

CHINA & OXFORD



2017/18

Thriving in a changing world

Recent years have seen Oxford build on its historic foundations, achieving continued recognition for its world-leading expertise across the sciences, medicine, social sciences and humanities.

In September 2016, Oxford became the first British university to be ranked number one in the Times Higher Education's respected global table. Only two other institutions – California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and Harvard – have ever headed the rankings.

The top ranking was a reflection of Oxford's all-round strength in teaching, research and innovation. For centuries, our University has taught students from around the world through its unique college-based system. Contemporary Oxford now stands at the forefront of activity in almost every academic discipline, spanning medicine, science, social sciences and humanities.

Open to international talent

Oxford also leads in knowledge transfer, with the development of new technologies a key priority for the University. More than 70 companies have been launched by Oxford researchers since 2005, making the University one of the most innovative in the world.

A contributing factor to Oxford's continuing success has been the University's openness to international talent: Oxford has more international staff and students than ever before, with more



than 1200 students from China studying at the University in 2017. This follows a more than tenfold increase in the number of Chinese students coming to Oxford over the past 20 years.

The University is committed to giving the brightest students from around the globe the opportunity to benefit from the unique advantages of an Oxford education. Our students carry the skills and knowledge acquired here back to their home countries and communities – and the wider world – as Oxford alumni have done for hundreds of years.

The launch of new scholarships will give top Chinese students the chance to pursue their aspirations at the highest level of academic excellence, drawing on the University's unparalleled intellectual resources to develop the skills and perspectives to help advance China's future.

Graduate students from China can now apply for more than 1000 fully funded scholarship places, including the famous Rhodes Scholarships, which were extended to China in 2015.

Building Bridges with China

Oxford is continuing to build upon its strong relationship with China through the launch of fresh initiatives.

Oxford China Lecture

The Oxford China Lecture is a landmark public lecture, designed to share insight from Oxford's ground-breaking research with the widest possible audience.

The inaugural Oxford China Lecture was held in Shanghai in 2013, and the next Lecture is scheduled to take place in Beijing during summer 2017. With an expected audience of over 600 government and business leaders, students and Oxford alumni, the second Lecture will feature a discussion on the next technological breakthrough in the future of quantum computing by Professor Ian Walmsley, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation), with a panel of experts from China.

Launch of Suzhou research centre

In December 2016, negotiations were completed for the opening of Oxford's first overseas advanced science and engineering research centre at the Suzhou Industrial Park.

The Oxford Suzhou Centre for Advanced Research (OSCAR) will be dedicated to research and innovation in mathematical, physical and life sciences. It will occupy a 20,000 square metre building at the Park and receive initial funding to support scientific research programmes over a five year period.

OSCAR will focus on research challenges and technologies that, as a consequence of scope, scale or industrial sector, fit well with location in China and can capitalise on current Oxford research strengths.

Rhodes scholarships expand to China

In autumn 2016 the first Chinese Rhodes Scholars began their study at Oxford. Gong Chenzhuo, Ren Naying, Zhang Chunying, and Zhang Wanyu were selected from hundreds of applicants, with selectors praising their literary and scholastic attainment; energy to use their talents to the full; truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness and fellowship; and moral force of character and instinct to lead.

The launch of the scholarships for Chinese students was one of the most significant developments in the 113-year history of the Rhodes Scholarships. It was made possible through the generous support of the Li Ka Shing Foundation and other benefactors.

Ground-breaking medical work continues

Collaborating with China offers Oxford's medical researchers unique opportunities owing to the country's huge population and well-developed health infrastructure.

For nearly 30 years Medical Sciences Division researchers have been working to develop treatments for health problems that affect millions of people in China, the UK, and around the world.

