

Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund



September 2012

From the Chairman, Oxford
Australia Scholarship Fund



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Information concerning the
Oxford Australia Scholarships
regarding applications for tax-
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accessed through the Oxford
Australia website at
<http://rsc.anu.edu.au/oxford>.

There was an outstanding field in 2012 for the Oxford Australia Scholarships, including the James Fairfax, University College, Magdalen College, Ian Wilson and soon to be Brasenose and Lincoln College Scholarships. Academic performance of all applicants, as indicated by transcript, personal statement and referees, was very high.

We congratulate our scholars who in the last few years are achieving success in their many different ways in Australia and overseas.

The Committee recognises the continuing support and collaboration with Oxford University in the scholarship process and through some of our applicants winning Clarendon Scholarships. The success there has been high. The Committee and the University are working together to make awards as early as possible. Cross-disciplinary and cultural subject scholars are still a feature of the Scholarship and the Committee does not look at the subject balance of applications in making its selections. There have been about equal numbers of awards for arts, science, law, engineering and medicine and awards too in music, archaeology, visual arts and public health. Recent appointees now in Oxford have distinguished themselves. The support of Australian University Vice Chancellor scholarships to some scholars is greatly appreciated.

At the scholarship lunch on 1 June, the available space in the St John's College Senior Common Room was filled with current and some past scholars. We hope to continue to invite some past scholars living in Britain to come to the lunch from time to time, as well as current scholars, and are glad of the current news from all for this newsletter.

We send this newsletter to our donors on whose continuing support we depend for the funds. The Committee is grateful to the Australian National University Finance area for the returns on investment we get in the present financial climate.

I would like to thank the Committee members most sincerely for their dedication to the large task of selection: Emeritus Professor Wilfrid Prest, University of Adelaide; Professor Merlin Crossley, Dean of Science, University of New South Wales and Professor Carolyn Evans, Dean of Law at Melbourne University.



The photo shows some 14 current and former scholars who were able to join the Scholars lunch in Oxford. We were sorry that illness prevented James Fairfax from being able to join us on this occasion. We thank the President of St John's College, Sir Michael Scholar, for hosting the occasion and Dr Jane Sherwood and John-Paul Roche from the Oxford International Admissions Office for joining us at the lunch.

John White

2012 Oxford Australia Scholarship Awards

In 2012-2013, the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund will be fully supporting four scholars. One of these is a recipient of the Oxford Australia-Magdalen College Old Members award and three are continuing Scholars. In addition, two 'Honorary James Fairfax Oxford Australia Scholars' are being provided with an additional nominal payment to supplement their Clarendon and other awards.



Alicia Lyons

2012-2013 Alicia Lyons graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Law (First Class Honours and University Medal). During this course she was selected as exchange student at Harvard Law School. Since graduating, she has worked as Associate to Justice Bell in the High Court of Australia. At Oxford Alicia will study for the Bachelor of Civil Law at Magdalen College. She is particularly interested in interactions between free speech and privacy rights on one hand and emerging technologies and law enforcement imperatives on the other. Alicia will be supported by an Oxford Australia - Magdalen College Old Members award.



Kate Mitchell

2011-2012 and 2012-2013 Kate Mitchell graduated from Bond University in 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts (University Medal) and Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours and University Medal). After graduation she worked as an Associate to Justice Michelle Gordon in the Federal Court of Australia and as a lawyer in Melbourne. At Oxford in 2011-2012, supported by a Clarendon Scholarship and with an Honorary Oxford Australia award, Kate studied for the Bachelor of Civil Law at Magdalen College focusing on comparative public law and socio-economic rights. With a full Oxford Australia Scholarship she will extend her studies for an MPhil in Law.



Zachary Vermeer

2010-2011 and 2012-2013 Zachary Vermeer graduated from the University of Sydney in 2008 with First Class Honours and the University Medal in Law as part of his combined Arts/Law degree. Since then he has lectured in constitutional and international law at the University of Notre Dame Australia and worked as a Legal Officer in the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department. With the support of the Oxford-Australia Scholarship Fund, Zachary read for Bachelor of Civil Law in 2010-11, specialising in public law and legal theory. He graduated with distinction and won the Faculty Prize for International Law and Armed Conflict. He will be returning to Oxford in 2012-13 to pursue a Master of Studies in Legal Research in public law.



Clancy Reid

2011-2012 and 2012-2013 Clancy Reid graduated from the University of New South Wales with a BA, First Class Honours and University Medal in English and completed his LLB on exchange at University College London. At Oxford, he worked for a Master of Studies in English, focusing on the early collaboration between T S Eliot and Ezra Pound and their contest over the work of art in modernist aesthetics. Clancy will now follow this with studies for a Master of Studies in Film Aesthetics.



Hamish King

2012-2015 Hamish King graduated with First Class Honours in molecular biology and a University Medal from Flinders University. While at Oxford, Hamish will undertake his DPhil as part of the Wellcome Trust 4 Year Doctoral Programme in Chromosome and Developmental Biology, supported by the Wellcome Trust and a Clarendon Scholarship. He plans to investigate the molecular mechanisms which allow genes to be turned on and off at different stages of development. On the extracurricular side, Hamish has played a range of sport and participated in drama both as actor and director. Hamish is an Honorary Oxford Australia Scholar.



Robert O'Shea

2012-2015 Robert O'Shea graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Master of Arts in History on the Australian Governor-Generalship, following his First Class Honours degree on social justice in Australian religious discourse. At Melbourne Robert received the Dwight, Fitzpatrick, Kiddle and Wilson Prizes for his History Honours. At Oxford, Robert plans to read for a DPhil on the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conferences 1944-1969. He will be supported by an Oxford Clarendon Scholarship and a Rae and Edith Bennett Travelling Scholarship from the University of Melbourne. Robert is an Honorary Oxford Australia Scholar.

Current James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars in Oxford

2011-2014 Hilary Martin graduated from the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Science majoring in genetics and is particularly interested in the origins and consequences of normal human genetic variation. At Oxford her DPhil research is in Clinical Medicine, assessing the clinical and translational value of “next-generation” DNA sequencing technologies in finding disease-causing mutations. Hilary is also supported by a Clarendon award.

"My first six months at Oxford have been amongst the most fun and stimulating of my life. I am working on a large collaborative project that aims to uncover the mutations causing various human diseases using high-throughput genome sequencing. So far this has been surprisingly successful, and I have already discovered mutations causing neurological disorders in several families (touch wood) that should shed some light on the underlying biology and may even have clinical benefits. I am hugely enjoying life in the Balliol MCR and am heavily involved in music, singing in my college choir and the Oxford Bach Choir, accompanying several singers, and attending concerts weekly. I am very grateful to the Oxford Australia Fund, whose generous support is allowing me to take full advantage of all that this wonderful university has to offer."

2010-2013 Mimi Zou graduated from the University of Sydney with First Class Honours and University Medal in Economics and Social Sciences in 2007 and with First Class Honours in Law in 2009. She began her BCL studies in 2010.

