

It's Kensington Palace!

It's 13th January 2006 at 6.30 pm!



We are delighted to announce that the COSF Gala Dinner will be hosted at Kensington Palace on Friday 13th January 2006. Special thanks are due to Trustee Robbie Lyle whose personal influence has made this possible.

The evening will raise funds for the COSF. Special guests include His Excellency the Chinese Ambassador Mr Zha Peixin and Minister Counsellor Madam Zhang Xiaokang, the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, Dr John Hood and Mrs Hood, the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Development and External Affairs) Dr Jon Dellandrea and Mrs Dellandrea, and others with significant business interests in China and worldwide.

The evening will be opened by a champagne and canapé reception in the Queen's Gallery of Kensington Palace followed by a guided tour of the State Apartments. Guests will be welcomed into the Orangery for dinner by the Christ Church Cathedral Choir followed by a dinner prepared and served by the leading London Caterer, The Admirable Crichton. Following dinner, an auction of outstanding gifts, generously donated by benefactors of the COSF, will be held with items ranging from a five-night stay in a private villa on Koh Samui Island, Thailand, to tickets for the New York Metropolitan Opera or Ballet, including air tickets. Vigorous bidding is anticipated!

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Kensington Palace Continued

The evening provides a rare opportunity for enjoyment and networking in a venue not normally open to the public. A limited number of full tables, which seat 10 people, and a few individual seats are still available. Tables are £3,000 and individual seats are £300 each.

Over 100 places have already been sold for this exciting event. Our aim is to sell every seat available so please forward this information to anyone who would be interested either in hosting a table or attending this event, or pass their contact information to Penny Hansson on 01295 660 483 or penny.hansson@cosf.co.uk.

Oxford University News

Endorsement of the Fund

Philip English is delighted to report the receipt of a letter from Dr John Hood, The Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University dated 13 October 2005 endorsing the Fund.

Dear Timothy,

China Oxford Scholarship Fund

The lines of co-operation now agreed between the University and the China Oxford Scholarship Fund is a significant step for our two organisations. The University is well aware of the sterling work of the COSF, and its sister the Hong Kong Oxford Scholarship Fund, and of the way they have enabled the most outstanding Chinese students to benefit from postgraduate education at Oxford over the course of the last thirteen years.

The University is delighted to endorse the Fund and we will be pleased to work with it as it develops its activities and its fundraising over the coming years. Its intention to emulate the Rhodes Scholarship programme is a most praiseworthy ambition, and is to be applauded whole-heartedly.

I look forward to working with you and your colleagues over the coming years.

Yours sincerely,



Rhodes House Scholars Lunch

On 18 November 2005 the China Oxford Scholarship Fund hosted a lunch at Rhodes House to welcome the four scholars who received awards in 2005. The opportunity was also taken to introduce the COSF to senior members of the University, and to thank Grosvenor Estates for their sponsorship.

We must thank The Warden of Rhodes House, Sir Colin Lucas for the most kind offer of its use of this occasion. We know our aim is to try and make the COSF a Rhodes for China, but it is a sign of changing times that we cannot begin even to contemplate our funds stretching to such a building. We must also thank Colin Rayner for his generosity for very kindly sponsoring and arranging the lunch.

In addition to the four new scholars, Ms Xiaoyun Ji, the Grosvenor Oxford Scholar, Mr Jerome Hui, the HKR Oxford Scholar, Ms Sara Sze Ngar Ho, and Mr Simon Ho Wang, we were delighted to welcome the eight previous Hong Kong Scholars who are continuing their studies at Oxford and whose work schedule enabled them to attend. Three others were unable to attend.

Following the reception in the Jameson Room, where introductions were made, guests were served at the buffet and then moved into the Beit Room where a long table had been set. It was particularly pleasing that everyone was able to sit close enough to one of the scholars whilst enjoying their lunch. Introduced by Philip English, Timothy Beardson welcomed the scholars in impeccable Mandarin, much to the surprise of the majority of the assembly, but to the delight of the scholars from Mainland China. On behalf of Grosvenor Estates, our major sponsor this year, Stephen Barter talked about their commitment to education, and of the support for the COSF. We are most grateful for their support and look forward to a continuing relationship.

