

CHINA & OXFORD



2015/16

New initiatives strengthen relationship

Recent years have seen a deepening of the key relationship between China and Oxford. The strength of Oxford's ties in China, and the importance the University pays to the country have been highlighted by the launch of major new initiatives, the visit of Chinese officials, and the continuing growth in the number of excellent Chinese students who choose to study in Oxford.

China has been a focus of study at the University for over four centuries, and links with the country are now stronger than ever: the past 20 years have seen the number of Chinese students increase more than tenfold, reaching almost 1,000 today, and our academic community also includes around 250 Chinese members of staff. Chinese alumni of the University celebrated their ongoing relationship with Oxford at the inaugural Alumni Weekend in Asia, in Hong Kong in March 2014.

Speaking at the opening of the Dickson Poon University of Oxford China Centre Building in September 2014, Oxford Chancellor Lord Patten said: "As China's role in the world expands, Oxford is positioned as one of the top centres in the world to study this fascinating process."

Landmark events

Inaugural lecture held in Shanghai

The inaugural Oxford China Lecture was held in Shanghai in December 2013 to connect Oxford's world-leading research to an international audience. Attended by more than 400 government and business leaders, students and Oxford alumni, the lecture saw Oxford's Steve Rayner, the James Martin Professor of Science and Civilization, discussing 'The Future City' and the implications of the global shift to urban living with a panel of experts from China.

Prince William opens China Centre

The Duke of Cambridge formally opened the Dickson Poon University of Oxford China Centre Building in the grounds of St Hugh's College, in September 2014.

Opening the building, the Duke said: "Learning from and learning about China has never been more important than it is now. In an ever turbulent and changing world, the dialogue that

academia can foster is not merely a nice-to-have, it is a pillar that supports peace and prosperity."

Cheng Hong visits Oxford

Professor Cheng Hong, wife of China's Premier Li Keqiang, visited the University in June 2014 to discuss literature with leading Oxford academics and make a major donation of books to the Bodleian Library.

Arriving in Oxford after visiting the British Museum, she met with the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Nick Rawlins and Worcester College Provost Jonathan Bate for tea at the College, before joining academics and doctoral students for a special seminar on nature literature.

An expert on nature literature, Professor Cheng is noted for her translations of American texts, as well as her own books. The seminar, led by Professor Bate, saw a vibrant discussion of the contrast between American and British nature writing, as well as the work of classical Chinese poet Wang Wei.



*The Dickson Poon University of Oxford China Centre Building.
Credit: John Cairns/St Hugh's College*

Ground-breaking medical work continues

China offers unique opportunities for medical researchers owing to its huge population and well-developed health infrastructure. Faculty from Oxford's Medical Sciences Division have been carrying out ground-breaking research in the country for nearly thirty years. Today work continues on new and established projects, developing treatments for health problems that affect millions of people in China, the UK, and around the world.

- In March 2014 the Centre for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response, a collaboration between Oxford and the Chinese University of Hong Kong launched a health education app that helps users learn the most used global health terminologies.
- Around 150 Chinese hospitals are taking part in the Acarbose Cardiovascular Evaluation (ACE) clinical trial, which is coordinated by Oxford's Diabetes Trials Unit. The trial, which is expected to report its results in 2018, will reveal if a drug called Acarbose can prevent people with coronary heart disease and impaired glucose tolerance from suffering further heart attacks and strokes.
- Since 2004 Oxford's Clinical Trial Service Unit (CTSU) has been working with the Chinese Academy of Medical