"I completed the BCL with Distinction in July 2011 and have been very fortunate to extend my Oxford experience with the generous support of a James Fairfax Oxford Australia Scholarship and a Commonwealth Scholarship from the UK Commonwealth Scholarship Commission. My current DPhil in Law at St John's College examines the role of immigration law, policies and practices in labour market regulation through analysing temporary skilled labour migration schemes in Australia and the UK. I hope that my research will contribute fresh insights to the current and very important public debates on labour migration in both countries. I am also actively engaged in various extracurricular activities, such as serving as Junior Dean at St John's College and editing the Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal. Outside Oxford, I have been very lucky to be a visiting fellow at the Australian National University and Utrecht University. I very much look forward to continuing my journey at Oxford over the next two years."

2010-2013 Andrew Cichy graduated from the University of Western Australia in Commerce and then Music, completed with Honours in Performance and the first organist to do so in a decade. Fluent in Italian and Polish, his Master of Studies in Musicology at Oxford was begun in 2009 on a Clarendon award. He passed with distinction and now his DPhil in Music is on “English Catholic Liturgical Music after the Reformation: behind locked doors or on distant shores”.

"This year has been the busiest and most productive of my life. I have undertaken much archival research including at Ushaw College (Durham), the British Library, Downside Abbey, the Vatican Library, the Archives of Propaganda Fide, the Royal Library and State Archives of Brussels, the archives of the Diocese of Mechelen and the English Convent at Bruges. I uncovered primary sources that are unique, hitherto unknown and unused by music scholars. The result, I hope, will be a thesis that not only makes a substantial contribution to scholarship in my field, but also presents a large number of new sources for study and further analysis. I have networks and collaborative research relationships with scholars in related fields and have discovered scholars researching the same period and subject but for very different ends so we are able to collaborate without fear of competition. In March I gave a concert-lecture at the London Oratory which concluded a day of lectures at the Victoria and Albert Museum on 'Catholics and Collecting'.

The year has also been very busy from an extra-curricular standpoint. I returned to Western Australia in March for my group's CD launch (Tomas Luis de Victoria's 'Tenebrae Responsories'), attended by 550 people. Oxford affords me a range of personal development opportunities as a performer with lessons in advanced organ technique, improvisation, and choral conducting. I am finalising negotiations to start a choir in Oxford next year with funding for singing lessons for eight undergraduates. I aim to develop a high quality, versatile ensemble, able to record any music that I may discover over the next few years."

2010-2013 Paul Gray graduated with BSc (Psychology) Honours degree and BA Sociology and Aboriginal Studies from the University of Sydney in 2007. Paul, a descendant of the Bogan River Wiradjuri from NSW, is the first Aboriginal Australian student to graduate with Honours in Psychology. Since graduation he has worked as a psychologist with the NSW Department of Human Services, Community Services Division providing assessment and intervention for children in out-of-home care. Paul has been awarded a Charlie Perkins Scholarship to support his D Phil work where he will explore the mechanisms of risk and resilience for children exposed to early traumatic experiences. He plans to apply these additional skills and knowledge in the service of his community on his return to Australia.



Hilary Martin



Mimi Zou



Andrew Cichy



Paul Gray

Current James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars in Oxford



Amber Hood

2010-2013 Amber Hood graduated with First Class Honours from Macquarie University in Ancient History and has spent 2009-10 on a MSc in Archaeological Science at Oxford.

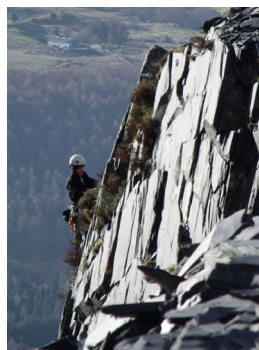
"I have been in Oxford for three years now, and am just completing the second year of my DPhil (having completed my MSc in the first year). In my first three years I became heavily involved with life at Merton, rowing in my first year and acting as social secretary then welfare officer for the MCR during 2010 and 2011. I was also the president of the Clarendon Scholars' Association during the 2010 academic year. My DPhil continues to look at the chronology of Early Dynastic Egyptian pottery, primarily using optically stimulated luminescence dating. Since the beginning of my second year I have travelled extensively for both fieldwork in Egypt and for museum sample collection in several museums around the world. I'm now looking forward to my third year, when my sample analyses will be completed and results will be forthcoming! I still love living in Oxford as much as ever, and even after three years, I don't take for granted the beauty of the city or the incredible privilege it is to be here."



Lucie Moore

2010-2012 Lucie Moore graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor of Science (Mathematics and Statistics) and Bachelor of Commerce (First Class Honours in Economics) in 2009. She will complete the MPhil in Economics at Oxford in 2012, and then take up employment with a development economics consultancy firm based in Oxford.

"I've had a fantastic time studying in Oxford. In particular, I have loved the opportunity to make friends with people from all over the world. In my Economics MPhil class alone, there are students from 28 countries. I have also enjoyed the opportunity to learn to row outdoors in beautiful scenery. I am looking forward to my new job, which will involve three to six months of travel a year, mainly within Africa. My new employer's clients include governments as well as bilateral and multilateral aid agencies. My focus is going to be on the design and implementation of rigorous impact evaluations of social protection and poverty reduction programmes and policies. It will be good to be able to have Oxford as a home base, and to maintain social and academic ties with the University."



Edward Hancock

2009-2012 Edward Hancock graduated from the University of Sydney in 2006 with a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electrical Engineering (1st Class Honours and University Medal), and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the second year of my DPhil at Oxford, which has been a lot of fun and a lot of hard work. My research has been focussed on developing systems and control theory and applying it to biological system models, such as modelling the feedback and dynamics of genetic networks in the cell. I have submitted a few papers on my research over the past year and will be presenting some of my work at a conference in San Francisco at the end of June, planning also to make a lab visit to Caltech (California Institute of Technology) following the conference. I have been heavily involved in college activities for the past year, including being the Secretary of the Christ Church Graduate Common Room and, for about 4-5 months, the Acting President. I have also been involved in organising the Christ Church Commemoration Ball, to be held at the end of Trinity Term. I am very grateful to my sponsors for giving me the opportunity to study at Oxford and I plan to continue to take full advantage of all the University has to offer."



Alys Moody

2009-2012 Alys Moody has a First Class Honours degree and University Medal from the University of Sydney in English, with a second major in French. Her DPhil research stems from the image of the starving artist in modern literature.

"My first year at Oxford has been extremely exciting, challenging and intellectually stimulating. My work has benefited enormously from the dynamic intellectual community within Oxford and in England's south-east more generally. I've had the opportunity to present my research at conferences in Paris, Reading and at Oxford itself, and in the process to meet and discuss my work with many exciting minds in my field. I've also been involved in a range of other academically-driven activities, from organising conferences to editing journals and serving on committees, and all of these have been very productive and often surprisingly entertaining. More than simply work, though, Oxford has also been a welcoming and easy place to arrive in as a foreigner. My time here has been productive, but it has also been fun, entertaining and socially rewarding. Through college, my faculty, friends, and scholarship-based events, I have made many wonderful, valuable friendships with brilliant people from all over the world. I have found Oxford thus far to be a place that brings together exciting people, thinking exciting ideas, in a very congenial atmosphere, and I look forward to the years I have still to spend here."