We were honoured to be able to welcome several senior members of the University, including The Vice-Chancellor, Dr John Hood and his Assistant, Alasdair McDonald, the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dr Jon Dellandrea, and the Director of Communications and Public Affairs, Jeremy Harris. Dr Hood talked of the growing links between Oxford University and China and Universities there, and mentioned the particular contributions to this relationship being made by two of the other guests at the lunch. Dame Jessica Rawson, the Warden of Merton College, the University's leading China art and culture scholar, has been instrumental in arranging the current exhibition on China at the Royal Academy, with all being recommended to visit it. Alistair Borthwick, a Fellow in the Department of Engineering is working, in collaboration with Chinese authorities on the problems associated with the Yellow River, the consequences of which have major environmental and associated effects.



The Chinese scholars from the left: Gang Feng, Fan Bai, Simon Wang, Jerome Hui, Xiaoyun Ji, Sara Ho, Huiling Tan, Gavin Chan, Jingmin Huang, Wen Zhang, Sze Chai Kwok, Gongsheng Huang.

Announcements

Closing the Circle

We are pleased to report the completion of the lines of communication opened between the Chinese Prime Minister, the Minister of Education, Oxford University and COSF, which was initiated by Timothy Beardson for COSF in January 2005. Dr WD Macmillan, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Planning and Resources) of Oxford University closed this loop on 3 November 2005 quoting

“We believe that the COSF is very well placed to provide continuation funding and we have every confidence in their ability to do so. They are extremely energetic, well connected, and well led. Their ambitions are high indeed (to create a £25m fund) but so is their commitment. The University is fully supportive of their mission and would greatly appreciate any support, which you and the Chinese Government are able to give to them. “

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee was formed in October 2005 and will be Chaired by Tony van Gool. The Committee will be closely linked and blended with the Hong Kong Oxford Scholarship Fund and comprises of the following people who, as you will see, can bring a variety of experience to this area of the fund:

Dr Tony van Gool PhD (Nottingham) - Chairman

Tony is the Sales Director of Artemis Investment Management, which is a dedicated active investment management house specialising in investments for retail investors. He has extensive experience in the investment markets of the world and has worked at senior level for GT and Invesco Perpetual. Not only does he bring his own personal wealth of experience but also has access to all the statistical information required.

Michael Wood MBA (Distinction Nottingham), LLB (Hons London), ATII, Dp: Law, TEP

After 30 years of service Michael has recently left Bircham Dyson Bell as Chief Executive, which involved the overall responsibility of this law firm that George III established, to set up his own private management consultancy business.

Anne Lindsay MSI

Anne has worked previously for top Accountancy Companies before setting up her own company, Lindsay Welbeck, some 27 years ago. She has exceptional skills in risk assessment which she obviously brings to the committee.

Lydia Hatton (FPC qualified)

Lydia joined MIM Britannia in Jersey 25 years ago and her unit trusts and investment background led her to join International Financial Services 9 years later, where she was appointed a Director of the company in 2000.

Philip English BSc, Dp Th, MITPA, FLIA

Chairman and founder of International Financial Services, which is a category A2 company and has been established for 32 years, specialising in private portfolio management, trust format and international tax planning for clients and corporations internationally.