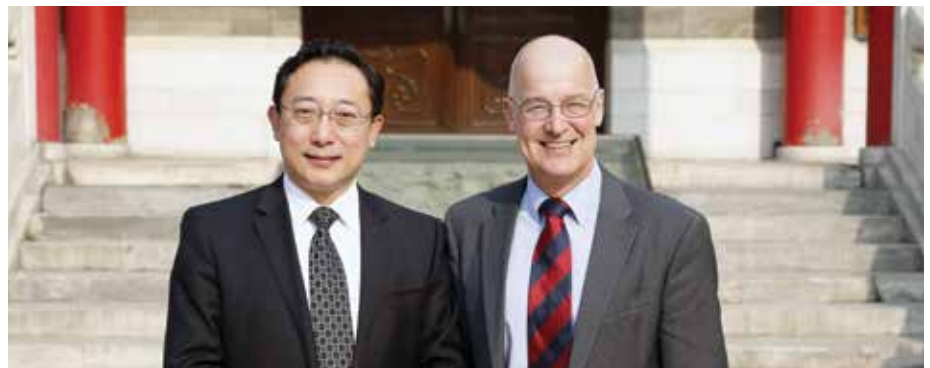
Sciences (CAMS) to study the genetic and environmental causes of many common diseases. Together they run the China Kadoorie Biobank, which is sponsored by the Kadoorie Charitable Foundation, the Wellcome Trust, MRC, BHF, CRUK and China National Natural Sciences Foundation, and studies more than 500,000 people in 10 locations – rural and urban – across China.

- The CAMS-Oxford Centre for Translational Immunology, a joint venture between the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, China Centre for Disease Control, Beijing's You'an Hospital, and Oxford was set up in April 2013 to study hepatitis B and liver disease.

Science research centre planned for Suzhou

Oxford signed a memorandum with the Suzhou Industrial Park in 2013 to explore the development of a cutting-edge research centre based at the Park in Jiangsu province, China.

Signing the agreement in China in 2013, Oxford Vice-Chancellor Professor Andrew Hamilton said the centre would focus on research into biomedical engineering, nanotechnology and environmental technology and energy, among other areas. The centre will form a hub of activity for researchers in eastern China facilitating collaborations and focussing on research challenges and technologies relevant to China.

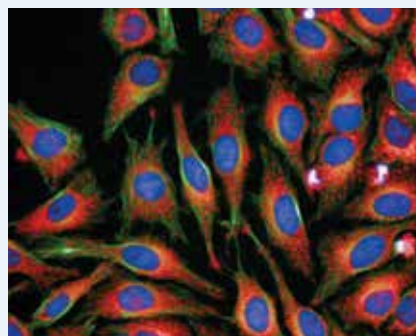


Cao Xuetao, President of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, with Oxford Vice-Chancellor Andrew Hamilton in Beijing.

Li Ka-shing funds centre for big data in medicine



Sir Li Ka-shing speaking at the opening of the Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Information and Discovery. Top right: Prime Minister David Cameron talks to Professor Chas Bountra at the opening of the Centre. Credit: David Fisher



Bottom right: Screening in biological cells

Hong Kong entrepreneur and philanthropist Sir Li Ka-shing donated £20m to Oxford in 2013 to support the Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Information and Discovery. The £90m Centre is dedicated to the emerging field of big data in medicine.

Speaking at the Centre's launch, Prime Minister David Cameron said the Centre "has the potential to revolutionise medical research and healthcare in this country and beyond."

Sir Li Ka-shing said: "What will happen here is more than the promise of harnessing the power of a data-intensive revolution to improve health care. The work of this centre will identify innovative ways to increase access to health care while lessening the burden of cost. It will free up resources for much needed investments in educational opportunities. And it will lead to new and deeper competencies that are pragmatic – precise solutions to sustain hope and stability today and lead to even greater discoveries tomorrow."

A world-leading centre for the study of China



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

The role Oxford plays in strengthening ties between China and the West was highlighted by dignitaries at the opening of the Dickson Poon University of Oxford China Centre Building.

Oxford has long been regarded as Europe's leading centre for the study of China, and the new building, housed in the gardens of St Hugh's College, provides a unique location to bring together our many academics with an interest in the country.

Dickson Poon CBE, who contributed £10m to the building which bears his name, explained why he felt Oxford was the right place in the West for a new dedicated centre of scholarship on China.

"I believe China will become an even more significant world force this century,

requiring a deeper understanding by the West," he said. "Oxford already has a proud history in the study of China, and I was delighted to make this gift to help advance knowledge, collaboration and understanding in all aspects of Chinese culture."

