she held a number of ministerial, shadow cabinet and cabinet roles, serving as Secretary of State for Education and Science in the Callaghan government. In 1981 she was one of the so-called Gang of Four who broke from Labour to form the Social Democratic Party; she went on to lead the Liberal Democrats in the House of Lords.

Doctor of Letters, honoris causa

Dr Robert Darnton is a cultural historian and academic librarian who researches the history of the book and the culture of eighteenth-century France. He is an emeritus professor at Harvard University, where he has also worked as Director of the Harvard University Library. He is a Chevalier of the Légion d'Honneur, and Honorary Fellow of St John's College, where he studied for a DPhil as a Rhodes Scholar.

Frank Gehry is an architect known for his postmodern style and use of unconventional building materials. His most famous works include the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles and the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao. He has been awarded the Pritzker Prize, the RIBA Gold Medal and the Americans for the Arts Lifetime Achievement Award.

Doctor of Science, honoris causa

Professor Eugene Braunwald is a cardiologist who has studied many areas of heart disease, including coronary artery disease, valvular heart disease and heart failure. He is the editor of *Braunwald's Heart Disease*, now in its tenth edition. He is Distinguished Hersey Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. He has been awarded the Distinguished Scientist Award of the American College of Cardiology and the Gold Medal of the European Society of Cardiology

Professor Joan Argetsinger Steitz is Sterling Professor of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry at Yale University. Her discoveries in RNA processing have clarified several crucial biological processes, such as the way proteins are formed. She has been awarded the Gairdner Foundation International Award and the Pearl Meister Greengard Prize, and is a Foreign Member of the Royal Society.

Doctor of Music, honoris causa

Professor Judith Weir CBE is a composer and Master of the Queen's Music. She has written in many forms but is best known for her operas, including *The Vanishing Bridegroom*, *Blond Eckbert* and *Armida*. She has been awarded the Elise L Stoeger Prize, the Queen's Medal for Music and the Ivor Novello Classical Music Award.

SHELDON MEDAL

John McCall MacBain OC was presented with the Sheldon Medal. The medal is the highest distinction the University of Oxford can bestow upon its benefactors, and reflects John and Marcy McCall MacBain's transformative support through their foundation for both the Rhodes Trust and Wadham College.

CHANCELLOR'S COURT OF BENEFACTORS

New Fellow

Mr Peter Shone, representing the H B Allen Charitable Trust

New Individuals

Mr Ghazi Abu Nahl and Mrs Hind Ali Tabaja

Mr Thomas A Barron

Mr Henry Tin-Sang Chan and Mrs Joanna Sui-Ping Chan

Mr Jarvis Doctorow

Mr Simon Li and Mrs June Li

Mr Miles Morland

Professor Joseph Sassoon

Mr Peter Thompson

Baron Lorne Thyssen-Bornemisza

Mr John Wylie AM and Mrs Myriam Boisbouvier-Wylie

New Organisation Representatives

Mr Warren East CBE, representing Rolls-Royce

Mr James M Jones, representing the ExxonMobil Foundation

Professor James McEwen, representing the Dunhill Medical Trust

Mrs Monique Villa, representing the Thomson Reuters Foundation

Mr Wu Xu, representing Creat Group

THE LI KA SHING CENTRE FOR HEALTH INFORMATION AND DISCOVERY, INCLUDING THE BIG DATA INSTITUTE AND THE TARGET DISCOVERY UNIT – SEE PAGE 3.

NEW APPOINTMENTS




PROFESSORSHIPS

Economic and Social History

Professor Catherine Schenk, Professor of International Economic History at the University of Glasgow, was appointed Professor of Economic and Social History and Fellow of St Hilda's College.

Metaphysical Philosophy

Ofra Magidor, Lecturer and Tutorial Fellow at Balliol College, was appointed Waynflete Professor of Metaphysical Philosophy and Fellow of Magdalen College.

Fine Art

Acclaimed artists Oreet Ashery (Exeter) and Samson Kambalu (Magdalen) were appointed Associate Professors in the Ruskin School of Art. Ashery's work was exhibited at Tate Modern's Turbine Hall in 2014. Kambalu's art has featured in major exhibitions, including the Dakar Biennale, Tokyo International Art Festival and the Liverpool Biennial.

Quantitative Finance

Mihaela van der Schaar (Christ Church) was appointed Man Professor of Quantitative Finance, joining the institution from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA).

