From the Chairman, Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund

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Information concerning the Oxford Australia Scholarships regarding applications or tax-deductible donations can be accessed through the Oxford Australia website at http://rsc.anu.edu.au/oxford.

The James Fairfax Oxford Australia Scholarship Committee is ten years old. We sent our first scholars to Oxford in 1998. In 2008, an exceptionally brilliant year, another group of nine young Australians will go “up”, making the total fifty-four in the ten years. The Committee gives all credit for this success to our generous donors and co-funders, who have added to the worth of the scholarship - Oxford University and Australian Universities, British Chevening and Oxford Colleges.

The challenges ahead are financial and the Committee asks in this anniversary year for your continued strong support as part of Oxford’s launch of its endowment appeal in November. Money given or promised to the Scholarship fund at the Australian National University will be tax deductible and regarded as given to “Oxford”.

The Scholars’ distinguished record at and after Oxford is illustrated in this Newsletter. Again in 2008, the choice of awardees from the 80 applications from academic and socially high achieving young people was very difficult.

I would like to thank the Committee members most sincerely for their dedication to the formidable selection task - Professor Penny Boumelha, University of Adelaide; Professor Ian Chubb AO, ANU; Dr Lynne Pressley, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital; and Professor Peter Rathjen, University of Melbourne.

To date the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund has enabled some 46 students to go to Oxford. Late last year it was a great joy, and surprise, for me to be made a ‘Distinguished Friend of Oxford’ for this activity.

The presentation was made by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr John Hood, at a dinner at Lincoln College in late October and I was pleased that a number of the current Scholars could be present for this special Oxford occasion. Our Australian scholars are recognised in the University as great assets.

On a visit to Europe for a series of research experiments, I was able to be in Oxford in early July this year to have lunch with most of the current Australian scholars. Chris Allen and John-Paul Roche attended from Oxford Endowment and International Offices. I am grateful to St John’s College for making this provision. The level of enthusiasm and dedication of the scholars was most evident, as was their enjoyment and participation in the opportunities that Oxford provides.

The benefits of an Oxford experience for these young Australians are only possible through the generosity of the new and continuing donors to the Scholarship Funds and I would like to thank these most sincerely for their support.

John White
2008-2009 **Kim Anderson** graduated from the University of Adelaide with degrees in Engineering - Computer systems (First Class Honours and University Medal 2004) and Law (First Class Honours and University Medal 2006). After graduation, Kim served for a year as Associate to the Hon Justice Vanstone in the Supreme Court of South Australia and he will study for a Bachelor of Civil Law at Oxford.

“I am passionately interested in the law, both on an academic level and also as a critical tool for the preservation of the foundations of civil democratic society. I am particularly interested in constitutional law and the intersection between law, public policy and political theory.”

2008-2011 **Benjamin Fulcher** completed a Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours and University Medal in Physics at the University of Sydney in 2007.

“My honours research involved modeling the neuronal interactions that give rise to rhythms of sleep and arousal, including the impact of external stimuli on these dynamics. Throughout my degree I have been involved in a lot of science teaching, as part of Outreach programs in the community and at an undergraduate level. In my spare time I enjoy playing music: either playing the piano on my own, or playing the cello as part of chamber groups and orchestras.

I believe that there is a lot of promise in the application of physics methods to real world complex systems and am therefore extremely excited to be able to pursue a DPhil in this area at Oxford. The opportunity will allow me to experience the rich cultural landscape of the University and to develop my passion for research physics and academic teaching.

2008-2011 **Zevic Mishor** graduated from the University of New South Wales in 2005 with First Class Honours and University Medal in physiology and psychology and plans to work for a DPhil in neuroscience at Oxford.

“Neuroscience for me is one of the most fascinating areas in biology and in science as a whole. At its highest level it studies those faculties and entities which enable us to perceive and understand the world - the brain, the mind and consciousness. As sentient organisms it could be said we are the universe perceiving and looking in upon itself. With neuroscience we are perceiving and looking in upon ourselves. I recently returned to Sydney from a three month trip to South America, travelling through Argentina, Bolivia and Peru. One of the highlights was climbing Mt Aconcagua in the Andes of Argentina - at almost 7000m it is the highest mountain outside of Asia. The entire experience was a special and life-changing one and quite unforgettable.

2008-2011 **Michael Molinari** held a British Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship in 2007-2008 to work for a MSc in Biomedical Engineering with a research project on engineering physiological tumour models. He will now work for a DPhil in Engineering Science at Oxford.

“Biomedical science in particular interests me because it addresses real human problems. It is a dynamic and growing science and there are still huge questions that remain to be answered. This potential for discovery is something that both motivates and excites me. The results of my project in tissue engineering will enable a greatly improved understanding of cancer genesis, growth and migration as well as reducing the cost of screening programs for early-stage drug candidates.

2008-2011 **Neil Rabinowitz** is completing an MSc in neuroscience at Oxford and plans to continue to a DPhil in the Department of Physiology and Genetics.

“One of my ambitions is to work on the development of neural interfaces. I am fascinated by this future technology for its potential to radically change human perception and experience through sensory augmentation, neural communication devices and biological computation. I have a love for communicating science, having spent many years teaching and mentoring. Whatever my field of expertise, I intend to engage the public with its challenges, through whatever futuristic media are available to us. For many years I have been an active music- and film-maker. The ability to translate difficult concepts across media and languages is a skill I value greatly and is one which I have found very useful within collaborative environments.
# 2008 University College Old Members’ Scholarship Award

**2008-2011 Justin Richards** plans to follow his earlier Melbourne University First Class Honours degree in physiotherapy and subsequent MSc in Science and Medicine in Athletic Performance at University College in Oxford with work for a DPhil in Public Health.

"In 2004 I participated as a volunteer in a community development project in Papua New Guinea. The time that I later spent in developing communities in central/South America and Eastern Europe further ignited my interest in global health inequality. I have been working as an intern at the World Health Organisation in Geneva on part of the Global Strategy on Diet and Physical Activity. This experience has provided an initial exposure to how I can translate my technical knowledge into a meaningful public health message.”

