Welcome to our 25th Academic Year

Welcome back to Oxford - and to what will be the 25th full academic year in Kellogg's history, since the foundation of the College in March 1990.

We will be marking that historic occasion at our Foundation Dinner on Saturday 14th March. And, who knows, that may well be the theme of this year’s College Ball. I’m also looking forward to celebrating with our friends across the globe, at events we will be hosting in Europe and North America, and possibly further afield. We also plan to relocate the plaque that commemorates the naming of the College, which still resides at Rewley House, to the Kellogg site - and I hope you will be able to join us to mark that occasion, details to be announced.

But first we have been busy with our ‘Welcome Weeks’ for our incoming students, which are always well supported by our current students, our fellows and staff. For the first time, our ‘coming up’ dinners will be full Guest Night-style affairs.

And this term we have an outstanding range of events. In 2nd Week we have an archaeology seminar entitled ‘Dwelling at the Pit of the Bones’ followed by a Guest Night Dinner. The Kellogg Challenge Quiz is on the Monday of 3rd Week, with that Thursday being the annual Strudwick Lecture, in honour of our much-loved Honorary Fellow, Canon Vincent Strudwick. The main attraction of the Kellogg Challenge Quiz used to be Vincent’s role as Master of Ceremonies and Quiz Master, and while he has stepped down from that, we look forward to seeing him on October 30th. The Anne McLaren Memorial Lecture, with Professor Martin Birchell of UCL discussing ‘Is airway tissue engineering disruptive technology?’ is on Thursday 13th November, and Sir Hector Sants delivers his Bynum Tudor Lecture the following week, on ‘Is it possible to have a good bank which is trusted by all in society and generates real value for the communities it serves?’. December 1st is the preview for Kellogg’s ‘Design Week’. And 7th Week is Thanksgiving Dinner, 8th Week the College Concert, and 9th Week Xmas Dinner.

If none of that is of interest, you may be at the wrong College; possibly the wrong planet!

Jonathan Michie
“I’m not in Kansas anymore, but I feel at home.”

Kellogg student Amanda Shriwise is studying for a DPhil in Social Policy. In this article, Amanda shares her experiences of life in Oxford and what it means to her to be a student at Kellogg College.

I was rather hard not to be aware of Oxford’s history of academic excellence when I applied to read for an MPhil in Social Policy over four years ago. However, I began to realise how truly special this place is when a friend of a friend at Oxford sent me a book in the post upon hearing that I was offered a place. The book was entitled Oxford: an architectural guide, which seemed like a sensible reading suggestion before turning up in the ‘city of dreaming spires’. But the connections run deeper than that. The book was written by Geoffrey Tyack, a fellow of Kellogg College. As fate would have it, Tyack became my college home for both my MPhil and now my DPhil studies. Further still, I have had the pleasure of meeting Professor Tyack and following him on a tour of both Oxford and Kellogg's grounds, and the friend of a friend who sent me the volume is now a dear friend of my own. I could not have foreseen any of this when I received the book in the post, but I sensed that my life had changed when I opened the package.

During my time at Oxford, Kellogg has been the point of origin of many such connections. Just a few weeks ago, I reminisced with a fellow Kellogg alum at a conference in San Francisco over the whereabouts of those who attended an American-style Thanksgiving dinner in what was then my basement flat in Kellogg’s accommodation at No. 7 Bradmore Road. Every time I walk by Christ Church, I remember meeting other Kellogg women (more than one of whom has now rowed for the University) at Tom Gate for an early morning rowing outing. While submitting paperwork at Oriel College last spring, I opened an office door and was pleasantly surprised to find the first person I met at Kellogg upon arrival several years before.

Over dinner at Kellogg, I met the Vice-Chancellor, who happened to know a couple of chemistry professors from my undergraduate home in Kansas. Experiences like these have presented opportunities to repeatedly connect my past with the present, which makes me feel at home.