Statistics

Judith Rousseau, of the Université Paris-Saclay, was appointed Professor of Statistics and Professorial Fellow of Jesus College.

Earth Sciences

Erin Saupe (St Hugh's) of Yale University, and Jessica Hawthorne (St Cross) of the University of Leeds, joined the Department of Earth Sciences as Associate Professors.

Mathematics

Sakura Schafer-Nameki was appointed Professor of Mathematical Physics in the Mathematical Institute and Tutorial Fellow of Wadham College. She joined the University from King's College London.

Engineering and Entrepreneurship

Kristina Dahlin of King's College London took up a new academic post in Engineering Entrepreneurship (held jointly in the Department of Engineering Science and Saïd Business School) and a Fellowship of Worcester College.

Race Relations

Adewale Adebanwi (St Antony's) is Rhodes Professor of Race Relations, School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies.

Israel Studies

Yaacov Yadgar (St Anne's) became Stanley Lewis Professor of Israel Studies, School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies.

Human Geography

Gillian Rose (St John's) is now Professor of Human Geography, School of Geography and the Environment.

Experimental Psychology

Geoffrey Bird (Brasenose) of the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, Kings College London, was appointed Associate Professor of Experimental Psychology.

Population Health

David Hunter (Green Templeton), Vincent L Gregory Professor of Cancer Prevention at Harvard University and Dean of Academic Affairs at the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, was appointed Richard Doll Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine in the Nuffield Department of Population Health.

Genomic Epidemiology

Augustine Kong, Vice President of Statistics at deCODE genetics, became Senior Group Leader in Genomic Epidemiology, in the Big Data Institute, Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine.

Medical Genetics

John Todd (Brasenose), Professor of Medical Genetics at the University of Cambridge, was appointed Senior Researcher in Medical Genetics and Professor of Precision Medicine at the Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics, Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine.

Immunogenetics

Linda Wicker, Professor of Immunogenetics at the University of Cambridge, has taken up the role of Senior Researcher in Immunogenetics and Professor of Immunogenetics at the Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics, Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine.

Government

Stathis Kalyvas (All Souls) was appointed Gladstone Professor of Government, Department of Politics and International Relations.

Comparative Law

Birke Haecker (Brasenose) is Linklaters Professor of Comparative Law, Faculty of Law.

Pictured, from left to right: Adewale Adebanwi, Geoffrey Bird, Linda Wicker, Kate O'Regan, David Prout, Jan Royall, Irene Tracey and Roger Goodman




Development Economics

Christopher Woodruff was appointed Professor of Development Economics in the Department of International Development, and Professorial Fellow of Wolfson College.

Public Policy

Jonathan Wolff took up the role of Blavatnik Professor of Public Policy, and as Professorial Fellow of Wolfson College.

Evidence-Based Policy and Intervention

Jane Barlow (St Hilda's) is Professor in Evidence-Based Intervention and Policy Evaluation in the Department of Social Policy and Intervention.

Social Policy

Bernhard Ebbinghaus (Green Templeton), of the University of Mannheim, was appointed Professor in Social Policy in the Department of Social Policy and Intervention.

Human Rights

Professor Kate O'Regan was appointed to lead the Law Faculty's Bonavero Institute of Human Rights, based at Mansfield College. She served a 15-year term of office as a judge of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, and was appointed to the first bench of the Court by President Nelson Mandela in 1994.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE POSTS

Professor Martin Williams, David Clarke Fellow in Engineering at New College Oxford, was appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education. Chair of the Committee for the Proctors' Office since 2015, he is currently Associate Head (Education) of the Division of Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences, and previously served as Deputy Head of the Department of Engineering Science.

Dr David Prout joined the University as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Planning and Resources) to lead Oxford's institutional and strategic planning, as well as its resource allocation. Dr Prout previously led the government's High Speed 2 programme, and was Director General at the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Dr Robert Easton took up the role of Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Development and External Affairs), with responsibility for the Public Affairs Directorate, Development Office, Alumni Relations Office and the International Strategy team. Dr Easton joined the institution from the Carlyle Group, the global alternative asset management company.

Rt Hon Dame Elish Angiolini QC, Principal of St Hugh's College, was appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor without portfolio.

Professor Gavin Screaton was appointed Head of the Division of Medical Sciences, joining the University from Imperial College London, where he served as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

Professor Sarah Whatmore took up her position as Head of the Division of Social Sciences in January 2018. She was previously Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education and Outreach).