![Justin Richards](image)

# 2008 Magdalen College - Oxford Australia Scholarship Award

**2008-2011 James McComish** graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2006 with first class honours degrees in both law and arts (history and art history). In his arts degree, he obtained combined honours in history and art history. He was editor of the Melbourne University Law Review, sang with the choir of Trinity College, and was involved with mooting as a competitor and organiser. After working as a solicitor and as an associate to the Honourable Justice WMC Gummow AC of the High Court of Australia, he decided to return to the study of history and will read for a DPhil at Magdalen College. His proposed research is on ‘Concepts of Authority in Mid-Tudor England: 1547-1558’, focussing on the interaction of political theory and political practice in the time of Edward VI and Mary Tudor. His interest in the conceptual and practical interaction of individual liberty and state authority arises out of his interest in present-day constitutional law, and after finishing his studies he hopes to return to the practice of law at the bar.

![James McComish](image)

# 2008 The British Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship Awards

Since 1998, The British High Commission and the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund, have jointly funded two scholarships to the University of Oxford for a one-year taught postgraduate course. The fields of study have varied.

**2008-2009 Kate Purcell**, following a BA from Macquarie University, recently completed a Bachelor of Laws with First Class Honours and the University Medal in Law from University of NSW specialising in international law. She plans to study for a Bachelor of Civil Law in Oxford.

"I am committed to social justice both as an academic and future professional and have taken an active role in community work to this effect alongside my studies. I have participated in both Amnesty International and Oxfam working groups, completed a three-month voluntary placement with the regional branch of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and completed a semester-long voluntary placement with the NSW Public Defender’s Office. I would hope to take advantage of the opportunity to complete a dissertation as part of this degree, potentially addressing certain aspects of the international regime pertaining to internally displaced persons, a topic at the intersection of human rights and humanitarian law.”

**2008-2009 Phoebe Williams** plans to follow her Sydney University Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery honours degrees and her ANU Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Science degrees with a MSc at Oxford in Global Health Science. Phoebe founded the charity "Hands of Help” in 2005 "which aims to improve education and health care in developing communities as well as to expose medical students to the issues facing developing world health. I have spent three months of every year from 2004 -2007 in Africa as well as over 6 months in remote indigenous communities in Australia and have managed the building of 4 primary schools in Uganda, a child sponsorship program for 250 Kenyan orphans, the establishment of a Ugandan Community Health Project run by Ugandans for Ugandans and a biannual preventative health care project for Australian Aboriginal people without access to regular health care. I would like to combine some clinical work in paediatric infectious diseases with a public health focussed career.”

![Kate Purcell](image)

![Phoebe Williams](image)
2007 - 2010 Melissa Duncan from Brisbane, graduated from the University of Queensland in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science, majoring in both mathematics and physics and in 2006 graduated with First Class Honours and a University Medal in Mathematics.

“I’ve had an amazing time here in Oxford during the first year of my DPhil. While most of my time is spent working on my DPhil project, I’ve also attended many interesting seminars and courses in both the mathematics and physics departments. I have had the chance to be a teaching assistant for some undergraduate classes and recently attended a graduate school in Germany. Outside of study, I’ve enjoyed the numerous college social events held during term and have also taken part in college netball and rowing. I am certainly looking forward to Trinity term and the English summer!”

2006 – 2009 Olivia Murphy, from Canberra, graduated with a University Medal in English from the University of Sydney in 2005.

“I’ve had a wonderful year so far. Mainly I’ve been working on my thesis, but since my last report I’ve given two conference papers: one in March, to the British Association for Romantic Studies’ postgraduate conference at the University of Leeds, on eighteenth-century novelistic heroines; and one in April, to the David Nichol Smith Seminar at the University of Otago (NZ) on Jane Austen’s juvenilia and "Persuasion".

With two other DPhil students I’ve started convening the Romantic Realignments seminar, which meets to hear papers weekly during term time, and we’re organising a conference for late September, on Romanticism and War.

Last term I was in a play, “Oedipus Tyrannos”, which we performed in Christ Church Cathedral during their arts week. Other than that, I’ve been working as a library assistant at Worcester, which is a lovely quiet job, going to see plays in London and Stratford-upon-Avon, and hanging around the Oxford Literary Festival, which was lots of fun.”

2007 - 2009 Andrew Whitby, from Brisbane, graduated from the University of Queensland in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours and a University Medal in Computer Science) and a Bachelor of Economics. After graduation, he worked at Accenture and the Allen Consulting Group on projects involving public policy (health and education), regulatory economics and economic modelling.

“My time at Oxford so far has been as hectic as it has been enjoyable. Having completed lectures in the core first-year courses of Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Econometrics, I feel my knowledge of economics has increased substantially in a very short time. With the two teaching terms completed, I now look forward to a term of consolidation, in preparation for exams in eighth week. My other major academic task now is to decide upon a thesis topic: no easy task given the breadth of material we’ve covered.

Time spent outside the Social Sciences Library has been equally busy. I joined the Oxonian Review of Books as a non-fiction (and online) editor, with our second issue of this academic year due to be published shortly. Along with running and the odd climbing trip, I’ve discovered the all-consuming nature of rowing (and its peculiar Oxbridge form: bumps racing), although Oxford’s weather has meant more time in the gym than on the water. Finally, as I write this I am putting together a team for Oxfam’s UK Trailwalker, to reprise my Sydney effort on the reputedly-easier course along the South Downs Way.”

2006 – 2010 Shelley Wickham, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a combined degree in Science and Arts, with a major in Russian Language and First Class Honours and the University Medal in Physics.

“After a year of intense coursework, I’m now entering the second year of my 4 year DPhil at Oxford. I have recently started work on my extended research project, which focuses on the area of bionanotechnology. More specifically, my project involves using DNA as a novel building material to construct nano-devices. This is an exciting new field of research, where instead of painstakingly constructing nano-scale devices one by one as has been done in the past, insights from biology are used to design structures which then self-assemble in solution. In December 2007 I was awarded a prize by the Doctoral Training Centre for my preliminary work towards this project, and I’m looking forward to attending a Foundations in Nanoscience conference in Utah in April 2008. I really enjoyed my first year living in Oxford, and particularly liked meeting the other scholars and Professor White at a number of Fairfax Oxford-Australia events.”
University College Old Members’ Scholar in Oxford

2007 – 2010 Rhys Davies from Bendigo graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor in Science and Honours degree in Physics. "Oxford has so far been every bit as rewarding as I expected. The academic environment is constantly stimulating and challenging, and the town itself is a beautiful place to live. A lot of my time so far has been taken up with lectures and associated work, although I have also made some progress with background reading which will be relevant to my research. I am being jointly supervised by two string theorists, Xenia de la Ossa from the Mathematical Institute and Andre Lukas from the Theoretical Physics department, and the goal of my work at this stage is to better understand some of the properties of string theory, which is a promising candidate for a complete description of the fundamental physics of the universe. Outside of my work, I have been playing football for my college MCR team and taking evening classes in German, both of which provide welcome interludes.