Current James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars in Oxford

2009-2012 Maeve Eason Hubbard graduated from the University of Melbourne with a First Class Honours degree in Science, focusing on marine biology.

"My time in Oxford has provided a range of wonderful opportunities, both academic and social, that surpassed all expectations. My DPhil research is concentrated on characterising how marine phytoplankton respond to rising levels of carbon dioxide in the world's oceans, with particular focus on their photosynthetic apparatus. This is an exciting field of study to be involved in, as photosynthesis by marine phytoplankton constitutes a crucial component of the carbon cycle and global climate. As part of my research, I have been fortunate to join field studies conducted in some incredible locations, including Sicily (2009) and the Atlantic Meridional Transect research cruise (2010). Outside of studies, I continue to enjoy the stimulating social and cultural life that Oxford has to offer. The college system provides a unique opportunity to meet and make lasting friendships with scholars with a diverse range of academic interests and life experiences, from all corners of the world. I'm excited to be spending 2012 and beyond working among this community and would like to thank the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund for the financial support that has made it possible."

2009-2012 Jaani Riordan has Bachelor of Computer Science and Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours and University Medal) degrees from the University of Melbourne.

"This year my research has considered the legal responsibility of internet platforms (such as Wikileaks, Google and Facebook) for wrongfully disclosing confidential, private or classified information obtained by their users. This forms part of a larger project examining the liability of intermediaries for third party wrongdoing on the internet. The research is proving topical and interesting, and I am looking forward to preparing it for publication once completed. There are many opportunities for creative and intellectual extension on offer at Oxford. Last year I was appointed a stipendiary lecturer in law at University College, where I now tutor undergraduates in contract and trusts law. I continue to play violin in two Oxford orchestras, one of which is touring Portugal this summer, and to take photographs of Oxford's wonderful architecture at balls and College events. On the sporting side, I have greatly enjoyed coxing for Magdalen in the college regattas, and competing in fencing, cricket and tennis tournaments. I have also been fortunate to attend many interesting lectures, concerts and conferences in Oxford, Cambridge and London. I would like to express my gratitude to the James Fairfax-Oxford Australia fund and its donors for their generous support of my research and for making these experiences possible."

2008-11 Michael Molinari graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2004 with a Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Science (Chemistry/Biochemistry). He obtained an MSc in biomedical engineering while on a British Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship in 2007-08 and is finalising work for a DPhil in Engineering Science.

"My DPhil project involved developing applications of therapeutic ultrasound in orthopaedic surgery. In contrast to ultrasound imaging familiar to most people, therapeutic ultrasound focuses acoustic energy to a small point, much like a magnifying glass does with light; this focal point can be placed inside the body and used to 'burn out' tumours and other tissues completely non-invasively. My work looked at ways to monitor what is going on inside the body during treatment to know what tissue is being 'burnt out' and how long this is taking; we hope to have a prototype for animal studies by the time my doctoral research is completed. But Oxford is also about extracurricular activities. Last year I was fortunate to win a Blue as captain of the Oxford squash team (recently beaten by Cambridge), and to complete a relay swim across the English Channel to raise money for neo-natal care. Finally, my studies here would not have been possible without the support of the Oxford Australia fund, and I would like to thank all donors for their support."

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'm currently focussed on finishing my thesis whilst trying to make the most of my last summer in Oxford. My work is mainly concerned with mathematical structures related to supersymmetry. I feel I've also had a great opportunity to explore topics in the wider field of mathematical physics thanks to frequent seminars and interacting with other graduate students over my time here. I will certainly miss the lively academic environment and also the social scene in Oxford. I'd like to thank the Oxford Australia Fund for their support and am grateful for the many chances to meet the other Oxford Australia scholars here."



Maeve Eason Hubbard



Jaani Riordan



Michael Molinari



Melissa Duncan

Current Magdalen College-Oxford Australia Scholars in Oxford

The generous support from a number of members of Magdalen College, now living in Australia, has made it possible for the Magdalen College Old Members - Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund to assist an Australian student to study at Magdalen College with additional financial support from the College itself.

The first Magdalen Scholar commenced in 2006.

2011-2014 James Hillis graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2009 with First Class Honours in Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery and also with Bachelor of Medical Science. He was President of the Australian Medical Association of Victoria's Doctors in Training Subdivision and champions the role of doctors providing a public health voice. At Oxford James' DPhil research is in Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics and he is supported also by a Clarendon award.

"The first year of my DPhil project has gone extremely well. I have commenced investigating stem cells in multiple sclerosis, specifically in a region of the brain called the subventricular zone. Hopefully stem cells from this region can repair the damage caused by multiple sclerosis. The research has started to generate results and the momentum of the project is continuously increasing. I have also embraced the broader Oxford life - I rowed for Magdalen in Torpids, joined the Union, have taught undergraduate medical students, and am involved in the Magdalen MCR Committee as well as organising a conference on global issues called the Global Scholars Symposium. I have also been awarded the Apgar Prize through Magdalen College to travel to Nepal to teach medical students this August. All in all, I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year! I look forward to that enjoyment and excitement continuing over the years to come."



James Hillis

Current University College-Old Members Scholar in Oxford

The generous support from 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.

2009-2010 and 2011-2013 Edwina Christie graduated from the University of Sydney in 2008 with First Class Honours in English and the University Medal. She completed the Oxford MSt in Renaissance Literature in 2010 with the support of a James Fairfax Scholarship and a Clarendon Scholarship. She began her DPhil at Oxford in 2011 investigating the relationship between epic romances and political writing in seventeenth century literary culture.

*"The first year of my DPhil has been a wonderful and extremely intellectually stimulating experience. My area of research - seventeenth-century romance - remains almost wholly unstudied, but there is a growing awareness of these works' centrality to literary culture in the years leading up to the Civil War and of their importance as pre-cursors to the novel. I am really excited to be working in this emerging field of literary enquiry. My research has focused on the work of Lady Mary Wroth, the first woman author of an original prose romance and an original play in English. I have explored the connections between her epic romance, *The Urania* (1621), and political writing at King James' court. Oxford's rare book and manuscript collections have proved invaluable for my research and my familiarity with the Rawlinson collection enabled me to present a paper at the Early Modern Graduate Forum in February. In my second year, I intend to examine a series of manuscript romances written between 1606 and 1656 which have never before received scholarly attention. I will undertake this archival research primarily at the British Library but also at the Newberry Library in Chicago.*

Alongside my own research, I have begun teaching Oxford undergraduates and have designed and taught my own course on Shakespeare's History plays. In July I will fly to Beijing to teach English at Tsinghua University. I have continued my involvement in college life, serving as the University College Welfare Officer and singing with the chapel choir. I also sing with the Magdalen College Swing Band and lead a graduate reading group in Renaissance Drama. A highlight of the last year was the opportunity to participate in a workshop run by the Artistic Director of the acclaimed theatre company, Cheek By Jowl. Every day in Oxford presents a new and exciting opportunity for intellectual engagement. I am extremely grateful to the Oxford Australia Fund for their continued support of my research."



Edwina Christie

Former Magdalen College-Oxford Australia Scholars

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). His DPhil study in history focused on political and legal authority in mid-Tudor England. On completing his DPhil, James was elected to the Slaughter and May Teaching Fellowship in Law at Selwyn College, Cambridge.