Serving as Kellogg’s MCR President in 2011-12 gave me the opportunity to aid in facilitating these connections, which I believe are at the heart of why Kellogg is such an outstanding community. It was a privilege to work and support this student body and continue to thrive under strong leadership in the years to follow. While I realise that 25 years amounts to a rather miniscule amount of life in the life of an Oxford college, my experience serving in this capacity made me realise just how much we have to celebrate in this year’s anniversary. Some might be inclined to attribute this overly celebratory (and dare I say emotional) instinct to my American roots. But while this may not be an entirely unreasonable assessment, I believe the cause for celebration is based in something more substantial. Since 1990, the College has moved to its current site and has continued to expand, accommodation has been added and refurbished, the number of fellows and students, both full and part-time has increased, research and financial support for students has grown, and it has continued to further its commitment to life-long learning – all whilst holding seminars, conferences, formal meals, and even an annual ball!

As the college grows in numbers and years, I hope that it continues to deeply value and foster the connections that it facilitates by remaining organised around the notion of home: a place open to all of its family members both past and present; a place where we thrive, make mistakes and continue to learn and grow as individuals; a place that encourages curiosity and an eagerness to make a contribution to something bigger than oneself. I am very grateful for the rich connections, friends as dear as family, and the home I found at Kellogg, and I look forward to seeing how it carries on in the years ahead.

Student Profile

Emily Sargeant (MSt Literature and Arts) moved to Oxford in 2011 from York where she had been studying for a BA in English literature. On arriving in Oxford, Emily started working for the Bodleian Library as a graduate trainee in the Law library, whilst also studying Spanish part-time at the Department for Continuing Education. Being a student at the Department for Continuing Education meant that she was eligible to dance with the University of Oxford’s Dancesport team.

Dancesport, Emily explained to us, is the collective term for Latin and Ballroom dancing. Having started dancing at the age of four, Emily danced throughout her undergraduate studies and now having matriculated at Kellogg College, has gained her half-blue for dancing as part of the Varsity team in the famous ballroom at Blackpool Tower.

Emily works full-time alongside her studies for Catalyst Works Ltd, a marketing agency in Oxford which works with the charity sector. Alongside her busy job and studying for her masters, Emily still finds the time to be part of the dance team as she says, “it’s a great way to meet people and I’ve met many of my friends in Oxford through dancing.”

Emily Sargeant dancing Latin. Photo: John Sinclair.
Raising a toast to Kellogg at the Annual Gaudy Dinner

On Saturday 20th September we celebrated Kellogg past and present at our annual Gaudy Dinner. The evening followed the Alumni Lecture that took place at the Natural History Museum, which we co-hosted with the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine. Kellogg members were entertained by our after dinner speakers, Muir Gray and alumnus David Toman (MSc Sustainable Urban Development, 2013). The evening was hosted very successfully by our new Chamberlaine, Fellow Órlaith Burke.

Design week at Kellogg College

This December a new forum will be launched at Kellogg College during our inaugural Design Week. DAP (Decorative Arts & Phenomenology) will serve as a cross-disciplinary nexus for people and ideas focused on design and material culture.

The DAP forum will launch Kellogg’s first Design Week programme of events on Monday 1st December with an opening reception in the Mawby Room between 19.00-21.00. All Kellogg members and their guests are welcome to attend the opening reception, and any Design Week events.

If you would like to know more about DAP or the Design Week programme, please email the Junior Dean Maximilian Buston at Dap@kellogg.ox.ac.uk

We want to hear from you

We want to share your news with the rest of Kellogg College and further afield. If you have published a book or an article, want to share your research, have won an award or funding, want to tell us how studying at Kellogg has shaped your life and work, or have anything else to share then please get in touch with Naomi Saffery at communications@kellogg.ox.ac.uk

Books

Visiting Fellow and Director of Compton Verney, Steven Parissien has had two books published this year, The Life of the Automobile (Thomas Dunne, 2014) and The English Railway Station (English Heritage, 2014).