Magdalen College-Oxford Australia Scholars

2007 - 2008 Prue Bindon graduated from The Australian National University in 2001 with degrees in Arts and Law (First Class Honours and the University Medal in Law). Prue worked in private practice in Sydney, became an Associate to the Hon Justice Dyson Heydon AC of the High Court of Australia then returned to private practice. The Magdalen College scholarship, together with a Clarendon Bursary enabled Prue to read for a Bachelor of Civil Law.

"I am finding my time at Oxford to be challenging and fulfilling in so many ways. I can attest that the BCL lives up to its reputation as an intense and demanding course. This is owed not just to the world class instruction of the professors who are leaders in their respective fields but also to the calibre and diversity of fellow students. The ability to engage with top students from so many nations is more enriching than I could have imagined, both on an academic level and a social level. I certainly feel that my position on, and approach to, the specific areas of law on which I am focussing are being challenged, developed and improved all the time. Amidst the demands of the BCL I am taking every opportunity to soak up the riches on offer in Oxford. From attending lectures and debates by pre-eminent figures, through to screenings by the numerous film societies that are active in Oxford, there is simply no end to social and cultural outlets. Magdalen College boasts an extremely supportive and social group of graduates and every week there are new events to look forward to. It is both a pleasure and a privilege to be part of the Magdalen graduate community and I am extremely grateful for the financial assistance that has made it possible.

2006 – 2008 James Goudkamp graduated from the University of Wollongong in 2003 with degrees in science and law with First Class Honours and the University Medal in law. James was an Associate to the Hon Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG of the High Court of Australia in 2005 and 2006 and was the first recipient of the Magdalen College-Oxford Australia Scholarship. In 2007 James graduated from Oxford with the degree of Bachelor of Civil Law with distinction and the prize for civil procedure. He is presently reading for the Master of Philosophy in Law and intends to pursue the Doctor of Philosophy.

"Reading for the BCL was very exciting. It set a demanding pace and the learning curve was extremely steep. I’m presently enjoying the MPhil, which provides greater scope to explore specific problems in detail. In my thesis I am investigating the nature of tort law defences, drawing on what criminal lawyers have had to say about the structure of criminal law defences. My overarching goal is to provide an account of how tort defences operate collectively. I hope to stay in Oxford for the DPhil. In my spare time I am developing some of my work for the BCL for publication. I have recently completed an article on the admissibility of bad character evidence in criminal proceedings. It will appear in the International Journal of Evidence & Proof. I authored notes in the January issues of the Law Quarterly Review and the Civil Justice Quarterly. These notes respectively examine the circumstances in which risks are foreseeable and the concept of judicial bias. I will be returning to the University of Wollongong for one week in November to lecture on the philosophy of tort law.”
2006 – 2008  **Anthony Jones**, from Sydney, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Asian Studies) with First Class Honours and a University Medal in Chinese. During the course of his degree he won scholarships and prizes for English, Latin, Ancient Greek and modern Chinese. His honours thesis however focused on Classical Chinese language, specifically the semiotic implications of the third-century BCE Daoist philosophical text *Zhuang Zi*. While at university, Anthony was involved in debating, representing Sydney University at Australian, Australasian and World championships, and winning the award for Best Debater in Australia at the 2001 Australian intervarsity championships. He also edited *Honi Soit*, and wrote for the university's literary journal, *Hermes*, and the Sydney University Dramatic Society. Following graduation, he studied at the Guoji Guanxi Xueyuan (College of International Relations) in Beijing over the 2004-05 Chinese winter. During 2005 & 2006, Anthony worked at the NSW Government Cabinet Office in the Premier’s policy advice unit on rural water and natural resources policy. At the same time, he has been pursuing further MA research in the area of early Classical Chinese literature – this time the ritual poetry of the ancient Book of Songs.

"Having now completed a third of my law degree at University College, I am happy to say that all my expectations as to the intellectual rigour and interest of the course have been fulfilled. At the same time, I am also glad that the stories of the wide range of extra-curricular activities here at Oxford have been proved true. I have had the good fortune to play in the erratic but sometimes sublime Univ rugby XV, to win a choral exhibition, to be elected as secretary of the Univ graduate community and to participate in a number of trivia and University Challenge teams. I thank the Oxford Australia Committee for the continued opportunity here at Oxford, and look forward to Trinity Term 2007 and beyond."

2006 – 2008  **Phil Manners**, from Armidale, New South Wales, currently in Sydney, graduated from the Australian National University in Canberra with a Bachelor of Economics (Honours and University Medal) and a Bachelor of Science majoring in mathematics. Since graduating he has worked at the Reserve Bank of Australia and at the Centre for International Economics. Initially, he undertook research into monetary policy and exchange rates, futures markets and monetary policy in an uncertain world. At the Centre for International Economics he was involved in micro economic issues such as regulatory reform, the impact of trade and investment liberalisation and the assessment of economic policies.

"My second year of the MPhil in Economics was very rewarding. I took two courses: in international economics and in development economics. The highlights of these courses included analysing the impact of globalisation on developed and developing countries, thinking about how to make aid work and exploring macroeconomic management in developing countries. In my own research I investigated the channels through which technology moves between countries, including trade, investment and migration linkages. I find that all three channels can be important although some countries benefit more from technology transfer than others. I also presented a paper at the Centre for the Study of African Economies Conference. Here I investigated the trade environment facing African countries and the ability of these countries to benefit from growth in their own region. I have also been very busy on other fronts, captaining the Nuffield College football team, running in the Teddy Hall relay and exploring as much of the UK and Europe as possible."

2005 – 2006 and 2007 - 2008  **Brenda Tronson**, from Werombi, New South Wales, graduated from University of New South Wales with a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Science (Hons). Brenda completed her BCL in July 2006 and has been granted a deferral to work as an associate with Justice Crennan QC before continuing her studies with a M Phil in Law.