"Oxford provides a physical and intellectual environment in which one's historical imagination can really flourish. While here I have greatly benefited from the expertise and guidance of senior scholars, as well as from the friendship and enthusiasm of fellow students. Outside of study, Oxford has afforded me a rich variety of social and cultural opportunities, and a particular highlight this year has been the chance to represent Magdalen College on University Challenge. As always, I'm immensely grateful to the donors and administrators of the Oxford-Australia fund for their generosity in supporting my work."



James McComish

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 and Canberra and became an Associate to the Hon Justice Dyson Heydon AC of the High Court of Australia. The Magdalen College scholarship, together with a Clarendon Bursary, enabled Prue to read for a Bachelor of Civil Law, from which she graduated in 2008 with distinction and the Herbert Hart Prize in Jurisprudence.

"Reading for the BCL at Oxford was an amazing experience which I shall never forget. It has given me a thoroughly fresh perspective on private practice to which I have returned, albeit in the new context of Hong Kong. The opportunity to ponder and dissect the fundamental principles of the common law through the subjects I studied for the BCL provided me with a very solid foundation to enter practice in a new common law jurisdiction. Additionally, I find that the network of Oxford alumni throughout the world gives my time in Oxford a lasting presence on a social front as well. I am hugely grateful for the Magdalen College-Oxford Australia scholarship that made this all possible."



Prue Bindon

2006-2009 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. He was an Associate Lecturer in Law at Wollongong University 2004-2005 and an Associate to the Hon Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG of the High Court of Australia 2005-2006. As the first recipient of the Magdalen College-Oxford Australia Scholarship, James read for the degrees of Bachelor of Civil Law, MPhil in Law and DPhil. James held a Junior Research Fellowship in Law at Jesus College, Oxford, from 2009 to 2011 and is currently a Fellow and Tutor in Law at Balliol College, Oxford, and CUF Lecturer in the Faculty of Law, University of Oxford. James holds visiting positions at Harvard Law School, the University of Western Australia and the University of Wollongong. His primary research interest is the law of torts.

"I was very fortunate to receive the support of the Magdalen College-Oxford Australia Scholarship. Oxford is an unparalleled environment in which to work and it has been a privilege to be able to spend several years here thinking about some of the philosophical puzzles that the law presents."



James Goudkamp

Former University College Old Members' Scholars in Oxford



Justin Richards



Rhys Davies



Kwan Hee Lee



Kathleen Neal



Jonathan Pearlman

2008-2011 Justin Richards graduated from Melbourne University with a First Class Honours degree in physiotherapy and subsequently obtained a MSc (Distinction) in the Science and Medicine of Athletic Performance at Oxford. Justin has now completed his DPhil in Public Health at University College in 2011. His work focussed on the mental and physical health impact of sport-for-development programmes in post-conflict communities. He spent extensive time conducting a case-study with young adolescents in northern Uganda and this formed the backbone of his thesis. He is now employed as a post-doctoral researcher in Oxford, but plans to return to Australia in early 2013 to commence similar work with communities in the Pacific Islands and Indigenous Australia.

2007-2010 Rhys Davies from Bendigo graduated from Melbourne University with a Bachelor of Science and Honours degree in Physics.

"I finished my DPhil in October 2010 and I am now a postdoctoral research fellow in the maths department here at Oxford. I am working mostly on string theory and its overlap with modern geometry, although I am also trying to get more involved with developments in physics relevant to the LHC experiments at CERN. My time as a student at Oxford was thoroughly enjoyable, and I believe it has given me the best possible start to my career."

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, his DPhil was in Condensed Matter Physics.

"From January 2010 I have been a University of Queensland Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Centre for Organic Photonics and Electronics (COPE). This Fellowship has allowed me to investigate interesting problems in organic electronics - most notably how the structure affects device performance. I was able to build upon my industry experiences with the experimental research skills gained through the DPhil from Oxford.

While academic research has been interesting (and intellectually stimulating), it is time for me to seek new career horizons. I will shortly start my new role with BHP Billiton (i.e. back to my roots as an Electrical Engineer!). But the DPhil from Oxford, made possible by the University College Fund, played an important role in directing me towards this. While at Oxford, I was able to gain valuable practical experience in programming electronic hardware and constructing instrumentation apparatus - skills that I have used at UQ and I will be applying at BHP Billiton."

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

"I am nearing completion of my doctoral degree at the Centre for Medieval & Renaissance Studies at Monash University. My work concerns the meaning of rhetorical devices in royal correspondence in thirteenth-century England. Primarily based on original documents, my study has been greatly facilitated by the training, especially in Latin and palaeography, in Oxford during my MSt. I often call upon my Oxford connections to provide advice and avenues for forging international connections and research collaborations. I am indebted to the Oxford-Australia Fund for its past support which continues to benefit me in such ways."

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

"Following my studies at Oxford, I returned to Australia and worked as a journalist at the Sydney Morning Herald. In the newspaper's investigations team, I covered New South Wales politics and then worked in the Canberra bureau covering foreign affairs and defence. Since last year, I have been based in Sydney as the Australia-Pacific correspondent for England's Daily Telegraph newspaper. I have very fond memories of my time at Oxford - my literature studies there helped me break into journalism (and gave me several story ideas)."

Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars

2008-2011 Benjamin Fulcher completed a Bachelor of Science, First Class Honours and University Medal in Physics, at the University of Sydney in 2007. At Oxford his DPhil was in Physics.

"Having submitted my DPhil in early May this year, I am currently in the process of traveling, as I plan to for the rest of this year. I am in Iceland at the moment and hope to backpack my way to Australia by the end of the year, where I will investigate post-doc positions. Am looking forward to this break from studying, and hope to return to Australia, and to academia, reinvigorated! I am extremely grateful to the James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Fund for supporting me and my work throughout my uniquely stimulating years in Oxford."

2010-2011 Anne Carter graduated from the University of Adelaide with First Class Honours in both Arts (History) and Law with a University Medal in History. Upon graduating she worked as an intern at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in the Hague. She then returned to Australia and worked as Associate to the Hon Justice Bleby in the Supreme Court of South Australia and the Hon Michael Black, Chief Justice of the Federal Court, and also as research assistant to the Victorian Solicitor-General. Anne completed the BCL at University College in 2009-2010 and the MPhil in law in 2010-2011. Her MPhil thesis focused on the proof of facts in human rights adjudication. Anne is now a solicitor at the Crown Solicitor's Office in South Australia.

"I had a wonderful two years in Oxford, and felt extremely privileged to live and work in such a vibrant academic and social environment. I particularly enjoyed the chance to pursue my research interests in evidence and human rights law. Outside my studies I did volunteer work for Oxford Pro Bono Publico and rowed in Summer VIIIs. I made many wonderful friends worldwide. Since returning to Australia I have been working at the Crown Solicitor's Office and, even in my brief time in practice, I have found the broader perspective of my Oxford studies to be invaluable."