New Trustees

We are delighted to announce the following people have agreed to become Trustees of the Fund:

Dr Jon Dellandrea

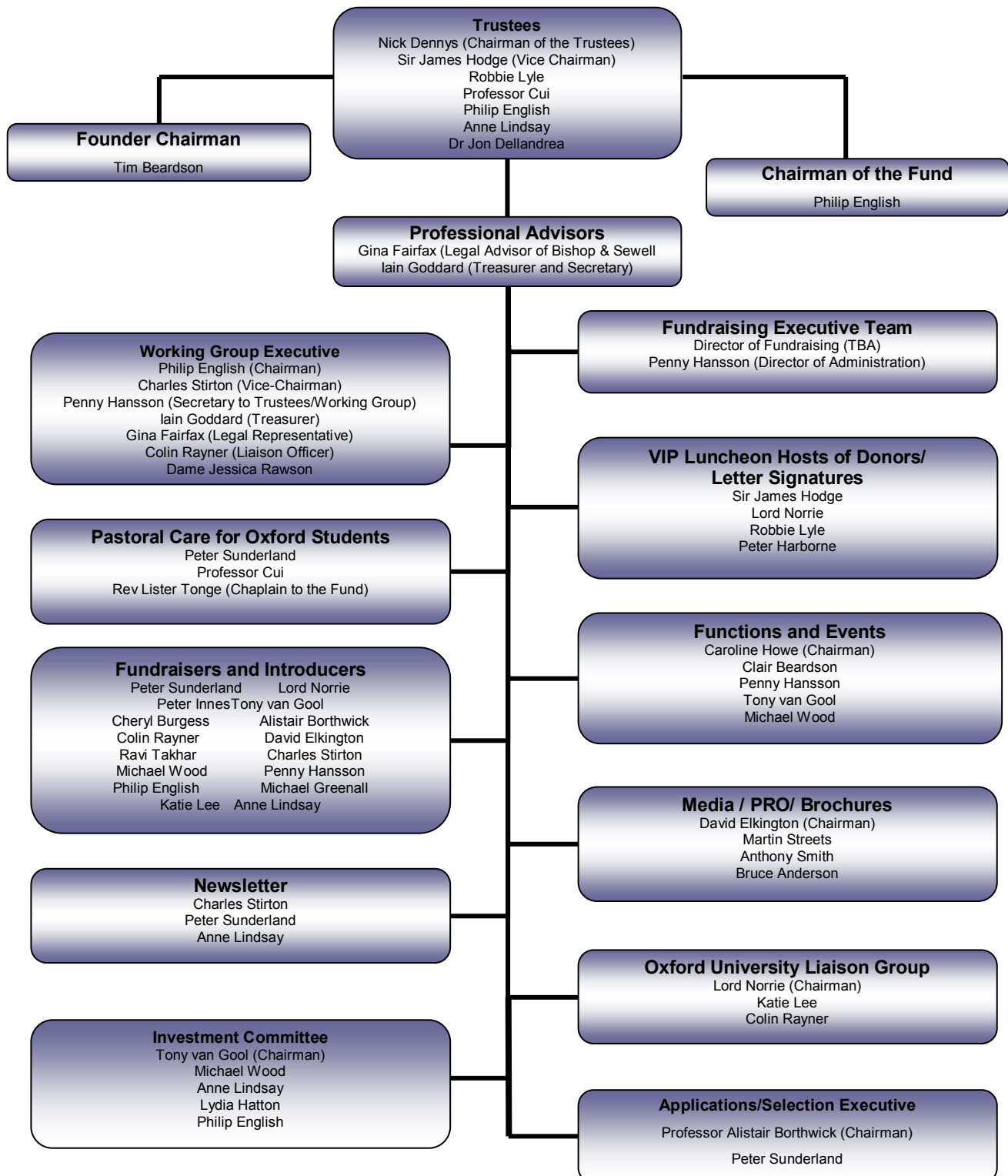
Jon joined Oxford University as the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Development and External Affairs) on 1 October 2005 and is one of the Funds key contacts at the University. Jon previously was the Vice President and Chief Advancement Officer at the University of Toronto and is determined that the interface between COSF and Oxford University works seamlessly.

Anne Lindsay

Anne has served on the working committee since the Fund commenced and has contributed a lot of time and effort in the role of Secretary to the Working Group and the Trustees until the Secretariat position was appointed. She also has done sterling work in organising the production and sale of this years Christmas cards.