"This year, I am back in Oxford to read for the MPhil in Law, a one year research masters. My research involves the construction of a taxonomy of judicial approaches to resource implications in the interpretation of equality rights. It’s great to have the chance to be a full-time student again, before starting at the Bar in Sydney once I finish at Oxford, and I’ve been keeping myself busy with various MCR and other extra-curricular activities as well."
### Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars

**2006 – 2007 Patrick Delaney**, from Canberra, graduated from the Australian National University at the end of 2005 with a Bachelor of Laws (1st Class Honours and University Medal) and Bachelor of Arts, majoring in International Relations and Philosophy. In 2007, he graduated from the Bachelor of Civil Law at Oxford University with a Distinction. He has published work on corruption and discrimination, and worked in government and international non-government organisations. After being based in Colombia for 6 months immediately after completing his studies at Oxford, he is presently working in the International Law Branch of the Ministry of Justice in London.

**2006 – 2007 Erin Schwarz** graduated from the University of Adelaide in 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts (First Class Honours in English) and a Diploma in Languages (Japanese). She went to Oxford in 2006 to read for the MSt in English Language and Literature, and was awarded the degree with Distinction in 2007.

"My year reading for the MSt passed very quickly and afforded many opportunities for academic and personal growth. Being at Oxford gave me a rare opportunity to experience literature differently, in a new cultural context, and I particularly relished the chance to work with the manuscripts and first editions at the Bodleian Library. As I expected, the MSt in English was a challenging course, demanding an acutely analytical mindset and well-developed skills in argumentation. However, there was a wonderful amount of support on offer not only from my tutors and College, but from the friends I made whilst in Oxford. I am extremely grateful to the Oxford-Australia Scholarship Fund Committee for enabling me to pursue something that would have otherwise remained only a dream, and for going out of its way to provide an exceptional level of support for my studies."

**2004 – 2006 Eloise Scotford**, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a combined science/law degree and a University Medal in Law in 2001. She completed a Bachelor of Civil Law in Oxford in 2005-6, with interests in environmental law and regulation, and European Community law.

"Having completed my BCL, my MPhil year was a time for much more fun and involvement in Oxford life. The richness of academic and extra-curricular life continued to be astounding. The terms passed frighteningly quickly, filled as they were with much learning, opportunity and Oxford beauty. My MPhil thesis concerned EC environmental law, and I look to extending my thesis into a DPhil project. I should be in this inspiring place for a little while longer, and I am very grateful for all the financial support that has made my time here so far possible."

**2004 – 2005 Naomi Hawkins**, from Brisbane, graduated from the University of Queensland with degrees in science and law and a University Medal in Law in 2002. She pursued a Bachelor of Civil Law degree with a focus on commercial, comparative and intellectual property law.

Naomi also received a funding supplement from the University of Queensland to support her scholarship

"Since completing my Bachelor of Civil Law in 2005, I have continued my studies at Oxford. I am now undertaking my D.Phil in law, funded by a Biomedical Ethics Studentship of the Wellcome Trust. My research examines and analyses the impact of patents over human genes on the translation of medical biotechnology research into clinical application, in the context of the development of genetic diagnostic tests. I am fortunate to be based at the Ethox Centre within the Division of Public Health and Primary Health Care, a multidisciplinary research group of clinicians, philosophers, lawyers, social scientists and psychologists who examine the ethical, legal and social implications of health care.

I continue to enjoy living in Oxford; it truly is an amazing place. I have made a number of very good friends, in diverse disciplines, and from various countries. When I am not pursuing my research, I appreciate the social side of Oxford life, and have become involved in the Oxford University Dancesport Club, and social and competitive Ballroom and Latin-American dancing."
Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars

2003 – 2006 Mark Thomson, from Adelaide, graduated from the Australian National University with two First Class Honours degrees and University Medals in Latin and English Literature. He began a Doctor in Philosophy (DPhil) in Classics, specialising in Late Antiquity, at Keble College, Oxford in 2003. Mark Thomson recently completed the final draft of his thesis. He returned to Australia, to take up a sessional vacancy in Ancient History at the Australian National University and was lecturing on aspects of Roman urbanism to undergraduate and postgraduate students.

“Over the past few years, I have been on a thesis on the subject “The Historia Augusta and Late Roman Literary Culture”. The Historia Augusta is one of the more enigmatic books in Latin literature, a series of biographies of Roman emperors from Hadrian to the Carinus (117-285), attributed to six authors, writing in the reigns of Diocletian, Constantius I and Constantine. During the nineteenth century, critics gradually realised that the whole thing was an enormous hoax, perpetrated by a single forger, writing late in the fourth century. The author of these bizarre lies was something of a genius and he inflicted untold horrors upon classical studies: bogus authors, senators, buildings, dates, letters and laws, even a few spurious emperors. As well as trying to find the genuine historical materials hidden beneath these inventions, I have tried to place some of this nonsense in its context, to integrate it into the culture of its day.

2003 – 2006 Simon Baptist, from Hobart, graduated from the University of Tasmania with a combined science/economics degree and First Class Honours and University Medal in Economics in 2002.

“My DPhil has been really gratifying. The work is on the differences between the performance of manufacturing firms in East Asia and in Africa. Education has always been held to be an important aspect of development, and yet the rapid expansion of education in Africa has had little discernible impact. My research shows that firms in Africa are not able to capitalise on the education their workers have. Conversely, education is much more strongly linked to productivity in East Asia. There needs to be more of a focus on the technology that African firms use, and particularly how they use workers of different skill types, if they are to emulate their East Asian counterparts.”

2002 - 2005 Corin Throsby, from Sydney, graduated with the University Medal in English Literature from the Australian National University. She completed her Master of Studies in English at Somerville College with a Distinction. Her doctoral thesis was on Byron and the birth of celebrity culture in the Romantic period. Corin then worked as Welfare Dean at Merton College.

“Now that my time in Oxford is coming to an end, I am appreciating more than ever the beauty, intellectual richness, and fun of the place. I am deeply grateful to the Oxford Australia Fund for enabling me to come here. I have no doubt that my Oxford experience - the things I’ve learned and the people I’ve met - will continue to influence and shape my life long after I’ve left.”

2002-2005 Nicholas Apostoloff, from Canberra, graduated with a Masters degree in 2005, a University Medal in Engineering in 2000 and a Bachelor of Information Technology in 1998 from the Australian National University. He began his DPhil in October 2002 at Brasenose College, specialising in Computer Vision.