The £21m building has nearly 5,500 square metres of space over five floors arranged around a Chinese-style central courtyard and garden. Its dedicated library and a reading room will house 60,000 books. The building also contains a 100-seat lecture theatre, a dining room, study areas, study/bedrooms for students, a state-of-the-art language laboratory, and a roof terrace.

Research clusters within the China Centre address topics including:

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

New book sheds light on WWII in Asia



2014 saw the translation of Oxford China Centre Director Professor Rana Mitter's book on the conflict between China and Japan in WWII into Chinese.

China's War with Japan, 1937–1945: The Struggle for Survival (US title *Forgotten Ally*), originally published in 2013, has won plaudits for drawing attention to a conflict little-studied in the West.



Chinese treasures in Oxford's library and museums

The **Bodleian Library** houses one of the largest collections of Chinese material in Europe. Chinese books first arrived at the Library more than 400 years ago, and today the Chinese collections cover all aspects of history, literature, philosophy, religion and society.

In 2014 the library was visited by Professor Cheng Hong, wife of Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and a noted translator of western literature. Marking the visit, Professor Cheng donated 1,039 volumes of Chinese research material including 11 series of important Chinese and Tibetan books, most of which are the only copies in the country, or in some cases in Europe.

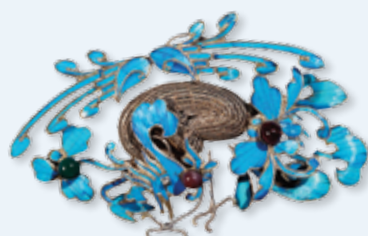
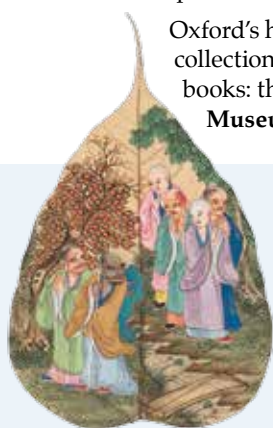
Oxford's historic Chinese collections extend beyond books: the **Ashmolean Museum** has one of the

finest collections of Chinese art outside Asia. The Museum's Chinese collections range from jades and ceramics of the Neolithic period through to modern and contemporary paintings. The collection of greenwares – 'the backbone of Chinese ceramics' – is unrivalled outside China, while the Museum's collection of paintings from the modern period is the strongest in Britain and one of the most renowned in the West.

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

Left to right:

- A painted leaf from an album of paintings of Buddhist adepts, c. 1800. The Bodleian Library.
- An ornament from Siu Fui, Sichuan Province, made from filigree silver inlaid with kingfisher feathers, 1907. The Pitt Rivers Museum.
- A Greenware jar, c. 550–599. The Ashmolean Museum.
- The Selden Map of China, bequeathed to Oxford in 1659. The Bodleian Library.



Oxford in China: a vibrant community

More than 4,000 Oxford alumni live in China, constituting the second largest overseas population of Oxonians in the world, after the USA. In total, the University has 1,851 alumni in mainland China, 1,922 in Hong Kong, eight in Macao and 349 in Taiwan.

Prominent Oxford alumni include literary scholars Qian Zhongshu and Yang Xianyi; and Guo Shuqing, Governor of Shandong Province. Zhang Jie, President of Shanghai Jiao Tong University, worked in Oxford for ten years. Oxford has alumni groups in Beijing, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Macau, Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Taiwan.

Alumni Weekend in Asia

The inaugural Alumni Weekend in Asia, in March 2014, saw alumni and friends from across Asia gather in Hong Kong to celebrate their links to the University and to hear about the impact of Oxford's research. Highlights included the opening of an exhibition featuring the Ming-era Selden Map from the Bodleian Library. The Map – the earliest to show shipping routes linking Ming-era China to markets in South Asia and beyond – was being displayed outside Oxford for the first time; its special exhibition at the Hong Kong Maritime Museum also featured other treasures from the Library and Ashmolean Museum.

STUDENT PROFILE: SOHIN HWANG



Course: DPhil in Materials

Hometown: Tangshan City, Hebei Province

Why Oxford: Oxford has a very academic atmosphere, you feel like doing research

without interruptions. I like the ancient buildings and the opportunity to interact with lots of different people from different backgrounds at colleges. It's a friendly place.