2009-2010 Ross Abbs obtained First Class Honours degrees and University Medals in both law and ancient history at the University of Newcastle. He then worked as an Associate to Justice Michael Kirby of the High Court of Australia and as a researcher at the Victorian Law Reform Commission. At Oxford he studied for the Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL). Ross has recently been appointed a Lecturer in the Sydney University Law School and is currently undertaking research for a PhD on matters relating to the work of the High Court of Australia in the field of criminal justice.

"I appreciated the non-specialised character of the degree and benefited greatly from the expertise of my teachers who are leading thinkers in their respective fields. I also found value in the insights of my fellow students whose diversity of experience undoubtedly enriches the Oxford experience. Oxford itself is a wonderful place to live, and in many ways I was very sad to leave. I am extremely grateful to the Oxford Australia Fund for making it possible for my study there."

2009-2010 Alexander J Taylor graduated with First Class Honours in Arts (Art History) from the University of Melbourne, with previous study at the University of Queensland and the University of California, Berkeley.

Alex Taylor has continued his DPhil in History of Art at Oxford as a Rae and Edith Bennett Travelling Scholar. In 2011-2012 he was awarded a Terra Foundation for American Art Predoctoral Fellowship at the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the National Museum of American History. While in Washington DC, Alex curated *Lie of the Land*, an exhibition of contemporary Australian landscape painting for the Embassy of Australia. Work from his Master's dissertation at Oxford was recently published in the journal *American Art* and was awarded the Terra Foundation International Essay Prize for American Art.

2008-2011 Neil Rabinowitz graduated from the University of Western Australia with First Class Honours in Physics and Mathematics. After completing an MSc in neuroscience at Oxford in 2008, he then completed a DPhil in the Auditory Neuroscience Laboratory within the Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics. He currently has a post-doc position in the Laboratory for Computational Vision at New York University.

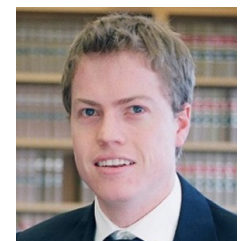
"Working on the brain is a delightful enterprise for a scientist, since it's full of surprises. I discovered a new way in which the auditory system adapts to the sounds we hear. We've known for a long time that we adjust to a wide range of sound intensities - this is what lets us function in both the quietness of a night in the forest to the hooting drama of crossing the street. The important sensory information within these contexts may lie in either small or large changes from the average sound intensity. A subtle increase in the level or pitch of an approaching car's engine can be as relevant as a loud honk. By playing sounds with very carefully controlled statistics, and recording the responses of auditory cortex cells, I've found that if sounds have only small changes, cells become more sensitive to these changes. Strangely, although a given cell may also care about low frequency sounds, how sensitive it is to these depends on what is happening in higher frequency ranges too. We can use subtle cues, but prefer the obvious when it's available."



Ben Fulcher



Anne Carter



Ross Abbs



Alexander Taylor

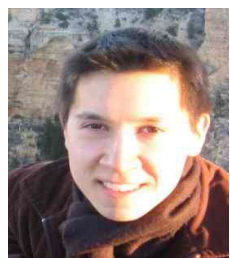


Neil Rabinowitz

Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars



Zevic Mishor



Kim Anderson



Shelley Wickham



Andrew Whitby



Anthony Jones



Olivia Murphy

2008-2010 Zevic Mishor graduated from the University of New South Wales in 2005 with First Class Honours and University Medal in physiology and psychology. At Oxford he obtained an MSc in neuroscience and an MSc in social anthropology.

"Soon after returning home I commenced my PhD in Anthropology at the University of Sydney. The practice of neuroscience and anthropology, as with all disciplines, is the act of studying the structure of Being at different "levels", and trying to build models and say something useful at each level. In my mind, there are recurring themes and principles across all such levels of this fractal of Being, and it is the understanding of such parallels and similarities that I'm interested in. Originally planned to research psychedelic shamanism amongst the Shipibo people of northern Peru, I changed my project, and am currently in Safed, Israel, exploring the relationship between Judaism and the natural environment (forest, mountains, and so forth). Whilst at face value these may sound like radically different projects, the basic questions remain quite the same! I hope, through this research, to better understand the tradition into which I was born, and to make some kind of small yet authentic contribution to ethnography and anthropology."

2008-2009 Kim Anderson graduated from the University of Adelaide with First Class Honours degrees and University Medals in Computer Systems Engineering (2004) and Law (2006). He served as Associate to the Hon Justice Vanstone in the Supreme Court of South Australia and practised as a solicitor in Melbourne. Kim completed his Bachelor of Civil Law (with Distinction) at Oxford in 2009 and has returned to commercial practice in Sydney.

"My experience at Oxford was immensely rewarding, without a doubt the highlight of my academic career. To interact on a daily basis with many of the leading scholars in my fields of interest was a rare privilege. The vibrant social and extra-curricular life of Oxford was also very stimulating. It has been satisfying to draw upon what I learnt on the BCL in commercial practice, although I must confess there are times when I fondly imagine being back amidst the dreaming spires!"

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

"In 2011 I completed my DPhil in bio-nanotechnology, using DNA structures as a tool to help study and understand protein motors that occur in living cells. Currently I am a post-doctoral fellow in Professor William Shih's lab at Harvard Medical School, based in the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the department of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology. I am also linked to the Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering working on using techniques from nanotechnology to study biological problems. I was awarded the Lindemann Trust Fellowship in 2011/12 to support my post-doctoral work at Harvard. I had a wonderful time during my studies in Oxford and it was great to catch up with Professor White and the other scholars at the Fairfax Oxford Australia lunch each year."

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. He completed the MPhil in Economics with Distinction at Oxford in 2009 and is now pursuing a DPhil, focussing on time series econometrics methods.

2006-2008 Anthony Jones studied a BA in Law at University College on a James Fairfax Oxford Australia Scholarship, having previously earned an MA and BA with First Class Honours and the University Medal in Chinese from Sydney University. He graduated from Oxford with First Class Honours and prizes in Jurisprudence and Land Law. While at Univ, Anthony was Secretary of the MCR, a Choral Exhibitioner, a fast (though admittedly erratic) bowler for the Univ XI, and a sometime second-row forward for the XV. Anthony returned to Sydney for two years, working as a speechwriter to the Hon Bob Carr, now the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and a policy advisor to the Hon John Hatzistergos, then the Attorney-General of New South Wales. Since his return to the UK in 2010, Anthony has been called to the Bar, and is currently a pupil barrister at Brick Court Chambers, a leading public and commercial law set of Chambers in the Temple.

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

"My time in Oxford passed very rapidly. My DPhil thesis was on Jane Austen and literary criticism. I have returned to Australia and I'm working as a research assistant on an ARC Discovery Project about Shakespeare memorialisation in Australia (quite a departure from Jane Austen!) and as a tutorial fellow at the Women's College, University of Sydney. I want to thank everyone involved in the Fairfax-Oxford Australia fund for making my research and my time in Oxford possible. I have benefited immensely from being part of that community of scholars, and from access to Oxford's resources and my wonderful supervisor."

Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars

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.

"I had a terrific time studying the MPhil in Economics at Oxford. Highlights included a course in international economics, lectures by many of the best people in the field as well as captaining Nuffield College in football. My study in Oxford serves me very well back in Australia, and I am using many of the techniques I learnt in the UK in my work at the Centre for International Economics."