“I am submitting my thesis on automatic methods for video segmentation and matting this month and will be sitting my DPhil. examination on July 6. While writing my thesis, I have been working as a Research Assistant for Prof. Andrew Zisserman on a project involving the automatic detection, tracking and identification of people in video. This is a real-time realisation of a previous project that automatically identified cast members in the popular TV series, Buffy the Vampire Slayer. At the end of July, I am moving to San Francisco to pursue a research and development career in the post-production industry for film and television. Eventually, I hope to settle back home in Australia and continue my research there. I would like to thank the Oxford-Australia fund for helping me with my research and wish the fund all the best for the future.”
Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars

2002-2003 Daniel Piggott graduated from the University of Queensland with First Class Honours and a University Medal in Law. He completed the Bachelor of Civil Laws with distinction.

"Studying law as a James Fairfax Oxford Australia Fund Scholar helped me to develop the skill set I needed to progress my legal career in both practice and academia. The broader thinking learned in my studies helped me to branch out of a traditional commercial litigation practice into areas of public interest. This included conducting a pro bono case in the Federal Court and High Court of Australia that refined the law relating to the Commonwealth’s power to deal with aliens. I have now joined the private bar in Brisbane, where I hope to continue my involvement in public and constitutional law in addition to building a commercial litigation practice.

Academically, my studies have allowed me to hold a position as a visiting lecturer in law at the University of Queensland, teaching both graduate and undergraduate students. I have also published articles in Australia and England, and presented a number of professional seminars."

2001 – 2004 Patrick Porter read Law and History at the University of Melbourne from 1995 to 2000 and has a First Class Honours degree in history. He was awarded a DPhil in Modern European History at Magdalen College, having completed his MPhil with distinction. Patrick is now a lecturer at the University of London.

"Thanks to the generosity of the James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholarship, I was able to complete a DPhil in Modern History at Magdalen College, Oxford. My doctoral thesis, (which survived the viva!), examined religious rhetoric in the British and German armies in the First World War.

I worked as a Tutor at Oxford in both British History and the comparative history of the First World War. I also worked as a Teaching Fellow at the British Defence Academy, where I have just been appointed as a Lecturer in Defence Studies."

2000-2003 Garry Bowen won the University Medal for Theoretical Physics at the Australian National University in 1999. He completed his DPhil in Physics in 2003.

"Since leaving Oxford I have continued research in physics, specifically in the field of quantum information theory. I have spent the last three years at the University of Cambridge, where I also have a position as a Junior Research Fellow at Churchill College. The James Fairfax Oxford-Australia Scholarship allowed me to undertake a doctorate as part of one of the leading quantum information research groups in the world. Developing a research career would have been considerably more difficult without the support of the Oxford-Australia fund, and I am very grateful for the opportunities it has provided for me."

1999-2002 Benjamin Kelly read Arts and Law at the University of Sydney. He completed his DPhil in Classics in 2002 at Brasenose College, and was a lecturer in the History Programme at the ANU between 2003 and 2007.

"The Oxford Faculty of Classics is one of the largest in the world. Doing graduate work at Oxford therefore offered me opportunities to develop a wide range of technical skills and to experience a considerable variety of approaches to my subject. Moreover, Classics at Oxford is not just a large Faculty, it is a flourishing one. It is one whose senior members are distinguished by their constant willingness to engage with the work of their colleagues and of graduate students, and to debate issues of fundamental cultural importance. It is easy, I think, for junior members of Australian humanities departments to lose sight of the higher cultural purpose of their work under the crush of research production targets, grant proposals, quality reviews, strategic planning, and the like. Having experienced the vibrant atmosphere of a large European Classics faculty, I have been left, I hope, with an enduring sense of what is really important in my professional life: to study the classical origins of Western culture, to help to transmit the classical tradition to future generations, and to interact with academic colleagues and students with generosity and collegiality.

In the last year or so, I have taken a new position in a large, research-intensive History department in a Canadian university. The experience of being recruited to a North American department underlined the recognition and respect that an Oxford degree enjoys all over the world. The simple fact is that I would not have even been considered for such a position if I had written my PhD at an Australian university. An Oxford degree opens doors. And this is not the result of ancient prejudices. It is the consequence of very clear-headed assessment by the international scholarly community of the quality of graduate training that Oxford continues to deliver."
**Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars**

1999-2001 **Patrick Mackerras** read Mathematics for his Bachelor of Science degree at the Australian National University from 1994 to 1997 before gaining a James Fairfax Oxford-Australia Scholarship to Christ Church College, Oxford. He studied Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE).

1998-2001 **Dale Smith** read Law and Arts at the University of Melbourne and was the recipient of the first James Fairfax Oxford-Australia Scholarship to be awarded. He completed a DPhil in Law at Oxford.

"I was a recipient of a James Fairfax Oxford Australia Scholarship from 1998 to 2001, as a result of which I was able to complete my D.Phil, which was on the relevance of the debate between moral objectivists and anti-objectivists to legal adjudication. In the process, I was afforded the opportunity to meet, and learn from, many of the leading figures in my discipline. I am currently a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Law at Monash University, researching primarily in legal philosophy. The training I received at Oxford has proven to be of enormous value in my pursuit of an academic career."

**Sir Vincent Fairfax Life Sciences Scholarships 2003-2006**

In its 40th anniversary year, 2002, the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation made a donation of $120,000 to honour the Oxford graduate and founder of the Foundation, Sir Vincent Fairfax CMG. This generous donation provided funding for two three-year life science research degrees at Oxford University. The two scholarship holders, Dr Jonathan Lo and Dr Jason Wong, have now successfully completed their studies.

2003 - 2006 **Jonathan Lo**, from Melbourne, graduated from the University of Queensland with a First Class Honours degree and University Medal in Engineering in 1996 and a Master of Engineering Science in 1998. Based at Balliol College, he worked in the Medical Vision Laboratory, specialising in diagnostic medical analysis, such as tumour detection and disease localisation.

"During the last academic year, I continued my work in developing computed-aided breast cancer detection using MRI images. My effort was put into trying to extract physiologically important information out of the images and use it for cancer detection. I presented papers at an international conference in Washington D.C. during April 2006 and a conference in Copenhagen during October.

After my graduation, I got an offer to work for an investment bank in Japan, as a quantitative researcher. I am currently living in Tokyo, and managed to climb to the top of Mt. Fuji last summer."