Current highlights of our life-saving collaborations in the medical sciences include:

- Around 150 Chinese hospitals are taking part in the Acarbose Cardiovascular Evaluation (ACE) clinical trial, which is coordinated by Oxford's Diabetes Trials Unit. The trial, which is expected to report its results in 2018, will reveal if a drug called Acarbose can prevent people with coronary heart disease and impaired glucose tolerance from suffering further heart attacks and strokes.
- Since 2004 Oxford's Clinical Trial Service Unit (CTSU) has been working with the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences (CAMS) to study the genetic and environmental causes of many common diseases. Together they run the China Kadoorie Biobank, which is sponsored by the Kadoorie Charitable Foundation, the Wellcome Trust, MRC, BHF, CRUK and China National Natural Sciences Foundation, and studies more than 500,000 people in 10 locations – rural and urban – across China.
- The CAMS-Oxford Centre for Translational Immunology, a joint venture between the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, China Centre for Disease Control, Beijing's You'an Hospital, and Oxford was set up in April 2013 to study hepatitis B and liver disease. It has since been expanded to also study HIV, influenza and many other infectious diseases.



Oxford Vice-Chancellor Professor Louise Richardson meets Li Bin, Minister of China's National Health & Family Planning Commission. Beijing, August 2016

Science research centre to open in Suzhou



The OSCAR building in Suzhou

Years of discussion came to fruition in December 2016 as Professor Donal Bradley, Head of Oxford's Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division, signed an agreement to open a new research centre at the Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP).

The Oxford Suzhou Centre for Advanced Research (OSCAR) will offer scientists the opportunity to undertake research in applied science fields such as display technologies in the vicinity of major manufacturers and other industrial partners, leading to faster adaption of new research into commercially available technology.

Initial research programmes will be led

by groups from the Oxford departments of Engineering, Physics, Chemistry and Materials, with applications ranging from health informatics, tissue engineering and biomedical imaging techniques to environmental remediation, advanced materials and electronic devices. Research will be directed by Oxford University academic staff, with most of the research to be undertaken by researchers employed locally by OSCAR.

Researchers hope OSCAR will allow them to collaborate more closely with Chinese partners, growing Oxford's relationship with universities, research institutes and high-tech enterprises in China and allowing the Centre to become sustainable on a long-term basis.

Being located within SIP offers OSCAR access to state-of-the-art facilities, a research environment enriched by numerous universities and Chinese Academy Institutes, and a substantial company base including more than 80 Fortune 500 companies as well as many hundreds of SMEs. In addition, within the surrounding Jiangsu Province there are many other institutions at the heart of China's sustainable development and innovation agendas.

Plans for refurbishment of the OSCAR building began in 2016 and researchers expect to move into the Centre in early 2018.

Building resilience to natural disasters

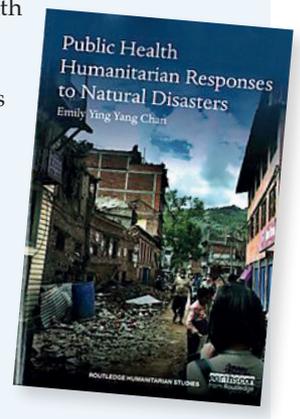
Asia is the world's most densely populated continent and suffers the highest number of natural disasters. The health impact of these disasters is exacerbated by the gap between rich and poor in many Asian countries, as well as a lack of understanding about how to manage disaster responses.

In an effort to build up the continent's resilience to natural disasters, Oxford and The Chinese University of Hong Kong joined together in 2011 to create the Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and CUHK for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response (CCOUC). The Centre is a non-profit research body that carries out research, training and community knowledge transfer in disaster and medical humanitarian response in Greater China and the Asia-Pacific Region.

CCOUC has been recognised as a Centre of Excellence by the United Nations-sponsored International

Integrated Research on Disaster Risk programme, and steered the creation of the World Health Organization's Thematic Platform for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Research Group, which CCOUC Director Professor Emily Chan now co-chairs.

Recent landmarks in CCOUC activity have included the 2017 publication of Professor Chan's book *Public Health Humanitarian Responses to Natural Disasters* and the 2014 launch of a health education app designed to aid users in understanding the most used global health terms.



Law Faculty expands connections

Since 2016 the Oxford Law Faculty has expanded its connections with Chinese Universities and built on its strengths in Chinese Law.

In early 2017, the Faculty, through the Programme for the Foundations of Law and Constitutional Government, hosted a conference in Trinity College that brought together academics from the Chinese mainland, Hong Kong, and the United Kingdom, to discuss public law. This continued a series of conferences that began four years ago in Renmin University, Beijing.