China Oxford Scholarship Fund Working Structure 2006



Stop Press

Secretariat

Penny Hansson has joined the Fund at a very exciting time as the Secretariat and will be based from the offices at Churchlands. She comes with a wealth of experience as a PA at Board level for a plc company together with organising and attending international conferences. Penny will help facilitate the fund and be a central point for the working group and Trustees.

Grosvenor Group

Grosvenor Group, the international property and investment group that has interests across UK and Ireland, Americas, Continental Europe and Australia Asia Pacific, have kindly agreed to support the Fund by underwriting part of the Secretariat set up costs.

The Tang Oxford Award (words by Robert Chan)

COSF is pleased to announce the creation of the Tang Oxford Scholarship by the Tang family in Hong Kong in recognition of the high vision of the COSF.

The Award will be made each year to an outstanding young person from Mainland China who will have received an offer to pursue postgraduate studies at Oxford but without sufficient financial means to do so.

“As Lord Patten said, the 21st century belongs to those who are knowledgeable and creative. Only through a fine education can young people become knowledgeable and creative, and leaders of the future. It is heartening to see a group of learned friends of China in the UK are far-sighted enough to care about the well-being of China’s future generation. The Tang family is pleased to be able to contribute in a small way by setting up the Award”, said the spokesman of the Tang family, Mr Robert Chan.

Company Secretary

Iain Goddard who works for the accountancy firm Harrison Beale and Owen, and is also the Funds Treasurer has very kindly agreed to become the Funds Company Secretary.

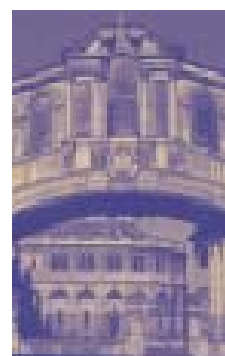
International Contacts

The Chairman of the Fund has been working hard to produce a network of people who are able to give help and support to the Fund is delighted to say that David Darling, who works for Pacific Edge Biotechnology Ltd in New Zealand; Robert Chan, the Chairman of the Equilibrium Cultural Education Foundation Limited in Hong Kong; and Andrew Lo, Senior Vice President at Coutts Bank Hong Kong branch and took his MSc at the Said Business School in Oxford have offered their help as international liaisons for the Fund.

Applications/Selection Executive

We are delighted to be able to say that a new section of the working structure called the Applications/Selection Executive has been created. Professor Alistair Borthwick, Professor of Engineering Science at Oxford University and fellow at St Edmund Hall, Oxford has kindly offered to head up the executive as Chairman to provide the procedural link with Oxford University and the Oxford Scholarship. Peter Sunderland who does fabulous work within the Pastoral Care for the Oxford Students will be assisting Alistair in this new section.

You are all encouraged to get active and choose an area of activity you would like to be involved in. We need champions for all parts of the Road Map. Future meetings of the Fund-raising group will concentrate in developing target based strategies to achieve our tremendous aspirations. All ideas welcome. Please contact myself or Philip and make sure your ideas get on the agenda. We also need to draw in more volunteers. Please make recommendations to Philip.



Stop Press

Christmas Cards

Anne Lindsay very kindly arranged the production and selling of the Christmas Cards which had the Madonna of the Rosary by Bartolomé Esteban Murillo on the front. 5,000 were printed and nearly 2,000 have been sold raising in excess of £1,874.52 for the fund.

Anne will be investigating 3 more pictures; one religious, one in relation to Oxford University and a general humorous one. She hopes to have these pictures by the end of February to enable for orders to start to be taken for Christmas 2006.

It has also been suggested that a card is produced for the Chinese New Year to sell in Hong Kong. It is appreciated that it is too late to sell for 2006 however any suggestions with regards to a card for 2007 would be gratefully appreciated.

For further details please contact:

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