2003 – 2006 **Jason Wong**, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a First Class Honours degree in Bioinformatics in 2002. Based at Linacre College, his DPhil research involves the development of a computational tool intended to help the understanding of genomes. Jason successfully completed his D Phil in October 2006.

"Following the completion of my D.Phil in October 2006, I took up a post-doctoral fellowship in Ireland at University College Dublin continuing research in the area of mass spectrometry based proteomics. By the end of 2007, I found myself deciding whether to spend a couple more years overseas on a NHMRC CJ Martin post-doctoral fellowship or to return back to Sydney and become a research fellow at the newly found UNSW Cancer research centre. I have chosen the later and currently looking forward to establishing a bioinformatics research group over the next few years. I am most grateful for the academic opportunities that the Sir Vincent Fairfax Family foundation in cooperation with the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund has opened up for me."

Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund News 10
The generous support from the many members of University College now living in Australia, has made it possible for the University College Old Members'-Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund to continuously maintain an Australian student reading at University College since 1999. At present the fund is supporting two scholars in Oxford, Rhys Davies, who is reading for a D Phil in Physics, and Justin Richards, who is reading for a D Phil in Public Health. The three scholars previously sponsored by the Fund are Kwan Hee Lee, Kathleen Neal and Jonathan Pearlman.

2004 – 2007 Kwan Hee Lee, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a double degree in Science and Electrical Engineering, with First Class Honours and the University Medal in Engineering. At Oxford, he completed a DPhil in Condensed Matter Physics.

"The DPhil involved investigating some of the fundamental physics behind light emitting III-V based nanostructures. These are very small semiconductor structures (~1000 atoms) and it represents the next generation material for optical and electronic applications. After submitting the DPhil thesis in December 2006 (with the DPhil degree being awarded in July 2007), I joined Samsung Electronics (LCD Division) as a Research Engineer. I was member of a research team which aimed to improve the stability and performance of the amorphous silicon thin-film transistor (a-Si TFT).

As of March 2008, I have returned back to Sydney. Currently I am at "Spruson & Ferguson", where I am working towards becoming a Registered Australian Patent Attorney. This represents a new phase of my professional career, making the transition from 'front-line' research to intellectual property and patents."

2001-2002 Kathleen Neal (nee Hutson) has a science and arts degree from the University of Melbourne. She completed a Masters of Studies Historical Research (Medieval History) at the University of Oxford.

"The year was a stimulating and exciting one for me in terms of career development, and I continue to build on the wonderful foundation afforded me by my MSt. I have recently been appointed book reviews editor of the Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association, and I regularly contribute reviews to this journal as well as Parergon, the journal of the Australia and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies. My own historical output continues apace: in the past year I have submitted for publication a paper on the portrayal of speech in early Irish hagiography, and presented at a number of conferences around Australia on aspects of my next major project, a study of medieval literacy through the letters of Eleanor of Provence. None of this would have been possible without the great training, especially in Latin and palaeography, which I received in Oxford."

1999-2001 Jonathan Pearlman was the first scholar the University College Old Members’ Fund supported. He read Art and Law at the University of New South Wales gaining a BA (Hons) and LLB. He completed an MPhil in modern English literature.

"Receiving the Oxford Australia Scholarship in 1999 allowed me to realise a long-held dream of studying English literature at Oxford. After completing an MPhil in 2001, I joined the Sydney Morning Herald as a trainee journalist. I have since worked in the newspaper’s investigations team and on the foreign desk and am currently a state political reporter in the Herald’s bureau at the NSW Parliament. So, aside from leaving me with great memories, the scholarship and my time at Oxford have helped me with my next step in..."
Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars

2007 - 2008 Carla Bissett graduated from the University of New South Wales in December 2006.

"After two terms of my MSc program in Water Science, Policy and Management, I can attest to the intensity and diversity of Oxford life. In addition to attending lectures, tutorials and seminars presented by leading academic and professional figures from all over the world, I have learned from the diverse backgrounds, experiences and knowledge of my fellow students. I was fortunate enough to travel with a group of my peers to Leiden University, Netherlands, as part of the Louwes benefactory and inaugural Louwes lecture series and will be going on a WSPM field trip to Spain, to investigate integrated water management strategies within the semi-arid Ebro Valley. Aside from academic pursuits, I am truly enjoying filling rare moments of spare time with formal halls, cuppers hockey and rowing for Brasenose Boat Club. I cannot thank the Oxford Australia Committee enough for providing me with the means to read for this course and to benefit from these many and varied experiences."

2007-2008 Michael Molinari graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2004 with a Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Science (Chemistry/Biochemistry). On his Chevening Scholarship, Michael studied for his MSc in Biomedical Engineering. Michael Molinari has been awarded a James Fairfax - Oxford Australia Scholarship to read for a D Phil in Engineering Science.

"I found the course to be interesting and stimulating. The student group is incredibly diverse – with the 16 of us hailing from 10 different countries and almost as many undergraduate disciplines. My research project is on engineering physiological tumour models. The highlight so far, however, has been the social and sporting life here in Oxford. I've been playing hockey for the University, and was part of the 2nd XI that drew with Cambridge as well as rowing for Wolfson College."

2005 - 2006 Catherine Eakin, from Kempsey, New South Wales, graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Laws degree with First Class Honours in 2001. Since graduating, Catherine has worked as a tipstaff to a Supreme Court Judge in NSW and has been employed in a financial services and corporate advisory practice. At Oxford, Catherine read for a Bachelor of Civil Law at St John's College.

"The 2005-2006 academic year I spent as a Chevening Oxford Australia scholar reading for the BCL enriched my life academically, professionally and personally. The rigour of the Oxford curriculum and tutorial system provided me with the opportunity to refine my analytical skills, learn from internationally acclaimed scholars and to befriend and exchange ideas with students from all around the world. I was challenged to consider why and how we regulate, the significance of the shift from national to European law, and the ways in which Australia is both ahead of and behind the United Kingdom in formulating regulatory policy. Reading for the BCL in Oxford's glorious surrounds is a year I will never forget, and the broad ranging knowledge I acquired has proven an invaluable resource in my day to day work in private practice."