The Programme for the Foundations of Law and Constitutional Government also sponsored a visit to Beijing by Ewan Smith and Lord Justice Philip Sales, who ran a series of seminars on international law and Common Law method. Ewan McKendrick and Mindy Chen-Wishart visited Hong Kong to participate in a conference on Chinese Contract Law, aimed at spurring consideration of the reform of the Chinese Civil Code. Whilst back in Oxford, the Faculty hosted visits from the new Dean of Renmin – Professor Wang Yi – and the President of the Supreme Court – Zhou Qiang.

Later in 2017, St Hugh's College will appoint a Career Development Fellow in Chinese Commercial Law. This is a significant addition to the Law Faculty's strength in both Chinese Law and comparative commercial law. The Programme for the Foundations of Law and Constitutional Government is also sponsoring a year-long visit from a Chinese doctoral student working in public law and will continue to support Oxford academics who are lecturing in China.

HIGHLIGHTS OF OXFORD PARTNERSHIPS IN CHINA



Europe's leading centre for the study of China

Recent years have seen Oxford build with enthusiasm on its long-established history as a leading centre for the study of China.

Research into the social sciences, history, literature and culture of China is carried out by some 50 dedicated academics and centred at the **University of Oxford China Centre**. The Centre, Europe's largest of its kind, is housed in a specially designed building, the £21m cost of which was donated by Sir Dickson Poon and other Hong Kong philanthropists. It carries out research and teaching on China admired all over the world, as well as hosting debates and providing insights for policymakers and media for the UK, China and the wider world.

Dedicated research clusters within the China Centre address topics including:

- The impact of China's rising power on the wider world – political, social, and economic.
- Major issues for China today, including governance and public sector management, migration, industrialisation, labour relations, environmental and climate change, and public health.
- Perspectives on China's culture as seen in historical writing, literature and the arts, and their impact on the present day.

Opened in 2014, the China Centre building was only the latest step in a cultural relationship that stretches back to the seventeenth Century, when the **Bodleian Library** acquired its first Chinese books. Today the Library

houses a highly significant collection of Chinese material, covering many aspects of history, literature, philosophy, religion and society.

Oxford's historic Chinese collections extend beyond books: the **Ashmolean Museum** has one of the finest collections of Chinese art outside Asia. The Museum's Chinese collections range from jades and ceramics of the Neolithic period through to modern and contemporary paintings. The collection of greenwares – 'the backbone of Chinese ceramics' – is unrivalled outside China, while the Museum's collection of paintings from the modern period is one of the most renowned in the West.

The **Pitt Rivers Museum**, one of the world's great ethnographic museums, holds 7,000 objects and 4,000 photographs from China. As well as decorative arts, ceramics, and textiles, the Museum holds extensive collections of everyday objects and archaeological materials from China.



The Duke of Cambridge talks to guests at the opening of the Dickson Poon University of Oxford China Centre Building. Credit: Jonathan Hordle/St Hugh's College



Above: The Dickson Poon University of Oxford China Centre Building. Credit: Yegor Grebnev

Front page image: Qi Baishi, large fan painting with chrysanthemums, late 19th/early 20th Century; from the Ashmolean Museum's extensive collection of ancient and modern Chinese art

Oxford in China: a vibrant community

Close to 5,000 Oxford alumni live in China, constituting the world's second largest overseas population of Oxonians.

In total, the University has 2,171 alumni in mainland China, 2,212 in Hong Kong, 10 in Macao and 385 in Taiwan.

Prominent Oxford alumni include literary scholars Qian Zhongshu and Yang Xianyi; and Guo Shuqing, former Governor of Shandong Province and current Chairman of the China Banking Regulatory Commission. Zhang Jie, Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and former President of Shanghai Jiao Tong University, worked at Oxford for ten years.

Oxford has alumni groups in Beijing, Jiangsu-Zhejiang, Hong Kong, Macau, North China, Shanghai, Shenzhen and Taipei.