My Oxford Experience: As a Clarendon scholar I am on the Clarendon Committee as a General Counsellor and event co-ordinator. We had a summer garden party and welcome events that I've been involved with. I also attended many of the events that my college – Hertford – holds, such as the fresher's welcome ball and exchange dinners. Last but not least, I took part in a Hertford charity bike ride from the Bridge of Sighs in Oxford to the Bridge of Sighs in Venice – more than 1,000 miles!

Aspirations: In my DPhil project, I'm working on characterisation of the mechanical properties in metals and alloys. After graduation, I'd like to find a job in the research and development sector in industry.

Internship opportunities in China and Oxford

Internships in China

Oxford's Internship Programme provides access to hundreds of structured summer internship opportunities. Internships are offered by Oxford's international alumni, by multinational corporations, by world-leading NGOs, by cutting-edge research institutions and by many other organisations; all of them are exclusively available to Oxford students. Thirty percent of the international placements advertised in 2014 were in China, one of the most popular destinations for Oxford students seeking internships. Both research and professional experiences have been provided by Beijing Normal University, Hong Kong University, Huazhong

University of Science & Technology, Oxford University Press, Tsinghua Rural Programme, UNDP China, Vermilion Partners, and YK Pao School, among others. More information can be found at www.careers.ox.ac.uk/internships.

Internships in Oxford

Several internships are available for Chinese students in Oxford. The Victor and William Fung Foundation sponsors places for Chinese students to undertake summer research placements at the Nuffield Department of Medicine, and the Departments of: Physics; Plant Sciences; Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics; Materials; Experimental Psychology; and the School of Geography and the Environment.

China in Oxford: a vital contribution

Students from China: second largest international group at Oxford

In the mid-90s, fewer than 100 students from China studied in Oxford. Today, they number around 1,000. This makes China the second largest source of international students at Oxford after the USA, and Oxford's biggest source of international undergraduates. In total, in 2014 there were 973 Chinese students at Oxford, with 805 coming from mainland China, 102 from Hong Kong, one from Macao and 65 from Taiwan.

Scholarships for Chinese students

The University offers a wide variety of scholarships for graduate students covering fees and living costs: over 900 fully-funded scholarships are available for new master's and doctoral students in 2015–16 from the University, our colleges and supporters. The University's flagship Clarendon Fund provides over 130 graduate scholarships each year to students studying any course, from any country. Up to 20 China Scholarship Council University of Oxford Scholarships are available for doctoral study each year, and other dedicated scholarships for Chinese students include the Oxford-Kai Feng Graduate Scholarships and the Oxford-Creat Graduate Scholarships, both made possible by the generous support of philanthropists based in Beijing. Chinese students are also eligible for the Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarship and Leadership Programme and the Chevening Scholarships. Information about the scholarships open to Chinese graduate applicants can be found at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/china.

Expertise in Training

Department for Continuing Education:

The Department for Continuing Education runs a range of training programmes for senior Chinese officials and has received nearly 5,000 delegates in Oxford over the past ten years. During 2014, the Department delivered four programmes for Hong Kong officials in partnership with Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. In addition, the joint Oxford University/China Executive Leadership Academy Pudong (CELAP) Centre for Urban Studies, established in July 2013, has undertaken two FCO-funded projects, on China's urban transformation and the experience of Public Private Partnerships. The Centre is now working on a comparative study of London and Shanghai as 'Creative Cities'.

Saïd Business School: Since May 2011, Saïd Business School Executive Education has worked closely with the China Construction Bank (CCB) to deliver a customised programme, "21st Century Global Financial Leadership". Eight cohorts totalling nearly 200 senior CCB leaders have been through the programme, developing their strategic thinking and leadership, as well as examining current and future challenges facing financial institutions.

China Business Forum 2014: Following the success of the first Forum in 2010, the Saïd Business School hosted The Oxford China Business Forum 2014 in Beijing. Exploring the theme of 'Transformational Change' and the challenge of nurturing innovative and globally competitive organisations in China, the Forum was attended by over 200 senior policy-makers and business leaders in China as well as Oxford alumni.