2005 - 2006 Alexander (Sandy) Phipps, from Canberra, graduated in 2003 from the Australian National University with degrees in Arts (History/Politics) and Law. In 2005, Sandy took up a Chevening Oxford-Australia scholarship to read for a Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL) at St Edmund Hall. Since completing that degree in July 2006, Sandy has remained in England, working as a litigator at a London law firm. He has drawn heavily in his new role on his BCL studies, particularly in the fields of private international law and civil procedure.

"Having the opportunity to study at Oxford by virtue of the Chevening Oxford-Australia Scholarship programme was a remarkable experience. The BCL was the most intellectually rigorous course of study I have ever undertaken, by virtue of the inherent nature of the degree and, perhaps more importantly, the enthusiasm and ability of my fellow students. But of course these same features made it an immensely rewarding and enjoyable experience as well; and this is not to mention the opportunities for travel and the pursuit of non-academic interests that my time in Oxford presented. I would therefore recommend wholeheartedly the scholarship to prospective students; and would thank Professor White and the Fund committee for their support and on-going work in support of the scholarship programmes."
**Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars**

**2004 – 2005 Andrew Battisson**, from Canberra, graduated from the Australian National University with a Bachelor of Commerce degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree with First Class Honours in 2002. He read for the Bachelor of Civil Law at St Anne's College. After graduating from the Australian National University, Andrew practised in the fields of litigation and takeovers, and securities law in Sydney. At Oxford, he pursued his interest in these areas and the developing relationship between commercial law and improving compliance with human rights.

Andrew was also awarded a scholarship from the international commercial law firm Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer to supplement his Chevening scholarship.

**2004 – 2005 Jodi Gray** graduated from the Australian National University with a combined science/law degree in 2002 with two First Class Honours in science (Psychology) and law as well a University Medal in Law. Before leaving for Oxford, Jodi worked as a solicitor in Sydney and as a volunteer for the international humanitarian law section of the International Committee for the Red Cross. Jodi undertook a Bachelor of Civil Law with a focus on public international law including the law of war and international human rights, comparative human rights, international dispute resolution and conflict of laws.

"I focused on international law and human rights and found all the subjects fascinating and the small group tutorials both challenging and rewarding. There is much to absorb from an academic standpoint in Oxford with regular seminars on timely international law issues presented by leading practitioners, policy-makers and academics throughout the world. I feel very privileged to be in such a setting and am learning a great amount. Aside from the academic, Oxford also provides a great opportunity to become involved in new sports. I took up rowing in first term and rowed in the Christchurch Regatta for novices - and novices we were! It was all a lot of fun."

**2003 – 2004 Sophie Rigby Ward**, from Canberra, was awarded a Bachelor of Economics degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree with First Class Honours from the Australian National University. Her Chevening Scholarship took her to Oxford for a Bachelor of Civil Law.

"After completing the BCL at Christ Church in 2004, I returned to private practice at Freehills in Sydney. However, my BCL studies had sparked my interest in international trade law and this prompted me to move to the public sector in 2006. In my current role as an adviser to the Minister for Trade, I find myself frequently drawing upon both the knowledge and the skills I acquired during my BCL year. I am forever grateful for the opportunity I had to study at Oxford, and for the opportunities that experience continues to offer me."

**2003 – 2004 David Tomkins** graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Laws with First Class Honours from the University of Western Sydney. He read for a Bachelor of Civil Law at Jesus College in Oxford.

"After completing the BCL in 2003-2004 (thanks to the Chevening scholarship) I received a scholarship to study in Trier, Germany for a year where I undertook an LL.M in German and European law. The year in Germany was most rewarding and really complemented the experience of coming from Australia to Oxford. I have since returned to Oxford and completed an M.Phil with a dissertation on Judicial Review of Emergency Powers. I’m currently pursuing a D.Phil which I should finish in 2009 on The Justiciability of Political Questions. I will then very much be looking forward to returning to Australia. My time as a Chevening-Oxford Australia scholar was invaluable, not only academically but also personally. The Oxford BCL is a unique opportunity to work with some of the best minds in the field (both students and academics). I was continually challenged in my thoughts and perspectives and am eager to use what I have gained here when I return home. On the extra-curricular side, I had no trouble getting involved with music, drama and sport. One of the greatest things about Oxford is the opportunity to meet interesting, intelligent people from all over the world and from just about every academic discipline imaginable."
2002-2003 Sarah McCosker graduated from the University of Queensland with a combined Bachelor of Arts (1998) and Bachelor of Laws (2001), with double first class honours. She worked as an Associate to a Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland and qualified as a barrister before going to Oxford in 2002.

"My year as a Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholar began what has come to be a very full and fulfilling time at Oxford. After completing the BCL I undertook the M.Phil in Law, writing on the relationship between international law and diplomacy in international dispute settlement—a topic I continued working on for my D.Phil. Between 2003 and 2006 I worked as the Assistant Dean of Brasenose College, and in 2005-2006 I taught international law, both to undergraduate Oxford students and to diplomats on the Oxford University Foreign Service Programme. I also enjoyed working as an Assistant Editor then Editor of the Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal, and being involved for four years in Oxford’s pro bono law program. I moved to Canberra in August 2006 to work as a lawyer with the Office of International Law with the federal Attorney-General’s Department. I am working on international human rights and humanitarian law and am enjoying translating my postgraduate studies into practice. The knowledge and experience I have gained at Oxford has proven extremely valuable and I am currently completing my D.Phil. I will always be immensely appreciative of the many opportunities that the Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship has provided me."

2001-2002 Hoi Trinh has a double degree in Arts and Law from the University of Melbourne (1990-94). On his Chevening Scholarship, he completed the Master of Studies in Forced Migration at Magdalen College

"Since my graduation at Oxford in 2002, thanks to my Chevening Scholarship, I’ve managed to fulfil my ultimate dream: to find a home for some 2,000 stateless Vietnamese refugees left stranded in the Philippines over the last 17 years. Starting with Australia, most of this stateless population has been resettled in Norway, Canada and the U.S. Receiving the scholarship not only enabled me to complete my Masters in refugee studies, but it has also given me much credibility in this line of work whenever I have to deal with government officials or organisations."

