PEMBROKE GRADUATES

The next generation of world-leading scholars
A VIBRANT COMMUNITY

Oxford University, ranked top in the world for four successive years by the Times Higher Education Supplement, is an ancient centre of excellence with a clear focus on the future. Pembroke, one of Oxford’s constituent colleges, was founded in 1624 and is a dynamic and diverse academic community of the highest calibre, relevant to today’s world and ready for the challenges of the future. With an open and collaborative ethos, and world-leading academics in a range of STEM and Humanities subjects, we are well-placed to foster innovative and inclusive leaders and thinkers.

The growth of graduate study at Oxford and at Pembroke College has been one of the biggest changes to the university in recent years. Graduate study has become critical to secure many jobs, and of course a natural step for those who aspire to be part of the next generation of world-leading academics.

In Pembroke, graduates also add immeasurably to our college life. They mentor undergraduates; participate fully in college sporting, social, and intellectual activities; and collaborate with Fellows on research.

Supporting early career academics is another one of the major contributions Oxford colleges can make to the next generation of ground-breaking researchers and educators. In recent years Pembroke has fostered a number of these future academic superstars leading to tenured posts at the LSE, the Université Paris Diderot, Trinity Dublin, Nottingham, Oxford and the OECD. They also make a major contribution to the College – teaching and enriching the curriculum, conducting their own research, and delivering conferences that bring the best of the academic world to Pembroke.

Pembroke seeks to attract a diversity of the finest scholarly minds to its interdisciplinary graduate community.
James William Fulbright (1925, Rhodes Scholar) US Senator who supported the creation of the United Nations and the longest serving chairman in the history of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He opposed McCarthyism and the House Un-American Activities Committee and later became known for his opposition to American involvement in the Vietnam War. His efforts to establish an international exchange program eventually resulted in the creation of a fellowship program which bears his name, the Fulbright Program.

Pembroke is part of the greatest University in the world and a diverse mix of innovative and creative thinkers are attracted to apply to study or start their career here. Our College is a wonderful environment in which they can be part of an interdisciplinary community, explore synergies and collaborate with world-leading academics, in their own fields and many others. Many graduate students have gone on from their time at Pembroke to successful academic careers, and others to have a positive impact on society in other ways.

At Pembroke every year we see promising applicants turn down offers of graduate study or Junior Fellowships to go to another university which is more affordable or which has offered them a generous scholarship. We want to do much more to provide access to our fantastic opportunities for those who will benefit from them the most. To do this, we must invest in two things. We need to provide much more College accommodation, to ease the transition into Oxford for those arriving for the first time and struggling to find or afford housing. We must also offer more scholarships for talented applicants. In recent years we have been very grateful to receive increased donor support for graduate scholarship funding which has made a real impact, and we want to continue and expand this in future.

The following pages describe our plans for supporting future graduates and outline the funding needs which underpin these. We invite you to join us on our journey to change the world.
Currently Pembroke can offer accommodation to only around 25% of our annual intake of graduate students. One of the College’s strategic aims is to increase this substantially, as we know that this is a major factor in the decision-making of graduate applicants when choosing their University and their College.

We are fortunate to have the space and opportunity within our existing estate to allow us to take action. A cost-effective project has been planned which will see the replacement of an underutilised service building at the College’s Geoffrey Arthur Building Development (GAB) with a new student accommodation block, as well as adding an additional building housing four self-contained flats in the corner of the site.

This development will allow us to offer housing to 64% of graduates, while also reducing the pressure on affordable accommodation in the City of Oxford equal to 30 houses. It will include:

- 77 student bedrooms, including four that are fully accessible, plus four studio flats for those with partners.
- 16 shared student kitchen/living areas laid out to create a flat-share environment.
- A common room for study and socialising, and space for creativity.
- Four flats for junior academics and those arriving in Oxford to take up research posts. This provides for those on the next step of the academic career ladder after graduate study.
- Increased security and ambience for the GAB, where many final-year undergraduates and a smaller number of graduates already live.

The anticipated total cost of this building project is £14m.

The new GAB project will be a huge help to new students, who face moving into a city with a severe shortage of graduate accommodation. I’m also excited that a large proportion of our members will be able to live on the same site for the first time. Pembroke MCR has always been proud of our strong sense of community, and this will bring us even closer together!

Louis Morris, (2017, DPhil History)
On average, an overseas graduate student will need £40,000 and a domestic student £27,000 each year to study and live in Oxford. This is a critical barrier to ensuring that we develop the most academically gifted regardless of financial background and that the next generation of academics represent diverse viewpoints.