Alumni Weekend in Asia

The Alumni Weekend in Asia is the biennial flagship alumni event held by the University in Asia. During the Weekend, representatives from the University including the Vice-Chancellor, other senior staff and representatives from Colleges and Departments gather in a host city to catch up with Oxford alumni over three days of academic and social events. All Oxford alumni living, working or holidaying in the region are invited to attend and to bring guests.

The most recent Alumni Weekend was held in Singapore in March 2017. Attended by over 500 alumni from throughout China and other Asian countries, the event featured college and department reunions, a black tie Gala Dinner in the Flower Dome of Gardens by the Bay, a robust academic programme, an exhibition of William Shakespeare's First Folio at the National Library of Singapore and a brunch at the British Ambassador's Residence.

A few days before the Weekend, Oxford alumni also had a chance to re-unite at a Hong Kong alumni reception. Attended by almost 180 alumni and guests, the reception featured a panel discussion about Oxford's distinctive strengths.

China in Oxford: a vital contribution

Students from China: second largest international group at Oxford

In the mid-90s, fewer than 100 students from China studied in Oxford. Today, they number more than 1,200. This makes China the second largest source

of international students at Oxford after the USA, and Oxford's biggest source of international undergraduates.

In total, in 2017 there were 1205 Chinese students at Oxford, with 991 coming from mainland China, 156 from Hong Kong, four from Macao and 54 from Taiwan.

Scholarships for Chinese students

The University offers a wide variety of scholarships for graduate students covering fees and living costs: more than 1000 fully-funded scholarships are available for new master's and doctoral students in 2017-18 from the University, our colleges and supporters.

Oxford's flagship Clarendon Fund provides over 130 graduate scholarships each year to students studying any master's or DPhil course, from any country. Up to 20 China Scholarship Council University of Oxford Scholarships are available for doctoral study each year. Other dedicated scholarships for Chinese students include the Rhodes Scholarships for China, and the Oxford-Kai Feng Graduate Scholarships and Oxford-Creat Graduate Scholarships, both made possible by the generous support of philanthropists based in Beijing.

Chinese students are also eligible for the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme depending on their course of study and the Chevening Scholarships. Information about the scholarships open to Chinese graduate applicants can be found at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/fundingsearch

STUDENT PROFILE: LUANLUAN SUN



Course: DPhil in Population Health

Hometown: Linyi City, Shandong Province

Why Oxford: Oxford is known all over the world for its excellence, and is an international

centre for my subject. The department I am currently working in has a very strong reputation and has published seminal papers that have resulted in paradigm shifts in medical treatment. There has also been a long and influential collaborative relationship between my department and the Chinese government in biology and medicine.

My Oxford Experience: The most valuable part of life in Oxford is not only the things you learn, but the people you meet. Our unique college system provides an opportunity to meet talented people from almost every area of study. I really value the experience of the interaction and integration of cultures.

Aspirations: I'd like to pursue further research in epidemiology, and apply what I have learnt to the public health of the Chinese people.



The Saïd Business School
Credit: Rob Judges Photography/Oxford University Images

Outstanding short courses for Chinese professionals

Department for Continuing Education:

Oxford's Department for Continuing Education has trained nearly 10,000 Chinese officials through its dedicated range of training programmes over the past decade.

In February 2017 the Department welcomed its fifth cohort of visiting scholars from China's Ministry of Health, funded through the UK's Chevening scholarship scheme.

The joint Oxford University/China Executive Leadership Academy Pudong Centre for Urban Studies, established in July 2013, has provided three FCO-funded programmes on China's urban transformation, public private partnerships and, most recently, on the new Five Year Plan's emphasis on innovation in the knowledge economy.

In August 2016 the inaugural programme for young leaders from Hong Kong took place at Exeter College, sponsored by the Hong Kong Jockey Club, developing the scholars' leadership skills within the context of service to the community.

Saïd Business School

The Saïd Business School has a long history of collaboration with China's leading Guanghua School of Management, at Peking University. Ongoing joint programmes include Leading and Transforming Family Businesses, which Harvard Business School also takes part in, and the Global Executive Programme, a four-party collaboration with Saïd and Guanghua joining with the College of Management of National Taiwan University and the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School.