Fellow Jonathan Healey’s book, The First Century of Welfare: Poverty and Poor Relief in Lancashire, 1620-1730 was published by Boydell and Brewer on 18th September.

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Development News

As I write this, I take a moment to reflect on the highlights of a fantastic Alumni Weekend during which we came together as a community to celebrate at the fully-booked Gaudy Dinner. We also attended engaging lectures and debates, particularly at the Alumni Lecture in the auditorium at the Natural History Museum where senior medical evidence experts from the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine, amongst them Kellogg Fellows Carl Heneghan and Sharon Mickan, unveiled the current challenges facing medical research. For those who couldn’t join us, the video is available on our website: http://www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk/podcasts

In preparation for the 25th Anniversary, our key fundraising projects centre on the urgent need to improve the quality of our student experience to make it commensurate to that offered by other graduate colleges. We plan to refurbish the College library as well as build brand new student facilities including a student hub on the current site of the old stables which would provide a much needed extension to the limited social space currently available to our 800 students. The new student hub would provide a café, with meeting and social spaces, as well as a brand new common room for the use not only of students, but also alumni and friends returning to College. The vision to remodel the heart of the College by the building of the student hub challenges us to seek £1 million in pledges towards the £2 million cost for the project with a further £1 million needed for the renovation of the Library.

One of the factors which gives me the confidence that we will find the support we need to realise these ambitions, is the belief and the dedication shown already from our members. Last term, as we came together to discuss the College’s fundraising priorities, we were delighted to be presented with a proposal by current students in which graduating students wished to recognise the efforts of those who make an outstanding contribution to College life through the ‘Kellogg College MCR Award for Excellence’ funded by donations from students in their graduating year. This initiative, alongside the College’s existing dedication to raise and match funds for ongoing student support and scholarships, shows just how much support there is within the Kellogg community and gives us the incentive to find ways of working together and to capitalise on the goodwill that exists in our own community to generate philanthropic donations and build a better future for our students.

We invite you to find out more about the student led initiative along with our other Campaign priorities at: www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk/supporting-kellogg

Cyber Security and Kellogg College

The University of Oxford’s MSc in Software and Systems Security, which is currently directed by Kellogg Fellow Andrew Simpson, has been certified by GCHQ. The announcement of the certification was made by Frances Maude, Minister for the Cabinet Office, in August. The other universities fully certified by GCHQ for Cyber Security Master’s degrees are Edinburgh Napier University, Lancaster University, and Royal Holloway, University of London. Provisional certified status was awarded to Cranfield University and the University of Surrey.

The certification process is a part of the UK’s National Cyber Security Programme, a £650 million four-year programme that has a wide range of aims, including “grow the cadre of cyber security professionals”. The assessment of Oxford’s MSc was informed by expert views of individuals drawn from academia, industry, government agencies and professional bodies. Certification represents GCHQ’s acknowledgement that the MSc “provides well-defined and appropriate content, delivered to the highest standard”.

The MSc in Software and Systems Security consists of one-week intensive courses in 14 different security topics: students may also choose courses from over 20 different courses in Software Engineering topics. Most of the courses are taught by those working at the forefront of research in the area, while the remainder are taught by domain experts drawn from industry, Students completing the MSc, who also satisfy the GCHQ requirements in terms of module choice, will receive an additional certificate confirming that they have completed a “GCHQ-certified master’s degree in cyber security”.

The MSc in Software and Systems Security is one of two Master’s courses offered by the University’s Software Engineering Programme, which is currently led by Kellogg Fellow Jeremy Gibbons. The Software Engineering Programme has a strong connection with Kellogg College: all of the Programme’s University Lecturers are Fellows of the College and most of the students associated with the Programme are members of Kellogg.