We are already providing some scholarships, and doing our best to leverage additional funds from University departments and other partners, but want to do more. Current scholarships include:

- BAME Graduate Scholarship in Humanities - £5,000 from Pembroke, the remainder of a full scholarship from the University’s Humanities Division.
- Pembroke Blackstone Scholarship in the Human Rights Law of Sub Saharan Africa - £5,000 each from Pembroke and the Law Faculty.
- Sustainable Approaches to Biomedical Science & Centres for Doctoral Training DPhil Scholarship in Biology - £3,300 from Pembroke and the remainder of a full scholarship funded by an Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council Studentship.
- Pembroke College - Mathematical Institute DPhil Scholarship - £17,500 from both the College and the Institute.
- Pembroke College Graduate Scholarship in Chemistry - £10,000 each from the College and the Department.
- Pembroke Alumni DPhil Scholarship in Particle Physics - £7,970 from Pembroke with the remainder of a full scholarship made up by the Department.

In addition, a number of generous scholarships have been provided by alumni for graduate students in History, Law, Chinese, Biomedical Sciences, and Biochemistry. Hardship funds have also proven a powerful tool in helping students who need to travel for research or conferences, or who experience a particular difficulty.

If we are to attract the highest-quality graduate students, we must provide financial support so that talented individuals, regardless of circumstances, will be able to pursue their dreams and fulfill their potential. Unlike for undergraduates, few government loans or bursaries are available. In addition, many graduate students are paying international fees and are often interested in modestly paid, but intensely important, careers. This significantly impacts the ability of any but those from the wealthiest backgrounds to study without amassing very substantial debt.

Without a scholarship, I simply would not be able to be here. Through it, I can contribute to our understanding of how our bodies work at the biochemical level.

Cillian Brophy, (2017, DPhil Biochemistry, Oxford-Percival Stanion Graduate Scholarship in Biochemistry)
OUR AMBITION

By autumn 2022 we aim to raise at least £2m for our Graduate Support Fund.

This will allow us to complete the funding of the new accommodation at the GAB. The majority of this £14m project is funded by borrowing which the College has taken at very favourable terms, and which will be repaid from the rental income stream in future years. However, we anticipate needing additional funding from philanthropy, based on current projections of total cost.

All Graduate Support Fund donors will be kept updated on our progress, and sent news of our graduate students and their achievements. There will be opportunities to meet some of the students, and to visit the new accommodation in due course. In addition, there are of course naming opportunities for donors at all levels which will include, for example:

- Graduate student scholarship: £20,000 pa for three years
- Student accommodation bedrooms: £5,000

Your help is vital if we are to maximise the potential of our community, and we are very grateful to all who choose to contribute.

Geoffrey Arthur Development
Naming Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Funding Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Accommodation Block A</td>
<td>£5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Accommodation Block B</td>
<td>£2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Accommodation Block</td>
<td>£1.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Room</td>
<td>£1 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landscaped Quadrangle</td>
<td>£500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Flats (four available)</td>
<td>£250,000 each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creative Space</td>
<td>£100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Studio Flat (four available)</td>
<td>£50,000 each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Room (75 available)</td>
<td>£25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student Scholarships</td>
<td>£20,000 pa for three years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Scholarship Friend</td>
<td>£3,000 pa</td>
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| Chair in Common Room                            | £500           

For my DPhil project, I’ll be exploring an uncharted intersection of mathematics and ecology. This will involve understanding how abstract mathematical ideas which study notions of shape and structure (specifically those from algebraic topology and algebraic geometry) may be used to understand patterns underlying the way in which communities of mammals coexist, and how they respond to various human and environmental factors. This project will be a collaboration between Oxford’s Mathematical Institute and Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU). This project couldn’t have come about without the scholarship.

Siddharth Kumar, (2019, DPhil Mathematics, Pembroke College-Mathematical Institute Scholarship)

Building on my master’s dissertation my research examines the preponderance of laughter in the mid-late nineteenth century in Japan, probing its significance vis-à-vis the decline of the Tokugawa Bakufu and Japan’s emergence as a modern nation-state under the Meiji government. In particular, the research employs laughter as a lens to uncover a new type of transnational connectivity between non-state level historical actors. Illuminating the “transnational networks of laughter,” the study will reveal a web of British, French and Japanese journalists, artists and writers that utilised satire and humour to challenge, deconstruct and reconstitute the fixed definitions of “civilization and enlightenment” or bunmei kaika.

Warren Stanislaus, (2017, DPhil History, 19/20 SCR Senior Student)

I feel immensely blessed and honoured to receive this scholarship, it’s like a dream come true! For my PhD, I will be investigating how cells reprogram and adapt their gene expression in response to very low temperatures. It’s incredibly exciting to be a part of this rapidly developing field of epigenetics with so much potential.

Irene Zeitler, (2019, DPhil Biochem, Oxford Percival Stanion Graduate Scholarship in Biochemistry)