Dr Michael Glover, Academic Registrar at Warwick University, was appointed Director of Planning and Council Secretariat.

Dr Sean Duffy was appointed Chief Information Officer. He joins the institution from the University of Birmingham and will take up his post in early 2018.

HEADS OF HOUSE

The Fellows of Wolfson College announced the election of Tim Hitchens CMG LVO as their next President. He is Director-General, Economic and Consular, at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and a former British Ambassador to Japan.

Rt Hon Baroness Royall of Blaisdon took up her duties as Principal of Somerville College. Jan Royall was Chief Whip in the House of Lords, appointed to the Privy Council, and in 2008 became Leader of the House of Lords and a member of the Cabinet.

Professor Irene Tracey has been appointed to be the Warden of Merton College. Professor Tracey is currently Head of the Nuffield Department of Clinical Neuroscience and Nuffield Chair of Anaesthetic Science. She will take up her role at Merton in September 2019. Professor Steven Gunn, Professor of Early Modern History, is presently the Acting Warden.

Professor Roger Goodman took up office as the sixth Warden of St Antony's College. Professor Goodman was elected Nissan Professor of Modern Japanese Studies in 2003 and previously led the Social Sciences Division.

The late Dr Mark Whittow (1957–2017), a medieval historian and archaeologist, was elected to the role of Provost of Oriel College. He had been due to take up his position from September 2018. Tragically Dr Whittow died in a serious road traffic accident two months after his election.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

In the financial year 2016/17 the University generated a total comprehensive income of £219.7 million and managed total funds of £3.2 billion. Total income increased by 6% to £1.4 billion and total donations raised by the Oxford Thinking Campaign reached £2.7 billion. The Oxford Endowment Fund achieved a return of 13.4% and the University invested £139 million in fixed assets.

HIGHLIGHTS

£565M

INCOME FROM RESEARCH GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

6%

INCREASE IN INCOME TO

£1.4BN

13.4%

THE RETURN ACHIEVED BY THE OXFORD ENDOWMENT FUND

£2.7BN

TOTAL RAISED TOWARDS

£3BN

CAMPAIGN GOAL

£220M

TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

£139M

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

FOUR-YEAR SUMMARY OF KEY STATISTICS

Year ended 31 July	2014 £'m	2015 £'m	2016 £'m	2017 £'m
Funding body grants	217.1	186.1	192.5	194.6
Academic fees and support grants	235.9	265.7	293.5	307.2
Research grants and contracts	471.4	608.0	537.4	564.9
Other income	239.8	345.7	213.0	227.7
Investment income	30.3	4.7	8.8	14.4
Donations and new endowments	34.5	113.7	76.6	91.6
TOTAL INCOME	**1,229.0**	**1,523.9**	**1,321.8**	**1,400.4**
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**1,146.3**	**1,318.5**	**1,336.5**	**1,397.0**
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) BEFORE OTHER GAINS	82.7	205.4	(14.7)	3.4
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	**93.5**	**392.3**	**172.9**	**219.7**
Net cash flow from operating activities	**10.6**	**167.6**	**35.5**	**46.7**
Non-current assets	2,802.1	3,199.7	3,468.7	3,610.7
Net current assets/(liabilities)	(222.9)	70.1	9.7	102.6
Long-term creditors and provisions	(220.9)	(430.1)	(465.8)	(481.0)
Total Net Assets	**2,358.3**	**2,839.7**	**3,012.6**	**3,232.3**
Student numbers				
Full-time equivalent students – undergraduates	11,772	11,703	11,603	11,728
Full-time equivalent students – postgraduates	9,850	10,173	10,499	10,941
Visiting and recognised students	494	472	500	526
Total students at 1 December in the financial year	**22,116**	**22,348**	**22,602**	**23,195**
Average number of staff – full-time equivalent	**11,307**	**11,846**	**12,378**	**12,721**
Staff costs as a percentage of expenditure	52.0	50.9	50.9	51.2
Size of Estate				
Buildings (square metres, thousands)	636	647	655	659

The four-year summary excludes Oxford University Press.

On 30 October 2017 Council approved the inclusion of the financial statements of the Press in 2017/18.

The figures for 2014 have been restated for FRS102 for consistency so are different from the figures which appeared in the published financial statements for 2013/14.

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