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). At Oxford she read for the MSt in English Language and Literature and was awarded the degree with distinction.

"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. After my degree, I spent some time as a Publications Intern at the Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion and then as a Journal Publishing Assistant at Wiley-Blackwell. I am now a Digital Production Editor at Oxford University Press and am immensely enjoying contributing to the University's endeavours in a very practical way. I'm certain that my degree from Oxford opened the door to the publishing industry for me and that it will continue to be a great advantage to me in my future pursuits. 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."

2006-2007 Patrick Delaney, from Canberra, graduated from the Australian National University in 2005 with a Bachelor of Laws (University Medal) and Bachelor of Arts (majoring in International Relations and Philosophy). He read for the Bachelor of Civil Law at Christ Church, Oxford, graduating with Distinction in 2007. Patrick worked in the Ministry of Justice (UK) in 2008, and was judicial associate to Judge Shi Jiuyong (China) and Judge Leonid Skotnikov (Russia) of the International Court of Justice in 2008-9. He has published work on transnational corruption and discrimination. Patrick is presently an Associate in the New York office of Davis Polk & Wardwell.

2005–2006 and 2007-2008 Brenda Tronson, from Werombi, graduated from the University of New South Wales with a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Science (Hons). Brenda completed her BCL in Oxford in July 2006 and her MPhil in Law in July 2008, having been granted a 12 month deferral in order to work for the Hon Justice Crennan at the High Court of Australia.

"Having completed my studies at Oxford, I am now working as a barrister back in Sydney. My post-grad work is providing a good theoretical base for my work here, and I'm aiming to establish a practice at least partly in human rights law, the area in which I wrote my MPhil thesis."

2004-2006 Eloise Scotford from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a combined degree in science and law, with the University Medal in Law in 2001. As a postgraduate student at Magdalen College, Eloise completed a Bachelor of Civil Law with Distinction in 2005-6, an MPhil in Law in 2006-7, and a DPhil in Law in 2007-10.

"After completing my MPhil, I took up a three-year post as a Career Development Fellow in Environmental Law at Corpus Christi College, Oxford (2007-2010). This was a Faculty-based teaching and research post in which I taught undergraduate EU law and administrative law for Corpus Christi and undergraduate and postgraduate environmental law for the Faculty. During this time, I also finished my DPhil – a comparative project on Australian and European environmental law – which I successfully defended in December 2010. I have now taken up a permanent post as Lecturer in Law at King's College London, which I am enjoying enormously. It is thanks to my Oxford funding that I find myself in this very fortunate position today. I am hugely appreciative."



Phil Manners



Erin Schwarz



Patrick Delaney



Brenda Tronson



Eloise Scotford

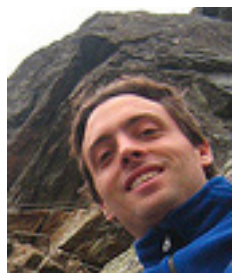
Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars



Naomi Hawkins

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.

"Following my BCL (funded by the Fairfax scholarship), I remained in Oxford to undertake my DPhil in law, funded by the Wellcome Trust. After completing the DPhil in 2009, I worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Health, Law and Emerging Technologies in the Department of Public Health at the University of Oxford. Since September 2010, I've been working as a Lecturer in Law at the University of Exeter. I will always be very grateful to the James Fairfax Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund for giving me the opportunity to begin my studies in Oxford."



Simon Baptist

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.

"I graduated with my DPhil in Economics in 2009 and am working full time for a consulting firm, Vivid Economics. It is a small firm - I was the third employee and we are now six; most work is UK-based but we have done some Australian projects - something I'm trying to encourage! The firm aims to put economics to good use and we focus on projects where we can deliver both a public and a private interest. Recently we have worked on climate change projects such as modelling the strategic and competitive implications of carbon pricing in various locations and advising various parties in the international climate negotiations. It is good to be working in a job where I can feel proud of what I'm doing. Without the experience at Oxford I would not have had the opportunity or the skills to be able to engage in this work. I'm hoping to further build my company's Australian connections, and in the future I'd love to be involved in opening up the Australian office!"



Mark Thomson

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 his DPhil in Classics, specialising in Late Antiquity, and prepared the final draft of his thesis before returning to Australia in 2007 to take up a sessional vacancy in Ancient History at ANU.

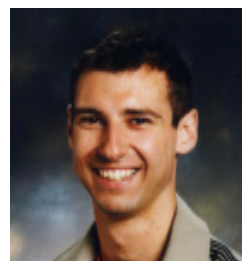
"My thesis was "The Historia Augusta and Late Roman Literary Culture". These biographies of Roman emperors from Hadrian to the Carinus (117-285), apparently written in the reigns of Diocletian, Constantius I and Constantine were realised in the nineteenth century to be an enormous hoax, perpetrated by a single forger, writing late in the fourth century. As well as trying to find the genuine historical materials hidden beneath these inventions, I tried to place some of this nonsense in its context, to integrate it into the culture of its day."



Corin Throsby

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 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.

"With my time in Oxford at 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."



Nicholas Apostoloff

2002-2005 Nicholas Apostoloff, from Canberra, graduated from the Australian National University with a Bachelor of Information Technology in 1998, a University Medal in Engineering in 2000 and an MPhil in Computer Vision in 2002. He was awarded his DPhil thesis in Computer Vision in 2007 after an enjoyable five years in Oxford.

"I now live in San Francisco with my wife and work for Digital Domain, the visual effects studio responsible for movies such as Titanic, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button and Tron: Legacy. As a senior software engineer, I am responsible for the research and development of new technologies to support future productions, focusing on facial motion capture and animation, and computer vision techniques. While industry is a dramatic change from academia, I am enjoying applying the knowledge I learnt at Oxford to real-world problems. I would like to thank the James Fairfax - 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 BCL at Oxford 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 that I learned helps me every day in my practice at the Queensland bar. Academically, my studies allowed me to lecture in law at the University of Queensland, teaching both graduates and undergraduates. I have also published articles in Australia and England and presented a number of professional seminars."

2001-2004 Patrick Porter graduated in Arts/Law from the University of Melbourne with First Class Honours in History. At Oxford he was awarded a DPhil in Modern European History. He worked for five years at King's College London at the British Defence Academy. Recently he took up a new post as Reader in Strategic Studies in the Politics and International Relations Department at the University of Reading. He lives in Oxford.

"I will always be grateful to the Oxford-Australia Scholarship Fund for enabling me to study at Oxford for three great years. For so many of us, Oxford lifted up our horizons, and gave us the chance to study with the leading figures in our fields. I hope the Oxford-Australia Fund continues to be able to give others the same opportunities."

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

"I have continued my physics research in quantum information theory. I spent three years at the University of Cambridge where I was a Junior Research Fellow at Churchill College. The James Fairfax Oxford-Australia Scholarship allowed me to undertake a doctorate with 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 provided for me."