2001-2002 Laura Dawes has a First Class Honours degree in mathematics and statistics from Murdoch University and was awarded a University Medal in Science. She completed a Master of Science in Economic and Social History, specialising in the History of Science

"After completing my Masters studies at Oxford as a Chevening Oxford Australia Scholar in 2001-02, I lived in Hanoi, Vietnam for two years where I taught maths and physics and worked at as an honorary Canadian (!) at the Canadian Embassy. On returning to Canberra in 2004, I had a busy year getting married in April and starting a new job at the Australian National University. I am now at Harvard and am just about finished my second year of a PhD, also in History of Science. The Chevening was the means to an exceptional experience and one which I continue to build on and for which I am and will be forever hugely grateful."

2000-2001 Matthew Harding read Law and Arts at the University of Melbourne from 1992 to 1997. As a Chevening Oxford Australia scholar, he completed a Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL).

"After I finished my BCL, I stayed on in Oxford to undertake a DPhil degree in law, which I recently completed. In January 2005, I was appointed a lecturer in the Law School at the University of Melbourne. I now live and work in Melbourne. The scholarship has meant that I have been able to start my academic career by taking the BCL, which has led to my research degree, and my current appointment! I have also made a lot of friends through spending that year in Oxford, from all over the world."
**2000-2001 Chester Brown** read Arts and Law at the University of Melbourne graduating with a double First in 1997/1998. As a Chevening-Oxford Australia scholar, he completed a BCL at Oxford. He was subsequently awarded a Menzies Scholarship, and studied for a PhD in international environmental law at the University of Cambridge.

"I received the scholarship in 2000 to undertake the BCL at Oxford University. I was in residence at Magdalen College, and I completed the BCL with Distinction in 2001. I then went on to St John’s College, Cambridge, to begin a PhD in public international law. My doctoral supervisor was Daniel Bethlehem QC, who is now the Legal Adviser to the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Since completing my PhD, I have been working as an Associate in the International Law and International Arbitration Group at Clifford Chance LLP, an international law firm, based in London. The main focus of my work is the arbitration of disputes arising under investment treaties. This has seen a large growth in recent years due to the many bilateral and multilateral investment treaties which permit investors to bring international proceedings directly against States. I am also a Part-time Lecturer in Public International Law at Queen Mary, University of London.

Receiving the Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship has enabled me to follow my interest in public international law, and it has also opened up a world of possibilities in international legal practice and in the academic field. In addition, during my year at Oxford, I met my wife, Catherine, who was also studying for the BCL. So the year in Oxford will always be very special!"

**1999-2000 Sacha Moran**, from Sydney, graduated from Sydney University with first class honours and the University Medal in Arts (Politics) and First Class Honours in Law. He read for a Bachelor of Civil Law at University College. He is now a commercial barrister in Sydney.

"The calibre of teachers within the BCL course is exceptional, and the mixture of students from common law and civil law backgrounds exposes different approaches to common problems. My own BCL subjects all related to international law, public and private, but the BCL offers a very wide range of legal topics from Roman Law to Corporate Insolvency. Oxford’s tutorial system is rigorous and quite unlike anything I had experienced before, as was the gently tribal college system. My experience at Oxford has been an invaluable tool, and has repaid the effort many times over."

**1999-2000 Kimberlee Weatherall** read Law and Arts at the University of Sydney from 1993 to 1997.

"I studied the BCL at Magdalen College from 1999-2000 on an Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship. It was an important stepping stone - from Magdalen, I was lucky enough to be offered the opportunity, the following year, to study for the Masters of Law at Yale Law School, one of the most prestigious in the US. I’m sure that being at Oxford, and my work there helped me stand out to the Yale selection committee. My BCL thesis was published in the Modern Law Review, and was awarded a prize for the best publication in that year.

After Yale, I returned to Australia and commenced as a Sesqui Lecturer in Commercial Law at the University of Sydney Law School. After four years as a Lecturer at the University of Melbourne Law School and the Associate Director of the Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia, where I continued to research issues that I started to look at in Oxford: the enforcement of intellectual property, the conceptualisation of intellectual property rights as property rights, and the development and reform of intellectual property in a more interconnected world.

I have left the University of Melbourne (and the Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia) and am now a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Queensland, in Brisbane, and associated with the Australian Centre for Intellectual Property in Agriculture up here. I’m really pleased with the move, as it has given me a new set of colleagues and challenges!

The Chevening-Oxford Australia scholarship gave me the start I needed to launch myself into global academia and in particular the international group of scholars studying IP law. Through the St Peter’s Centre, during my stay at Oxford, I was exposed to a large number of important scholars and developed the taste for academic and legal debate. I still look back at that year as a very special one and an amazing opportunity."
1998-1999 - Dr. John Cheong Lee read a BA (Philosophy) with 1st Class Honours and Law at the University of New South Wales from 1992 to 1998. He completed his Masters degree in 2000 from an Oxford-Chevening Scholarship and completed his Doctorate in International Relations in 2002, whilst at University College, Oxford.

“Upon returning to Australia in 2002, I co-founded a research organisation, L21 Pty Ltd, of which I am the Managing Director. I am also a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Independent Studies in Foreign Policy, based in Sydney. I have completed projects for some Australian and global think-tanks on foreign and security policy such as Chatham House in London, Centre for Strategic & International Studies in Washington, ASPI and SDSC in Canberra and Centre for Independent Studies in Sydney. The Oxford-Chevening Scholarship allowed me to study with some of the best students in the world and learn from pre-eminent scholars in my field. I returned to Australia with a greater global perspective and a much more developed and mature understanding of many things in my field of work. I have also made some lifelong friends from many countries around the world. The opportunities flowing from the scholarship are genuinely rare ones and I am thankful to be a recipient of it.”

1998-1999 Justine Isemonger graduated from the University of Sydney with degree in B Ec and an LLB (First Class Honours). Justine read for a BCL at St John’s College.

“Following an arduous but thoroughly enriching year in Oxford, I stayed on in London for two years working for law firm Slaughter and May. Since returning to Australia I have worked as a corporate solicitor at Freehills (along with a number of other Oxford graduates) and recently moved to Fairfax Media as an in-house lawyer. My two boys Daniel (5) and Tom (3) help ensure life is never quiet or boring and although my time at Oxford sometimes seems a world away, I do keep in touch through the Oxford alumni magazines and functions in Sydney. The opportunity I had through the Chevening -Oxford Australia Scholarship to study in such an environment, and to be taught by leading scholars, is something I will always value. The skills I developed and knowledge I gained benefit me every day in my practice, and the friendships I made and the personal experiences I enjoyed have undoubtedly enriched my life.”