The certification of the MSc in Software and Systems is the latest in a series of successes for Kellogg Fellows in the broad area of Cyber Security. Last year, Andrew Martin was successful in his bid for funding for a Doctoral Training Centre in Cyber Security. Previously, the depth and breadth of the University’s research activities in this area led to GCHQ and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) recognising the University as an Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research. The research and teaching of Kellogg Fellows Cas Cremers, Ivan Flechais, Andrew Martin, Ivan Martinovic and Andrew Simpson, as well as that of Research Member of Common Room Kasper Rasmussen and all of its MSc and DPhil students following courses in the area means that the College is at the forefront of global Cyber Security research.

Weekend Brunch

Due to the popularity of the Sunday Brunches during Trinity Term, we are offering Brunch to all College members and their guests on Saturday and Sunday throughout term. Brunch is served between the hours of 11.00-13.00 and the cost is £5.00 for current students and £7.50 for all other members of College and also for guests. You will be seated at the end of term for Brunch, please remember to sign-in both yourself and each of your guests.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 24th October
Archaeology Seminar and Guest Night Dinner

Tuesday 28th October
Kellogg College Centre for Creative Writing Seminar and Guest Night Dinner

Thursday 30th October
Vincent Strudwick Annual Lecture

Friday 31st October
Halloween themed lunch

Thursday 13th November
Anne McLaren Lecture and Guest Night Dinner

Friday 21st November
Bynum Tudor Lecture and Guest Night Dinner

Thursday 27th November
Thanksgiving Guest Night Dinner

Friday 28th November
Festive tree decorating

Wednesday 3rd December
Celebration of the Arts Guest Night Dinner

Thursday 4th December
Kellogg Concert

Wednesday 10th December
Christmas Guest Night Dinner
Where to stay when you are in Oxford

Many members of College live all over the world and may come to Oxford for short periods of time during the academic year. Our short-term accommodation at number 12 Bradmore Road contains 14 bedrooms for members of Kellogg to use when they are in need of accommodation for up to a fortnight at a time.

Managed in the style of a hotel each bedroom is beautifully finished, spacious and has en-suite facilities. Linen and bedding is provided along with a flat-screen television and coffee & tea making facilities. There is a shared kitchen, as well as a comfortable communal living room where you can relax and spend time with other Kellogg members. Residents can also enjoy the view that overlooks the College gardens.

Prices for rooms vary from £45 to £90 per room per night, depending on the size of the room. Twin rooms may be shared, but the booking can only be made in one name.

If you would like more information or to book a room, please email Charlotte Orton at: accommodation@kellogg.ox.ac.uk

Seminars in College this term…

We have a variety of seminars and speakers in College this term. All College members and their guests are welcome to attend. No booking is required for seminars.

Tuesday 14th October, Mawby Room, 19.30
Historic Built Environment Seminar: Peter Larkham on ‘Conserving the post-Second World War reconstruction: a contentious idea’

Friday 24th October, Mawby Room, 18.00
Archaeology Seminar: Philip Tonner on ‘ Dwelling at the Pit of the Bones’

Tuesday 28th October, Mawby Room, 17.30
Kellogg College Centre for Creative Writing Seminar: Elleke Boehmer on ‘The World in a Grain of Sand: Writing Shorter & Longer Narrative’

Thursday 27th November, Mawby Room, 17.30
Kellogg College Centre for Creative Writing Seminar: Thomas Glave on ‘Secretive Women, Taboos and Dangerous Sex’

Further information about all events and seminars in College can be found at www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk and via the weekly events email during term-time.

Follow Kellogg College

Follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/KelloggOxford) and Twitter (@KelloggOx) to stay up-to-date with College news and information. We are also on Instagram at Kelloggcollege.

Have a browse on the Kellogg Blog (Kelloggoxford.wordpress.com) and take a look at the news page on our website. Don't forget to make sure that we have your correct email address and check your inbox for the weekly emails throughout each term.

Contact

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We welcome suggestions and feedback about the College newsletter, or any articles featured as well as suggestions for contributions to future newsletters. Please email Naomi Saffery at communications@kellogg.ox.ac.uk