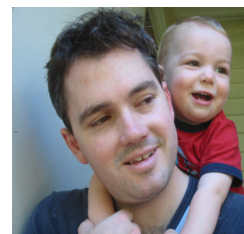
1999-2001 Patrick Mackerras read Mathematics for his Bachelor of Science degree at the Australian National University from 1994 to 1997 before gaining a James Fairfax Oxford-Australia Scholarship to Christ Church, Oxford to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE). Patrick has now resumed his teaching career and is greatly enjoying his time at Wycombe High School in England. In addition to teaching mathematics, Patrick is also now the Head of the Department of Religious Studies, Philosophy, Citizenship and Critical Thinking.

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 there 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 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. Academics starting out on their careers can 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 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 2008, I took up a position in the History Department at York University, Toronto and am now Associate Professor. My book, which emerged from my DPhil, was published in 2011 by Oxford University Press: Petitions, Litigation, and Social Control in Roman Egypt."

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."



Daniel Piggott



Patrick Porter



Garry Bowen



Patrick Mackerras



Benjamin Kelly



Dale Smith

Sir Vincent Fairfax Life Sciences Scholarships 2003-2006



Jonathan Lo

The Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, in its 40th anniversary year 2002, 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.

2003-2006 Jonathan Lo, from Melbourne, graduated from the University of Queensland with First Class Honours and University Medal in Engineering (1996) and Master of Engineering Science (1998). Based at Balliol, 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. The experience of my study is very valuable and beneficial to me in many ways. After my graduation, I decided to apply my skill set in a different field. Currently, I am working as a quantitative researcher for an investment bank in Japan. The photo was taken after crossing the finishing line in the 2011 Tokyo marathon."



Jason Wong

2003-2006 Jason Wong, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with First Class Honours in Bioinformatics in 2002. Based at Linacre College, his DPhil research involved the development of a computational tool intended to help the understanding of genomes.

"My time at Oxford was immensely rewarding in many ways and I think provided the best possible environment for my studies. After the completion of my DPhil in October 2006, I spent a year as a post-doctoral Fellow at University College Dublin. At the start of 2008, I returned to Sydney as a Research Fellow at the newly established Lowy Cancer Research Centre at the University of New South Wales. I am currently establishing my own research team in the area of cancer bioinformatics. 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."

Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars



Kate Purcell

From 1998 to 2008, the British High Commission and the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund jointly funded two Chevening scholarships a year to the University of Oxford for one-year taught post-graduate courses in a range of fields.

2008-2009 Kate Purcell graduated from the University of New South Wales in 2008 with First Class Honours and the University Medal in Law. She completed the BCL at Oxford in 2009 graduating with a First and is currently reading for a PhD in Law at the University of Cambridge with the support of the Cambridge Trusts' Cambridge Australia Poynton Scholarship and the St John's College JC Hall (Benefactors') Scholarship in Law.

"My research considers loss and change of territory in international law and examines the legal implications of the various effects of climate change on geomorphology globally. In April and May 2011, I spent time as a visiting researcher in the Law Faculty of the University of the South Pacific in Vanuatu. This gave me the opportunity to visit several sites where increasingly frequent and intense extreme weather events are already reshaping the coastline, and to meet both with scientists and legal academics working in the area and members of affected communities. I was also able to meet with government officials to discuss their views on, and policy responses to, the threat of climate change and possible implications in interim international law.

My time in Oxford was both academically stimulating and socially rewarding and I am extremely grateful to the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund for making it possible. The BCL is excellent preparation for doctoral research and I would strongly recommend it to law graduates. I still spend a lot of time in Oxford, visiting friends and, of course, the Bodleian, and I have no doubt that Oxford will continue to be a part of my life for years to come - not least because of the enduring friendships and memories it has left me with."

Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars

2008-2009 Phoebe Williams followed her Sydney University Bachelor Medicine/Bachelor Surgery Honours degrees and her ANU Bachelor Commerce/Bachelor Science degrees with an MSc at Oxford in Global Health Science. Phoebe founded the charity "Hands of Help" in 2005 to improve education and health care in developing communities and to expose medical students to the issues facing developing world health. She was a winner in the Oxford 2009 "Idea Idol" entrepreneurship competition with her "Foresight Pharmaceuticals" hormonal gel to prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS. After completing her MSc in 2009, Phoebe returned to Australia to complete her medical internship where she was awarded prizes in paediatrics.

"At Oxford, I carried out a research project in China investigating the health of migrant children then did an internship with the HIV/AIDS department of the WHO in Geneva. My time at Oxford was fantastic and passed so quickly. I sang in the College choir, ran at Varsity level and rowed. I felt incredibly fortunate to be there."

2007-2008 Carla Bissett, from Newcastle, NSW, graduated in 2006 with a Bachelor of Engineering in Industrial Chemistry (Honours) from the University of New South Wales.

"I completed my Oxford MSc degree in Water Science, Policy and Management with the aim of developing a career in the public policy and natural resource management sector, building on my previous experience in the private engineering sector. At the start of 2010 I commenced work as an analyst for the NSW Government's independent Natural Resources Commission, providing advice on matters relating to natural resource management primarily at a state and regional scale. Working in this new field is proving to be both challenging and rewarding. I am extremely grateful to the Oxford Australia Committee for providing me with the opportunity to study water resource management in an international context. Now that I am back in Australia, I hope I am able to use the knowledge I gained at Oxford to improve the management of our own natural resources."

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 with First Class Honours in 2001. Catherine is now legal counsel at ASX.

"The year I spent as a Chevening Oxford Australia scholar enriched my life academically, professionally and personally. I was challenged to consider why and how we regulate and the ways in which Australia is both ahead of and behind the UK and European Union in formulating regulatory policy. At a time of global financial crisis, a critical appraisal of comparative regulatory approaches has never been more vital. I am indebted to Professor White and the Scholarship Committee for the opportunity Oxford provided to refine my analytical skills, learn from internationally acclaimed scholars and to befriend and exchange ideas with students from around the world."

2005-2006 Alexander (Sandy) Phipps, from Canberra, graduated from the Australian National University with honours degrees in Arts (History / Politics) and Law in 2003. In 2005, he took up a Chevening Oxford-Australia Fund scholarship to read for a Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL) at St Edmund Hall. Following the completion of his BCL, Sandy remained in England and returned to private practice as a solicitor in London. In 2008, he was called to the Bar and took up practice from Chambers at 3 Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, where he remains.

"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, because 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 programs."



Phoebe Williams



Carla Bissett



Catherine Eakin



Alexander Phipps

Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars



Andrew Battison

2004–2005 Andrew Battison, 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. After graduating from the Australian National University, Andrew practised in the fields of litigation and takeovers, and securities law in Sydney. At Oxford, he read for the Bachelor of Civil Law at St Anne's College. 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.



Jodi Gray

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 as 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.

"After working in London and Paris for three years in the Competition team of a law firm, Linklaters LLP, I returned to Australia as a Senior Associate at Mallesons Stephen Jaques. I made a three month stopover in Africa where I travelled through Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia, and volunteered with a wildlife conservation and photography project run by African Impact in St Lucia, South Africa. Working closely with wildlife made me remember how much I love the outdoors and open spaces, and I was therefore glad to be heading home to Australia. I am now working as an in-house legal counsel for Telstra Corporation in its Regulatory division. As part of my role, I advise Telstra Foundation, part of Telstra's community investment strategy. I am enjoying working for Telstra in this role."



David Tomkins

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 my DPhil in constitutional law, I was a Fellow in residence at the John Jay Institute in Philadelphia, USA. After completing my D.Phil. at Oxford in constitutional law I took up a fellowship at the John Jay Institute in Philadelphia, USA researching and writing in the fields of constitutional law and political theory. I was then a visiting research fellow at the Maxim Institute in Auckland, NZ researching and writing in the field of constitutional law and constitutional change in conjunction with a New Zealand Government constitutional review. I have recently returned to Australia and am looking forward to further opportunities here."

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."



Sarah McCosker

2002–2003 Sarah McCosker graduated from the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Arts (1998) and Bachelor of Laws (2001) with double First Class Honours. After working as an Associate to a Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland, she qualified as a barrister before going to Oxford. She completed the BCL in 2003, MPhil in 2004 and DPhil in Law in 2009.

"My year as a Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholar began what came to be a very full and fulfilling time at Oxford. After the BCL I undertook the MPhil in Law, writing on the relationship between international law and diplomacy in international dispute settlement — a topic I continued for my DPhil. I thoroughly enjoyed my very busy time at Oxford. Between 2003 and 2006 I worked as the Assistant Dean of Brasenose College and in 2005–2006 I taught international law to undergraduate Oxford students and to diplomats on the Oxford University Foreign Service Programme. I also worked as an Assistant Editor, then Editor, of the Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal, and was involved for four years in Oxford Pro Bono Publico. In August 2006 I moved to Canberra to work in the Office of International Law in the federal Attorney-General's Department, where I work primarily on international humanitarian law, international human rights law, refugee law and international criminal law. The knowledge and experience I gained at Oxford has proven extremely valuable. I will always be immensely appreciative of the many opportunities that the Chevening Oxford-Australia Scholarship provided me."

Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars

2003–2004 Sophie Ward, from Canberra, graduated with a Bachelor of Economics and a Bachelor of Laws 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, I returned to private practice as a competition lawyer at Freehills in Sydney. However, my BCL studies had sparked an interest in international trade law and this prompted me to move to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and then to work as an adviser to the Minister for Trade. I have since returned to competition law and am currently working in the Mergers Division of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. I often find myself drawing upon both the knowledge and the skills I acquired during my BCL year and am forever grateful for the opportunity I had to study at Oxford."

2001–2002 Hoi Trinh has a double degree in Arts and Law from the University of Melbourne (1990-94). At Oxford he completed the Master of Studies in Forced Migration at Magdalen.

"Since my graduation at Oxford in 2002, I've managed to fulfill 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, to date 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. I am currently heading up VOICE, a non profit organization that helps to resettle the last remaining Vietnamese refugees in Southeast Asia. Our other mission is to help develop civil society in Vietnam especially as it relates to the issues of freedom of expression and human rights. If any of you is interested to learn more about our work, or intern with us in our office in the Philippines, please do not hesitate to contact me at hoitinh@gmail.com."

2001–2002 Laura Dawes has a First Class Honours degree in mathematics and statistics from Murdoch University and a University Medal in Science. At Oxford, she completed a MSc in Economic and Social History, specialising in the History of Science and graduated with distinction. She took her PhD at Harvard, writing her thesis on the history of childhood obesity in the United States. Laura now lives in Canberra where she works as a historian of modern medicine, writing on obesity, health activism and the intersection of medicine and the law.

"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. Oxford is the most stimulating, immersive scholarly community that I have worked in. The combination of its superb research facilities, the happy and deeply thinking company, and the inspiration that oozes from its sandstone pores makes Oxford the most excellent place to live and work. I am indebted to the Oxford Australia Fund for allowing me the time I spent there."

2000–2001 Matthew Harding read Law and Arts at the University of Melbourne from 1992 to 1997 and at Oxford completed a Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL).

"After I finished my BCL, I stayed on in Oxford and gained a DPhil in law. In January 2005, I was appointed a lecturer in the Law School at the University of Melbourne and am now an Associate Professor there. The scholarship has meant that I have been able to start my academic career by taking the BCL, which led to my research degree and my current appointment! I have made many friends from all over the world through that time in Oxford."

2000–2001 Chester Brown read Arts and Law at the University of Melbourne, graduating with First Class Honours in both degrees in 1997/1998. At Oxford, he completed a BCL with distinction and was subsequently awarded a Menzies Scholarship to study for a PhD in public international law at the University of Cambridge. His doctoral work was published in 2007 by Oxford University Press - *A Common Law of International Adjudication*.

"I am an Associate Professor at Sydney Law School, where I lecture in Public International Law, International Investment Law, International Dispute Settlement, and International Commercial Arbitration. I am also a practising barrister, affiliated with 7 Selborne Chambers, Sydney; Essex Court Chambers, London; and Maxwell Chambers, Singapore. Prior to coming to Sydney Law School, I served as Assistant Legal Adviser at the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office where I advised on a range of public international law issues including international investment, State and diplomatic immunities, international arbitration, and the work of the International Law Commission. Before joining the FCO, I was a Senior Associate in the International Law and International Arbitration Group of Clifford Chance LLP, London, where I was involved in the settlement of international commercial and investment treaty disputes. I am extremely grateful for the British Chevening-Oxford Australia award, which provided me with an invaluable first step in my career."



Hoi Trinh



Laura Dawes

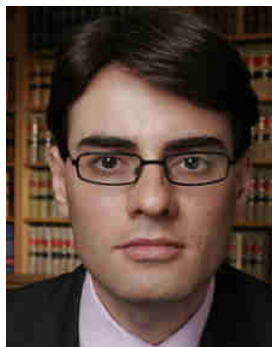


Matthew Harding



Chester Brown

Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars



Sacha Moran

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 senior lawyer in the Office of General Counsel in Canberra.

"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 graduated from the University of Sydney in Arts in 1995 and in Laws (with First Class Honours) in 1998.



Kimberlee Weatherall

"I studied the BCL at Magdalen College. It was an important stepping stone as I was then offered the opportunity to study for the Masters of Law at Yale Law School, one of the most prestigious in the US. 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 Associate Director of the Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia, 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."



John Cheong Lee

1998-1999 John Cheong Lee graduated with a BA in Philosophy with 1st Class Honours and Bachelor of Laws at the University of New South Wales in 1995 and 1998. He completed his Masters degree in 2000 on his Oxford-Chevening Scholarship and completed his Doctorate in International Relations in 2002, whilst at University College, Oxford.

"On returning to Australia in 2002, I co-founded a research organisation, L21 Pty Ltd, of which I remain as the managing Director. I am also a Research Fellow at the Centre for Independent Studies in Foreign Policy, based in Sydney, and at the Hudson Institute in Washington DC. The British Chevening - Oxford Australia 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."



Justine Isemonger

1998-1999 Justine Isemonger graduated from the University of Sydney with Bachelor of Economics 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. On returning to Australia I worked as a corporate solicitor at Freehills (along with a number of other Oxford graduates) and later moved to Fairfax Media as an in-house lawyer. My boys Daniel (9), Thomas (7) and Samuel (18 mths) help ensure life is constantly busy and although my time at Oxford sometimes seems a world away, I 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."